

ACADEMY

Bentley Mill Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

Bass Taverns

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1996]

ACORN

96, Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Elizabeth Cook, 99, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall
John Harper, Walsall
James Harper
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (leased [1900])

LICENSEES

Thomas Mold [1822]
Thomas Hutchinson [1828] – [1830]
James Hutchinson [1829]
Mrs. Hannah Thacker [1834] – [1845]
George Cook Snr. [1849] – [1865]
Mrs. Elizabeth Cook [1868] – [1871]
James Fox [1872] – **1873**;
John Lockley (**1873** – [];
Mrs. Elizabeth Cook [] – **1881**);
Henry Thomas Bill (**1881** – [];
William Ferris [1881];
John Bill [];
George Cook [];
Joseph Aldrett Flynn [] – **1887**);
Harry George Vernon (**1887**);
Thomas Richard Doughty (**1887** – **1888**);
Frank Swindells (**1888** – **1891**);
Albert Burt Swindells (**1891** – **1892**);
Richard Shelley (**1892** – **1893**);
James McCabe Jr. (**1893**);
Ebenezer Hewitt (**1893** – **1894**);
Charles Taylor (**1894**);
Edwin James Warner (**1894** – **1898**);
John Bishop [] – **1898**)
Edwin Corbett Walker (**1898** – **1899**);
Elizabeth Alice Bishop (**1899**);
William Sumner (**1899** – **1900**);
Albert Ensor (**1900**);
William Henry Haycock (**1900**);
Isaac Holmes (**1900**);

William Henry Lowe (1900 – 1910):

NOTES

Rushall Street [1822], [1858]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 10/12/1827 - Advert

“To be Sold by Private Contract, the Licence, Goodwill, and immediate Possession of that old established Public House, known by the sign of the ACORN, in Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.

The house is eligibly situated for business and well fitted up; has a large club-room, excellent cellars, and good stabling. The fixtures, brewing utensils, and other effects to be taken at valuation.

For further particulars apply (if by letter, post paid) to J. Farrington, Auctioneer, Dudley Street, Walsall, who has several Public Houses to dispose of, coming-in from £200 to £300.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 6/4/1829 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property, in Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by H. Duncalfe, at the TALBOT INN, in Walsall, on Tuesday, the 21st day of April inst. at four o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions as shall then be produced.....

Lot II. All that desirable Messuage or Tenement, situate in Lower Rushall Street, well known as a Public House, called the ACORN, consisting of four capital cellars and spirit vaults, tap-room, bar, scullery, and brewhouse, large club-room, three chambers, and five attics, with stables, piggeries, and yard, and now in the occupation of *James Hutchinson*; and also nine other Dwelling Houses, situated in the yard at the back of the said Public House, now in the occupations of Hawley, Spinke, Bird, Taylor, and others.

Part of the purchase money may, if desired, remain secured on the premises.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Marklew, Solicitor, or the Auctioneer, both of Walsall.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/6/1830 - Advert

“To be Let, and entered upon immediately, that old established House, known by the sign of the ACORN, in Rushall Street, Walsall, comprising four good cellars, seven lodging-rooms, club-room, bar, tap-room, parlour, back kitchen, brewhouse, and stable. The present proprietor is leaving in consequence of other engagements.

This is a desirable opportunity for a Person to take to, as the stock is very low, and the coming-in will be easy. The present consumption is from 800 to 1000 bushels of malt per annum.

For particulars apply to Mr. J. Farrington, Auctioneer, Walsall, if by letter, post paid.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/9/1831 - Died

“On the 29th ult., Jane, third daughter of Mrs. Thacker, of the ACORN public house, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, aged 14.”

1841 Census

Rushall Street

- [1] *Hannah Thacker* (60), victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Edward Vaughan (30), brush mf, born Staffordshire;
- [3] Rachel Stackhouse (15), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [4] William Thompson (25), locksmith g, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Patrick Terry (40), labourer;
- [6] Mary Terry (40);
- [7] Denis Terry (15);
- [8] Thomas Lowe (25), carpenter, born Staffordshire;
- [9] Mary Lowe (30), born Staffordshire:

1851 Census

Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *George Cook* (53), licensed victualler, born Stratford on Avon;
- [2] *Elizabeth Cook* (46), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William Cook (24), son, currier, born Walsall;
- [4] George Cook (21), son, brush maker, born Walsall;
- [5] Henry Cook (15), son, saddler, born Walsall;
- [6] Joseph Cook (12), son, scholar at home, born Walsall;
- [7] Samuel Cook (10), son, scholar at home, born Walsall;
- [8] Mary Teague (84), mother in law, widow, deaf, born Walsall;
- [9] William Tongue (55), visitor, labourer, born Walsall;
- [10] William Branchford (20), visitor, traveller, born Bridport, Dorsetshire;
- [11] James Cooper (36), visitor, traveller in watchtools, born London:

Walsall Free Press 14/8/1858

“On Monday afternoon a pensioner named George Myatt who lodged with a widow named Bridget Silk, No.15 Court, Lower Rushall Street, when within about five yards of his lodging house door, dropped down and expired in about ten minutes. Mr. T. Moore, surgeon, was sent for, but before he arrived the vital spark had fled. On the following day an inquest held upon on the body by A. A. Fletcher, Esq., Coroner for the Borough, at the house of *George Cook*, landlord of the ACORN Public-house, Lower Rushall Street, at which the Jury, after hearing the evidence returned a verdict of Death from Apoplexy. The deceased, who is fifty-five years of age, is unmarried.”

1861 Census

96, Rushall Street – ACORN INN

- [1] *George Cook* (64), licensed victualler, born Stratford on Avon;
- [2] *Elizabeth Cook* (57), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *George Cook* (29), son, brush maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Joseph Cook* (22), son, brush maker, born Walsall;
- [5] *Samuel Cook* (19), son, silver plater, born Walsall;
- [6] *Anne Smith* (14), general servant, born Pelsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1862

“An inquest was held on Tuesday before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, at the ACORN INN, Lower Rushall Street, on the body of a child, three years of age, named John Baman. The evidence went to show that on Friday last the deceased child, while playing about the house of his parents in No.13 court, Lower Rushall Street, got at a kettle filled with boiling water which was standing by the fire, and drank some of its scalding contents. The child was immediately taken to Dr. Burton, but death put an end to the little creature’s sufferings on the following day. Verdict, Died from Accidental Scalding.”

1871 Census

96, Lower Rushall Street – ACORN INN

- [1] *Elizabeth Cook* (70), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *George Cook* (41), son, brush maker, born Walsall;
- [3] *Joseph Cook* (37), son, saddlers’ ironmonger’s clerk, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Cook* (12), granddaughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *George Cook* (9), grandson, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mary Ann Smith* (18), general servant, born Brownhills:

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/7/1873

“*John Lockley*, the ACORN INN, Lower Rushall Street, and *Henry Sly*, victualler, Upper Rushall Street, were fined 20s each and costs for having sold ale during prohibited hours on Sunday the 7th inst.”

1881 Census

96, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Elizabeth Cook* (77), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Cook* (21), niece, servant, born Walsall:

Evening Star 15/3/1882

“*John Fletcher*, of Lower Rushall Street, was fined 2s 6d and costs, for refusing to quit the ACORN INN, on Saturday last, when requested by the landlord.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/6/1883 - Advert

“Stable. A good Stable with Loft over. To Let; large Yard.
Apply, ACORN INN, Lower Rushall Street.:

Walsall Observer 2/5/1885

“.....To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Watkins and Powell, by order of the Trustees of the will of the late *George Cook*, deceased, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Monday, the 18th day of May, 1885.....

Lot 1. All that valuable Freehold Old-licensed Public House, known as the ACORN INN, situate in Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, with the Fixtures and Fittings therein, now let on an annual tenancy, at a rental of £100 per annum to include the payment of rates and taxes, and also a Cottage at the rear of the same.

The House, which is situate in one of the best parts of Walsall for an Old-licensed House, and has for many years done a very large trade, contains large Spirit Vaults, Smoke Room, Parlour, Club Room, Three Cellars, and Seven Chambers, and has Two Kitchens, Malt Room, and Two Stables attached, and is excellently fitted up.....”

[It was withdrawn at the auction.]

1891 Census

96, Lower Rushall Street – ACORN INN

- [1] *Albert E. Swindells* (27), unmarried, shoe riveter, public house ACORN INN (manager), born Walsall:

[Albert Swindells got his license in August.]

Albert Burt Swindells was fined 20s and costs, on 29th June 1891, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 22/7/1893

“An application was made for a temporary authority to sell at the ACORN INN, Lower Rushall Street, to be granted to *Ebenezer Hewitt*. An authority of this nature had been held by the applicant, and the full transfer of the license should have been made at a special sessions held on Tuesday last. The proper notices were not, however, served and consequently no transfer was made.

The Chief-constable now called attention to the growing frequency of cases in which there had been failure to serve notices for transfer, and objected to the present application being acceded to, contending that the magistrates had no power to grant a second temporary authority.

After considerable deliberation, the Magistrates granted the application, but expressed an opinion that more care should be exercised.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall.....

The Black List. The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against.....

Edwin James Warner, ACORN INN, Lower Rushall Street, April 24th, 1896, permitting drunkenness, dismissed License renewed.”

Edwin C. Walker – see also WHEATSHEAF, Bloxwich.

Walsall Advertiser 3/12/1898

“Inquiries are being made by the Walsall Police into a case in which it is alleged that a local publican has died from the effects in injuries caused by an assault committed upon him by one George Ollerenshaw, a lime burner, who until recently was living in lodgings in Lower Rushall Street. The name of the deceased is *John Bishop*, landlord of the ACORN INN, Lower Rushall Street, who expired shortly after six o'clock on Tuesday evening. *Bishop* who leaves a widow and two children was formerly a member of the Warwickshire Constabulary, but was granted a temporary transfer in respect of the ACORN INN where he had been for some six or seven weeks.

The circumstances of the case are that on the 25th October last Ollerenshaw went into the ACORN INN, created a disturbance, and assaulted, by throwing a jug at her, a young woman named Sarah Hawkins, who was acting as barmaid. *Bishop* went to Ollerenshaw for the purpose of ejecting him, when the man, it is said, turned upon him, and struck him rather violently on the ribs and other parts of the body, felled him to the ground, and then dug his knees into him. Subsequently Ollerenshaw was taken back to the house by the police, but *Bishop* then intimated his intention of proceeding against the man by summons. Next day the landlord took to his bed, from which he never rose again alive. *Bishop's* condition for the past few days had been critical, and a magistrate attended for the purpose of taking his depositions. *Bishop*, it appears, did not think that he would die, and consequently, depositions were not taken.

A warrant charging Ollerenshaw with feloniously and malice aforethought killing and murdering *Bishop*, has been issued, and what is known as a ‘photographic route,’ also has been sent out. He has brown eyes and a swarthy complexion, and has black hair and moustache. He has the following marks: Heart, cross, and anchor, star, and Prince of Wales’ feathers tattooed on the outside of his right forearm, and a female and a basket of flowers inside the same forearm, while on the outside of the left forearm are a sphinx, a Union Jack, stars, and stripes, and Prince of Wales’ feathers. On the inside of the left forearm there is a tattoo mark of a female.

Formerly Ollerenshaw belonged to the 1st Battalion of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry. The police have a clue to the whereabouts of him, and it is expected he will shortly be arrested.

The inquest was opened yesterday at the ACORN INN.

Elizabeth Alice Bishop, widow of deceased, gave evidence bearing out the circumstances related to the above. She said that after the affray her husband was unable to get about, and witness took two summonses out – one for assaulting her husband, and one for assaulting a woman named Sarah Hawkins, who was in witness’s employ. Ollerenshaw had never been in the house before.

Sarah Ann Hawkins, wife of William Hawkins, Ward Street, labourer, stated that on the night in question she was at the ACORN INN, Lower Rushall Street. The man George Ollerenshaw was there. He said he was going to rob the bar. Ollerenshaw had asked for half-a-pint of ale, but said he would not pay for it, and deceased told her not to draw it. Subsequently Ollerenshaw picked up a jug, and threw it at her. It struck her just over the left eye, inflicting a cut which bled a great deal.

John Wilkinson, 7, Balls Hill, engineer, also spoke to having been at the ACORN INN on the night of the 25th October. Witness heard Ollerenshaw ask for half-a-pint of beer on ‘trust.’ Deceased told Hawkins not to fill him any. Ollerenshaw subsequently threw a jug at Hawkins. Deceased said ‘this game won’t do,’ and laid hold of Ollerenshaw’s arm. *Bishop* was trying to get the latter out when the man struck deceased several blows with his fist about the body and one in the face. The blow on the face cut his eye, and loosened his teeth and the deceased fell. Witness assisted to pick upon the deceased.

William Roper, collar maker, Limerick Yard, Lower Rushall Street, said that Ollerenshaw waned half-a-pint on the ‘strap,’ when *Bishop* told Hawkins not to fill it. Ollerenshaw struck *Bishop* twice in the face, and witness put Ollerenshaw out of the house.

Dr. Lynch deposed to having been called in to attend deceased on the 27th October. There was a bruise on deceased’s right side, and there was a slight discolouration of the skin of the abdomen under the liver, and slight bruises on the thighs. There was also bruising on the back and over the external border of the scapula. Witness treated the deceased continuously till the time of death. He had since made a post mortem examination of the body. He found trace of the bruising. The weak condition of the heart was

occasioned by shock to the system, in his opinion due to the violence. The liver was considerably enlarged and corrsed. The kidneys were enlarged. The immediate cause of death was syncope. He was of the opinion that the violence produced shock to an already disorganised system from which deceased never rallied, and the man's death was unquestionably caused indirectly by the violent treatment to which he was subject.

In summing up the Coroner pointed out that there was no evidence of malice aforethought and the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter."

Worcestershire Chronicle 11/3/1899

"At Stafford Assizes, before Mr. Justice Wright, George Ollerenshaw (35), labourer, was indicted for the manslaughter of *John Bishop*, at Walsall, on October 25. Mr. Kettle prosecuted, and Mr. Lawrence defended. From the opening statement, it appeared that prisoner went into the public-house kept by deceased, and struck him. Afterwards he assaulted a barmaid, and, while deceased was ejecting him from the house, he was seriously injured, and died about a month afterwards. During cross-examination of the first witness, His Lordship asked Mr. Kettle if he thought it was possible to obtain a verdict, on the charge of manslaughter, taking into consideration the evidence of the doctor. Mr. Kettle said he did not think he could. The charge was therefore withdrawn, and prisoner pleaded guilty to common assault. The Judge in passing a sentence of four months' imprisonment, said the prisoner had been convicted 25 times previously, and if he did not reform he would find himself in a serious position."

London Gazette 16/6/1899

"Receiving Orders. *Walker, Edwin Corbett*. WHEAT SHEAF INN, Field-street, Bloxwich, Staffordshire, lately residing at Green Lane, formerly at Forge-street, theretofore at the ACORN INN, Lower Rushall-street, formerly at Day-street and theretofore at the TIGER INN, Short Acre, all in Walsall, Staffordshire. Public-house Manager."

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1899

"*Edwin Corbett Walker*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Field Street, Bloxwich, public house manager. The debtor came up for public examination. The Official Receiver (Mr. S. W. Page) was present, and Mr. Evans was for the debtor. The statement of accounts showed liabilities £83 16s 11d, and the only assets were £10 he had paid to the solicitor on account of the proceedings. The debtor examined by the Official Receiver, stated that he worked as a miner until September, 1892, since that time he had been the tenant of the TIGER INN, Walsall, the ACORN INN, Walsall, and now he was the manager of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich, for his brother, Mr. C. C. Walker. At one time he had a small colliery at Pelsall. He attributed his failure to 'illness of himself and family, losses upon the colliery business, and bad trade.'

The examination was adjourned until August 2nd to close."

Walsall Observer 21/4/1900

"Messrs. Watkins, Powell and Wood will Sell by Auction, in the Property Sale Room at their Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 8th day of May, 1900.....

Lot . The Valuable Old-Licensed Public House, known as the ACORN INN, situate in Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, now let to the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Limited, upon a Repairing Lease expiring in September next, at the very low annual rental of £35.

The House, which is excellently situated for the purpose of trade, contains large double spirit vaults, smoke room, parlour, club room, three cellars, and seven bedrooms.

Possession may be had at the expiration of the above mentioned lease."

Walsall Observer 28/4/1900

"*Isaac Holmes*, the ACORN INN, Lower Rushall Street, was charged with selling liquor during prohibited hours on April 11th.

Mr. J. N. Cottrell appeared for the defendant.

Inspector Ballance said that acting on information received, he went down to the ACORN INN, where he was admitted by the landlord, Mr. *Holmes*, at 12.20am. In the smoke room at the back, there were two men, named Benjamin Pedley and Vernon Moss, a woman, and two children. There were several empty glasses on the table, and Pedley had a glass of whiskey and soda before him.

The defence was that the landlord had only received his authority the day before, and that Mr. Moss was there to check the stock, and was staying all night. Benjamin Pedley was a friend of the landlord, and was having supper with Mr. Moss, the landlord, his sister in law and children.

The magistrates dismissed the case."

1901 Census

96, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *William Lowe* (44), licensed victualler, born Darlaston;
- [2] *Louisa Lowe* (44), wife, born The Lye;
- [3] *Margaret Lowe* (17), daughter, born Lichfield;
- [4] *Thomas Lowe* (14), son, under groom, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Alfred Lowe* (12), son, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Edwin Lowe* (9), son, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Charles Lowe* (5), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *Elizabeth Lowe* (2), daughter, born Walsall:

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 1st February 1906.

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Chief Constable had given notice of objection to the renewal of the following seven licenses; *William Henry Lowe*, ACORN, alehouse, Lower Rushall Street; James Scott, JOLLY BACCHUS, alehouse, New Street; George James Sambrook, KING WILLIAM, alehouse, Little Bloxwich; William Wright, OLD OAK, beerhouse, Upper Hall Lane; William Alfred Burton, STORES, beerhouse, Ablewell Street; George Carrington, STORES, beerhouse, Upper Rushall Street; John James Lawrence, STORES, beerhouse, High Street.

Mr. Loxton said these objections were by direction of the Bench, and he had also served notices on behalf of the magistrates, simply to comply with the section of the Act of Parliament, and without forming any opinion or prejudging cases. The justices directed him to state for the convenience of the advocates that the objections were mainly on the grounds of not required which would necessitate their being referred to the Compensatory Authority. But if during the hearing of the cases the grounds should be such as to justify the refusal of renewal on grounds without compensation, the advocate would be required to direct his attention to such grounds.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said he came there on the understanding that it was the intention to refer those licenses to the Compensatory Authority to report on.

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had inspected a number of houses with a view to whether they should report to the Compensatory Authority. It might be that some houses were structurally unfit, and in such case they would refuse the license, and they would have to go the quarter sessions.....

The JOLLY BACCHUS, KING WILLIAM; STORES, Upper Rushall Street; STORES, High Street, were referred to the compensation authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

In the case of the ACORN, Lower Rushall Street, the owner James Harper, and the tenant *William Henry Lowe* were represented by Mr. H. H. Jackson.

Chief Inspector Ballance said the house was difficult of police supervision, and the premises were dilapidated in parts.

Mr. Jackson urged that the house was quite free and doing a fair trade.

The tenant said his takings were from £12 to £16 per week, and he disposed of about six barrels per week.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

The ACORN, MALT SHOVEL, and WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street, MANDAMUS ARMS, Stafford Street, and the SHINGLERS ARMS, Birchills were referred for compensation.”

The license was surrendered on 11th March 1910.

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1910, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

ACORN, Lower Rushall Street. Alehouse. Licensee *William Henry Lowe*.”

Walsall Observer 3/2/1940

“Both members of old Walsall families, well-known, especially in the Paddock district, Mr. and Mrs. *James Fox*, of 4, Burleigh Street, celebrated their golden wedding on Monday, having been married fifty years ago at St. George's Church by the Rev. Colin Barrett, who was then vicar of the parish.

Mr. *Fox*'s father, whose Christian name was also *James*, was at different times licensee of two Lower Rushall Street public-houses – the KINGS ARMS and the ACORN (now demolished) – and also the MINERVA, Paddock Lane.....”

Closed

Demolished

ADMIRAL RODNEY

Pelsall Common, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Jacob Cooper [1849] – 1865);
Mrs. Susannah Cooper (1865 – []

NOTES

Jacob Cooper = Joseph Cooper

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/3/1850 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Freehold Messuages, with Barn, Stable, Gardens, Croft and Rickyard, at Pelsall, in the Parish of Wolverhampton. Mr. John Osbourn will Sell by Auction (by order of the Mortgagee), at the house of Mr. *Joseph Cooper*, the RODNEY INN, Pelsall aforesaid, on Monday, the 18th day of March, 1850, at five o'clock in the afternoon, (subject to conditions then and there to be produced), All those two Messuages or Dwelling Houses, together with Barn, Stable, Gardens, Rickyard, and appurtenances thereto belonging, situate, lying, and being at Pelsall aforesaid, now or late in the occupation of Henry Cooper and Dorothy Emmingsley.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. Smith and Son, Solicitors, or the Auctioneer, all of Walsall.”

1851 Census

Pelsall Common

- [1] *Jacob Cooper* (48), victular and farmer of 35 acres, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Susannah Cooper* (48), wife, born Herdington [Erdington?], Staffordshire;
- [3] George Cooper (17), son, farm labourer at home, born Pelsall;
- [4] Esther Cooper (15), daughter, house servant, born Pelsall;
- [5] Isaac Cooper (11), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [6] Jacob Cooper (6), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [7] Thomas Birch (13), servant, agricultural labourer, born Pelsall;
- [8] Sarah Twist (83), mother in law, widow, born Pelsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/10/1856 - Deaths

“On the 27th ultimo, after a short illness, Isaac, son of Mr. *Jacob Cooper*, landlord of the ADMIRAL RODNEY INN, Pelsall, near Walsall, aged 17 years, much and deservedly respected by all who knew him.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/10/1857

“*Jacob Cooper*, of the ADMIRAL RODNEY, Pelsall, was fined 5s and costs for keeping his house open during illegal hours on the day of humiliation.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1858

“The Licensing Court for Aldridge, Bentley, Pelsall, Rushall, and Walsall Wood, was held at the Railway Station Inn, Brownhills, on Tuesday last. The Magistrates present were R. C. Chawner and Thomas Rowley Esq. There are forty-one licensed victuallers in the Brownhills division of the county, all of whom had obtained renewal of their licenses with the exception of Mr. *Jacob Cooper*, landlord of the Admiral Rodney, Pelsall, who did not appear.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/9/1858

“An inquest was opened on Wednesday last, at the RODNEY INN, Pelsall, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy coroner, on the body of a young woman named Ann Barlow, aged 20, whose death, it was supposed, had been caused by taking poison. It appeared that the deceased was a young woman of weak intellect, and resided with her parents at Pelsall. On the previous Monday one of the neighbours had procured some arsenic for the purpose, it was alleged, of destroying bugs, and had incautiously left it upon a table in the room in which the deceased was sitting. The deceased was shortly afterwards found vomiting and apparently in great pain. She expired the same day.

The inquest was adjourned until Saturday, to afford time for a post mortem examination.

On Saturday last the inquiry was resumed, when Mr. Somerville, surgeon, stated that he had made the post mortem examination, the result of which proved that death had been occasioned by an attack of epilepsy, no trace of arsenic having been detected in the system. The jury returned a verdict accordingly.”

1861 Census

Pelsall – ADMIRAL RODNEY

- [1] *Jacob Cooper* (56), farmer and victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Susannah Cooper* (56), wife, born Erdington, Warwickshire;
- [3] *Jacob Cooper* (16), son, farmer, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Susannah Stackhouse* (19), servant, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Thomas Clingston* (30), servant, agricultural labourer, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Sarah Twist* (96), step mother, lady, born Blakedown, Worcestershire;
- [7] *Elizabeth Simmonds* (76), servant, born Blakedown, Worcestershire:

Birmingham Daily Post 7/8/1862

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Thursday, before J. E. Bealey and J. Harrison, Esqs., *Jacob Cooper*, landlord of the ADMIRAL RODNEY public house, Pelsall, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly of the 23rd ult. From the evidence of a parish constable, and a witness named Hughes, it appeared that on the evening of the day named a constable was sent to the defendant’s house to eject a man named Glover, who had been creating a disturbance there. The officer found a number of drunken men in the house, and requested the landlord turn them out. *Cooper* refused to do so, and late in the evening the officer was again called to quell a riot in front of defendant’s premises. In this case a penalty of £2 and costs was imposed. A second charge against the defendant was withdrawn on condition of the police fees, 4s, being paid.

John Williams was then charged with having been drunk and disorderly in *Cooper*’s house, on the night of the disturbance mentioned above. Mr. Ebsworth appeared for the defendant, and raised an objection that to constitute an offence under the 41st section of the Wine Act, it was necessary to prove that defendant had been requested and had refused to leave the house. This case was adjourned for a fortnight; as was also, for a similar reason, a like charge against Joseph Thompson.

A charge against Philip Cooper of having at the same time and place been drunk and disorderly, was dismissed on account of insufficient evidence.

Another of the party, named William Brookes, was for a like offence, sentenced to pay a fine of 10s and costs, or in default, to be imprisoned for fourteen days.

Similar charges against John Glover, Enoch Paxton, John Holland, and William Bate, were dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/9/1862

“*Joseph Cooper*, landlord of the ADMIRAL RODNEY whose licenses had been suspended in consequence of their names appearing in the ‘black book,’ were cautioned and had their licenses renewed.”

Walsall Free Press 11/2/1865

“On Tuesday last, the following licenses were transferred.....

the ADMIRAL RODNEY, Pelsall, from *Jacob Cooper*, to his widow, *Susannah Cooper*.”

ALBION

109, Wolverhampton Street (Wolverhampton Road), (Wolverhampton Lane), WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Disturnal, miller, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall
George Smallwood
Mrs. Ann Thomas
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Vass [1848] – [1851]
John Weaver [1858] – [1862]
Alfred Baker [1864] – [1865]
Joseph Phillips [1865]
Matthew Matthews [1868] – [1870]
Moses Millington [1869]
Joseph Charles Ridge [1872];
Joseph Middleton [1873];
Reuben Swindell [1874]
George Smallwood [1878] – **1898**;

John Thomas (1898);
Mrs. Ann Thomas (1898 – 1923);
John Thomas (1923);
Albert Edwards (1923 – 1936):

NOTES

Wolverhampton Lane [1851], [1853], [1869]
109, Wolverhampton Street [1860], [1862], [1908], [1932]
Wolverhampton Road [1872]

ALBION INN and Commercial house [1858]

It was a home brew house.

Thomas Vass = Thomas Vassey

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1848

“At the sitting of the magistrates, the following persons applied for spirit licenses for their respective houses.....

Thomas Vass, Wolverhampton Lane. Refused.”

Thomas Vass, beer retailer, Wolverhampton Road. [1849], [1850]

1851 Census

Wolverhampton Lane

- [1] *Thomas Vass* (41), victualler, born Barby, Northamptonshire;
- [2] Ann Vass (36), wife, born Ashby, Northamptonshire;
- [3] Thomas Vass (11), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Elizabeth Vass (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Ann Vass (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Lucy Mills (18), domestic servant, born Aston, Warwickshire;
- [7] William Haywood (36), lodger, journeyman saddler, born Worcester:

Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/5/1853

“Joseph Powell (the Coven Star) will run B. Barlow of Birmingham 160 yards, or Constable of Willenhall, 100 yards, to start by mutual consent; or run Jaffier 100 yards, providing he will give him one yard start, for from £20 to £50 a side; at the Four Ashes, Staffordshire, in six weeks from first deposit. Powell's money is ready at Mr. *Vassey's*, ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Lane, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/9/1854 - Deaths

“September 6, at the ALBION INN, Walsall, Ann, wife of Mr. *Thomas Vass*.”

John Weaver was also a farmer. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... The following parties were then called over, and as they came for their licenses, were duly cautioned individually.....

John Weaver, who had been fined 20s and costs for having permitted card playing in his house.”

John Weaver was also a hay and straw dealer. [1861]

1861 Census

109, Wolverhampton Road – ALBION INN

- [1] *John Weaver* (47), victualler and hay and straw dealer, born Claverley, Shropshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Weaver (39), wife, birthplace not known;
- [3] Ann Vass (15), boarder, milliner and dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] Jane Vass (8), boarder, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Emma Weaver (49), boarder, fund holder, born Stanbury, Shropshire;
- [6] Susan Jones (83), boarder, widow, formerly cook, born Foleshill, Warwickshire;
- [7] Frances Blaney (25), visitor, milliner &c, born Chetton, Shropshire;
- [8] Elizabeth Vass (55), visitor, widow, nurse, born Napton [Napton on the Hill?], Warwickshire;
- [9] Sarah A. Noakes (17), servant, born Sheffield:

Walsall Free Press 15/7/1865

“Thomas Bird, NEW TOWN TAVERN; John Perry, WHITE LION, High Street; *Joseph Phillips*, The ALBION, Wolverhampton Lane; Thomas Hall, WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street; William Sartin, NEW INN, John Street; and John Holder, CROSS GUNS, Birchills, were charged with having had their houses open during prohibited hours on Sunday last. Holder was fined 10s and costs, Sartin 6d and costs, Hall 6d and costs, and Perry 1s and costs. The cases against Messrs. Bird and *Phillips* were dismissed.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday licenses refused.....

Moses Millington, landlord of the ALBION public house, Wolverhampton Lane, who had been convicted of assault.”

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1869

“This being the adjourned licensing day, those parties whose licenses had been either suspended or refused, again put in applications.....

Mr. *Moses Millington*, landlord of the ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Lane, who, in consequence of having been connected with an assault, had been refused his license, again made application, supported by Mr. Glover.

Application refused.”

Walsall Free Press 12/11/1870 - Advert

“To Be Let and may be entered upon immediately, the ALBION INN, situate and fronting Wolverhampton Street. Fixtures and Effects to be taken at a Valuation. No Stock to be taken to, and to an industrious persevering party an opportunity like the present rarely occurs, as the Premises are replete with every convenience for carrying on an extensive business.

For particulars apply to Mr. John Osbourn, Auctioneer and Appraiser, 52, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 15/2/1873 - Advert

“A Free and Easy and Ball will commence This Evening, at 7-30pm, at the ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street. Master of the ceremonies Mr. James Freeman.

Proprietor, *Jos. Middleton*.”

London Gazette 14/3/1873

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Joseph Charles Ridge*, of Wolverhampton-lane, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Coal Dealer, and formerly of the ALBION INN, Wolverhampton-street, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Coal Dealer.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Charles Barrow, No.48, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, on the 29th day of March, 1873, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 11th day of March, 1873.

Chas. Barrow, 48, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, Attorney for the said Debtor.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/7/1874

“William Hemming (21), Lawley Street, was charged with stealing a horse, cart, and harness, of the value of £15, belonging to Mr. George Albutt, Bristol Street, coal dealer.

Detective-sergeant Drury said that on Thursday he found the prisoner offering the horse and harness for sale to *Reuben Swindell*, ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall. He asked the prisoner to account for the possession, and he replied that they were his own. He took the prisoner into custody on suspicion of stealing the property. The prisoner sold the cart to a wheelwright named Jacques, Stafford Street, Walsall, on the previous night, for £1. It appeared the prisoner was in the employ of Mr. Albutt, and was sent to get the horse shod on Wednesday, and subsequently to fetch some vetches, but he did not return.

The prisoner was committed for trial at the sessions.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/1/1878

“Thomas Orab, or Harding, Shaw’s Leasowe, who did not appear, was convicted of an unprovoked assault with a crutch upon Mr. *George Smallwood*, publican, Wolverhampton Lane, and, previous convictions being put in against him, he was sentenced to one month’s imprisonment with hard labour.”

1881 Census

109, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *George Smallwood* (55), licensed victualler, born Chester;

[2] Harriet Smallwood (54), wife, born Chester;

[3] Austin Napley (27), son in law, boarder, corn miller, born Sussex;

[4] Jane Napley (24), daughter in law, boarder, born Staffordshire;

[5] Agnes Napley (1), granddaughter, born Walsall:

Evening Express 3/6/1881

“John Durkin (18), Green Lane, who had been drunk and disorderly in the ALBION, public house, on the 16th ult, and who had

been twice previously convicted this year, was ordered to come up for judgement that day two months, if required.”

1891 Census

109, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *George Smallwood* (64), widower, licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Agnes Rapley* (11), granddaughter, born Walsall;

[3] *Harriet Richards* (55), widow, servant, born Shropshire:

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1897

“*George Smallwood*, landlord of the ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street, was charged with keeping open for the sale of intoxicating liquors on Sunday night last during prohibited hours.

Police-constable (57) Woolley, at 11 minutes past 10, found several men on the premises; but Mr. H. H. Jackson, for the defence, showed that this had resulted through a collection having been made on behalf of a bedridden person, and the Bench, under the circumstances, dismissed the case.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/1/1898

“Yesterday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Pearman-Smith also applied on behalf of the occupant and owner of the ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street, for sanction to plans for alterations which included the alteration of a staircase and the erection of a building of two stories in place of one storey which a present stood there. The present building was a brewery and a scullery, and it was intended to erect a building which would serve as a brewery and malt room. Granted.”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

“The members of the Welcome Friendly Gift Society, held at Mrs. *Thomas*'s, ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street, met on Thursday, the 14th ult, for their fifth annual general meeting. There was a good attendance.....”

Walsall Advertiser 20/1/1900

“In the Divorce Division, on Monday, Mr. Justice Barnes had before him the petition of *John Thomas* for a divorce by reason of the alleged misconduct of his wife with the co-respondent Mr. Bradley.

The petitioner deposed that he was a working brewer with his mother, who carried on the business of a licensed victualler. She kept the ALBION INN, Walsall. On the 3rd October, 1894, he married the respondent at Walsall, and afterwards lived with her at the LAMP TAVERN INN, Walsall. Differences arose between them, and they separated under a deed. After a time they lived together, but in 1895, after the birth of a child, there was another separation owing to differences between them, and he made her an allowance. In the summer of 1897 he heard that his wife had gone to live with Mr. Bradley, and she had lived with him since that time.

Charles Parker Roberts, clerk to petitioner's solicitor, proved serving the divorce papers on the respondent and co-respondent, when they were living together at Ivy Cottage, New Street, Walsall.

A decree nisi with costs was granted.”

Walsall Observer 23/6/1900

“The annual pic-nic from Mrs. *Thomas*'s, ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street, took place on Sunday last, when about ninety customers and friends attended. The conveyance of the party was in the hands of Mr. J. Hale, and with two charabancs and two brakes a start was made shortly after eight o'clock. Wolverhampton was reached a little after nine o'clock, where a stay was made at the hostelry of Mr. Albert Lovatt.

Proceeding down the Tettenhall Road and up the historical Rock, past Danes Court (the scene of one of our great early English battles with the Danes) to Kingswood Common, where a halt was made to refresh the inner man. Excellent provision had been made in this respect by Mrs. *J. Thomas*, and full justice was done to the beef, ham &c provided.

After a short bivouac the journey was continued on towards Albrighton. The Wellington Wrekin was observed standing out in bold relief. The country looked glorious, the roads were in perfect condition, and the sun shining in all its glory tended to make everyone feel the benefit to be derived from their beautiful surroundings.

The Bell and Tong was reached about 12.30, and after light refreshments, the party dispersed to view the beauty of the country. Four o'clock was the time fixed for the return journey, and punctually the party was again on the road. The homeward drive was made by way of Weston Park, Gailey, and Bloxwich, and Walsall was reached shortly before 9 o'clock, all being delighted with their day's outing.”

1901 Census

109, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Ann Thomas* (61), widow, born Walsall;

[2] *John Thomas* (31), son, born Walsall;

[3] *Bertha Dibble* (25), servant, barmaid, born Wednesbury;

[4] *Mary A. Pritchard* (21), domestic servant, born Pensnett:

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....

The following dividends were paid out in connection with the various lodges of the Loyal Caledonian Corks. Lodge 504, BROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street, 6s 6d, night and card; 422, SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, 7s, night and card; 322 GOAT INN, Newhall Street, 5s 3d, two nights and card; 325, ALBION HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street, 2s 6d, night and card.”

1911 Census

109, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Ann Thomas* (71), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *John Thomas* (41), son, born Walsall;
- [3] *Jane Thomas* (40), wife, married 10 years, born Farlow, Shropshire;
- [4] *Kate Harrison* (29), servant, [No birthplace given.]:

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1913 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of John, the beloved husband of *Ann Thomas*, of the ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street, who departed this life January 7th, 1886.

*The distant scene becomes divinely near;
Lead thou me on.”*

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“The annual general meeting of the ‘Welcome’ Friendly Gift Society was held on Wednesday night at the ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street (Mr. *John Thomas*). The Secretary read the report and balance sheet, which showed that there had been £49 19s paid out for sickness, leaving a dividend of 7/2 per member. The officers were all re-elected and thanked for their past services, and the rest of the evening was spent in harmony, songs being rendered by Bros. Arblaster and S. Griffin, while Mr. J. Davies accompanied.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, 7s 10½d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/4/1915 - Advert

“Good General Servant Wanted for Public-house; aged 20 to 25; good character required. Mrs. *Thomas*, ALBION INN, Wolverhampton St., Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 8/1/1916 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of John, the beloved husband of *Ann Thomas*, of the ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street, who died on January 7th, 1886.

*There is a link death cannot sever,
Love and remembrance live for ever.”*

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street. £2 2s 9½d.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 14/3/1925

“The story of a surprise visit by police to a Buffalo Lodge meeting was told at the Walsall Court on Monday, when *Albert Edwards*, licensee of the ALBION INN, Wolverhampton Street, was summoned for supplying intoxicating liquors in other than permitted hours, and refusing a person acting with his consent to admit the police to the club room of his licensed premises. Evidence was given by the police of a visit raid at 10.30pm, and it was stated that after the police made an unsuccessful effort to gain admittance to the premises *Edwards* came out and said, ‘This is a meeting of the Buff’s, and I can’t admit you until the meeting is over.’ Beer was seen on the tables, but in answer to Mr. A. J. Long a police sergeant said he could not say whether any beer was supplied after 10pm. The Bench dismissed the case.”

It closed on 19th May 1936.

The license was transferred to the BELLE VUE, Moat Road.

ALMA

Bentley Lane, (Bentley Street) / Lane Avenue, WALSALL

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Charles Browne (1933 – 1934);
Alfred William Scott (1934 – 1936);
Frank Cowlshaw (1936 – 1951);
Philip George Mackie (1951 – 1952);
Elizabeth Cowlshaw (1952 – 1959);
Amy Treece (1959 – 1960);
Mary Elizabeth Timms (1960);
John Charles Bishop (1960 – 1964);
Mabel Brown (1964 – []
Jim Perkins [1986]

NOTES

It was built in 1932.
The full license from ALMA, Paddock Lane, was transferred here.

It opened on 2nd March 1933.

Walsall Observer 22/7/1939

“Stated to have been worried by the fear of cancer, a Birchills bricklayer’s labourer, George Dukes (51), of 58 Hospital Street, Walsall, was on Saturday morning found drowned in the canal beneath the Wolverhampton Road bridge at Parkbrook. He had been missing for several days.

At an inquest conducted by the Walsall Coroner (Mr. J. F. Addison) at Manor Hospital on Tuesday, the widow stated that her husband, who had been employed by J. and F. Wootton Ltd., builders, of Pinfold, Bloxwich did not go to work on the morning of Monday, July 10. Recently he had had throat trouble and a cough which became worse. He feared he had cancer from which his father died and said he could never endure what his father did. He never, however, threatened to commit suicide.

Returning home in the afternoon he would not have the dinner that had been cooked, but took a sandwich out with him, saying he would be all right. That was the last time she saw him alive. She made various inquiries and reported the disappearance to the police. Recently he had been very depressed.

Joseph Bayley, of Westbury Road, King’s Hill, said he recovered the body.

Police-constable Lee (Coroner’s Officer) said the licensee of the ALMA INN, Bentley Lane, had stated that Dukes, who had not previously been a customer, called at the public-house every evening from July 10 to July 13. He appeared very strange and worried ‘like a man in a trance.’ When he left the public house about 10.30pm on Thursday night of last week he still seemed strange. The canal where the body was found was not far away.

The Coroner’s Officer said he had tried to discover where Dukes slept from the time he left home until he was last seen at the ALMA, but without success.

The Coroner: Longmore’s brickworks are in this neighbourhood and we heard before how men are in the habit of sleeping near the ovens.

The widow said she had been unable to trace where her husband went.

Dr. A. B. Davies (police surgeon) said the man’s death was due to suffocation from drowning and he appeared to have been in the water from 24 to 48 hours. In one pocket was a razor of the open type.

The Coroner, returning a verdict that Dukes drowned himself whilst his mind was unbalanced, said: ‘There are some strange features about this case. What made him leave home on Monday and not immediately to carry out his intention we shall never know. There is good reason to believe that for a few days while the police were searching for him he was alive. How he evaded recognition is difficult to believe.’

The Coroner expressed sympathy with the relatives.”

1939 Register

Bentley Lane – ALMA INN

[1] *Frank Cowlshaw*, date of birth 24/10/1907, fitter (engineering), married;

[2] *Elizabeth Cowlshaw*, dob 16/8/1913, manageress public house, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

ALMA INN, Bentley Lane, £2 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Cowlishaw*, the ALMA, Bentley Lane. £0 13s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
ALMA INN, Bentley Lane. £2 5s.0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
ALMA INN, Bentley Street. £21 19s 9d.”

[2017]

ALMA

107, Paddock Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Bird
Joseph Brittain
William Sanders
Stephen Brown
J. T. Duce and Co, Wednesbury
Alfred Leary, Portland Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham
Arthur Beebee Ltd. [1905], [1910]
Manchester Brewery Ltd.
S. Allsopp and Sons, Burton on Trent
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
Frank Myatt Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Bird [1857] – [1873];
Joseph Brittain [];
William Saunders [1879] – [1880];
Stephen Brown [1881] – **1886**);
George Holden Jnr. (**1886 – 1887**);
Alfred Jones (**1887 – 1889**);
David Dagley (**1889**);
Michael Horan (**1889 – 1890**);
Mrs. Rose Cormley (**1890 – 1892**);
Charles J Shaw [1891] (?)
Charles Henry Parsons (**1892 – 1895**);
Thomas Edward Patten (**1895 – 1898**);
Mrs. Maria Louisa Pridmore (**1898 – 1899**);
Isaac Rowland Freeman (**1899 – 1903**);
Charles John Edwards (**1903 – 1907**);
William Alfred Burton (**1907 – 1911**);
Walter Blunn (?) (**1911**);
John Perks (**1911 – 1913**);
James Carless (**1913 – 1914**);
Joseph Loynes (**1914**);
Thomas Moran (**1914 – 1916**);
Elizabeth Moran (**1916 – 1917**);

Rupert Raybould (1917 – 1920);
Richard Harper (1920 – 1921);
Edward Charles Coley (1921 – 1929);
Enoch Antill (1929 – 1931);
John Rose (1931);
Charles Browne (1931 – 1933);

NOTES

ALMA TAVERN [1858], [1861]

Birmingham Journal 22/4/1857

“At the Guildhall, on Monday last, before the Mayor, and W. Ward, J. Shannon, F. B. Oerton, and H. Highway, Esqs., a man named George Reynolds was charged with passing a counterfeit £5 Bank of England note at the ALMA TAVERN, Paddock Lane, on the 29th of last November. Mr. Blackburn having proved that the note was counterfeit, Agnes and Mary Ann *Bird*, and their father, the proprietor of the tavern, spoke to the uttering, and the two formers positively identified the prisoner. Police-sergeant Dackus stated he took the prisoner into custody on Thursday morning last in the PIGEON beer-house. Mr. Sill for the defence, denied the identity of Reynolds had been satisfactorily shown; adding, that at all events there was not the slightest proof of a guilty knowledge in the transaction on his part. The Bench, however, decided that a case had been made out for a jury, and the prisoner was remanded for a week, that the Bank authorities might be corresponded with on the subject of a prosecution. Sergeant Dackus, who took Reynolds so cleverly, has another case against him, which will be tried today (Wednesday.)”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/4/1857

“In November last, a man named Keyte was charged with being concerned in passing a forged Bank of England note, but discharged, the evidence against him being insufficient. At about the same time a forged note was passed at the ALMA public-house, Paddock Lane, under a similar excuse, that of getting some ale for some workmen. The man who passed it gave his name as John Lloyd. The man could not be found at the time, but Sergeant Dackus having received information went on the previous Thursday to the PIGEON beerhouse, kept by Daniel Keyte, brother of the accused in the former case, and found the prisoner asleep in bed. The witness awoke him, told him he was a police-officer, and charged him with being concerned, some three or four months before, in passing forged notes in Walsall. The prisoner replied that the officer must be mistaken, and when at the police station he averred that he had not been in Walsall for eight months, and added, ‘You’ll have to find out the date when the notes were passed.’ Two of the daughters of the prosecutor positively identified the prisoner as the man who uttered the forged notes, as did a man named Morton, who wrote the name then given by the prisoner upon the back of the note.

Mr. Sill having cross-examined the several witnesses, addressed bench, and argued that, even supposing there was no mistake as to the identity of his client, no other spurious notes had been traced to his possession, and there was, therefore, no proof of uttering with a guilty knowledge.

The bench remanded the prisoner for a week, to enable the police to communicate with the authorities of the Bank of England.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/5/1857

“George Reynolds, remanded last week, on the charge of passing a forged Bank of England note for £5 to Mr. *William Bond* [sic], publican, in Paddock Lane, in payment for ale, was charged with passing another forged note of the same bank and same amount on the night of 6th December last, at the OLD GREEN MAN, George Street, kept by Mr. Archer. Some suspicions were entertained as to the truth of his story, and he was followed and seen, on meeting with Edward Keyte, brother of the landlord of the PIGEON beerhouse, to hand the ale to him. Keyte was afterwards apprehended on it being found that the note was bad, but was discharged for want of evidence. The present prisoner was apprehended at the PIGEON beerhouse, on the 16th April, as previously stated, after being missing from the neighbourhood since December. Several witnesses positively identified him as the man who passed the forged note, the note itself having been marked on being found to be bad shortly after its receipt. The prisoner was remanded for a week to await communication with the authorities of the Bank of England.”

[At the Staffordshire Summer Assizes - George Reynolds was sentenced to 10 years’ penal servitude.]

Walsall Free Press 7/11/1857

“*William Bird*, ALMA TAVERN, Paddock Lane, appeared to a summons charging him with having his house open for the sale of liquors during the prohibited hours on Sunday last, October 25th. Mr. Cater, the chief-constable, said he visited the house about twenty minutes to eleven o’clock in the morning in question, but before arriving there he discovered a person, who appeared to be watching in the street, run into the house the back way. After he had gained admittance he found two men secreted in the club-room, who informed him they were there not to drink but to read the paper. He was going out through the yard when he heard some voices in the closet, and there he found two men concealed, one being in a beastly state of intoxication. Mr. Beaton, who appeared for the defendant, called several witnesses for the defendant, who proved it was a party yard, and that the persons Mr. Cater had last seen had not been into the house at all, although they had gained access to the yard through the gates, which were partly in possession of another person. The bench felt bound to believe Mr. Cater’s evidence, and inflicted a fine of 5s and expenses.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... The following parties were then called over, and as they came for their licenses, were duly cautioned indi-

vidually.....

William Bird, of the ALMA TAVERN, Paddock Lane, for having, at forty minutes past ten o'clock on a Sunday morning, had three men, one of whom was drunk, concealed on his premises, and for which he had on the 2nd of November last been fined 5s and costs."

1861 Census

107, Paddock Lane

- [1] *William Bird* (47), horse collar maker and victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Ann Bird (45), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Cecilia Bird (15), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

William Bird was described as also being an ironfounder. [1864], [1873]
He was also a malleable iron founder. [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

107, Paddock – ALMA TAVERN

- [1] *William Bird* (57), iron founder, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary A. Bird (55), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Carver (25), son in law, whip maker (out of employ), born Walsall;
- [4] Cecilia Carver (25), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Sarah J Carver (17), relation, born Walsall;
- [6] Joseph W. Carver (3), grandson, born Walsall;
- [7] Cecelia E. Carver (2), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [8] Florence A. Carver (8 months), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [9] Clara Robatham (20), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

"Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

The cases of *William Bird*, ALMA TAVERN were adjourned."

Birmingham Daily Post 22/11/1879

"The following have filed petitions for liquidation in the Walsall County Court.....

William Sanders, ALMA INN, Paddock, innkeeper, brassfounder, and plater; liabilities £2,000; solicitor, Mr. F. Bill."

1881 Census

107, Paddock Lane

- [1] *Stephen Brown* (51), brass founder, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Brown (52), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Frederick Brown (19), son, brass founder, born Walsall;
- [4] Arthur Brown (17), son, brass founder, born Walsall;
- [5] Stephen Brown (14), son, brass founder, born Walsall;
- [6] Albert Brown (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Martha Kate Evans (19), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Stephen Brown – see also LAMB.

Walsall Observer 3/1/1885

"Alfred Cowley, Burrows Street, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in the ALMA TAVERN, Paddock Lane, on Saturday. Mr. Sheldon appeared for the complainant and called witnesses, who stated that defendant was drunk and violent in the house, and refused to leave when asked. Afterwards he was got out, and he tried to get in again. He then accused the complainant of robbing him of £50.

Defendant was fined 5s and costs, or ten days imprisonment."

1891 Census

107, Paddock Lane – ALMA TAVERN

- [1] Charles J. Shaw (25), harness maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Emily Shaw (22), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Harold Shaw (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Ann Craddick (16), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 9/9/1893

"*Alfred Jones*, beerhouse keeper, NEW INN, Blue Lane West, formerly a well-known football player, appeared for his public examination, and was represented by Mr. H. H. Jackson, solicitor. His statement showed liabilities £311 10s 2d and assets £50 10s 3d. The following were the Official Receiver's observations: prior to 1887 he took the ALMA INN, Paddock Lane, Walsall.

He had no capital, but borrowed £14 from a friend. In April, 1889, he removed to the STORES INN, High Street, Walsall, and in 1890, to the NEW INN, Blue Lane West, Walsall. He agreed to pay £250 for goodwill, fixtures, brewing plant and unexpired portion of the lease, and to take stock at a valuation which amounted to £22. He borrowed £300 from a friend to pay these sums. He gave no security for the £300, and still owes £165 of that sum. The lease expired on the 25th March last. The bankrupt remained in possession and carried on business up to the time he filed the petition. He states the cause of his insolvency to be 'paying an excessive amount upon taking to the NEW INN, losses upon brewing, supplying beer on credit, and illness of my child.' He kept no books of account. He accounts for his deficiency as follows: Excess of liabilities over assets 12 months ago, £120 19s 11d; bad debts (for beer drunk upon the premises), £19; household expenses for the past 12 months, £75; loss upon forced realisation of effects, which he has estimated at a breaking up price, £50; doctor's bills and illness, £5; total £260 19s 11d. The examination was adjourned to the 27th inst. for closing."

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1899

"Walsall & District Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting was held on Thursday.....
New Members..... Mrs. *Maria Louise Pridmore*, ALMA INN, Paddock, Walsall."

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

"The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....
The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug. 1898. Alehouses.....
Maria Louisa Pridmore, ALMA, served 13 children.....
He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....
On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....
In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution."

1901 Census

107, Paddock Lane

- [1] *Isaac R. Freeman* (31), publican, born Bedworth, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Maud L. Freeman* (49), wife, born Macclesfield;
- [3] *Emily L. Pridmore* (19), stepdaughter, born Manchester;
- [4] *Frank C. Pridmore* (13), stepson, born Manchester;
- [5] *Florence G. Pridmore* (7), stepdaughter, born Heasterham, Lancashire:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....
Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various.....
Charles John Edwards, ALMA.....
There were objections against this house in the report of the magistrates sub-committee on account of structural and other defects. The license was renewed subject to certain undertakings."

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

"A. Beebee's Noted Home-Brewed Ales.
Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.
Houses.....
ALMA, Paddock Lane, Walsall."

1911 Census

107, Paddock Lane

- [1] *William Alfred Burton* (46), brown saddler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Annie Florence Burton* (43), wife, married 21 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Minnie Burton* (18), daughter, typist, born Walsall;
- [4] *Jessie Burton* (17), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Howard Burton* (15), son, errand boy, born Walsall;
- [6] *John Harding Burton* (11), son, school, born Walsall;
- [7] *Florence Jones* (32), domestic servant, house work, born Walsall:

William Alfred Burton – see also WOOLPACK.

Joseph Loynes = Joseph Lyons

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
ALMA INN, Paddock Lane. £0 5s 5½d.”

The license was transferred to the new ALMA, Bentley Lane.
It closed on 1st March 1933.

ANCHOR

4, (2), (3), Bridgeman Street / Long Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Francis Plant, Kingswinford [1861]
Andrew Holmes, painter, Stafford Street, Walsall [1872], [1881]
Chester's Brewery Ltd. (leased)
John Lord [1882], [1939]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 11th August 1939) [1956]
Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Thomas Deeley [1858]
Mrs. Frances Plant [1860] – **1861**);
John Lowe (**1861** – [1863]
Mrs. Sarah Lowe [1864] – [1865]
James Deeley [] – **1866**);
William Keeling (**1866** – []
John Purdy [1868] – [1870]
Reuben Brown Mantle [1871] – [1873];
Charles Anderson [];
Thomas Crisp [];
William Crisp [];
Charles Matthew Anderson [1880] – **1887**);
Francis Adams (**1887** – **1890**);
Charles Taylor (**1890** – **1892**);
Samuel Bowen (**1892** – **1894**);
Eliza Bowen (**1894**);
John Alfred Delaney (**1894** – **1897**);
Frank Barber (**1897** – **1899**);
Joseph P Gibbs (**1899** – **1904**)
Thomas Bates (**1904** – **1905**)
Joseph Woollatt (**1905** – **1910**);
John Hill (**1910** – **1912**);
Sidney Arthur (**1912** – **1921**);
Mark Ryan (**1921** – **1956**);
Emma Ryan (**1956**);
Joseph Brazier (**1956** – **1962**);
William Henry Davis (**1962** – [1964])

NOTES

4, Bridgeman Street [1860], [1861], [1862], [1871], [1894], [1901], [1911], [1932], [1939], [1940]
2, Bridgeman Street [1881]
3, Bridgeman Street [1891]

It had an ante '69 beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/6/1858

“An inquest was held at the ANCHOR INN, on Tuesday, before Mr. A. A. Fletcher, coroner, on the body of Elizabeth Stokes, who,

up to the time of her death, was in the service of Mr. E. W. Fenton, wine merchant, of this town. For a few days previous to Monday the deceased had appeared in a depressed state, and on the afternoon of that day she said to the nurse, 'Eliza I wish I could die this afternoon.'

She was left to take care of the house the same evening, and on the return of Mr. and Mrs. Fenton and the nurse, they found the doors of the house fastened. Mr. Fenton effected an entrance by means of the dining room windows, and immediately searched the house. On arriving at his own bedroom he found the girl lying on the floor, and blood proceeding from her mouth. A revolver pistol, which Mr. Fenton carried with him when travelling, and which in the knowledge of the deceased, had been left loaded, was discovered by her side, and four barrels of it had been discharged. The girl had evidently shot herself with the pistol, and the bullet had entered her throat and taken egress at the back of the neck. She was not dead, and Mr. Fenton asked her why she had committed such a rash act. She replied, 'Oh, I was only looking at the pistol case.' She expired about eight o'clock..... The jury returned a verdict that the deceased destroyed herself whilst in a fit of insanity."

1861 Census

4, Bridgeman Street – ANCHOR Public House

[1] *Frances Plant* (34), widow, victualler, born Kingswinford;

[2] James Plant (14), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton;

[3] Joseph W. Plant (9), son, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Mary Ann Nuttle (19), servant, born Wolverhampton;

[5] Thomas B. Jefferson (21), lodger, steam sawyer, born Bishop Wilton, Yorkshire:

[Bishop Wilton is about 12 miles ENE of York.]

Walsall Free Press 16/11/1861

"Application was made for the transfer of the ANCHOR, Bridgeman Street, from Mrs. *Frances Plant* to *John Lowe* The police gave all applicants good characters, and the transfers were permitted."

Birmingham Daily Post 10/5/1864

"Mrs. *Sarah Lowe*, landlady of the ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street, Walsall, was charged with having on the morning of Sunday, the 1st inst, sold ale during prohibited hours. Sergeant Mason deposed to having found two men in the defendant's house at twenty minutes past ten o'clock on the morning named, and to jugs of ale being on the table before them. Mr. Cranch (from the office of Messrs. Duignan and Lewis), who appeared for the defendant, succeeded in showing that the men who were found in the house had been at work at the Crankhall Lane Bridge, on the London and North-Western Railway, near Wednesbury, during the whole of the night of the 30th of April, and that one of them, a man named John Hill, had made his way to Walsall for the purpose of depositing his tools in the depot, and going by train to join his wife and family at Birmingham, where he then lived. Being lame he had got the other man to assist him in carrying the tools, and on reaching Walsall they had obtained admission into the defendant's house to get some refreshments, Hill being in great pain and faint. The police stated that the defendant's house had been uniformly well kept, and the Bench, being of opinion that the ale was sold under special circumstances, dismissed the case."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/7/1866

"*William Keeling*, licensed victualler, Bridgeman Street, was fined 2s 6d and costs for having had his house open during prohibited hours."

Birmingham Journal 2/11/1867 - Advert

"Valuable Old-Licensed Public-House, and Other Properties, in Bridgeman Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, By Messrs. Farrington and Son, at the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, on Wednesday, the 20th November instant, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read, the following Property.

Lot 1. All that valuable and well-placed Old-Licensed Public-House, known as the ANCHOR INN, situate at the junction of Bridgeman Street and Long Street, in the borough of Walsall, and near to the junction of Bridgeman Street and Station Street, Bridgeman Place and Navigation Street, and within a short distance from the Railway Station.

The House and Premises comprise a large Bar, spacious Parlour, and Tap Room; a Room 20 yards long used as an American Bowling Alley, and ante-room adjoining; Pantry, Back Kitchen or Brewhouse, and Malt Room over, Sleeping Chambers, Club Room, three-stall Stable and Coach House, and large Hay-loft over; Piggeries, Pump of Excellent Water, Soft-water Cistern and Pump, and entire Yard.

And also the House adjoining the ANCHOR INN, also fronting to Bridgeman Street, with the Appurtenances thereto belonging, in the occupation of Mr. James Barfoot; and also the Range of Upper and Lower Shopping, adjoining the last mentioned House, and fronting an occupation road, and let to Mr. William Horlick.

The owner occupies the Public-House. The House and Shopping, occupied by Mr. Horlick, are let at £23 8s a year....."

Edinburgh Gazette 24/3/1868

"Bankrupts. *John Purdy*, of the ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street, and formerly of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, both in Walsall, Stafford, licensed victualler and commission agent."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/11/1870 - Advert

"Wanted, a Young Man, for a Public-house, used to Brewing.

Apply ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street, Walsall."

1871 Census

4, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *Reuben B. Mantle* (47), inn keeper, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Eliza Mantle (37), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Eliza Mantle (5), daughter, born Pensnett;
- [4] Ada Mantle (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Susan Mantle (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Thomas Bailey (72), boarder, metal worker, born Walsall;
- [7] James Wilkinson (27), brewer, born Birmingham;
- [8] Lydia Hammonds (21), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Reuben Brown Mantle – see also WHITE LION.

1881 Census

2, Bridgeman Street – ANCHOR INN

- [1] *Charles M. Anderson* (33), publican, born Leominster;
- [2] Ann Anderson (28), wife, born James Bridge;
- [3] Job Siviter (18), boarder, barman, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Mary Ann Potter (24), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Birmingham Daily Post 29/10/1881

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Charles Mathew Anderson*, the ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street, was summoned for assaulting Bertha Louisa Forgham.

The evidence of the complainant showed because she did not at once leave the house when he ordered her to do so, he threw a glass of whisky, which she had paid for, in her face, pushed her out of the house and struck her violently on the eye, the nose, and the forehead.

The defence was that the woman was ordered out of the house for using gross language, and that as far as the assault was concerned she was the aggressor.

A fine of 40s and costs was imposed, and a cross summons was dismissed.”

Walsall Observer 9/5/1885

“On Wednesday afternoon Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street, on the body of Mary Cookson (65) of Bridgeman Street. Deceased fell downstairs on Monday, and from then until Tuesday evening, when she died, never recovered consciousness. After hearing the evidence of Harriet Heath, with whom deceased lived, and Walter Wimbury, who lived next door, a verdict of Accidental Death was returned by the jury.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses.....

The following applied in person *Charles Taylor*, the ANCHOR, Bridgeman Street. Refused.”

1891 Census

3, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *Charles Taylor* (39), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Henrietta Taylor (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Arthur Taylor (4), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Lottie Taylor (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Emily Saddler (20), boarder, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1893

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The usual monthly meeting of the management committee was held on Thursday last (having been postponed from the previous Thursday, the day on which the Parliamentary election took place), at Mr. William Brown’s, BLUE PIG INN, New Street.....

New members.... Mr. *Samuel Bowen*, The ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/7/1894

“At the License Transfer Court, at the Guildhall, yesterday, the following transfers of licenses were granted.....

The ANCHOR, 4, Bridgeman Street, from *Samuel Bowen* (deceased) to *Eliza Bowen*.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/8/1894

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The forty second annual meeting of the members of this society was held on Thursday We have to report with regret that by death we have lost five members Mr. *Samuel Bowen*, ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/3/1895

“The undermentioned persons were summoned at the instance of Mr. Whitworth, inspector of weights and measures, and were dealt with as stated, viz.: *John Delaney*, the ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street, 20s and costs for having in his bar a half-pint measure which was between 4 drachms and 5 drachms against the purchaser.....”

1901 Census

4, Bridgeman Street – The ANCHOR

- [1] Mary Ann Gibbs (70), widow, born Ireland;
- [2] Austin T Gibbs (40), son, brown saddler, born Walsall;
- [3] *Joseph P. Gibbs* (36), son, publican, born Walsall;
- [4] Ellen A. Gibbs (34), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Thursday.....

Mr. F. Bill submitted plans for altering the ANCHOR HOTEL, Bridgeman Street, and to construct a commercial room. Alderman Holden asked if it was a commercial house, and Mr. Bill replied that there was an increasing trade. Deferred”

Walsall Advertiser 21/5/1904

“On the application of Mr. Cooper (Addison and Cooper) a temporary transfer was granted with respect to the ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street, from *Arthur Gibbs* to *Thomas Bates*.”

1911 Census

4, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *John Hill* (30), hotel manager, born Edinborough (sic);
- [2] Emily Jane Hill (28), wife, married 9 years, born Walsall;
- [3] Grace Emily Hill (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary Ann Lee (22), general servant, born Great Bridge;
- [5] Frederick Aubrey Perry (21), boarder, butcher, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1911

“John Durkin, 3, Temple Street, and David Crosby, 25, Peal Street, were summoned for assaulting Benjamin Jefferson, Long Street and also with doing wilful damage to the amount of 10s on January 5th.

Prosecutor, who is landlord of the FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, said Crosby was requested to leave his house, when defendants both struck him. While they were being ejected Crosby put his foot through a window, and did other damage.

Durkin: Did I insult you? – Witness: Yes.

Durkin: Thankyou.

Emily *Hill*, of the ANCHOR INN, spoke as to seeing the window broke, and a stone was produced, it being stated that this was thrown.

Crosby told the Bench that ‘it was a gamble and a squabble – you have to hit somebody or they will hit you. The house was in an uproar. It was half-a-dozen to six.’

There were twenty previous convictions against Crosby, who asked for leniency, saying, ‘It is not what I’ve done, but what I am going to do.’

Durkin was fined 10s and costs, and allowed time to pay, but Crosby was fined 30s and costs, or in default 21 days.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

ANCHOR, Bridgeman Street, Walsall, 2s 4d.”

Walsall Observer 24/4/1924

“Ann Tiverney (20), Long Street, was charged with stealing a glass, value 3d, from the ANCHOR VAULTS, Bridgeman Street, kept by *C. A. Anderson*. Mr. *Anderson* stated that on Saturday night, about five minutes to eleven, he saw the prisoner take the glass and leave the house, and afterwards gave it to a man who was outside.

The prisoner said the glass was taken by one of a party of men who had been in the house drinking.

She was sentenced to 21 days imprisonment with hard labour.”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“Plans were approved for alterations and the license renewed in 1923, and by 1925 it was described as having a ‘self contained yard, very small, 2 wc’s and urinal. There is a loft 10’8” x 10’10” adjoining the back bedroom, old property in good repair, no bathroom.””

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of

the well-known Cape Hill brewery company's acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

John Lord's houses.....

ANCHOR, Bridgeman Street.”

1939 Register

4, Bridgeman Street

[1] *Mark Ryan*, date of birth 5/9/1887, beerhouse manager, married;

[2] *Emma Ryan*, dob 26/10/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Mark Ryan*, dob 14/3/1916, brewery cooper, single;

[4] *Francis (Ryan) Dee*, dob 25/9/1913, female, office clerk, single:

Walsall Observer 13/7/1940

“At the monthly meeting on Thursday of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....

Mr. *M. Ryan*, ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street, was elected a member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ANCHOR, Bridgeman Street. £2 4s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street. £9 11s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/1/1944 - Advert

“Wanted, Woman Cleaner, 8 till 10, mornings.

Ryan, ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1945 - Advert

“By Direction of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Bradford. Third Sale of Valuable Freehold Ground Rents.....

Nine Licensed Houses..... ANCHOR INN, Bridgeman Street.”

Mark Ryan died in 1956.

[1983]

Closed

It became Anchor House. [2003]

ANGEL

24, Park Street, (Stafford Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Hayes [1841] – 1855);

James Lunn (1855 – [1856]

Robert Hayes [1858] – [1861]

NOTES

Stafford Street [1850]

24, Park Street [1858], [1860]

A wagon plying between Shrewsbury and Coventry called here. [1771]

It had an Amicable Society [1777]

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Additional Friendly Societies, known by the name of Gift Societies.....

A Gift, or permanent fund, held at ANGEL, Park Street.”

1841 Census

Park Street

- [1] *James Hayes* (45), butcher;
- [2] *Mary Hayes* (40), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Robert Hayes* (15), butcher, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Jane Lawrence* (6), born Staffordshire:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 13/2/1842

“The match between Mr. Holden’s dog, Will, and Mr. Rabell’s dog Shot, came off on Monday, and, after two hours hard work, Shot was proclaimed the winner. Rabell’s dog can be backed against any other of 38lb weight, for £5 a side. The money is ready at Mr. *Hayes*’s, ANGEL INN, Park Street, Walsall, Staffordshire.”

James Hayes was also a butcher. [1849]

1851 Census

Park Street

- [1] *James Hayes* (59), butcher, born Bolton, Lancashire;
- [2] *Mary Hayes* (50), wife, born Rushall;
- [3] *Jane Lawrence* (17), granddaughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Samuel Mooney* (25), servant, labourer in mines, born Barr, Warwickshire;
- [5] *James Taylor* (59), servant, assistant, birthplace unknown;
- [6] *John Smith* (18), visitor, labourer, birthplace unknown:

Birmingham Journal 17/11/1855

“Mr. *James Hayes*, of the ANGEL INN, Park Street, Walsall, having been at Lenton fair, returned home about nine o’clock on Monday evening, and was soon afterwards taken suddenly ill, and although medical aid was promptly at hand, he died in about five or ten minutes. The medical gentleman who attended deceased was Mr. Fletcher, who is also the Coroner of the borough; and feeling quite satisfied that deceased came to his death from an attack of apoplexy, he considered an inquest unnecessary.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/12/1855

“At the Magistrates’ meeting on Wednesday, applications for the transfer of licenses were heard.....

A person named *Lunn* applied for the transfer to himself of the ANGEL, Park Street, formerly occupied by Mr. *James Hayes*, whose sudden death was recently announced. Mr. Cater, the superintendent, stated he had observed disorderly conduct in the house a few evenings since, and the case was adjourned for a week.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day for the renewal of old licenses and considering the application for new ones, there was a full attendance of magistrates All the old licenses were renewed excepting those of.....

James Lunn, the ANGEL, Park Street, which was suspended pending an information laid against the house by the police.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/1/1859

“Trotting. Mr. Darby’s mare having forfeited to the Dudley mare, he wishes to match her against the Kidderminster mare, for £20 or £25 a side, two miles, on the Stratford Road, to come off in three weeks from the first deposit. Money ready any night next week, at *Robert Hayes*’s ANGEL INN, Park Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 16/4/1859

“*Robert Hayes*, landlord of the ANGEL INN, Park Street, was charged with having permitted disorderly conduct in his house, on the night of Thursday last. Police-constable Montgomery said he entered the house several times during the course of the night; the last time – about three o’clock on Friday morning – he found a number of men quarrelling about some money, for which they had been gambling. Mrs. *Hayes* said the parties who were quarrelling were not her regular customers, but two strangers – Mr. Barnett, station master, Brownhills, and another gentleman. The bench after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant to a pay a fine of 5s and costs, this being his first offence.”

Walsall Free Press 23/6/1860 - Advert

“Old-Licensed House, Park Street, Walsall, the ANGEL INN, may be had on lease or tenancy. Apply to Mr. Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

ANGLESEY ARMS

25, (35), Upper Forster Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Bott, baker, Lichfield Street, Walsall
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joel Griffiths [1861]
James B Holt [1864] – [1865]
Peter Knapp [1868] – [1872];
Hannah Knapp [1871] ?
William Jackson [];
Emma Agnes Ankrett [];
Samuel Smith [1881] – [1884];
John Henry Timmins [];
Matthew Brown [] – **1887**;
George Smith (**1887 – 1888**);
Charles William Marlow (**1888 – 1889**);
Harry Hall (**1889 – 1890**);
John Baddeley Jones (**1890 – 1893**);
Horace J Jones (**1893 – 1894**);
George Smith (**1894 – 1896**);
Thomas Bates (**1896 – 1910**);
Charles Mason (**1910 – [1940]**)
Jacob Cullwick [1943]
Margaret Cullwick [1948]

NOTES

25, Upper Forster Street [1861], [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1904], [1939], [1940]
35, Upper Forster Street [1872]

ANGELSEA ARMS

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

1861 Census

15, Upper Forster Street – ANGLESEY ARMS

- [1] Joel Griffiths (38), victualler, born Aberistworth [Aberystwyth?], Cardiganshire;
- [2] Margrett Griffiths (30, wife, born Wrexam [Wrexham], Denbighshire;
- [3] George Eastwood (25), boarder, harness maker, born Ireland;
- [4] Lucy Ann Colins (17), house servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Advert

“The ANGLESEY ARMS, Upper Forster Street, Walsall.

The above situate and first-class Beer House To Be Let. Possession at once. The Valuation will be from £30 to £40 only, which will include every requisite for carrying on the business. A good in-and-out-door-trade.

Apply to Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Peter Knapp, beer retailer, 25, Forster Street. [1868]

1871 Census

25, Upper Forster Street – ANGLESEY ARMS

- [1] Hannah Knapp (35), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Henry Belah (67), brother, born Beesons Green, Shropshire;
- [3] John Pugh (40), boarder, joiner, born Kidderminster:

Peter Knapp, beer retailer, 25, Upper Forster Street. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/10/1876

“Bankrupts. . . . *Jackson W.*, James Street, Ryecroft Hill; Walsall, carpenter, late of the ANGLESEY ARMS, Upper Forster Street, Walsall, beer retailer.”

1881 Census

25, Upper Forster Street

- [1] *Samuel Smith* (35), silver plater and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Dora Smith (35), wife, born Nottingham;
- [3] Minnie Smith (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Agnes Smith (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Winifred Smith (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Leonard Smith (3), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Samuel L. Smith (4 months), son, born Walsall:

Evening Star 10/3/1882

“*Samuel Smith*, of the ANGELSEA beerhouse, Upper Forster Street, was summoned for allowing drink to be consumed in his house after 11pm on Saturday last.

Police-constable Cross stated that on Saturday last at 11.20 he went to the house and found about a dozen men there, and drink was upon the table.

Upon cross-examination by Mr. Loxton (who appeared for the defence), the witness admitted that there had been a great row outside the house, and that the landlord had got as much as he could do to look after himself, and that two of the men who were causing the disturbance were convicted on Wednesday.

Evidence was called by the defendant to prove that no drink was sold after a quarter to eleven on that night.

A fine of 20s and costs was imposed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/7/1884

“Bankrupts. . . . *Samuel Smith*, ANGLESEY ARMS, Upper Forster Street, Walsall, beer retailer. First meeting, August 11, at 2pm, at the Official Receiver’s, Walsall; public examination, August 11, at 11.”

1891 Census

25, Upper Forster Street – ANGLESEY ARMS Public House

- [1] *John Baddley Jones* (55), beerhouse keeper, born Darlaston;
- [2] Elizabeth Jones (52), wife, born Byford, Surrey;
- [3] Alfred Jones (18), son, born Wednesbury;
- [4] Elizabeth Collins (26), visitor, born Burnhill Green, Staffordshire:
[Burnhill Green is about 6 miles NE of Bridgnorth.]

George Smith, beer retailer, 25, Upper Forster Street [1896]

1901 Census

25, Upper Forster Street – ANGLESEY ARMS

- [1] *Thomas Bates* (30), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Ann Bates (28), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Thomas Henry Bates (3), son, born Walsall;
- [4] William Bates (2), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Alfred Bates (4 months), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Emily Bickley (16), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday. . . .

During the last the period since the last annual licensing sessions five beer retailers were also summoned, two of whom were convicted and fined. . . .

22nd February, 1901, *Thomas Bates*, ANGLESEY ARMS, Upper Rushall Street, fined 5s and costs for selling liquor to a drunken person. . . .

ANGLESEY ARMS. Mr. Clewlow appeared for the owners (Messrs. Mitchell and Butler’s) and Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the licensee of this house, the Chief Constable having given notice of objection to the renewal of the license.

The Chief Constable: I do not press my objection.

Renewed.”

Thomas Bates, beer retailer, 25, Upper Forster Street. [1904]

He was fined 5s and costs, on 22nd February 1901, for selling liquor to a drunken person.

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

The first case taken was that of the ANGLESEY ARMS Upper Forster Street. Mr. Walker appeared for *Thomas Bates*, the licensee, and applied for a renewal of the license. The lessees, he said, were Mitchells and Butlers, and he believed there was freeholder behind them.

Mr. H. E. Farmer, architect, Walsall, said he had examined the premises, which had a frontage of about 25 feet to Upper Forster Street, and consisted of a bar, private sitting room, and vaults on the ground floor, three bedrooms on the first floor, and three attics. The house was in good tenantable condition, and was of the annual value, without license, of £20 1s 6d, the tenant paying all the rates.

Thomas Bates, the licensee, said it was a pre-1869 beerhouse, and he had been there for fourteen years. He paid a rent of £48, the landlord paying the rates and taxes amounting to £18 2s 9d, the poor rate assessment was £31, and it was assessed for property tax at £40.....

Plans to be deposited.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

ANGLESEY ARMS. After hearing Mr. Bewlay as to the value of this house, the Bench renewed the license.”

1911 Census

Upper Forster Street – ANGLESEY ARMS

[1] *Charles Mason* (36), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Sarah Mason* (35), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Eveline Amy Mason* (3), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] *Maggie Lafferty* (16), domestic servant, born Chasetown, Staffordshire:

Charles Mason, beer retailer, 25, Upper Forster Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“Considering the ANGLESEY ARMS Sick and Dividend Club, the headquarters of which are in Upper Forster Street, has only been established three years, it has had a fairly successful year’s working. The membership this year has decreased by eight, and the dividend is two shillings less – being eight shillings as against ten shillings last year – but the latter, it was sated at the annual general meeting on Monday evening, was due to excessive sickness. The receipts amounted to £35 15s 0d and expenditure £18 16s 2d thus leaving a credit balance of £16 19s 8d. Mr. F. Rounds was elected chairman for the ensuing year and Messrs. G. Stevens and *C. Mason* re-elected secretary and treasurer respectively.”

Walsall Observer 6/2/1915

“The annual licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall, were opened at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Plans were deposited and for taking into the licensed premises of the ANGLESEY ARMS, Upper Forster Street, of a bedroom now belonging to adjoining premises. These plans were approved.”

Walsall Observer 16/12/1916

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *Charles Mason*, ANGLESEY ARMS INN, Upper Forster Street, Walsall, elected member of the executive committee.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

ANGLESEY ARMS, Upper Forster Street. £3 0s 0d.”

1939 Register

25, Upper Forster Street – ANGLESEY ARMS Public House (2 of 3)

[1] *Charles Mason*, date of birth 27/7/1874, innkeeper, married;

[2] *Sarah Mason*, dob 28/1/1876, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

ANGLESEY ARMS, Upper Forster Street. £0 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 17/4/1943 - Notice

“Notice Is Hereby Given that it is proposed to apply to the Walsall County Borough Council for the Registration under the above-mentioned Act, of ANGLESEY ARMS Comfort Fund, the objects of which are to provide gifts to members of the ANGLESEY ARMS serving in H.M. Forces, the administrative centre of which is situate at ANGLESEY ARMS, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.

Any Objection to the proposed Registration should be sent in within 14 days from date of this notice.

J. Vass, Secretary.

Dated April 14th, 1943.”

The house closed in December 1961.

Compensation of £3,944 was paid.

ARBOR LIGHTS

127-128, Lichfield Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Punch Taverns

Judith Hanley (leased 2003 to [2008])

LICENSEES

Judith Hanley [2009]

NOTES

It was formerly Fibber McGees Irish bar.

It opened in December 2002.

Judith Hanley was also a fashion designer.

She was married to Sean.

[2017]

ARCHERS

Thornycroft Way, Yew Tree Estate, WALSALL

OWNERS

Darby's Brewery Ltd.

Bass Ltd. [1992]

LICENSEES

Harold William Rogers (1955 – 1956);

Harold Gillard (1956 – [1960])

NOTES

It was opened on 29th July 1955 by the Mayor of West Bromwich, Cllr. Mrs. E. W. Guest.

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1955

“The Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Ordinary Stockholders of Mitchells & Butlers Limited will be held at the White Horse Hotel, Birmingham on Thursday, 29th December 1955. The following is an extract from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr. Robert H. Butler.....

We are going forward with our new buildings programme, and have completed four fully licensed premises during the year..... ARCHERS, West Bromwich.....

These new licensed premises are of a small and intimate kind and are so designed that they can be extended if the needs of the community make this desirable.....”

Harold William Rogers – check also HALFWAY HOUSE, West Bromwich.

Tipton Herald 1/10/1960

“Refused service at a West Bromwich public house, a 38-years-old steel erector hurled a pint glass across the assembly rooms, narrowly missing a barmaid, and later aimed a blow at the licensee with a stool. On the arrival of two police officers the man was alleged to have said, ‘If I had got my hands on him, I would have killed him.’

The Deputy Stipendiary, Mr. Geoffrey Green, heard this at West Bromwich, on Monday, when Jack Wootton, of 26, Fernbank Road, Yew Tree Estate, West Bromwich, was charged with causing wilful damage to the amount of £2 5s, and assaulting Mr. *Harold Gillard*, causing him actual bodily harm.

Wootton admitted both offences and was given a conditional discharge for 12 months on payment of £1 13s 2d costs for causing the damage. He was fined £5 on the second charge.

Supt. Harold Dix, prosecuting, said that the police officers were called to the ARCHERS public house shortly after 10pm, on August 28th. They were held up on the way and arrived at 11.30. They found Wootton outside the public house and he said, ‘I’d better get in the car, I know that I’m in trouble.’

‘Shortly after closing time Wootton called for a pint of mild but was refused because of the time. He threw a pint glass across the assembly room, narrowly missing a barmaid,’ said the Superintendent. The glass then hit some bottles and glasses, breaking them, and causing the amount of damage specified. Wootton then met Mr. *Gillard* in the passage leading to the assembly room and struck him on the shoulder. He picked up a stool and aimed a further blow, but it missed.

Supt. Dix added that Wootton had been refused admission to the public house on previous occasions.

Mr. F. A. Millichip, defending said, ‘Whatever I say I am not trying to excuse this man. He admits that he did certain things he should not have done. He asked for service at 10 minutes to 10 but he says that he was deliberately ignored. He felt that he was not given the attention he deserved.’

The Stipendiary told Wootton, ‘This is a disgraceful episode. You are apparently a decent chap except when in drink.’”

Walsall Observer 21/12/1984

“A Walsall brass band’s Christmas pub tour has become so popular that the players have been forced to split into three groups to complete their schedule. Highgate Brass Band, sponsored by brewers Mitchells and Butlers West, are tonight completing a series of 12 Christmas carol concerts in M&B pubs throughout the Black Country. ‘The Highgate Brass Band appeared at a number of our pubs last Christmas and were so popular that we have had to split them up into three groups of six players each to meet all the requests,’ an M&B spokesman said. ‘They bring a great deal of traditional Christmas cheer and goodwill with them, and money raised during the evenings will go to local charities.’

The band appears tonight at 9pm at the SWAN, Gospel End Street, Sedgley; the HARDEN, Coalpool Lane, Walsall, and the ARCHERS, Yew Tree Estate, Walsall.”

It closed in August 1996 after being damaged by thugs fighting on two occasions, 48 hours apart.

It reopened as ORCHARD. [2005], [2007]

It was renamed ARCHERS. [2010]

[2017]

BAKERS ARMS

15, (14+15), Caldmore, (14+15, Caldmore Square), (14, Caldmore Green), WALSALL

OWNERS

Elizabeth Tulley, Caldmore, Walsall
Hannah Tulley
S. B. Wheway Esq.

Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)
Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Benjamin Mason [1834] – [1835]
Daniel Woodfield [1861] – [1870]
George Tulley [1871] – [1881];
Hannah Tulley [];
Samuel Allsopp [];
Benjamin Paul Ludlow [] – **1887**);
Frank Woodward Roberts (**1887 – 1898**);
Alfred Brown (**1898 – 1926**);
Sarah Brown (**1926**);
Elizabeth Ann Cartlidge (**1926 – 1932**);
Sidney New (**1932 – 1934**);
Charles William Summerton (**1934 – 1948**);
Frederick Preston (**1948 – 1957**);
Kenneth Charles Hennessey (**1957**);
Arthur Middlebrook (**1957 – 1965**);
Sidney Jones (**1965** – [1966])

NOTES

14+15, Caldmore Square [1871]
14+15 Caldmore [1881], [1904], [1940]
15, Caldmore [1896]
14, Caldmore Green [1901]

BAKERS INN [1891]

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

It was originally unnamed.

Benjamin Mason, beerhouse keeper, Caldmore. [1834]

1861 Census

Caldmore

- [1] *Daniel Woodfield* (40), publican and provision dealer employing 8 men and 1 boy, born Thetford, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Sophia Woodfield* (30), wife, born Henley in Arden, Warwickshire;
- [3] *Ann Sophia Woodfield* (10 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Fox* (17), servant, born Ireland:

Walsall Free Press 1/6/1861

“*Daniel Woodfield*, keeper of the BAKERS ARMS, beerhouse, at Caldmore, was summoned by the chief of police, for having his house open on Whit-Monday night, after eleven o’clock. Defendant pleaded guilty, and said he had friends to see him on the evening in question. Previously he had sent his wife to ask Mr. Cater to allow him to have a few friends on that evening at his house. Mr. Cater confirmed defendant’s statement, and said he had not given the permission demanded, because he thought he had no right to do so. If, however, there had not been some noise in the house, it was possible the attention of the police would not have been attracted to it. Under the circumstances of the case, the Bench thought a fine of 6d and costs would be sufficient.”

Daniel Woodfield, beer retailer and shopkeeper, 15, Caldmore. [1864], [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

14+15, Caldmore Square

- [1] *George Tulley* (43), metal dealer and brewer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Hannah Tulley* (43), wife, born Worcestershire;
- [3] *Alice E. Tulley* (15), scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Tulley* (84), mother, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *Rhoda Peate* (15), niece, scholar, born Walsall:

George Tulley, beer retailer, 15, Caldmore. [1872]

1881 Census

14+15, Caldmore

- [1] *George Tully* (53), beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Hannah Tully* (51), wife, born Tardebigg, Worcestershire:

1891 Census

14 and 15, Caldmore Road – BAKERS INN

- [1] *Frank W. Roberts* (38), publican BAKERS ARMS, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Elizabeth Roberts* (31), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Arthur Frank Roberts* (7), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Lillian T. Roberts* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Evelyn Bowen* (22), servant, born Pelsall;
- [6] *Emma Richards* (15), servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

“Athletic News And Notes.....

I welcome with relief some items of information to hand from the new secretary of Walsall Football Club, Mr. A. E. Pardoe..... Season Tickets, 4s 6d and 7s 6d are now ready, and can be obtained at the STORK HOTEL, Mr. Watkins’s Restaurant, Mr. A. T. Taylor’s (Digbeth), Mr. James Mills’s (WHITE LION, Sandwell Street), Mr. *Brown* (BAKERS INN, Caldmore Green), Mr. *Ricketts* (West Bromwich Road), and Mr. *Tandy’s* (Park Street), and from any of the members of the committee or the hon. secretary.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/11/1895

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday..... Mr. *Alfred Brown*, BAKERS ARMS, Caldmore, Walsall were elected members of the society.”

Alfred Brown, beer retailer, 15, Caldmore. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 14/1/1899

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday evening.....

Mr. *Alfred Brown*, BAKERS INN, Caldmore, and Mr. *Robert Bromwich*, BIRD IN HAND, James Street, both beer retailers, were unanimously elected to fill the vacancies on the Executive Committee, that body being now complete.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Beerhouses.....

Alfred Brown, BAKERS ARMS, served 241 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views..... On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

1901 Census

14, Caldmore Green – BAKERS ARMS INN

- [1] *Alfred Brown* (29), widower, brewer and publican, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Annie Maund* (21), barmaid, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Lucy Maund* (19), barmaid, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Mary J. Wilkinson* (25), general servant, born Bentley:

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903

“Air-Gun Shooting.

DUKE OF YORK Rifle Club v BAKERS INN Rifle Club.

The above clubs met of Saturday last on the DUKE OF YORK range, Dudley Street.....”

[The DUKE OF YORK won 387 to 320.]

Alfred Brown, beer retailer, 14-15, Caldmore. [1904], [1912]

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

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

The BAKERS ARMS. Mr. Jackson asked on behalf of Mr. *Alfred Brown*, the landlord of the above house on Caldmore Green, for sanction to alter some plans which were approved some time ago, in order to make the brewery a little larger, as there was not sufficient room in which to put the apparatus. Sanctioned.”

1911 Census

Caldmore – BAKERS INN

- [1] *Alfred Brown* (39), brewer, born Walsall;
- [2] Annie Brown (31), wife, married 7 years, born Walsall;
- [3] Lilian Annie Brown (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Margaret Eleanor Brown (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Francis Maud Brown (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Florence Mary Brown (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Annie Brown (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] Edith Annie Keay (19), servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BAKERS ARMS, Caldmore, Walsall, 12s.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/3/1916

“Lighting Order Prosecutions..... *Alfred Brown*, licensee of the BAKERS INN Caldmore. Fined 20s.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BAKERS INN, Caldmore, £1 1s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

BAKERS INN, Caldmore Green.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BAKERS INN, Caldmore Green, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BAKERS INN, Caldmore. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BAKERS INN, Caldmore. £1 12s 3d.”

A full license was granted on 3rd February 1949.

Birmingham Daily Post 2/2/1959

“Twenty-four people in the Birmingham district who for the past three months have been studying inn-keeping at Birmingham College of Commerce have been awarded the Licensed Trade Diploma.....

A. Middlebrook, BAKERS INN, Caldmore, Walsall.”

Closed [1995]

It was converted into shops. [2007]

BALACLAVA

Blue Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Randle [1855] – [1859]

NOTES

It had an ante '63 beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 15/5/1858

“The case of *William Randle*, landlord of the BALACLAVA Beerhouse, Blue Lane, charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours, was at the request of the defendant remanded till Monday.”

Walsall Free Press 3/9/1859

“This being the whole of the criminal business, the bench proceeded to the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses.....

The application of Mr. *Randle*, beerhouse keeper, Blue Lane, supported by Mr. Crump, was refused on the ground of its not being necessary to increase the number of public-houses in that locality.”

Walsall Free Press 16/6/1860 - Advert

“BALAKLAVA TAVERN, Blue Lane, Walsall.

To Be Let, with immediate possession, the above first class Beerhouse, containing a large tap-room, parlour bar, kitchen, club-room, forty feet long, good brewhouse, stable piggeries and entire yard with excellent skittle alley, and has been successfully carried on by Mr. *Randle*, for the last five years, who has now taken the MALT SHOVEL INN, Lower Rushall Street.

The coming-in can be reduced to any reasonable amount to suit parties.

Apply to Mr. Horobin, Auctioneer and Valuer, 33, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

BARLEY MOW

Goscote Lane, (9, (90), Goscote), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

J. C. Smith, New Bridge, near Tettenhall, Wolverhampton

Mrs. Caroline Hollienhead

Dr. Cooke, Aldridge

Bloxwich Brewery Co. [1904]

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Punch Taverns

LICENSEES

John Banks [1827]

Walter Hall [1849] – [1851]

Richard Benton [1858] – [1872];

Mrs. Caroline Hollinshead [1881] – **1899**);

Thomas Stanley Emery (**1899 – 1902**);

John Davis (**1902**);

Ernest Howard Ingram (**1902 – 1903**);

John James Perry (**1903 – 1906**);

James Toomey (1906 – 1921);
David Cope (1921 – 1924);
William Harry Arrowsmith (1924 – 1927);
Samuel Charles Holland (1927 – 1939);
James Alfred Beale (1939 – 1953);
Ada Beale (1953 – 1967);
Gordon Beale (1967 – []

NOTES

9, Goscote [1871]
90, Goscote [1881], [1891]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was popular with canal boatmen.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/3/1827 - Advert

“Public House and Land, at Goscote.

To be Let and entered upon, the Goodwill and immediate Possession of all that excellent and good accustomed Public House, Stable, Cowhouse, Shop, and about three Acres of Land, known by the sign of the BARLEY MOW, situate at Goscote, in the foreign of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, now in the possession of *John Banks*.

The situation is most desirable, it being within about 300 yards of a large Foundry, and adjoining the Essington and Wyrley Canal. For further particulars apply to Mr. Smith, Solicitor, Walsall, or to Mr. Joseph Smith, Rushall Mills, near Walsall.”

1851 Census

Goscote

- [1] *Walter Hall* (48), victualler, born Gnosall, Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Hall (46), wife, born Gnosall, Staffordshire;
- [3] John Hall (19), son, agricultural labourer, born Gnosall, Staffordshire;
- [4] Sarah Hall (17), daughter, servant, born Gnosall, Staffordshire;
- [5] Thomas Hall (12), son, scholar, born Gnosall, Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 11/12/1858 - Advert

“To Be Shot For. On Monday, January 3rd, 1859, at Mr. *Richard Benton*'s, the BARLEY MOW, Goscote, A Fat Pig, about 40 Scores. 40 Subscribers at 10s each. 3 Birds each, Single guns 21 yards 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ oz shot. Double guns, 19 yards rise, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz shot. Shooting to commence at 12 o'clock. Supper on the table a 5 o'clock. Tickets 2s 6d each.”

Walsall Free Press 22/10/1859

“About two o'clock on Friday afternoon, a miner, named Titus Nicholls, aged eighteen, was about to descend a 'gin pit' at Goscote, for the purpose of inspecting it; the keeper or bolt that fastens the chain and prevents a recoil, from the weight of the skip, till the whimsey is put in order for lowering, slipped out, and deceased was precipitated to the bottom of the shaft, where his brother was at work. Deceased was immediately taken up, and conveyed to his residence at Goscote, where he lay in great agony, till three o'clock on Saturday morning, when death terminated his sufferings. An inquest was held upon the body on Monday afternoon, at the BARLEY MOW INN, Goscote, and a verdict of Accidental Death was recorded.”

Richard Benton was also a boiler maker. [1860], [1861]

1861 Census

Goscote – The BARLEY MOW

- [1] *Richard Benton* (52), boiler maker, born Pelsall;
- [2] Ann Benton (53), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Eliza Holyhead (6), niece, born Tipton;
- [4] Mary Nightingale (19), niece, born Tipton;
- [5] Edward Ward (19), boiler maker's apprentice, born Brude [Brewood?], Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 15/11/1864

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Richard Benton*, landlord of the BARLEY MOW beerhouse, Goscote, appeared before Messrs. T. Hazledine (Mayor), Cox, Ward, Potter, and Shannon, charged, on the information of Mr. W. G. Reid, Supervisor of Excise, with having removed some mashed malt before it had been inspected by one of the Inland Revenue officers. Mr. Glover, on behalf of the defendant pleaded guilty, but stated that the malt was removed in the absence of, and without the knowledge of, the defendant. Mr. Reed believing that the removal of the malt was an oversight, did not press the case against the defendant. The Bench im-

posed the lowest fine allowed by law, viz., £50; and recommended a reduction, if not total remission, of the fine. The Supervisor promised to forward the recommendation to the proper quarter.”

Walsall Free Press 10/7/1869

“About 7am on the morning of the 5th inst., Martha Bore Kean, aged 73 years, a widow, who resides at Goscote, came down stairs and sat upon a sofa in her kitchen, and complained of shortness of breath; but had not been down stairs many moments when she expired. For some months past deceased had complained of a pain in her left side.

On Wednesday an inquest was held at the BARLEY MOW, Goscote, by A. A. Fletcher, Esq., Coroner for the Borough, upon the body of the deceased, and the jury, after hearing the evidence returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/11/870

“Abraham Harper, aged 14 years, was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment, for having stolen 3s 6d, the property of *Richard Benton*, landlord of the BARLEY MOW public-house, Goscote. The lad had been suspected, and on Monday last some money was marked and placed in a cupboard. The prisoner was left in the room a few minutes by himself, and after he left the room the money was missed, and information given to the police. The youth was apprehended by Sergeant Martin, and the marked money – a half-crown and a shilling – found upon him. The prisoner was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment.”

1871 Census

9, Goscote

[1] *Richard Benton* (62), widower, licensed victualler and farmer, born Pelsall;

[2] *Caroline Walkinshaw* (35), daughter, born Pelsall;

[3] *Elizabeth Walkinshaw* (16), granddaughter, born Tipton;

[4] *William Walkinshaw* (13), grandson, born Tipton:

[Is *Caroline Walkinshaw* the same person as *Caroline Hollinshaw*?]

Caroline Hollinshead = *Caroline Hollienhead* = *Caroline Hollinshaw*

1881 Census

Goscote – BARLEY MOW INN

[1] *Caroline Hollinshaw* (41), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall Wood;

[2] *Eliza Goring* (26), daughter, born Tipton (Ocker Hill);

[3] *George Goring* (30), son in law, miner, born Brierley Hill;

[4] *Richard Goring* (5), grandson, scholar, born Goscote;

[5] *William C. Goring* (1), grandson, born Goscote:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1886

“Yesterday, Mr. F. Bill, Deputy Coroner, held an inquest at the BARLEY MOW INN, Goscot, on the body of *Henry Hart* (70), labourer. The deceased had for years suffered from ulcerated legs and rheumatism, but was able to go about. On Wednesday morning, as he was returning from the garden, he fell down, and on being carried into the house almost immediately expired. Verdict, Death from Natural Causes.”

1891 Census

90, Goscote – BARLEY MOW

[1] *Caroline Hollinshead* (55), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall Wood;

[2] *Eliza Goring* (36), daughter, born Tipton;

[3] *William Hollinshead* (33), son, boiler maker, born Tipton;

[4] *George Goring* (41), son in law, coal miner, born Brierley Hill;

[5] *Richard Goring* (15), grandson, fitter’s apprentice, born Goscote;

[6] *William Goring* (11), grandson, scholar, born Goscote:

Birmingham Daily Post 21/1/1893

“Yesterday, Mr. T. H. Stanley, coroner, held an inquest at the BARLEY MOW INN, Goscote near Walsall, on the body of *John Holt* (64), Heath End, Pelsall, a widower. On Wednesday the man was employed by Messrs. Hough and Sons, at the Heath End Colliery, in superintending the diversion of a brook into a pit which had recently been on fire, when the earth gave way, apparently by the action of running sand beneath, and formed a great hole. He went to take part in filling up the hole, and, another disturbance of earth taking place, he was carried down into the hole, a large quantity of earth following and completely burying him. His workmen set to work at once to rescue him, and were engaged for four hours before the body was recovered. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/6/1899

“Last Tuesday evening Messrs. Watkins, Powell, and Wood at their Property Sale Room, Bridge Street Walsall, disposed of the following: The freehold inn known as the BARLEY MOW, situate at Goscote, Walsall, together with two cottages adjoining and croft of land in front. A company interested in the licensing trade was present, and biddings commenced at £500, but soon reached £1,200, at which sum the property was sold, the figure being generally regarded as exceedingly satisfactory. Mr. Joel Cook, of

Walsall, acting in conjunction with Mr. Archer B. Smith, of Wolverhampton, were the solicitors.”

1901 Census

Goscote – BARLEY MOW TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas S. Emery* (35), licensed victualler, born Blakenall;
- [2] Sarah Emery (42), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Florrie Lees (15), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

John Davis was found guilty of a felony on 22nd January 1902 and his license was disqualified.

Walsall Advertiser 1/3/1902

“Mr. R. C. E. Plumptre (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson) made application on behalf of the Bloxwich Brewery Company for the grant of a license to the BARLEY MOW, at Goscote. The application was under a section of the Licensing Act of 1874, which provided that where a license was forfeited by the tenant, and no blame whatever was attaching to the owners of the house, power was given to the owners to apply for temporary authority to carry on the business until the next special licensing sessions, and then for the grant of a license to carry on business until the annual licensing day. Mr. Plumptre stated that the tenant in question was a man named *John Davis*, who had only been in possession of the house some six days when he was arrested for larceny, and was convicted in that Court. In consequence the house became disqualified and but for the provisions of the section of the Licensing Act, the license would have been lost. The owners of the house were in no way to blame for what happened, and he was therefore able to ask the Bench to grant a fresh license until the annual licensing day. The house had been licensed for more than fifty years, and during that time there had never been any complaint against it previously.

Acting-Chief Constable Ballance said he was going to object on the ground that the license was not required.

The Bench, however, granted the application, the Mayor intimating that the granting of it was not to prejudice any objection on the part of the police at the annual licensing meeting that the license was not required.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various.....

John James Perry, BARLEY MOW.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day.....

ROYAL OAK INN, Goscote; BARLEY MOW INN, NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich; and KING WILLIAM INN, Little Bloxwich, were renewed, with an intimation from the Magistrates that they considered the licenses in both districts were in excess of the requirements.”

1911 Census

Goscote – BARLEY MOW

- [1] *James Toomey* (59), married, [marriage details crossed out], publican, born Heathland, Ross, Herefordshire:

Walsall Observer 13/6/1914 - Advert

“White pedigree Boar for service; suitable for gilts.

Apply, BARLEY MOW, Goscote, Walsall.”

[This was repeated in July.]

1939 Register

Goscote – BARLEY MOW

- [1] *James Beale*, date of birth 13/3/1903, colliery mechanic (underground), married;
- [2] *Ada Beale*, dob 6/6/1903, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Gordon Beale*, dob 24/5/1930, at school, single;
- [4] *Joseph Short*, dob 21/3/1873, coal hewer (underground), heavy worker, widowed:

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BARLEY MOW, Goscote. £43 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BARLEY MOW, Goscote. £9 10s 0d.”

[2006]

Demolished [2012]

BARLEY MOW

26, Hill Street, (Church Street), (Gorton's Yard), (26, Church Hill), WALSALL

OWNERS

John Shaw Esq., Kingswood, near Wolverhampton
David Moore, builder, Walsall
S. P. Smith and Sons, Walsall
Walter Hughes, auctioneer, Park Street, Walsall [1892]

LICENSEES

John Timbrell [1787] – [1813]
Charles Timbrell [1818] – [1822]
John Fairfield [1829]
George Fox [1828] – [1830]
Sarah Croxhall [1834]
John Averill [1835]
Richard Pearman [1861] – [1880];
Henry Clenton [];
Joseph Middleton [1881];
Thomas Freeman [];
William John Wain [];
William Pymm Jnr. [1886];
Edward Townsend [1889] – **189_**);
Joseph Knight [1891] (**189_** – **1894**);
Samuel Tuck (**1894**);
John Thomas Peate (**1894** – **1895**);
Benjamin Kendrick (**1895** – **1896**);
Samuel Tuck (**1896** – **1897**);
William Ringwood (**1897**);
William Edward Coleman (**1897** – []
John Kane (**1898** – []

NOTES

Church Street [1818], [1822], [1828], [1830], [1834], [1835]
26, Hill Street [1862], [1864], [1872], [1881]
Church Hill [1872], [1876], [1881]
26, Church Hill [1892]

It had a beerhouse license.

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 6/8/1787 - Advert](#)

“To be Sold by Auction, by John Heeley, at Mr. *John Timbrell*'s, the Sign of the BARLEY MOW, in Walsall, on Tuesday the 21st Day of August instant, between the Hours of two and four in the Afternoon, the following Freehold Properties.....”

John Timbrell, victualler, Walsall. [1791]

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/7/1802 - Advert](#)

“To be Sold by Auction, by Richard Crump, on Monday the 26th Day of July, 1802, between the Hours of Four and Six of the Clock in the Afternoon, at the Dwelling House of *John Timbrell*, the sign of the BARLEY MOW, in Walsall three Freehold Messuages and Dwelling Houses or Tenements, with the Shops, Gardens, and Appurtenances thereto belonging.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 2/3/1807 - Died

"Tuesday, at Walsall, much regretted, Mr. William Timbrell, son of Mr. *John Timbrell*, of the BARLEY MOW, Church Street. His death was occasioned by a fall from his horse on the preceding Sunday."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 15/7/1811 - Advert

"The Honourable Knights of the Wood, Chapter No.IV.

The Knights of this Order, and Chapters in Union, are respectfully informed, that the newly erected Chapter Room, at *John Timbrell's* BARLEY MOW, Church Street, Walsall, is complete, and will be opened for their Reception on Monday, July 22, when the Company of the respective Knights of the said Order, in Conjunction with those in Union, is solicited, which will greatly contribute to the Respectability and Harmony of the Evening. F. W. W., GM."

John Timbrell, victualler and maltster, Church Street. [1813]

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

"Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Lodges.....

Knights of the Wood, No.4, held at *Timbrell's*, Church Street, supposed number 60 or 70, instituted 1810, surgeon Mr. Weaver, secretary Thomas Bache."

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1829 - Married

"Yesterday week, at Walsall, Mr. *John Fairfield*, of the BARLEY MOW, Church Street, to Ann Letitia, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Robert Middlemore, of the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, Walsall."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 14/5/1832 - Advert

"To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that well-known Public House, the BARLEY MOW, situate in Hill Street, Walsall; comprising tap-room, bar, large parlour, cooking kitchen, excellent cellars, six sleeping rooms, brewhouse, coalhouse, stable for eight horses, three stall ditto with hayloft, club-room 17 yards long, peg alley, &c.

The Licenses and Possession, together with the Fixtures, and the whole or part of the Household Furniture, to be taken at a fair valuation.

For particulars apply to the present Tenant, who is leaving the town solely on account of other engagements.

N.B. The stock is very low."

Richard Pearman, beer retailer, Hill Street. [1861]

Richard Pearman, retailer of beer, 26, Hill Street. [1862]

Richard Pearman, beer retailer, 26, Hill Street. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872]

Walsall Free Press 29/10/1870 - Advert

"Found on Tuesday night, a Brindled Bitch. If not owned in Three Days will be Sold to defray expenses.

Apply, Mr. *Pearman's*, the BARLEY MOW."

1871 Census

26, Hill Street

[1] *Richard Pearman* (59), beershop keeper, born Walsall;

[2] *Sophia Pearman* (62), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Richard Pearman* (20), son, brass dresser, born Walsall;

[4] *William Pearman* (18), son, brass dresser, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 10/4/1875 - Advert

"Valuable Freehold Public Houses and Other Property, at Walsall and Darlaston.

To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Farrington & Son, at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 20th day of April, 1875, at 6 for 7 o'clock, subject to such conditions as will be then produced.

Walsall. Church Street & Gorton's Yard.

Lot 1. All that Freehold Messuage or Public House, known as the BARLEY MOW INN, in the occupation of Mr. *Richard Pearman*, fronting Church Hill; also Four Cottages adjoining, in the occupations of Wollaston, Cooper, Malkins, and Smith, with the Workshops, Stables, and Outbuildings adjoining, fronting Gorton's Yard, and a plot of Drying Ground opposite thereto, the whole having an area of 731 square yards or thereabouts....."

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

"Adjourned Licensing Session. Mr. Glover applied for the renewal of the licences to *Richard Pearman*, the BARLEY MOW INN, Church Hill all the licenses were withheld on the licensing day. With regard to Mr. *Pearman*, he said his client felt the deepest contrition for having appeared before the Bench the worse for liquor; and on behalf of all the other applicants he made explanations with reference to the causes of the suspension of their licenses Mr. *Pearman's* were renewed with cautions, the Bench adding that they did not consider Mr. *Pearman* a proper person to hold a license, and they recommended him to dispose of his house. The Mayor also stated that the Bench intended to take notice of all evidence that might come before them, and use it

against the victuallers at the next licensing session.”

1881 Census

26, Hill Street

- [1] *Joseph Middleton* (57), beer seller and miner, born Brownhills;
- [2] *Maria Middleton* (57), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Edward J. Middleton* (19), son, hammer man (smith), born Wednesbury;
- [4] *Ellen Middleton* (16), daughter, dressmaker, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *Emily Middleton* (14), daughter, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [6] *Harry Middleton* (11), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [7] *George Philips* (28), lodger, bricklayer, born Derlen (?), Herefordshire;
- [8] *Frederick Harper* (8), grandson, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [9] *Olive Harper* (4), granddaughter, scholar, born Wednesbury:

Evening Express 26/10/1881

“*Joseph Middleton*, landlord of the BARLEY MOW public house, Gorton’s Yard, was charged with keeping open his house, for the sale of beer on Sunday morning last during prohibited hours.

Police-constable Higgins stated that he watched the defendant’s house from 7.30 to 9.40 on Sunday morning last, during which time he saw four women and six men go in and come out; and at 9.50 he met a boy named Astin coming out with a pint of beer in a jug. Witness brought the boy back to the house, and defendant subsequently asked him to overlook the offence, which he declined to do. Numerous complaints had been received as to the way in which the house was conducted.

The defendant, who pleaded guilty, was fined 20s and costs.”

William Pymm Jnr. was fined 10s and costs, on 25th June 1886, for permitting drunkenness.

Edward Townsend was fined 10s and costs, on 13th September 1889, for being open after hours.

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1889

“The adjourned licensing day, which was held at the Guildhall, on Monday [23/9], had been looked forward to with considerable interest on account of the large number of objections to the renewal of licenses made by the Chief Constable. All the houses objected to, something like 162, had been visited by the Magistrates, and in the vast majority of cases the structural alterations required by the Chief Constable had been made, hence the objections were withdrawn. Others persisted in, however, with the result that the bench refused to renew the licenses of five houses, these being, the SHAKESPEARE, Peel Street; the UNION, Ryecroft; the BARLEY MOW, Church Hill; the PEOPLE’S MUSIC HALL, High Street; and the CROSS KEYS, Blue Lane. There is a very angry feeling on the part of the publicans at this result, and notice of appeal has been given in each case. As the matter will be brought for decision before the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, I will refrain from commenting on it.”

The license renewal was refused by the Justices at the Adjourned Licensing Meeting on 23rd September 1889.

The license was granted on appeal.

1891 Census

26, Hill Street – BARLEY MOW INN

- [1] *Joseph Knight* (37), licensed victualler, born Gailey;
 - [2] *Sophia Knight* (38), wife, born Darlaston;
 - [3] *Ada K. Knight* (14), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [4] *Fred W. Knight* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
 - [5] *Thomas J. Knight* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall:
- [Gailey is about 4 miles W of Cannock.]

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1892 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of the Foreign of Walsall, in the County of Stafford; and to the Chief Constable or other Superintendent of Police of the District comprising the Borough of Walsall; and to all others it may concern.

Pursuant to the 22nd Section of the Licensing Act, 1847 (37 and 38 Vic., Chapter 49), I, *Joseph Knight*, now residing and for the past 12 months resided at the BARLEY MOW, 26 Church Hill, Walsall, Beer House Keeper, being a person interested in the house and premises hereinafter mentioned, do Hereby Give You Notice that it is my intention to Apply to the Justices of the Peace for the Borough of Walsall aforesaid, assembled at the Adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting for the said Borough to be holden at the Guildhall in the said Borough on Wednesday, the 28th day of September, 1892, at 10 o’clock in the Forenoon, for a provisional grant of a License authorising me to apply for and hold any of the Excise Licenses that may be held by a Publican for the sale by retail of spirits and other intoxicating liquors to be consumed either on or off the premises at a house at the junction of Whitehall Road and Arundel Street, in the Township of the Foreign of Walsall, about to be constructed by conversion into one house of two houses, one of which is in the occupation of William Davis, and is now used as a grocer’s shop, being 161, Whitehall Road, and the other of which is now in the occupation of Fanny S. Fellows, being 85, Arundel Street, and which house will be constructed according to plans to be produced to and sanctioned by the said Judges at the said Adjourned Licensing Meeting. Walter Hughes of Park Street, Walsall, auctioneer, is owner of the said house and premises in respect of the said application is to

be made.

And in case the said Justices shall decline to grant such License aforesaid, I shall immediately thereon apply to them at such Adjourned Licensing Meeting for the provisional grant of a License authorising me to apply for and hold a License to sell by retail at the said house and premises so to be constructed as aforesaid, beer to be consumed on or off the said premises in pursuance of the Act 11 Geo. 4 and 1 Wm. 4, c.64, and Acts amending the same.

Given under my hand this 6th day of September, 1892.

Joseph Knight.

R. W. Gillespie, Solicitor, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 1/10/1892

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday.....

Mr. Gillespie applied on behalf of *Joseph Knight*, of the BARLEY MOW beerhouse, Church Hill, to remove the license to two houses at the corner of Arundel Street and Willenhall Road. He stated that this applicant was also prepared to sacrifice a second license, that of the YEW TREE beerhouse Stafford Street. He pointed out that there was a large and growing population in this neighbourhood, and as both licenses were in the neighbourhood of churches, the removal was a most desirable one. Mr. Gillespie produced plans of the alterations proposed to be made, and said it was the intention of the applicant to make a feature of supplying dinner to working men.

Messrs. Jesse Herbert, Bill Jackson, and Checkley opposed on behalf of other license holders, and the temperance party Refused.”

Thomas Peate, beer retailer, 26, Hill Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1898

“Application was made by Mr. F. Bill, on behalf of *John Kane*, beerhouse keeper, 135, Bloxwich Road, for sanction to the removal of a license from Church Hill to 135, Bloxwich Road, or, in the alternative, to sell beer, cider, and perry to be consumed off the premises at Bloxwich Road. Mr. W. H. Duignan opposed on behalf of John Williams, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY. A beer-off license on the new site was granted in place of the old license.”

The license was surrendered.

BAR N.V.

49, Bradford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

It was situated opposite Vicarage Place.

It opened on 7th September 2005.

[2017]

BARREL

Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mary Beddowes [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

BARREL

56, Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Unitt, Park Street, Walsall, later at Mellish Road
Elizabeth Mary Unitt and Maria Charlotte Unitt

LICENSEES

James Lewis [1858] – [1870]
Elizabeth Derby [1860]
Richard Hall [1861] – [1871]
George Noakes [1872];
Thomas Ankrett [];
James(?) Ankrett [] – **1873**)
Benjamin Evans (**1873** – [];
James Holmes [1876];
Charles William Pearson []
Stephen Hunter [1881];
George Harris [];
Charles Astins [] – **1888**);
Charles Taylor (**1888** – **1889**);
William Wood (**1889** – **1891**);
David Hyde (**1891** – **1893**);
Richard Bates (**1893** – **1898**);
Robert Houlston (**1898** – **1901**);
William Heath (**1901** – **1902**);
Edward Henry James (**1902** – **1904**);
Frederick Mears (**1904** – **1907**):

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

James Lewis, beerhouse keeper, 56, Stafford Street. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 20/10/1860

“*Elizabeth Derby*, of the BARREL beerhouse, Stafford Street, was summoned to answer a charge of having her house open after eleven o’clock on Monday night. Defendant would not plead guilty except on behalf of her clock, which she seemed to think ought to have been summoned instead of herself. Her clock struck ten when it ought to have struck eleven, and by such improper behaviour induced her to think it was an hour earlier than it really was. In reply to the Bench she said her clock had served the same trick before. The Bench were obliged to fine defendant 2s 6d on behalf of her clock, and strongly advised her to sell it and procure an honest one.”

1861 Census

56, Stafford Street – BARRELL

- [1] *James Lewis* (42), beerhouse keeper, born Rushall;
- [2] Ann Lewis (43), wife, born Rushall;
- [3] Sarah Lewis (16), daughter, buckle maker, born Rushall;
- [4] Mary Lewis (10), daughter, born Rushall;
- [5] James Lewis (6), son, born Rushall:

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861

“The business of the general licensing day then commenced. There were seventeen applications.....

Richard Hall applied through Mr. Wilkinson for a license for his house in Stafford Street. Mr. Glover appeared on behalf of Mr. Bird, whose house was situated about ninety yards away from Mr. *Hall's*. Mr. Wilkinson said that, in spite of adverse circumstances against which he had to concede, he thought there were points in Mr. *Hall's* application which would be put in a favourable light before the bench. He then proceeded to point out that Mr. *Hall's* premises were most commodious, that the street in which it was placed was one of the most populous in the town, and that Mr. Bird's opposition was improper and ungenerous. Application declined.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/9/1861 - Advert

“To be Sold under a Bill of Sale, at the BARREL INN, Stafford Street, Walsall.

All the Stock-in-Trade, Brewing Plant, one 750-gallon Ale Cask, eight 50-gallon ditto, 600 Gallons of Prime Ale and Beer.

Three Cart Horses, four strong Carts, Household Furniture, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *Richard Hall*.

Which will be Sold by Auction, by R. L. Courtney, This Day (Wednesday). Sale to commence at Ten o'clock. The Horses and Carts will be Sold at Eleven o'clock to a minute.”

James Lewis, retailer of beer, 56, Stafford Street. [1862]

James Lewis, beer retailer, 56, Stafford Street. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....

Richard Hall, BARREL INN, Stafford Street.” [Refused. Notice of appeal given.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1865

“Annual Licensing Meeting applications for new licenses.....

Richard Hall, Stafford Street.....

Refused the reason assigned being that there were enough public houses in the localities.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/7/1866

“The same afternoon [Monday] Mr. A. A. Fletcher (Borough Coroner), held an inquest at the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Lane, on the body of Elizabeth Taylor, nearly eighteen years old, who lived with her parents at Town's End Bank. From the evidence of Sarah Bird, wife of John Bird, buckle-maker, Town End Bank, it appeared the deceased used to be a very merry, light-hearted girl, about eight or nine days ago, since which time she had been very sad and melancholy, as if she had something very heavy on her mind. Witness could assign no reason for the change in deceased's conduct except it was on account of her sweetheart's conduct towards her. On Monday night he went to a tea party at Rushall, and deceased followed him, and saw him sporting and toying with some other girl. About half-past eight o'clock on Tuesday morning witness saw deceased come up the yard in which witness's husband works, and go to the water-tap. She then went and sat on a stone near to the tap, and in a few minutes afterwards became violently convulsed. The deceased's father, who was at work in the yard, ran out and took her into the house, and on getting in he asked her what she had done, and she replied she had poisoned herself. She did not say why she had done so. Witness gave deceased salt and water, and mustard and water, to make her vomit, and also administered milk and water. Her father started for a surgeon, and Mr. Palmer attended, and did all that was possible under the circumstances. Death, however, took place before eleven o'clock. It subsequently transpired that the deceased had that morning purchased a couple of pennyworth of mouse poison at the shop of Mr. Humphries, chemist, and, there was every reason to suppose had taken it. The Jury returned a verdict of 'Suicide, while in a fit of temporary insanity'.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/10/1868

“At the Police Court, on Thursday, William Taylor was charged with stealing one gander and two geese, from the premises of Mr. James Allen, landlord of the THREE CUPS [sic] INN, Sutton Road. Mr. Bayley, of Wednesbury, prosecuted.

Prudentis Ann Allen, the wife of the prosecutor, stated that on the 24th of January last, she saw the geese and gander safe, but on Sunday, the 26th of that month, she missed them. Information was given to the police, and on the following Friday Detective-serjeant Wood brought some legs and a head which she identified as those of the missing gander. She knew the head because the gander was a very old one and had lost one eye; and the right leg she was also able to identify because a horse once trod upon it.

Richard Hall, pawnbroker, Stafford Street, proved having purchased two geese and a one-eyed gander with an injured leg from the prisoner on the 25th January, and stated that he gave him 14s 9d and some ale for the three, and sold the gander to a person named John Hubble.

Detective-serjeant Wood gave evidence to show that he found the gander that was identified by the prosecutor at the house of Hubble; and the prisoner was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.”

Walsall Free Press 6/8/1870 - Advert

“To Be Let, Ale & Porter Stores, the BARREL, Stafford Street; doing a good business. The present proprietor leaving on account of ill health.

Apply on the Premises.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1870

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

The applications for renewals were then dealt with. On the name of *Richard Hall* being called, Mr. Oerton announced that the magistrates present had unanimously, with the exception of the Mayor, decided to adjourn the case till the adjourned licensing day, the 13th of September, Mr. *Hall* having a charge against him of receiving stolen goods, which they considered should be disposed of before he received his license. The Mayor protested against the decision, and said it was contrary to the principles of English law, which required that a man should be held to be innocent until he was proved to be guilty. Mr. Oerton replied that there were other complaints against Mr. *Hall*, and that they were there to protect the public as well as Mr. *Hall*. The matter was then allowed to drop.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/11/1870

“Walsall Borough Quarter Sessions.

Richard Hall, pawnbroker, broker, and innkeeper, was indicted for having received two ladders and a hand-cart, the former belonging to Mr. A. Holmes, painter, and Mr. A. Bourne, painter, and the latter to Thos. Lawley, painter, knowing the same to have been stolen. Mr. Underhill (instructed by Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Lewis), prosecuted, and Mr. Motteram, with Mr. Young (instructed by Mr. Glover) defended. Mr. Holmes’s case was taken first. It will be remembered that in the course of the summer a large number of robberies of ladders and other articles was perpetrated by a young man named Charles Matthews, who took them to Mr. *Hall*’s and borrowed money upon them. At the time of discovery 23 of the ladders and Mr. Lawley’s hand-cart were upon the prisoner’s premises, and some other articles bore the names of the owners. For the defence it was urged that the prisoner had no means of knowing that the articles were improperly come by, and several witnesses were called to speak of his good character. The jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment. No evidence was offered in the other two indictments. A case was granted for the consideration of the Court above, on certain objections to evidence taken in the course of the case, and the learned Recorder intimated that the Court would take no objection to any application which might be made to a judge in chambers for the liberation of the prisoner on bail.”

1871 Census

56, Stafford Street

- [1] *Henry Lees* (25), engine fitter, born Walsall;
- [2] *Emma Lees* (21), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Florence Lees* (4 months), daughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1871

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions. This session took place at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

The application for the transfer of the license of the BARREL, Stafford street, from *Richard Hall* to Joseph Hall, was renewed by the latter, Mr. Glover, who appeared for the parties on the last occasion, having withdrawn from the case. The applicant stated, in answer to the Bench, that he had not yet removed to the BARREL, but he was there every day, and he had slept on the premises, the last time being about a fortnight ago. The valuation amounted to about £90, but he had not paid anything on account of it. It was not in writing. It was arrived at by going round and looking at the stock. The furniture in the large dining room was not included. The rent was to be £25 a year. It was true that the premises were still used as a pawnshop, and goods were bought and sold there. The application was refused.”

Walsall Free Press 16/9/1871

“Joseph Hall appeared for a transfer of the license of the BARREL beer-house, Stafford Street, from his brother to himself. As it appeared the applicant had not obtained possession of the premises which were still being used by his brother, *Richard Hall*, as a pawnbroker’s shop, the application was refused.”

George Noakes, beer retailer, 56, Stafford Street. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/8/1873

“*Benjamin Evans*, landlord of the BARREL INN, Stafford Street, was charged with having sold ale on the Racecourse, he having at the time no license to sell ale. Police-constable Bayley deposed that at a quarter to six o’clock on the morning of the 17th inst. he and another officer visited a booth on the Racecourse, and found a man named Holden selling ale. Holden in answer to witness, said the booth and ale belonged to present defendant; but the defendant on being afterwards seen, said that he and Holden had ‘thrown in’ together and borrowed Mr. Akrett’s license, but that Holden had been selling out of one of his own barrels. The defendant was fined 20s and costs, or two months’ in default.”

James Holmes was fined £5 and costs, on 27th November 1876, for permitting drunkenness.

Charles William Pearson – see also BLACK SWAN, Blue Lane.

1881 Census

56, Stafford Street

- [1] *Stephen Hunter* (33), publican, born Birmingham;

- [2] Harriet Hunter (37), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Stephen Hunter (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Florence Hunter (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Harry Hunter (6), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Stephen Hunter – see also TANNERS ARMS.

London Gazette 1/10/1881

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Charles William Pearson*, of the BLACK SWAN INN, Blue-lane, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Retail Brewer, previously of the BARRELL INN, Stafford street, Walsall aforesaid, Beer Retailer.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Alfred Baldwin East, Solicitor, No.43, Temple-street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 27th day of October, 1881, at a quarter-past ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 12th day of October, 1881.

Alfred B. East, 43, Temple-street, Birmingham, Solicitor for the Debtor.”

1891 Census

56, Stafford Street

- [1] *David Hyde* (35), iron caster, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Hyde (34), wife, born London;
- [3] Thomas Hyde (16), son, saddler's apprentice, born Walsall;
- [4] Eliza Hyde (15), daughter, kerchief packer (?), born Walsall;
- [5] Louisa Hyde (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Hyde (7), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 14/9/1895

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers' Society.

The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last

New Members. . . . Mr. *Richard Bates*, BARREL INN, Stafford Street.”

Richard Bates, beer retailer, 56, Stafford Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1898

“At the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, Mr. Walter Hughes sold by auction the following property. Six freehold houses, Nos.79, 80, 81, 82, 83, and 84 Regent Street, Birchills, producing £67 7s a year. There was some brisk bidding, and the property sold for £700. The same evening Mr. Hughes submitted by auction the freehold beerhouse known as the BARREL INN, Stafford Street, and also retail shop, No.57 Stafford Street, and two houses in Blue Lane East, Walsall, the whole estimated to produce a yearly rental of £100 14s. For this property the initial bid was £1,000, which rose to £2,500, at which the property was withdrawn. The solicitors acting on behalf of the vendors in each case were Messrs. Crump and Brown, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 27/1/1900

“James Scully, 72, James Street, was summoned for being disorderly and refusing to quit the BARREL INN, Stafford Street, where he was causing a disturbance on Saturday night, being ejected and returning and renewing the disturbance. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the complainant, *Robert Houlston*.”

[He was fined 5s and costs, or 7 days.]

Robert Houlston was fined 40s and costs, on 3rd August 1900, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1900

“The annual licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall was held yesterday at the Guildhall. . . .

During the period since 30th August, 1899, five licensed victuallers have been proceeded against. . . .

3rd August, 1900, *George [sic] Houlston*, BARREL INN, Stafford Street, fined 40s and cost, for permitting drunkenness.”

1901 Census

56, Stafford Street

- [1] *William Heath* (24), publican – Beerhouse, born Brownhills;
- [2] Ada Heath (25), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Freda Heath (3), daughter, born Cannock;
- [4] Rex Heath (1), son, born Cannock;
- [5] Harriet Shorthouse (19), general servant, born Norton Canes, Staffordshire:

Edward Henry James, beer retailer, 56, Stafford Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Edward Henry James, landlord of the BARREL INN, Stafford Street, admitted that on his licensed premises there was only one room.

Mr. Barrow for the owners pointed out that the license was ante'69, and gave an undertaking that the requirements of the magistrates as to sanitary arrangements should be carried out.

Subject to this undertaking the license was renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Thursday.....

Respecting the magistrates' objection to the licenses of the BARREL INN, Stafford Street, and the BRITISH OAK, Blue Lane East, on the ground that there was a dilapidated building between the houses, Mr. Barrows (solicitor) said the owners could do nothing, as the tumbled down property belonged to neither of them. The renewal to be opposed at the adjourned meeting.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

Mr. E. A. Crump (Crump, Barrow, and Crump) asked for approval of proposed alterations to the BARRELL INN, Stafford Street, which he said were only to remove the counter from one side of the room to the other, and put up a screen to facilitate the proper conduct of the business, and keep people in the out-door from those actually drinking on the premises. Also to put a scullery at the back of the yard for domestic purposes.....

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had adjourned all the plans, and proposed to visit the houses next Wednesday. They would be glad if the architects would accompany them.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1906

“Yesterday the adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall.....

Several applications for the approval of plans for alterations, had been deferred from the annual licensing meeting for the magistrates to visit the premises. The Bench decided as under.....

BARREL, Stafford Street, disapproved.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

In regard to an objection to the BARREL INN, Stafford Street, Mr. H. M. Barrows (Crump, Barrows, and Crump), appeared for the owners and Mr. Jackson for the licensee, *Fred Mears*, and Mr. Lord, the lessee.

Mr. Ballance gave similar evidence as in the previous case as to the congestion of licensed houses and population.

The case was referred to the Compensation Authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The UNION INN, Bath Street, the IVY HOUSE, and the BARREL, Stafford Street, were referred to the Compensation Authority.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/5/1907

“The meeting of the Walsall Confirming Authority under the Licensing Act was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday. The houses recommended to the Compensation Authority were the UNION INN, Bath Street (for which Mr. Foster appeared), and the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street, the MINERS ARMS, High Street, and the IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street, for all of which Mr. Jackson appeared. The advocates objected to the reference in each case, but the magistrates confirmed the whole of the recommendations of the Licensing Authority.”

The license was extinguished.

BARREL

11, (12), Wolverhampton Street, (11, Wolverhampton Road), (Wolverhampton Lane), (Park Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Andrew Cozens
Smith and Barton, Tipton
W. J. Pearman Smith, Walsall
Peter Walker and Son [1904]
Atkinsons Ltd. [1920]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1969]

LICENSEES

Henry Smith [1848] – [1870]
Andrew Cozens [1871] – [1881];
Joseph Colledge Crooke [] – **1886**);
Richard Harper (**1886 – 1888**);
Henry Reynolds (**1888 – 1890**);
Joseph Stackhouse (**1890 – 1895**);
John Bullus Beesley (**1895 – 1904**);
Alfred Toon (**1904 – 1908**);
Mrs. Harriet Annie Toon (**1908 – 1919**);
Frank William Roberts (**1919 – 1920**);
Alfred Lee (**1920 – 1922**);
John Cockbill (**1922 – 1928**); manager
John Henry Loynes (**1928 – 1933**);
Arthur Sheldon (**1933 – 1937**);
Walter Moore (**1937 – 1938**);
Sidney Dyde (**1938 – 1944**);
Sarah Lines (**1944 – 1946**);
Bert Lines (**1946 – 1949**);
Fred Day (**1949 – 1951**);
John Cowan (**1951 – [1958]**)

NOTES

Park Street [1848], [1849], [1850], [1872]
Wolverhampton Lane [1851]
Wolverhampton Road [1865]
12, Wolverhampton Street [1868]
11, Wolverhampton Street [1858], [1860], [1862], [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940]
11, Wolverhampton Road [1861]

It had an open yard leading to Marsh Lane.

BARRELL [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1848

“At the sitting of the magistrates, the following persons applied for spirit licenses for their respective houses.....
Mr. *Henry Smith*, Park Street. Refused.”

Henry Smith was also a cooper. [1849], [1850], [1858], [1864], [1865]

1851 Census

Wolverhampton Lane

- [1] *Henry Smith* (41), master cooper and beer retailer, born Cradley, Staffordshire;
- [2] Phoebe Smith (22), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Emma Smith (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Edward Smith (12), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Eliza Smith (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Phoebe Smith (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Mary Smith (2), daughter, born Walsall;

- [8] Maria Smith (1), daughter, born Walsall;
[9] Edward Smith (82), father, annuitant, born Ledbury, Herefordshire;
[10] Elizabeth Shaw (17), servant, born Rushall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/9/1853

“At the adjourned annual licensing meeting on Wednesday last., eight of the sixteen persons who applied for victuallers’ licenses on the Wednesday previously renewed their applications, and with success.....
Henry Smith, Wolverhampton Street.”

1861 Census

- 11, Wolverhampton Road
[1] *Henry Smith* (51), cooper and victualler, born Cradley, Herefordshire;
[2] Phoebe Smith (52), wife, born Walsall;
[3] Eliza Smith (20), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] Phoebe Smith (18), daughter, born Walsall;
[5] Mary Smith (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] Maria Smith (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[7] George Thomas (20), brewer’s apprentice, born Cradley, Herefordshire;
[8] James Thomas (24), visitor, manservant, born Cradley, Herefordshire:

Walsall Free Press 28/2/1863

“John Warrilow was charged with having, on Monday last, assaulted Edward Davies. It appeared that the complainant and defendant who had been companions for fifteen years, and who had been bedfellows for a considerable portion of the time, had quarrelled about some report which defendant suspected complainant of having originated, and on the night in question they met at the BARREL public house, Wolverhampton Lane, where a club of which they are both members, holds its meetings, when defendant accused complainant of raising the report, and then spit in his face. After the business of the club was disposed of, they went to a barber’s shop in Stafford Street, for the purpose of ascertaining the origin of the report; but the barber not being at home, they commenced quarrelling, when defendant spat in the face of complainant, who returned the compliment. Thereupon defendant struck complainant and knocked him down three times. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 2s 6d and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for fourteen days.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/10/1864

“On Monday evening, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Borough Coroner, opened an enquiry, at the house of Mr. *H. Smith*, the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Lane, Walsall, into the circumstances attending the death of Samuel Smith, a shoemaker, thirty-four years of age. It appeared from the evidence that on Saturday night the deceased went to bed in his usual health, and about four o’clock on the following morning his wife heard him fall out of bed. She at once got a light, and then found that her husband was dead. The Jury found that death had resulted from apoplexy. The deceased leaves a family of six children.”

Henry Smith, beer retailer, 12, Wolverhampton Street. [1868], [1870]

Andrew Cozens = Andrew Cozen

1871 Census

- 11, Wolverhampton Street
[1] *Andrew Cozens* (31), victualler, born Thame, Oxfordshire;
[2] Phoebe Cozens (28), wife, born Walsall;
[3] Mary Cozens (3), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] John Cozens (1), son, born Walsall;
[5] Mary Cartwright (20), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
[6] Elizabeth Westley (15), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

“Municipal Election. The Bridge Ward.....
On Wednesday evening a meeting of Mr. Grant’s supporters was held at the BARREL, Wolverhampton Street.....”

Midland Counties Evening Express 28/4/1875

“James Durkin was summoned for assaulting *Andrew Cozen*, landlord of the BARREL INN on Monday. Complainant deposed that defendant was very riotous in his yard, and he went and told him to leave. Defendant then went towards the gates, and complainant went to shut them, when defendant kicked him on the knee, bringing him to the ground. While he was down, defendant threw a stone – about as large as a man’s fist – at him, but did not hit him. Defendant, who did not appear, was ordered to go to prison for a month with hard labour.”

1881 Census

11, Wolverhampton Street – BARREL INN

- [1] *Andrew Cozens* (37), licensed victualler, born Thame, Oxfordshire;
[2] *Mary Cozens* (32), wife, born Wednesbury;
[3] *Mary Cozens* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[4] *John Henry Cozens* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] *Phoebe Cozens* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] *Richard Cozens* (8), son, born Walsall;
[7] *Mary Clasey* (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:
[Thame is about 13 miles E of Oxford.]

Evening Express 19/8/1881

“*Luke Kennedy*, who failed to appear, was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment for having, on Wednesday last, assaulted *Samuel Davies*, *Shaws Leasowe*.

Davies said on the evening in question he went to the *BARRELS* public house to pay his club money, when defendant, who was there, assaulted him without any provocation.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1888

“A the annual licensing sessions, yesterday.....

The applications for renewal of licenses on the part of twenty persons whose names were on the black list were adjourned till the adjourned licensing day; and the applications of the following were also adjourned, the Chief Constable opposing on the ground of the unsuitability of the premises for licensed houses, bad management, or the house being unnecessary, viz.....

Henry Reynolds, the *BARREL INN*, *Wolverhampton Street*.”

1891 Census

11, *Wolverhampton Street*

- [1] *Joseph Stackhouse* (46), licensed victualler, born *Pelsall*;
[2] *Ruth Stackhouse* (45), wife, born *Tipton*;
[3] *Joseph Stackhouse* (17), son, born *Norton*, [*Norton Canes?*], *Staffordshire*;
[4] *Emily Stackhouse* (16), daughter, born *Norton*, [*Norton Canes?*], *Staffordshire*;
[5] *Fanny Stackhouse* (13), daughter, born *Norton*, [*Norton Canes?*], *Staffordshire*;
[6] *Maria Stackhouse* (11), daughter, born *Pelsall*;
[7] *Edwin Stackhouse* (9), son, born *Brownhills*;
[8] *Edgar Stackhouse* (3), son, born *Catshill*, *Staffordshire*:
[*Norton Canes* is about 2 miles ESE of *Cannock*.]

Walsall Observer 18/8/1900

“An inquest was held on Wednesday by the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley), at the *BARREL INN*, on the body of *Mabel Boot* (5), 24, *Wolverhampton Street*, where she was staying with Mr. *Boot*, coal merchant.

George Boot, 24, *Wolverhampton Street*, coal merchant, grandfather of the deceased, said that she was the daughter of *James Boot*, his son, now deceased, who had also been a coal merchant. The child had lived with witness for over two years.

On Monday evening last, about eight o’clock, she was in the greenhouse with witness. The canal wharf was about 100 yards away from the greenhouse. Witness gave the child some flowers to take into the house. He went away up to the locks to see a boatman when the child had gone to the house. Witness got back about 9.30, and his wife asked him if *Mabel* was with him. The child had given her grandmother the flowers and gone out to play in the coalyard, as she was accustomed to do. After she left the house no one saw her again until after her death. Witness went to the Police Station at ten o’clock, and the canal was dragged the same night, but the body was not recovered until the next morning. He saw the body shortly after it was found, and it looked as if the child had been in the water some hours. There was a small bruise on the temple, which was, in his opinion, caused after the girl got into the water. There was nothing to prevent anyone from walking into the canal, the basin being all open. He thought that the child probably got either a boat, or on to a beam, watching some boys who were bathing about 100 yards away, and either turned giddy or slipped. He had had the wharf for 18 years, and there had never been anyone drowned there before.

James Dyson, boatman, 8 Court, 3 House, *Wismore*, said that he was out early on Tuesday morning, and went to Mr. *Boot*’s wharf about 5.15am to empty the boat in his (Mr. *Boot*’s) basin. Witness was about to take the boat out, but when he got on to the wharf Mrs. *Boot* followed him down and told him that she had lost her grandchild, and asked him not to move the boat until he had searched round it for her body. He fetched the boat hook, with which he started to feel about. On the outside of the boat the boat hook caught in the child’s dress, and he pulled the body out of the water. The water was about five feet deep where he found the body. The child was quite dead and seemed to have been in the water all night.

The jury returned an open verdict of Found Drowned.”

1901 Census

11, *Wolverhampton Street* – *BARRELL INN*

- [1] *John B. Beesley* (64), victualler, born *Birmingham*;
[2] *Emily Beesley* (60), wife, born *Birmingham*;
[3] *Florence Beesley* (22), daughter, barmaid, born *Wolverhampton*;
[4] *Gertrude F. Wills* (17), domestic servant, born *Wolverhampton*:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

John Bullus Beesley, BARREL.”

John Bullus Beesley – see also VICTORIA, Wesley Street, Bilston.

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. S. Pearman-Smith applied for the renewal of the license of the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street, kept by *Arthur Toon*.

He said that all the requirements of the magistrates had been complied with, and under those conditions he applied for renewal.

Mr. Thomson said that there were four against the house, but they had been complied with, except in one or two instances. A door ordered to be closed had been found open once or twice, but only a few minutes after the time ordered.”

1911 Census

11, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Harriet Toon* (49), widow, publican, born Northampton;

[2] Alfred Toon (7), son, born Santiago, Chili [Chile];

[3] Amy Banks (21), servant, born Hook, Wiltshire:

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“The usual Licensing Transfer Sessions were held at the Guildhall on Friday.....

Mr. W. J. Pearman Smith submitted plans for alteration of the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street. There was an opening, he said, in an outer wall of the premises five feet wide, and it was proposed to cover that opening with a glass door, the idea to make the entrances to the sitting room warmer. That was the sole object of the application, and it really did not affect the business premises at all. The application was granted.”

Express and Star 2/7/1928

“Shortly before 7am on Sunday, Walsall Fire Brigade were called to the rear of the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street, where a storehouse occupied by Frederick Hall, oyster bar, Theatre Buildings, was on fire. The fire had been checked by Police-constable Keates with a small hose attached to a kitchen tap, and the brigade soon subdued the flames.”

1939 Register

11, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Sidney Dyde*, date of birth 6/10/1885, publican, married;

[2] Agnes (Emily Agnes) Dyde, dob 24/10/1885, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Florence (A) Dyde, dob 29/3/1903, electric welder, single:

Walsall Observer 30/11/1940

“The Premier Lodge of the R.A.O.B. was re-opened at the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street, on Wednesday evening. The Deputy Provincial Grand Primo, Bro. James Plant, K.O.M., remarked that the members stay of eleven years at their previous headquarters, the STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, was a sufficient proof of their determination to keep the Buffalo flag flying. He wished the Lodge every success in their new home.....”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street, £0 15s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street. £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street. £2 4s 3d.”

[1969]

BAR SPORT

1, Bridge House, Bridge Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Bar Sports Ltd.

LICENSEES

Simon Moore [2010] manager

NOTES

It opened in 2001.

It closed on 29th July 2008, when the owners went into liquidation.

It reopened two days later.

[Express & Star 11/10/2010](#)

“Big screen sport in pubs across the Black Country is under threat as landlords are having to fork out thousands of pounds extra in subscription fees. The cost of showing fixtures in pubs is becoming so expensive many smaller businesses say they are not be able to afford it. Meanwhile publicans paying subscriptions say rivals showing sport illegally are undercutting their trade.....

BAR SPORT in Walsall pays £20,000 a year following a rise of £2,500 a month ago.....

BAR SPORT in Walsall has 60 screens and manager *Simon Moore*, 33, said, ‘Even though it is costing us more to have Sky we’ve actually gained because the increase has affected a lot of smaller pubs.

The Association of Licensed Multiple Retailers represents the industry and boss Nick Bish said, ‘The situation is not helpful for pubs in difficult times. More pubs will stop showing it but it’s sad because many pubs have built their business around lads and sports.’”

[2011]

It was renamed the PITCH. [2011], [2017]

BAR 2 SEVEN

Bridge Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[2007]

Closed [2007]

It was reopened as the R1 BAR. [2008]

[2012]

BEACON WAY

Stoney Lane / Pelsall Lane, (42, (46), (45), Little Bloxwich), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Abel Beech, Ablewell Street, Walsall
Showells Brewery Ltd. [1904]
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased from 29th June 1935)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 29th September 1963) [1992]
[Red Pub Company](#)

LICENSEES

Joseph Beech* [1828] – [1850]
[George Taylor](#) [1850] – [1857]
Joseph Beech* [1858] – [1862]
George Taylor [1861]
Joseph Beach* [1864] – [1865]
George Taylor [1865] – **1886**;
William Daniel (**1886 – 1891**);
Hiram Croxall (**1891** – [];
John Smith [1896] (**189_ – 1897**);
Robert Eagles (**1897 – 1898**);
James Edwin Pascal (**1898 – 1900**);
Charles Mansfield (**1900 – 1903**);
John Charles Thomas (**1903 – 1905**); manager
Ernest Snape (**1905 – 1909**);
Richard Lane (**1909 – 1911**);
Benjamin Shakespeare (**1911 – 1914**);
Charles Mansfield (**1914 – 1922**);
William Harry Arrowsmith (**1922 – 1924**);
William Thorpe (**1924 – 1925**);
Joseph Holland (**1925 – 1941**);
William Sidney Arthur Stewart (**1941 – 1951**);
Violet Stewart (**1951**);
Frederick Day (**1951 – 1957**);
Ethel Maud Day (**1957**);
Charles Stanley ‘Stan’ Sowter (**1957 – 1962**);
William Henry Savage (**1962 – 1964**);
William Adshead (**1964**);
James Constantine (**1964 – 1965**);
Edward ‘Ted’ Levy (**1965 – 1966**);
[George Edward Steed](#) (**1966** – [1967])
[George Malpass](#) [] – **1969**);
[Catherine ‘Kay’ Malpass](#) (**1969**)
[Albert Forrester](#) (**1969** – []
[Degville](#) [1989]
Barry Dee [2010]
Jim Harvey (**2011** – []

NOTES

[45, Little Bloxwich](#) [1861]
46, Little Bloxwich [1871], [1939]
42, Little Bloxwich [1881], [1901]

It was originally the NAGS HEAD.

* possibly the same person

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 26/11/1832 - Married

“On the 11th inst, at Handsworth, Mr. *Joseph Beech*, of Little Bloxwich, to Sophia, eldest daughter of Mr. John Holland, of the same place.”

1841 Census

Lite Bloxwich.

- [1] *Joseph Beech* (35), farmer, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Hannah Beech (8), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Mary Hough (50), fs, born Staffordshire:

Hannah *Beech* married Charles Orgill in the 2nd quarter of 1853.

1851 Census

Little Bloxwich – NAG HEAD

- [1] *George Taylor* (32), victualler and awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Sarah Taylor (39), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Emma Taylor (10), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] George Taylor (8), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] William Taylor (5), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Joseph Taylor (3), son, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Samuel Taylor (1), son, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 22/8/1857

“*George Taylor* and his wife, beerhouse keepers at Bloxwich, were charged with assaulting a man named Thomas Ball. According to the complainant’s statement he went to the defendant’s house on Monday night for a quart of ale, when Mrs. *Taylor* asked him for some money he owed her. He told her he had got none. She then struck him and sent for her husband, who picked him up and threw him out of doors. Witnesses were called who proved that the complainant was very drunk and violent, and would not leave the house when requested to do so. Mr. Oerton said there was no doubt that what he got he had brought upon himself and dismissed the case.”

Joseph Beech, beerhouse, Little Bloxwich. [1858]

1861 Census

45, Little Bloxwich

- [1] *Joseph Beech* (58), widower, farmer (small), born Bloxwich;
- [2] Charles Orgill (36), son-in-law, miner (coal), born Pelsall;
- [3] Anna Orgill (28), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Joseph Orgill (7), grand-son, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Ann Orgill (4), grand-daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Enoch Orgill (3), grand-son, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Caroline Orgill (1), grand-daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Lucy Rowley (14), general servant, born Pelsall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/12/1862

“On Wednesday afternoon, Mr. A. A Fletcher, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, upon the body of Michael Manion, aged 26 years, who was killed in a coal pit at Pelsall, belonging to Messrs. Bloomer and Davies, by a quantity of coal falling upon him.

The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Free Press 6/8/1864 - Death

“On the 1st instant, at the OLD NAGS HEAD INN, Little Bloxwich, after a lingering illness, aged sixty-one years, Mr. *Joseph Beech*; much respected.”

Walsall Free Press 20/5/1865

“*George Taylor*, landlord of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, pleaded guilty to having had his house open for the sale of beer on Sunday morning last, during prohibited hours, and was sentenced to pay a fine of 6s and costs, as it was his first offence.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/8/1866

“Walsall County Court.....

Franklin v Hugh. In this case the plaintiff, James Franklin, of Little Bloxwich, sued the Independent Lodge of Friendly Brothers, held at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, to recover his weekly allowance as a sick member, and for an order to reinstate him in the society from which he had been illegally expelled. Mr. Dale appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Elsworth for the defendants. From Mr. Dale’s opening it appeared the plaintiff had been one of the originators of the society of which he continued to be a member for about 30 years, and in January last he was compelled to go ‘on the box’ in consequence of illness. He received the

pay up to Whit Sunday last, and on his attending a lodge meeting on that day, one of the officers present plainly intimated to plaintiff that they meant to have him off the box. No charge, however, was then made against him, but on the following Friday a notice was served upon him by the secretary, which was a singular document, for whilst it told him that he 'was charged with a breach of one of the rules by being intoxicated whilst receiving sick pay,' it also informed him that for that offence he had been fined 10s 6d.'

The explanation given by the secretary, who was called and examined, was that after the plaintiff had left the club-room on the night in question, a member brought the charge of intoxication against the plaintiff, who was fined for the offence, and because the fine was not paid next club night he was expelled.

Mr. Dale contended that inasmuch as his client, who was prepared to disprove the charge, had been fined and expelled without an opportunity of being heard in his own defence, the decision of the club meeting was illegal. The facts were not disputed, but Mr. Ebsworth urged that the members of the society had in this case of the plaintiff followed the course usually followed in such cases, and in support of his statement quoted rule 42, which, he contended, justified the members in expelling the plaintiff. The rule referred to provides that 'every member must pay up all arrears on the club nights prior to the annual feast, or be excluded.'

Mr. Dale argued that the rule could not apply in the case of an illegally inflicted fine, as it was only intended to apply to arrears of contributions.

His Honour taking the same view of the case as Mr. Dale, gave judgement for the plaintiff, and ordered the society to reinstate the plaintiff, and pay arrears of sick-pay and costs within a month, or to forfeit £30 as penalty."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/7/1868

"On Saturday afternoon, Mr. Fletcher, Coroner for the Borough, held an inquest at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, upon the body of Richard Yates, aged 45.

From the evidence it appears that on the previous day the deceased, together with Joseph Webb and Wm. Burford, were engaged mowing barley in a field belonging to Mr. George Price, Goscote Lodge Farm. About 4pm deceased complained of a pain in his stomach, but continued his work till about 8pm, when he fell down and expired. Dr. Sommerville was sent for, and on his arrival pronounced the deceased quite dead.

The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict that deceased had Died from Exhaustion and the intense heat of the sun."

1871 Census

46, Little Bloxwich

[1] *George Taylor* (58), awl blade maker and licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] Sarah Taylor (60), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] George Taylor (28), son, bricklayer, born Bloxwich;

[4] William Taylor (25), son, miner, born Bloxwich;

[5] Samuel J. Taylor (21), son, engineer, born Bloxwich;

[6] Abel Taylor (19), son, ball furnaceman, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/5/1873

"On Thursday Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the NAGS HEAD INN, Little Bloxwich, on the body of James William Morgan aged four years, who while returning from school on Tuesday with some companions, fell into the canal and was drowned. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

1881 Census

42, Little Bloxwich – NAGS HEAD

[1] *George Taylor* (65), awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;

[2] Sarah Taylor (70), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Abel Taylor (29), son, coal miner, born Bloxwich:

William Daniel = William Daniels

Walsall Observer 16/4/1887

"*William Daniels*, landlord of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, was charged with keeping his house open during prohibited hours, on Sunday morning last.

Sergeant Martin deposed that about half-past ten he visited the house, entering by the back door, when he found four men from Bloxwich drinking in the house. The officer said ale was on the table.

The defence was that the ale had not been sold.

Martha *Daniels* stated that a man came to the house and inquired for her husband. She said he was gone out, when he asked for a glass of ale. She said she could not sell any until opening time, and gave him a quart of ale for himself and friends.

The Bench considered the charge fully proved, and inflicted a fine of 20s and costs.

The four men, Jeremiah Crutchley, Henry Taylor, Thomas Smith, and Thomas Llewellyn, were then charged with being upon licensed premises as above during prohibited hours.

Sergeant Martin proved the case, and defendants all pleaded guilty.

They were fined 1s each and costs, Mr. Holden remarking that he believed they had told the truth."

Walsall Observer 24/9/1887

“Walsall Licensing Sessions

The adjourned annual licensing meeting was held yesterday, at the Sessions Court.....

Applications which had been adjourned owing to the tenants having been convicted during the past year.

The following were granted.....

NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich.”

Walsall Observer 15/2/1890

“*William Daniels*, landlord of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, was summoned for refusing to admit a constable. Mr. J. N.

Cotterell appeared for the defence, and said technically defendant was guilty.

The Chief of Police informed the Bench that at midnight on the 4th inst, Police-constable Scott saw several persons near the place, and knocked at defendant’s door, but was refused admission. There was nothing the matter, and, personally, he regretted that the door was not opened when the officer applied for admission.

Mr. Cotterell said people going past would often knock to make the dog bark, and defendant was under the impression that it was some of those people at the time the officer knocked, but when defendant knew it was a policeman he immediately opened the door.

A fine of 2s 6d and costs was imposed.”

Walsall Observer 1/3/1890

“The following inquests have been held during the week by Mr. T. H. Stanley, the borough coroner.....

On Wednesday, at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, on the body of Agnes Ledbury, eight months old, whose parents reside at Smith’s Buildings. The evidence was that early on Monday morning deceased was seized with convulsions, and though a doctor was at once sent for she died before he could arrive.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

William Daniel – see also VINE, Bloxwich, and BLUE PIG, Bloxwich.

Hiram Croxall = Hiram Crockall

1891 Census

Little Bloxwich

[1] *Hiram Crockall* (42), coal miner, born Staffordshire;

[2] Emily Crockall (41), wife, born Staffordshire;

[3] Fanny Crockall (13), daughter, born Staffordshire;

[4] Hiram Crockall (8), son, born Staffordshire;

[5] Edith Crockall (5), daughter, born Staffordshire;

[6] Sydney Crockall (2), son, born Staffordshire;

[7] Rose Crockall (18), general servant, born Staffordshire:

Lichfield Mercury 1/11/1895

“The half-yearly meeting of the Rugeley District Branch of the Ancient Order of Foresters was held on Monday afternoon at the NAGS HEAD INN, Little Bloxwich, under the presidency of the DCR, G. Watwood.

The report of the auditors showed that there was a balance on the funeral fund of £5,104 10s 1½d, an increase of £239 8s 1d on the half-year’s working. The reduced sick pay fund showed a balance of £114 15s 8d, a decrease of £15 11s 6d; and the benevolent fund a balance of £43 17s 4d, a decrease of £15 11s 6d. The management fund showed a balance of £10 5s 5½d. The Court Relief Fund had now been formed, and showed a balance of £24 6s 11d. Total of all funds, £5,297 15s 6d, an increase of £236.

At the close of the usual business, Bro. T. Handley, DS, on behalf of the courts of the district, presented to the retiring District Treasurer (Bro. T. Gilbert), who has served the district as a Forester for a period of 16 years, a handsome gold keyless watch. The recipient suitably acknowledged the gift.

The delegates afterwards had dinner together.”

Walsall Observer 22/8/1896

“On Monday last a party of 50 in number, consisting of juveniles, members, members’ wives, and friends of Court George’s Glory, of the Ancient Order of Foresters, assembled at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, for an afternoon’s excursion in brakes to Shore Hills. Amidst splendid weather, and after an enjoyable ride through the country, Shore Hills was reached at half-past four. Through the generosity of Mrs. *Smith* a capital tea for all was provided, and after tea sports, games, and dancing were freely indulged in. At seven o’clock the homeward journey was made through Cannock, and Little Bloxwich was reached at 8-30, everyone being greatly satisfied with the outing. Many praises and thanks were expressed towards Mr. and Mrs. *Smith*, Mr. J. Zeller, and Dr. Martin for their liberal support in connection with the excursion.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/3/1897

“Walsall Quarter Sessions

John Heler (39), farmer, on bail, was indicted for having unlawfully wounded Thomas Henry Morgan on the 26th December. Mr. Gerald Lewis (instructed by Messrs. Lewis and Sons) prosecuted, and Mr. Herbert (instructed by Mr. Jackson) defended. Mr. Lewis having opened.

Prosecutor stated that he was returning, with others, from a supper party at the CANAL TAVERN, Bloxwich, when prisoner, who was in front, turned round and asked why he was following him. He denied that he was, and was walking across the street, when prisoner gave him a blow. They struggled together, and subsequently he found he had been stabbed.

By Mr. Herbert: There had been no previous quarrel nor any provocation on either side. He did not know how prisoner received his wounded arm.

William Cattell, miner, Pelsall Lane, Little Bloxwich, who was with Morgan, said that as they struggled on the ground he saw a half-opened knife in prisoner's hand.

Police-constable Yardley gave evidence as to prisoner's statement when arrested.

Dr. Nixon said that the prosecutor's injuries consisted of a wound in the neck, which started at the back on the right side, and extended round the neck towards the left for six inches. He was detained until the 18th January – practically three weeks – and was an out-patient for a further three weeks.

Mr. Herbert said his answer to the charge was that the blood-stained knife said to have been found on prisoner was not his, and that the finding of it in his pocket was a deliberate 'plant.'

Sarah Fernahough, who said she had been housekeeper to prisoner for four years; *John Smith*, landlord of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich; and Enoch Bloor, lamp cleaner, Little Bloxwich, all denied that the blood-stained knife belonged to prisoner, and declared that a similar one produced was the one he always carried.

Dr. McKintosh, assistant to Dr. Wilson, the police surgeon, said he saw prisoner at the police station. He was in a weak state, and suffering from four clean cuts on the hands, varying in length from ½ an inch to 2½ inches, and other injuries. The wound on the left hand was a very serious one indeed.

By Mr. Lewis: Some of the bruises might have been caused by his falling.

William Jones, farmer, Tettenhall, and Andrew Barnes, FULLBROOK TAVERN, gave evidence of character, and Mr. Herbert having addressed the jury at some length, and the Recorder having summed up, prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour."

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1897

"Temporary authorities were granted to *Robert Eagles*, in respect of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich."

Walsall Observer 23/10/1897

"On Monday evening last a supper was given at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, in honour of the birthday of the hostess, Mrs. Kate *Eagles*. About 36 guests sat down to a most sumptuous repast, which did great credit to the caterers, and to which ample justice was done by those for whom it was prepared.

After the cloths were removed, the remainder of the evening was devoted to mirth and conviviality, Mr. H. Ledbury being voted to the chair and Mr. G. Teppin to the vice-chair. After a few chosen remarks from the chairman, congratulating the hostess on the anniversary of her birthday, the following gentlemen contributed to the harmony: Messrs. S. Bradley, J. Poxon, J. Taylor, Higgins, Pennington, A. Morris, E. Hodgetts, and J. Bayley (Pelsall). After votes of thanks to the host and hostess and the chairman and vice-chairman, the singing of the National Anthem brought the evening to a close."

Walsall Observer 11/12/1897

"Charles Mason, Heath End, Pelsall, was summoned for being drunk and refusing to quit the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, and with assaulting Ellen *Eagles*, the licensee.

Ellen *Eagles* said that the man came in drunk, but witness refused him beer, and he struck her with his hand on her face.

Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs or seven days, for each case."

Walsall Observer 26/2/1898

"On Saturday last the members and friends of Court George's Glory, No.7928, AOF, held at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, celebrated their sixth anniversary with a supper, when 30 in number sat down to an excellent repast, served up in capital style by the hostess of the house.

After the cloth was drawn, Bro. E. Krauth, CS, was voted to the chair, and Bro. George Teppin, PCR, to the vice-chair.

The Secretary presented the annual financial report, which showed an increase of nearly £10, which has safely been invested with the remainder of the capital at 4½ per cent. The increase of membership had not been so good as anticipated. The valuation of the Court funds showed a solvency of £1 0s 11½d in the pound.

The 'Success of the Court and the Rugeley district' was proposed by Bros. Oliver Jones, PCR, and George Teppin, PCR, who earnestly appealed to the members to put their shoulders to the wheel and work hard to promote the good work of Forestry.

The Chairman next presented to Bros. Hiram Harrison and Abel Morris two framed Past Chief Ranger's certificates for their good services rendered to the Court.

During the evening songs were given in good style by Bros. Thomas Bradley, Charles Jones, John Smith, George Teppin, George Jones, Abel Morris, Thomas Mack, and Thomas Prince.

After a vote of thanks to the host and hostess, Chairman and Vice-chairman, a most pleasant evening came to a close."

Walsall Advertiser 6/5/1899

"*James Edward Pascall*, of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, was summoned for being drunk on his licensed premises on the 1st inst. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the defence.

Police-sergeant Willett deposed that at 10.35pm on the night mentioned he visited the defendant's house in consequence of a complaint that was made to him. In the bar there were a number of persons, and Mrs. *Pascall* was behind the bar. Witness asked for

the landlord, who, on being fetched, reeled against the wall, and had to get support to stand up. Defendant was drunk, and witness told the landlady so. The latter replied 'Yes,' adding that he had been knocked about, and that she gave him some brandy.

Witness, in cross-examination, admitted that defendant appeared to have been knocked about. He had a bruise on his face and his shirt was blood-stained.

Police-constable Yardley gave corroborative evidence. Witness, in cross-examination, admitted that the defendant was fetched from upstairs

Richard Hall, Pelsall, gave evidence that on the night in question as he going along the road, he was hit by a stone thrown from the defendant's garden. He then saw defendant come out of the house, and in trying to light the lamp defendant fell on his face.

In cross-examination, the witness said that he complained to the police of his head having been cut by a stone. In his opinion, the landlord, the landlady, and the son were all drunk.

Police-constable Harcourt spoke to having been called to the defendant's house at 8.40, by the defendant's son, and to seeing the landlord, who 'had had quite enough to drink.'

In answer to Mr. Loxton (magistrates' clerk) witness said that defendant had had so much to drink that he was not capable of managing the house.

In cross-examination, witness said that neither Mrs. *Pascall* nor the son was drunk.

For the defence, Mr. Jackson said that defendant had kept public houses for 20 years continuously, and this was the first complaint that had ever been made against him. Previous to the visit of the police he went to the back of the house where he found that the man Hall and his wife were assaulting Mrs. *Pascall*. He interfered and was set upon by both of them, kicked, punched, and knocked about generally. He lost a good deal of blood, and took a glass of brandy. The son was sent to fetch the police.

Mr. Jackson asked whether it was likely that the son would have done this if the landlord had been drunk? Defendant had been knocked about a good deal, and though he might have been dazed was not drunk. When the second officer came the defendant was in bed, having been considerably knocked about.

Defendant, his wife, son, and others were called for the defence, and the Bench, after some consultation, dismissed the case, but remarked that the police were justified in bringing it before the magistrates."

AND

"Edwin *Pascall*, son of the defendant in the last case, was charged with assaulting Margaret Hall, of Pelsall Lane, Little Bloxwich, on May 1st. Mr. H. H. Jackson was for the defence.

Complainant said as she was going down Pelsall Lane, she was set upon by the defendant, who struck her about the head and shoulders.

The defence was a denial of the alleged assault, and the defendant said that his mother and father were set upon by the Halls and a man named Morgan, but that he (defendant) did not interfere.

The case ended in dismissal."

1901 Census

42, Little Bloxwich – NAGS HEAD INN

[1] *Charles Mansfield* (24), public house manager, born Pelsall;

[2] Annie Mansfield (24), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Ethel M. Mansfield (1), daughter. born Pelsall;

[4] Mabel Brookes (19), domestic servant, born Hednesford:

Walsall Observer 30/11/1901

"On Saturday evening last an excellent supper was provided at the NAGS HEAD INN, Little Bloxwich, by Mr. and Mrs. *Charles Mansfield*, when about 45 persons partook of the good things provided.

After supper Mr. E. Croxall was voted to the chair, and, after giving the toast of 'The King and long may he reign,' he said great credit was due to the host and hostess for the excellent catering, seeing it was their first attempt.

Mr. Robert Ball (vice-chairman) said he felt assured he was voicing the opinions of all present by saying that great satisfaction had been given. A vote of thanks was tendered accordingly.

Mr. *C. Mansfield*, in responding, thanked all present, and hoped that in the near they would meet again under similar circumstances.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony, the following being the programme:

Song, 'The old rocker,' Mr. J. Bullock; song, 'The white rose' (encore, 'Queen of the earth'), Mr. C. Bullock; comic song, 'Just in time' (encore, 'No offence'), Mr. Burgess; song, 'The navy' (encore, 'Lifeboat crew'), Mr. T. Bradley; song, 'Blind boy,' Mr. T. Paul; comic song, 'She's mad' (encore, 'Laughing song'), Mr. Burgess.

A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem."

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

"....it's history goes back much further than that, when the pub was considered in 1904 for redundancy, it was pointed out that it had been a licensed property for 400 years....."

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

John Charles Thomas, NAGS HEAD.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.

The following is the list of houses in respect of which the licensing justices have called the holders of the licenses to show cause why the licenses should be renewed.

NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/1/1907 - Marriages

“On December 31st, at Lichfield, Edgar, third son of Mr. Alfred Price, of Brownhills, to Cissie, only daughter of Mr. *Ernest Snape*, NAGS HEAD INN, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1909

“A scene which occurred at the NAGS HEAD INN, Little Bloxwich, on the 1st September, was described from two different points of view at the Walsall Police Court on Tuesday, when Chas. Smith, 127, Little Bloxwich, was summoned for assaulting Walter Nicholls, haulier, Brownhills, on 1st September, and Alfred Pinson, awl-blade maker, was summoned for assaulting Fred Price, butcher, Brownhills, on the same date. The cases were taken together, and Mr. F. Cooper appeared for the complainants, and Mr. H. H. Jackson for the defendants.

In opening the case Mr. Cooper said the circumstances were, shortly, as follows. On the date named the complainants went together to the NAGS HEAD INN, at Little Bloxwich, about 7 o’clock in the evening. Price was connected by marriage with Mrs. *Snape*, the landlady, and when he entered the house he was on perfectly friendly terms with her. The two men were in the house altogether for about an hour, and they only had two pints of ale and some bread and cheese. After a time Price asked Mrs. *Snape* for a pair of gambols which he had left there after killing some pigs some months previously, and immediately he did so the landlady got into a temper and made some remarks about his mother, which he resented. She then said to the defendants, ‘Throw these two — out, and if there is any summoning I will pay for it,’ and without any warning or request to leave, Pinson went up to Price and hit him a severe blow in the mouth, and Smith rushed up to Nicholls and struck him on the side of the face, cutting him badly beneath the eye and causing blood to flow freely. Both assaults were entirely unprovoked.

Fred Price, the complainant, bore out his solicitor’s opening statement, and added that while he and Nicholls were in the house his (witness’s) brother, who had married Mrs. *Snape*’s step-daughter, entered, and said to him, ‘That is Pinson, Fred.’ He remarked, ‘Oh, is that Pinson?’ and immediately Mrs. *Snape* said to the defendants, ‘Turn the two out. I will pay if there is any summoning.’ Pinson and Smith then took off their coats and committed the assault complained of.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jackson: The only reason he could suggest for the landlady’s ‘rounding’ on him was because he asked for the return of the gambols. His brother and his wife had not lived together for some time, and he believed there had been an action threatened against his brother for maintenance. The reason his brother pointed Pinson out to him was because Pinson was one of the co-respondents in a divorce action pending between his brother and his wife.

Mr. Jackson: Are there any proceedings being taken?

Witness: We are waiting for further action with reference to the maintenance order, but divorce proceedings will be taken.

Further cross-examined, witness denied that he took up a stool and threatened to clear the house; that he picked up a glass and threatened to cut off the landlady’s head, or that he called her a ‘b— cow,’ and Pinson a ‘dirty b— low-lived pig.’

Walter Nicholls, the other complainant, gave evidence to similar effect, and in reply to Mr. Jackson said he had more sense than to say that nobody could turn him out of the house when there was a professional boxer (Smith) present. They were assaulted without the slightest provocation. He should have gone out while Smith was taking his coat off if he could have reached the door.

Mr. Jackson: Why were you assaulted?

Complainant: I want to know why I got this blow. If you can tell me I can tell you.

He denied that he and the brothers Price went to the house to see if Pinson was there.

Re-examined by Mr. Cooper, witness said they went to fetch the police, and if they had not done so they would have been murdered.

George Mason, butcher, Pelsall, and Edgar Price, butcher, Brownhills, brother of the complainant, corroborated the story of the complainants. The latter, in the course of cross-examination, denied that he went to the house with his brother for the purpose of creating a disturbance. He went there for a friendly drink. He was contemplating divorce proceedings against his wife, with Pinson as co-respondent.

This closed the complainant’s case, and addressing the Bench for the defence, Mr. Jackson said that the magistrates would agree that it was an extraordinary case. It was one of those cases in which one tale was very good until the other one was told. Mr. Cooper wanted them to believe that the two Prices and Nicholls went into the house with perfectly peaceable intentions, and that they were perfectly friendly with the landlady, and she practically received them with open arms. His case, however, was different. Price, who was married to the landlady’s daughter, and, according to his brother, was contemplating divorce proceedings against her with Pinson as co-respondent, had not been near the house for four months, but he went on the night in question, and he suggested that the reason was that he had heard something about Pinson and they all went there to spy on the landlady’s daughter, and to see if Pinson was there. Afterwards the complainant Price began to get very cross and to create a disturbance. He picked up a stool and threatened to strike Mrs. *Snape*, who was behind the bar. He then put down the stool and picked up Pinson’s glass, with which he threatened to strike her. The landlady and her daughter were alone behind the bar, and were frightened, and Mrs. *Snape* sent Mrs. Price out to get a policeman or someone to put the defendants out. She had previously requested them to leave, but they had refused, saying they didn’t care for the police or anyone in the house. When the daughter went to the door she saw Pinson and Smith, and she asked them to go in. As soon as they entered Price and Nicholls said they did not care for anybody, and they were

going to clear the house. Pinson went up to Price, who called him a low-lived pig, and the defendant said he could not stand that from anybody. Price put up his fists and a fight took place. Nicholls afterwards joined in, although, according to his own story, he should have gone out if he could have reached the door. 'Did you ever see a more contemptible specimen in your life?' asked Mr. Jackson. 'Why didn't Nicholls a, big man, pick up little Smith by the crop of the neck, and put him across the room?' His case, he added, in conclusion, was that complainants went to the house for a row, they got the worst of it, and they then went to the police.

The defendant Pinson then went into the box, and said that on the night in question he and Smith were in the road when Mrs. Price asked them to go into the house. They walked in and both ordered a drink, his own being a quinine. He sat by the counter and saw Price pick up a stool and threaten to clear the house and to smash the windows, and also to split Mrs. *Snape's* head open with a glass. The landlady ordered both Price and Nicholls out of the house, and the latter said, 'Fetch the police, and they can't turn us out.' Price turned to him and asked him if he was drunk, and he replied that he did not know. Price then said, 'Well, I know who you are and what you are,' and he also called him a 'drunken low-lived pig.' He replied that he should not stand that from any man, and Price would have to fight. He (witness) took off his coat, and Price put up his fists, but after receiving one blow he said that was enough. Nicholls took Price's part, and then Smith took his part. After the trouble was over the other Price shook hands with him and said he had not gone there for a row.

Cross-examined: The story of the complainants was a pack of lies.

The defendant Smith deposed that all that Pinson had said was true, and Mrs. Price also supported the defendants' version of what took place.

The magistrates retired to consider the evidence, and on their return into court, the Chairman said they were of the opinion that assaults were committed, and each defendant would be fined 5s and costs."

Walsall Advertiser 11/12/1909

"Remarkable revelations of the alleged conduct of a wife were made during the evidence in a case which occupied the attention of the Rushall magistrates – Messrs. R. H. Holden (presiding), E. Wilkes, E. J. Shaw, and W. Precey – on Monday for three hours. Edgar Price (26), a butcher, of High Street, Brownhills, was summoned for having deserted his wife, Elizabeth Ann Price (20), of The Wood, Pelsall, who applied for a separation order. Mr. J. S. Sharpe (Sharpe and Darby, West Bromwich) appeared for Mrs. Price, and Mr. Frank Cooper (Addison and Cooper, Walsall) represented the defendant. The case had been adjourned from the previous week in order that evidence for the defence might be collected, Mr. Cooper then stating that the husband alleged misconduct on the part of his wife.

In his opening statement, Mr. Sharpe said that the parties were young people. They were married on 31st December, 1906, and last Christmas the defendant deserted his wife. It appeared that defendant was a butcher by trade and at the time of his marriage also had an off-license in Norton Road, Pelsall. The marriage was not a happy one, certainly not from the wife's point of view. The husband did not attend to his business and complainant had to go out hawking meat. On several occasions when she returned she found that he had taken opportunity of her absence to get drunk, and then he beat her under one pretext or another. The state of affairs culminated about last Christmas, when defendant, in consequence of neglecting his business and running about with a lot of undesirable companions, was in difficulties. He owed large sums of money and he told his wife that he could not afford to keep her any longer, and that she would have to go to her mother's, who at that time occupied the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich. She did not go at once to her mother's, but both the husband and wife stayed for some weeks at the house of a friend named Mason, at Little Bloxwich. Eventually the husband said he was not going to remain in the neighbourhood any longer. He went to his brother's at Birmingham, and said his wife had better go to her mother. This she did, and during the time she was at home defendant several times visited her and gave her some money, and when she and her mother asked him what he was going to do he said he would find a home as soon as things were straight. There was then not the slightest reason put forward except his alleged poverty as to why he did not find his wife a home.

No accusation was made by defendant against his wife until the previous Monday, when his friend Mr. Cooper applied for an adjournment. Complainant had written to her husband on several occasions, but none of the letters had been answered, and a registered letter which she sent to him was refused and returned to her. She next issued a summons, and then for the first time was misconduct alleged.

Mrs. Price had been trying to find her husband, and on one occasion she discovered that he was hanging about outside the BOOT INN, Walsall Wood. She then said to him, 'I suppose you are waiting for the pro.' (meaning a young woman who was giving entertainments at that public house, and in whom for some time the defendant had been taking a great interest). The suggestion now was that defendant was so much interested in this young woman that he did not want to recognise his proper liabilities as a married man and maintain his wife.

An act of misconduct would be alleged with a man named Harry Mason, who was the son of the neighbour with whom defendant and his wife stayed at Little Bloxwich, but directly defendant left the Mason's his wife went to her mother. It was very strange that there was no allegation of misconduct, and that no complaint of such was made at the time to the wife or her mother, who only lived a short distance from Mason's house.

The complainant then entered the witness box and bore out her solicitor's statement. She also stated that it was untrue that she had misconducted herself with Mason or any other man.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cooper, complainant admitted that during the hearing of the case at the Walsall Police Court some time ago, which arose out of a bother at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, that divorce proceedings were talked of, and that her name was mentioned in connection with a certain man.

Mr. Cooper: While you were staying at the Mason's did your husband speak to you about your familiarity with Harry Mason? – No.

In answer to further questions, Mrs. Price said that on the Tuesday night before she left Mason's she went to Walsall to do some

shopping, and left home about seven o'clock, returning at ten minutes to eleven. She met Harry Mason at Walsall, and he followed her on the tram and accompanied her along the lanes to the house. It was not true that she did not arrive home until 12.30, and it was also untrue that Harry Mason walked with his arm around her waist. They went into the house together, and she did not wait at the gate until Mason had seen if the coast was clear. When she reached home her husband was in the house and not hiding under the hedge, nor did he say, 'So this is your — game is it.' There was no brother at the gate. A man called 'Shropshire Dick' did pass Mason and her as they were going through Goscote.

Mr. Cooper: Some time after you had been upstairs did you go into Harry Mason's bedroom? – No.

Is it a fact that Mrs. Mason caught you there in bed with her son? – No, there's no truth in it at all.

Is it a fact that Mrs. Mason turned you out of the house the next morning and made you go to your mother's? – No.

When Mr. Cooper told complainant that Mrs. Mason was going to give evidence that she had, complainant retorted, 'She'll swear anything for the sake of a shilling, and her son as well.'

Answering other questions by Mr. Cooper, Mrs. Price said that when her husband went to Birmingham she parted with him on friendly terms, and gave him a gold ring.

Re-examined by Mr. Sharpe, complainant said that on the night she went to Walsall she asked her husband to accompany her, but he refused. That night was a Tuesday night, and she stayed at the Mason's until the following Monday. Her husband had told her that he earned about 50s per week.

The Bench asked complainant why she gave her husband the ring, and she replied because he was going to look for work and had no money.

Mrs. Lucy *Snape*, mother of complainant, said she used to keep the NAGS HEAD, at Little Bloxwich, but for the last three months had resided at Pelsall. Witness spoke to defendant, promising to find his wife a home, and also said that defendant made no complaint whatever about his wife.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cooper, witness admitted that at the case at Walsall allegations were made against her daughter in connection with a man named Pinson.

This closed the case for the complainant.

Edgar Price, the defendant, having been sworn, said he had now got a butcher's shop at Chasetown, but only opened it on Saturdays, and his earnings were about 25s per week. After he left the outdoor license at Pelsall he and his wife lived together at Mason's for about a fortnight or three weeks. He noticed familiarity between his wife and Harry Mason, and spoke to her about it, but she said there was no harm in it, as she knew Mason before she knew him (defendant). On Monday, 15th February, his wife went out of the house about 7 o'clock, and did not ask him to go with her. Harry Mason left the house about 7.30 o'clock, and at 11 o'clock neither of them had returned. He went to look for them, and on the canal bridge he met Richard Reeves, alias 'Shropshire Dick,' and two men named Davis. After a while he hid himself in the garden, and Reeves got under a hedge across the road. At about 12.30 defendant saw his wife and Mason, who had his arm round Mrs. Price, coming along the road. When they got to the gate he (defendant) jumped up and said, 'So this is your — game, is it? and he would have struck his wife but Mason stepped between them. Mason then went into the house, and when he came out gave defendant a revolver and, said Price, 'I should have shot both of them, but it was empty.' He did not go in the house that night, but slept on a hay rick. This was the final parting with his wife, and it was not on friendly terms.

Mr. Sharpe then cross-examined defendant, who said that the reason he did not go to his wife's mother and complain to her was because he was not friendly with his wife's step-father. A month after he got married his wife committed misconduct with her own step-father, and he (defendant) would not go where Mr. *Snape* was. He had forgiven his wife for that, and he had not wished to mention it in Court, but that was the reason. His wife went out to hawk the meat because she wanted to get out into the fresh air. He never treated her roughly. He courted his wife for four months, and she was 17 years of age when he married her. When his wife gave him the ring was when he first went to Birmingham, and they then parted on friendly terms, she and Mason accompanying him to the station. He never received any letters from his wife, nor was it he who refused the registered letter.

Mr. Precey asked defendant if it was a Monday or Tuesday when he caught his wife returning home with Mason, and defendant answered that it was Monday.

Richard Reeves, a miner, of Goscote, who possesses the Volunteer Long Service Medal, and who also served in the South African War, for which he received another medal, said that on one night about the second week of February he saw Mrs. Price and Harry Mason walking through Goscote, Mason having his arm around Mrs. Price. He doubled back across some fields and told defendant, and they both lay in wait for the man and woman. When they got to the gate Mason went into the house and Mrs. Price stopped at the gate. Defendant then jumped up and there was a quarrel. Witness did not stop, and when he got home, which was ten minutes' walk, it was a quarter to one. He had occasion to remember the time because he got into a row with his wife. (Laughter.)

Cross-examined by Mr. Sharpe, Reeves said he was not sure whether it was a Monday or Tuesday night.

Sophia Mason, of Allens Lane, Heath End, Pelsall, said that for some years prior to a few weeks ago she lived at Little Bloxwich. The defendant and his wife stayed with her about a fortnight. One night in February, it was a Monday, she retired about ten o'clock, and Mrs. Price had not then come in. Witness woke some time in the night, and as Mrs. Price, who slept with her, was not in bed, she grew suspicious. She went to her son's room, and there found Mrs. Price in bed with her son. She fetched her out and the next day turned her out of the house.

In cross-examination witness said she did not say anything to her husband about it until four or five months ago. She did not recollect having told Mrs. *Snape* about it, and she did not think she had told anyone else.

Mr. Sharpe: I see you kept your information until it was required.

Harry Mason, a miner, of Allens Lane, Heath End, admitted having committed misconduct with Mrs. Price on the last night she was at the house. That was the night they went to Walsall, when they got home about 1.30am, and there was a row with defendant. He did not remember his mother coming into his room that night.

Cross-examined by Mr. Sharpe, Mason persisted that it was a Monday night when they went to Walsall, and not market night. It was by Mrs. Price's arrangements that they went to Walsall.

Mr. Sharpe. Do you mean to tell the magistrates that after an altercation with defendant, and without knowing his whereabouts, you went and slept with Mrs. Price? – Yes, but she came into my room first.

Mr. Sharpe: Oh, you are going to continue your manly conduct by putting all the blame on to the woman.

In answer to Mr. E. J. Shaw, Mason said that he did not possess a revolver, nor ever saw one. On the night he took Mrs. Price home he did not give her husband a revolver.

Mr. Cooper then addressed the Bench, and in referring to the revolver incident said that that was practically the only point on which the witnesses did not agree. In all probability Mason was not quite clear as to what took place that night. If their worships were going to believe the story of Mrs. Price it meant that they were going to say that not only Mason, of whom he (Mr. Cooper) had nothing to say, as he had committed a dastardly act against his own mother and the defendant, but that Mrs. Mason and Reeves had practically entered into a conspiracy to go there and give false evidence. He (Mr. Cooper) submitted that they (the magistrates) were in the position of a jury in divorce proceedings, and in that case he thought they could come to no other conclusion than that there had been some misconduct. Mrs. Price's answer was that it was all a fabrication, but her evidence could not be relied upon. Would Reeves go there and give false evidence? Would Mrs. Mason go there and make known her son's shame if it were untrue? If they found against defendant it would debar him from bringing divorce proceedings, as his wife would be able to plead desertion.

After a private consultation the Bench ordered defendant to pay his wife 8s per week, and also the costs of the case, including the solicitor's fee."

Walsall Advertiser 11/12/1909

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the vice-president, CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.....

Richard Lane, NAGS HEAD INN, Little Bloxwich, was elected member of the society as from 1st January, 1910."

1911 Census

Little Bloxwich – NAGS HEAD INN

[1] *Richard Lane* (50), manager of public house, born Dawley, Shropshire;

[2] *Rachel Lane* (40), wife, married 5 years, born Pelsall;

[3] *Cyril John Richard Lane* (3), son, born Pelsall:

Richard Lane – see also GEORGE, Bloxwich.

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

NAGS HEAD INN, Little Bloxwich. £0 9s 10½d."

Walsall Observer 5/6/1926

"New Hope in Coal Situation.

How Unemployment and Relief Have Increased During the Fifth Week of Stoppage.....

Soup kitchens were yesterday opened by the Walsall Miners' Distress Committee in the Bloxwich and Leamore districts for the feeding of about 2,000 members of miners' families. The stations were – BLUE PIG INN (1,300 fed), TURF TAVERN (160), Field Street School (175), BLACK HORSE, Leamore (250), Blakenall Church Schools (250), and the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich (150). Although the committee are short of funds, they are taking the risk of carrying on the feeding for at least a week, and will continue if more money is forthcoming. It is estimated that the week's effort will cost about £100. Seventeen gallons of milk, which have been given daily by Mr. Sid Field, of Blue Lane, have also been distributed this week."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/3/1932

"At Walsall Police court on Wednesday, Harry Shemmans, 127, Little Bloxwich, and Edward Smith, 43, Wolverhampton Road, Pelsall, were fined 10s each for consuming intoxicants at other than permitted hours at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, on February 26, and the licensee's wife Sarah Ann was fined £1 for aiding and abetting."

1939 Register

46, Little Bloxwich

[1] *Joseph Holland*, date of birth 24/2/1893, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Sarah A. Holland*, dob 10/1/1890, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Frances M. (Holland) Dennis*, dob 17/7/1916, barmaid, single;

[4] *Marjorie (Holland) (Roberts) Deeley*, dob 22/12/1920, packer, electric fittings, single:

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund, and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

NAGS HEAD INN, Little Bloxwich. £0 6s 0d."

1951 Probate

“*William Sidney Arthur Stewart* of the NAGS HEAD INN, Little Bloxwich, Walsall, Staffordshire, died 22 July 1951. Probate, Birmingham, 8 November, to Lloyds Bank Limited. Effects £1,332 16s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 20/11/1959 - Engagements

“The engagement is announced of Malcom, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Whitehouse, 106, Field Road, Bloxwich, to Jean, only child of Mr. and Mrs. *Sowter*, NAGS HEAD INN Little Bloxwich.:

Walsall Observer 26/8/1960 - Weddings

“The wedding took place at Blakenall Parish Church, on Saturday, of Mr. Malcom Whitehouse, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Whitehouse, of Field Road, Bloxwich, and Miss Jean Mary *Sowter*, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *C. S. Sowter*, of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich. The Rev. R. W. Wardle officiated.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length gown of lace and net with a coronet headdress and short veil. She carried a bouquet of orchids, roses and lilies of the valley. Her bridesmaids wore nylon and taffeta dresses in apricot and blue with white accessories and carried bouquets of roses.

Mr. J. Whitehouse was the best man.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1962

“The past season has been an outstanding one for the NAGS HEAD darts team of Little Bloxwich. To celebrate their long list of achievements, the team, in company with the rest of the NAGS HEAD sports club, held a dinner and presentation in their headquarters on Wednesday. The list of triumphs begins with the captain Eric Smith, who became the Staffordshire champion in the *New of the World* individual championship of England and Wales. He will be setting out on the trail again on Wednesday when he enters the quarter finals.....

In addition to this success the team were Staffordshire finalists in the *People's* competition and in the Dunlop Nodor competition they were Staffordshire champions and beaten finalists in the Midland's area final. When they became Staffordshire champions Sid Argyle had the distinction of scoring a maximum (180). They won the Pelsall League cup and were joint runners-up in the league. They also won the cup and league in the Walsall Works league competition.

It was not all darts on the evening, however, as the domino team came in for some praise. They were losing finalists in the Four Crosses Cup and had the most wins in the last half.

The awards were made by the licensee, Mr. *Stan Sowter*.....”

[Eric Smith lost in the semi-final to the eventual winner, Sam Pritchard of the NEW STAG, Field Road, Bloxwich.]

Walsall Observer 8/6/1962

“A successful gala day, organized by the newly formed Little Bloxwich Youth Club, was started on Saturday afternoon when a procession, headed by the Gala Queen, 15 years-old Christine Osbourne, of 34, Grenfell Road, Bloxwich, arrived at the NAGS HEAD public house for the ‘crowning’ ceremony. The Queen was crowned by Mrs. *S. Sowter*, wife of the licensee. After the crowning, the procession, which consisted of floats mounted on five lorries, moved off for a tour of the village before going to the Livingstone playing fields for the sports and gala day.....

Money is being raised for a club building Both Mr. and Mrs. *Sowter* have assisted in raising funds for the project.....”

Walsall Observer 15/11/1963

“A police sergeant visited the NAGS HEAD public house, Little Bloxwich, 10 minutes after drinking up time and found a man drinking in the bar, Walsall magistrates were told on Monday. Leonard Horan (40), of 131, Mackay Road, Little Bloxwich, admitted the offence in a letter and was fined £1.”

Walsall Observer 10/1/1964

“The quarter finals, semi-finals and final of the Walsall, Wolverhampton and district sub area competition of the *News of the World* individual darts championship of England and Wales, will be held in Pelsall Social Club, Norton Road, Pelsall, on Thursday next, January 16, all players to be on the mark at 8pm prompt. The eight finalists are.....

Eric Smith (NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich).”

Demolished

Rebuilt

It re-opened in 1965.

Walsall Observer 30/7/1965

“Last week was an eventful one for 27 years-old, Mr. *Ted Levy*. On Tuesday his wife Carol presented him with a 9lb 14oz son, and on Thursday he took over as licensee of the new NAGS HEAD public house, Little Bloxwich.

Mr. *Levy* served for four years in the Irish Guards and boxed regularly as a middleweight for the 1st battalion.

The first pint at the new inn was pulled by Alderman T. E. Mavo, vice-chairman of Walsall Licensing Committee, who recalled the days when Little Bloxwich was a tiny hamlet visited by few people. He described the old NAGS HEAD as a little, old-fashioned public house which probably got its name from its connection with horses, being situated on the canal side.

Mr. R. O. Graham, managing director of Ansells Brewery, described the new building as a ‘splendid piece of architecture,’ and

congratulated Mr. Gordon Foster, of Shipley and Foster, the architects.

Mr. *Levy*'s father-in-law keeps the THREE MEN IN A BOAT, and his brother the CHAINMAKERS ARMS. A member of Birmingham Stars of Variety Club, he believes in giving his patrons entertainment shows at week-ends."

Walsall Observer 6/8/1965

"Residents of Little Bloxwich are complaining that patrons of the newly re-opened NAGS HEAD public house are causing a nuisance with their cars. Councillor J. Leadbeater told the *Observer* this week that residents had complained to him that cars were being parked outside their houses, blocking their driveways. 'It is constituting a great danger there,' said Councillor Leadbeater. 'I believe that the powers that be are keeping an eye on it.'

The licensee of the NAGS HEAD, Mr. *Edward Levy*, who took over management of the house a fortnight ago, said he did all he could to reduce the problem, but as the house only had a small car park at present, there was little more he could do. 'As soon as the police came around the other night, I announced the complaint over the microphone and asked customers to move their cars to Livingstone Road, where the police asked me to move them,' he said.

The only off-street parking space is behind the building, and has a capacity for approximately 20 cars, but the assembly room of the NAGS HEAD has a capacity of 160 people. Mr. *Levy* pointed out that even if four people travelled in each car, the park would be full long before the assembly room. He thinks the problem might be solved in one of two ways. Firstly, the brewery could buy land near the NAGS HEAD and turn it into a car park – and he believed negotiations were already in progress for a suitable piece of land. Secondly, the inn was attracting large crowds simply because it was new. 'Everybody's coming to have a look at it, but when they have seen it, they will probably start going back to their own locals,' he added.

Mr. *Levy* suggested that portable 'no waiting' signs could be placed by the police in areas where they did not want cars to be parked, thus making people park in more suitable places. Mr. *Levy* is convinced that there is nothing further that can be done from within the inn to relieve the present problem. 'There is nothing I can do; no matter how much you ask them, they will not move their cars unless they want to,' he said."

Walsall Observer 27/8/1965

"Councillor S. Ball told the *Observer* yesterday that if noise from the NAGS HEAD public house in Little Bloxwich did not cease he would personally oppose the renewal of its licence in October. He said that he was called to the NAGS HEAD area this week to see residents who are complaining of the noise, obstruction from parked cars, and other nuisances....."

Walsall Observer 17/12/1965

"The BRIDGEWATER from Little Bloxwich, whose players are mostly from the old NAGS HEAD, competed in the Pelsall Darts League for the first time last season and completed the double at the first attempt. They carried off the league title by just pipping the favourites, Shelfield Social, and then carried off the knock-out trophy by beating strong contenders ROYAL OAK....."

Walsall Observer 2/12/1966

"It is essential that the Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society should have 100 per cent membership, said its chairman, Mr. W. Ruck, at the society's annual meeting at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Thursday last.....

Next meeting of the society is to be held at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, next Thursday, December 8."

Walsall Observer 31/3/1967 - Weddings

"The Rev. R. Cheadle officiated at the wedding at All Saints Parish Church, Bloxwich, of Mr. Barry Michael *Steed*, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. *G. E. Steed*, of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich and Miss Jennifer Ann James, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. James, of 52, Roebuck Road, Forest Estate, Walsall.

Given away by her father, the bride wore a full-length gown of embroidered satin with a long train. A crystal tiara held a full-length veil in place and she carried a bouquet of pink roses, orchids, lilies of the valley, stephanotis and hyacinth pips. Attending her were Misses Glenys James (sister), Sharon James (niece), Joyce, Pauline and Mandy *Steed* (bridegroom's sisters). They wore long dresses of blue, pink and white satin with white fur pill box hats and carried white fur muffs.

Mr. Roy *Steed* was the best man. The usher was Mr. Robert Bethel."

Walsall Observer 22/9/1967

"About 75 children attended a party organized by the NAGS HEAD Sports and Social Club, Little Bloxwich, and held at the NAGS HEAD public house on Sunday. Before the party the children were taken to Chasewater pleasure park where games and races were organised by Mr. D. R. Main and Mr. *G. E. Steed*.

Walsall Observer 6/10/1967

"Presenting the awards at the first annual presentations of the Ansells Sunday Dominos League in the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, on Thursday last, Mr. E. Rogers, a representative of the brewery, said that the league was making history. He said they were the first Sunday dominoes league under the company's banner to be formed on this side of Birmingham....."

Walsall Observer 15/12/1967

"Little Bloxwich Silver Threads Club held their first Christmas party at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, on Tuesday evening. More than 95 members attended, and each one was presented with a gift of 5s in addition to a meal and a glass of sherry. The chairman of the club, Councillor J. Leadbeater, thanked everyone for making their first party such a successful one and expressed the hope that it would be the first of many."

Walsall Observer 13/9/1968 - Advert

“Experienced Barman or Barmaid required.
NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich. Telephone Pelsall 2142.”

Walsall Observer 21/2/1969

“The licensee of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, Mr. *George Malpass* has died at the age of 47. He was in the RAF for 28 years until he retired 18 months ago with the rank of Flt-Lieut. The funeral service was held at St. John’s Methodist Chapel, Bloxwich, yesterday (Thursday) and was followed by cremation at Ryecroft. Mr. *Malpass* leaves a wife and daughter.”

Walsall Observer 21/2/1969 - Deaths

“*Malpass*. Treasured memories of my dear husband *George*, who passed away on Feb 14, 1969, aged 47 years.
I will love you as much in heaven as I did when you were here on earth. God bless you my love.

Broken-hearted wife *Kay*.”

AND

“*I have lost a Dad with a heart of gold.*

How much I shall miss him can never be told.

He shared our troubles and helped us along.

If we walk in his footsteps we shall never go wrong.

I shall love you and treasure your memory for the rest of my life.

Your loving daughter Pat.”

AND

“*Malpass, George*. Passed away Feb 14, 1969. In loving memory.

You had a smile for everyone.

A heart as good as gold.

No one knew what you suffered,

Because you never told.

Our deepest sympathy to Mrs. *Malpass* and Pat.

Staff of NAGS HEAD.”

[And several others.]

Walsall Observer 7/3/1969

“Today (Friday) Mrs. *Catherine Malpass* takes over the management of the NAGS HEAD, Stoney Lane, Little Bloxwich.”

Walsall Observer 11/7/1969

“Several changes in the management of public houses in the Walsall area were announced this week....

Mr. *Albert Forrester* is moving from the STATION HOTEL, Station Street, Bloxwich, to the NAGS HEAD, Stoney Lane, Little, Bloxwich, with effect from today (Friday).”

Lichfield Mercury 12/5/1978 - Advert

“Rock Scene.

E equals MC² (Einstein)! Well maybe.

But summation – Steve plus Ian plus the Deg plus Harvey definitely computes to Edge in Progressive Rock Orbital Overdrive at the Troubadour (Burntwood) this Sunday, 14th May.

Saturday, 20th May, Edge at the NAGS HEAD (Little Bloxwich).”

Sandwell Evening Mail 1/10/1987

“Bloxwich Friends of the Mentally Handicapped visited the NAGS HEAD in Little Bloxwich and triumphed 12-5 in a charity darts match, which raised £35.51 towards buying equipment for pupils at mentally handicapped schools.”

Mr. and Mrs. *Degville* were winners in the Walsall In Bloom competition (pubs, restaurants, hotels category), in August 1989.

Sandwell Evening Mail 12/12/1991 - Advert

“Cleaner and Bar Staff required.

Apply the manager, NAGS HEAD, Stoney Lane, Little Bloxwich. 0922 628142.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 2/10/1992 - Advert

“Cheers! Have a free drink on us.

Cheers! Here’s your chance to have Another drink Free on the *Evening Mail*. We’ve got thousands more Free pints to give away and the toast of the Midlands is once again Ansell’s! Yes, it’s Free Beer time again at over 100 selected Ansell’s houses throughout the Midlands. Thousands of *Evening Mail* readers toasted the August Bank Holiday with our last two-pints-for-the-price-of-one opportunity. Now, for the next seven days, we are delighted to repeat the chance. You can enjoy a sparkling glass of beer or lager – or a generous measure of wine – Absolutely Free – when you buy an equivalent drink. Simply cut out the coupon below, fill in your name and address and take it along to any of the listed venues.....

Little Bloxwich: NAGS HEAD.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 11/11/1992

“A team from the NAGS HEAD pub, in Stoney Lane, Little Bloxwich, potted the Guinness Classic Pool Tournament, beating a side from Birmingham’s Mr. Q’s Bar in the final.”

Lichfield Mercury 13/2/1997

“Beatles sounds-a-likes The Buttles are back in fine fettle for a gig at the Holly Bush in Norton Canes this Saturday (February 15). Starting at 8.45pm this acts as a prelude to their February 21 date at the NAGS HEAD, Stoney Lane, Little Bloxwich.”

Lichfield Mercury 7/5/1998

“Two local scooter clubs have joined forces for a toy run/fund raising event on Saturday (May 9).

Members of the Brownhills-based Jolly Roger Scooter Club and Midland Scooter Alliance will all be letting their hair down at Yates’s Social Club, Norton Canes, from 7pm. There will be two rooms providing music for different tastes. Tickets £3 in advance; £4 on the door.

Scooter riders will meet at the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich, for the toy run to a local children’s hospital, setting off 12.30pm.”

It closed on 29th July 2005 and was refurbished.

It reopened as the BEACON WAY on 4th October 2005.

The local branch of the British Field Target Association held meetings here. [2010]

Express & Star 31/10/2015

“A man will appear at court charged with assaulting a police officer after violence flared at a Walsall pub. Police were called to the BEACON WAY pub in Stoney Lane, Bloxwich, shortly after 11pm on Friday following reports of a mass brawl. Adam Bet-teley, of no fixed address, was arrested at the scene and charged with assaulting a constable in the execution of his duty and using threatening words or behaviour with intent to provoke unlawful violence. The 20-year-old was remanded in custody and is due to appear at Walsall and Aldridge Magistrates Court on Monday morning. Two police officers suffered minor injuries during the alleged disorder.”

[2021]

BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF

4, High Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Corporation of Walsall

Ross Bros. and Co. (leased) [1880]

J. E. Hennessey (leased)

Trent Brewing Co. (leased)

Josiah Burgess (leased) [1906]

William Butler and Co. (leased) [1943]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (leased from 27th January 1943)

LICENSEES

Job Reeves [1849] – [1850]

Richard Shutt [1851]

Walter Paine [1858] – [1861]

Thomas Russell [1871]

James Ross [1872] – [1873];

John Ross [];

Joseph Chadwick [1886] – **1890**);

John Fowler (**1890 – 1891**);

George Ellis (**1891**);

Herbert Tuckley (**1891 – 1893**);

John Frederick Ford (**1893**);

Joseph Thomas Dyson (**1893 – 1894**);

Richard Griffiths (1894);
Thomas Cole (1894 – 1896);
Tom Clarkson (1896);
Joseph Durant (1896 – 1898);
John Edward Hennessy [1903] – [1904] ?
Charles Hennessy (1898 – 1904);
Arthur Simms (1904 – 1905);
Ernest Arthur Hennessy (1905 – 1906);
Josiah Burgess (1906 – 1915);
Walter Burgess (1915 – 1918);
Mrs. Edith Burgess (1918 – 1919);
Walter Burgess (1919 – 1931);
Thomas Beecham Broome (1931 – 1933);
William John Annakin (1933 – 1934);
Jessie Annakin (1934 – 1936);
Mansel John Bevan (1936 – 1937);
Bernard Joseph Hordern (1937 – 1938);
Thomas Beecham Broome (1938 – 1949);
Arthur Harvey (1949 – 1953);
James William Bailey (1953 – 1954);
Alfred John Adams (1954 – 1962);
Lilian Maud Adams (1962 – 1965);
Hugh Frederick Lister (1965 – 1966):

NOTES

It was originally built in 1815 as a residence for the master of Walsall pig market.

It was formerly the CORPORATION ARMS. [1849], [1850], [1851]

At one time it was an alehouse with no sign.

It had a 6-day license.

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *Richard Shutt* (43), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Shutt* (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Jane Shutt* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Edwin Shutt* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Thomas Shutt* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Betsy Shutt* (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *William Shutt* (11 months), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *John Suse* (22), servant, born Leicestershire;
- [9] *Ann Bankes* (21), servant, born Walsall:

Richard Shutt – see also LITTLETON ARMS.

Walter Paine, wine and spirit merchant, 4, High Street. [1858]

1861 Census

4, High Street

- [1] *Walter Paine* (36), wine and spirit dealer, born Tiverton, Devonshire;
- [2] *Mary Ann Paine* (32), wife, born Sutton, Northamptonshire;
- [3] *Maria Martha Paine* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Walter Paine* (1), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Lucy Maria Paine* (40), sister, born Tiverton, Devonshire;
- [6] *Ann Wright* (23), general servant, born Godmanchester, Huntingdonshire;
- [7] *Mary Owen* (18), general servant, born Sawtrey, Huntingdonshire:

Walsall Free Press 5/10/1861

“Jane Holland was charged with stealing a dress, value 10s 9d, the property of Mr. Wm. Webb, draper, High Street. Mary Marsh, assistant to Mr. Webb, stated that on the morning of Tuesday last she was in the shop, and saw prisoner come in. She purchased a

jacket. Witness then went up stairs, and on returning saw the dress produced, under her clothes. The dress was safe in its place on Monday night. John Wright, assistant to Mr. Webb, said from information he received from the last witness, he followed prisoner into Mr. *Paine's* liquor shop, where he saw the dress in her possession concealed under her clothes. He asked her where she got it from, and she said she was going to show it her mother across the street. He then gave her into custody. Mr. Webb had desired him to say that he did not wish the Bench to be severe with the prisoner. The prisoner appeared very much affected at the position in which she was placed, pleaded guilty, and expressed her sorrow for what she had done. Her husband had been out of work for some time, which led her to the commission of the offence. She lived at Pelsall. The magistrates having considered the case, the Mayor said they had received a letter from the Rev. Mr. Harper, incumbent of Pelsall, and in consideration of her previous good character ordered her to be imprisoned for seven days."

Walter Paine - see also BREWERY STORES.

1871 Census

4, High Street

[1] *Thomas Russell* (32), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Jane Russell* (29), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *James Russell* (7), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Agnes Russell* (5), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Ann Bridgwater* (20), general servant, born Wood End, Staffordshire;

[6] *Kate Stone* (15), relative, occasional assistant, born Wood End, Staffordshire:

Midland Counties Evening Express 20/5/1875

"At a special sessions held yesterday, before S. Stephens and J. Brewer, Esqs, at the Guildhall, Walsall, Joseph Beech, a local bookmaker, was brought up on a warrant, charged with having resorted to a public house, called the BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street, for the purpose of gaming and betting therein, on the 18th and 19th of May. Mr. Gillespie (firm of Wilkinson and Gillespie) appeared in support of the charge; and Mr. Rhodes (from Mr. Glover's office) for the defence.

Evidence was given showing that on Tuesday evening the Chief Superintendent sent to the BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF a trusty agent, who there found the prisoner, who took from him a bet of 6 to 1 about a horse called Industrious for the Manchester Cup.

Yesterday morning the same agent went again and made another bet of six to one with the prisoner about a horse called Lacy.

Half a crown was paid in each instance, and the prisoner entered the bets in a book which he had with him. The Chief Superintendent then procured a warrant, armed with which he at once went to the BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, and there apprehended the prisoner, who had in his possession a book containing entries of the bets named above, and of many others on the same races, the list extending over no less than nine pages. He also had in his possession other betting books relating to the Derby and other races, 'price lists', telegrams, and sporting papers.

The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and after a few minutes' absence returned into the court (which was crowded with bookmakers and betting men) and announced that they considered the case fully proved, and should impose a fine of £10, including costs. Fined accordingly."

Birmingham Daily Post 28/8/1886

"The annual licensing Sessions took place at the Guildhall yesterday.....

the only application was one from Mr. *Chadwick*, of the BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street, to turn his six-day license into a seven-day license. The Town Clerk attended, and opposed on behalf of the Corporation, the owners of the property, pointing out that the lease precluded a seven-day license, and the application was withdrawn."

1891 Census

4, High Street – BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF

[1] *John Fowler* (36), public house manager, born Tetbury, Gloucestershire;

[2] *Bertha Fowler* (24), public house manageress, born Burton on Trent;

[3] *Joseph R. Fowler* (2), son, born Castle Donington, Leicestershire;

[4] *Percy Ryle* (7), brother in law, born Burton on Trent;

[5] *Kate Jones* (52), general servant, born Bridgnorth:

[Tetbury is about 10 miles SW of Cirencester.]

[Castle Donington is about 12 miles SW of Nottingham.]

George Ellis was fined 10s and costs, on 2nd June 1891, for selling intoxicating liquor without a license.

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1895 - Advert

"Unreserved Sale By Auction of The Unexpired Free Lease and Licenses of the Old-Licensed Inn, known as the BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street Walsall, together with the whole of the Capital Fittings, Fixtures and Trade Effects, with immediate possession.

Walter Hughes is instructed by the Trent Brewery Company to Sell the above Lease, &c. (which expires September 29th, 1896), by Auction, at his Property Mart, on The Bridge, Walsall, on Monday next, 16th Dec., 1895, at Six pm precisely.

For further particulars and conditions apply to Walter Hughes, Auctioneer and Brewer's Valuer, The Bridge, Walsall."

Walsall Advertiser 26/9/1896

“The penultimate meeting of Walsall Town Council as at present constituted was held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, on Monday afternoon.....

Councillor Pearman-Smith, in presenting, and moving the adoption of a recommendation from the Property Committee as to the terms and conditions upon which a lease of the BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street, should be granted for a term of 10 years from the 29th inst., said that the house had been well advertised, but the committee were convinced that the offer of Mr. Hennessey of £100 a year was best. The decision of the committee was confirmed.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/10/1896

“The Town Clerk (Mr. J. R. Cooper) presented plans for internal alterations at the BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street. He explained that the lessee, Mr. J. H. Hennessey was under a covenant with the Corporation to spend a certain amount of money upon the alterations, but he (Mr. Hennessey) preferred to submit plans, so that it might not afterwards be said that anything had been done with Corporation property which would not be allowed elsewhere.

The Bench had no objection to the plans but said they thought they had better remain for other magistrates to see.”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“In 1906 *Josiah Burgess* from Sheffield was leasing the BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF from the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Walsall for seven years at an annual rent of £70.”

1911 Census

4, High Street

[1] *Josiah Burgess* (55), licensed victualler, born Brixworth, Northamptonshire;

[2] Emily Burgess (52), wife, married 34 years, born Pelsall;

[3] Josiah Burgess (30), son, miner, born Pelsall;

[4] Leonard Burgess (23), son, assisting in the business, born Pelsall;

[5] Sarah Vincent (20), general servant, born Daw End:

Walsall Advertiser 17/2/1912

“Property Committee. Your committee recommend that the lease of the BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street, be renewed to Mr. *Josiah Burgess*, for a term of seven years from 29th September, 1913, when it expires, subject to his paying an increased rent of £10 a year from that date, thus making the rent £80 a year the minutes were confirmed.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street, Walsall, 11s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 26/5/1917 - Roll Of Honour

“Private Leonard *Burgess*, of Church Road, Pelsall, and formerly of the BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street, of which his father held the license for many years, is reported to have been killed in action on May 1. Married and 29 years of age, he joined the East Yorkshires on May 29, 1916, and was sent to France on December. He was educated at Pelsall Wesley Schools.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street. £1 8s 3d.”

1939 Register

High Street – BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF Public House

[1] *Thomas B. Broome*, date of birth 27/3/1883, publican, married;

[2] *Lydia Broome*, dob 4/2/1885, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 16/12/1939

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held on Thursday.....

Mr. *T. B. Broome*, BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF INN, High Street was elected member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 15/2/1941 - Advert

“Wanted, a Pianist, male or female.

BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/7/1952

“Twenty old inns and hotels in Staffordshire have been added to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government’s ‘preservation list’ because of outstanding historical and architectural interest. The total number of Staffs. Inns now listed is 49.

The Brewers’ Society is selecting a design for a plaque for marking the inns. Several designs have been submitted by a sculptor, an artist, an architect, and an expert on industrial design, but a final choice has yet to be made. The object of these plaques will be

to enable tourists and other visitors readily to identify inns of outstanding interest.....
BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....

BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, High Street, Walsall.”

Hugh Frederick Lister moved to the RAILWAY at Shifnal.

It closed on 12th February 1966.

It was demolished in July 1966.

BEEHIVE

7, (46), (42), New Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Nicholls, solicitor, Birmingham

Josiah Elton, Bloxwich

George Eldon

Showells Brewery Co. Ltd. (lease acquired 3rd March 1904)

LICENSEES

Mrs. Mary Boyden [1871]

James Whitehouse [1872];

William Davies [1881];

Job Davies [1883];

Thomas William Valer [] – **188_**);

Isaiah Millington (**188_ – 1888**);

Edwin Owen (**1888 – 1897**);

John Henry Pitt (**1897 – 1900**);

Charles Henry Bould (**1900**);

Moses Lloydell (**1900 – 1910**);

Thomas William Banks (**1910 – 1912**);

Benjamin Hughes (**1912 – 1913**);

NOTES

42, New Street [1871]

46, New Street [1881], [1891], [1901]

7, New Street [1904]

It was situated opposite to the entrance to Alfred Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

42, New Street

[1] *Mary Boyden* (49), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Martha Boyden (12), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[3] Edward Boyden (11), son, scholar, born Bloxwich:

1881 Census

46, New Street – BEE HIVE

[1] *William Davies* (46), chartermaster, born Shropshire;

[2] Mary Davies (50), wife, born Bloxwich;

- [3] William Davies (20), son, coal miner, born Bloxwich;
[4] Harriet Davies (14), daughter, born Bloxwich:

Job Davies was fined 20s and costs, on 1st December 1883, for keeping his house open after 11pm.

Edwin Owen = Edward Bowen = Edward Owen

1891 Census

46, New Street

- [1] *Edwin Owen* (41), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
[2] Elizabeth Owen (41), wife, born Bloxwich;
[3] William Owen (14), son, harness maker, born Pelsall;
[4] Sidney Owen (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] Richard Owen (42), boarder, bricklayer, born Coxley, Staffordshire;
[6] Hannah Owen (13), servant, born Pelsall:

Edward Owen was fined 20s and costs, on 14th May 1892, for selling liquor to a drunken man.

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....
The Chief-constable then gave formal notice that he intended to oppose the renewal of the following licenses.....
The BEEHIVE, Bloxwich, kept by *Edward Owen*, the reason being a conviction for supplying a drunken person.”

Walsall Observer 1/10/1892

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday.....
Mr. Gillespie applied on behalf of *Edward Bowen* for the renewal of the license of the BEEHIVE INN, Bloxwich, and explained although his client had been fined 20s and cost for permitting drunkenness, it was the first conviction recorded against him.....
The license was renewed with a caution.”

Edward Owen, beer retailer, New Street. [1896]

1901 Census

46, New Street

- [1] *Moses Lloydell* (38), coal miner, born Bilston;
[2] Esther Lloydell (28), wife, born Essington;
[3] Charles Lloydell (6), son, born Bloxwich:

Moses Lloydell, beer retailer, 7, New Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....
Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various.....
Moses Lloydell, BEEHIVE.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/10/1910

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....
Mr. *Thomas Banks*, BEEHIVE INN, Bloxwich, was unanimously elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/11/1910

“The quarterly meeting of the Walsall district of Loyal Caledonian Corks was held on Saturday, at the WOOLPACK, Hotel, Digbeth. There were fifty-eight delegates present, representing twenty-seven lodges..... Secretary’s report.....
Permission has been granted for the opening of a new lodge (No.74) at the BEEHIVE HOTEL, Bloxwich, and 16 members have been enrolled.”

1911 Census

New Street – BEEHIVE INN

- [1] *Thomas William Banks* (28), coal miner, hewer, born South Wales;
[2] Mary Eliza Banks (27), wife, married 4 years, born Cannock;
[3] Ellen Louisa Banks (17), sister, domestic servant, born Cannock;
[4] Alice Maud Banks (7), daughter, born Cannock;
[5] Martha Banks (2), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[6] Winifred Banks (1 month), daughter, born Bloxwich:

Thomas William Banks, beer retailer, 46, New Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

The following were the notices of objection (Compensation Clause).....

NEW INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Hy. Mellor).

SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Jacob Williams).

NELSON, Church Street, Bloxwich. (Jos. Wall).

STAG, Field Street, Bloxwich. (Jane Tolley).

PLOUGH, Cemetery Road, (Charles Mansfield).

RISING SUN, Park Road, Bloxwich, (Charles Orgill).

STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, (Charles Ernest Perry).

BEEHIVE, New Street, Bloxwich, (*Benjamin Hughes*).”

AND

“The Court re-assembled yesterday (Friday) morning.....

The BEEHIVE. Mr. Jackson again appeared for the owner, Mr. George Eldon, the lessees, Showell’s Brewery Co. Ld., and the tenant, Mr. *B. Hughes*.

Inspector Pritchard again gave evidence that New Street contained no other licensed house than the BEEHIVE. He had visited the premises on 16 occasions in ten weeks, and found 116 persons, or an average of 7 per visit. The last tenant and his wife left the house empty, without transfer of license to anyone. The offices at the rear of the premises were dilapidated and the premises were practically open, the fences being broken down.

The tenant stated that he had been tenant about five months. He had not followed any other occupation, but he would have done so had he not had an accident. He thought a little work would do him good.

Mr. Loxton: That is not the general opinion of work.

Mr. Jackson submitted that this was the only house in the street, and it was both well built and well kept. There was a large trade done and the tenant could get a good living, averaging 128 barrels per year. The only defect was the back premises, and that was being remedied.

Having retired, the Bench announced that the licenses of the STAG and the STORES would be renewed for this year, but might be considered at some future date. The remaining six houses would be referred to the compensation authorities.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 7th February 1913.

Walsall Advertiser 31/5/1913

“The principal meeting of the Compensation Authority for the Borough of Walsall was held on Tuesday morning at the Guildhall.....

The last case dealt with was that of the BEEHIVE, New Street, Bloxwich. The owner was Mr. John Elton, the lessees, the Showell Brewery Co., and the tenant, Mr. *Benjamin Hughes*. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for all parties. The average annual barrelage was 188, and the rent and premium amounted to £58 per year. The renewal of the license was refused.”

Compensation was paid.

It closed on 6th September 1913.

BEE HIVE STORES

292, (82), Green Lane / Blue Lane East, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Ward [1858]

John Page [1861] – [1865]

J B Jones [1909]

NOTES

82, Green Lane [1861]

292, Green Lane [1909]

William Ward, beerhouse, 82, Green Lane. [1858]

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers’ licenses.....

William Ward, Green Lane, Walsall. Refused.”

1861 Census

82, Green Lane – BEE HIVE

[1] *John Page* (45), publican and grocer, born Hamstilt (?) Ridway, Staffordshire;

[2] Sarah Page (38), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Joseph Page (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Albert Page (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Fanny E. Page (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Edward Page (2), son, born Walsall;

[7] Abraham Page (3 months), son, born Walsall;

[8] Mary Figgins (18), general servant, born Tailand [Thailand?]:

John Page, retailer of beer, Green Lane. [1862]

John Page, beer retailer and shopkeeper, 82, Green Lane. [1864], [1865]

Closed

Demolished

BEEHIVE

Lichfield Road, (Canalside), (Walsall Wood Road), (Hall Lane), Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

Lichfield Brewery Co. [1926]

LICENSEES

William Jackson Jnr. [1858] – **1868**;

William Humphries (**1868** – [1869]

William Jackson Jnr. [1869] – [1872]

John Male [1891] – [1901]

George Lane [] – **1909**;

Noah Cresswell (**1909** – [1912]

John Claudius Bostock [1926]

George Lane [1932]

NOTES

It had an ante '69 beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

William Jackson, licensed victualler, the BEEHIVE, Walsall Wood, was fined 2s 6d and costs, for having two unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

1861 Census

Walsall Wood Road – BEEHIVE INN

[1] *William Jackson* (30), bricklayer and publican, born Walsall Wood;

[2] Emma Jackson (31), wife, born Rudgeley [Rugeley?];

[3] Olive Jackson (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall Wood;

[4] Ann Elson (15), domestic servant, born Widdenton [Wigginton?], Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/12/1868

“*William Humphries*, landlord of the BEEHIVE INN, Walsall Wood, was charged with having had his house open during prohibited hours on Sunday, the 20th inst. Police-constable Webb, who proved the charge, said he visited the house about fifteen minutes past three o’clock on the morning in question, and found nine men in the house, and a quart jug containing about a pint of beer. The Bench ordered the defendant to pay a fine of 10s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/8/1869

“*William Humphries*, landlord of the BEEHIVE public-house, was charged with having permitted drunkenness in his house on the 11th ult. Police-constable Webb said he visited the defendant’s house about half-past one o’clock in the morning in question, and found four men in the house. The men were tipsy. On being asked why he had the men in his house, he replied, ‘I can’t get them out.’ The men were tipsy. Mr. Sheldon, who appeared for defendant, called two witnesses, who said no drink was supplied to the men after prohibited hours, and that the landlord several times ordered them out. The defendant, who had been previously convicted, was ordered to pay a fine of 20s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“On Tuesday a special sessions was held in the Court House, Rushall.....

Before granting of licenses commenced Inspector McCrea presented to the Bench a list containing the names of those victuallers who had offended against the tenor of the licenses. The following were the names on the black list.....

William Humphries, BEEHIVE, Walsall Wood, two convictions – once for having kept open during prohibited hours (fined 10s and costs), and once for having permitted drunkenness on his premises (fined 20s and costs).....

In the above cases the granting of the licenses was adjourned, all the others had their licenses renewed.”

Walsall Free Press 25/9/1869

“The adjourned licensing session was held at Rushall.....

“*William Humphries*, landlord of the BEE HIVE public-house, who had twice been previously convicted, and who was declared to be totally unfit to keep a public-house, had his application for a renewal of license refused.

Mr. Glover applied on behalf of Mr. *Jackson*, the landlord of the premises, to have the session adjourned, in order to allow Mr. *Jackson* on opportunity of applying for the transfer of the license.”

1871 Census

Walsall Wood – BEE HIVE

- [1] *William Jackson* (40), grocer, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] *Emma Jackson* (42), wife, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] *Olive Jackson* (16), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] *William Jackson* (6), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] *Ada Jackson* (3), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] *Tom Jackson* (15), boarder, bricklayer, born Walsall Wood:

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/9/1872

“Rushall Adjourned Licensing Session.....

Mr. Dale (from the offices of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis, and Lewis) renewed his application for a licence from *William Jackson*, of the BEEHIVE INN, Walsall Wood, to sell beer to be consumed off the premises. Granted.”

1891 Census

Canal Side – BEE HIVE INN and grocer’s shop

- [1] *John Male* (37), licensed victualler, born Kingswinford;
- [2] *Hannah Male* (38), wife, born Pensnett;
- [3] *Matilda Male* (15), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Sarah Male* (9), daughter, born Aldridge;
- [5] *Elizabeth Male* (7), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] *Gertrude Male* (5), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] *Jessie Male* (8 months), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [8] *Annie Huxley* (13), servant, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Licensing Sessions for this district took place at the Rushall Police Court on Monday morning. The magistrates present were Messrs. F. James, W. H. Brookes and J. Naylor.

Superintendent Barnett opposed the renewal of the licenses of the following beerhouses.....

BEEHIVE INN, Walsall Wood, in consequence of the premises being insufficiently defined. Renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1899

“Walsall & District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *John Male*, BEEHIVE INN, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Observer 11/8/1900

“On Monday last, the members of the ‘Pride of the Wood’ Lodge of the National United Order of Free Gardeners held their annual dinner. A procession was formed at the lodge house (the BEEHIVE INN), which was joined by the juvenile branch, and after parading the principal parts of the village marched to the church, where the Vicar (Rev. T. Beakes) preached a very interesting sermon. After the service the members proceeded to the Lodge house, where over thirty members partook of a capital dinner provided by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *J. Male*). Besides sitting down to dinner, the juveniles were regaled with tea in the school room.....”

1901 Census

Lichfield Road – BEEHIVE INN

- [1] *John Male* (47), publican, born Kingswinford;
- [2] Hannah Male (48), wife, born Stonnall, Staffordshire;
- [3] Lizzie Male (17), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] Gertie Male (15), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] Jessie Male (11), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] John Male (5), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] Florrie Male (8), daughter, born Walsall Wood:

It was rebuilt in 1902 after a fire.

Walsall Advertiser 29/5/1909

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for the temporary transfer of the licence of the BEEHIVE INN, Walsall Wood, from *George Lane* to *Noah Cresswell*.”

Lichfield Mercury 13/3/1926

“At the Adjourned Licensing Meeting for the Rushall Division on Monday, objections to two houses were considered..... With regard to the BEEHIVE INN, Hall Lane, Walsall Wood, Police-Inspector Skerratt stated that the population per license of the parish was 347, and the house was objected to on the ground of redundancy. The reasons why it was selected were that it was situated in a byelane and that trade was bad. The previous landlord, who left in December, said he only sold one barrel per week. The present tenant stated he was selling three barrels weekly. Mr. Jackson said it was almost impossible to get a new license in these days, and the amount fixed could not compensate a brewery company for the loss of a license. Before a license was taken away for redundancy it must be compared unfavourably with other houses – and there had been no comparison in this case – and it must not be selected haphazardly. For the Walsall Temperance Society, Mr. A. V. Haden opposed the renewal of the license. The houses were referred to the compensation authority.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/5/1926 - Notice

“Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Monday, the 28th day of June, 1926, at 11 o’clock am. And Notice is Hereby also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licenses of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list..... BEEHIVE, Walsall Wood. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee *John Claudius Bostock*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/7/1926

“No fewer than 34 licensed premises were scheduled for consideration at the Principal Meeting of the County Licensing Compensation Authority held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Monday. In 23 cases the authority decided to refer licenses for compensation, four were renewed, and the remaining seven were adjourned to be dealt with on July 12..... Mr. H. H. Jackson, of Walsall, applied for the renewal of the license of the BEEHIVE INN, Walsall Wood, an ante ’69 beerhouse. Mr. Frank Cooper, for the justices, stated that within 500 yards there were six other licensed houses, four being full, and two beer on licenses. The BEEHIVE was situate on a bye-road. On the occasion of the justices’ visit in December of last year, the then tenant said the trade had not been more than one barrel a week for two and a half years. Inspector Skerrett, replying to Mr. Jackson, said the premises were rebuilt a few years ago. A previous tenant told witness he had ‘lost his little all there’ and sold only a barrel a week. Mr. Jackson: You don’t believe all that tenants say to you? – Not always. You would not remain there two years and 10 months if you were not satisfied? – Sometimes you make a bad bargain, and you have got to stick to it. Further questioned, the Inspector said that on the day of his visit, the tenant had not sold a glass of beer or a packet of ‘wood-bines’ the whole day. Mr. Jackson, supporting the renewal, said the house belonged to the Lichfield Brewery Co, who had four houses on the list that day. They were anxious to retain the house, because they had spent a lot of money upon it, and it had great possibilities attaching to it. Mr. W. A. Wood, director of the company, said they had given up two licenses in the city of Lichfield. The BEEHIVE was in a growing district, and the trade was improving under new tenancy. In reply to Mr. Cooper, witness said he understood dances were held at the house. The Chairman announced that the license would be renewed.”

Closed

It was converted into flats.

Later it became offices known as Niken House.

BEEHIVE TAVERN

St. Pauls Row, (St. Paul Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Henry Bates [1841] – [1845]

NOTES

1841 Census

St. Paul Street

- [1] *Henry Bates* (35), plater and victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Bates* (25), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Thomas Bates* (8), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Elizabeth Bates* (5), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Edwin Bates* (8 months), born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Thomas Smith* (20), born Staffordshire;
- [7] *Ann Lingard* (15), born Staffordshire:

Henry Bates was also a plated and pot tinned bridle buckle manufacturer. [1845]

He was described as being also a buckle plater. [1842]

BELL

1, (59), Bell Lane / Stafford Road, (The Delves), Short Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Joseph Beech

William Hooker

City Brewery (Lichfield) Co. Ltd. (leased)

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1933]

New River Retail [2015]

LICENSEES

Samuel Beech Miller [1813]

Charles Beech [1818] – [1842]

Mrs. Ann Beech [1849] – [1851]

Joseph Beech [1858] – **1893**;

Samuel Thomas Taylor (**1893 – 1898**);

Mary Ann Taylor (**1898 – 1900**);

William Thomas Hooker (**1900 – 1933**);

Elizabeth Ann Hooker (**1933 – 1934**);

Edward William Brown (**1934 – 1953**);

Walter Joseph Gundy (**1953 – 1965**);

George Ernest Holmes (**1965 – 1967**);

Frank Birch (1967 – []

Janet Maria Moorcroft and Peter William 'Pete' Moorcroft [1994] – 2015)

NOTES

59, Bell Lane [1871]

1, Bell Lane [1881], [1891], [1901], [1932], [1940]

Stafford Road [1908]

BLUE BELL [1828], [1835], [1841], [1842], [1849], [1860], [1861], [1864], [1865]

BLUE BALL [1858] [probably a typo]

BELL [1881], [1894], [1944]

OLD BELL [1911]

BELL HOTEL [1940]

Samuel Beech Miller was also a maltster. [1813]

Charles Beech was also a locksmith. [1818]

1851 Census

BELL INN

[1] *Ann Beech* (73), widow, victualler, born Hensford [Hednesford?], Staffordshire;

[2] *Joseph Beech* (42), son, shoe maker, master, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Henry Beech* (32), son, shoe maker, deaf and dumb, born Bloxwich:

Joseph Beech = *Joseph Birch* = *Joseph Peech*

Walsall Free Press 22/9/1860

“The activity of the inspector of weights and measures in detecting, and the magistrates in punishing, this species of offence, cannot be too highly commended. Perseverance in such a course will not fail to result in the breaking up and suppression of a system of swindling too prevalent in our neighbourhood, by which the poorer classes are openly and shamefully defrauded.

We have to record the convictions of four offenders in this class *Joseph Beech*, the BELL INN, Bloxwich, ten unjust measures. All the parties were fined 1s and costs, and cautioned.”

1861 Census

Bell Lane – BELL INN

[1] *Joseph Beech* (52), unmarried, publican, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Henry Beech* (40), brother, boot and shoe maker, deaf and dumb, born Bloxwich:

1871 Census

59, Bell Lane – BELL INN

[1] *Joseph Beech* (60), victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Elizabeth Beech* (39), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Ellen Beech* (8), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Annie Beech* (5), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[5] *Joseph Beech* (1), son, born Bloxwich;

[6] *Charlotte Hyde* (17), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;

[7] *Henry Beech* (40), brother, deaf and dumb, born Bloxwich:

1881 Census

1, Bell Lane – BELL INN

[1] *Joseph Beech* (70), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Elizabeth Beech* (49), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Ellen Beech* (18), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Ann Beech* (15), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[5] *Joseph Beech* (11), son, born Bloxwich:

1891 Census

1, Bell Lane

[1] *Joseph Beech* (85), widower, publican, born Bloxwich;

[2] *E. Cartwright* (34), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[3] *A. Parker* (25), daughter, widow, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Joseph C. Beech* (21), son, born Bloxwich;

- [5] A. Cartwright (37), son in law, born Staffordshire;
[6] Joseph Beech (10), son, born Bloxwich;
[7] A. B. Cartwright (4), grandchild, born Bloxwich;
[8] A. H. T. Cartwright (3), grandson, born Bloxwich;
[9] Tryphena Morgan (30), domestic servant, deaf and dumb, born Cheslyn Hay:

Birmingham Daily Post 14/5/1891

“At the Walsall Guildhall yesterday, Joseph Hancox, the KING WILLIAM INN, Bloxwich, and Richard Hancox, his brother, New Town, were summoned for having assaulted Arthur Cartwright, the BELL INN, Bloxwich, and Cartwright and Joseph *Beech* jun, also of the BELL INN, were summoned for having assaulted Joseph Hancox. Mr. Cotterell appeared for Cartwright and *Beech*, and Mr. H. H. Jackson for the other parties.

Cartwright’s case was to the effect that he reached home at eleven o’clock on the night of the 5th inst, and went into the stable to put up his horse. His wife came and began to push him about, which was a very common thing with her, and the elder Hancox entered and also assaulted him, the younger one coming in later and behaving in like manner. Joseph Hancox forced his way into the house, but was put out by the complainant’s father-in-law, Mr. *Beech*, sen, the keeper of the house; and subsequently complainant found his wife and Hancox together, first in the stable, and afterwards some distance along the road. He was then assaulted again by his wife, a very powerful woman, holding him so that he could not strike back. She did not return to his home that night. The case on the other side was that the brothers Hancox were driving past the BELL INN, when they heard Mrs. Cartwright screaming, and on the elder one going in to find out what was the matter he saw her on the floor, and her husband holding her down. He released her, and was assaulted by her husband, and also by her brother, Joseph *Beech*, who struck him on the head with a poker or bar of iron.

The magistrates, without hearing all the witnesses in court, dismissed the summonses against Cartwright and *Beech*, and fined the other two – Joseph Hancox 40s and costs, or twenty-one days’ imprisonment; and Richard Hancox 5s and costs, or ten days’ imprisonment.”

Joseph Beech was fined £3 and costs, on 1st January 1892, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The Chief-constable then gave formal notice that he intended to oppose the renewal of the following licenses.....

The BELL INN, Bloxwich, kept by *Joseph Birch*, the reasons being that he had been convicted for permitting drunkenness, and that the house was not needed by the requirements of the neighbourhood.”

Walsall Observer 1/10/1892

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday.....

Mr. Alfred Young (instructed by Mr. Gillespie) applied on behalf of *Joseph Beech* for the renewal of the license of the BELL INN, Bloxwich, this being one of the cases adjourned from the annual licensing day. Opposition was then raised by the Chief-constable on the ground that the landlord had been fined £3 and costs for permitting drunkenness, and that the house was not needed in the neighbourhood.

The Chief-constable now said there was another matter not referred to in his notices with which the magistrates were familiar, as to which he asked for an assurance from Mr. Young that it should at once be put right. Should this be done he would withdraw his objection.

Mr. Young said that without publicity indicating the matter referred to by Mr. Taylor, he might give a complete assurance that steps should at once be taken for putting any further cause of complaint. The applicant would also take the first opportunity of disposing of the house. Mr. Young added that *Beech* was 88 years of age, and his house was the oldest licensed house in the neighbourhood.

The Mayor announced that the Bench would hear all the cases before giving judgement Renewed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing session for Walsall borough took place yesterday.....

The Chief Constable opposed the renewal of the license of the BELL INN, Bloxwich, to *Joseph Beech*, on the grounds of a conviction for permitting drunkenness, that the occupants were not persons of good character, that the house was of a disorderly character, and that the license was not required. Mr. A. Young (instructed by Mr. Ashmall, Lichfield) appeared for the Lichfield Brewery Company, and Mr. Willcock for *Beech*. It was stated that the objectionable person had left, and that the house had been let to the Lichfield Brewery Company on a long lease.....”

Walsall Advertiser 26/5/1894

“On Monday evening last the players of Bloxwich Strollers Football Club were invited to dinner by Mr. and Mrs. *Taylor*, of the BELL INN, to celebrate their winning the Wolverhampton Junior Charity Cup. The team sat down to a capital spread provided by their worthy host and hostess, and after full justice had been done to the good things provided, the cloth was withdrawn, and Mr. C. Nicholls was voted to the chair, and R. Phillips to the vice-chair.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

“Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson submitted plans for the rebuilding of the BELL, near Bloxwich. The decision was deferred.....
The Bench deliberated in private for some time, and on their return into court announced that all the other applications would be granted.”

Samuel Thomas Taylor was fined £1 and costs, on 15th September 1897, for selling adulterated whisky.

Mary Ann Taylor died in 1900.

William Thomas Hooker was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

It was demolished circa 1900.

It was rebuilt.

1901 Census

1, Bell Lane

[1] *William T. Hooker* (41), public house manager, born Pelsall;

[2] Elizabeth Hooker (36), wife, born Pelsall;

[3] William C. Hooker (17), public house assistant, born Pelsall;

[4] Gertrude C. Hooker (7), daughter, born Pelsall;

[5] Howard Hooker (3), son, born Walsall;

[6] Alice Orgill (19), general servant, born Walsall:

1911 Census

Bloxwich – BELL INN

[1] *William T. Hooker* (51), licensed victualler, born Pelsall;

[2] Elizabeth A. Hooker (47), wife, married 28 years, assisting in the business, born Pelsall;

[3] William C. Hooker (27), son, assisting in the business, born Pelsall;

[4] Gertrude S. Hooker (17), daughter, assisting in the business, born Pelsall;

[5] Howard Hooker (13), son, school, born Walsall;

[6] Frank H. Hooker (8), son, school, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BELL, Bloxwich. £1 16s 7d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/5/1925

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Monday, before a full Bench. Applications were made for the renewal of the BIRD IN HAND, James Street; BUILDER’S ARMS, Wisemore; BELL INN, Stafford Street, and the BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street, which had been objected to under the Compensation clause, and had stood over for plans for alterations to be submitted. It was stated that the justices’ requirements had been met except in the case of the BELL INN. In this case Mr. H. A. Tucker (barrister) appeared, and pointed out that the house was owned by a widow who was dependant for her livelihood upon the rent for it, and was in a position to carry out structural alterations. He further explained that it was an ante ’69 beerhouse, doing a large trade, and that structural matters were not a ground for taking away the license. Apart from this he urged the premises, which had been recently decorated, were in good order.

The Clerk (Mr. S. E. Croxton): But the justices have already decided otherwise – Mr. Tucker replied that to carry out the alterations would necessitate re-building the whole of the premises.

Mr. A. D. Cozens (chairman): The Licensing Committee have decided definitely that they will have better domestic accommodation in licensed houses. If you are going to fight the Licensing Committee I am afraid we shall have trouble.

Mr. Tucker remarked that if the license was taken away the necessary payment would be a large one.

Mr. Cozens: You are prepared to run the risk of the Committee’s decision? – Mr. Tucker: Oh, yes, but I ask for the renewal of the license.

The justices, after a brief retirement, renewed the whole of the licenses, but with regard to the BELL INN intimated that it was only provisionally renewed for a year to enable the committee to consider the question of alterations.”

Walsall Observer 16/9/1939

“We are going to assist the authorities in carrying out the lighting restrictions,’ said Mr. H. Hucker, presiding magistrate at Walsall Guildhall on Monday, when the first local prosecutions under the blackout regulations were before the court.

Four of the five defendants in the five cases were publicans and three were each fined 20s, the fourth was ordered to pay 4s costs.....

Against *Edward William Brown* (50), licensee of the BELL INN, High Street, Bloxwich, evidence was given by Special Constable J. W. Wood that an obscured light shining from a passage through a doorway illuminated the footpath to the width of a foot on the night of September 5.

Mr. Hodgkinson: It was due, probably to a customer leaving the door open? – Witness: Yes, sir.

Mr. Hodgkinson pointed out to the Bench that the charge was one of unlawfully causing lights to be displayed, whereas the Special Constable had said the door was probably left open by a customer. 'The fact that there is a war and there are emergency regulations will not, I am sure,' he added, 'affect your judgement. If it did, we are wasting our time fighting this war, because we should be in the same position as the other side. Defendant started his black-out arrangements before hostilities began. He is a man who was in the last war and was gassed, so he knows what these things mean; and he is the kind of man who would take every possible precaution.'

'We think in this case,' the presiding magistrate announced, 'that an honest attempt was made to black-out, and that payment of 4s costs will meet the case.'

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BELL INN, Bloxwich, £5 7s 6d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BELL INN, Bloxwich. £1 10s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BELL INN, Bloxwich. £6 8s 3d."

[2017]

BELL

Birmingham Road, Great Barr, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired c.1920)

Ember Inns

LICENSEES

William Instone [1841] – [1851]

John Partridge [] – **1870**);

Mrs. Helen (Ellen) Partridge (**1870** – [1871]

William Boonham [1891]

Thomas Watts [1901] – [1903]

Andrew Barnes [1904]

Alfred Neale [1906] – [1913]

Frederick Ernest Selby [1928] – **1957**);

Susan Elizabeth Selby (**1957**);

Selwyn Holden (**1957** – **1962**);

Frank Samuel Moseley (**1962** – **1964**);

Murray Smith (**1964** – **1966**);

Frank Bambrook (**1966** – **1967**);

George Carlin (**1967** – [1968]

Simon Crosswell [2004]

NOTES

It was situated on the turnpike road to Great Barr and Birmingham.

BELL TAVERN [1841], [1851]

William Instone was also a carpenter. [1841]

William Instone = Wiliam Inston

1841 Census

BELL TAVERN

- [1] *William Inston* (65), publican and carpenter, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Inston (65);
- [3] Henry Inston (6):

1851 Census

BELL TAVERN

- [1] *William Inston* (75), carpenter (master) and victualler, born Kingswinford;
- [2] Elizabeth Inston (75) wife, born Whitacre, Warwickshire;
- [3] Henry Inston (16), grandson, general servant, born Birmingham:

Walsall Free Press 5/11/1870

“The license of the BELL INN, on the Birmingham Road, Great Barr, was transferred from the late *John Partridge* to his widow *Ellen Partridge*.”

1871 Census

Birmingham Road – BELL INN

- [1] *Helen Partridge* (41), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah A. Willner (17), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1879 - Register of Sales

“Tuesday, Sep. 9th – Stock Sale at the BELL INN, Birmingham Road.”

Evening Express 9/5/1881

“Frederick Mirtchkin, of Prince Albert Square, pleaded guilty to stealing two trusses of hay from the BELL INN, Birmingham Road.

Being recommended to mercy by the owner of the hay, Mr. William Beecham, he was sentenced to only 10 days’ imprisonment.”

Wednesbury Herald 18/6/1881

“On Monday, Mr. Edwin Hooper (District Coroner), held an inquest at the BELL INN, Birmingham Road, Great Barr, near Wednesbury, as to the death of Paul Martin (70), labourer of Hill Top, who had been found drowned in the Birmingham Canal. The evidence showed that on the morning of the 9th inst the deceased, who was of unsound mind, was seen wandering about the fields of Great Barr, and shortly afterwards his dead body was found in the canal.

There was no evidence to show how deceased got into the canal, and the jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

1891 Census

Birmingham Road – BELL INN

- [1] *William Boonham* (49), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Priscilla Boonham (50), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] John W. Boonham (17), son, currier’s apprentice, born Walsall;
- [4] Annie Boonham (18), daughter, pupil teacher, born Walsall;
- [5] Richard J. Boonham (15), son, pupil teacher, born Walsall;
- [6] Martha P. Boonham (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Ellen M. Boonham (11), daughter, scholar, born Great Barr;
- [8] Edith S. Boonham (8), daughter, scholar, born Great Barr;
- [9] Arthur S. Boonham (5), son, scholar, born Great Barr;
- [10] Phyllis Dace (19), visitor, born Walsall:

1901 Census

Birmingham Road – The BELL INN

- [1] *Thomas Watts* (41), public house manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] Laura Fidelia Watts (52), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Margaret Bayley (88), mother in law, widow, born Blymhill, Staffordshire;
- [4] Sarah Watts (66), mother, widow, born Northampton:

Tipton Herald 19/6/1909

“The dead body of a man was on Monday afternoon recovered from the Birmingham Canal at Great Barr. Upon the clothing being searched, letters addressed to B. Stead, 17, Victoria Street, Wednesbury, were found in his possession. Inquiries were made,

and subsequently the body was identified as that of Benjamin Stead, a traveller in the employ of the Universal Tea Company, Market Place, Wednesbury. The unfortunate man was last seen alive at 8.20 on Monday morning, when he left his home in Victoria Street, to catch a train to Birmingham.

An inquest was held on Wednesday morning at the BELL INN, Birmingham Road, near Walsall, by Mr. G. C. Lewis.

Walter E. Tibbets, retired school master, stated that deceased was his nephew, and had lived at his house in Victoria Street, Wednesbury, for some 22 years. Deceased had been in the service of the Universal Tea Company for about 22 years, and at the time of his death was a shop inspector for the firm. He had a wife and two children. Witness had never seen any sign of trouble, nor had he ever heard of deceased doing or saying anything which might lead to taking his life.

Alexander McGregor, Walsall, said he saw the body floating in the water of the Birmingham Canal on Monday afternoon, and informed the police.

Harry Kendal, a boy, spoke to having found a leather handbag near the canal.

PC Yeomans produced the handbag, which had since been identified as belonging to deceased. A letter found in the bag, written by deceased and addressed to his wife, was also produced and read by the Coroner. The communication contained the following extracts:

‘Sorry to give you pain. As you know the last month I have been miserable. I found out this week that another man had offered to do my job for 35s a week, and I have no alternative but to accept same or leave. You know how impossible it would be for me to support you and the home and keep myself during the week. You know the money I have to spend, and what a lot I had to do with it; therefore, I have been compelled to borrow at times It hurts me greatly to part, but I don’t see what else I can do.’

In reply to the jury, the Coroner remarked that it did not always follow that because a person committed suicide he or she was really insane.

After consultation the jury returned a verdict of Suicide while Temporarily Insane.”

1911 Census

Great Barr – BELL HOTEL

[1] *Alfred Neale* (40), engineer’s patternmaker, born Saltley, Warwickshire;

[2] *Gertrude Neale* (38), wife, married 13 years, born Walsall;

[3] *Frederick Neale* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Phyliss Neale* (7), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Reemie Neale* (4 months), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] *Lilly Neale* (19), sister, visitor, born Saltley, Warwickshire;

[7] *Lizabeth Kennedy* (31), barmaid, born Walsall;

[8] *Alice Ward* (28), domestic servant, born Stockton on Tees, Yorkshire:

[*Gertrude was known as Gertie.*]

It came under the jurisdiction of Rushall until 1st April 1931.

It was demolished.

Rebuilt

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions. . . .

BELL INN, Birmingham Street. £1 12s 3d.”

[2017]

BELL AND CUCKOO

19, Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Mary Whitehouse, 28, Green Lane, Walsall

George Thompson, Dandys Walk, Walsall

G. A. Thompson, Birmingham Road, Walsall

Lucy Smith [1925]

N. S. Dawson, WATERING TROUGH, Walsall

Gordon Dawson, WATERING TROUGH, Walsall

Edwin Holden Bottling Co. Ltd. (acquired on 18th February 1958)

Samuel Hammond, ‘Westlands’, Vicarage Road, Coseley (acquired on 22nd January 1960)

Yates Bros. Wine Lodge, Manchester (acquired on 6th May 1966)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

E Whitehouse* [1853] – [1858]
Levi Willetts [1861] – [1862]
Daniel Taylor [1864] – [1865]
Enoch Whitehouse* [1868] – [1881];
Edward Smith [1883] – 1900;
Mrs. Lucy Smith (1900 – 1927);
Leonard Smith (1927 – 1936);
Alexander Arthur Birch (1936 – 1955);
Ivor Edwin Gardner (1955 – 1956);
Joan Carey (1956 – 1960);
Martha Audern (1960 – [1966]
Raymond Leslie Moore [1996]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It had brewing plant and a malthouse at the rear.

* possibly the same person

Birmingham Journal 3/1/1853

“....The Chairman and Secretary [of the Birmingham Brewers’ Protection Society] then announced that by special invitation they had gone over to Walsall, where by the active exertions of Messrs. Falkner, Whitehouse, Smith, and Arch, members of the trade resident in that town, a Protection Society of retail brewers had been formed there. At the general meeting, held at Mr. *Whitehouse’s*, BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street, on the 8th of December last, upwards of twenty persons had put down their names.....”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 13/11/1853

“Thomas Mousley will run Stepfine of Dudley one mile level, or take 20 yards in two miles, or 30 yards in one mile of young Jones of Dudley, or run S. Jones of the Lye waste one mile, or Perry of Bloxwich his own distance level, or give Lawrence of Harden 30 yards start in one mile. A match can be made at E. Whitehouse’s, the BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street, Walsall, for £5 or £10 a side, on Tuesday night next; to run on a turnpike road.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 13/12/1854

“John Atkins of Birmingham will run Craddock of Bloxwich one mile level, for £10 a side, if he will give him 10 yards start. Atkins will be at the BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street, Walsall, tomorrow (Monday) night, prepared to stake and make match.”

E. Whitehouse, beerhouse, 19, Stafford Street. [1858]

1861 Census

19, Stafford Street – BELL AND CUCKOO

- [1] *Levi Willetts* (25), beer seller and chainmaker, born Dudley;
- [2] Sarah Willetts (23), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Pamela Willetts (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Alfred Willetts (2), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Samuel Williams (23), lodger, chainmaker, born Dudley;
- [6] Mary Bowley (14), visitor, born Walsall:

Levi Willetts, retailer of beer, 19, Stafford Street. [1862]

Daniel Taylor, beer retailer and cart gear and chain maker, 19, Stafford Street. [1864], [1865]

Enoch Whitehouse, beer retailer, 19, Stafford Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

19, Stafford Street – BELL AND CUCKOO

- [1] *Enoch Whitehouse* (49), beerhouse keeper, born Blakenall, Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Whitehouse (45), wife, born Rushall;
- [3] Isabella Whitehouse (17), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] James Whitehouse (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Martha Whitehouse (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Alice Whitehouse (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Enoch Whitehouse (2), son, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/12/1872

“*Enoch Whitehouse*, of the BELL AND CUCKOO INN, Stafford Street, pleaded guilty to having sold liquor at half-past nine o'clock on Sunday morning, and was fined 20s and costs.
James Mangreaves, the person to whom the liquor was sold, was also fined 20s and costs.”

Enoch Whitehouse was fined 20s and costs, on 25th March 1874, for Sunday trading.

1881 Census

19, Stafford Street

- [1] *Enoch Whitehouse* (59), beerhouse keeper, born Blakenhall, Staffordshire;
 - [2] Elizabeth Whitehouse (54), wife, born Daw End, Staffordshire;
 - [3] James Whitehouse (22), son, shackle maker, born Walsall;
 - [4] Alice Whitehouse (15), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [5] Enoch Whitehouse (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
 - [6] William Cooper (33), son in law, widower, bridle cutter, born Walsall;
 - [7] David Cooper (13), grandson, scholar, born Walsall:
- [It appears that William Cooper married Isabella Whitehouse, who had died by the census.]

Walsall Advertiser 11/3/1883

“Walsall Licensed Victualler Association.....

It was unanimously decided that the Society should be represented at the Demonstration, to be held on Tuesday next, 14th instant, at 2.30pm, at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, to protest against the Liquor Traffic (Local Control) Bill, and Mr. *E. Smith* (BELL AND CUCKOO INN, Stafford Street), Mr. W. O. Letts (BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street), and Mr. H. Smallwood (VINE INN, Blue Lane) each of whom promised to oppose the measure, were chosen as the delegates.”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/1/1891

“Yesterday Mr. T. H. Stanley held an inquest at the BELL AND CUCKOO INN, Stafford Street, on the body of Florence Booker (3), who was killed in Stafford Street on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Elliot (Messrs. Duignan and Elliot) and Mr. Sutton (traffic manager) were present on behalf of the company.

At the outset of the proceedings Mr. Wiggins attended with a memorial, signed by many of the shopkeepers in the neighbourhood, representing that there was much danger to the public from the rapid passage of the trams along the street, and urging that the bell should be rung when the engine was approaching the junctions with side streets.

Several witnesses were examined whose evidence bore out the statement already published that as the tram was running along the lower end of Stafford Street the child started to cross the road in front of the tram, and that, her perilous position being observed, a woman (Theresa Hawkins) made a dash to save her, but either slipped or fell, or was knocked down by the side of the engine, which passed over the child. The side of the engine was then opened and the poor little creature's remains taken out in two parts. The witnesses agreed that the tram was going at the ordinary speed, and that it was stopped quickly.

The driver, John Cockayne, said he saw the child about four feet from the metals and three yards from his engine, and he also saw Mrs. Hawkins make an attempt at rescue. He reversed his engine, but he was over the child immediately. There was a protector to the engine, but it was at the back end on this occasion, owing to the engine having to be turned at Bloxwich.

Considerable discussion followed among the jury, in the course of which it was urged that the authorities should be more stringently enforce the bye-laws against the company.

Ultimately, a verdict of Accidental Death was returned, coupled with a recommendation that in future life protectors should be placed at both ends of the engine.

Mr. Elliot promised that the representations of the jury should be placed before the directors.”

1891 Census

19, Stafford Street

- [1] *Edward Smith* (46), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Lucy Smith* (44), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Jane Smith (23), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Ernest Smith (15), son, errand boy, born Walsall;
- [5] Florence Smith (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Alfred Smith (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Violet Smith (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Minnie Smith (3), daughter, born Walsall;

[9] *Leonard Smith* (9 months), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 24/3/1894 - Advert

“For Sale, one small Brewing of Grains weekly.
Apply BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

Edward Smith, beer retailer, 19, Stafford Street. [1896]

1901 Census

19, Stafford Street

- [1] *Lucy Smith* (51), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Blakenall;
- [2] Edith F. Smith (25), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [3] Ernest Smith (23), son, printing machine minder, born Walsall;
- [4] Alfred Smith (21), son, house painter, born Walsall;
- [5] Violet Smith (15), daughter, clothier's assistant, born Walsall;
- [6] Mnnie Smith (13), daughter;
- [7] *Leonard Smith* (10), son:

Mrs. *Lucy Smith*, beer retailer and brewer, 19, Stafford Street. [1904], [1912]

1911 Censsus

19, Stafford Street

- [1] *Lucy Smith* (61), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Blakenall;
- [2] Ernest Smith (33), son, brewer, born Walsall;
- [3] Alfred Smith (31), son, decorator, born Walsall;
- [4] Violet Smith (25), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Minnie Smith (23), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Leonard Smith* (20), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Edith Smith (9), granddaughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
BELL AND CUCKOO INN, Stafford Street. £1 11s 7d.”

South Staffordshire Times 3/2/1922

“Prosecutions against publicans for giving over-measure were heard at Walsall Police Court on Wednesday, when *Lucy Smith*, of the BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street, was summoned for selling to Jessie Carless an amount of beer exceeding the measure she asked for (one pint), on January 20th. Violet Smith, of the same address, was summoned for aiding and abetting. The Bench fined *Lucy* £2 and ordered Violet Smith to pay the costs.”

Lucy Smith was fined 40s and 21s 6d costs, on 31st January 1923, giving the long pull.

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst..... the following were adjourned for plans of alterations to be submitted.....
BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/5/1925

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Monday, before a full Bench. Applications were made for the renewal of the BIRD IN HAND, James Street; BUILDER'S ARMS, Wisemore; BELL INN, Stafford Street, and the BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street, which had been objected to under the Compensation clause, and had stood over for plans for alterations to be submitted. It was stated that the justices' requirements had been met except in the case of the BELL INN The justices, after a brief retirement, renewed the whole of the licenses, but with regard to the BELL INN intimated that it was only provisionally renewed for a year to enable the committee to consider the question of alterations.”

1939 Register

19, Stafford Street

- [1] *Alexander Birch*, date of birth 28/2/1887, public innkeeper, married;
- [2] Elizabeth Birch, dob 18/1/1889, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Jenny (Birch) Wilcox, dob 24/11/1914, fancy leather worker, single;
- [4] Mabel (Birch) Macneillie, dob 29/12/1922, shop assistant, single;
- [5] George Birch, dob 23/4/1928, at school, single;
- [6] Thomas Birch, dob 9/4/1895, iron moulder, single:

Walsall Observer 11/12/1943

“There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held on Thursday.....

Mr. *Alexander Birch*, BELL AND CUCKOO INN, Stafford Street, was elected a member of the society.”

A full license was granted on 3rd March 1960.

Its name was changed to YATES WINE LODGE in May 1966.

Its name was changed to TRAD’S [1984]

Its name was changed to OLD MOORE’S [1996]

London Gazette 29/10/1996

“*Moore, Raymond Leslie*, Publican, of OLD MOORES, 19 Stafford Street, Walsall, West Midlands WS2 8DG.

Court: Walsall.

Date of Filing Petition: 30th May 1996.

Date of Bankruptcy Order: 28th August 1996.

Whether Debtor’s or Creditor’s Petition: Creditor’s.

Official Receiver: 1st and 2nd Floors, Ladywood House, 45-46 Stephenson Street, Birmingham B2 4UP.”

It was put up for sale in 1996.

Name changed to CUCKOO AND BELL [2002]

[2012]

BELLE VUE

29, (139), Moat Road, (Moat Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

George Boys

Mrs. J. C. Boys, widow, Wednesfield

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (leased from 8th June 1893)

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1952]

LICENSEES

Joseph Taylor [1867] – **1868)**

George Noakes [1868]

George Boys [1869] – [1881]

Mrs. Elizabeth Boys [1882] – **1906);**

James Thomas McGill **(1906 – 1907);**

Albert William Hicklin **(1907 – 1910);**

Mrs. Ruth Hicklin **(1910 – 1917);**

John Henry Jeffrey **(1917 – 1923);**

Alfred Henry Beard **(1923 – 1926);**

William Pritchard **(1926 – 1927);**

William Henry Ryder **(1927 – []**

Harold John Doughty [1936] – **1942);**

William Arthur Edwards **(1942);**

Jesse Tonks **(1942 – 1943);**

John Joseph Wardle **(1943 – 1951);**

George William Harris **(1951 – 1954);**

George Edward Smith **(1954 – 1959);**

Cyril Lees **(1959 – [1962]**

NOTES

Moat Street [1871], [1881]
139, Moat Road [1891], [1911]

It was originally an unnamed beerhouse.

BELLE VUE HOTEL [1871], [1911]

It had a beer, cider and wine license, and also a refreshment license.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/9/1863

“Thomas Bradley and Michael Gateley were charged with having on Tuesday last assaulted Police-constable Middleton in the execution of his duty. The officer had been called to eject the prisoners and some other Irishmen from the refreshment rooms at the Moat Gardens, where they were creating a disturbance. On getting outside the building Bradley went behind the officer and pulled him down, and then both prisoners assaulted him. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, ordered the prisoner Bradley to pay a fine of £5, or in default to be imprisoned for two months; and Gateley to pay a fine of £2, or in default to be imprisoned for one month.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....
Henry Boys, the Moat Gardens.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1864

“Annual Licensing Session. Applications for new licenses.....

Mr. Glover applied for a license for the refreshment rooms at the Moat Gardens, tenanted by Mr. Henry Boys. Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 19/5/1866 - Advert

“Moat Gardens, Walsall.

Joseph Taylor begs respectfully to inform the public that he has taken these Beautiful Gardens for the Season, which will be Open every Evening.

Refreshments of the best quality will be provided.

Comic Vocalists will be constantly engaged.

Music for Dancing on the Green and in the Room.”

Walsall Free Press 14/7/1866 - Advert

“Moat Gardens, Walsall.

Mr. Henry Boys begs to inform the public and gentry of Walsall and Neighbourhood, that he has a large Collection of Stove, Greenhouse, and Bedding Plants to Dispose of, parties requiring the same will be admitted free on application. Cucumbers Cut Daily.

Apply to the Gardener.”

Walsall Free Press 23/2/1867 - Notice

“Notice Of Removal

Mr. *J. Taylor*, begs to inform the members of the No.2 Permanent Money Society (now held at the IRISH HARP, Long Street) and the public generally, that the above Society will be held at the BELLEVUE HOTEL, Moat Street, Walsall, on or after Tuesday, March 5th, 1867.”

Walsall Free Press 16/3/1867 - Advert

“Belle Vue Gardens, Moat Street, Walsall.

Mr. *Joseph Taylor* begs to inform his friends and the public of Walsall and Neighbourhood, he has a splendid lot of Cucumber Plants For Sale; also a large lot of Cauliflower Plants. Bouquets cut daily. Camelias, Cinerarias and a great variety of other Plants in Flower.

Joseph Taylor, Sole Proprietor.”

Walsall Free Press 16/3/1867 - Advert

“No.2, Permanent Money Society, BELLE VUE HOTEL, Moat St., Walsall

‘Mr. *Taylor*, Trustee to the above Society’ begs to inform the public that the Dividends have been very satisfactory since the commencement of the society. Any Person becoming a Member will oblige the Committee; and any information required may be obtained from the Secretary.

G. Motteram. 26, Long Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 6/4/1867 - Advert

“Belle Vue Gardens, Moat Street, Walsall.

Mr. *J. Taylor* begs to inform the gentry and public of Walsall and surrounding neighbourhood, that he intends Opening his beautiful and extensive Tea And Pleasure Gardens, for the season, on Easter Monday. The spacious conservatory, cucumber house, vinery, &c. filled with the choicest exotics will be thrown open to visitors. A large and spacious Hotel has recently been erected on the grounds. Refreshments provided for visitors, in the spacious dining rooms of the Hotel. A celebrated brass band has been engaged for the occasion. Admission: Threepence Returned in Refreshments, Flowers, or Plants. N.B. Good Stabling.”

Walsall Free Press 27/4/1867

“Belle Vue Gardens. These beautiful pleasure gardens, which have undergone extensive alterations and improvements since they came into the possession of the present proprietor, Mr. *J. Taylor*, were opened for the season on Monday last. The day being very favourable, the inauguration by the new proprietor proved a decided success. Upwards of 1,000 visitors inspected the grounds and expressed themselves highly gratified with the improvements which have been carried out at a vast expense. In addition to the large conservatory, cucumber-house, and vinery, Mr. *Taylor* has erected a spacious hotel, with rooms for the accommodation of large or small parties. In the course of the day the Alma Tube Works’ band performed at intervals, and dancing was kept up with much spirit till closing time.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 31/8/1867

“Walsall General Licensing Day new applications..... Mr. Matthews applied on behalf of Mr. *Joseph Taylor*, Belle Vue Gardens, Moat Street. The Bench after a short consultation returned into Court, and announced their intention to refuse all the applications.”

London Gazette 28/8/1868

“*Joseph Taylor*, of No.25, Long-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, out of business, previously of the Moat Gardens, Walsall aforesaid, Beerhouse Keeper, and Bridle Bit Maker, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in Her Majesty’s Court of Bankruptcy for the Birmingham District, on the 24th day of August, 1868, is hereby required to surrender himself to Owen Davies Tudor, Esq., a Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 9th day of September next, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely, at the said Court, at Birmingham. Mr. George Kinnear, of Waterloo-rooms, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. F. M. Burton, of Birmingham, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

[An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 14th day of April, 1869.]

Joseph Taylor – see also IRISH HARP.

George Noakes = George Noaks = George Noake

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 12/9/1868

“Bellevue Grounds, Moat Road, Walsall. Mr. *Noake*, the proprietor of the above grounds, will give £6 10s to be run for in an All England Handicap race of 125 yards, to take place on Walsall wake Monday and Tuesday, Sept 21 and 22. Entries 1s each no acceptances made to Mr. Middlebrook, TEDDESLEY ARMS, Walsall; Chidlow, OLD QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; Russell, Bloxwich; or at the grounds. Any one entering falsely disqualified.”

Walsall Free Press 12/9/1868

“*George Noaks*, landlord of the BELL VUE HOTEL, was fined 20s and costs, for having had sixteen men drinking in his place at half-past eleven on Sunday morning.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 19/12/1868 - Advert

“Walsall. BELLE VUE HOTEL, with Moat Pleasure Garden.

To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Farrington and Son, on Tuesday, the 5th day of January, 1869, at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, at Five for Six o’clock in the evening, the above-mentioned Premises. Leasehold for a term of ninety-two years from the 25th day of March, 1866, together with the valuable Conservatories, Vineries, Statuary and other ornamental Erections, suitable for pleasure grounds, containing nearly three Acres ornamentally planted and laid out.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/1/1869 - Advert

“Messrs. Farrington and Son are instructed to Offer by Public Auction, at the GEORGE HOTEL, in Walsall, at five for six in the evening, subject to conditions, all that substantially-built Inn or Public House and Premises, known as the BELLE VUE, pleasantly situated near to the South Staffordshire Reservoir, and to the Wednesbury and Wolverhampton turnpike roads, and late in the occupation of Mr. *Taylor*.

The House contains spacious liquor shop, two parlours, taproom, kitchen, clubroom, bedrooms, excellent cellars, brewery, upper and lower workshops, entire yard, and other conveniences; together with the spacious wooden erection adjoining, used as a dancing and singing saloon; dancing platform; tastefully laid-out pleasure grounds, surrounded by a moat well stocked with fish; alcoves and seats; several beautiful fountains, supplied from the South Staffordshire Waterworks; several handsome conservato-

ries, vineries; forcing houses, covered with Hartley's Patent Plate, the whole fitted up with iron pipes for heating and forcing by hot water; large kitchen garden &c....."

Walsall Free Press 9/1/1869 - Advert

"BELLE VUE HOTEL & Moat Gardens.

To Be Let, with all Tenants Fixtures. Possession immediately.

Apply to Messrs. Farrington and Son, Auctioneer; or to Messrs. J. & G. G. Potter, Solicitors, The Bridge, Walsall."

Walsall Free Press 15/5/1869

"The Moat Gardens. As will be seen by a notice in our advertising columns, this place of public resort will be re-opened on Monday next (Whit Monday), on which occasion an excellent instrumental band will be in attendance. The vines are in splendid condition, and it is the intention of Mr. *George Boys*, the present proprietor, to have the greenhouses replenished with the choicest plants and flowers. The gardens are also to be ornamented and rendered more attractive, as it is the wish of the proprietor to render them a handsome promenade, so that the public (against whom the gates of the Cemetery are closed in the evening, and who have no prospect of procuring a public park) may have a place for recreation."

Walsall Free Press 28/8/1869 - Advert

"Moat Gardens. *George Boys* begs to announce that the above Gardens are now open.

Large quantities of Grapes now ready for Sale.

Refreshments of Superior Quality."

[The above advert was repeated for several months.]

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

"Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday applications for new licenses for the sale of spirits.....

Mr. Glover appeared to support the application of *George Boys*, landlord of the BELLE VUE beerhouse, Moat Street, and pointed out the peculiar adaptability of the premises, and the suitability of the applicant, who, being a Walsall man, was well known to the bench.

The Mayor announced that the Bench had decided not to grant any new licenses this year."

George Boys married *Elizabeth* Maybury in the 4th quarter of 1869.

1871 Census

Moat Street – BELLE VUE HOTEL

- [1] *George Boys* (43), coal dealer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Boys* (32), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah Boys (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] John Boys (15), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Jane Boys (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Thomas Boys (9), son, born Walsall;
- [7] George M. Boys (6 months), born Walsall;
- [8] Emma Berry (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/8/1873

"The annual licensing sessions took place at the Guildhall yesterday applicants for old licences.....

George Boys, the MOAT TAVERN, Moat Street refused, the necessary advertisements not having been issued."

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/6/1875

"On Tuesday afternoon *George Mabry Boys*, aged four years, son on *George* and *Elizabeth Boys*, of the BELLE VUE IN, Moat-street, strayed away from his sister, with whom he was walking round the reservoir, and on a search being made his lifeless body was found in the water."

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

"Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

Mr. Glover asked for a victualling licence for *George Boys*, of the BELLE VUE HOTEL, Moat Street, and stated that during the many years the applicant had kept the Moat Gardens many thousands of persons had asked him for spirits.....

The magistrates retired, and on their return into court stated that the licensing justices would visit the houses of *George Boys* and would give their decision at the Adjourned Licensing Session."

Walsall Advertiser 18/1/1879 - Advert

"Found, January 6th, Black and White Scotch Shepherd Dog, with Collar and Chain. If not owned in Six days, will be Sold to defray expenses.

Apply, *George Boys*, Moat Gardens, Walsall."

1881 Census

Moat Street

- [1] *George Boys* (54), coal dealer and licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Boys* (40), wife, born Wolverley, Worcestershire;
- [3] Thomas Henry Boys (19), son, labourer, born Walsall;
- [4] Ruth Alice Boys (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Ellen Edith Boys (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Bertha Hannah Boys (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Charlotte Reynolds Boys (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] Elizabeth Griffiths (25), servant, born Wednesbury;
- [9] John Sedgwick (15), errand boy, born Codsall;

George Boys died in the 4th quarter of 1882.

Walsall Advertiser 9/12/1882 - Advert

“Preliminary Notice. Rare Investment. Valuable Leasehold Property.

The Moat, Walsall, known as ‘The Moat Gardens’ will shortly be offered for sale by auction by Messrs. Watkins & Powell (by order of the Executors of the late *George Boys*), consisting of a Public House called the BELLE VUE, with Trade and other Fixtures, Stock-in-Trade, Licenses, Goodwill, and Out-offices; large Garden, and Moat surrounding the same, Greenhouses, and Stove and Greenhouse Plants, &c. Also Eleven Cottages adjoining the public house, all well-tenanted, and now in the occupation of Mrs. *Elizabeth Boys* and others.

An excellent opportunity for a Nurseryman, Florist, and Coffee and Refreshment Room Proprietors.

To view the property apply to Mrs. *Elizabeth Boys*, and for further particulars to the Auctioneers.”

1891 Census

139, Moat Road

- [1] *Elizabeth Boys* (49), widow, coal merchant and publican, born Wolverley;
- [2] Ruth Boys (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] Ellen E. Boys (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Bertha H. Boys (15), daughter, milliner’s and dress apprentice, born Walsall;
- [5] Charlotte R. Boys (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] George Boys (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] John Maybury (71), boarder, born Wolverley;
- [8] Alice Maybury (70), boarder, born Cookley;

Mrs. *Elizabeth Boys*, beer retailer and coal dealer (Wolverhampton Street), Moat Road. [1896]

1901 Census

139, Moat Road – BELLE VUE HOTEL

- [1] *Elizabeth Boys* (59), widow, publican, born Wolverley, Worcestershire;
- [2] Nellie Hughes (26), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] George Boys (22), son, cattle dealer, born Walsall;
- [4] Alice Maybury (83), mother, widow, born Wolverley, Worcestershire;
- [5] Eliza Holland (57), sister, widow, born Wolverley, Worcestershire;
- [6] Laura Holland (25), niece, hospital nurse, born Birmingham;

Mrs. *Elizabeth Boys*, beer retailer, Moat Road. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 19/1/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

Mr. *T. McGill*, BELLE VUE HOTEL, Moat Road, was unanimously elected member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

The Chief Constable applied for the renewal of the license of *John McGill*, BELLE VUE, Moat Road, be put back, and the Bench agreed.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The BELLE VUE, Moat Road. The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Taylor) explained that the renewal of the license of *James Thomas McGill*, of the above house, had been held back, because a criminal case was pending, the evidence as to which he wanted to ascertain. He had now no objection to the renewal. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1907

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions on Monday, before Messrs. W. H. Brooks (presiding), W. F. Clark, W. Precey, and J. F. W. Binns, *James Thomas McGill*, landlord of the BELLE VUE HOTEL, Moat Road, Walsall, was charged with furiously driving a horse and trap, and also summoned for being drunk in charge on the 1st inst. Mr. C. A. Loxton defended.

Police-constable Lee stated that on the date named at 8.20pm he was on duty in the Walsall Road at the bottom of Shire Oak Hill, and saw a horse being driven towards him, which was going at a furious rate. He heard a woman shout to the driver to go slowly as there was a policeman about, and defendant replied with a filthy expression. The officer held his hand up in the middle of the road to stop him, but he refused and thrashed the horse all the way up the hill and several times swayed over the side of the trap. On getting over the hill he increased his speed, going at about sixteen to eighteen miles an hour. The officer got on a bicycle and followed him as far as Walsall Wood, and although he shouted, defendant did not stop, but went faster than he (witness) could ride. On going down the hill into Walsall Wood, two cyclists going in the opposite direction had to run into the ditch, as the horse was swaying from one side of the road to the other. After passing the cyclists, a man on a bicycle with a little child sitting in front, was missed by defendant by inches, and as the vehicle passed the man, witness heard him say ‘Oh, my God.’ Witness followed on, and on getting in to Walsall Wood he called on two cyclists to help him follow the man and they did so. They followed him from Shelfield to Rushall and he was going at about the same rate the whole distance. He caught him up on going down the hill leading to Ladypool Bridge, and passed him on going up the hill on the other side. On getting in front of him witness told him to he had better stop as he should follow him wherever he went. On stopping defendant, his wife stepped out of the trap and took hold of the little child and left defendant with witness. He (Lee) told him that he was drunk, and that he was going to take him to Rushall police station, and defendant said ‘You won’t.’ He had considerable trouble getting prisoner to the station, but he eventually did so on a tram-car, leaving the horse and trap in the hands of another officer who went to his assistance. In reply to the charge he made no answer and refused to give his name and address, but did so to Sergeant Needham a little later. Many drivers of vehicles turned into side streets on seeing defendant coming along. He examined the horse and found it was sweating and trembling, and could not put its hind leg to the ground. It had a shoe off and the frog was bleeding. The distance he had ridden was about five miles.

Sergeant Needham, Police-constable Flavell, Police-constable Gunrepp, Police-constable Brown, Edward Ball, Albert Beck, and Mathew Herr Bower, all gave evidence to the drunken condition of the man, and the exhausted condition of the horse when stopped.

Mr. Loxton said he should not contest the case of reckless driving, but he submitted that they could not convict upon both charges on only one set of facts.

Superintendent Salt said he would rather the charges stood as they were.

Mr. Loxton asked for a decision on the point.

Eventually the police withdrew that charge of drunk in charge, and Mr. Loxton pleaded guilty to furious driving. In addressing the Bench, he pointed out that the horse had got another person into trouble before by bolting, and on this occasion the horse bolted, and the man lost his temper, and having done so, said ‘Now you shall go’ to the horse, and that was the whole case. They were sorry for what they had done, and hoped the Bench would bear in mind the expense it would be for all the witnesses.

The Bench fined defendant 40s and costs for driving furiously, and the case of drunkenness was withdrawn.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/8/1908

“*Alfred [?] Hicklin*, of the BELLE VUE INN, Moat Street, was charged with wilfully killing a pigeon. Mr. Darby prosecuted for the National Homing Union and Mr. Jackson defended. On the 29th ult. the defendant was seen to shoot a pigeon which had the racing ring and the society ring on its feet, but evidence was given that the bird belonged to the defendant, and the case was dismissed.”

1911 Census

139, Moat Road

[1] *Ruth Hicklin* (38), widow, publican, born Walsall;

[2] George Hicklin (13), son, born Walsall;

[3] Sarah Winfield (19), general servant, born Walsall;

[4] Thomas Stevens (67), assistant, widower, jobbing gardener, born Churchington, Warwickshire:

Mrs. *Ruth Hicklin*, beer retailer, Moat Road. [1912]

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BELLE VUE HOTEL, Moat Road, Walsall, 15s 1d.”

John Henry Jeffrey = John Henry Jeffery

Walsall Observer 16/12/1916

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

On the proposition of the President a vote of sympathy was passed with the relatives of the late Mrs. *Ruth Hicklin*, a much respected member of the society. A funeral donation of £4 10s was afterwards granted.

Mr. *John Henry Jeffery*, BELLE VUE HOTEL, Moat Road, Walsall, elected member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
BELLE VUE HOTEL, Moat Road. £2 10s 5d.”

The full license of the ALBION, Wolverhampton Street, was transferred here on 19th May 1936.

1939 Register

Moat Road – BELLE VUE

[1] *Harold J. Doughty*, date of birth 7/8/1899, manager licensed house, married;

[2] *Victoria Doughty*, dob 22/1/1901, manageress licensed house, married;

[3] *Edwin J. Doughty*, dob 7/1/1923, office clerk, single;

[4] *Hazel (Riley) Shaw*, dob 18/3/1918, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Edwards*, BELLE VUE, Moat Rd. £0 11s 3d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1945 - Advert

“By Direction of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Bradford. Third Sale of Valuable Freehold Ground Rents.....

Nine Licensed Houses..... BELLE VUE, Moat Road.”

Walsall Observer 17/3/1951

“At the monthly meeting of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers Society.....

Sympathetic reference was made to the loss by death of two members, Mr. *J. J. Wardle*, of the BELLE VUE HOTEL, Moat Road, and Mr. *Harry Green*.”

John Joseph Wardle – see also LITTLETON ARMS.

[2012]

Closed [2013], [2017]

BIG COAL

Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Clarke [1828] – [1830]

Adam Urmson [1830] – [1831]

William Wainwright [1834]

William Gaiter [1841] – [1842]

Adam Urmson [1845]

NOTES

Thomas Clarke = Thomas Clark

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/6/1830

“Early on Thursday morning, the 3rd inst. two horses, the property of Mr. *Adam Urmson*, of the BIG COAL, public-house, Park Street, Walsall, were maliciously forced down a precipice into a lime-work, at Moss Close, in the parish of Rushall, near Walsall, whereby one was killed, and the other very seriously injured. Upon the discovery of this atrocity, a reward of twenty pounds was promised upon conviction of the offenders, and three persons were in the course of the day, apprehended on suspicion. On Friday afternoon an investigation took place at the Guildhall, before C. S. Foster, Esq. a county magistrate, when one of them named *Henry Barker*, was committed to Stafford gaol for trial at the ensuing sessions, charged, on the oath of *Thos. Turner*, with having

perpetrated the offence. The other two were discharged.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 11/4/1831 - Advert

“The BIG COAL, an old established Public House in Park Street, Walsall.

To be Sold, the Licenses and Good-will of the above old Establishment, now in the occupation of Mr. *Urmson*, situated near the Weighing Machine, and close to the Lime and Coal Wharfs, with Stabling, capital Cellars, Reservoir of Soft water, Club-room 51 feet by 18. The Furniture is neat, and the casks are in most excellent condition and sweet. The draught of Ale is equal to £20 per sitting, and Liquors to a very considerable extent are regularly consumed, as well as Sweet Wines, for which there is a great demand.

The Stock, which is of the best quality, will now be kept low, and the purchaser may take the whole or part of the furniture at a fair valuation.

To treat apply (if by letter, post paid) to E. Jukes, Land Surveyor and Auctioneer, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Adam Urmson was also an excavator, miner and brickmaker. [1845]

BIRCHILLS TAVERN

15, Birchills Street (Birchills Lane) / Thomas Street, (Wolverhampton Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

John Henry Cooper, 41, Lichfield Street, Walsall

Charles Cooper

H. Tomlinson and Sons

James Mitchell

Mrs. Winear, Aldridge

Showells Brewery Ltd. [1903]

Ind Coope ad Allsopp Ltd. (leased from 9th April 1935)

Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)

LICENSEES

John Dexter [1841] – [1845]

Charles Cooper [1849] – [1850]

Thomas Cooper [1851]

William Doley [1858] – [1865]

Richard Cozens [1871] – [1873];

Mrs. Georgina Cozens [];

Joseph Evans [1880];

Mrs. Georgina Evans [];

James Mitchell [];

Thomas Edward Burgess [];

George Holden [] – 1886);

Joseph A Flynn (1886);

Joseph Letts (1886 – 1894);

Mrs. Ann Letts (1894 – 1898);

Benjamin ‘Ben’ Letts (1898 – 1899);

Henry Billingham (1899 – 1900);

Caesar Augustus Llewelyn Jenkyns (1900);

Joseph Clements (1900 – 1904);

William Lenton (1904 – 1906);

Edward Henry James (1906 – 1908);

Richard Walker (1908 – 1913);

Ann Walker (1913 – 1922);

Richard State (1922 – 1928);

John Walker (1928 – 1931);

Charles Edward Walker (1931 – 1934);

Cyril Mottram Wakeman [1931] manager ?

Cyril Mottram Wakeman (1934 – 1938);

David Abraham Warman (1938 – 1940);

Walter Burns Snr. (1940 – 1946);
Eliza Jane Burns (1946 – 1949);
Thomas Walter Burns Jr. (1949 – 1966);
Nellie Kathleen Burns (1966 – []
Peter Fry (1997 – [1999]

NOTES

Birchills Lane [1845]
Wolverhampton Street [1851]
15, Birchills Street [1872], [1908], [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940]

BIRCHILL [1865]

It was known locally as “Nellie’s”.

Charles Cooper was also a brass and silver plater. [1849], [1850]

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/4/1853

“County Court. Hawkins v. *Bradbury John Dexter* and Mother. Plaintiff is a wine and spirit merchant, of Walsall, and brought the action to recover £17 16s 3d from the defendants as executor and executrix of *John Dexter*, the father of the one and the late husband of the other defendant, who at the time of his decease was keeping the BIRCH HILLS TAVERN. It could not be shown that the son was acting after his father’s death in any other capacity than as assistant to his mother, and as the debt was not disputed, his Honour gave judgement for the plaintiff, the whole amount claimed to be paid by Mrs. *Dexter* in monthly instalments of 10s.”

1861 Census

15, Birchills Street – BIRCHILLS TAVERN
[1] *William Doley* (34), victualler, born Norton, Staffordshire;
[2] *Ann Doley* (35), wife, born Hednesford;
[3] *Henry Doley* (9), son, scholar, born Hednesford;
[4] *Thomas Doley* (7), son, scholar, born Hednesford;
[5] *Frederick Doley* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] *William Charles Doley* (1), son, born Walsall:

1871 Census

Birchills Street – BIRCHILLS TAVERN
[1] *Richard Cozens* (41), licensed victualler, born Thame, Oxfordshire;
[2] *Georgina Cozens* (44), wife, born Salford, Bedfordshire (?);
[3] *Susan Cozens* (13), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] *Mary Eliza Cozens* (11), daughter, born Wednesbury;
[5] *Emma Harriet Cozens* (8), daughter, born Wednesbury:

Georgina Cozens married *Joseph Evans* in the 3rd quarter of 1875.

Joseph Evans was also a boat builder at 58, Wolverhampton Street. [1880]

Express and Star 25/7/1887

“On Monday afternoon Mr. T. H. Stanley, the coroner for the borough of Walsall, held an inquest at the BIRCHILLS TAVERN, Birchills Street, Walsall, on the body of Frank McDonald (26), a Soudan hero and pensioner, residing with his brother at 6, Green Lane, Walsall.

The evidence showed that McDonald was pensioned off with the loss of one leg from the 1st South Staffordshire Regiment, with whom he served in the Soudan. On Saturday morning he was drinking along with a man named Albert Mold, of 146, Green Lane, and after calling at the RED LION, Park Street, the BARREL INN, Towns End Bank, and the GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street, the men walked together from the latter place. McDonald then declared his intention of going to bathe in the canal, and in spite of the opposition of Mold, whom he assured that he ‘could swim any man in Walsall’, got over the bridge and proceeded to the locks. He undressed himself, and after handing Mold his money and a pin, together with his wooden leg, which he took off, dived into the water, which was some eight feet deep. He came to the top again and then sank, and some men ran from the District Ironworks and attempted to get him out with a boat hook, but without avail. The body was recovered by one of the men who dived in. It was stated that the deceased before leaving for the Soudan was a good swimmer, but then had the use of his two legs.

The jury was of opinion that the deceased could swim with his one leg, and the witnesses believed that to be the case. Both deceased and Mold had had, according to the father’s admission, a good deal to drink and were ‘neither pretty sober’.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

15, Birchills Street – BIRCHILLS TAVERN

- [1] *Joseph Letts* (52), publican, born Alrewas, Staffordshire;
- [2] Ann Letts (51), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Harry Letts (19), son, hame filer, born Walsall;
- [4] Elizabeth Letts (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] William Letts (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Joseph Letts (11), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Joseph Letts – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY.

Walsall Advertiser 4/8/1894

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The forty second annual meeting of the members of this society was held on Thursday We have to report with regret that by death we have lost five members Mr. *Joseph Letts*, BIRCHILLS TAVERN, Birchills Street.”

Ben Letts was the son of *Joseph Letts*.

C. A. L. Jenkyns was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

Walsall Advertiser 28/7/1900

“*Caesar Jenkyns*, the well-known footballer, and landlord of the BIRCHILLS TAVERN, made application for a music license on the occasion of a concert which it was proposed to hold at his house for the benefit at a man who was partially blind. The Chief Constable (Mr. N. R. Gardiner) opposed that application on the ground that it was not a genuine one, and was merely a concert organised for the purpose of the house.

Jenkyns stated that it was for the benefit of a person who was suffering, to help him get proper medical assistance, and to maintain his home, whilst he was under treatment.

The Chief Constable (to *Jenkyns*): What particular interest do you take in this man; are you a philanthropist? – I try to be as well as I can.

Asked by the Chief Constable as to whether the man was a customer, *Jenkyns* replied in the affirmative. *Jenkyns* added that a committee of three gentlemen were organising the concert, and the whole of the proceedings were to go to the man for whom the concert was being promoted.

Mr. Lindop: What do you say now, Mr. Chief?

Mr. Loxton (magistrates’ clerk): It is a matter for you now sir.

Ultimately Mr. Lindop announced that the application would not be granted.”

Caesar Augustus Llewelyn Jenkyns – see also BLACK HORSE, PRETTY BRICKS, WALSALL ARMS, and OLD OAK.

1901 Census

15, Birchills Street

- [1] *Joseph Clements* (47), widower, musician, born Harpell, Warwickshire;
- [2] John F. Clements (21), son, painter, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Mary E. Clements (15), daughter, born Bilston;
- [4] Florence Hooper (21), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission. . . .

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various. . . .

Joseph Clements, BIRCHILLS TAVERN.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Thursday. . . .

In the case of the BIRCHILLS TAVERN, Mr. S. A. Newman appeared for the owners (Messrs. Showell and Son) and Mr. Lester for the tenant.

An objection was raised that there was a back doorway from the tavern to some houses in Francis Street, and there was no other way to these houses except by an entry.

Mr. Newman said it would be inconvenient to close the doorway, but he would submit to an order. In the discussion which followed, he asked the Magistrates if it was their object to go on indefinitely harassing and worrying license-holders? Surely that was not right or just. Why could not the Bench make an order, which the last Licensing Act gave them power to do, so that a license-holder should not be required to make any alterations for four or five years? He submitted that the owners of this house

ought not to be subjected to the expense and inconvenience of annual renewals which might be made now. He would give an undertaking in this case, and leave himself in the hands of the Magistrates. The discussion continuing, it was asked what security of tenure there was, or what guarantee, that the Magistrates another year would not require the license-holder to undo what was now required to be done?

The Magistrates' Clerk said he could not give any such security but it was afterwards stated that the Magistrates, if they would, could make an order as submitted by Mr. Newman."

Walsall Advertiser 17/11/1906

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New members..... Mr. *Henry James*, BIRCHILLS TAVERN, Birchills."

William Lenton was married to Helen.

Walsall Observer 14/11/1908

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the President, MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, Rushall. Mr. R. Anson, Daw End (president), occupied the chair.....

New Members..... *Richard Walker*, BIRCHILLS TAVERN, Birchills Street."

1911 Census

15. Birchill Street

[1] *Richard Walker* (60), engine driver (stationary), bag frame makers, born Walsall;

[2] *Ann Walker* (58), wife, married 38 years, born Willenhall;

[3] *Richard Walker* (29), son, fitter, general engineers, born Walsall;

[4] *Minnie Walker* (25), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Louisa Walker* (24), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] *Joseph Henry Walker* (17), son, groom, brewery, born Walsall:

1939 Register

15, Birchills Street

[1] *David A. Warman*, date of birth 28/2/1884, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Sarah A. Warman*, dob 2/9/1883, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Dorothy G. (Warman) Ward*, dob 28/10/1923, barmaid, single:

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

"Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

BIRCHILLS TAVERN, Birchills Street. £1 2s 0d."

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Burns*, BIRCHILLS TAVERN. £4 8s 4d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BIRCHILLS TAVERN, Birchills Street. £2 0s 3d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BIRCHILLS TAVERN, Birchills Street. £0 13s 5d."

Closed

Renamed NEW BIRCHILLS and reopened after a refurbishment in May 1997.

Peter Fry was a disc jockey known as Peter Payne.

He was married to Veronica (Voni).

[2008]

Closed [2012]

BIRD IN HAND

22, Birchills Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Williams [1861]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

22, Birchills Street – BIRD IN HAND

[1] *Joseph Williams* (22), beerhouse keeper, born Pelsall;

[2] Sarah Williams (20), wife, born Tipton:

BIRD IN HAND

2, James Street / Profitt Street, (Leckie Road), Ryecroft Hill, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Chaplin, Mount Pleasant, Mow Cop, Cheshire

Peter Aspinall

William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1905)

LICENSEES

William Thomas [1857] – **1861**);

Joseph Bromwich (**1861 – 1869**);

Mrs. Ann Bromwich (**1869 – 1889**);

Robert Bromwich (**1889 – 1905**);

Joseph Stackhouse (**1905 – 1910**);

John Littler (**1910 – 1913**);

Richard Jackson Bayley (**1913 – 1915**);

Henry Newick (**1915 – 1920**);

Thomas Henry Atkins (**1920 – 1933**):

NOTES

Ryecroft Hill [1862]

James Street, Ryecroft [1865]

2, James Street [1868], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1908], [1912], [1932]

2+3, James Street [1871]

Leckie Road

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/9/1857

“A Petty Session was held at the Station Inn, Brownhills on Tuesday last.....

An application for a new license was made by *William Thomas*, in respect of a house at Ryecroft, called the BIRD IN HAND. Mr. T. J. Whitgreave, of Walsall, appeared for the applicant and the license was granted.”

W. Thomas, beerhouse, 2, St. James Street. [1858]

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

William Thomas, licensed victualler, landlord of the BIRD IN HAND, Ryecroft Hill, was fined 10s and costs, for using five measures which were short of the legal standard.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

Joseph Bromwich = Joshua Bromwich = Joseph Bramwich

1861 Census

2, James Street

- [1] *Joseph Bromwich* (51), victualler, born Bo____, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Ann Bromwich* (49), wife, born Kidderminster;
- [3] Edwin Bromwich (24), son, painter and glazier, born Kidderminster;
- [4] *Robert Bromwich* (21), son, painter and glazier, born Wribenhall, Bewdley;
- [5] Ann Bromwich (15), daughter, born Kidderminster;
- [6] Joseph Bromwich (13), son, scholar, born Kidderminster;
- [7] Frederick William Bromwich (1), son, born Kidderminster:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/9/1863

“Yesterday was the annual licensing day for the Rushall division of the county. The magistrates on the Bench were Messrs. J. E. Bealey, W. Harrison, and D. Bloomer. Before hearing the applications for new licenses and those for the renewal of old ones, the Bench called those publicans whose names were down on the black list.....

Joseph Bramwich, landlord of the BIRD IN HAND public-house, Ryecroft, who was fined £5 last court day for having permitted drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house, and who was ordered to be summoned for a similar offence committed last Saturday.

The Bench suspended the applicant’s license for a month.....

At the close of the business the policemen in attendance were called into the Court-room and admonished by Mr. Bealey to a faithful discharge of their duties, and, as on earnest of the intention of the Bench to stand by the officers when they faithfully discharged their duties, Mr. Bealey, addressing the officer Ashberry, by whom the complaint against *Joseph Bramwich* had been preferred, said the Bench considered that in his case ‘you only did your duty; and, as a mark of approbation of the Bench, the magistrates have decided to exercise that power with which they are vested of giving in such case a portion of the fine to the officer, and to award him 10s out of the fine inflicted upon *Bramwich*’.”

Bell’s Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/5/1867

“Mr. D. Darby of Walsall will match his pigeon Donkey Tom to fly from one mile to three against any fancier in Walsall, and will give a fair drop, for from £2 to £5, and twirl for the road the morning of flying. A match can be made any night next week at Mr. *Joseph Bromwich*’s, the BIRD IN HAND, James Street, Walsall.”

1871 Census

2+3, James Street

- [1] *Ann Bromwich* (59), victualler, born Kidderminster;
- [2] Elizabeth Bromwich (25), daughter, born Kidderminster;
- [3] Edwin Bromwich (33), son, house painter, born Bewdley;
- [4] *Robert Bromwich* (30), son, born Bewdley;
- [5] Frederick William Bromwich (11), son, scholar, born Kidderminster;
- [6] Ann Humphries (18), general servant, born Longton, Staffordshire:

The inquest on John Corbett was held here, in February 1875.

[see HORSE AND JOCKEY]

1881 Census

2, James Street

- [1] *Ann Bromwich* (68), victualler, born Kidderminster;
- [2] Elizabeth Bromwich (46), daughter, born Kidderminster;
- [3] Frederick W. Bromwich (21), son, leather merchant’s clerk, born Kidderminster;
- [4] Charles H. Jones (7), grandson, scholar, born London;
- [5] Sarah Oliver (17), domestic servant, born Ironbridge, Shropshire:

1891 Census

2, James Street

- [1] *Robert Bromwich* (51), painter and licensed victualler, born Bewdley, Worcestershire;

- [2] Mary A. Bromwich (41), wife, born Leominster, Herefordshire;
- [3] Frederic J. Bromwich (16), son, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [4] Robert W. Bromwich (15), son, saddler and carrier, born Walsall;
- [5] Annie E. Bromwich (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Frank G. Bromwich (11), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Margaret Bromwich (10), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] Archibald Bromwich (7), son, born Walsall;
- [9] Isabel Bromwich (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [10] Bertram Bromwich (7 months), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1893

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The usual monthly meeting of the management committee was held on Thursday last (having been postponed from the previous Thursday, the day on which the Parliamentary election took place), at Mr. William Brown’s, BLUE PIG INN, New Street.
New members. Mr. *Robert Bromwich*, BIRD IN HAND, James Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/1/1899

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday evening.
Mr. *Alfred Brown*, BAKERS INN, Caldmore, and Mr. *Robert Bromwich*, BIRD IN HAND, James Street, both beer retailers, were unanimously elected to fill the vacancies on the Executive Committee, that body being now complete.”

1901 Census

2, James Street – Beer House

- [1] *Robert Bromwich* (61), publican, born Budley, Yorkshire;
 - [2] Mary A. Bromwich (52), wife, born Leominster;
 - [3] Frederick J. Bromwich (26), son, harness maker, born Walsall;
 - [4] Robert W. Bromwich (25), son, house painter, born Walsall;
 - [5] Annie E. Bromwich (23), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [6] Violet M. Bromwich (21), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [7] Frank G. Bromwich (20), son, saddler’s ironmonger, born Walsall;
 - [8] Archibald J. Bromwich (17), son, grocer’s apprentice, born Walsall;
 - [9] Isabel F. Bromwich (15), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [10] Bertram A. Bromwich (10), son, born Walsall:
- [Could Budley, Yorkshire be BEWDLEY?]

Joseph Stackhouse was also a brickyard manager. [1905]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.
BIRD IN HAND, James Street. £1 17s 9d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst. the following were adjourned for plans of alterations to be submitted.
BIRD IN HAND, James Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/5/1925

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Monday, before a full Bench. Applications were made for the renewal of the BIRD IN HAND, James Street; BUILDER’S ARMS, Wisemore; BELL INN, Stafford Street, and the BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street, which had been objected to under the Compensation clause, and had stood over for plans for alterations to be submitted. It was stated that the justices’ requirements had been met except in the case of the BELL INN. The justices, after a brief retirement, renewed the whole of the licenses, but with regard to the BELL INN intimated that it was only provisionally renewed for a year to enable the committee to consider the question of alterations.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 2nd March 1933.
Compensation of £2,000 was paid on 18th November 1933.
It closed on 25th November 1933.

BIRD IN HAND

Park Street, (Hampton Lane), WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Jeremiah Nicholls [1818] – [1830]

NOTES

Hampton Lane [1818]

Park Street [1822]

[‘The History and Directory of Walsall’ by Thomas Pearce 1813](#)

[“A list of Waggons, &c....”](#)

[Hodson takes in parcels at the sign of the BIRD IN HAND, Park Street, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, for Bilston.”](#)

Jeremiah Nicholls = Jeremiah Nichols

BIRMINGHAM HOUSE

48, Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Miss E. Brownhill, Handsworth

J. Bagnall

Mrs. Mary Wright, 86, Crompton Road, Handsworth

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Cox [1858] – [1865]

Joseph Moseley [1868] – [1870]

Charles Allsop [1871]

Charles Bannister [1872]

Joseph Birch [1872];

Emma Whittaker [];

Paul Worley [];

Emma Worley [];

Sampson Betteley [];

Thomas Forster [];

William Lewis [];

Frank Blakemore [];

Henry Cartwright [1881] – **1890**);

William Willett (**1890 – 1896**);

Allen McDougall (**1896 – 1897**);

Arthur Lees (**1897 – 1898**);

Thomas Ingley (**1898 – 1917**);

Arthur Ingley (**1917 – 1921**);

Walter Day (**1921** – [1929])

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

John Cox, beerhouse, 48, Ablewell Street. [1858]

John Cox, beer retailer, Ablewell Street. [1861]

1861 Census

48, Ablewell Street – Beer House

- [1] *John Cox* (53), beer seller, born Broughton, Leicestershire;
- [2] *Ann Cox* (56), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Edward Rushton* (52), visitor, tallow chandler, born Brereton, Staffordshire:

John Cox, retailer of beer, 48, Ablewell Street. [1862]

John Cox, beer retailer, 48, Ablewell Street. [1865]

Joseph Moseley, beer retailer, 48 Ablewell Street. [1868], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 14/4/1870 - Advert

“To Be Let, a Beerhouse, with Grocery and Provision Business attached, the BIRMINGHAM HOUSE, Ablewell Street. Apply to H. Allen, on the Premises. Retiring from business the sole cause of leaving.”

1871 Census

48, Ablewell Street

- [1] *Charles Allsop* (29), spur forger, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ellen Allsop* (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Harriet A. Allsop* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Thomas Jarvis* (19), boarder, cooper, born Walsall;
- [5] *Esther Jarvis* (14), domestic servant, born Blakenall:

Charles Bannister, beer retailer, 48, Ablewell Street. [1872]

1881 Census

48, Ablewell Street – B’HAM HOUSE

- [1] *Henry Cartwright* (50), farmer of 80 acres employing 2 Labourers and one boy, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Elizabeth Cartwright* (40), manager Public Business, born Albrighton, Shropshire;
- [3] *William Cartwright* (15), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Arthur Cartwright* (10), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *George Cartwright* (3), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Nelloie Cartwright* (12 months), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Thomas Blakemore* (21), cowman, born West Cotsill, Oken:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1888

“A the annual licensing sessions, yesterday.....

The application for new licenses were then proceeded with. There were nine in all – viz, one beer (on), three beer (off), two sweets, and three for billiard and bagatelle tables, and the Chief Constable opposed them all.

Henry Cartwright, the BIRMINGHAM HOUSE beerhouse, Ablewell Street, applied for a removal of the license of his house, or, as an alternative, for a new license, the premises having been extensively altered and enlarged. Mr. Vachell (instructed by Mr. Gillespie) appeared in support of the application. The Chief Constable’s grounds of opposition were that there was no necessity of the house, there being several others in the immediate neighbourhood, and that the structural alteration had made the house an entirely new and different one. The application was adjourned till the licensing day.”

William Willett = William Wellert

1891 Census

48, Ablewell Street

- [1] *William Willetts* (33), innkeeper, born Ford, Shropshire;
- [2] *Ellen A. Willetts* (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ethel M. Willetts* (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Gertrude M. Willetts* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Elizabeth Willetts* (1), daughter, born Wolverhampton
- [6] *Martha Rowliston* (6), niece, born Walsall;;
- [7] *John Willetts* (64), father, widower, living on own means, born Great Essington:

William Willett, beer retailer, 48, Ablewell Street. [1896]

Thomas Ingley was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in August 1900.

1901 Census

48, Ablewell Street

- [1] *Thomas Ingley* (61), beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] Ann Ingley (60), wife, born Ireland;
- [3] Sarah A. Ingley (30), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Arthur Ingley* (26), son, saddler, born Walsall;
- [5] Emily Jukes (45), domestic servant, born Wyrley, Staffordshire:

Thomas Ingley, beer retailer, 48, Ablewell Street. [1904], [1912]

1911 Census

Ablewell Street – BIRMINGHAM HOUSE

- [1] *Thomas Ingley* (71), widower, beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] Sarah Ann Ingley (39), daughter, unmarried, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
BIRMINGHAM HOUSE, Ablewell Street. £1 0s 5d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/8/1929

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 15th inst. last at the house of Mr. *Walter Day*, BIRMINGHAM HOUSE, Ablewell Street.....”

BLACK BOY

37, New Street, (Fieldgate), WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Gameson Tinner

Messrs. Allen and Sons, Brewers, Great Haywood, near Stafford [1881]

Messrs. Chater and Co, Wolverhampton

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Holder [1813] – [1822]

Alice Willcox [1828] – [1830]

William Wood [1834] – [1835]

John Clements [1841] – [1842]

David Holder [1845]

William Lovatt [1849] – **1857**);

Mrs. Caroline Lovatt (**1857** – []

Charles Millett [1858] – [1873];

Harriet J. Houlson [];

Harry Wareing [];

John West [];

Moses Croft [];

William Chamberlain [1881];

Isaiah Yates [];

Alfred Booker [] – **1890**);

James Barber (**1890** – **1895**);

Mrs. Eliza Barber (**1895** – **1899**);

Joseph Stackhouse Jnr. (**1899** – **1900**);

Mrs. Elizabeth Mary Russell (**1900** – **1923**);

Richard Russell [1901] ?

NOTES

New Street [1813], [1822]
Fieldgate [1813], [1851], [1858]
37, New Street [1838], [1865], [1908]

BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD [1831], [1836]

Druids and Annuity Society met here. [1788]

John Holder, BLACK BOY, Field Gate. [1813]

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

"Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Lodges.....

Druids, and Annuity, held at BLACK BOY, New Street, supposed number about 250, instituted 1808, surgeon Mr. Woollatt, secretary Addison Richardson."

AND

"Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Clubs.....

Friendly Society, male, held at BLACK BOY, New Street, supposed number 80 or 90, instituted 1788, surgeon Mr. Weaver, secretary Charles Westley.

AND

Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Additional Friendly Societies, known by the name of Gift Societies.....

A Gift, or permanent fund, held at BLACK BOY, New Street."

The club room was used by the Unitarians and Baptists for their religious meetings, in the 1820s.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 16/3/1829 - Advert

"To Publicans.

To be Let, and entered upon immediately, that old established Public House, known by the sign of the BLACK BOY, near Fieldgate, in the Foreign of Walsall, and county of Stafford; containing good cellars, tap-room, parlour, kitchen, five good lodging-rooms, brewhouse, and other outbuildings, also a large club-room where Druids' Lodge and several Friendly Societies are held.

The tenant will be expected to take the lease, which has about 11 years to run. The Stock and other effects may be taken at a fair valuation.

Rent and other payments are very low.

For further particulars enquire of J. Farrington, Auctioneer, Dudley Street, Walsall (if by letter, post paid)."

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

"The BLACK BOY in New Street was used by the Cobdenites in their pursuit of the repeal of the Corn Laws, and by activists for the Reform Bill."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1831

"The Coronation. The bells commenced ringing at a very early hour, and in the more advanced part of the day the members of the different lodges assembled in their respective rooms preparatory to joining in procession, in honour of the occasion.....

The following is a list of the Lodges which formed the procession, and the house at which they are held. They had seven banners waving, and were accompanied by an excellent band.

Senior Lodge of Odd Fellows – BULLS HEAD.

Grand Lodge of Modern Druids – BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD.

Odd Fellows – ROYAL OAK.

Queer Fellows – WATERING TROUGH.

Two Lodges from the WATERLOO TAVERN.

Loyal Union Fellows – SPREAD EAGLE.

Fellows of Support – TURKS HEAD.

Social Fellows – TALBOT INN.

True Hearted Fellows – MALT SHOVEL.

The procession extended in length to about a quarter of a mile. The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the attendance being more numerous."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 21/3/1836 - Advert

"Walsall.

To be Let, and entered upon immediately, that old established Public House known by the sign of the BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD, situate in New Street, with an excellent Lodge-room, where the ancient society, called the 'Druids Indeed,' meet, with three other societies attached. The premises are replete with every convenience, with good piggeries and excellent soft water, being a most desirable situation. The rent and payments low. The Stock and Brewing Vessels, with part of the Furniture, to be taken to at a fair appraisal.

This is an opportunity that seldom occurs, having an excellent business attached. The present occupier is leaving on account of other engagements.

To treat for the same refer to John Taylor, Auctioneer, Peel Street, Walsall, if by letter, post paid.”

William Lovatt = William Lovat = William Lovett

1851 Census

Field Gate

[1] *William Lovat* (43), publican, born Longbridge, [~~Walsall Wood crossed out~~], Staffordshire;

[2] Caroline Lovat (34), wife, born Walsall Wood;

[3] Fanny Lovat (3), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] Emily Lovat (1), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Mary Barnet (17), servant, born Athlone, Ireland:

Walsall Free Press 4/4/1857

“The following applications of Transfers of Licences were made.....

William Lovatt, deceased, to Widow, BLACK BOY, New Street.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... The following parties were then called over, and as they came for their licenses, were duly cautioned individually.....

Charles Millett, of the BLACK BOY, Field-gate, who, on the 17th of March last, had been fined 10s and costs for having on a Sunday kept his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours.”

1861 Census

37, New Street – BLACK BOY

[1] *Charles Millett* (31), publican and currier, born Derby;

[2] Ellen Millett (28), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Edwin Millett (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Isaac Millett (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Maria Millett (1), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Mary Hibbett (18), house servant, born Lincolnshire:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 4/8/1866

“W. Stevenson will match his pigeon to fly from Blisworth station against any fancier either in Walsall, Wednesbury, Willenhall, Darlaston, or Bloxwich, for £5 or £10 a side; or W. Pagett of the Pleck can be accommodated on the same terms. Money ready any night next week at J. Fleming’s, RING O’BELLS, Hill Street, or *C. Millett’s* BLACK BOY INN, New Street, Walsall.”

1871 Census

37, New Street – BLACK BOY

[1] *Charles Millett* (42), currier and publican, born Derby;

[2] Ellen Millett (38), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Edwin Millett (17), son, collar maker, born Walsall;

[4] Isaac Millett (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Clara Millett (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Charles Millett (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] John Millett (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] William Millett (3), son, born Walsall;

[9] Ellen Millett (1), daughter, born Walsall:

1901 Census

New Street – BLACK BOY TAVERN

[1] *Richard Russell* (36), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Elizabeth M. Russell* (30), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Anna Moseley (18), general servant, born Bloxwich:

[Elizabeth held the license.]

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Elizabeth Mary Russell, BLACK BOY.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day.....

Inspector Ballance deposed to visiting the locality in which the BLACK BOY, the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, and the JOLLY BACCHUS were situated. With regard to the first named, it was a very old house.

In answer to Mr. Plumptre (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson), witness said that so far as he knew Mrs. *Russell* was a most respectable tenant.

Mr. Plumptre: I believe this house is a very interesting one is it not? I mean that it was the house at which Baptist Society was founded in Walsall (laughter).

Mr. Loxton: I don't think we ought to raise a joke at the expense of any religious denomination, Mr. Plumptre.

Mr. Plumptre: I am sure I did not mean any disrespect.

Mr. Loxton: As a matter of fact, it was a very large room at the rear in which the meetings were held, but it was entirely cut off from the premises of the house in question.

Further cross-examined: There were several large works close at hand.

Mr. Plumptre went on to remind the magistrates that an objection was raised against the renewal of the license last year, but finally it was withdrawn. He asked the Bench whether it was quite fair to inform a tenant one year that the license was required, and the next year to attempt to take it away. He could prove that trade had increased during the last year, and he supposed that was sound evidence that the license was required. Coming to the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL there had, the previous year, unfortunately been a conviction for permitting drunkenness. The license, however, was not taken away, but a fresh tenant was put in, and he, as Inspector Ballance admitted, has since that time conducted the house without complaint. In conclusion, he said both houses were very old ones, and he thought that if the magistrates were to inflict punishment – he could not term it anything else – it ought not to fall upon the owners and tenants of the oldest established houses, whose licenses had been renewed year after year.

Evidence was given by the tenant and several customers, one of the latter, Mr. Jacob Wright, stating amidst laughter that he never went to any other house because he liked the beer, and it suited him better than any other house.

Mrs. *Russell*, who when previously giving evidence said that her license was taken in her name because she used her own money, was recalled, and admitted that when she entered the house she was not living with her husband, and that the latter about that time was fined £50 for betting at Cannock. He had since returned, and had lived with her for three years, helping her in the business. Letters were read from Messrs. Evans and Thacker, who bore testimony to the excellent manner in which the BLACK BOY was conducted.

Thomas Bates of the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, was called and stated that he had held licenses for 16 years.

The license of the BLACK BOY was renewed on the undertaking to deposit plans, but the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Jackson also applied on behalf of the licensee of the BLACK BOY INN, New Street. He said the alterations were in regard of the drinking portion of the premises, in order to give better accommodation for the licensee. This was one of the houses proceeded against last year, as to the desirability of being closed. Mr. Wilcock supported. Refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough, adjourned from the previous Wednesday, were resumed on Tuesday.....

Mr. Loxton read out the following decisions the magistrates had come to.....

Alterations to the following houses were refused: BLACK BOY, New Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Chief Constable said that a year ago plans were submitted on behalf of the owner of the BLACK BOY, New Street, for alterations, and were refused. Included in the plans was provision for a new kitchen and outhouses. He found they had built a scullery in the yard, and taken down a number of houses, and rebuilt some. He had nothing to say about the sanitary part, but he thought plans ought to have been submitted, which were connected with the building.

The Chairman: That case will stand back.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1906

“Yesterday the adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall.....

With regard to the license of the BLACK BOY, New Street, the tenant, *Elizabeth Mary Russell*, was required to explain why she had alterations made in her premises without the consent of the licensing justices as reported by the Chief Constable at the annual Brewster Sessions, and now testified by Chief Inspector Ballance, who said that in 1904 plans for alterations were disapproved by the Bench, but since they had been carried out, involving an increase in the licensing area.

Mr. R. C. E. Plumptre apologised for anything which had been done wrong, but said they had merely improved the domestic

portion and the sanitary accommodation, under pressure from the corporation.
The magistrates decided to renew the license, and cautioned the licensee, who was ordered to pay all costs.”

1911 Census

Fieldgate – BLACK BOY

- [1] Richard John Russell (47), commission agent, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Mary Russell* (40), wife, married 19 years, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [3] Lawrence Wilcox (8), nephew, school, born Walsall;
- [4] Kate Sutton (14), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
BLACK BOY, New Street. £1 3 6½d.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority in 1923.
Compensation was paid on 8th October 1923.
The house closed on 15th October 1923.

It was demolished in the 1930s.

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle’s references in last week’s Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remembers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKE-SPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

BLACK BOY

West Bromwich Road, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Mills [1888]

NOTES

James Mills was also a bit maker. [1888]

BLACK COCK

Green Lane / Oakwood Close, (Pepper Alley), (Hall Lane), Bullings Heath, Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Critch [1858] – [1871]
Joseph Critch [1861] ?
Walter Stonier [1881]
William Bowen [1887]
Thomas D. Squire [1891]
William Jackson [1896] – [1902]

Edward Gwilliam [1908] – [1912]
George H Merrett [1932]
William Thorpe [1937] – [1940]

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.

John Critch, licensed victualler, the BLACK COCK, Walsall Wood, was fined 10s and costs, for having four unjust measures.

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

John Critch was also a blacksmith. [1860], [1868]

1861 Census

Walsall Wood

[1] *John Critch* (56), publican, blacksmith, born Shipley, Derbyshire;

[2] Mary Critch (58), wife, born Walsall Wood;

[3] John Critch (24), son, blacksmith, born Walsall Wood;

[4] Elizabeth Hipkiss (6), granddaughter, born Walsall Wood;

[5] Lydia Dawson (19), servant, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Free Press 31/5/1862

“*John Critch*, publican, landlord of the BLACK COCK, Walsall Wood, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly on the night of the 17th instant. Police-constable Harvey and a constable named Lowbridge proved the charge. The defendant, who denied the charge, called a witness named Michael English, but he was not in company with the defendant at the time the officers saw him. He, however, swore distinctly that defendant was not drunk at the time. A witness named Cooper, corroborated English’s evidence. The Bench after hearing the evidence sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 5s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 12/7/1862

“*John Critch*, inn-keeper, Walsall Wood, was charged with having on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 11th June, permitted drunkenness in his house. Police-constable Harvey said, from information he received from Mr. Arbaster, he went to the defendant’s house at 4pm, and there found James Berrisford, waggoner to Mr. Arbaster, and another man named England, in a state of intoxication. Both were so drunk they could scarcely walk. Police-sergeant Perkins said, on the 4th instant he served the defendant with a summons, and on that occasion *Critch* admitted that Berrisford had been in the house from nine in the morning till four in the afternoon. At this stage of the proceedings, Mr. Glover, who appeared for the defendant, took objection on the ground that it had not been proved that his client was a licensed victualler. The case was accordingly adjourned, and Mr. Glover served with notice to produce his client’s license at next court day.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/8/1862

“At the Petty Sessions yesterday, before Messrs. J. E. Bealey and Thomas Davies, *John Critch*, landlord of the BLACK COCK public-house, Walsall Wood, whose case had been remanded from a previous court for the production of the defendant’s license, was fined 2s 6d and costs for having, on the 11th of June last, permitted drunkenness in his house. It appeared the defendant had permitted a wagoner named Berrisford in the service of Mr. Arbloster, farmer, to remain drinking in his house on the day in question from about nine in the morning till four in the afternoon.”

1871 Census

Pepper Alley – Public House – BLACK COCK

[1] *John Critch* (64), blacksmith and licenced victualler, born Shipley;

[2] Mary Critch (68), wife, born Walsall Wood;

[3] Elizabeth Hipkiss (16), granddaughter, scholar, born Birmingham;

[4] Ruth Washington (5), granddaughter, scholar, born Walsall Wood:

1881 Census

BLACK COCK INN

[1] *Walter Stonier* (40), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Adelina Stonier (38), wife, born Pelsall;

[3] Alice J. Stonier (17), daughter, born Chase Town;

[4] William Stonier (15), son, born Chase Town;

[5] James Stonier (11), son, scholar, born Chase Town;

[6] Alfred Stonier (6), son, scholar, born Chase Town:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1886

“Yesterday Mr. E. Hooper (coroner) held an inquest, at the BLACK COCK INN, Walsall Wood, on the body of Thomas Robinson, two years and four months old, son of parents living in Pepper Alley, close to the canal, and who was drowned on Tuesday afternoon. At half-past three he went to his mother, who was in the brewhouse, and she sent him to his father, who was in the garden. Ten minutes later she missed him, and found that he had not been to his father; and an alarm being raised a passing boatman pointed out some bubbles which were rising to the surface of the canal, and at that spot a neighbour discovered the body. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Lichfield Mercury 25/11/1887

“At the Brownhills Petty Sessions on Wednesday, Charlotte Sivorn, wife of Job Sivorn, innkeeper of Walsall Wood, was summoned on a charge of being drunk whilst in charge of a horse and trap at Pipe Hill on the 14th November. Mr. Enoch Evans, solicitor, of Walsall, defended.

Job Hobbs, a pensioned police-constable of Pipe Hill, stated that he was looking through the bow window of his house, when he saw defendant come along the road from the direction of Lichfield with a horse and gig. A man was with her, but she held the reins, and was driving at a furious rate. He (witness) merely saw her for about three hundred yards along the road, but he was certain she was drunk, by the manner in which she reeled in the gig. A man was driving some sheep just past his house, but although he shouted to her, she did not try to stop the horse, and appeared to have no power over it. Witness had known her a long time. The driver of the sheep afterwards came to him, and asked if he saw the defendant’s gig knock one of his sheep over, as it had broke its leg, and the witness told him he did.

George Wright, Oglely Square, Brownhills, labourer, who was driving the sheep on the day named, saw defendant driving a gig at a furious rate, her husband being with her. He shouted to her to be careful, but she took no notice, and drove through the sheep, cutting the hoof off one. She was drunk, and after they passed him, her husband took the reins from her.

Mr. Evans denied defendant was drunk, and said as she was sitting in the gig by the side of her husband no one could have noticed had she been drunk. He also denied that she was driving the trap. He added that the husband of defendant had bought the sheep which was injured.

Job Sivorn, husband of defendant, said he was with his wife on the day named at Lichfield. When they returned, he drove all the way, and his wife did not touch the reins. She was perfectly sober.

The witness Hobbs was recalled, and swore that Mrs. Sivorn was driving when he saw her.

William Bowen, landlord of the BLACK COCK, Walsall Wood, was called for the defence, but as he saw nothing of the occurrence, his evidence was not taken.

Supt. Barrett, in reply to the Bench, said there was no previous offence recorded against Mrs. Sivorn. She kept a public-house before she married, and it was very well conducted.

A fine of 10s and £1 0s 6d was imposed.”

1891 Census

Bullings Heath – BLACK COCK INN

- [1] *Thomas D. Squire* (38), licensed victualler, born Short Heath, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Agnes Squire* (42), wife, born Short Heath, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Eve Squire* (13), daughter, born Short Heath, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Alma A. Squire* (7), daughter, born Short Heath, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Stephen D. Squire* (4), son, born Short Heath, Staffordshire;
- [6] *Elizabeth Riley* (22), general servant, born Monmore Green;
- [7] *Ann Taylor* (63), nurse, born Kinlet, Worcestershire;

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/11/1902

“*William Jackson*, of the BLACK COCK INN, Walsall Wood, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 1st inst. The defendant was fined £3 and costs.”

1911 Census

Walsall Wood – BLACK COCK INN

- [1] *Edward Gwilliam* (33), licensed victualler and coal miner, hewer, born Bridgnorth, Shropshire;
- [2] *Nellie Heaver Gwilliam* (25), wife, married 7 years, born London;
- [3] *Annie Gwilliam* (6), daughter, at school, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Charlotte Gwilliam* (4), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Edward Gwilliam* (3), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] *William Gwilliam* (3), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] *Nellie Gwilliam* (2), daughter, born Walsall Wood;

[8] Francis Mary Gwilliam (6 months), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
[9] Beatrice Cresswell (15), domestic servant, born Walsall Wood:

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

“At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....
Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....
On the ground of redundancy.....
BLACK COCK, Bullings Heath.”

Express and Star 20/7/1928

“Whilst moving dirt in a tub at Walsall Wood Colliery on Wednesday morning, James Harold Webb (43), road repairer, of the Gables, Barnes Lane, Rushall, was buried by a fall from the roof of about ten tons of fine dirt. When his body was recovered, nearly half an hour later, it was found death had taken place.
At the inquest, at the BLACK COCK INN, Walsall Wood, last night, evidence given by George Wood, loader, of Bridge Street, Clayhanger, showed that the tub slipped off the rail and bumped a ‘tree’ under a bar supporting the roof, causing the fall.
Dr. Bradford stated that death was due to suffocation.
Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/4/1937

“*William Thorpe*, aged 60, licensee of the BLACK COCK INN, Green Lane, Walsall Wood, was summoned at Rushall yesterday for supplying intoxicating liquor after permitted hours, and Alfred Mole, aged 51, of 144, Hall Lane, Walsall Wood, was summoned for consuming. An alternative summons against *Thorpe* was for aiding and abetting Mole in the offence of consuming the beer.

Mr. E. E. Brown, solicitor (for the police), said that on 13 March Police-constables Parton and Thornhill kept observation on the premises. Hearing a piano being played and singing, they entered the inn at 10.25pm and found 17 people in the bar. Mole was sitting with a glass of beer before him. There were two half-pint glasses nearly full of beer on the fireplace shelf, but all the men denied that the glasses belonged to them.

The landlord said, ‘There was no drink served after 10 o’clock. I didn’t know the drinks were on the mantelpiece. Mole is a slow drinker and a regular customer.’

When the summonses were read, *Thorpe* said, ‘It’s a bad job it happened. It was quite an oversight. I didn’t know that Mole had got beer.’

Mole said, ‘It’s quite true the beer was there when the officers came in. I admit it was mine, and I was just about to finish the beer.’

Cross-questioned by Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson (who defended and pleaded not guilty for defendants), PC Parton denied that Mole was sitting with the beer on the table behind him, but added that someone said that he thought the glasses on the mantelshelf belonged to two men who had gone out.

One of the magistrates (Mr. I. Green) asked Police-inspector Watts, who gave evidence, whether it would not have been better for the police to have warned the landlord about the time at ten minutes past ten.

Police-inspector Watts: We always give the licensees every assistance possible, but there are times when circumstances alter cases.

For the defence, Mr. Hodgkinson said there was not a shred of evidence with regard to the supplying of drink, and that the onus was on the police to prove that there had been any aiding or abetting on the part of the landlord in the consuming of the drink.

The Bench dismissed both summonses against *Thorpe*, stating that the evidence was not strong enough to convict.

Mole, who in evidence said he never tasted any beer after 10 o’clock, was fined £1.”

1939 Register

Walsall Wood – BLACK COCK INN (2 of 3)

[1] *William Thorpe*, date of birth 7/10/1879, licensee, married, ARP warden;

[2] Annie Thorpe, dob 10/8/1876, housewife, married;

Demolished

It was rebuilt on the corner of Hall Lane and Green Lane.

[2017]

BLACK COUNTRY ARMS

9, High Street / Goodall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Ephraim Deykin (leased)
William Farmer [1819]
Walsall Corporation [1872]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1986]
Black Country Traditional Inns (acquired in 2008)

LICENSEES

Ephraim Deykin [1707]
Thomas Fletcher [] – **1781**)
Hemming [1795]
William Bagley [c.1807]
Thomas Wakeman [1810]
James Wakeman [1813]
William Farmer [1818] – [1819]
J Wilkinson [1822]
Thomas Croxall [1828] – [1830]
John Eld [1830]
James Bullock [1834] – [1835]
Alfred Moss [1841] – [1842]
John Clements [1845] – **1848**);
Mrs. Frances Priscilla Clements (**1848** – [1850])
Edward Parker [1851] – [1858]
Mark Parker [1861] ?
Mrs. Mary Ann Parker [1860] – [1861]
Robert Leighton [1862] – [1870]
Mrs. Ann Leighton [1871] – [1873];
William Parker [1880] – [1881];
Mrs. Mary Parker [1889] – **1894**);
Charles Henry Roberts (**1894** – [1897]);
Thomas Deakin [1900] – [1901];
William Cooper [] – **1902**);
Selwyn Hawkins (**1902** – **1909**):
Steve Bunce (**1989** – [1990])
Barry Shingler [2009] manager
Debbie Humphries (**2009** – **2012**);
Kim Langford (**2012**– [2022])

NOTES

It was situated on the north side of High Street.

DRAGON [1813], [1818], [1819], [1841], [1842], [1850], [1860], [1864], [1866], [1868], [1870], [1872], [1891], [1892], [1896], [1900], [1903]
GREEN DRAGON [1822], [1828]
ROYAL OAK AND DRAGON [1834], [1835]
DRAGON INN & HOTEL [1862]
DRAGON HOTEL [1881], [1890], [1900], [1901], [1904], [1911]

Commercial inn [1849], [1850], [1851]
Excise office [1849]
Corn inspector's office and Inland Revenue office. [1861]
Commercial hotel and Inland Revenue office. [1868], [1870]
DRAGON HOTEL, assembly room and inland revenue office. [1872]

It was Grade II listed.

It was originally part of the Guildhall.

It had a bowling green. [1834]

It had a ballroom.

Ephraim Deykin leased the property as an inn. [1707]

By 1769 it was known as the GREEN DRAGON.

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/4/1772 - Advert](#)

“To Cover this Season, at 15s a Mare, and 1s the Groom, the famous Yorkshire Bay Colt Young Sportsman..... This Colt, for Size, Strength, Beauty, Action, Movement, and Colour, may challenge any Horse in the Kingdom..... Sportsman will be at the GREEN DRAGON in Walsall every Tuesday.”

It was rebuilt c.1773.

Thomas Fletcher built the GEORGE HOTEL in 1781.

[Black Country Bugle 15/1/2020](#)

“.....Among the region's haunted boozers is the BLACK COUNTRY ARMS in Walsall, one of the oldest pubs in the town, dating back to at least the early 17th century – the earliest reference to the place is from 1627.

Formerly known as the GREEN DRAGON, the hostelry always enjoyed a prominent position in the town as it was attached to the Guildhall. Several ghosts have been reported there, including a spectral dog, but the best known is the so-called Blue Lady. She is seen looking out from a second-floor window – a window it is impossible to stand at as the floor has been removed years ago in an internal renovation. She wears a blue dress in the style of the 18th century and in the early 2000s Claire Dolman of Walsall's Central Library did some research and found a likely identity for her.

Mary *Hemming* was the wife of the licensee and lived at the pub from the 1750s to the 1780s. Tragically, her three sons all died within six months of each other.”

[Staffordshire Advertiser 22/8/1795](#)

“Wednesday last died at Walsall, Mr. *Hemming*, of the DRAGON INN, in that town, aged 28.”

The assembly rooms were used as a temporary theatre from 1787 to 1803.

It is reputed that Sarah Siddons played here.

James Wakeman, victualler, High Street. [1813]

[‘The History and Directory of Walsall’ by Thomas Pearce 1813](#)

“At the DRAGON INN, situate in the High Street, kept by Mr. *James Wakeman*, is a large Assembly Room, and was, previous to the building of the theatre, in the Square [built 1803], taken by the late Samuel Stanton, for many seasons, erecting, within the same, a temporary theatre, consisting of a pit and gallery, in which his company used to perform to many an overflowing house.”
AND

“At the DRAGON INN, kept by Mr. *James Wakeman*, there is an excellent Bowling Green”

The assembly rooms were leased as a Catholic chapel in 1819.

[Staffordshire Advertiser 24/9/1825 - Advert](#)

“Walsall Races.....

Ordinary on Wednesday at the GEORGE HOTEL; on Thursday at the DRAGON; and Ball at the GEORGE HOTEL.

Cocking in the Cock Pit, at the NEW INN, Park Street.

Performances at the Theatre every night as usual.”

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 13/12/1830 - Advert](#)

“DRAGON INN, High Street, Walsall.

J. Eld begs leave most respectfully to inform his Friends that his House Warming will take place on Monday next, December 20, when the favour of their company will be esteemed.

Dinner on the table at three o'clock.

Tickets one Sovereign each.”

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/6/1848 - Died](#)

“On the 11th instant, after long illness, Mr. *John Clements*, of the DRAGON INN, High Street, Walsall, aged 36 years.”

[1851 Census](#)

High Street

[1] *Edward Parker* (47), unmarried, innkeeper, maltster, born Norton, Staffordshire;

[2] *Eliza Paviter* (40), cousin, barmaid, born Birmingham;

[3] *Mary Marlew* (23), housekeeper, born Norton, Staffordshire;

[4] *Mary Amshere* (20), visitor, housekeeper, born Birmingham;

- [5] Matilda Anslow (18), house servant, born Norton, Staffordshire;
[6] George Jackson (26), ostler, born Cannock;
[7] Thomas Timmins (43), brewer and maltster, born Tentenall [Tettenhall?];
[8] Martha Hassell (28), house servant, born Homen, Shropshire:

A new Assembly room was added to the rear in Goodall Street in 1851.

Birmingham Journal 17/11/1855 - Advert

“To Maltsters, Brewers, Publicans, &c.

Improved Malt Mills, Double Geared, to gain either Speed or Power, and constructed to meet the requirements of the Excise Commissioners, are now being manufactured by Dixon, Bell, and Co.

These Mills may be seen in operation at the following places.....

Walsall – At Mr. *Edward Parker*'s, DRAGON INN, High Street....

Agent. Mr. Edmund W. Otway, Meyers Green, West Bromwich.”

1861 Census

9, High Street

- [1] *Mary Ann Parker* (47), victualler, born Harborne;
[2] *Mary Ann Parker* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
[3] *Emma Price* (22), niece, barmaid, born London;
[4] *Fraser Parker* (33), lodger, brown saddle maker, born Lincolnshire;
[5] *Thomas Dixon* (26), widower, spring hook maker employing 6 men, born Walsall;
[6] *Elizabeth Mooring* (25), general servant, born Cannock;
[7] *John Cook* (48), ostler and groom, born Walsall:

Slaters Directory 1862 - Advert

“DRAGON INN and Hotel, High Street, Walsall.

Robert Leighton, Proprietor.

R. L. begs most respectfully to inform Commercial Gentlemen, Tourists, Families, and the Public, that he has entered upon the above old Inn and Hotel, and Assembly Rooms attached (lately held by *M. A. Parker*), and that they will find First-class Accommodation combined with very Moderate Charges.

An Ordinary every Tuesday and County Court days, at half-past 1 o'clock, Charge, 1s 6d.

Inland Revenue and Corn Law Return Office and Exchange is held at the above Inn.

Wines and Spirits of Superior Quality.

NB. The County Court is held in the above Assembly Rooms.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. *Robert Leighton*'s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1863, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o'clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *Leighton*, DRAGON INN.”

Walsall Free Press 30/9/1865 - Advert

“The Annual Dinner of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society will be held at the house of Mr *Leighton*'s, the DRAGON INN, High Street, on Thursday, 5th October, 1865.

Thomas Hazledine, Esq, Mayor has kindly consented to preside. Mr. Councillor Henry Hale, Vice president.

Tickets 3s each, may be had at the DRAGON INN, High Street, or at the WHEAT SHEAF INN, King Street, By order of the Committee.

Dinner on the table at Four o'clock precisely.

W. Reynold, Secretary.”

Walsall Free Press 31/3/1866 - Advert

“Independent Order Of Odd Fellows (Manchester Unity). Bescot Bridge Division.

The members of the Bescot Bridge District of the above Order respectfully inform the Public that they intend holding their First Annual Tea Party, Concert, & Ball, in the Guildhall Assembly Room, Walsall, on Easter Monday, April 2nd, 1866.

The entire proceeds of which will be invested in Trust for the Benefit of the Cottage Hospital.

Tickets, 1s 6d each.

Early applications for tickets is requested, as the Committee have limited the number to 500, and no Money will be taken at the door.

Tickets may be obtained at the DRAGON INN, and the WHITE LION INN, High Street; the DOLPHIN INN, George Street; the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street; at 16 Bath Street, the 'Walsall News' Office, and of Mr. J. T. King, printer, Stafford Street.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/10/1866

“The Dramatic Club. On Thursday evening, the termination of the first year of existence of this club was celebrated by a supper at the DRAGON INN, Mr. H. Duigan presiding, and the occasion was deemed a fitting one for the presentation to Mr. E. S. Hildick of a well-fitted dressing case, which had been subscribed for by his brother members as a light recognition for his services as acting manager during the year. The report showed that after allowing for scenery of the value of £30, in possession of the club, £16 had been cleared by the year’s transactions, the expenditure having amounted to £114, and the receipts to £130.”

1871 Census

9, High Street

- [1] *Ann Leighton* (56), widow, hotel keeper, born Wil _____, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Edwin Leighton* (23), son, commercial traveller (merchant), born Lichfield;
- [3] *Robert Leighton* (21), son, brewer’s agent, born Lichfield;
- [4] *Ann Leighton* (20), daughter, born Lichfield;
- [5] *Richard H. Leighton* (17), son, railway clerk, born Lichfield;
- [6] *John Leighton* (13), son, scholar, born Lichfield;
- [7] *William Quinlan* (38), boarder, officer Inland Revenue, born Ireland;
- [8] *Edward Pepper* (23), boarder, born Ireland;
- [9] *Kate Leighton* (26), visitor, born Ireland;
- [10] *John Cook* (58), ostler, born Bromsgrove;
- [11] *Martha Goodwell* (23), housemaid, born Birmingham;
- [12] *Fanny Lea* (23), kitchenmaid, born Walsall;
- [13] *Sarah Miller*, parlourmaid, born Birmingham:

Evening Express 6/1/1881

“Walsall Cricket Club. The annual general meeting of the above club was held at the DRAGON HOTEL, yesterday (Wednesday) evening. The president (Mr. Samuel Russell) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance of members. The Chairman said the actual payments for the past year were £125, and the receipts £93, so that they would have had a large deficiency had it not been that the Sports Committee handed them over £42, the proceeds of the sports last year, which gave them a balance in hand of over £20 with which to commence the work of the ensuing year. He mentioned that to show that so far as the cricket club was concerned, it was not self-supporting, and at some future time it was a subject which would require the serious consideration of the members.

Mr. Hurst, the secretary, reported that the club had played 19 matches during the past year, won 10, lost 4, and drawn 5, two of the latter having been very much in their favour. He (Mr. Hurst) was very proud of the results of last year, which placed them once more in the enviable position they occupied four or five years ago as one of the best local clubs in South Staffordshire.....”

Evening Express 22/1/1881

“Yesterday (Friday) afternoon, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, held an inquest at the DRAGON HOTEL, Walsall, upon the body of Mrs. Roper, aged seventy-five years, wife of Edwin Roper, Goodhall Street.

From the evidence it appeared that the deceased had been ailing for some time, but declined to have any medical assistance. On Tuesday a neighbour called to see her, and finding her in a delicate state went to procure some refreshment for her, and when she returned, in about ten minutes, found deceased was expiring. Dr. Gordon was at once sent for, but before he arrived life was extinct.

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

Evening Express 30/3/1881

“Yesterday (Tuesday) evening a complimentary dinner was given, in the DRAGON HOTEL, to Mr. I. B. Shawe, who is leaving Walsall to take up an appointment as singer in the church at Southwell Minster, near Nottingham. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. P. Pritchard.....”

1881 Census

9, High Street

- [1] *William Parker* (49), licensed victualler, born Scotland;
- [2] *Mary Parker* (50), wife, born Scotland;
- [3] *Lizzie Walton* (18), barmaid, born Shrewsbury;
- [4] *Jane Murry* (28), cook, born Totnes, Devonshire;
- [5] *Sarah Carter* (21), kitchen maid, born Walsall;
- [6] *Elizabeth Beck* (23), waitress, born Walsall;
- [7] *Eliza Roden* (16), waitress, born Stone, Staffordshire;
- [8] *William Mahon* (17), hostler, born Oxford;
- [9] *George Lyons* (42), widower, hostler, born Oxford:

Evening Express 3/9/1881

“A meeting of manufacturers and commercial gentlemen was held in the DRAGON HOTEL, Walsall, on Friday, for the purpose

of forming a Chamber of Commerce for the town and district.

Mr. Joseph Newman (Mayor) occupied the chair....." [This was accepted unanimously.]

Evening Express 9/9/1881

"An inquest was held at the DRAGON HOTEL, Walsall, on Thursday afternoon, before A. SA. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, touching the death of Philip Howlett, wood turner, lately residing in Goodall Street, Walsall.

Anne Howlett, wife of the deceased, deposed that between 10 and 12 years ago the deceased was severely wounded on the head with a piece of timber, and since that time he always appeared excited and hasty during the period of a full moon. On Wednesday the deceased had been at work all day in the house, and was not under the influence of drink when he went to bed at nine o'clock, he only having had two pints of beer during the whole day. About half past twelve o'clock in the morning, the deceased got out as was his wont, and left the room to go downstairs. The deceased had just got out of the room when witness heard a noise, and on going out to the landing she found that the deceased had fallen downstairs. Deceased's son and daughter went down, and found deceased with his head on the floor and his feet upon the stairs. Dr. Gordon and Mr. Garrett, surgeon, were sent for, and said that deceased was quite dead.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Evening Express 17/9/1881

"An adjourned meeting of merchants and manufacturers was held at the DRAGON HOTEL, Walsall, on Friday afternoon, for the purpose of forming a Chamber of Commerce for the town and district of Walsall. Mr. Joseph Newman (Mayor) occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance....."

Evening Express 21/9/1881

"Walsall Chamber of Commerce. The first meeting of the Council of the above body was held at the DRAGON HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday afternoon. The first business was the election of officers for the ensuing year....."

Walsall Observer 4/4/1885

"The annual festival of the Lodge of St. Matthew, 539, held at the DRAGON HOTEL, took place on Thursday last....."

Mrs. *Mary Parker* was fined 20s and costs, on 8th May 1889, for selling during unlawful hours.

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

"At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Mr. Jackson, for *Mary Parker*, of the DRAGON HOTEL, applied for a license for music, singing, and dancing for the assembly room, both for six nights per week. He said that the license was also required to cover music and singing at religious services held in the assembly room on Sundays and on two nights in the week. The Chief Constable said that these services were excluded from the operation of the Act; but the Magistrates' Clerk said the section was so strangely worded that he was not prepared to say that much. The words were 'provided that this section shall not refer to an entertainment given by a religious body,' and the question was whether a public service could be considered as an entertainment....

The Bench retired for about half an hour, and on their return the Magistrates' Clerk read the decisions....

Granted. The DRAGON HOTEL, for the assembly room, and for music and singing only in the dining room, also for music and singing in the assembly-room on Sundays, during religious services."

1891 Census

9, High Street – DRAGON INN

[1] *Mary Parker* (54), widow, licensed victualler, born Scotland;

[2] Sarah A. Green (23), barmaid, born Enville;

[3] Eliza Pinfold (24), waitress, born Henley, Warwickshire;

[4] Harriet Spooner (20), housemaid, born Brownhills;

[5] Alice Spooner (21), cook, born Great Barr:

St. Matthews Masonic Lodge (No.539) and Vernon Chapter were based here. [1896], [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

"Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

11th December, *Charles Henry Roberts*, DRAGON HOTEL, High Street, was ordered to pay costs for permitting drunkenness."

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

"The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Then the magistrates also want to know if you can report to them during the sitting of this meeting as to the accommodation provided by the GEORGE HOTEL, the STORK, the DRAGON, the PRIORY, NEW INNS, the WOOLPACK, and the QUEENS?

.....the Chief Constable said he was then in possession of the information asked by the Magistrates with reference to the bedroom accommodation at the hotels. At the GEORGE HOTEL there were nineteen beds for commercials. The two large rooms at that hotel, formerly used for balls, &c, had been converted into eight bedrooms and a bathroom, and no plans had been submitted for

the alterations. At the PRIORY there were six bedrooms for accommodation, five at the DRAGON, three at the QUEENS, but there was no bedroom accommodation at the STORK, NEW INNS, and the WOOLPACK Hotels.....
Mr. Loxton announced that the hotel licenses would be renewed with the exception of the GEORGE.”

Walsall Observer 17/2/1900

“Shannon’s Cricket Club Annual Dinner. On Saturday night last the 14th annual dinner in connection with this club was held at the DRAGON HOTEL, when a large number of members and friends sat down to a well served and excellent repast, provided by Mr. and Mrs. *Deakin*.....”

Walsall Advertiser 14/4/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the DRAGON HOTEL, High Street.....”

Walsall Observer 5/5/1900

“Monday evening last, being the final meeting of the session of the Walsall Musical Society at the DRAGON HOTEL, advantage was taken of the occasion to show the appreciation the society has for the valuable services rendered by the president, Mr. Alderman Newman. The presentation took the form of a full-sized photograph of the worthy alderman, together with one to be hung in the society’s room, accompanied by an illuminated address. The photographs and address were of the highest order of artistic merit, the former by Mr. J. A. Draycott, and the latter by Mr. Dunham, both of Walsall, and all were handsomely framed. The presentation was made, on behalf of the members of the society, by Mr. F. H. Taylor, one of the vice presidents and the chairman for the evening, who spoke of the eminent services that had been rendered to the society by Mr. Newman, as president during the long period of seventeen years, and of the great interest he had taken in its welfare.....”

Walsall Observer 17/11/1900

“On Saturday night last the members of the South Staffordshire branch of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers’ Association held the second smoking concert of the season, at the DRAGON HOTEL.....”

AND

“On Thursday night the annual dinner of the Walsall Bowling Club took place at the DRAGON HOTEL, provided by Mr. and Mrs. *Deakin*, who worthily held up the reputation of this hostelry. About fifty members and friends sat down.....”

1901 Census

High Street – DRAGON HOTEL

- [1] *Thomas Deakin* (53), licensed victualler, born Pontesbury, Shropshire;
- [2] *Susie L. Deakin* (34), wife, born Nottingham;
- [3] *Edith M. Deakin* (19), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] *Louie M. Deakin* (17), daughter, type writer, born Walsall;
- [5] *Annie D. Deakin* (15), daughter, type writer, born Walsall;
- [6] *John L. Griffiths* (24), boots etc, born Wales;
- [7] *Annie Wall* (24), waitress, born Bridgewater, Somerset;
- [8] *Harriett E. Morris* (17), general servant, born Great Barr:

Wednesbury Leader 19/10/1901

“A meeting of the Walsall Football Association, presided over by Councillor J. Noake, was held at the DRAGON HOTEL, Walsall. A new rule was adopted to the effect that gate money taken in junior cup semi-final matches should be equally divided between the clubs competing and the association, after all expenses had been paid.....”

William Cooper moved to the SPOTTED COW, Bloxwich.

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....
DRAGON HOTEL, High Street. 2s 7d.”

The license renewal was refused on 3rd February 1909, and closed.

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

“There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....
In regard to the DRAGON HOTEL, High Street, of which notice of objection had been given, Mr. Hodgkinson, of Vincent and Co., Birmingham, appeared for the landlord, Mr. *Selwyn Hawkins*. Mr. Hodgkinson explained that having regard to its position and class of trade it was not required and necessary to meet the needs of the district.

Mr. C. A. Loxton (to the landlord): I take it on these figures you have not much profit? – Mr. *Hawkins*: It is decreasing every week, as those figures show.

In reply to further questions Mr. *Hawkins* admitted that he could not make it pay.

Mr. Loxton: Is the house tied? – Mr. *Hawkins*: Not in any way.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1909

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, 1909, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

The DRAGON, High Street, Alehouse. Licensee, *Selwyn Hawkins*.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The principal meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, when eight beer-houses and one ale-house, the licenses of which had been referred by the licensing justices, were dealt with, and in each instance the houses were referred for compensation, which means in due course the houses will close.....

The first case dealt with was the DRAGON, High Street; owners, the Corporation; licensee Mr. *Selwyn Hawkins*. Mr. J. R. Cooper appeared for the owners, and Mr. Marshall (instructed by Messrs. Pinsent and Co., Birmingham), was for the tenant.

Mr. Cooper said he need not trouble the court with any evidence. His position was simply this: The Corporation felt that as the Licensing Renewal Authority thought fit to report ‘the DRAGON’ for compensation, they ought not to be a party to anything that would prevent effect being given to the renewal authority’s recommendation. Anything he could say of the DRAGON and its tenant, of course, would be of a complimentary character. It was an old historic house with a connection with the political and social life of the borough, and the character of the tenant was of the very best. The Corporation had always avoided letting the house to a brewery company because they were anxious that it should maintain the reputation it had enjoyed for many years of being a first-class commercial house. But he was afraid they must recognise the fact that times had changed. The time was when those who administered justice in that court had an affection for beer (laughter). Anyhow, one was to believe that such was so when they took into consideration the number of licensed houses they had in close proximity to the court. As he said, times had changed, and they recognised the fact that there was a redundancy of houses in that neighbourhood; and that being so, the local authority of the borough would not set itself in opposition to any decision which the licensing justices might come to.

Mr. Marshall said he appeared for the tenant, and was there to say for him, that he as tenant of the Corporation, placed himself entirely in the hands of the justices. While he had been in the house he had recognised what the Town Clerk had said, that the character of the house was of high standing, and had allowed that fact to guide him in the attitude he had taken to maintain its high standard and historical associations; and he had no doubt that he would leave the place with mixed feelings. At the same time, of course, it was true that times had changed, and it might be that the bench would be of opinion that the house was not required in that district. He did not know if any evidence was required. It was perfectly true that the business done there now was not to be compared with that commanded in years gone by; but, at the same time, a certain amount of business was being done, yet it would be for the bench to decide that matter. He was not there to raise any opposition, and, like the Town Clerk, would leave the matter in their hands.

Chief-Inspector Ballance repeated the evidence given before the licensing justices. This was to the effect that the premises were old and close to the police court and the policemen’s quarters. It did a little business, but no commercial trade now. There were six other ale and beer off-licenses in High Street, which, so far as drinking was concerned, met all the requirements. None of them had the same assembly room accommodation as was possessed by the DRAGON.

Replying to the Magistrates’ Clerk, Mr. Cooper said the tenant was paying a rent of £75, and was subject to three months’ notice. Within his own recollection the rent of the DRAGON had been £200.

Mr. Loxton: Then so far as to-day is concerned, the Mayor and Corporation are the owners and Mr. *Hawkins* tenant; and the latter is subject to three months’ notice? Have you formed any idea of what the compensation should be? – Mr. Cooper: No. The first thing to determine is whether the house is unnecessary. If they found that it was, then the next step was to determine the amount of compensation.

Mr. Loxton: Surely the amount must have a great deal to do as to whether the house is necessary or not?

Mr. Cooper did not think so. They had to remove the evil first. The question of compensation was a secondary matter.

Mr. Loxton: It may be a secondary matter, but in order to ascertain whether there was redundancy they must know something of what the house is doing.

Mr. Cooper pointed out that the object of the Act was in the first case to get rid of evil.

Mr. Jackson: Don’t call it evil (laughter).

Mr. Cooper: I don’t represent the trade; but the evil is the redundancy. Replying to Mr. Loxton, Mr. Cooper said he was not in a position to give any figures today. The question did not arise in that court. The matter would come on when they were considering the question of compensation.

Mr. Gill: But you are asking for something for the Corporation? – Mr. Cooper: Well, sir, I should not be doing my duty to you as a rate payer if I didn’t.

The Bench having heard each case separately retired to consider their decision. In returning, the Mayor intimated that the renewals authority report would be adopted, and all the houses referred for compensation.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1909

“A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall, on Thursday, Sir Edward T. Holden presiding over a full Bench of Magistrates.....

In the case of the DRAGON HOTEL, Walsall, Mr. Victor Cooke, assistant Town Clerk, appeared, and stated that the only parties

interested were the Corporation, and Mr. *Selwyn Hawkins*, the tenant.....

The Magistrates decided to hold a further private sitting to go into the question of figures with the solicitors.

The decisions will be announced at a later date.”

Midland Counties Evening News 12/10/1909

“The final meeting of the Walsall Corporation Authority was held at the Guildhall today Hotel, of which Walsall Corporation were the owners Proceeding, the Town Clerk [J. R. Cooper] said he had had an opportunity, by the kind consideration of the Bench, of discussing one or two points in connection with the DRAGON, with Mr. Loxton [magistrates' clerk]. He (Mr. Cooper) pointed out to the Bench, when he made the application for an adjournment, that the DRAGON occupied quite a different position to any other licensed houses with which the Bench was dealing. In most of the claims which the Bench had to determine upon, they had the difficult question of the brewers' interest to settle. In the case of the DRAGON, there was no question whatsoever of brewery interest, because the Corporation had always recognised the wisdom which the magistrates had shown in regard to the desire on their part to preserve as far as possible the character of the licensed houses in this town.

The Council had refused to be party to the DRAGON being a tied house. When they accepted the present tenant (Mr. *Hawkins*) they had a much higher rent offered for the premises. Mr. *Hawkins* paid an annual rent of £200.....

The magistrates, however, in their wisdom had thought it desirable that this house should be closed. The Council acquiesced and now came the question as to what compensation should be paid in respect of these premises.

(Proceeding)”

It became offices of the Magistrates Clerk.

It was rebuilt and re-licensed by Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries and reopened in 1976.

Steve Bunce was married to Sue.

See also DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Bilston.

[2005]

Part of the building became COBRA LOUNGE lap dancing club in 2006.

It closed in 2008.

It reopened as the BLACK COUNTRY ARMS in November 2008.

Debbie Humphries – see also KING GEORGE V.

It was Walsall CAMRA Pub of the Year in 2009, 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2018.

Kim Langford was married to Roy.

See also PRETTY BRICKS.

Express & Star 23/10/2020

“Pubs bosses in the West Midlands say they feel like they're always ‘jumping through hoops’ with the constant Government rule changes within the hospitality industry. Rules in Wolverhampton, Sandwell and Walsall prevent households from mixing in pubs and restaurants due to a surge in cases leading them to be placed into the Government's Tier 2. It has meant less trade, even on busy weekend nights, leaving many places struggling to stay open. And bosses said even with those visiting for a bite to eat, it was almost impossible to check if they were living together.....

Kim Langford, licensee of the BLACK COUNTRY ARMS pub in Walsall, said it had been ‘stressful’ and was like ‘jumping through hoops.’ She said, ‘We’ve had to organise our tables so if we’ve got single people coming in, they can sit on their own and then you get potentially less people in the pub – it’s really had an impact on trade. The weekend wasn’t as bad as I expected but Friday was quiet. It’s difficult, but all you can do is ask to see if people are in the same household and that’s what we do. If they say ‘yes’ then that’s as much as we can do – we can’t ask them for their council tax bill, but we’re asking and asking people to check in with the app. It’s difficult and quite stressful because you think you’ve got a system set up and the parameters change again – it’s the rule of six a few weeks back and it’s changed since.’

Ms. *Langford* said trade had been returning to near normal levels in the lunchtime last month with people returning to the office, but it has since taken another blow due to people now being told to work from home.....”

Express & Star 17/12/2022

“As pubs continue to battle the cost of living crisis, the *Express & Star* continues its Love Your Local series which celebrates our local inns. The BLACK COUNTRY ARMS is one of the Walsall's most ancient hostelries with a history that dates back to the 1600s. It's also one of the town's most popular venues, not only because of its name but also thanks to its incredible drinks selection. Part of the Black Country Ales chain, the Grade II listed building, formerly known as the GREEN DRAGON, is situated in the heart of Walsall and is known as being its foremost real ale pub with no fewer than 20 hand-pulls featuring ever-changing cask ales and ciders from across the UK. The BLACK COUNTRY ARMS is known for having a great atmosphere, serving great drinks including popular ales, and also serves great-tasting food. Licensee *Kim Langford*, from Wolverhampton, has run it for 10

years, along with her husband Roy. *Kim* feels proud to be in charge of such a popular establishment with a rich history..... The decor inside the building, with its high ceilings and grand design makes it stand out, whilst it also provides a comforting, cosy, traditional pub feel too – as stated on its website, it offers a warm and friendly welcome, has a relaxing atmosphere and quite simply, is ‘a local in the town’ of Walsall. Serving top quality drinks is one of the things the pub is famous for, with many rave reviews of the variety of ales on offer. Since the couple took over in 2012, after previously running the PRETTY BRICKS, the pub has won a numerous amount of awards such as the CAMRA award for pub of the year in 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019 – they also won the West Midlands pub of the year in 2016. It has become a household name not only with residents in Walsall, but with people from far and wide, *Kim* says.

There is also a function room on offer in the pub, on the upper floor, which *Kim* says is popular for private events such as birthdays, anniversaries and there have been weddings too. The couple host an annual beer festival which they say is really popular, as they source beers from far and wide for their customers, while the regulars also joke that their drinks selection is so big, it is literally like having a beer festival every day at the BLACK COUNTRY ARMS.....”

[2022]

BLACK HORSE

608, (612), (340), Bloxwich Road (Walsall Road), (Mount Pleasant) / Harden Road, Leamore, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

T. Whitgreave, Ribly Terrace, Kirkham, near Preston
Mr. Badger
Mrs. Badger
John Williams, victualler, Wolverhampton
Thomas Williams, Vale House, Goldthorn Hill, Wolverhampton
Bill Wilkinson
Eleys Stafford Brewery Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1907)

LICENSEES

George Baugh [1828] – [1830]
John Kirk [1835]
Thomas Alsop [1841] – [1842]
Simeon Bird [1849] – [1851]
William Birch [1857]
Thomas Adams [1857] – **1863**)
Alfred Keats [1864] – **1866**);
John Williams (**1866** – []
George Bird [1868] – [1870]
Lloyd Smith [1870] – [1881]
Sarah Smith [1881];
Thomas Chidlow [] – **1888**);
Joseph Stackhouse (**1888** – **1890**);
Josiah Wedge (**1890** – **1898**);
Elizabeth Wedge (**1898** – **1899**);
Jeptha Wilkinson (**1899** – **1902**);
James Walters [1900] ?
Fred Webster Chinn (**1902** – **1904**);
Ernest Whitehead (**1904** – **1905**);
Walter George Jones (**1905** – **1906**);
Robert W Hall [] – **1910**) manager
Mrs. May Hall (**1910** – [] ?
David Lawrence (**1906** – **1912**);
Enoch Astley [1907] - [1908] ?
William Cyrus Hodges [] – **1912**) ?
Edward James Perry (**1912** – **1922**);
George Henry Merrett (**1922** – **1929**);
George Henry Dawkins (**1929** – **1930**);

Charles Merrett (1930 – 1933);
Edwin Thomas Glover (1933 – 1934);
Alva Wragg (1934 – 1936);
Sidney Norman Horton (1936 – 1942);
Constance Mary Horton (1942 – 1944);
Albert George Bettles (1944 – 1945);
Kenneth Charles Stirling (1945 – [1946])

NOTES

Mount Pleasant [1828], [1830], [1849], [1850]
340, Bloxwich Road [1881], [1891]
612, Bloxwich Road [1932], [1940]
608, Bloxwich Road

It had a beerhouse license.

It was locally listed.

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/12/1835 - Deaths

“On Sunday last, of consumption, aged 33, Sarah, wife of Mr. *John Kirk*, of the BLACK HORSE INN, Bloxwich. She was an affectionate wife and mother, and a sincere friend; and though her bereaved family lament her early removal from this sublunary scene, they cherish the hope that she is gone to a better world.”

Simeon Bird was also a plater (bits and stirrups). [1849], [1850]

The Era 7/12/1851

“Jones of Bloxwich will run Wesley of Walsall, 149 yards, for £25 a side; and will make the match any time at *S. Bird's*, the BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Free Press 31/10/1857

“To Be Sold by Auction, By H. Farrington, at the house of Mr. Poyner, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Bloxwich Road, on Monday, the 2nd day of November, 1857, at Six, for Seven o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions then to be produced, in the following or other such lots as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale.

Lot 2. All that newly-built and well-arranged Leasehold Public-House and Premises, being most desirably and advantageously situated at the corner of the Bloxwich Turnpike-road and Leamore Lane, and opposite the OLD BLACK HORSE INN, and now occupied by Mr. *William Birch*.

The House and Premises contain a spacious Tap-room, a capital large shop used as a butcher's shop, Bar, Parlour, Kitchen, three good Bedrooms, a capital Lodge or Club-room, sixty feet long, three capital Cellars, with entrance into the yard, a famous large Cistern of Soft Water, a Well of capital Hard Water, and every convenience for carrying on a large trade.

The Auctioneer begs to call the attention of parties desiring to purchase a Public-house, as the situation of the above house stands first rate for the Collieries and Ironworks which are now in full operation, and, no doubt, from its excellent accommodation, that it will receive an old license.”

Thomas Adams = Thomas Adows

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/7/1863 - Deaths

“On the 10th instant, after a few days' illness, Mr. *Thomas Adows*, the BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich, much respected.”

Alfred Keats = Alfred Keates

Walsall Free Press 7/5/1864 - Advert

“A Picnic And Tea Party will take place at Mr. *A. Keates*, OLD BLACK HORSE INN, Bloxwich, on Whit-Wednesday. Tea on the Table at Five o'clock. Dancing to commence at Six. *Keates's* Brass and String Band will be in attendance. Mr. Bray will quote several passages from Shakespeare. Tickets 1s each.”

George Bird was also a butcher. [1868], [1870]

1881 Census

340, Bloxwich Road – OLD BLACK HORSE

[1] *Lloyd Smith* (40), widower, licensed victualer, born Kinnersley, Shropshire;

[2] *Clara Smith* (19), daughter, born Willenhall;

[3] *Arthur Smith* (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

- [4] Clement Smith (11), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Fred Smith (9), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Alice Smith (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Sarah Smith (5), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Leonard Smith (2), son, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Amelia Fowles (27), visitor, dress maker, born Wolverhampton:

1891 Census

340, Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Josiah Wedge* (61), harness furniture manufacturer and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Wedge (50), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Mary J. Randall (18), domestic servant, born Wyrley, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 19/11/1898

“Plans were submitted by Mr. F. Bill, on behalf of Mr. Wilkinson, the owner of the BLACK HORSE, Harden Lane, Bloxwich, for alterations to the licensed premises. In making the application, Mr. Bill stated the house was a dilapidated one, and it was proposed to modernise it.

Evidence as to the plans was given by Mr. Mathew Butcher, architect.

Chief Constable Taylor pointed out that the proposed alteration was a desirable one.

The alterations were sanctioned subject to a private entrance shown on the plans being closed.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1899

“The Street Committee, the following plans, during the past month have been approved, subject to the usual conditions.....

J. Wilkinson, rebuilding the BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich Road, Leamore.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/6/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

The following twenty-one persons were elected members of the society..... *James Walters*, BLACK HORSE INN, Leamore.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/5/1903

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday evening.....

New Members..... *F. W. Chinn*, BLACK HORSE HOTEL, Leamore.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/11/1904 - Advert

“Highly Important Sale, of Four Freehold Full-Licensed, Free Public Houses, with Retail Shops and Cottages, at and near Wolverhampton, Walsall, and Tipton.

To Brewers, Wine and Spirit Merchants, Home-Brewing Publicans, and Others.

Walter Hughes, FAI, has received instructions to Offer for Sale by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, the 7th of December, 1904, at Five for Six o’clock in the Evening.....

Lot 3. BLACK HORSE HOTEL and Brewery, Bloxwich Road, Leamore, Walsall.

All that Freehold, Fully-Licensed, Free Public House, occupying a fine Corner position at Leamore, known as the BLACK HORSE HOTEL, fronting the main road leading from Bloxwich to Walsall, having a second frontage to the Harden road, and prominent also to the Leamore road; together with the Four-Quarter Brewery in the Yard at the rear thereof.

These Premises have a handsome elevation; they stand at the corner of four roads, and have been recently erected in red brick, partly timbered, having stained-glass windows, and with tiled roof, and without question forms the handsomest Inn or Hotel in this locality.

The Hotel comprises, in Basement, excellent dry cellarage, with rolling-way from Yard. On the Ground Floor, handsome liquor vaults, 41ft 6in x 20ft 6in; large smokeroom, 29ft x 14ft 2in; best smokeroom, 17ft 6in x 14ft; kitchen, scullery, and two pantries. On First Floor, clubroom or billiard room, 26ft x 15ft; spirit store-room, sitting-room, six bedrooms, bathroom, with fixed lavatory, w.c.

The Brewery in Yard at rear contains Four-quarter Brewing Plant on the gravitation principle, with every convenience for Brewing about 100 Barrels per week.

There is a separate Gateway Entrance to Yard and Brewery.

The Trade and other Fixtures and Fittings upon the Premises will have to be taken to a Valuation to be made in the usual way.

The Premises are substantially built, and are situated in a rapidly-growing neighbourhood, large numbers of new houses having been recently erected and now in course of erection.

There is a steady and increasing trade being carried on on the Premises.

The Sales of Beers for the year ending September, 1904, were 348 Barrels, in addition to which there is a large trade in Bottled Ales and Stouts, besides Wines and Spirits.

Early possession may be arranged for.

The Mines and Minerals are reserved subject to compensation for damage to buildings.

The Purchaser will have the option of purchasing 1,200 Square Yards of Freehold Land at the rear of the Brewery, at 3s per yard.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/11/1904 - Advert

“Summary of Forthcoming Auction Sales

Wednesday, 7th December at the STAR & GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, at 5 for 6 o'clock, the Freehold Full-Licensed 'Free' Public-House, known as the BLACK HORSE, Leamore, Walsall; Seven Freehold Retail Shops adjoining, and producing £205 8s a year, and other Properties.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/8/1907

“At the Police Court on Wednesday, a point of some interest arose when Mr. Bailey (solicitor) applied for the transfer of the license of the BLACK HORSE HOTEL, Bloxwich Road, to *Enoch Astley*. Mr. *Astley* (replying to the Bench) said that eight or nine years ago he had a license at the Birchills, Walsall, and the Mr. Taylor, who was then Chief Constable, threatened to oppose his license because one of his sons, who was mixed up in a shop-breaking affair, resorted to his house. He now, however, had nothing to do with his sons. The Chief Constable said that the applicant had for five years kept a license in Wolverhampton since he had one at Walsall, and he therefore did not oppose the application.

The Bench, however, remarked that they were equally divided in their opinion, and therefore the transfer would be refused.

Mr. Bailey said the decision would place the owners in a great difficulty, because the house was changing ownership, and the present licensee was leaving the house on Thursday.

Mr. Loxton, however, remarked that the Bench thought a further application could be made next week, when *Astley* might be better prepared to answer the questions put to him. They had refused the application chiefly because of the unsatisfactory way in which he had answered the questions.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/8/1909

“At Walsall Police Court, on Monday, Thomas Ridgeway, 13, Cope Street, Bloxwich, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises. Police-constable Harvey saw defendant go in a drunken condition into the BLACK HORSE HOTEL, Leamore, and on following him found that Mrs. *Astley* (the landlady), had refused to serve him. Defendant was put on his good behaviour for a month.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/7/1910

“A painful sensation was caused in the Leamore district on Wednesday morning by a tragic discovery which was made at the new BLACK HORSE HOTEL, *Robert Hall*, the manager of the house, being found in the pantry with a bullet wound in his head and a miniature rifle lying close at hand. *Hall*, who was bleeding copiously, received every attention at the hand of Dr. Martin Berry, before being removed to the Hospital, but it was evident that his condition was critical, and he expired during the afternoon of the same day.”

[At the inquest the jury returned a verdict of Suicide during Temporary Insanity.]

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1910

“Some fifteen applications for the transfers of public houses were made to the justices, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....

Temporary transfers had previously been granted and in all cases the full transfer was sanctioned, the Chief Constable making no objection.....

BLACK HORSE, Leamore, *May Hall* (widow of *Robert W. Hall*), to *May Hall*.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1912

“Mr. W. Bayliss presided at the adjourned Licensing session on Tuesday.....

Mr. Jackson applied for the transfer of the license of the BLACK HORSE, Leamore, from *William Cyrus Hodges* to *Edward James Perry*.

The Magistrates' Clerk put several questions to *Perry* as to the terms of his agreement, and Mr. Jackson remarked that as far as he knew these agreements were in accordance with the agreement come to in the matter three or four years ago.

Mr. Loxton remarked that there was a question as to whether the licensee should lose his license on the complaint by the Chief Constable or on a conviction.....

The Magistrates retired and on their return into Court the Chairman said: The whole of the licenses are granted subject to the amendments being made.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BLACK HORSE, Leamore, 5s 9½d.”

Walsall Observer 5/6/1926

“New Hope in Coal Situation.

How Unemployment and Relief Have Increased During the Fifth Week of Stoppage.....

Soup kitchens were yesterday opened by the Walsall Miners' Distress Committee in the Bloxwich and Leamore districts for the feeding of about 2,000 members of miners' families. The stations were – BLUE PIG INN (1,300 fed), TURF TAVERN (160), Field Street School (175), BLACK HORSE, Leamore (250), Blakenall Church Schools (250), and the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich (150). Although the committee are short of funds, they are taking the risk of carrying on the feeding for at least a week,

and will continue if more money is forthcoming. It is estimated that the week's effort will cost about £100. Seventeen gallons of milk, which have been given daily by Mr. Sid Field, of Blue Lane, have also been distributed this week."

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Horton*, the BLACK HORSE, Leamore. £0 17s 6d."

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

"After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

There were six summons against the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, Park Brewery, Wolverhampton, in respect of the FORGE INN, Pleck Road; RISING SUN, Green Lane; RED LION, Park Street; BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich Road; BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore; and HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane; and the managers of those houses, William Allport, Joseph Thomas Astbury, Thomas Purton Cole, *Constance Mary Horton*, Cyril Vernon Sleigh (now of Stafford Street), and Arthur Abraham Canning for aiding and abetting.

Mr. Cooper appeared for the brewery company and stated that it would be unfair and unjust if they were made to pay double the penalty imposed on the managers, as in the preceding cases, seeing that they had given specific instructions to all their managers that regulations must be strictly complied with and if they could not get sufficient coal for their purposes they should apply to the local Fuel Overseer for permits for extra supplies.

'I regard it as somewhat ungenerous on the part of Mr. Cooper to try to throw the blame on the poor managers,' said Mr. Hodgkinson, who pointed out that all the profits from the houses went to the brewery company and that the coal was not used for their own benefit but for the benefit of the public.

In these cases the brewery company was fined 10s in each case, and the other defendants £1 each except *Horton* who was ordered to pay £2."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich Road. £2 5s 0d."

A full license was transferred from the SPORTSMAN, Bloxwich in 1951.

It closed in 2009.

Fire damaged the first floor in March 2011.

It was demolished in 2011.

BLACK HORSE

1+2, Butts Street (Road), WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Holmes, Darlington

Thomas Plant

Mrs. Holmes (leased)

Messrs. Thompson and Son, maltsters and brewers, Oldbury

Showells Brewery Ltd.

Ind Coope and Allsopp (leased)

LICENSEES

Thomas Plant [1872] – **1886**;

John Holland Newell [1876] (?)

Edward Neville (**1886**);

John Stanley Flynn (**1886 – 1887**);

Hannah Cole (**1887 – 1888**);

Arthur Newton Mann (**1888 – 1894**);

Thomas Skermer (1894 – 1897);
Sarah Skermer (1897 – 1898);
Charles Merrick (1898 – 1899);
Caesar Augustus L Jenkyns (1899 – 1900);
William E Owen (1900 – 1901);
Benjamin Emery (1901 – 1902);
Arthur Thomas Scotson (1902);
Arthur Tom Davis (1902 – 1904);
Henry John Whitehouse (1904);
John Coxon (1904 – 1909);
Mary Jane Steatham (1909 – 1911);
John Cotton (1911 – 1913);
William Davis (1913 – 1916);
Harriet Davis (1916 – 1920);
Joseph William Davies (1920 – []
Benjamin Mullis [] – 1939);
George Frederick Goodwin (1939)

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/12/1868

“A boy, named John Jarvis was convicted under the Juvenile Offenders’ Act, of having on the night of the 25th ult. stolen a sack bag from one of Messrs. Pickford’s wagons while it was standing for a short time outside the BLACK HOUSE (?) INN, the Butts. He was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1876

“The undermentioned persons were summoned for the offences named, Mr. Glover appearing for the prosecution in each case, and Mr. Ebsworth for the defence.

John Holland Newell, of the BLACK HORSE INN, the Butts, was charged with permitting gaming in his house on the 5th of February, when Wright and Blakeman [Police-constables in plain clothes] found four men playing at cards for money. While the constables were present one of the men retired from the game, and the defendant took his place, and played with the other three for a quart of ale. The defendant denied that there was playing for money, but admitted that there was playing for ale. The fine was the same in the previous case, viz., £2 10s and costs.”

A wine license was granted pre 1881.

1881 Census

1+2, Butts Street

- [1] *Thomas Plant* (32), shopkeeper and beer seller, born Lichfield;
- [2] Elizabeth Plant (33), wife, born Warwick;
- [3] George Plant (2), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Annie Plant (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Florence Plant (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary Beasley (17), visitor, born Warwick;
- [7] Matilda Lloyd (27), general servant, born Stourbridge;
- [8] Margaret Hooper (16), nurse, born Wales:

1891 Census

1+2, Butts Street – BLACK HORSE INN

- [1] *Arthur Newton Mann* (32), harness furniture plater, born Walsall;
- [2] Olive M. Mann (22), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Florence N. Mann (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Arthur W. Mann (5), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Edith M. Mann (8 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Hannah Harmer (24), servant, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1895

“George Hall, of 34 Butts Road, was charged with having assaulted John Seabright, also of Butts Road. Mr. Jackson represented the complainant. On the night of Saturday, the 11th instant, the men met at the BLACK HORSE at the Butts. ‘Some words’ took place, and the defendant knocked Seabright’s hat off and otherwise assaulted him. The landlord turned the defendant out, and complainant summoned him for assault.

Defendant called witnesses named respectively John Holmes and Hancox to show that he was the injured party, but the Bench decided to convict, and imposed a fine of 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Beerhouses.....

Caesar A. L. Jenkyns, BLACK HORSE, Butts, served 12 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

1901 Census

2, Butts Street

[1] *William E. Owen* (24), beerhouse keeper and harness maker, born Walsall;

[2] Elizabeth Owen (25), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Nellie M. Owen (10 months), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[4] Edward Owen (52), father, clothier and outfitter, born Bloxwich;

[5] Elizabeth Owen (52), mother, born Bloxwich:

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905]

Mary Jane Steatham = Mary Jane Statham

Walsall Advertiser 4/2/1911

“The annual general licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The Chief Constable objected to the renewal of the license of the BLACK HORSE beer house, Butts Street, on the ground that the house was not required.

Inspector Haycock stated that on January 21st he visited the house and found it closed. The next day he found the same state of things, and it remained closed until the granting of the temporary authority. For some time previously when the house had been opened there was nothing to sell and no customers.

Mr. Grundy Newman appeared on behalf of Showell’s Brewery Ltd., to support the renewal of the license.

Mary Jane Statham said she was the license holder for 14 months, and received notice to quit four months ago. The trade was very bad, and she had to sell 45 hogsheads of beer before she could make £13 10s profit. And then something had to be allowed for the ‘tops and bottoms’ and the loss in the cellar. She paid the brewery 30s a hogshead, and sold the beer at 2d per quart with the ‘long pull.’

The Clerk: How much do you give for a quart with the ‘long pull?’ – Witness: Four pints.

Then you give double measure? – Yes.

Why did you do that? – Because they do it everywhere in Showell’s houses.

Were you told you would have to do that when you took the house? – I was told I should have to give the ‘long pull.’

Witness also said that she had to pay the rent, rates, and taxes, and also the license, which cost £39 after the Budget. The Company paid to the Compensation Fund.

The Clerk: How came you to take the house on such terms as these? – Witness: because I was told it was doing £9 per week, but when I took it I found it was only taking £2.

Did you pay anything when you went in? – I paid £20 deposit, and I took £109 with me into the house, and now I have not got a penny, not even a home.

The £20 deposit was to secure your account? – Yes.

Did you make any complaint? – I did not take any notice as long as my money lasted. I kept paying it away.

Why did you not give notice when you found the house was not paying? – I did go to give notice, but they asked me to stay on and dropped the rent from £25 to £20.

On reply to further questions witness said they charged 3d a pint for beer consumed on the premises, and then had to give extra measure, and also mix the old beer with the new in order to sell it.

Answering Mr. Newman, witness admitted when she was granted a license she stated her husband had other employment. But he had done nothing except assist her in the business. Her husband, herself, six children and a married son and his wife lived at the house. She received notice to quit in September, but refused to go, but she did make an offer to surrender the license and go out if the brewery paid her £125. She admitted that an order had been obtained against her in the High Court.

The Clerk pointed out that the Magistrates had nothing to do with any arrangements between the parties. All they had to decide was as to whether the house was necessary.

Mr. Newman submitted that the owners had not been paid for goods supplied, secondly, they had been punished through loss of trade while the house had been kept closed, and if the Bench now took away the license they would have been punished for something they had not done.

John *Statham*, the late tenant’s husband, stated that they made 6s profit out of a hogshead, and out of that they had to allow for

'tops and bottoms' and waste in the cellar. They sold it at 2d per quart and gave a pint.

The Clerk: Can't you see that by doing that you were losing? – Witness replied that he got a fraction profit on it.

The Clerk: No you didn't. You got 18s and paid 30s for it.

Albert Richardson, manager of Messrs. Showell's licensed houses, said the woman when she went into the house represented that her husband was a contractor and worked away. He denied telling her to give the 'long pull.'

The Clerk: As a matter of fact isn't the long pull given in all the houses? – Witness: I don't admit that. It is given where there is opposition.

Giving evidence as to the trade of the house, Mr. Richardson said in 1908 it was 239¼ barrels, in 1909, 195½ barrels, and in 1910, it had increased to 223¼ barrels. The bottled goods were £18 in 1908, £12 in 1909, and £38 in 1910. After further legal arguments Mr. Newman submitted that there were other licenses in the district which could better be dispensed with. He called Mr. Tomlins who stated that the BLACK HORSE was assessed at £54 for inhabited house duty, as against £35 for the BUTTS TAVERN. The rateable value was £29 for the BUTTS TAVERN as against £32 for the BLACK HORSE, while the latter also contributed £15 to the Compensation Fund as compared to £6 contributed by the BUTTS TAVERN.

The Bench retired and on returning the Clerk said the case was so complicated by the personal relationship of the parties that the Magistrates had decided to renew the license this year without expressing an opinion as to whether it was needed."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BLACK HORSE, Butts. £0 19s 2d."

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

"One Walsall license – that of the BLACK HORSE, Butts Street – was, on the ground of redundancy, referred to the Compensation Authority at the adjourned licensing sessions, held at the Guildhall on Thursday; but in connection with certain other decisions that will result in additional reductions within the next twelve months."

Walsall Observer 19/8/1939

"Sitting as a compensation authority the justices had under consideration the license of the BLACK HORSE, Butts, which had been 'referred' on the ground of redundancy.

Formal application for the renewal of the license was made by Mr. A. H. Gregory (appearing for the owners of the house, Ind. Coope & Allsopp), but the magistrates present refused the application, the question of compensation being referred to a full meeting of the licensing committee."

1939 Register

1+2, Butts Street – BLACK HORSE Public House (2 of 3)

[1] *George Goodwin*, date of birth 18/4/1895, licensee, married;

[2] *Alice Goodwin*, dob 23/6/1905, housewife, married;

It closed in December 1939.

BLACK HORSE

Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Samuel Rogers [1857]

William Glover [1869]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 5/12/1857

"The attention of the court was occupied a considerable time to-day in investigating charges brought against publicans for allowing gaming in their houses, contrary to the tenor of their licenses, the information in each case was laid by Police-constable Batchellor.....

Samuel Rogers, of the BLACK HORSE Public-house, Lower Rushall Street, was indicted for a similar offence [allowing gaming

for money] committed on the night of Monday, the 23rd instant. The defendant said he must plead guilty to the charge, although he was not aware that card playing was prohibited. He said the officer went to his house in disguise and stated that he was a 'snob,' and after sitting down some time enjoying himself at the expense of the players, he asked to be shown out the back way as probably some of the 'bobbys' were about, and as it was after the proper time of closing, they would very likely inform against him as they were always open to swear anything. A fine of 5s and costs was imposed."

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1869

"This being the adjourned licensing day, those parties whose licenses had been either suspended or refused, again put in applications.....

In the case of Mr. *Wm. Glover*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE beerhouse, Lower Rushall Street, the license was refused, as the house was proved to be assessed at £14 10s, whereas the lowest rent should be £15."

BLACK HORSE

19, (18-19), (18), Short Acre Street, Short Acre, WALSALL

OWNERS

George Thomas [1894]

John Lord

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 11th August 1939)

LICENSEES

Charles Butler [1858] – [1861]

John Darby [1862] – [1865]

George Thomas [1868] – 1892);

Frederick William Jones (1892);

William Kessey (1892 – 1894);

William John Talbot (1894);

Thomas Pettifer (1894 – 1907);

John Hawkins (1907 – 1912);

Ernest Bradbury Dickinson (1912 – [];

Alfred Hanson [1930] – 1935);

Sidney Gwilt (1935 – 1942);

Alice May Gwilt (1942 – 1959);

George Oatcliffe (1959 – 1960);

Patrick Arthur Jeavons (1960 – 1963);

Terence Arthur Slade (1963 – 1964);

Michael Eugene Kiernan (1964 – 1965);

Carl Norman Walker (1965 – 1966);

John Zenas Watts (1966 – []

NOTES

19, Short Acre Street [1939], [1940]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

Charles Butler, beerhouse keeper, 18, Shortacre. [1858]

1861 Census

18+19, Short Acre Street

[1] *Charles Butler* (36), grocer and publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Elizabeth Butler* (47), wife, born Aldridge, Staffordshire;

[3] *Sarah Hopley* (69), sister, widow, blind, born Lichfield:

John Darby, retailer of beer, Short Acre Street. [1862]

Walsall Free Press 25/10/1862

“*John Darby*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE public house, Short Acre, pleaded guilty to a charge of having his house open during prohibited hours, namely at fifteen minutes past eleven in the forenoon of Sunday last, for the sale of beer; but stated in extenuation that the man to whom he had supplied the drink, a pint of porter, said he had come from Bloxwich and was in a bad state of health. In support of his statement the defendant called the person who had been supplied with the liquor and who substantiated what Mr. *Darby* had stated. As, however, the defendant had been thrice previously convicted he was sentenced to pay a fine of 20s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/7/1863

“*John Darby*, beer-house keeper, of Short Acre, was yesterday charged, upon the information of the Superintendent of Police, with having his house open during unlawful hours on the night of Monday last. It was proved in evidence that at twenty minutes to twelve o’clock on the night named thirteen persons were drinking on the premises. The defendant pleaded that he had had a club supper, and said, in answer to the charge, that no ale had been drawn after ten minutes to eleven. The Bench reminded him that this was no justification of his conduct and, as he had been convicted four times previously, fined him 20s and costs, or one month’s imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 18/8/1863 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the old-established Beer House, known as the BLACK HORSE, Short Acre, satisfactory reasons given for present tenant leaving.
Apply on the Premises.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/9/1863

“Yesterday was the annual licensing day for the Rushall division of the county. The magistrates on the Bench were Messrs. J. E. Bealey, W. Harrison, and D. Bloomer. Before hearing the applications for new licenses and those for the renewal of old ones, the Bench called those publicans whose names were down on the black list.....
The license of *John Darby*, who failed to appear, but who had been summoned for selling during Divine service, was also suspended for a month.”

J. Darby, beer retailer and shopkeeper, 18, Short Acre Street. [1864], [1865]

George Thomas, beer retailer, 18, Short Acre Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

Short Acre

- [1] *George Thomas* (31), beerhouse keeper and cooper, born Cradly [Cradley], Herefordshire;
- [2] *Louisa Thomas* (24), wife, born Lichfield;
- [3] *Maria L. Thomas* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary A. Thomas* (28), sister in law, visitor, born Cradly [Cradley], Herefordshire;
- [5] *Joseph South* (18), boarder, apprentice cooper, born Suckley, Herefordshire;
- [6] *Mary A. Turner* (13), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 3/1/1885

“Inquests in Walsall by T. H. Stanley, borough coroner. On Monday at the BLACK HORSE, Short Acre, on the body of *William Partridge*, five weeks old, whose parents reside in Short Acre. The evidence showed that deceased had been weakly from its birth, and that on Saturday last, it died suddenly in its mother’s arms. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned, and the Coroner and jury made a subscription among themselves for the parents, who apparently are in deep poverty.”

AND

“On Monday, at the BLACK HORSE, on the body of *Edith Lilly Clarence*, aged four months, whose parents reside at No.3 Court, Short Acre. The evidence showed that deceased had been a weakly child from her birth, but had not been attended by any medical man. On Saturday last the mother and child retired to bed about ten o’clock, the latter apparently being in its usual health. However, about seven o’clock on Sunday morning, the child was found dead in bed. During the night another child, about three years old, had got into the same bed with deceased and the mother, and it is supposed that by that means the deceased was suffocated. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1891 Census

19, Short Acre Street

- [1] *George Thomas* (50), brewer and cooper, born Cradley;
- [2] *Louisa M. Thomas* (44), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Maria L. Thomas* (29), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *James Thomas* (21), son, brewer, born Walsall;
- [5] *Alfred Thomas* (18), son, cooper, born Walsall;
- [6] *Ada Thomas* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Florence S. Thomas* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *George H. Thomas* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[9] Frank E. Thomas (3), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 28/7/1894

“At the License Transfer Court, at the Guildhall yesterday, the following transfers of licenses were granted. Beer Retailers (on) BLACK HORSE, Short Acre Street, from *William John Talbot* to *Thomas Pettifer*. Mr. Bill, solicitor, appeared for the applicant, *Pettifer* was sworn and deposed that he was the bona fide tenant of the premises, and not merely the manager to Mr. Thomas.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/10/1894

“Patrick Curley, of Burrowes Street, who was summoned to answer to two charges, appeared in court in a slightly elevated condition. Nevertheless his geniality had not left him. ‘I had a drop of beer’ he explained to the magistrates in answer to one charge. ‘Yes,’ said the clerk, ‘and you had some this morning.’ ‘Yes,’ replied Pat, ‘I had, and I will have another drink tomorrow morning.’ Pat, as will be seen, was a false prophet. ‘When one asks you to have a drop of beer, and another asks you to have a drop of beer, what can you do?’ he queried. Charged with threatening John Morton, of 25, Long Street, who owned that he was not particularly afraid of Pat now, the latter asked ‘Are you afraid of your life of me? You might have me for your breakfast.’ Curley strenuously protested his innocence of the second charge, that of assaulting *Thomas Pettifer*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE, Short Acre. ‘I am as innocent as you are, Mr. Beebee.’ ‘I have not been here twenty-two times, and you have,’ retorted Mr. Beebee. ‘Yes,’ admitted Pat, ‘I have got a bad record; I was wild when I was young, you know.’ So for the next 21 days Pat will be engaged at Stafford reaping some of his youthful wild oats.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/10/1895

“Some time between twelve o’clock on Sunday night and nine o’clock yesterday, the BLACK HORSE, Short Acre, was burglariously entered and completely ransacked; money, cigars, and other property taken away, some of it from the room in which the landlord was sleeping. The intruders appear to have regaled themselves whilst on the premises; but they missed more booty in the way of money than they carried off. Entrance appeared to have been effected through a window, which apparently had been left unfastened.”

Thomas Pettifer, beer retailer, 19, Short Acre Street. [1896], [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 19/9/1896

“Ellen Ellis, Short Acre Street, was charged with having broken three panes of glass at the BLACK HORSE public house, in Short Acre, doing damage to the extent of 4s. Harriet *Pettifer* and *Thomas Pettifer* (landlord) gave evidence, and the magistrates ordered defendant to pay the costs and the damage.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/6/1897

“Kate Donnellan 2 house, 4 court, Short Acre Street, was charged with having stolen a watch of the value of 35s, the property of John Royle, labourer, of 73, Hatherton Street. Complainant stated that he went to the BLACK HORSE beerhouse on the morning of the 17th May with a Mrs. Keeling, of Ryecroft, and paid for several pints of beer, the defendant having some of the beer. After being in the house for about two hours he went to sleep, and he then had about 10s in money, and a watch for which he gave £5 10s. About 4 o’clock he woke up and missed the watch. A young man told him who had it, and took him to the defendant’s house, and complainant afterwards found a policeman and went to defendant’s house again, when she denied all knowledge of the watch.

In reply to a question, complainant said he could not say he was sober when he went to sleep; he must have been ‘fresh’. Daniel Bricknell, a collier, of Green Lane, deposed to having seen defendant take the watch, but admitted that it was only when he himself was accused of the theft that he told the prosecutor who had the watch.

Case dismissed.”

AND

“*Thomas Pettifer*, BLACK HORSE INN, Short Acre Street, was summoned for having permitted drunkenness on the 17th ult. Mr. T. Howard Stanley was for the defence.

The case arose out of the last one. Royle was called with a view to show that he was drunk at the public house, and went to sleep. Daniel Bricknell now defined Royle’s condition as ‘three-parts drunk’.

The defence was that the man was not drunk, but that if he was it was not within the knowledge of the landlord.

The defendant and his daughter also were called, and gave evidence. Miss *Pettifer* stated that she warned Royle to be careful that he did not lose his money because of the ‘peculiar’ characters he was treating.

The Chief Constable: They use this house? – Witness: Occasionally.

The Chief Constable: And they are such bad characters that you have to warn your customers against them?

The Bench fined the defendant £5 and costs, but did not endorse the license.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.

4th June, *Thomas Pettifer*, BLACK HORSE, Short Acre Street, was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness.

Objection to renewal.

Mr. Disturnal (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson) supported the application for renewal of the license of the BLACK HORSE, Short

Acre Street, the holder being Mr. *Thomas Pettifer*. Chief-constable opposed on three grounds, namely, the conviction; that the premises were of a disorderly character; and that the licensee was not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license. Harriet *Pettifer*, daughter of the applicant, was called to give evidence, but Mr. Disturnal objected on the ground that the conviction against the license holder was admitted. The licensing justices could not go into the circumstances of the conviction as the conviction was a record of court, and included the whole of the facts.

Mr. Loxton (magistrates' clerk) pointed out that one of the grounds of opposition was that the house was a disorderly house. Mr. Disturnal said, if the Chief Constable could go into the whole of the circumstances which occurred on the 17th May, he could dispute them, and demand the whole issue be retried, and it would be competent for him to ask the licensing justices to say that the conviction was a wrong conviction.

The Bench ruled that the evidence was admissible.

The witness, Harriet *Pettifer*, admitted having stated that she told a man named Royle to be careful while he was in the house. She also said that a woman named Donlan was there. She did not know that the woman had the best of characters. Women of similar character did not use the house.

Sarah Keeling was called, and stated that she thought the last witness did warn a man named Royle.

By Mr. Disturnal: Donlan did not use the house regularly.

Inspector Cliffe deposed to several convicted persons having used the house. In answer to Mr. Disturnal, witness admitted that he had had the house under supervision for some considerable time, but had not complained, as the persons were quiet when he was there.

Mr. Disturnal urged that the onus of supporting objections was upon the police, and that although they had three objections the real one was the conviction. The other objections were mere 'make weights.' The objection that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to hold a license was not supported by a tittle of evidence. For thirty years' the applicant had been in the employ of the London and North Western Railway Company, and was a respectable man. As to the conviction, he did not deny that this was a serious matter, but he pointed out that the Bench did not endorse the license whatever. Witnesses were then called to speak to the respectable nature of the house. The license was renewed with a caution."

Walsall Advertiser 3/12/1898

"Edward Burns (32), labourer, of 48, Burrowes Street, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Short Acre Street, also with being drunk and quarrelsome and refusing to quit the BLACK HORSE, and with assaulting *Thomas Pettifer*, the landlord. Application was made by the Chief Constable for a remand for a week, it being stated that the prisoner had bitten the landlord's finger so badly that it was very likely it would have to be amputated. If that was the case he should prefer a charge against the prisoner of inflicting grievous bodily harm.

Evidence was given by Mr. *Pettifer* to the effect that Burns came into his house either 'drunk or mad'. Seeing his condition he would not allow Burns to come through the passage. Witness closed with the man, and in the struggle the prisoner nearly bit his (witness's) finger through. There was only a bit of skin left and the finger would probably have to be taken off.

Remand granted."

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1899

"The General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the borough of Walsall were held on Tuesday, at the Guildhall.

Edward Burns (32), labourer, was indicted for unlawfully, maliciously, and feloniously causing grievous bodily harm upon *Thomas Pettifer*, on the 26th of November last. Mr. Kettle prosecuted.

The case for the prosecution was that on the date named, *Pettifer*, who is landlord at the BLACK HORSE beerhouse, Short Acre, had occasion to eject the prisoner from the house, in order to prevent a disturbance. Prisoner set about him, knocking him down, and got his (*Pettifer's*) finger in his mouth, and bit it severely. *Pettifer's* daughter had to assist to pull Burns' jaws open before the finger could be released. He had to have his finger dressed at the hospital, and ultimately to have the end of it amputated. Prosecutor said he was afraid he should yet have to have another amputation performed. The prisoner, who repeatedly addressed the Recorder as 'Your Worship my Lord Judge', alleged that it was the prosecutor's daughter who bit the finger of the prosecutor. He also alleged that certain injuries had been inflicted on him by the prosecutor. These allegations were denied, and Dr. Scott Wilson was now asked to examine the prisoner's hand, which Burns alleged to have been fractured. Dr. Wilson having examined the hand said there was no trace of fracture. The wrist had been sprained and there was a rheumatic deposit of old standing.

The jury found the prisoner guilty.

The Recorder characterized the prisoner's conduct as barbarous, brutal, inhuman, and unworthy of a well conducted dog. That any human being should be guilty of such an act made one almost despair of humanity. He would not say prisoner was levelling and degrading himself to the brute creation, because it would be an insult to the brute creation to say so. The community must be protected from such brutal violence and prisoner would be sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment, with hard labour."

Walsall Observer 4/8/1900

"Aaron Gay, 47, Croft Street, was summoned for being drunk at the BLACK HORSE, Long (sic) Acre Street, on July 28th; and *Thomas Pettifer*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and with selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person, on July 28th. Mr. Plumtre (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson) was for the defence. Detective-sergeant Haycock said on Saturday, July 28, he entered the BLACK HORSE, Long Acre Street, and saw a man named Gay sitting just against the counter. The Chief Constable called Gay, and he staggered down the room to the Chief and sat down on a table. The landlord, in reply to the Chief Constable, said that the man had come in with another, and they only had one pint. The landlord then ordered Gay out, and Gay staggered in the street.

Detective Burrell gave corroborative evidence, and said the landlord was standing at the door, and the man Gay was at the bar

with a pint pot in his hand. Gay was drunk.

Mr. Plumptre said that in the first place the man was not drunk at all, and in the second place the landlord did not sell liquor to him, but only to the man's friend Martin. He also thought that the police evidence was prejudiced, or if not prejudiced yet they must necessarily have been influenced by their superior.

The defendant (*Pettifer*), landlord of the BLACK HORSE, said that he was standing outside the door when Gay entered, and Gay was not drunk.

Harriet Webster, daughter of the defendant *Pettifer*, and other evidence was called in to bear witness that Gay was sober.

The defendant Gay said that he met Martin, who took him into the BLACK HORSE and they had a pint between them.

Mr. Bayliss announced that the majority of the Bench had decided to give the landlord the benefit of the doubt, and the case was dismissed.

The audience applauded, and the Bench stigmatized that conduct as disgraceful."

1901 Census

19, Short Acre Street – BLACK HORSE INN

[1] *Thomas Pettifer* (58), publican, born Leicester;

[2] *Mary Pettifer* (57), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Charles Pettifer* (24), son, currier, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1908

"The annual licensing meeting for the borough took place at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The BLACK HORSE beerhouse, in Short Acre Street, had also been objected to, and Mr. H. Jackson appeared for the owners and occupier. Evidence as to population was given by Inspector Ballance, who in examination stated that the house was well conducted, clean, and well kept. Mr. Jackson said the married daughter of the previous tenant, Mr. *Pettifer*, was now in the house. Mr. *Pettifer* held the license for 14 years, and the rent was £52 a year. The house did an excellent trade, it was a good house in every respect. Dr. Wilson, medical officer, in reply to Mr. Loxton, said the sanitary arrangements were perfect. The license was renewed."

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

".....A police report of 1908 described the property as having a Bar, Smoke room and Club room with low ceilings. There are a number of low class people living in the vicinity who use this house. The rolling way to the cellar is in the adjoining yard of Messrs. Lords Brewery."

Ernest Bradbury Dickinson, beer retailer, 19, Short Acre Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BLACK HORSE, Short Acre Street, £0 17s 0d."

Walsall Observer 18/10/1924

".....Plans for alterations at the BLACK HORSE, Short Acre Street, were approved....."

Plans for alterations were sanctioned on 15th October 1925.

It was reconstructed in 1925.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

"More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company's acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

John Lord's houses.....

BLACK HORSE, Short Acre."

1939 Register

19, Short Acre Street (2 of 3)

[1] *Sidney Gwilt*, date of birth 6/4/1899, manager beerhouse, married;

[2] *Alice M. Gwilt*, dob 31/5/1902, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BLACK HORSE, Short Acre. £3 4s 0d."

A full license was granted on 8th February 1951.

It closed on 2nd November 1982.

BLACK SWAN

Leicester Square, (60, (56-57), (26), Bridge Street / Freer Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Maria Bleakman, Dryden Place, Hedge Lane, Liverpool
John Beebee
Susan Beebee
Brewers' Investment Corporation
Showells Brewery Co. Ltd.
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 29th September 1963)
Punch Taverns

LICENSEES

John Eld [1837] – **1840**);
Mrs. Mary Eld [1841] – [1847]
George Moore [1849] – **1865**)
John Packwood [1866] – [1870]
Mrs. Lucy Coldicott [1871] – [1873];
John Beebee [1881];
Mrs. Susan Beebee [1885] – **1889**);
Frederick Richards (**1889 – 1890**);
Francis Joseph Zeller (**1890 – 1903**);
Eliza Proffit [1891] manager
Miss Minnie E Walker [1901] manager
Clarence James (**1903 – 1906**);
Henry Frederick Machin (**1906**);
George Harry Hazlehurst (**1906 – 1908**);
Henry William Joseph Stevens (**1908 – 1917**);
Catherine Winifred Stevens (**1917 – 1919**);
Henry William Joseph Stevens (**1919**);
Daniel 'Dan' Westwood (**1919 – 1931**);
Henry John Sune (?) (**1931 – 1933**);
Clement Sydney Blythe (**1933 – 1941**);
Lilian Elsie Morley Blythe [1941] executrix?
Herbert Nicholls (**1941 – 1945**);
John Ryan (**1945 – 1947**);
Raymond William Brookes (**1947 – 1949**);
Percival James Watson (**1949 – 1950**);
Samuel Hand (**1950 – 1957**);
Harold Waterfield (**1957**);
John Scott (**1957 – 1959**);
George Warburton (**1959 – 1960**);
Raymond Charles Otton Brown (**1960 – 1962**);
Robert Kitchen (**1962 – 1965**);
Edwin Jones (**1965 – 1967**);
Roy George Taylor (**1967 – []**)

NOTES

Bridge Street [1849], [1860], [1865]
60, Bridge Street [1861], [1862], [1871]
56-57, Bridge Street [1881]
Leicester Square [1896]

26, Bridge Street [1901]

It was originally known as the STORK. [1881], [1952]

STORK INN [1845]

STORK TAVERN [1841], [1842], [1850]

STORK Commercial inn [1849], [1850]

STORK HOTEL [1860], [1861], [1872], [1881], [1885], [1892], [1893], [1896], [1904], [1906], [1911], [1912], [1918], [1924], [1927]

Commercial hotel [1851], [1861], [1868], [1870], [1892]

Posting house [1892], [1896], [1904], [1912], [1916]

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/12/1837

“The house of Mr. *Eld*, the STORK, in Bridge Street, was broken into and robbed of part of a rump of beef, some wine, and eleven silver spoons; it appears the robbers, during their stay, regaled themselves with pork-pie and ale in the kitchen.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/4/1840 - Deaths

“On the 15th instant, advanced in years, Mr. *John Eld*, of the STORK INN, Bridge Street, Walsall, formerly a respectable mercer and draper, of High Street, of the same town.”

Birmingham Journal 27/3/1847

“Three young women named Isabella Herring, Sarah Evans, and Martha Turner, were placed in the dock, charged by Mrs. *Eld*, the landlady of the STORK COMMERCIAL INN, Bridge Street, with unlawfully breaking three panes of glass, value 9s, on Sunday morning last. It appeared from the evidence that the three prisoners, who had just left the ‘tramp room’ of the Walsall Union Workhouse, came into the house of the complainant to beg. She, however, refused to give them anything, and they left the house. Almost immediately afterwards, however, she heard ‘a crash,’ and on running to the door she perceived that three panes of glass had been broken, but could not see the prisoners anywhere. They had, however, been seen by a young woman to break one pane each, and then run off. Upon this she caused them to be pursued and apprehended, when they immediately admitted having broken the windows, and said they wanted to go to gaol. The girls, who had nothing to say in their defence, were then committed to the House of Correction at Stafford, with hard labour, for one month.”

1851 Census

Bridge Street

[1] *George Moore* (39), innkeeper and traveller, born Tettenhall;

[2] *Ann Moore* (43), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *George Moore* (17), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Emma Eld* (27), assistant, born Walsall;

[5] *Mary Bramidge* (22), servant, born Walsall;

[6] *Ann Stackhouse* (17), servant, born Pelsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/7/1858- Notice

“County Of Stafford. Weights And Measures. District C, or South Staffordshire.

Notice is hereby given, that William Tullett, the Inspector of Weights and Measures for District C, or South Staffordshire, will attend at the undermentioned times and places, for the purpose of comparing and examining all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to him for that purpose, and Stamping such of them as shall be found correct, viz.....

At the STORK HOTEL, at Walsall, on Tuesdays, July 27th, August 24th, and September 21st, 1858, at ten o’clock am.”

1861 Census

60, Bridge Street – STORK HOTEL

[1] *George Moore* (58), hotel keeper, born Tettenhall;

[2] *George William Moore* (27), son, merchant, born Walsall;

[3] *Clara E. Moore* (12), niece, scholar, born St. Ives, Derbyshire;

[4] *John Hunter* (33), visitor, draper, born Ripon;

[5] *Emma Eld* (38), cook, born Walsall;

[6] *Mary Bramidge* (41), housekeeper, born Walsall;

[7] *Hannah Walker* (23), chambermaid, born Northton, Warwickshire:

A man named Richard Moore appears here in an 1862 directory.

George Moore was also a wine, ale and porter merchant. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Journal 14/1/1865 - Advert

“Walsall. STORK HOTEL, Bridge street.

To be Disposed of, the Licenses and Possession of the above Old-established Hotel, situate in one of the best parts of Walsall. Apply to H. Farrington, Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 11/3/1865 - Advert

“STORK HOTEL, Bridge Street, Walsall. Clearing Out Sale.

To be Sold by Auction as above, by H. Farrington, (without reserve), on Wednesday and Friday next, 15th and 17th days of March, 1865, the capital Household Furniture, and Effects, belonging to Mr. *George Moore*, who is giving up the STORK INN; comprising handsome four-post and half-tester Bedsteads (in mahogany and tubular iron); capital Mattresses, fine feather Beds, mahogany and painted Chests of Drawers, handsome Chimney and Toilet Glasses, mahogany and other Chairs, sets of mahogany Dining Tables, Couches, an excellent and modern 4-pull Beer Machine, Spirit Fountain, a nearly new patent Leamington Cooking Range, 4ft 6in, capital Brewing Utensils, a nearly new Copper Furnace, a nearly new 20-bushel Mash Tub, pair of Ale Vats, capital Ale Casks; also a capital slated and timber Shedding, excellent Malt Crusher, Bran Mill, three excellent Phaetons, Handsome Dog Cart, Pony, and other valuable effects.

Sale to commence each day at half-past ten, for eleven o'clock.

Particulars of which appear in Catalogues, to be had at 1, St. George's Buildings, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 25/3/1865 - Advert

“Notice Of Removal.

Mr. *George Moore*, in returning thanks to his friends and the public for the liberal patronage bestowed upon him during the sixteen years he occupied the STORK HOTEL, begs most respectfully to intimate that he has removed to No.10, Freer Street, where he intends carrying on the business of a Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Wine, Ale, Porter & Spirits, and earnestly solicits a continuance of that support with which he has hitherto been favoured, and which he trusts by prompt attention to orders and moderate charges to merit.

Mr. *M.* begs to intimate that parties can be supplied with small quantities of any article upon moderate charges, and equal in quality to that supplied in wholesale quantities.

Mr. *M.* has always on hand large quantities of Sparkling Wines of various descriptions; also Ellis (of Ruthin) and Roughsedge & Co's celebrated Soda Water, Lemonade and Potass Waters.

Guinness's Bottled Stout. Bass & Co's Bottled Ale.

N.B. An extensive and well assorted Stock of British and Foreign Cigars.

10, Freer Street, 25th March, 1865.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/7/1866

“*John Packwood*, landlord of the STORK HOTEL, was charged with having, on Monday last, assaulted Alfred Curtess, farmer, Lea Croft, near Cannock. It appeared the parties had met in the refreshment rooms at the railway station, and they quarrelled about some betting transactions they had had some time ago. The defendant seized the complainant by the collar, and struck him with a walking-stick about the legs, and threatened to serve him the same way every time he met him. In consequence of the threat a peace summons had also been taken out by the complainant against the defendant. Mr. Duignan, who appeared for the defendant, said he had no objection to his client being bound over to keep the peace, provided the charge of assault was withdrawn, upon the defendant paying costs. This course having been decided upon, the defendant was bound over in his own recognizances in the sum of £20 to keep the peace for six months.”

Lucy Coldicott = Lucy Colicutt.

1871 Census

60, Bridge Street

- [1] *Lucy Coldicott* (50), widow, hotel keeper, born Oldbury;
- [2] Frances C. Wagstaff (22), barmaid, born Nuneaton;
- [3] William Coldicott (14), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Samuel W. Coldicott (5), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Helen M. Coldicott (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Jane A. G. Sargeant (21), nursemaid, born Walsall;
- [7] Martha Harris (22), waitress, born Redditch;
- [8] Mary Welch (20), cook, born Walsall Wood:

1881 Census

56-57, Bridge Street – STORK HOTEL

- [1] *John Beebee* (45), hotel keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Susan Beebee (41), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Lizzie Beebee (19), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] John Lawton (12), nephew, scholar, born Newport, Shropshire;
- [5] John H. Glover (34), lodger, corn traveller, born Leicester;
- [6] Rowland Bateman (20), billiard marker, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] Elizabeth Bissell (26), barmaid, born Codsall;
- [8] Priscilla Blackham (20), barmaid, born West Bromwich;

[9] Elizabeth Kerr (32), cook, born Wednesbury;
[10] Mary Fletcher (21), house maid, born Walsall:

Evening Express 20/5/1881

“On Thursday evening the members of the Walsall Football Association celebrated their anniversary by a dinner in the STORK HOTEL. In the absence of the president (Mr. Alderman Smith), the chair was occupied by Mr. Joseph Lander, who, after the usual loyal and patriotic toasts had been given, read a letter of apology from Sir Charles Forster, Bart, MP, who consented to become one of the patrons of the association. The Chairman then presented to Mr. Alderman Evans, president of the Swifts Football Club, with the Licensed Victuallers’ Challenge Cup, which had been won three years in succession by them, and he next presented the captain and members of the Swifts Club with a medal each, also the captain and members of the White Star Club, which was next to the Swifts in the competition for the cup. Mr. Alderman Evans acknowledged the presentation on behalf of the Swifts, and Mr. J. Smith on behalf of the White Star Club. Several complimentary toasts followed, and the remainder of the evening was spent in a convivial manner.”

Evening Express 3/6/1881

“The adjourned general meeting of the Walsall and District Football Association was held on Wednesday evening, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, when Mr. W. Smith (Swifts) presided, and representatives were also present from the following clubs: Athletic, St. Paul’s, St. Mary’s, Rushall Villa, White Star, and Perseverance.

Mr. D. Bird (White Star) was elected president, and Mr. W. Smith and Mr. Venables were elected vice presidents; Mr. J. Beebee treasurer, and Mr. J. C. Hart secretary.

A vote of thanks to the officers for their past services brought the meeting to a close. We understand the association has now extended its radius to 20 miles from Walsall, and is about to invite all clubs of any note within that distance to join. The new challenge cup will, we are informed, cost about £70.”

Evening Express 21/9/1881

“A council of the Walsall and District Football Association was held on Tuesday night at the STORK HOTEL, Bridge Street, Walsall. Mr. D. Bird presiding.

There was a good attendance of representatives, and arrangements were made for the Association match v Sheffield (Mr. Woodcock’s team), which takes place on Wake Monday, 26th inst, at Walsall.”

Evening Star 10/5/1882

“On Monday night the annual dinner in connection with the Walsall and District Football Association was held at the STORK HOTEL. The Mayor (Mr. J. Newman) presided.....”

Walsall Observer 10/1/1885

“On Saturday evening, following the match between Walsall Swifts and Dumbarton football organisations, the latter were entertained at dinner by the local club. The ‘spread’ took place at the STORK HOTEL, and the quality of the viands and the manner in which they were placed on the table, reflected the highest credit on the hostess (Mrs. *Beebee*).

At the opening the chair was occupied by Mr. Hubbard, but he having to retire on account of professional duties, was afterwards taken by Mr. J. Smalley.....”

Walsall Observer 11/4/1885

“On Tuesday Mr. T. H. Stanley, Borough Coroner, held an inquest at the STORK HOTEL on the body of Philip Doyle (30), of 138, Lichfield Street, a shoe maker, who died on the previous day.

It appears that deceased had complained for some days of pains in the chest, and on Thursday he was unable to leave the house. He, however, was able to get about the house. On Monday morning, his sister went to him in his bedroom, and he told her he should get up presently. He did not, however, come down, and his sister went up again about two o’clock and found him dead. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. Gillespie) applied on behalf of Mr. *Zeller* for a license for singing only at the STORK HOTEL, on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday evenings. Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“There were 31 applications for dancing, singing and music licenses under the provisions of the new Corporation Act. The Bench heard all the applications and then retired to consider their decisions, which turned out to be in accordance with the principle which was laid down at a former Court, viz, that licenses should not be granted to vaults or public rooms, but should be confined to regular and existing clubs and class meetings in club rooms. Licenses were granted to..... STORK HOTEL, for dinner and committees in the assembly room.”

1891 Census

Bridge Street – STORK HOTEL

[1] *Eliza Proffitt* (40), hotel manager, born West Bromwich;

- [2] Betsy Hickson (28), servant, born Woolaston;
- [3] Ada Bradley (22), barmaid, born Leamington;
- [4] Hannah Bradley (27), barmaid, born Brownhills;
- [5] Annie Bradley (22), barmaid, born Oldbury;
- [6] Louisa Dowles (24), domestic servant, born West Bromwich;
- [7] Eliza Law, (21), domestic servant, born West Bromwich;
- [8] Sarah Cunningham (24), domestic servant, born Leamington;
- [9] Albert Harvey (21), hotel boots, born Birmingham;
- [10] Edward J. French (26), hotel boots, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 27/8/1892

“A special sessions for licensing business was held on Wednesday morning at the Guildhall....
Mr. R. E. Gillespie (solicitor) produced plans of a proposed extension of the dining-room accommodation of the STORK HOTEL, and asked if the might approved the plans. Granted.”

Kelly's Directory 1892 - Staffordshire - Advert

“The STORK HOTEL, Bridge Street, Walsall. This Hotel (Family and Commercial) has been greatly enlarged. Increased accommodation for the general public. Spacious Dining Rooms And Rooms For Public Meetings, &c, &c. Spacious Billiard Room, Furnished with First-Class Table by Burroughs and Watts. Table d'Hote every Day at 1.15. *F. Joe Zeller*, Proprietor.”
[A similar advert appeared in the 1896 edition with the address Leicester Square.]

Walsall Advertiser 16/12/1893

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society was held on Thursday last.....
New Members..... Mr. *Francis Joe Zeller*, STORK HOTEL, Leicester Square, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/12/1893

“The annual meeting of the Walsall Cricket Club was held at the STORK HOTEL last night; Mr. F. T. Cozens presiding. The hon. secretary (Mr. A. E. Hurst) presented the report, which showed receipts to the amount of £282 10s 1d, and an expenditure of £268 5s 4d, leaving a balance in hand of £23 4s 7d.
The President (Mr. J. T. Cottam) was re-elected, as were also the vice-presidents. As Mr. Hurst could not again accept the office, Mr. A. Barnsby was elected as hon. secretary, with Mr. F. J. Wood as assistant. Mr. H. A. Lynex was elected collector, and the committee for the year was chosen. Mr. F. J. Cozens and Mr. B. Evans were re-elected as captain of the first and second teams, and Mr. W. H. Barnsby was elected as vice-captain of the first team.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....
Mr. Jackson presented plans of structural alterations at the STORK HOTEL, and remarked that owing to the very large number of public dinners given at the Hotel it had been found necessary to use the billiard room as a cloak room, and the plans now presented were for the erection of a new billiard room over the gateway. The plans were sanctioned.”

Francis Joseph Zeller was convicted and fined £5 and costs, at Ludlow, for permitting drunkenness on the racecourse, on 22nd March 1897.

On 6th December 1897, a Grand Lodge of the Staffordshire Conservative League for Walsall was formed here.

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1899

“The 46th banquet of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday evening at the STORK HOTEL. There was a large attendance, quite 200 partaking of an admirable repast, served up in keeping with the reputation of the noted hostelry, and Councillor *Zeller*, the esteemed host The following was the menu:

Soup. Mock Turtle, St. Julien.

Fish. Cod and Oyster Sauce, Filleted Sole.

Removes. Roast Beef, Saddle Mutton, Roast Leg Mutton, Boiled Leg Mutton, Sucking Pig.

Poultry. Roast Turkey, Boiled Turkey, Boiled Chicken, Roast Goose, York Ham, Jugged Hare.

Entremet. Victuallers Pudding, Cabinet Pudding, Jellies.

Dessert.

The Secretary read the list of donations to the Benevolent Fund Councillor *Zeller*, £2 2s.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....
Then the magistrates also want to know if you can report to them during the sitting of this meeting as to the accommodation provided by the GEORGE HOTEL, the STORK, the DRAGON, the PRIORY, NEW INNS, the WOOLPACK, and the QUEENS?
.....the Chief Constable said he was then in possession of the information asked by the Magistrates with reference to the bedroom accommodation at the hotels. At the GEORGE HOTEL there were nineteen beds for commercials. The two large rooms at that hotel, formerly used for balls, &c, had been converted into eight bedrooms and a bathroom, and no plans had been submitted for

the alterations. At the PRIORY there were six bedrooms for accommodation, five at the DRAGON, three at the QUEENS, but there was no bedroom accommodation at the STORK, NEW INNS, and the WOOLPACK Hotels.....
Mr. Loxton announced that the hotel licenses would be renewed with the exception of the GEORGE.”

Walsall Observer 10/2/1900

“The 47th annual dinner of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held at the STORK HOTEL, on Thursday night, when about 200 members and visitors sat down. The chair was occupied by Mr. Julius Rohmann (Foreign Wine Growers Company), and the vice chair was to have been taken by Councillor R. A. Harper, JP (Bilston), but he was unable to attend.....”

Walsall Observer 10/3/1900

“The annual meeting of the Walsall Cricket Club was held at the STORK HOTEL, on Monday night, when Mr. J. T. Cottam (president) occupied the chair.....”

Walsall Observer 25/8/1900

“The adjourned meeting of the Walsall Football Club was held on Wednesday night at the STORK HOTEL, when Councillor F. J. Zeller presided over a crowded attendance.....”

Walsall Observer 17/11/1900

“On Saturday night a smoking concert, in connection with Nos.1 and 2 branches of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, was held at the STORK HOTEL, when there was a crowded attendance.....”

Walsall Observer 8/12/1900

“The annual dinner of the Walsall Swimming Club was held at the STORK HOTEL, on Thursday night, when about fifty members and friends sat down.....”

1901 Census

26, Bridge Street – STORK HOTEL

- [1] *Minnie E. Walker* (28), unmarried, hotel manageress, born Dudley;
- [2] Edith E. Gossage (26), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [3] Kate A. Millington (26), barmaid, born Tipton;
- [4] William Hines (23), barman, born Longden, Staffordshire;
- [5] Sarah A. Hibbs (19), housemaid, born Wednesbury;
- [6] James A. Chavasse (30), visitor, born Handsworth;
- [7] Elizabeth Kirby (24), cook, born Stratford on Avon;
- [8] Ada Pillaway (19), housemaid, born Wednesbury;
- [9] Joseph Fletcher (18), billiard marker, born Birmingham;
- [10] George Dyson (19), billiard marker, born Worcester:

Hatherton Masonic Lodge (No.2474) met here every fourth Thursday. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Member. *F. Machin*, STORK HOTEL, Leicester Square.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/11/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week at the CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane.....

New members..... Mr. *George Hazelhurst*, STORK HOTEL, Leicester Square.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1908

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Kennel Association, held at the STORK HOTEL on Monday evening, Mr. A. Richardson, on behalf of Messrs. Showell’s Brewery Company, presented a handsome silver cup to the association for annual competition. The conditions are that it shall be won three years in succession before becoming the permanent property of any exhibitor. On the motion of Mr. F. S. Wilson Smith, the chairman, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Richardson and Messrs. Showell’s for their handsome gift.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/10/1908

“The following licenses were transferred.....

MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, from Charles John Edwards to Thomas Clow.....

Regarding the transfers of the licenses of the MALT SHOVEL and the STORK HOTEL, Sir Edward Holden said there had been many changes recently, and the magistrates would like to have an explanation why these licenses had been transferred.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said that in the case of the MALT SHOVEL there were satisfactory reasons why the licenses had twice been

transferred, but the reasons were of a private nature.

Mr. Richardson (representing Messrs. Showell and Sons) said that with respect to the STORK HOTEL the late manager, Mr. *Hazelhurst*, had left because he had obtained a better situation in Liverpool. Granted.”

Hatherton Masonic Lodge (No.2474) met here every fourth Tuesday. [1912]

Henry Frederick Machin – see also MARKET TAVERN.

Harry Stephens = Harry Stevens

1911 Census

STORK HOTEL

- [1] *Harry W. J. Stevens* (30), hotel manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Cicily Louisa Stevens* (27), wife, married 6 years, assisting in business, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Cissie May Stevens* (5), daughter, school, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Albert Harry Ryenan* (26), hotel boots, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Lottie Knight* (22), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Edith Emma Neville* (21), barmaid, born Burntwood;
- [7] *Martha Annie Golby* (21), waitress, born West Bromwich;
- [8] *Annie Whitehead* (21), barmaid, born Wolverhampton;

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

STORK HOTEL, Walsall, £5.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

STORK HOTEL, Leicester Square. £0 10s 11½d.”

South Staffordshire Times 21/2/1920

“A reception and smoking concert under the auspices of the Bilston, Walsall and Cannock districts of the National United Order of Free Gardeners was held at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall last week end, in honour of the appointment of Brother Abraham Smith P.D.M. (New Invention) as Grand Master of the Order, and to celebrate its centenary.....”

Walsall Observer 26/1/1924

“In the course of his presidential address at the Annual Meeting of the Bilston, Walsall, and Cannock District of Free Gardeners, held at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Saturday afternoon, Mr. George Lawrence appealed for a revival of pre-war interest in lodge meetings, and stated that the widespread unemployment was responsible for decreased membership.....”

Walsall Observer 9/2/1924

“After appearing in one of the witness boxes and being granted a license extension in respect of a dinner, *Daniel Westwood*, of the STORK HOTEL, crossed to the defendant’s box at Walsall Police Court, on Tuesday, and answered a summons for having a chimney on fire on February 1st. He had to pay the usual penalty of 5s.”

Walsall Observer 5/4/1924

“A very happy evening was spent by some fifty members and their friends at the annual dinner of the Walsall Photographic Society, held at the STORK HOTEL, on Wednesday evening. The president (Mr. W. H. Shaw) presided.....”

AND

“The improvement in the status and the condition of the trade was emphasized in most of the speeches made at the annual dinner of the Walsall Master Bakers’ Association, which was held at the STORK HOTEL on Thursday evening, with Mr. J. Coole, the President, presiding over a good attendance.....”

Walsall Observer 10/5/1924

“The commendably high standard which recent sanctions shown in connection with the Walsall and District Kennel Association have reached very well maintained at headquarters, the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday evening. Entries totaled 160, and the quality in most classes were exceedingly good.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/7/1927

“The first Walsall and District Kennel Association members sanction show of the season was held on Tuesday at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall. There were 123 entries, and a large attendance. Numerous prizes were awarded.”

Walsall Observer 18/11/1939

“Whether, because of the war, there should be any change in policy respecting the licensing of social functions after 10pm, is a

question that has been considered by the Walsall Licensing Committee; and the general attitude decided upon was made known at a sessions held at the Guildhall on Thursday.

The justices had before them two applications for extensions that had been adjourned from ordinary sittings of the magistrates, the Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton) explaining that the magistrates to whom the applications were originally made felt that the question of wartime extensions should first be given full consideration by the licensing committee.

Asked if he had any objection to the applications, the Chief Constable (Mr. T. M. Watson) replied, 'I have no objection at all. I think, as a matter of fact, it would be a pity to cut out all functions of this kind. I think we ought to keep our spirits up.'

Announcing that both applications would be granted, Mr. H. Hucker (presiding) said it must be understood that all future applications would be dealt with on their merits.

One of the two applications was for an hour's extension at the STORK that evening to enable the Walsall Swimming Club to entertain and RAF team from Hednesford after the aquatic gala."

Walsall Observer 4/5/1940

"That a complete scheme for remodelling the STORK HOTEL is to be submitted to the licensing justices immediately war-time building restrictions have been raised, was mentioned at a Walsall transfer sessions held at the Guildhall on Thursday.

On the application of Mr. Frank Cooper, the justices sanctioned certain minor structural alterations, which, Mr. Cooper explained, would fit into the complete scheme contemplated later on. Sanctioned."

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Nicholls*, STORK HOTEL. £0 18s 8d."

Walsall Observer 2/12/1966

"It is essential that the Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society should have 100 per cent membership, said its chairman, Mr. W. Ruck, at the society's annual meeting at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Thursday last....."

It was renamed DIRTY DUCK in the 1960s.

It was renamed BLACK SWAN.

[2003]

It became STUDIO 45.

It closed in January 2007 after a spate of violent attacks.

Closed [2009], [2017]

BLOXWICH SHOWMAN

High Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

J. D. Wetherspoon

LICENSEES

Tony Carty (2015 – []

Ricky Suman [2016] pub manager

Lisa Watkins [2016] duty manager

NOTES

Express & Star 29/1/2015

"A new £1.95million pub named after one of Bloxwich's most famous residents has opened its doors at a former cinema in the town. The BLOXWICH SHOWMAN replaces the old Electric Palace cinema in High Street. It was opened by JD Wetherspoon this week.

The name of the pub, which specialises in real ales and craft beer, takes its inspiration from King of Showmen Pat Collins, who lived in Bloxwich and helped set up the famous fun fair in 1875. To mark the opening, a Pat Collins truck was rolled outside

before the ribbon was cut by staff.

The pub was initially expected to create 45 jobs, but it will now employ 57 new workers, bringing a welcome boost to the community.

The former cinema building, which is one of the area's landmarks, has been empty since 2011, when the Electric Palace youth club moved out. The youth club took its name from the first of the two cinemas on this site. The Electric Palace opened in 1912. Manager *Tony Carty* said, 'Myself and my team are looking forward to welcoming customers into the pub and we are confident that it will be a great addition to the Bloxwich community.'

The new-look pub, which is on two floors, features one bar, as well as a beer garden to the side of the premises, where smoking is permitted in a designated area. The inside has been decorated with historical memorabilia on Bloxwich including photographs of landmark buildings and characters. Bosses are also displaying artwork by artists Nick Logan and Drusilla Cole.

Mr. Collins, who made Bloxwich his home from 1915, set up what became the Showman's Guild and was its longest serving president. He was a Liberal MP for Walsall in the 1920s and was mayor in 1938. He died in 1943 and was buried in Bloxwich Cemetery."

[Black Country Bugle 2/3/2022](#)

[Article by Steve James](#)

"In Bloxwich, the Old Electric Palace cinema opened in 1912 and seated 400 people, but closed in 1922 to make way for the Grosvenor Cinema, built by Pat Collins. He was a local amusements and fairground owner who established the Showman's Guild. When Wetherspoons refurbished the building at a cost of £1.9m in 2014, it was named the BLOXWICH SHOWMAN after him."

[2019]

BLUE BELL

Church Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Holland [1834]

Benjamin Hancock [1835]

NOTES

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 22/9/1834 - Advert](#)

"To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that old established Public House the BLUE BELL, situated in Church Street, Walsall, now in the occupation of Mr. *John Holland*, who is retiring from the public business in consequence of other engagements. The Furniture and Stock to be taken at a fair valuation.

For particulars apply to F. Farrington and Son, Appraisers and Auctioneers, Walsall."

BLUE PIG

Elmore Green Road, (15, Elmore Green), (New Street), (12, Elmore Row), Elmore Green, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

John Moreton

Mrs. Sarah Ann Moreton

John Sanders

South Staffordshire Brewery Company [1904]

Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Perkins [1828] – [1831]
William Radnall [1834] – [1842]
William Sanders [1849] – [1851]
James Morton [1857] – [1860]
John Somerfield [1861]
John Moreton [1860] – [1872];
Mrs. Sarah Ann Moreton [];
John Sanders [1881] – **1891**);
Isaiah Millington (**1891 – 1893**);
William Lister (**1893 – 1894**);
William Daniel (**1894 – 1899**);
Henry Badger (**1899 – 1900**);
Mrs. Hannah Appleby (**1900 – 1902**);
David Lawrence (**1902 – 1905**);
William Henry Roberts (**1905 – 1911**);
William Parkes (**1911 – 1915**);
John William Parkes (**1915**);
Job Thomas Derby (**1915 – 1930**);
William Charles Waterfield (**1930**);
Morris Frank Powis (**1930 – 1931**);
Thomas Male (**1931**);

NOTES

New Street

15, Elmore Green [1871]
12, Elmore Row [1881], [1901]
Elmore Row [1912]
Elmore Green Road [1911]

It was a home brew house.

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

“...in 1818 an improvised election address on benches outside the pub was mobbed by angry Bloxwegians with the politicians seeking refuge in the bar.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 14/3/1831 - Advert

“Sale of Farming Stock and Household Furniture, at the BLUE PIG, Bloxwich.

By Mr. John Farrington, To Be Sold by Auction, on the premises, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 23rd and 24th of March, all the Live Stock, which consists of eighteen prime wether tegs, five excellent cows in calf, one cow and calf, one feeding cow, one hackney horse, five years old, one fat pig, three store pigs, one yelt, waggons, butcher's cart, quantity of wheat straw, about sixty tons of excellent manure; all the household furniture, brewing utensils, well-seasoned ale casks, fifty bushels of prime malt, three pockets of excellent hops, three hundred gallons of fine fresh ale, and a variety of other effects, belong to Mr. *Perkin*, of the BLUE PIG, who is leaving the premises.

Sale to commence at ten precisely.

The livestock will be sold on the first day, particulars in catalogues, and will be distributed in due time, and may be had at the office of the Auctioneer, Walsall.”

William Radnall = William Rednall

Walsall Free Press 22/8/1857

“*James Morton*, landlord of the BLUE PIG at Bloxwich, was charged on the information of Police-constable Hughes with keeping his house open for the sale of beer on Sunday morning. The defendant did not appear, and was fined 10s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 3/3/1860

“*John Martin* [sic], landlord of the BLUE PIG, Elmore Green, Bloxwich, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly. From the evidence of Sergeant Martin it appeared that about half-past twelve on Sunday morning last, he found defendant in front of his own house, with his shoes off, challenging anyone to run a race. Sergeant Martin requested him to go into the house, but instead of doing so he put himself in a fighting attitude, and after challenging him (*Martin*) and police-constable *Roberts* to fight, he aimed a blow at the latter. Defendant, who pleaded extenuation that he had been having a glass with a friend, was fined 10s and 10s 6d costs.”

Walsall Free Press 22/9/1860

“The activity of the inspector of weights and measures in detecting, and the magistrates in punishing, this species of offence, cannot be too highly commended. Perseverance in such a course will not fail to result in the breaking up and suppression of a system of swindling too prevalent in our neighbourhood, by which the poorer classes are openly and shamefully defrauded.

We have to record the convictions of four offenders in this class *John Moreton*, BLUE PIG INN, Bloxwich, four unjust measures. All the parties were fined 1s and costs, and cautioned.”

Walsall Free Press 6/4/1861

“*John Morton*, landlord of the BLUE PIG, Elmore Green, Bloxwich, who appeared in court with a frightful cut extending from the forehead over the nose, to below the right eye, was charged by police-constable No.13 with being drunk and assaulting the police, at half-past two on Wednesday morning last. The officer deposed to the outrageous conduct of defendant, to his (witness’) efforts to quiet him, and to being struck on the nose by him. Defendant had not much to say, except that he was drunk. The Bench in commenting upon the highly improper conduct of a person in defendant’s position, sentenced him to be imprisoned for seven days, without the option of a fine.”

1861 Census

Elmore Green

- [1] *John Somerfield* (37), public house and awl blade maker employing 1 man and 2 boys, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Jane Somerfield* (35), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Sobey Askey [Sobeaske] Somerfield* (12), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Mary Jane Somerfield* (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Emma Somerfield* (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Edward Byott* (10), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Sarah Lane* (17), public house servant, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *William Hiley* (15), awl blade maker’s apprentice, born Bloxwich:

John Somerfield – see also THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 30/1/1864

“Young Pike of Bloxwich, hearing that Davis of Rushell is in want of a job, he will fight him at 6st 8lb, for £10 or £15 a side, or his own sum. Money ready at Mr. *Morton*’s, the BLUE PIG, Elmore Green, Bloxwich.”

1871 Census

15, Elmore Green – BLUE PIG

- [1] *John Moreton* (49), publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Sarah Ann Moreton* (55), wife, born Brockmore [Brockmoor, Brierley Hill?], Staffordshire;
- [3] *Joseph Sanders* (25), son, brush maker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Ellen Baker* (19), general servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Thomas Baker* (23), visitor, miner, born Wolverhampton:

1881 Census

12, Elmore Row – BLUE PIG

- [1] *John Sanders* (36), bit maker, employing 3 men and 2 boys, born Walsall;
- [2] *Hannah Sanders* (34), wife, born Blakenhall;
- [3] *Florence Sanders* (12), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Sarah Anne Sanders* (10), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Harry Sanders* (6), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Thead Sanders* (4), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Lillie Sanders* (1), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Sarah A. Morton* (65), widow, mother, annuitant, born Brockmore [Brockmoor, Brierley Hill?], Staffordshire;
- [9] *Frank Williams* (14), apprentice, bit filer, born Olbey, Staffordshire:

1891 Census

12, Elmore Row – BLUE PIG INN

- [1] *Isaiah Millington* (49), widower, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Emma E. Millington* (14), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Harriet A. Philips* (24), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/8/1894

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *William Daniel*, the BLUE PIG INN, Elmore Row, Bloxwich, was charged with being drunk on his own licensed premises. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) appeared for the defendant. Police-sergeant Willets and Police-constable Yardley deposed that on the night of the 1st inst. they found defendant drunk and asleep in his smoke room. The defence was that he was not drunk, but had fallen asleep through fatigue, he having been sitting up all the preceding night with his

wife, who was ill. Mr. Jackson, in speaking on his client's behalf, said a conviction would be a very serious matter to the defendant, inasmuch as it would probably entail the forfeiture of the lease of the house, for which he had given £300. In cross-examination, the defendant admitted he had offered to give a certain sum to the hospital if a summons were not issued. The magistrates imposed a fine of 20s and costs, and declined to allow a contribution to the hospital."

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

"Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday.....

The licenses of William Webster, ROYAL OAK, Stafford Street; Thomas Watson, ROYAL OAK, Harden Lane; Anna Maria Grant, the NAG'S HEAD, Ablewell Street; and *William Daniel*, BLUE PIG, Elmore Row, were renewed."

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

"The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Since the 30th August, 1898, 8 licensed victuallers have been proceeded against, 2 of whom were convicted, viz.....

7th April, *William Daniel*, BLUE PIG, Bloxwich, fined 40s and costs and license endorsed for selling liquor to drunken persons (Endorsement of license was removed on appeal).....

The Chief Constable opposed the license of the BLUE PIG, Bloxwich, on the ground that on the 7th April, *Wm. Daniel* was convicted and fined 40s and costs for selling liquor to drunken persons, and the license was endorsed, but the endorsement was removed on appeal. On the second ground that the license was not demanded by the neighbourhood.

Mr. Wilcock, representing the owners, said he admitted the conviction, but there was a considerable amount of difference of opinion in regard to the case. The conviction still stood, but there had been an appeal against the penalty then inflicted, and after full investigation it was considered that the penalty was too great for the offence committed, and the most serious part of it – the endorsement of the license – had been removed, and in view of that he thought it would be a very harsh proceeding to take not to renew the license.....

On returning the Magistrates announced their decisions as under....

BLUE PIG, the renewal of the license adjourned until the licensing day, and the Chief Constable was directed to bring further evidence as to the nature of the premises and the requirement of the neighbourhood."

Walsall Advertiser 30/9/1899

"The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

Notice of objection had been given to the renewal of the license of the BLUE PIG, Bloxwich, at the annual meeting on the ground that there had been a conviction and an endorsement of the license. The case had been adjourned for further evidence as to the need of the license in the district. Evidence was now given by Inspector Alden as to the distance of seven other licensed houses in the vicinity which varied from 92 yards to nearly 300 from the BLUE PIG, whilst there were only 52 houses which were nearer the BLUE PIG than to any other licensed premises.

Mr. Willcock, who supported the application, said this was a case on which there had been an appeal, and the Court of Appeal removed the endorsement of the license.

The Mayor said the majority of the magistrates had decided to renew the license."

William Daniel – see also NAGS HEAD (BEACON WAY), Bloxwich, and VINE, Bloxwich.

1901 Census

12, Elmore Row

[1] *Hannah Appleby* (50), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Joseph Appleby* (23), son, lockmaker, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Annie Hodson* (25), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

David Lawrence, BLUE PIG."

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

"The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

BLUE PIG, Bloxwich. *David Lawrence*, landlord; owners South Staffordshire Brewery Company. Objection was taken that there was a back-way from the house, and that it was not required.

In reply to the Bench, Inspector Marshall said the house did a fairly good business, and in his opinion was required. Renewed."

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Jackson applied to build a wall round the BLUE PIG, Bloxwich, in order to shut off the unlicensed area from the licensed area. Refused."

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough, adjourned from the previous Wednesday, were resumed on Tuesday.....
Mr. Loxton read out the following decisions the magistrates had come to.....
Alterations to the following houses were refused: BLUE PIG, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/8/1911

“*William Parkes*, of the BLUE PIG INN, Bloxwich, was ordered to pay the costs, for allowing two pigs to stray in Church Street, Bloxwich, on the 27th July, Police-constable Horton giving evidence.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
BLUE PIG, Bloxwich, 18s 10½d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/6/1915

“*William Parkes*, BLUE PIG INN, Bloxwich was summoned at Walsall yesterday for being drunk on his own licensed premises. It was stated that defendant was drunk in the tap-room, and as he refused to go to bed Police-sergeant Wooley took him to the police station. Mr. F. Cooper, who defended, said Parker had been upset by domestic trouble. He had held licenses for ten years without complaint. Alderman Clare said the Bench would treat defendant as they would any other first offender. The case would be dismissed on payment of costs.”

Walsall Observer 25/9/1915

“Applications were made for the transfer of several licenses.....
The license of the BLUE PIG, Bloxwich, was transferred from *William Parkes* to *John William Parkes*, on the application of Mr. F. Cooper, who afterwards asked for a temporary authority in respect of the same license to Job Thomas Darby. In reply to the Mayor, Mr. Cooper said that *J. W. Parkes* had been in possession for a fortnight. Granted.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
BLUE PIG, Bloxwich. £1 0s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 5/6/1926

“New Hope in Coal Situation.
How Unemployment and Relief Have Increased During the Fifth Week of Stoppage.....
Soup kitchens were yesterday opened by the Walsall Miners’ Distress Committee in the Bloxwich and Leamore districts for the feeding of about 2,000 members of miners’ families. The stations were – BLUE PIG INN (1,300 fed), TURF TAVERN (160), Field Street School (175), BLACK HORSE, Leamore (250), Blakenall Church Schools (250), and the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich (150). Although the committee are short of funds, they are taking the risk of carrying on the feeding for at least a week, and will continue if more money is forthcoming. It is estimated that the week’s effort will cost about £100. Seventeen gallons of milk, which have been given daily by Mr. Sid Field, of Blue Lane, have also been distributed this week.”

Lichfield Mercury 9/3/1928

“Walsall Licensing Sessions.....
The following five houses, all of Bloxwich, were referred for compensation:
CARRIERS ARMS, Field Road; STATION HOTEL, Station Street; VICTORIA STORES, High Street; BLUE PIG, Elmore Row; and the VINE INN, The Green.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority in 1929.
It was renewed.

It closed on 18th May 1931.
The license was transferred to the STAG HOTEL, Field Road.

It was demolished, and the public library was built on the site.

BLUE PIG

58, (59+58), New Street, (Newgate Street), (George Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Lucas, near Coventry
William Brown

LICENSEES

Charles Butler [1813] – [1835]
Nicholas Roper [1834] – [1845]
William Brown I (1846 – [1875]
William Brown II (1879 – 1908);
Mrs. Emma Brown (1908 – 1929);
William Brown III [1911] ?
Charlotte Augusta Brown (1929 – 1930);
Charles Guest (1930 – 1931);
Arthur Patrick Hopkins (1931 – 1932);

NOTES

George Street [1818], [1835]
Newgate Street
58, New Street [1860], [1861], [1871], [1908], [1932]
58+59, New Street [1881], [1891], [1901]

BLUE BOAR [1818], [1822], [1828], [1830], [1834]
BLUE PIG [1851], [1860], [1871], [1904], [1912]

It had a beerhouse license.

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

“*Charles Butler*, victualler, and Birmingham carrier, sets out from the BLUE PIG, New Street, Walsall, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, to the Lyttletons Arms, Snow Hill, Birmingham, and returns at seven o'clock in the evening of the same days.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/2/1831 - Advert

“To Publicans, Farmers, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. T. Bowen, without the least reserve, on Wednesday and Thursday next, the 2nd and 3rd of March, 1831, the whole of the Household Furniture, capital brewing vessels, dairy utensils, stock in trade, and excellent Beer Machine, with four motions, two copper boilers, a brick oven, strong working Horse, Cart, several lots of Harness, and about seven hundred tons of good rich manure, &c. the property of Mr. *Charles Butler*, of the BLUE PIG, New Street, Walsall.

Catalogues may be had at the office of the Auctioneer, Digbeth, Walsall.

N.B. The Cart, Horse, Harness, and several lots of manure will be offered at four o'clock on Thursday afternoon.”

Charles Butler, retailer of beer, George Street. [1835]

1841 Census

New Street

- [1] *Nicholas Roper* (45), curb chainmaker, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *William Roper* (20), chainmaker, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Edwin Roper* (20), chainmaker, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Nicholas Roper junr* (15), saddler's apprentice, born Staffordshire;
- [5] *George Arnold* (15):

Nicholas Roper was also a roller buckle and curb and chain maker. [1845]

William Brown = *William Browne*

1851 Census

New Street

- [1] *William Brown* (38), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Brown* (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *George Brown* (8), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Yates* (14), house servant, born Walsall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 31/10/1852

“Thomas Peers of Bloxwich and Thomas White of Birmingham are matched to walk one mile, for £10 a side, at Aston Cross, Birmingham, Peers to receive 20 yards start. They meet tomorrow (Monday) night, at Mr. *Brown*'s, BLUE PIG, Walsall, the 25th inst, to sign articles, and make their deposit into £2 10s a side.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 25/6/1854

“Reuben Craddock of Bloxwich and Samuel Wallace of Darlaston have entered into fresh articles to run their disputed mile again, at Lichfield, on Monday, July 10, Craddock to receive 20 yards start. Mr. *William Browne*, of the BLUE PIG, Walsall, is appointed referee.”

Walsall Free Press 21/3/1857

“County Court. *Adams v. Brown*.

This was an action bought by the plaintiff, who is a forgerman residing at Wednesbury, and for whom Mr. Duignan appeared, to recover the sum of £10, the value of a watch and chain illegally retained by the defendant, who is landlord of the BLUE PIG Public-house, New Street, Walsall, who was represented by Mr. Wilkinson. From the plaintiff's evidence it appeared that on January 30th, he, the defendant, and several others, had been at a supper party at the LAMP TAVERN, Wednesbury, and the grog having been freely circulated, a bet was made as to who was the best dancer, Adams or *Brown*. The former not having £1 in his pocket, which was the amount of the bet, he staked his watch, while he went to borrow the money. This he did not succeed in getting; and when he returned the watch had disappeared into the custody of the defendant. Since that time the property had not been restored to him; but his son being in company when the watch was offered for sale in his father's house, a man named Wright bought it for a sovereign, so that the plaintiff could have it back for the sum which had been paid for it, but which had found its way into *Brown*'s pocket. Mr. Wilkinson subjected the witness to a severe cross-examination. It was elicited from the plaintiff's son that he had seen *Brown*, and told him that if his father lost the action, he should give the watch to him, and if he won, he might buy one for himself. He and his father went to defendant's to ask why the watch had not been given up, and when the latter said he had sent it to him the day before by Wright, which appeared to be the case, the watch being in the son's possession when he demanded it. Mr. Wilkinson addressed the court for defendant submitting that it was a scheme to defraud the defendant out of £10, knowing very well he could not produce the watch, it being in the custody of his son at the time. John Wright deposed that he went to Mr. *Brown* and asked for the watch, and it was given up to him on payment of £1. This money he was to have returned to him when he delivered up the watch; and it was this he received when the plaintiff's son took the watch from him. The sovereign had been paid by Adams' authority to *Brown*. After a short consultation the jury gave judgement for the plaintiff, 20s and costs.”

1861 Census

58, New Street

- [1] *William Brown* (46), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Brown* (45), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Brown* (9), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Harry Brown* (1), son, born Walsall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 16/6/1866

“Young Holden of Walsall wishes to inform J. Hawkes of London that he would be most happy to accommodate him at 8st, for £50 or £100 a side, and no less. By covering £2 10s at *Bells Life* and forwarding articles to Holden at Mr. *Brown*'s, BLUE PIG INN, New Street, Walsall, he may ensure a match; to fight on the same conditions as before. If this does not suit, Holden will fight any other man in England on the same conditions, the fight to take place in the midland district.”

1871 Census

58, New Street – BLUE PIG

- [1] *William Brown* (57), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Ann Brown* (57), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Brown* (17), son, japanner, born Walsall;
- [4] *Harry Brown* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Jane Wilkes* (15), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

“Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

The cases of *William Brown*, the BLUE PIG, New Street were adjourned.”

1881 Census

59+58, New Street – BLUE PIG

- [1] *William Brown* (29), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Emma Brown* (29), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Brown* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Eliza Brown* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Paulina Westley* (30), sister in law, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mary Simkin* (19), visitor, dress maker, born Darlaston;

[7] Eliza Berry (11), visitor, scholar, born Walsall:

1891 Census

58+59, New Street

- [1] *William Brown* (39), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Emma Brown (39), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Maud M. Brown (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] William Brown (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Eliza Brown (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] George J. R. Brown (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Robert W. Brown (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] George H. Brown (1), son, born Walsall;
- [9] Antony McKeever (50), brother in law, caster, born Ireland;
- [10] Elza McKeever (45), sister, born Walsall;
- [11] Kate Stokes (19), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1893

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The usual monthly meeting of the management committee was held on Thursday last (having been postponed from the previous Thursday, the day on which the Parliamentary election took place), at Mr. *William Brown*’s, BLUE PIG INN, New Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1895

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *William Brown*, BLUE PIG INN New Street, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 10/10/1896

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held at the house of Mr. *William Brown*, BLUE PIG INN, New Street, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 16/10/1897

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday, at Mr. *William Brown*’s, BLUE PIG INN, New Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1898

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of the vice-president (Mr. *W. Brown*), BLUE PIG INN.....”

William Brown II was vice president of Walsall and District LVA [1900], [1902]

1901 Census

58+59, New Street

- [1] *William Brown* (49), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Emma Brown (49), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William Brown (24), son, brewer, born Walsall;
- [4] Eliza Brown (22), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Robert Brown (16), son, pattern maker, born Walsall;
- [6] George Brown (12), son, born Walsall;
- [7] John W. Brown (8), son, born Walsall;
- [8] Mabel Gladys Brown (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] Anthony McKeaver (60), lodger, iron caster, born Mayo, Ireland;
- [10] Eliza McKeaver (54), lodger, born Walsall;
- [11] Charlotte Hammond (21), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [12] Alice Mason (14), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 27/6/1908

“Amid many signs of sincere regret the remains of Mr. *William Brown*, whose death took place on Wednesday of last week, after a short illness at the BLUE PIG, New Street, were laid to rest at the Rycroft Cemetery, on Monday. The deceased gentleman was widely known in town in many circles, and his decease after so short an illness, came as a great shock to many, and especially to those with whom he was more intimately connected. He was born at the inn, in which his death took place, on March 22nd 1852, and although receiving a good education, was brought up as a japanner by trade. In 1879, however, he gave up his trade to take possession of the BLUE PIG on February 10th, superseding his father, who had held the license since 1846. Deceased joined the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society early, and at the time of his death, was one of the oldest, if not the oldest, of the members of the society, and had occupied the chief position of honour. He was an ardent supporter of the Walsall Cricket Club and rarely was absent from matches, and his genial face will be missed by many. As the possessor of some of the finest homing

pigeons deceased was very well known by pigeon-lovers all over the Midlands, having reared some of the best homers in his day. He was highly esteemed by all with whom he came into contact, and although of a quiet disposition, he had a kindly nature which found favour with all living around him. A widow and grown up family are left to mourn his loss. The Rev. A. Price (Vicar and Rural Dean) officiated at the graveside.....”

Walsall Advertiser 10/11/1900

“Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *William Brown*, BLUE PIG INN, New Street.....”

1911 Census

58, New Street

- [1] *William Brown* (34), brewer public house, born Walsall;
- [2] *Charlotte Augusta Brown* (35), wife, married 2 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Eliza Brown* (32), sister, born Walsall;
- [4] *John Westley Brown* (18), brother, currier, born Walsall;
- [5] *Annie Statham* (17), servant, born Wrockwardine Wood, Shropshire;
- [6] *Nellie Wilks* (14), servant, born Walsall;
- [7] *William Brown* (9 months), son, born Walsall:

[The licensing register had Emma, William III’s mother, as the licensee until 1929, although she is not resident at the time of the 1911 Census.]

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BLUE PIG, New Street, Walsall, 13s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BLUE PIG, New Street. £0 6s 7½d.”

It closed on 7th April 1932.

The license was transferred to the FOUR CROSSES, Green Lane.

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle’s references in last week’s Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remembers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKE-SPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

BOAT

70, (174), (60), (Upper) Green Lane, Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Simmons [1861]
William Price, Birchills, Walsall
Robinson’s Brewery Co. Ltd.
Arthur Beebee Ltd. [1905], [1910]

LICENSEES

Henry Raybould [1857]
Thomas Simmons [1859] – [1862]
Richard Foxall [1871] – [1872];
George Davies [];
William Stubbs [1881];
Eliza Foxall [] – 188_);
Jane Leech (188_ – 188_);

Edward Taylor (188_ – 1890);
George Dugmore (1890 – 1892);
George Isaac Everiss (1892 – 1893);
George Gray (1893);
Benjamin Walker (1893 – 1894);
Frederick Taylor (1894);
Frank Barber (1894 – 1896);
Lydia Richards (1896 – 1897);
Dudley Parkes (1897 – 1899);
James Nicholls (1899 – 1903);
William Parkes (1903 – 1905);
James Parkes [1904] ?
Arthur George Saunders (1905 – 1911);
Thomas Taylor (1911 – 1912);
Edwin Bicknell (1912 – 1913);
William Clamp (1913 – 1914);
Agnes Annie Clamp (1914 – 1923);
Thomas Lander (1923);

NOTES

60, Green Lane [1861]
174, Green Lane [1871]
70, Green Lane [1891], [1901], [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 7/2/1857 - Advert

“Freehold Public House, and Other Messuages, situate at The Birchills, Walsall.
To Be Sold By Auction by Mr. Henry Farrington, at Mr. Baker’s, the SWANN INN, Park Street, Walsall, On Monday, 23rd of February, 1857, At Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions.
Lot 1. All that Public-house known by the Sign of the BOAT, with the Yard, Brewhouse, Outbuildings, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate in Green Lane, at the Birchills aforesaid, in the occupation of Mr. *Henry Raybould*, at the yearly rent of £20. And also all those nine Dwelling-house thereto adjoining, with the Appurtenances, producing together a yearly rental of between £40 and £50.”

Walsall Free Press 9/7/1859 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. H. Farrington, at the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, Walsall, on Tuesday the 26th day of July, 1859, at seven o’clock in the evening. Subject to conditions.
Lot 1. All that well accustomed Public House, known by the sign of the BOAT, containing bar, tap-room, parlour, club-room, &c, with the yard, brewhouse, and other outbuildings thereto belonging, situate in Green Lane, Walsall, and now occupied by Mr. *Thomas Simmons*, at the yearly rent of £20; and also those Seven Houses, thereto adjoining, four of which front to Green Lane aforesaid, and produce a yearly income of £20 16s, and the remaining three of which are situate at the back of the said four, and produce a yearly income of £11 14s.....”

Walsall Free Press 22/10/1859

“*Thomas Simmons*, landlord of the BOOT [sic] beerhouse, pleaded guilty to having had his house open during prohibited hours, and was sentenced to pay a fine of 10s and costs, he having been previously convicted.”

1861 Census

60, Green Lane – BOAT INN
[1] *Thomas Simmons* (30), victualler, born Walsall;
[2] Sarah Simmons (27), wife, born Bilston;
[3] Simeon Simmons (1), son, born Walsall;
[4] William Richards (26), visitor, bricklayer, born London;
[5] Rebecca Glover (16), house servant, born Shrewsbury:

Walsall Free Press 23/11/1861

“*Thomas Simmons*, keeper of the BOAT beerhouse, Birchills, was summoned by the police for having his house open after lawful hours, on the 17th inst. He pleaded guilty. A conviction in a penalty of 10s had been inflicted on the defendant about two years ago for a similar offence. Since that time (the police stated) the house had been well conducted. A fine of 5s and costs was inflicted.”

Thomas Simmons, retailer of beer, Green Lane. [1862]

London Gazette 30/10/1866

“*Thomas Simmons*, of Bloxwich, and late of Walsall, both in Stafford, beerhouse keeper and boatman.”

Walsall Free Press 21/1/1871

“Yesterday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the Cottage Hospital, upon the body of Moses Roberts, aged 26, labourer, who came by his death under the following circumstances. On Tuesday evening the deceased went to assist Mr. *Foxall*, landlord of the BOAT INN, Birchills, to brew. About 11 o'clock, as he was reaching across the copper for some hops, he fell head-forwards into the boiling water with which the copper was filled. In his endeavours to extricate himself, Roberts dragged the whole of his body into the copper, and by this means was scalded from the crown of his head to the sole of his foot. He, however, succeeded in getting out of the copper; and by the time the parties attracted by his cries reached the brew-house door, they met him coming out. He was immediately conveyed to the Cottage Hospital, where after lying in great agony, he expired at 1.30am on Thursday. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Accidental Scalding.”

1871 Census

174, Green Lane – BOAT INN

- [1] *Richard Foxall* (34), publican, born Bridgnorth;
- [2] *Eliza Foxall* (35), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Mary Foxall* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Harriet Foxall* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Richard Foxall* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Agnes Foxall* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Mary Tong* (16), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1881 Census

Green Lane – The BOAT INN

- [1] *William Stubbs* (57), beerhouse keeper, born Pembridge, Herefordshire;
 - [2] *Elizabeth Stubbs* (58), wife, born Clun, Shropshire;
 - [3] *Sarah A. Stubbs* (23), daughter, barmaid, born Kidderminster;
 - [4] *Thomas Stubbs* (21), son, engine fitter (unemployed), born Kidderminster;
 - [5] *Frank E. Stubbs* (14), son, scholar, born Kidderminster;
 - [6] *Elizabeth Croft* (22), visitor, dressmaker, born Kidderminster;
 - [7] *Harriet Morton* (15), general servant, born Bloxwich:
- [Pembridge is about 7 miles W of Leominster.]

Walsall Advertiser 24/11/1888 - Advert

“Summary of Auction Sales by Walter Hughes.....
Thursday next, at 12, at the BOAT INN, Birchills.
Unreserved Sale of Excellent Modern Brewing Plant.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses *George Dugmore*, the BOAT INN, Birchills, who had given notice of their intention to apply, did not appear.”

1891 Census

70, Green Lane – BOAT INN

- [1] *George Dugmore* (36), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Therese Dugmore* (30), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Gertrude M. Dugmore* (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Philip M. Dugmore* (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Louis M. Dugmore* (6), son, scholar, born Cradley Heath;
- [6] *Mary Erasmus* (14), domestic servant, born Wales:

Walsall Observer 20/10/1900

“Yesterday, an inquest was held by Mr. T. H. Stanley (Borough Coroner), at the BOAT INN, Birchills, on the body of *Maude Price* (7), whose parents lived at 106, Upper Green Lane.

Mary Price, mother of the deceased, gave evidence of identification, and stated that on Tuesday last, October 16th, she had occasion to go out, leaving deceased and three other little ones, the eldest of whom was six. Before she got to the forge in Green Lane, a girl named *Rose Cordwell* overtook her and said, ‘Oh, come back, *Maude* is nearly burnt to death.’ Witness hurried back, and found *Maude* in the kitchen badly burnt. She had a doctor to see her, but she died on Thursday. Deceased told her she was putting the kettle on the fire, when her frock became ignited. So far as witness knew, she had never done this before. There was no fireguard.

Rose Cordwell, 107, Upper Green Lane, gave evidence that hearing some shouting in the next house, she went to the door, and saw deceased with her dress all in flames. She came out into the yard, where Louisa Pain extinguished the flames, and witness went for her aunt (Mrs. Price).

Louisa Pain, 103, Upper Green Lane, stated that hearing the child screaming she ran out into the yard and pulled the burning clothes from off the child, who was then attended to by neighbours.

Dr. P. Anchore stated that on Tuesday he was passing up Green Lane when he was called in to see the child, who was burnt about the chest, abdomen, left arm, both thighs and knees. They were of an extensive and dangerous character. The mother objected to the child going to the hospital. He prescribed for the child, and next day found her a little better, but on Thursday he found her dead. Death, in his opinion, was due to shock, caused by the burns. Immediately he saw the child he made up his mind that it was a fatal case.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/12/1900

“Thomas Russell, aged 14, of 43, Birchills, was placed in the dock on a charge of stealing two long-homer pigeons, value 30s, the property of Samuel *Nicholls*, boat builder, the BOAT INN, Birchills. At about six o’clock on Saturday evening prosecutor noticed a ladder against his pigeon loft. On going up the ladder and striking a match he found prisoner there. Asked what he was doing there, he replied that he was ‘after a pigeon he had lost.’ He threw one pigeon to the floor, and on coming down the ladder he had another in his shirt. Prisoner was handed over to Police-constable Burdett.

He pleaded not guilty to the charge and said he was looking for a pigeon he had lost.

His stepmother said the boy kept pigeons and had lost one.

He was ordered to be kept in custody until his father had given him a thrashing in front of the Chief Constable or Inspector Balance.”

1901 Census

70, Green Lane

[1] *James Nicholls* (60), boat builder, born Walsall;

[2] Sarah A. Nicholls (56), wife, born Swan Village, Staffordshire;

[3] Samuel Nicholls (25), son, boat builder, born Walsall;

[4] Sarah M. Nicholls (22), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Annie Hewens (12), granddaughter, born Walsall;

[6] Emma Robins (17), domestic servant, born Swan Village, Staffordshire:

[There were at least 2 Swan Villages, one at West Bromwich and one at Woodsetton.]

James Parkes, beer retailer, 70, Green Lane, Birchills. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1905 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell St., Walsall.

Houses.....

The BOAT, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

“There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....

The Chief Constable objected to the renewal of four other houses on the ground of the peculiar system of trade which they carried on, and those he referred to were; FORGE INN, Pleck Road; FORGE HAMMER, Rolling Mill Street; BOAT INN, Green Lane; and the RISING SUN. Continuing, the Chief Constable stated the landlady or landlord of the houses in question gave out checks to men who then hung about neighbouring works, and did business with the checks on a 10 per cent commission. It appeared that these men got 22s worth of checks for 20s, and they disposed of these checks to men who wanted beer but had no money. The men for a shilling’s worth of checks each paid 1s 3d the next Saturday.

The Bench now ordered that the whole of the licenses mentioned should stand over until the adjourned licensing day.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/3/1909

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

Arthur George Sanders, BOAT, Green Lane, applied for a public singing and music license on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 10.45pm, on the occasion of the practice of a bona fide musical society. Mr. Pearman-Smith appeared for the applicant. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home-Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.

Houses.....

The BOAT, Green Lane, Walsall.”

1911 Census

70, Green Lane – BOAT INN

- [1] *Arthur George Saunders* (35), roll turner iron and beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
[2] *Susannah Saunders* (34), wife, married 14 years, born Walsall;
[3] *Evelyn Cameron Saunders* (13), daughter, born Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire;
[4] *Arthur Saunders* (3), son, born Walsall:

Thomas Taylor, beer retailer, 70, Upper Green Lane, Birchills. [1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
BOAT INN, Green Lane. £0 8s 9d.”

A. Clamp was the last licensee?

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority.
Compensation was paid on 8th October 1923.
It closed on 15th October 1923.

Walsall Observer 19/1/1924

“For the sum of £250 inclusive of costs, the Walsall Town Council decided, on Monday, to purchase from the Robinson’s Brewery Co. Ltd. the delicensed property formerly known as the BOAT INN and situate in Green Lane.”

BOAT

Walsall Wood Road, Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Davis

LICENSEES

William Purchase [1850]
Thomas Dawes [1854]
William Plant [1857]
William Davis and Thomas Stokes [1860] – **1861**;
William Davis (**1861** – []

NOTES

BOATSWAINS WELL [1861]

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/3/1847

“Inquests held this week by George Hinchliffe, Esq, Coroner.....

On Monday at the BOAT INN, Walsall Wood, on the body of John Birch, aged 6 years. It appeared that on the 9th instant the deceased was walking before a horse and a loaded waggon of bricks, which were being conveyed along a railway leading from Mr. Berris’s brick and tile yard to the canal. The horse being close behind him, his foot caught one of the sleepers, when he fell down, and the horse and one of the wheels passed over one of his legs, dreadfully fracturing it. The deceased was taken to his father’s house, and, after lingering until the 21st instant, he expired. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/9/1854

“On Thursday, the Magistrates R. C. Chawner, W. E. Jones, Edward Scott, and W. Mott, Esqs, assembled at the BUTTS INN, for the purpose of granting and renewing licenses for various houses in the district. The landlords who had been fined during the past year were reprimanded. There were seven applications for new licenses: Mr. Duignan applied for and obtained a spirit license for the BOAT INN, Walsall Wood, in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Dawes*.....”

Birmingham Journal 16/5/1857

“County Court. Insolvents.....

William Plant, formerly a glass, china, and earthenware dealer in Worcester, and lately the BOAT INN, Walsall Wood, underwent his first examination. Mr. Thomas Smallhouse, Coventry, supported the petition, which was opposed by Mr. Levy Hinchliffe, clerk

to Messrs. Smith and Hodnett, Stourbridge. The petition was granted, and the final hearing fixed for 11th of June.”

1861 Census

Walsall Wood Road – BOAT INN

- [1] *William Davis* (58), publican, born Trentham, Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Davis (61), wife, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] Martha Davis (29), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] Doratha Davis (27), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] Alice M. Davis (3), granddaughter, born Walsall Wood:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/12/1861 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Public House and Cottages, at Walsall Wood, Staffordshire.

To be Sold by Auction, by John Osbourn, on the premises, on Monday, the 13th day of January, 1862, at six o’clock in the evening precisely, in one lot, that well-accustomed old-licensed Public House, known by the sign of the BOAT, situate in Walsall Wood, in the county of Stafford, now and for many years past in the occupation of the owner *William Davis*, together with roomy Stables and Brewhouse, Pigsties, Outbuildings, Garden Ground, and Appurtenances thereto belonging. The house comprises capital tap and smoke rooms, large clubroom, snug bar-parlour, and excellent range of cellaring, kitchen, washhouse, and three spacious bedrooms, one of them easily capable of conversion into two. Also Two Cottages, with Outbuildings and Garden Ground thereto belonging, situate adjoining and near to the said public-house, one of them in the occupation of J. Nall, at a weekly rent of 3s, and the other usually let for 2s 6d per week, at present void.

The buildings are in an excellent state of repair, and the entire premises contain an area of 1513 square yards or thereabouts, and have an abundant supply of spring water. They adjoin in front the Walsall and Lichfield turnpike-road, and at the back the towing-path of the Birmingham Canal.

A considerable part of the purchase money may remain upon the property, which is sold in consequence of the owner declining business.

For further particulars, apply to the Auctioneer, or to W. H. Duignan, Solicitor, both of Walsall.”

Check OLD BOOT and BOOT.

BOATHOUSE

Park Road, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[2007]

[2017]

BOATMANS REST

Lichfield Road, (Walsall Wood Road), (20, High Street), Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

Greene King and Sons Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Stokes [1849] – [1861]

Thomas Jackson [1868] – 1870);

William Stewart (1870);

Thomas Thacker (1870 – 1872);
Richard Smith (1872 – [1881]
Eliza Short [] – 1891);
Walter Allen Oram (1891 – [1894]
John Bates [1895] – [1912]
Harry Bates [1932]
William E Burton [1940]

NOTES

20, High Street [1940]

It was originally the RED LION.

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Journal 31/5/1845

“A most afflicting occurrence took place on Saturday last at Walsall Wood, which has plunged the family of the Rev. P. G. Harper, minister of that place, into the deepest distress. It appears that on the above day, the daughter of Mr. Harper, a lovely and intelligent child, in her seventh year, was playing with her little brother in the garden, in the full enjoyment of health and spirits. She was close by the entrance to the garden, her brother fortunately being at some distance, when a horse and cart, loaded with wood, and driven by a man named James Mallet, attempted to pass through the gate, which being too narrow, the timber caught the wall, which was forced down, burying underneath the poor child, who but for an instant before was in the full flow of infantime enjoyment. The man immediately alarmed the family, and the unhappy father on hurrying to the spot, lost no time in extricating his poor child, who was taken out quite dead, the weight of the wall having killed her on the spot. An inquest was held at the RED LION INN, Walsall Wood, before George Hinchliffe, Esq., Coroner, on Monday, when the above facts having been stated in evidence, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Thomas Stokes was also a farmer. [1849], [1850], [1860]

1851 Census

Turnpike Road

- [1] *Thomas Stokes* (60), widower, victualler and farmer of 80 acres employing 15 labourers, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] *Thomas Stokes* (30), son, agricultural labourer, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] *Emma Stokes* (20), daughter, housekeeper, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] *Elizabeth Stokes* (17), granddaughter, house servant, born Rugby;
- [5] *Mary Stokes* (14), granddaughter, house servant, born Walsall;
- [6] *Thomas Stokes* (7), grandson, scholar at home, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] *Charlotte Stokes* (42), daughter in law, an assistant, born Rugby;
- [8] *Eliza Grantage* (23), visitor, labourer's wife, born Rugby;
- [9] *Samuel Grantage* (1), visitor, infant, born Cratchentor Green, Shropshire;
- [10] *John Stretton* (25), servant, boatman, birthplace NK;
- [11] *James Thompson* (36), servant, agricultural labourer, born Warwickshire;
- [12] *John Riley* (22), servant, boatman, birthplace NK;
- [13] *James Jones* (24), servant, boatman, born Worcestershire;
- [14] *Thomas Wagstaff* (14), servant, errand boy, born Walsall;

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Thomas Stokes, licensed victualler, the RED LION, Walsall Wood, was fined 7s 6d and costs, for having four unjust measures..... The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859

“A Special Petty Sessions was held at Brownhills on Friday last, before C. Forster, Esq, MP, and the Rev. G. H. Fisher, when the following persons were fined for having in their possession unjust weights and measures, on the information laid by Mr. Inspector Tullett, Inspector for the South Staffordshire district.....

Thomas Stokes, RED LION, Walsall Wood, for unjust measures, 15s and costs, a very bad case, some of the pints a gill short.”

1861 Census

Walsall Wood Road – RED LION

- [1] *Thomas Stokes* (71), widower, publican and farmer of 90 acres employing 3 men, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] *John Stokes* (51), son, born Walsall Wood;

- [3] Charlotte Stokes (54), house keeper, born Rugby;
[4] Charles Stokes (40), son, widower, farm servant, born Walsall Wood;
[5] Eliza Stokes (22), granddaughter, born Walsall Wood;
[6] Thomas Stokes (17), grandson, farm servant, born Walsall Wood;
[7] Thomas Hadgett (10), grandson, scholar, born Walsall Wood;
[8] Joseph Roe (30), servant, boatman, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Free Press 7/2/1863

“At the Rushall petty sessions, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey, J. Harrison, and B. Bloomer, Esqs., John Birch was charged with having, on the 4th of November last, uttered a counterfeit half-sovereign. It appeared that on the night of Monday, the 3rd of November last, the prisoner visited the BOOT public house, Walsall Wood, and called for some ale, and on the waiter taking it into the room the prisoner gave him a half-sovereign. The half-sovereign being tested by the landlady, proved to be a bad one. On making the discovery the landlady bolted the door and sent for the police, and on her doing so the prisoner made use of such abusive language that the landlord turned him out. An uttering was proved by the prisoner at the RED LION public house, Walsall Wood, after which Mrs. Mary Franks proved that in a hedge adjoining the BOOT public house she found, on the 28th of November, a bag containing a half-sovereign, six half-crowns, and two two-shilling pieces, all counterfeit coins. The half-sovereign was of the same date as the two the prisoner was charged with uttering, and evidently out of the same mould. Sergeant Martin, of the Walsall borough police, having proved the apprehension of the prisoner, Inspector Price produced the coins said to have been uttered by the prisoner. Mr. Glover addressed the Bench for his client, who was remanded till the Mint authorities could be communicated with.”

Walsall Free Press 16/2/1867 - Advert

“To Be Let, with immediate possession, that Old Licensed House, the RED LION, Walsall Wood.
Apply to J. Aldridge, Walsall Wood.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1868

“Rushall, Tuesday. Adjourned Licensing Meeting.

Mr. Glover applied on behalf of Mr. S. Harrison, the HAWTHORNE TREE free beerhouse, Walsall Wood, for a spirit license. Mr. Dale (from the office of Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) opposed the application, on behalf of Mr. *T. Jackson*, the RED LION INN, and it was refused.

Of the holders of existing licenses *Thomas Jackson*, RED LION INN, Walsall Wood, were cautioned.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1870

“*Thomas Jackson*, the RED LION, Walsall Wood, was fined 20s and costs, with the option of one month’s imprisonment, for having his house open at eleven o’clock on the morning of the 30th ult.”

William Stewart = William Steward

Birmingham Daily Gazette 26/7/1871

“*Thomas Thacker*, landlord of the RED LION public house, Walsall Wood, was fined 40s and costs for having on Sunday, the 16th inst, permitted drunkenness in his house.”

Birmingham Gazette 20/9/1871

“Adjourned Licensing day. The following parties, who had their licenses suspended, were cautioned, and had their applications for renewal granted.....

Thomas Thacker, landlord of the RED LION, Walsall Wood.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/6/1872

“Liquidations By Arrangement. *Thomas Thacker*, RED LION, Walsall Wood, near Walsall, licensed victualler and newspaper vendor. First meeting, at the office of Mr. Alfred Baldwin East, solicitor Birmingham, June 29, at 10.”

London Gazette 5/7/1872

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Thomas Thacker*, of the RED LION, Walsall Wood, near Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Newspaper Vendor.

Notice is hereby given, that a Second General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the office of Mr. Alfred Baldwin East, Solicitor, No.9, Colmore-row, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 8th day of July, 1872, at ten o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 1st day of July, 1872.

Alfred Baldwin East, 9, Colmore-row, Birmingham, Attorney for the said Debtor.”

London Gazette 6/12/1881

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Richard Smith*, of the RED LION INN, Walsall Wood, in the county of Stafford, Victualler and Farmer.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Joseph Edward Sheldon, 51, High-street, Wednesbury, in the county of Stafford, on the 16th day of December, 1881, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 2nd day of December, 1881.

Joseph E. Sheldon, 51, High-street, Wednesbury, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Eliza Short married *Walter Allen Oram* in the 4th quarter of 1890.

1891 Census

Lichfield Road – RED LION INN

[1] *Walter Oram* (37), licensed victualler, born Great Barr;

[2] *Eliza Oram* (50), wife, born Great Bridge;

[3] *Mary A. Shelley* (18), niece, assistant, born Bradley, Staffordshire;

[4] *Priscilla Bayley* (30), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/8/1894

“*Walter Oram*, of the RED LION INN, Walsall Wood, was summoned by his wife for assaulting her on August 1. Mr. H. H. Jackson, Walsall, appeared for the complainant, and Mr. R. A. Dale, barrister (instructed by Mr. J. N. Cotterell) defended.

Complainant stated that she had been married four years. She lived at the public house before her marriage, and was a widow. He was nearly always drinking and threatening her. On August 1, about 12pm, he pulled her out of bed and started kicking her out of the room. She caught hold of the stairs, but he knocked her down these, and kicked her into the street. He had threatened her with a pistol on August 8. For two years he had been threatening and beating her, and she was in fear of her life. By Mr. Dale: She had not been in the habit of taking the money out of the till at night.

Eliza Jones deposed that there were two bruises on complainant’s head, and some on her shoulder and legs. Three times the week before the action came on complainant had slept at her (*Jones*’s) house.

For the defence Mr. Dale stated that the woman was a regular virago. Lately she had been in the habit of taking the money out of the till, and not letting the husband have a hand in the matter. She had also taken the management into her own hands. On August 1 she took the money out of the till, and on being asked for some she refused, and because he had insisted in her giving up the money she had scratched his face.

Laura Wright, barmaid, said she had been at the house since May 4. They had quarrelled nearly every night since she had been living at the house. On August 1 about half an hour after she had gone to bed, she heard them rowing together, and soon after Mrs. *Oram* came into her bed. Mr. *Oram* had blood on his face. Defendant asked his wife for the money that she had taken out of the till, but she would not give it to him. She thought complainant was not sober.

Defendant was fined 10s and costs or 14 days’ imprisonment. Mr. James advised them to get out of the house, or probably they would lose their license.”

Lichfield Mercury 24/4/1896

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, *John Concannon*, miner, was fined 2s 6d and costs or seven days for being disorderly and refusing to quit the house of *John Bates*, of the RED LION INN, Walsall Wood, on March 21st. Mr. H. H. Jackson, solicitor, appeared for the prosecution, and the case was proved by P.C. Trusswell.”

London Gazette 15/2/1898

“Friendly Societies Act, 1896.

Advertisement of Dissolution by Instrument. Notice is hereby given that the Walsall Wood New Benefit Society, Register No.1072 held at RED LION INN, Walsall Wood, in the county of Stafford, is dissolved by instrument, registered at this office, the 2nd day of February 1898, unless within three months from the date of the Gazette in which this advertisement appears, proceedings be commenced by a member or other person interested in or having any claim on the funds of the Society to set aside such dissolution, and the same be set aside accordingly.

E. W. Brabrook, Chief Registrar.

28, Abingdon-street, Westminster, the 2nd day of February 1898.”

Lichfield Mercury 5/5/1899

“Last Friday night a complimentary supper was given by Councillor *J. Bates*, at the RED LION INN, Walsall Wood, to his committee and workers in the late election.....”

Lichfield Mercury 30/6/1899

“Friendly Societies’ Sports at Walsall Wood. The second annual sports took place on the HORSE AND JOCKEY Grounds, Walsall Wood, on Monday afternoon last.....

There was also two Duck-hunting Races, the ducks being given by Councillor *Bates*, of the RED LION INN, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1899

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *John Bates*, RED LION INN, Walsall Wood.....”

Walsall Observer 3/2/1900

“On Friday evening, the 26th ult, a supper was given by Mr. *Bates* and several friends, at the RED LION INN, in honour of Gunner Jones, a Reservist, belonging to the Garrison Artillery, who was called upon to be in barracks on January 27th. About 30 sat down to a capital spread.....”

Walsall Observer 10/2/1900

“A supper was held on Monday evening at the RED LION, Walsall Wood, it being the first annual dinner and dividend of the Sick and Dividend Society, held at the above house, and about forty members and friends sat down to a capital repast provided in the host and hostess’s usual good style.....”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1900

“Walsall and District Reservists’ Fund.
Sixteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *John Bates*, RED LION INN, Walsall Wood £5.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1900

“On Tuesday morning the County Coroner, Mr. H. A. Pearson, held an inquest at the RED LION, Walsall Wood, on the body of John Henry Rowbotham, colliery and commission agent, of 88, Corporation Street, who was found dead in the Birmingham Canal, Walsall Wood, on Wednesday morning. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the relatives of the deceased. James Price, labourer, of Sheffield, said that he saw the deceased on Tuesday evening, at 7.40pm, in Hall Lane, when he asked witness the way into Walsall Wood. Deceased had been drinking, and staggered as he walked. They were about 200 yards from the BEEHIVE INN, near where deceased was found. In answer to Mr. Jackson witness said that there was a way from where he met deceased to the BEEHIVE INN. Deceased could walk and talk all right. Samson Coffin, manager at the Empire Brick Works, Aldridge, said that he saw deceased at 7.20 on Tuesday night, at High Heath. He was the worse for beer then, and asked witness where he was going, and said that he wanted to go to Walsall. Witness did not see deceased alive again. In answer to Mr. Jackson, witness said that he had often seen deceased in that district. He walked straight enough on the footpath. Deceased could get from where he met him to the canal side. Charles Beale, boatman, of Walsall Wood, said that he saw deceased in the canal near the BEEHIVE INN early on the morning of Wednesday, and with assistance got him out. John Percy Rowbotham, 88, Corporation Street, Walsall, son of the deceased, gave evidence of identification. In answer to Mr. Jackson witness said that his father’s business necessitated his going about the district a lot. He had no troubles and nothing to worry him. His father knew all of the short cuts in the district, and from the path on which his father was he was probably taking a short cut to the BEEHIVE INN. A mere slip there would put anyone in the canal. James Ward, landlord of the FORGE INN, Pelsall Wood, said that he knew the deceased well. On Tuesday, at 2.30pm the deceased came to witness’s house, had something to eat, and went out to do some business. He returned and stayed until twenty to six, drinking only tea, and went away apparently to catch a train. In answer to Mr. Jackson witness said that deceased went away from his house jolly and well as usual, and was about the last man to commit suicide. He had business dealings with the deceased, which necessitated his frequent coming to his house. Deceased was quite sober when he left the Inn. PC Lockley, stationed at Walsall Wood, said that at 6.45am on the 10th inst, the witness Beale reported the death to him, and witness went to the canal near the BEEHIVE, and saw the deceased lying in a stooping position face downwards in the canal, and with assistance got him out of the canal. He had been dead then for some time. PC Allcock, stationed at Walsall, said that he was sent for to the canal, and on arriving there found deceased lying on the towing path. The clothes were not disarranged, and on searching the body he found 29s 3d, a silver watch, and other jewellery. The watch was stopped at two minutes after half past seven. Dr. Wolverson, practicing at Walsall Wood, said that he had made a post mortem examination of the body. There was no sign of violence, and he had no doubt that death was due to suffocation by drowning. There was no sign of alcohol in the body. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death from Drowning.”

1901 Census

Lichfield Road – RED LION INN

- [1] *John Bates* (48), publican, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] *Mary Bates* (46), wife, born Little Bloxwich;
- [3] *William Bates* (21), son, carpenter, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] *Harry Bates* (19), son, coal miner, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] *Thomas Bates* (17), son, coal miner, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] *Maria Bates* (13), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] *Frank Bates* (11), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [8] *Joseph Bates* (10), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [9] *Frederick Bates* (8), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [10] *Albert V. Bates* (2), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [11] *Clara Castle* (26), domestic servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1906

“The monthly meeting of the meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday, at the house of Mr. Edwin James, RED LION INN, Navigation Street, Walsall.....
New Member. Mr. *John Bates*, RED LION, Walsall Wood.”

1911 Census

Walsall Wood

- [1] *John Bates* (59), licensed victualler, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] *Mary Bates* (58), wife, married 38 years, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] *Frank Bates* (21), son, butcher’s assistant, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] *Fred Bates* (18), son, agricultural labourer, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] *Victor Bates* (13), son, school, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] *Millicent Morton* (23), general servant, born Hednesford, Staffordshire:

John Bates, beer retailer, Walsall Wood. [1912]

Lichfield Mercury 19/9/1913

“At the Lichfield County Police Court on Monday, before Mr. F. Vaughan-Williams (in the chair) and Mr. G. J. T. Seckham, Thomas Gee (30), labourer, Springhill, near Lichfield, and Vincent James (35), miner, Hilton, were charged with stealing three ducks and two cockerels, value 15s, the property of *John Bates*, RED LION INN, Walsall Wood, from the Fighting Cocks Farm, Stonnall, between Saturday night and Sunday morning. William Downen, greengrocer, Lichfield Road, Shelfield, was charged with receiving two of the ducks and one of the cockerels, knowing them to have been stolen.

Sarah Eley, married woman, said that she lived at the Fighting Cocks Farm, which was owned by the prosecutor. About 7pm on the date mentioned she fastened up two ducks and one drake in the cow shed, and the fowls were in a pen in the same yard. About 6am on the following day, on going to the shed and the fowl pen, she missed the ducks and fowls. There was a quantity of feathers about, and some blood stains. The ducks and fowls (produced) she identified as those which were missing.

Frederick Bates, RED LION INN, Walsall Wood, said that he worked at the Fighting Cocks Farm for his father, the prosecutor, and about 6-30am on Saturday he was on his way to work when he saw Gee and James on the railway bridge at Walsall Wood, which was about two miles from the farm. Witness noticed that James’s pocket was bulky, and Gee was carrying a basket on his back. When he arrived at the farm, that last witness told him that the ducks and fowls were missing. About one o’clock on the same day witness saw one of the ducks at Stonnall Police Station, the second duck he saw at Downen’s shop, and the third duck he saw at Gee’s house on the following day. All three ducks belonged to his father.

Pc Bennett said that at 1pm on Saturday the last witness went to the Police Station at Stonnall and reported the loss of the three ducks from a cow shed at the farm and two cockerels from a pen in the yard. Witness made enquiries, and at 9-15pm he visited the FOUR CROSSES INN, at Shelfield, where he saw Downen offering a duck for sale. Witness enquired of the landlady if she knew who the man was who was trying to sell the duck, and she replied that he was a local man living at Shelfield. She then told witness that she had purchased a duck for 3s 6d. Witness went into the kitchen at the inn, and saw the duck, which he took away with him. He went to Walsall Wood where he saw the prosecutor at the RED LION INN. Prosecutor identified the duck as his property. In company with prosecutor’s son witness went to Downen’s shop at Shelfield, where on the counter he saw another duck. Witness told Downen that he was making enquiries about the missing ducks and fowls, and that he had heard that he (Downen) was selling ducks that night. Witness asked how they came into his possession, and Downen replied, ‘Well, I bought mine from Birmingham market this morning.’ Witness told him that he had taken possession of the duck he sold that night to Mrs. Hill, which had been identified as one of those which had been stolen. Accused then said, ‘I am sorry officer, I told you a lie; I did not buy the ducks from Birmingham. I bought two ducks and one cockerel from two men who came to my shop between 7 and 7-30am this morning for 5s. The men then went away, and I did not know who they were.’ Witness cautioned him and charged him, and Downen replied again, ‘I am sorry I told you a lie,’ adding, ‘I only had two ducks and one cockerel off them; the cockerel I have sold to Mrs. Sivons, Spring Lane, Shelfield, for 2s 9d, and one duck I sold to Mrs. Hill for 3s 6d.’ About 12-45am on Sunday witness went, in company with prosecutor’s son to Gee’s house, and told him of the missing ducks and fowl. Gee said, ‘I know nothing about the — fowls or ducks.’ Witness told him he had found some which had been offered for sale at Shelfield, and his (Gee’s) description tallied with the description of one of the men who offered them for sale. On searching the house, witness found one of the missing ducks, and asked accused how it came on the premises. Accused replied, ‘I do not — well know anything about it.’ Witness said, ‘I shall lock you up.’ Accused then said, ‘Have you got Vinnie?’ (meaning James, the other accused). Witness replied, ‘No.’ and accused said, ‘He was with me.’ At 2am witness took Gee to Brownhills Police Station, and afterwards arrested James. Witness then charged the two accused, and Gee replied, ‘I am saying nothing more.’ James said, ‘I was not there.’”

Ps Brammer corroborated *Pc Bennett*’s evidence as to what took place at the Police Station at Brownhills, and added that when he saw Downen, the latter said he was sorry he bought the ducks from the men; he could see that he had done wrong after.

Gee pleaded guilty, and asked for leniency.

James pleaded not guilty, and said that on the day of the theft he saw Gee, who asked him if he was going the same way. He replied that he was, and Gee asked him to carry one of the ducks, and he did so. Gee then asked him if he knew where he could dispose of them. He told him he did not know. When they got to Walsall Wood, Gee asked some colliers if they knew where he could sell them, and they told him that he could sell them at Downen’s shop. James added that he had got plenty of money, as he had only received his pay the day before. He did not share any of the money which Gee received for the stolen poultry.

Downen, who appeared very much distressed in Court, pleaded guilty to buying the poultry, and said that when he asked Gee how he came by them he replied that they were his own. Downen added that he had only been in business about a fortnight, and that he did not know they were stolen.

The Chairman said that the Bench did not think there was sufficient evidence to connect James of the theft. He had been before the Bench before, and he was very lucky to have such a narrow escape from conviction. Downen was a fool to buy from men whom he knew nothing about, and the Bench hoped that would be a warning to him in the future.

James and Downen were discharged. Gee was sent to prison for one month, with hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/3/1915

“Before J. F. W. Percy (presiding), and Mr. Robert Preecy, at the Rushall Police Court, *John Bates*, landlord of the RED LION, Walsall Wood, was summoned for selling diluted whisky below the statutory limit.

Mr. Van Tromp (County Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act), who prosecuted, stated that on Thursday, February 4th, Inspector Gibson called at the RED LION and purchased three-quarters of whisky, which was taken from a bottle on a shelf in the bar. He divided the sample into three portions, and upon examination later, the County analyst certified it to be diluted 5.8 beyond the allowance of 25 degrees fixed by the Act of Parliament, which was a liberal allowance. Considering that whisky was sold largely in small quantities the profit made on a pint was considerable.

Inspector Gibson gave evidence bearing out Mr. Van Tromp’s statement, and added that he told the Mr. *Bates*, who served him, that the whisky was to be analysed.

Mr. Jackson, who appeared for the defence and pleaded guilty, said Mr. *Bates* had kept the RED LION for over 20 years, but unfortunately he had been unable to conduct the business himself for some time owing to illness. The instrument used for testing had been broken, and while, undoubtedly, a mistake had been made, there was no intention of fraud whatever. He asked the Bench to consider the character and reputation of the house.

The Chairman, in imposing a fine of £5 and costs, said the offence was a very serious one, and the maximum penalty was £20. The Bench in that case, however, exonerated Mr. *Bates* from all blame.”

Lichfield Mercury 18/2/1921

“At the annual Licensing Sessions for the Rushall Division on Monday.....

The whole of the licenses would be renewed with the exception of a number of houses which would be visited, and where alterations were needed, chiefly for living accommodation and better sanitary conditions. The houses to be visited were.....

RED LION, Walsall Wood.”

It was renamed BOATMANS REST. [1997]

Express & Star 9/12/2020

“A Walsall pub which called last orders for the final time earlier this year could be demolished to make way for new apartments. A proposal to create nine one-bedroom and seven two-bedroom flats at the BOATMANS REST, in High Street, Walsall Wood, has been submitted to planners. In the application, owners AK and RK Ltd. said it closed prior to lockdown and keeping the venue open as a pub is no longer financially viable. They added there were seven other pubs within less than one-and-a-half miles of the BOATMANS REST and converting it into apartments would avert the prospect of an empty building sitting on the High Street. Walsall Council planning officers are currently considering the proposal and a decision is due in the next three months.

Agents Lapworth Architects said, ‘The building is a former public house which was in operation until early 2020 – since then, the building has been vacant. It is the opinion of the agent that the loss of the BOATMANS REST will not be detrimental to the area as there are a number of similar public house facilities within close proximity of the site in a more convenient location. Whilst the BOATMANS REST was open up until the recent pandemic, it had been struggling to achieve the same numbers of patrons as before and business was declining. For this reason, reopening the public house is not economically viable for the applicant as they would require a good level of business all year round. As the building currently stands, it is a derelict public house with a neglected overall site which requires a change of use to restore the character and greenness that is present within the area. We feel that our proposal demonstrates a suitable response to the immediate area whilst also ensuring there is a not a detrimental effect on the local community by the loss of the BOATMANS REST public house.’”

BOOT

126, Wolverhampton Street, (126, Wolverhampton Road), (Wolverhampton Lane), Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

Moses Salt, Bank Street, Walsall

LICENSEES

William Smith [1855] – [1870]

John Russell [1869] – [1872]

NOTES

126, Wolverhampton Road [1861], [1871]

BOAT [1869]

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Journal 6/1/1855

“*William Smith*, Wolverhampton Lane, was fined 10s and costs, for an offence against his license.”

William Smith, beerhouse keeper, 126, Wolverhampton Road. [1858]

William Smith, retail brewer, Wolverhampton Road. [1858]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/4/1858

“A match came off last Monday to fly from the Nelson, Birmingham, to Walsall, a distance of 10 miles, between Phillip Bird’s blue cock Leamington and Joseph Russell’s black cock Young Fathead, which was one of the best flights ever known in Walsall, Bird’s pigeon completing the distance in 11min 45sec, and Russell’s in 10min 5sec, proving the winner by 1min 40sec. Referee Mr. T. O. Windmill. Subsequently, in the afternoon, a further match was made between Young Fathead, the winner of the above race, and another of Phillip Bird’s pigeons, to fly from the Nelson next Whit Monday, for £10 a side. After this match is off Mr. Osborn of Pea Street, Birmingham, or any other Birmingham fancier can be accommodated for a home and home match, the Walsall pigeon to be loosed at the Nelson, Birmingham, and the other about the centre of Walsall, the distance to be about 10 miles, for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready any time at Mr. *Smith*’s, BOOT INN, Wolverhampton Lane, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 9/5/1858

“William Smith will fly his blue cock Lord Raglan against John Birch’s blue cock Goldfinger, from Hampton Arden, for £5 or £10 a side, Mr. Birch to allow one minute for the drop; or he will fly Philip Bird’s pigeon, or any other fancier in Walsall, from the same place. Money ready any night next week at *William Smith*’s, BOOT INN, Wolverhampton Lane, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/10/1859

“Wm. Smith of Walsall will match his blue Antwerp cock Spider to fly Wm. Cooper’s favourite Black Tommy, 50 or 60 miles, and fly which way the wind blows on the day they fly, for from £10 to £20 a side, or as much more as Mr. Cooper likes. Money ready any night next week at *Wm. Smith*’s, BOOT INN, 126, Wolverhampton Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 29/10/1859

“*William Smith*, landlord of the BOOT, public-house, was fined 5s and costs, for having had his house open for the sale of beer on Sunday last.”

William Smith, beer retailer, Wolverhampton Street. [1861]

1861 Census

126, Wolverhampton Road – BOOT TAVERN

[1] *William Smith* (52), beer seller, born Burntwood, Staffordshire;

[2] Mary Smith (53), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Elizabeth Smith (20), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] Ann Stackhouse (78), mother, widow, born Birmingham;

[5] Richard Shelley (79), father in law, widower, born Shenston, Staffordshire;

[6] Mary Smith (4), granddaughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 7/2/1863

“At the Rushall petty sessions, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey, J. Harrison, and B. Bloomer, Esqs, John Birch was charged with having, on the 4th of November last, uttered a counterfeit half-sovereign. It appeared that on the night of Monday, the 3rd of November last, the prisoner visited the BOOT public house, Walsall Wood, and called for some ale, and on the waiter taking it into the room the prisoner gave him a half-sovereign. The half-sovereign being tested by the landlady, proved to be a bad one. On making the discovery the landlady bolted the door and sent for the police, and on her doing so the prisoner made use of such abusive language that the landlord turned him out. An uttering was proved by the prisoner at the RED LION public house, Walsall Wood, after which Mrs. Mary Franks proved that in a hedge adjoining the BOOT public house she found, on the 28th of November, a bag containing a half-sovereign, six half-crowns, and two two-shilling pieces, all counterfeit coins. The half-sovereign was of the same date as the two the prisoner was charged with uttering, and evidently out of the same mould. Sergeant Martin, of the Walsall borough police, having proved the apprehension of the prisoner, Inspector Price produced the coins said to have

been uttered by the prisoner. Mr. Glover addressed the Bench for his client, who was remanded till the Mint authorities could be communicated with.”

W. Smith, beer retailer, 126, Wolverhampton Road. [1864], [1865]

William Smith, beer retailer, 126, Wolverhampton Street. [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/2/1869

“At the Public Office yesterday, before Messrs. J. Hildick (Mayor), J. Brewer, and H. Highway.....

John Russell, landlord of the BOAT INN, beerhouse, Wolverhampton Lane, charged with having on Sunday last, refused to admit Acting-sergeant Ogden and Police-constable Willetts, was fined 5s and costs.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 16/7/1870

“Jim Russell of Walsall will fight Jack Beebee of the same place, at catch weight, for £10 or £15 a side. Money ready at Mr. *Smith*’s, BOOT INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

1871 Census

126, Wolverhampton Road

[1] *John Russell* (43), chain maker, born Walsall;

[2] Harriett Russell (58), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Joseph Russell (21), son, slipper maker, born Walsall;

[4] Thomas Russell (18), son, chain maker, born Walsall;

[5] Eliza Russell (16), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Henry Russell (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] Richard Russell (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] Harriett Russell (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[9] William Russell (6 months), son, born Walsall:

John Russell, beer retailer, 126, Wolverhampton Street. [1872]

Check BOAT and OLD BOOT.

BOROUGH ARMS

33, Upper Rushall Street / 100, Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Whitehouse, maltster

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Bird [1858]

A Edwards [1858]

Edward Ryland [1859] – [1861]

William Griffiths [1861] – [1865]

John Platt [1867] – [1870]

Thomas Heatherley [1871] – [1872]

Henry Taylor [] – **188_**; [1881]

Edward Spink (**188_ – 189_**); [1891]

Mrs. Elizabeth Spink (**189_ – 1896**);

Edwin Salloway [1890] ?

George Edward Morris (**1896**);

Mrs. Jennie Morris (**1896 – 1904**);

Frank Bullock (**1904 – 1906**);

George Taylor (**1906 – 1907**);

Joseph Beebee (**1907 – 1908**);

Henry John Stringer (**1908**);

William John Horton (**1908**);

Charles Marshall (**1908 – 1910**);

Ernest Harry Doherty (1910 – 1915);
Ernest Edward Spring (1915 – 1917);
Annie Lucy Spring (1917 – 1919);
Ernest Edward Spring (1919);
Charles Whittle (1919 – 1920);
Walter Edwards (1920 – 1922);
Stanley Joseph Humpage (1922 – 1927);
Herbert Steventon (1927 – 1929);
Frank Evans (1929 – 1930);
Sidney Charles Campbell (1930 – 1932);
William Lloyd (1932 – 1955);
George Anderson (1955 – 1960);
Raymond Blanton (1960 – 1963);
Dennis Clive Mason (1963);
John Alexander Hiley (1963 – 1964);
Frank Tonge (1964);
Horace Jobber (1964 – 1966);
Brian Horace Bayley (1966 – []
John Henry Tolley (1975 – 1982)

NOTES

33, Upper Rushall Street and 100, Ablewell Street [1912], [1932], [1940]

SPIRIT VAULTS [1858]

WINE VAULTS [1859]

VAULTS [1862]

OLD SPIRIT VAULTS [1865]

OLD WINE VAULTS

OLD WINE STORES [1870], [1896], [1904], [1905]

STORES [1890]

Birmingham Daily Post 15/9/1859

“*Edward Ryland*, keeper of WINE VAULTS, Lower Rushall Street, was summoned before the Magistrates yesterday, charged with having his house open for the sale of liquor on Sunday last during hours of divine service. Mr. Superintendent Cater stated that on the morning in question he went to defendant’s house at about twenty minutes to one o’clock, and saw that it was open, and that Mrs. *Ryland* was serving liquor. He thought that she was labouring under a mistake as to the time, and also as to whether divine service was over. Mr. Oerton: The fact is, we had a sermon about twenty minutes longer than usual on Sunday last. Had the service been of ordinary length I have no doubt the service would have been over at least twenty minutes sooner; but it was a very good sermon, and I should like to hear the gentleman oftener. Mr. Darwell suggested that the words of the statute were ‘during the usual hours of divine service.’ The case was dismissed.”

Walsall Free Press 24/11/1860 - Advert

“Wine And Spirit Store, Rushall Street, Walsall.

Mr. *E. Ryland*’s Public House and Wine Stores as above is To Be Let, in consequence of the person who had taken it failing to complete his purchase. One of the oldest established trades in the town; and being relinquished solely from the Proprietor having an immediate engagement at a distance.

Possession immediately. In-coming about £200.

Apply of the premises, or to Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer.”

William Griffiths = William Griffith

1861 Census

33, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *William Griffiths* (37), gun lock maker, born Darlaston;
- [2] Jemima Palmer (35), visitor, born Beetby, Derbyshire;
- [3] Mary Ann Palmer (10), visitor, born Beetby, Derbyshire;
- [4] John J. Palmer (8), visitor, born Beetby, Derbyshire;
- [5] Thomas Palmer (6), visitor, born Beetby, Derbyshire;
- [6] Emma Newman (15), servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/9/1863 - Advert

“Walsall Races. Wednesday and Thursday, September 23 and 24.

Notice. The Refreshment Portion of the new and commodious Grand Stand, the Ground for the Booths and Tolls, Will Be Let By Auction, at the Grand Stand, This Day (Friday), Sept. 18, at Three o'clock in the afternoon.

No Lists will be allowed to be exhibited, except at the Erections provided by the Committee. All applications to be made to Mr. *Griffiths*, WINE VAULTS, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall."

Birmingham Daily Post 11/8/1865 - Advert

"Wine and Spirit Stores, corner of Upper Rushall Street, Walsall, to be Let. One of the Oldest established and best Houses in the town; brewing ten bushels of malt weekly, in addition to a large trade in Spirits. A genuine concern. In-coming by valuation of Stock and Fixtures.

Apply to George Bayley, Auctioneer, Walsall."

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

"S. Swindon of Walsall will run P. Aston of Wednesbury 120 yards, with two yards start, for £5 a side. Money ready at *Platt's* Wine and Spirit Vaults, Upper Rushall Street, Wolverhampton."

Walsall Free Press 23/11/1867

"*John Platt*, landlord of the SPIRIT VAULTS, at the end of Lower Rushall Street, was charged with having, during prohibited hours on Sunday last, had his house open for the sale of liquor. From the evidence of Police-constables Bailey and Horsefell, it appeared that about half-past eight o'clock on the morning in question, they visited defendant's house, and saw two glasses with spirits in them and one glass full of spirits. While the officers were in the house, a man came in and called for a glass of rum, which was filled by defendant. The bench after hearing the evidence, sentenced defendant to pay a fine of £1 and costs."

John Platt, wine and spirit vaults, Upper Rushall Street. [1868]

Birmingham Daily Post 23/12/1869 - Notice

"The Bankruptcy Amendment Act, 1868.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that *John Platt*, formerly of Rushall Street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, innkeeper, but now of Digbeth, Walsall aforesaid, Beerhouse Keeper and Dealer in Wine, had left in the Office of the Chief Registrar of the Court of Bankruptcy, Quality Court, Chancery Lane, London, a List of his Debts and Liabilities, and a Statement of his Property and Credits, as required by the Bankruptcy Amendment Act, 1868.

Dated this 21st day of December, 1869.

Thomas Beardsall, Minories, Birmingham, Solicitor for the Person Registering the Deed."

John Platt, wine and spirit vaults, OLD WINE STORES, 33 Upper Rushall Street. [1870]

1871 Census

33, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *Thomas Heatherley* (33), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Jane Heatherley* (30), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Isabella Heatherley* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Arthur Heatherley* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Harry Heatherley* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *John Heatherley* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Charles Heatherley* (3), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *Julia Heatherley* (8 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] *Fanny Keelby* (?) (21), general servant, born Grantham, Lincolnshire;
- [10] *Richard Smith* (26), lodger, plater, born Walsall:

Thomas Heatherley, wine and spirit vaults, 33, Upper Rushall Street. [1872]

Henry Taylor was also a bridle cutter. [1881]

1881 Census

33, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *Henry Taylor* (47), publican and bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [2] *Jane Taylor* (47), wife, looks after public house, born Walsall;
- [3] *Emily Green* (24), daughter, married, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;
- [4] *James Henry Taylor* (20), son, horse clothier and body roles maker, born Walsall;
- [5] *Harry Taylor* (17), son, iron caster, born Walsall;
- [6] *Alice Amelia Taylor* (15), daughter, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;
- [7] *Thomas Taylor* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Frederick Taylor* (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Jane Taylor* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] *Florence Selina Taylor* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

1891 Census

33, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *Edward Spink* (60), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Spink* (51), wife, born Oakgate [Oakengates?], Shropshire;
- [3] *Elizabeth Griffiths* (22), niece, dressmaker, born Brownhills:

Walsall Advertiser 27/6/1896 - Deaths

“*Morris*. On the 21st inst., *George E. Morris*, the STORES, Rushall Street, aged 33 years.”

1901 Census

33, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *Jennie Morris* (34), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Arthur Morris* (5), son, born Walsall;
- [3] *Sarah Davis* (22), domestic servant, born Wyrley;
- [4] *John Hicken* (29), brewer, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 7/6/1902

“*Jennie Morris*, landlady of the STORES INN, Upper Rushall Street, was charged with keeping her house open during prohibited hours, and also selling; and *Ada Blakemore*, landlady of the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, and her son, *John Charles*, were summoned for being on the premises of the STORES during prohibited hours. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended. Police-constable *Ashby* found Mrs. *Blakemore* and her son on the premises of the STORES at 1.45am on May 22nd. It seemed the parties are neighbours and friends, and the Bench gave the parties the benefit of the doubt.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission. Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various. *Jennie Morris*, OLD WINE STORES.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day. OLD WINE STORES and NAGS HEAD. Inspector *Ballance* explained that the backs of these house adjoined, the yard being also common to the other property. Mrs. *Morris* (tenant of the OLD WINE STORES) said they brewed their own beer and did a good trade. Her late husband paid £200 for entry to the premises. In answer to Dr. *Lynch*, witness admitted there was only one urinal for the use of both houses. Mr. *W. J. Pearman-Smith*, appearing for all parties, said that negotiations had been proceeding for some time for the abandonment of one of these licenses, and if the magistrates would grant both renewals he would give an undertaking that plans should be submitted before the next Brewster Sessions for alterations to one of the houses, and that the renewal for that license only should be applied for. Both renewals were granted, on the this understanding.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall. The following is the list of houses in respect of which the licensing justices have called the holders of the licenses to show cause why the licenses should be renewed. OLD WINE STORES, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.”

The BOROUGH ARMS was built between 1903 and 1906, on the site of the OLD WINE VAULTS and OLD NAGS HEAD.

Walsall Advertiser 11/4/1908

“*George Warrilow*, 24, Frederick Street, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, the BOROUGH ARMS, on March 28th; and *Henry John Stringer*, landlord, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended the landlord. Police-sergeant *Acherley* stated that in company with Police-constable *Willetts* he visited the BOROUGH ARMS, and in the bar he found *Warrilow* staggering about and trying to steady himself against the counter. When he called the landlord’s attention to the man’s condition the latter pulled himself together and denied that he was drunk. Subsequently he was taken away by two other fellows, and witness heard one of the bystanders say ‘He’s drunk; he fell across the footpath as he came out of the door.’

Police-constable *Taylor*, who was on duty in the vicinity at the time, said he saw *Warrilow* fall down on two occasions. Mr. *Jackson* said the Mr. *Stringer* worked at Messrs. *Shannon’s* for a period of twenty-five years, and had only been in the house about eight weeks, so that his experience was somewhat limited. He admitted that a mistake had been made, but if ever there was a case in which a man should be given another chance it was this one. *Warrilow* was fined 5s and costs, and *Stringer* was ordered to pay costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/7/1908

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week....

New Members..... *W. J. Horton*, BOROUGH ARMS INN, Ablewell Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....

The following dividends were paid out in connection with the various lodges of the Loyal Caledonian Corks: Lodge 504, BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street, 6s 6d, night and card; 422, SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, 7s, night and card; 322 GOAT INN, Newhall Street, 5s 3d, two nights and card; 325, ALBION HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street, 2s 6d, night and card.”

1911 Census

Ablewell Street – BOROUGH ARMS

[1] *Ernest Harry Doherty* (34), publican, born Sketty, Swansea;

[2] *Annie Doherty* (33), wife, married 15 years, assisting in business, born Leamington, Warwickshire;

[3] *Jack Harry Doherty* (14), son, school, born Leamington, Warwickshire;

[4] *Florence Doherty* (11), daughter, school, born Leamington, Warwickshire;

[5] *Doris May Doherty* (3), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1911

“An application was made by *Ernest Harry Doherty*, landlord of the BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street, for a singing and music license for his clubroom on Wednesday evenings, for meetings of the Excelsior Musical and Debating Society.

The Secretary (Mr. West) in answer to the Magistrates, said that the Society had been properly formed, and there were 32 members. Two concerts and a debate had already taken place.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) said that a number of houses had recently established musical and debating societies, especially during the winter months.

In answer to the Chief Constable, witness said they required the license during the summer months, especially for debates.

The Chief Constable: Debates during hot weather.

Alderman Sir E. T. Holden: I hope they won’t be warm ones. (Laughter.)

The Chief Constable said similar licenses had been granted but some of them were limited to winter months. The application was granted, but the period limited from September to April.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street, Walsall, 5s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street. £0 13s 7½d.”

Walsall Observer 17/8/1918

“For an offence against the Lighting Regulations at midnight on August 4, *Annie Lucy Spring*, of the BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street, was fined 5s at the Police Court on Monday. A bright light was seen from the yard, but defendant said she did not know it was on, and the glass was so darkened that the light was not brilliant.”

Sidney Charles Campbell = Sydney Charles Campbell

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/10/1930

“Yesterday’s contributions to the relief fund organised by the *Birmingham Gazette* and *Evening Despatch* for the 14 victims of the Norton Canes colliery disaster were from many and varied sources.....

Licensed victuallers and their customers and social clubs continue to give splendid assistance, as today’s list shows.....

Customers, BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street, Walsall, per *S. C. Campbell*, £1 16s 0d.”

Birmingham Mail 20/5/1939

“Members of the Walsall and District Angling Society are requested to note that owing to alterations and rebuilding of the present headquarters, the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall, it has been found necessary to transfer to temporary headquarters and from Monday night next, May 22nd, the club night will be held at 8pm until further notice, and on every alternate Monday at the BOROUGH ARMS HOTEL, Ablewell Street, Walsall. Members are asked particularly to note the change from Tuesday to Monday and that club nights for a short time will be run fortnightly instead of weekly.”

1939 Register

Ablewell Street – BOROUGH ARMS

[1] *William Lloyd*, date of birth 28/11/1894, manager licensed premises, married;

[2] Ethel A. Lloyd, dob 2/2/1898, unpaid domestic duties, married;
[3] Arthur Griffiths, dob 22/9/1922, toolmaker's improver (tools), single:

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.
BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street. £3 18s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.

BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street. £1 1s 0d.”

John Alexander Hiley – see also NEW INN.

John Henry Tolley – see also PARKBROOK.

[1996]

It was renamed FLAN O’BRIENS. [2007]

Express & Star 23/4/2023

“An Irish bar has applied for a licence to play music until 2am. FLAN O’BRIENS on Ablewell Street, Walsall, wants to play recorded music from 10am until 2am, seven days a week. Currently, the venue is open 3pm-11pm Monday-Thursday, 3pm-2am on Fridays, 12pm-2am on Saturdays and 12pm-12am on Sundays. Bosses at Ei Group Limited have submitted the application to licensing chiefs at Walsall Council. Objections must be received by the council’s licensing unit by May 12.”

[2023]

BOWLING GREEN

Windmill Street, Windmill, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Broadhurst [1818] – 1828)

Lynell [1831]

NOTES

James Broadhurst was also a coach harness plater. [1818]

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/10/1828 - Deaths

“On the 5th inst. Mr. *Broadhurst*, of the BOWLING GREEN, Windmill, Walsall.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 13/4/1829 - Advert

“Sale at the BOWLING GREEN, near the Windmill, Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by P. Cadby, on the premises, on Wednesday next, April 15, under distress for rent, the Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Stock of Ale and other Effects.

Sale to commence at ten in the morning.

Catalogues may be had on the premises, or of the Auctioneer, 97, Great Charles Street near Snow Hill, Birmingham.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 11/7/1831 - Advert

“BOWLING GREEN INN, Walsall.

To be Sold, the Licenses, Good-will, and Possession of the above old-established House, desirably situated in a great thoroughfare at the entrance into the town from West Bromwich.

The Bowling-green adjoining is allowed to be superior to any in the neighbourhood, with stabling, piggeries, and pump of excel-

lent water.

The usual effects to be taken to at a fair valuation.

To treat apply to Mr. *Lynell*, the Tenant, or to E. Jukes, Land Surveyor and Auctioneer, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

BRADFORD ARMS

1, (1+2), Lower Rushall Street / (102), (Upper) Bridge Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Alfred King, Sutton
John Edwin Hennessey
Peter Walker and Co. Ltd, Burton on Trent
City Brewery Co. (Lichfield) Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Burton [1831] – [1842]
Ephraim Alfred Friend [1845] – [1850]
John Rofe [1851]
James Bird [1857] – [1861]
Thomas Entwistle [1861]
William Entwistle [1862]
Joseph Shutt [1863] – [1865]
Mrs. Ann Dudley [1868] – [1870]
Thomas Hedges [1871] – [1872]
John Young [1872] – [1873];
Alfred King [];
Richard Newhouses [];
Joseph Bagnall [];
James Stewart Crawford [1880];
John Edward Kinney [1881]
John Hennessy* [1881] – [1891]
John Edwin Hennessy* [1896] – **1900**;
John Alfred Hennessey (**1900 – 1909**);
Eliza Hennessey (**1909 – 1910**);
Margaret Clark (**1910 – 1911**);
John Kane (**1911 – 1923**);
Martha Kane (**1923 – 1928**);
William Lloyd (**1928 – 1932**);

NOTES

1, Lower Rushall Street [1860], [1861], [1862], [1908], [1932]
1+2, Lower Rushall Street [1871]
Upper Bridge Street [1881]
102, Bridge Street [1891]
Bridge Street [1870], [1911]

Commercial inn [1851]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/9/1831 - Died

“On the 30th ult, aged 41, Martha, wife of Mr. *Edward Burton*, of the BRADFORD ARMS INN, Walsall.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 25/7/1836 - Advert

“To Master Whip Thong-Makers.

The Journeymen Thong-makers of Walsall and Darlaston having solicited their Masters for an Advance of Prices, at a Meeting which took place at the BRADFORD ARMS, Walsall, on Monday the 11th day of July, inst., it was unanimously agreed not to

work at the present Prices any longer than August 13, 1836.”

1841 Census

Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Edward Burton* (55), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Edward Burton Junr.* (15), saddler, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *George Burton* (15), apprentice, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *John Burton* (13), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *John Holmes* (20), ms, born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Lydia Bickley* (20), fs, born Staffordshire:

Ephraim Alfred Friend was also a veterinary surgeon. [1845], [1849]

Walsall Free Press 1/8/1857

“*Benjamin Jones*, a driver for Mr. *Bird*, of the BRADFORD ARMS INN, charged *Thomas Hawkes*, landlord of the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, with an assault under the following circumstances. The complainant drove the defendant and some others to Chillington on Thursday, but no gratuity having been given, he called on *Hawkes* the following night to ask for the same, when complainant told him he was sadly too fast, and struck him. Several witnesses were called who testified that the complainant was very abusive, and gave great provocation to the defendant. Mr. *Sill* defended. The case was dismissed.”

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1858

“*James Bird*, of the BRADFORD ARMS, was charged with having kept his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours. Police-constable *Montgomery* said at a quarter to twelve o’clock on Sunday last he visited the house of the defendant and found a man corking up a bottle with rum in it, which the man said he had purchased from Mrs. *Bird*. Mrs. *Bird*, who was present, denied having supplied the drink; but the man adhered to his statement, and in consequence the officer preferred the present charge. Mr. *Duignan*, who appeared for the defence, contended that the charge had not been proved, and there being no evidence to corroborate the statement of the officer, the case was dismissed.”

Walsall Free Press 4/6/1859

“*James Bird*, BRADFORD ARMS INN, Walsall, Licensed To Let Post Horses, Saddle Horses, Cars, Cabs, Gigs, & Breaks For Hire, Begg most respectfully to acquaint the Gentry and Inhabitants of the town and district, that having supplied himself with every article necessary for carrying on the business as Postmaster, he is desirous of receiving their patronage and support. Cars for Weddings with Greys. Gipsy parties can be accommodated on the shortest notice, and on very reasonable terms. Steady and obliging Servants attendant on same. N.B. A Fashionable Break will run during the Summer months to and from Sutton, on Sunday afternoons, leaving Mr. *Job Wilkes’s*, OLD STILL, Digbeth at Two o’clock, and return from the Old Sun, Sutton, at Seven p.m.”

Bird’s omnibus left from here, to Wolverhampton, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. [1861]

1861 Census

1, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *James Bird* (38), victualler, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Elizabeth Bird* (33), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Joseph Bird* (12), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *William Bird* (10), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *Elizabeth Bird* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mary Ann Bird* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Jane Bird* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] *James Bird* (11 months), son, born Walsall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/5/1861

“At the County Court, on Saturday, before Sir W. B. *Biddell*, Bart., the following insolvents were heard on their petitions on re *James Bird*, Bridge-street, Walsall, Victualler. This was a meeting granting the final order, attended by Mr. *Ebsworth* in support of the petitioner. Mr. *Joseph Williams*, a creditor to the amount of £3 10s opposed in person, and alleged that the insolvent had fraudulently removed a lot of goods since the filing of the petition. He called several witnesses each of whom declined to give evidence unless their expenses were paid. He paid the expenses in each case, and then greatly to his chagrin and to the amusement of the court they gave evidence which utterly failed to support his allegations, whereupon he threatened to have one of them tried for perjury. The final order was granted.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/9/1861

“At the Police Office, on Monday, before H. *Brace* (Mayor), and P. *Potter*, Esq., *Thomas Entwistle*, landlord of the BRADFORD ARMS INN, Bridge Street, was summoned by officers of the Inland Revenue, on a charge of letting post horses for hire without having a license. The information was laid under 16 and 17 Vic. Cap. 88, sec. 15. The defendant pleaded guilty. The specific offence was, that on the 19th of July last the defendant let a horse upon hire to one *James William Webb*. Defendant said his

servant let the horse without his knowledge. Mr. Reed, supervisor for the district, said the defendant was responsible for the acts of his servant. The penalty was £100, but the Bench had power to mitigate it to one fourth. The mitigated penalty of £25 was then ordered, with a recommendation to the Board of Inland Revenue to reduce it to £5. Mr Reed said he would take care to forward the recommendation to the Board, and would give it his support.”

Walsall Free Press 6/6/1863

“Ann Hughes was charged with having, on Monday last, wilfully and maliciously broken the window of *Joseph Shutt*, of the BRADFORD ARMS, and four panes in the borough jail. It appeared that, on the afternoon of the day in question, the defendant had been turned out of the BRADFORD ARMS for using indecent language, and, in revenge, she picked up a stone and threw it through the window. On being locked up, she broke four panes in the jail window. The defendant, who said she had picked up the stone for the purpose of throwing it at Mrs. *Shutt*, who pushed her out and struck her, was sentenced to pay the damages, 13s, and 10s and costs, or, in default, to be imprisoned for one month. Defendant, on leaving the dock, said she had no money, but if she had, she would rather do the month than pay.”

Walsall Free Press 29/10/1870 - Advert

“Wanted, a steady Young Man as Ostler, to live in the house and assist in Brewing.
Apply, BRADFORD ARMS, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

1871 Census

1+2, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Thomas Hedges* (51), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann Hedges (48), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Jane Hedges (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah A. Bennett (22), barmaid, born Rowley Regis;
- [5] Henrietta Bruce (23), general servant, born Rushall;
- [6] Charles Dalby (18), general servant, born Worcester:

* probably the same person

1881 Census

Upper Bridge Street – BRADFORD ARMS

- [1] *John Hennessy* (33), licensed victualler, born Ireland;
- [2] Eliza Hennessy (29), wife, born Manchester;
- [3] Edward C. Hennessy (5), son, scholar, born Liverpool;
- [4] Julia E. Hennessy (3), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [5] John A. Hennessy (2), son, born Staffordshire;
- [6] Ernest A. Hennessy (3 months), son, born Staffordshire;
- [7] Edward Hennessy (19), brother, barman, born Ireland:

Evening Express 19/8/1881

“*John E. Hennessy*, landlord of the BRADFORD ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall; John Watson, Wolverhampton; Joseph Lawrence, Wolverhampton; and James Salees, Dudley, were charged with having, on the 7th of July last, assaulted Henry Stern, of Birmingham. Mr. Ratcliffe, Wolverhampton, appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Williams, Walsall, for the defendants. From complainant’s statement it appeared that on the day in question complainant, who had been in Walsall all day on business, met the defendant Lawrence about eight o’clock and asked him to give him a ride to Willenhall, where he had business, and Lawrence promised to give him a ride, but invited him to go into the BRADFORD ARMS, where there was a house warming going on, and a number of gentlemen were drinking champagne. Complainant partook of some of the liquor, and, whilst doing so, someone took away a parcel he had and his umbrella; then someone took his hat and put sawdust and wine in it, and Mr. Lawrence attempted to put it on complainant’s head. He then went into the yard and got into Mr. Lawrence’s trap. The defendants followed him out and set a dog upon him; but the dog could not bite him, and the defendants, seeing that, pulled complainant out of the trap and struck him, after which Mr. *Hennesy* pushed complainant off his premises, sent for a police officer, and gave him in charge. He was locked up all night, and next morning was brought before the Walsall magistrates and discharged. He went to consult a solicitor, but found that the one he went to was Mr. *Hennesy*’s solicitor. That gentleman, so complainant said, promised to get the defendants to come to some understanding with him, as to the compensation for the damage done to his hat. He also wrote to one of the defendants, but as no offer had been made he felt constrained to take out a summons against the defendants. Complainant had no witnesses in support of his case, and for the defence Mr. Williams called several witnesses, including Police-Sergeant Gore and Police-constable Untank, who proved that complainant, on the occasion referred to was drunk, and they altogether contradicted his statement.

The Bench, after hearing the evidence, dismissed the case.”

1891 Census

102, Bridge Street – BRADFORD ARMS

- [1] *John Hennessy* (43), licensed victualler, born Ireland;
- [2] Eliza Hennessy (38), wife, born Manchester;

- [3] Charles Hennessy (15), son, scholar, born Liverpool;
- [4] John A. Hennessy (11), son, scholar, born Great Bridge;
- [5] Maggie Hennessy (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Ernest Hennessy (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Mabel Hennessy (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] John Baylem (24), assistant, born Worcester;
- [9] Sarah Mansell (30), general servant, born Walsall;
- [10] Agnes Rush (27), visitor, living on her own means, born Rochdale:

Walsall Advertiser 2/7/1892

“Joseph Hughes (17), Regent Street, Pleck, was put forward on remand to answer five different charges (1) obtaining by false pretences 2s from Emily Mold, (2) obtaining by false pretences 2s from Peter Vickers, (3) obtaining by false pretences 2s from John Reynolds, (4) obtaining by false pretences 2s from *John Hennessy*, (5) obtaining by false pretences 2s from Thomas Green Cleobury.

Emily Mold, landlady of the GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, said that on the 25th the prisoner came to her house and obtained 2s from her, stating that it was for Mr. Lawson of the Conservative Club. He also said he was working for him in the committee room, and Mr. Lawson had gone to Birmingham without leaving him any money, and he was out of stationary. She gave him the money.

Ada Wadsworth corroborated.

Walter Lawson, secretary to the Walsall Conservative Association, said that he did not know the prisoner. He was not employed by the Association, and he had not authorised the prisoner or anyone else to borrow money on his account.

Detective Smith deposed to the arrest of the prisoner.

Peter Vickers, 48, Goodall Street, deposed that on Saturday last the prisoner came and asked him for 2s for Mr. Lawson, on the same representation as in the previous case.

John Reynolds, barman at the DUN COW, Wolverhampton Street, stated that the prisoner came to the house and asked for Mr. Egan, the landlord. Mr. Egan was out, and the prisoner said that he was employed in the Liberal Committee Rooms. He said Mr. Hughes had gone to Birmingham without leaving him any money, and he wanted 2s for stationary. Witness knew Mr. Hughes was secretary to the Liberal Association, and he gave prisoner the money.

Richard Harry Hughes, hon. sec. Liberal Association, said he did not know prisoner, and he had not authorised him or any other person to borrow money in his name.

Thomas Cleobury, landlord of the NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street, deposed to the prisoner asking him for 2s for Mr. Lawson. He did not lend him the money. He told him to go about his business, as he did not believe him.

John Hennessy, landlord of the BRADFORD ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, deposed to a similar attempt on the part of the prisoner, and his refusing to lend him the money.

The prisoner was returned for trial to the sessions on the several cases.”

[At the Walsall Quarter Session (July 1892), Joseph Hughes was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.]

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Edwin Hennessy, BRADFORD ARMS, served 20 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under.....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

1901 Census

1, Lower Rushall Street

[1] *John A. Hennessy* (22), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Great Bridge;

[2] I. Parkes (26), general servant, born Tipton;

[3] S. Parkes (24), domestic servant, born Walsall;

[4] George Parkes (1 month), boarder, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various.....

John Alfred Hennessey, BRADFORD ARMS”

Walsall Advertiser 20/10/1906

“A middle-aged labourer named Benjamin Gething, Lower Rushall Street, pleaded guilty to a charge of stealing two bicycle

wheels, value 5s, the property of *John Hennessey* on the 10th inst.

Prosecutor said he was landlord of the BRADFORD ARMS. At nine o'clock on the morning of the date named he saw the wheels safe in a store room at the rear of his premises. He missed them about 11.30am the same day. He afterwards identified some wheels at the police station as his property.

Ellen Thompson, general dealer, of 113, Wisemore, said a man brought the wheels (produced) to her shop, and asked her to buy them for 1s, but he eventually accepted 10d. Prisoner was not the man who brought the wheels.

Detective Lloyd spoke to making inquiries respecting the robbery, and on the Friday following he arrested prisoner in Rushall Street. In reply to the charge he said he was very sorry he had committed the crime. He was under the influence of drink when he did it, and if they dealt leniently with him he would try to do better.

The Chief Constable said prisoner had eight previous convictions for felony.

He was sent to Stafford for three months.

Mr. Loxton (to Mrs. Thompson): Do you know that a person in possession of stuff recently stolen, unless able to give a satisfactory account of it, is liable to prosecution. You buy these things from persons you know nothing about, and may have been sent to gaol on that evidence."

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

"To be Sold by Auction by Mr. A. C. Fraser Wood, F.A.I. (Watkins, Powell & Wood), at the BRADFORD ARMS, Upper Bridge Street, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 20th day of September, 1910, at Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely (subject to Conditions to be then produced).

Lot 1. The unexpired residue of the Lease of the BRADFORD ARMS, occupying an important position at the corner of Upper Bridge Street and Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, at the junction thereof with Ablewell Street; together with the Five Adjoining Business Premises, four being Nos.95, 97, 99 and 101, in Bridge Street, and No.2 in Lower Rushall Street. All the foregoing are held by the representatives of the late Mr. *J. E. Hennessey* from Messrs. John Walker and others on a repairing lease for a term of 36 years from the 1st March, 1892, at the extremely low annual rental of £14.

The BRADFORD ARMS is an old full-licensed house, now in the occupation of the above-named lessees, and contains: large corner bar with snug, smoke room, 2 kitchens, cellar and 5 bedrooms; outside are yard with gateway entrance, stabling, loft and wash-house.

The trade of the house in ales, beers wines, spirits and other liquors is tied to the lessors.

The adjoining premises are sub-let by the lessees at rentals (actual and estimated) amounting together to £82 6s per annum.

The late Mr. *J. E. Hennessey* paid for the lease of the above properties a bonus of £1,789."

1911 Census

1, Lower Rushall Street – BRADFORD ARMS

[1] *John Kane* (43), public house manager, born Walsall;

[2] Martha Kane (38), wife, married 16 years, born Walsall;

[3] John H. Kane (16), son, clerk, Alma Tube Works, born Walsall;

[4] Violet Kane (15), daughter, warehouse girl, bit and spill works, born Walsall;

[5] Norman Kane (13), son, born Walsall;

[6] Josephine Kane (8), daughter, born Walsall;

[7] George Kane (5), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BRADFORD ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, 4s 10d."

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1915

"Before the Walsall magistrates on Monday, William Harvey (57), labourer, of no fixed abode, was charged with having stolen two cushions, one cushion cover, and one counterpane, of the total value 10s, the property of *John Kane*.

Prosecutor, who is the landlord of the BRADFORD ARMS in Lower Rushall Street, said the articles were missed from a perambulator.

May Smith, of 58, Lower Rushall Street, said defendant asked her to take charge of the articles. A detective was informed.

Detective-Sergeant Burrell said he visited the house and found the articles. Witness questioned defendant who said he had bought the articles from a man whom he did not know. Later, he said he found them in a bundle behind BRADFORD ARMS.

Defendant, who had been previously convicted for drunkenness, was sentenced to a month's hard labour."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BRADFORD ARMS, Bridge Street. £0 12s 2d."

John Kane was fined 20s and 7 guineas costs, on 16th January 1920, for selling rum above the maximum price.

Walsall Observer 11/10/1924

"A charge of being drunk on licensed premises – the BRADFORD ARMS, Lower Rushall Street – was preferred at Walsall Guild-

hall on Monday, against Thomas Wood (32), moulder, of Balls Street, but on the application of Mr. Gordon Hawley, solicitor, the case was adjourned for a week without any evidence being heard.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 17/10/1925

“At Walsall Court on Tuesday, James Kelly (52), labourer, Bath Street, was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment for damaging plate glass windows at the BRADFORD ARMS and the pawnbrokers of Messrs. Herrick and Cordwell, the damage being £__ and £5 respectively.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/5/1931

“Walsall Licensing Bench, on Monday, sitting as the Confirmation Authority, heard an application by Mr. J. G. Hurst, K.C., on behalf of Mitchells and Butlers, Ltd, for confirmation of a provisional order for the removal of the full license of the BRADFORD ARMS INN to premises to be erected on a site in Milton Street, Palfrey. It was stated that the Corporation had given notice to treat for the acquisition of the BRADFORD ARMS and adjoining property, in order that a street widening scheme might be carried out, and that the site in Palfrey was in the centre of the district in which there was no other fully-licensed house. After a long hearing the magistrate granted the application.”

It closed on 18th November 1932.

The license was transferred to BRADFORD ARMS, Milton Street.

It was demolished.

BRADFORD ARMS

94, Milton Street, Palfrey, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Thomas Randle (1932 – 1949);
William John Thomas Bullock (1949 – 1954);
Kenneth William Griffin (1954 – 1957);
Ernest Joseph Mayo (1957 – 1961);
Kenneth Herbert William Taylor (1961 – 1962);
Joseph Brazier (1962 – [1967])
Jora Singh [2007]

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/5/1931

“Walsall Licensing Bench, on Monday, sitting as the Confirmation Authority, heard an application by Mr. J. G. Hurst, KC, on behalf of Mitchells and Butlers, Ltd, for confirmation of a provisional order for the removal of the full license of the BRADFORD ARMS INN to premises to be erected on a site in Milton Street, Palfrey. It was stated that the Corporation had given notice to treat for the acquisition of the BRADFORD ARMS and adjoining property, in order that a street widening scheme might be carried out, and that the site in Palfrey was in the centre of the district in which there was no other fully-licensed house. After a long hearing the magistrate granted the application.”

It opened on 18th November 1932.

The full license was transferred from the BRADFORD ARMS, Lower Rushall Street.

Meetings of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society were held here in 1939 and 1940.

1939 Register

94, Milton Street

- [1] *William Thomas Randle*, date of birth 22/4/1891, manager for brewery, married;
- [2] *Florence A. Randle*, dob 4/9/1896, manageress for brewery, married;
- [3] *William L. Randle*, dob 13/5/1920, grocer’s assistant, single;

[5] Gwendoline (Randle) Davis, dob 26/10/1924, hairdresser's assistant, single;

[6] Gladys J. (Randle) Slade, dob 4/9/1926, at school, single;

[7] Evelyn Anderson, dob 9/4/1918, bar general, single;

[8] Teresa Flavell, dob 15/8/1910, bar general, married:

Walsall Observer 20/7/1940

“Visiting the BRADFORD ARMS, Milton Street, last night, the Mayor (Councillor J. Cliff Tibbits), who was accompanied by Alderman H. Hucker, warmly thanked the customers for the sum of £14 which they sent to him some time ago for distribution amongst local wounded men of H.M. Forces, and he also emphasized the importance of the War Aid Fund as an organisation to insure the equitable distribution of funds raised for purposes connected with the war.”

Walsall Observer 21/6/1941

“Bernard Matthew Corbett, 77, Camden Street, went into the BRADFORD ARMS, Milton Street, on an evening in May and left his car outside. He met a friend and they began to talk business, and became so engrossed in the subject that when they left the house Corbett walked home, forgetting all about his car.

About four hours later, in the small hours, Acting-Police-sergeant Parry came upon the car standing without lights outside the public house. After opening one of the doors he pushed the car on to some nearby waste land and then removed one of the essential working parts, which he sent to the police office, leaving a note in the car stating what he had done. Corbett went to claim the missing part the next morning and told Sergeant Weaver what had happened. ‘I forgot about the car until I went for my overcoat the next morning,’ he said, ‘and then I realised that I had not taken the car to the garage.’ These facts came to light when Corbett, as a result of his forgetfulness, was faced with five summonses at Walsall Police Court on Wednesday for leaving the car without two front lights and without a red rear light, for causing an obstruction, for parking it after dark on the wrong side of the road and for leaving it unattended without rendering it incapable of being driven away. He was fined 10s in each case.”

Walsall Observer 18/10/1941 - Marriages

“On Oct. 12, 1941, at Dale Street Wesleyan Chapel, A.B. Seaman L. Lynex, eldest son of Mr. and late Mrs. F. Lynes, to Kathleen, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *W. T. Randle*, BRADFORD ARMS, Milton Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 28/11/1942 - Advert

“Wanted, Barman, Barmaid and Morning Help.
Apply, BRADFORD ARMS, Milton Street, Palfrey, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1945 - Advert

“By Direction of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Bradford. Third Sale of Valuable Freehold Ground Rents.....
Nine Licensed Houses..... BRADFORD ARMS, Milton Street.”

Walsall Observer 5/5/1945 - Births

“Davis. On Saturday, April 28, 1945, at the BRADFORD ARMS, Milton Street, to Gwendoline (nee *Randle*) God's gift a son (Graham Barry).”

Walsall Observer 17/11/1945

“An alleged Army absentee, Arthur Albert Evans (23) and Ernest George Smith (23), a labourer, of 14, Little Street, were jointly charged with breaking into the BRADFORD ARMS, Milton Street, and stealing £6, a china mug and two collecting boxes, the property of *William Thomas Randle*, on the night of October 30th.”

[2017]

BRADFORD ARMS

504, (510), (352), Pleck Road, (Pleck Lane), Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Jane Pagett
William Pagett
Joseph Pagett
John Pagett
Earl of Bradford
Ansells Ltd. [1918]

LICENSEES

William Pagett [] – **1858**
Jane Pagett [1858]
Isaac Pagett [1861]
Mrs. Jane Pagett [1860] – [1873];
William Pagett [];
Joseph Pagett [1881];
John Pagett [1881] – **189_**);
Joseph Pagett (**189_ – 1915**); [1891]
Mrs. Ellen Pagett (**1915 – 1919**);
James Richards (**1919 – 1928**);
Frederick Sydney ‘Fred’ Walmsley (**1928 – 1933**);
Herbert Harrison (**1933 – 1936**);
Leonard Charles Lampitt (**1936 – 1937**);
Sidney New (**1937 – 1938**);
Horace Arthur Durnall (**1938 – 1939**);
Stephen Oakley (**1939 – 1941**);
Thomas Charles Henry Landon (**1941 – 1944**);
William Thomas Walton (**1944 – 1951**);
Edwin Jones (**1951 – 1955**);
James Frank Paxton (**1955 – 1958**);
Thomas Henry Benton (**1958 – [1964]**)

NOTES

Pleck Lane [1858]
352, Pleck Road [1881], [1892], [1896]
510, Pleck Road [1939]
504, Pleck Road [1901], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932], [1940], [1993]

William Pagett = William Paget

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/1/1858

“An inquest was held on Wednesday at the BRADFORD ARMS, the Pleck, on the body of *William Pagett*, the former landlord of the house, who died on Sunday last of lock-jaw, supervening upon an apparently trifling injury of the thumb. Before calling any evidence, the coroner remarked that many rumours, probably highly exaggerated, had been circulated on the subject.

Jane Pagett, widow of the deceased, deposed that her husband came home on the night of the 9th ult, about half-past nine o’clock, tipsy, and apparently not conscious of what had occurred. As soon as he came in he said he had got his thumb hurt, and being asked how, replied that two men had done it – that they had got him up against the cinder wall on the Walsall and Wednesbury road, opposite St. Mary’s Row. He said they had injured his thumb by forcing his hands up, when he shouted to them not to kill him. Then they took a few halfpence out of his pocket, and he remembered no more. When he came home he had four sovereigns and a half-sovereign in a side pocket. There were no marks or bruises on any other part of his body. She put a bread poultice on his thumb that night, and the next day finding him no better, sent for Mr. Cox, surgeon. In three weeks afterwards lock-jaw coming on, Mr. Day was sent for, whose young man attended deceased until his death, on Sunday last.

Charles Litherland, residing in Lower Hall Lane, Walsall, deposed that on the same evening the deceased left the VINE TAVERN, in Walsall, about half-past eight o’clock, he being then somewhat but not greatly intoxicated. Since then deceased had told him that he thought he had been attacked by two men on the Wednesbury road, who wrenched his thumb, struck him, and he thought, on the hand, on the head, and took about 4½s from him.

Police-constable McCrudden stated that having heard two days afterwards that the deceased had been beaten and robbed of £14, he had gone to his house to inquire, but deceased could give him no description of the parties, and denied having been robbed at all. The verdict was, ‘that the deceased came by his death through injuries upon the thumb of the left hand producing lock-jaw, but how these injuries were received there was no evidence to show’.”

Isaac Pagett was also a grocer. [1861]

1861 Census

Pleck Road – public house – BRADFORD ARMS
[1] *Jane Pagett* (44), unmarried, publican and grocer, born Rushall;
[2] *William Pagett* (18), son, assistant, born Walsall;
[3] *Joseph Pagett* (16), son, assistant, born Walsall;
[4] Samuel Pagett (14), son, miner, born Walsall;
[5] Mary Jane Pagett (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

- [6] *John Pagett* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[7] *Ellen Pagett* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Mrs. *Jane Pagett* was also a grocer. [1864], [1865], [1870]
She was described as being also a shopkeeper. [1868], [1872]

1871 Census

Pleck Road

- [1] *Jane Pagett* (54), widow, innkeeper, born Daw End;
[2] *William Pagett* (28), son, corn dealer, born Walsall;
[3] *Joseph Pagett* (26), son, grocer, born Pleck;
[4] *Samuel Pagett* (24), son, higler, born Pleck;
[5] *Mary J. Pagett* (22), daughter, assistant in house, born Pleck;
[6] *John Pagett* (18), son, assistant in yard, born Pleck;
[7] *Ellen Pagett* (15), daughter, scholar, born Pleck:

1881 Census

352, Pleck Road

- [1] *Joseph Pagett* (36), unmarried, innkeeper, born Walsall;
[2] *John Pagett* (30), brother, unmarried, corn dealer, born Walsall;
[3] *Elen Pagett* (25), sister, unmarried, born Walsall;
[4] *Horace J. Pagett* (4), nephew, born Walsall;
[5] *Ellen J. Morris* (28), general servant, born Madley, Shropshire:

Wednesbury Herald 2/9/1882

“An inquest was held at the BRADFORD ARMS, Pleck, Walsall, on Saturday afternoon last, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, relative to the death of *Simeon Aston* (33), a fitter, lately residing at Knight’s Buildings, Pleck. The evidence showed that on Thursday night last the deceased retired to rest in apparently good health. About three o’clock the following morning he awoke feeling very unwell, and though every attention was paid to him he gradually became worse, and expired about eleven o’clock on Friday forenoon. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Joseph Pagett – *Joseph Paget*

1891 Census

Pleck Road – BRADFORD ARMS

- [1] *Joseph Paget* (45), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
[2] *John Paget* (38), brother, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
[3] *Ellen Paget* (34), sister, housekeeper, born Walsall;
[4] *Mary Jane Billingsley* (14), niece, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] *Ester E. Worley* (23), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Joseph and *John Pagett* were also grocers. [1892]

Birmingham Daily Post 6/10/1892

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *Joseph Pagett*, of the BRADFORD ARMS, The Pleck, was summoned at the instance of the local authority for two breaches of the bye-laws, viz, not providing sufficient ventilation to kitchens in properties in Augustus Street and Frederick Street belonging to him, and with not causing rain-water to drain from the roofs of the properties to be occupied before he had received a certificate from the borough surveyor that he had complied with the requirements of the bye-laws. The Town Clerk, who appeared in support of the complaints, asked for one penalty only. What the Council desired, he said, was that persons building would endeavor to assist the local authorities in giving effect to the bye-laws. A fine of 10s and costs was imposed in one case, and the other two cases were dismissed on payment of costs.”

1901 Census

504, Pleck Road

- [1] *Joseph Pagett* (56), unmarried, tavern keeper, born Walsall;
[2] *Ellen Pagett* (44), sister, unmarried, born Walsall;
[3] *Mary Billingsley* (24), niece, born Walsall;
[4] *Martin Billingsley* (21), nephew, assistant tavern keeper, born Wednesbury;
[5] *Hannah Swancote* (18), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

1911 Census

504, Pleck Road – BRADFORD ARMS

- [1] *Joseph Pagett* (65), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Pleck;
[2] *Ellen Pagett* (54), unmarried, sister, housekeeper, born Pleck;

[3] Mary Jane Pagett Billingsley (34), niece, assisting in business, born Pleck;
[4] Ada Webster (18), servant, born Pleck:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
BRADFORD ARMS, Pleck Road. £1 1s 0d.”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“The 1925 survey indicates that it was an alehouse and that the Public Bar was 14’6” x 13’6” x 9’1” with a Smoke Room and a Bar Parlour being used as a sitting room.”

It was rebuilt.

It reopened in February 1934.

1939 Register

510 Pleck Road – BRADFORD ARMS (4 of 5)

[1] *Stephen Oakley*, date of birth 1/4/1886, license manager, married;
[2] Agnes C. Oakley, dob 16/9/1884, unpaid domestic duties, married;
[3] Laura K. (Oakley) Skitt, dob 28/2/1915, bar general, single;
[4] Lois N. Oakley, dob 31/3/1928, at school, single;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BRADFORD ARMS, Pleck Road, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
BRADFORD ARMS, Pleck Road. £19 1s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BRADFORD ARMS, Pleck Road. £17 10s 0d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1945 - Advert

“By Direction of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Bradford. Third Sale of Valuable Freehold Ground Rents.....
Nine Licensed Houses..... BRADFORD ARMS, Pleck Road.”

William Thomas Walton see also SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich.

It became CHAMPY’S BRADFORD ARMS. [2016]

[2017]

BREWERY STORES

40+41, (40), High Street / George Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Vickers

Walter Paine

Arthur Beebee Ltd. [1908]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 31st December 1937)

Courage Ltd. [1996]

Highgate Brewery Ltd. [2000]

LICENSEES

John Jacam [1777]
John Vickers [1813] – 1837)
Mrs. Anne Vickers [1841] – [1850]
Edward Vickers [1851] – 1866)
Walter Paine [1868] – [1871]
Mary Ann Paine [1881]
Walter Paine [1891] – 1917);
Frances Sarah Paine (1917 – 1918);
Arthur Beebee (1918 – []
Thomas Smith [1937] – 1940);
Frank Elbro (1940 – 1945);
John Thomas Jarvis (1945 – 1956);
Stephen Owen Jarrett (1956 – 1957);
Albert Edward Chambers (1957 – 1965);
Arthur Broome (1965 – 1966);
William Eric Whorton (1966 – []

NOTES

High Street [1822]
40, High Street [1860], [1861], [1868], [1870], [1871]
40+41, High Street [1939], [1940], [1999]

It was originally the CASTLE. [1813], [1822], [1828], [1842], [1849], [1850], [1853], [1858], [1860], [1861], [1862], [1865]

Wine and spirit vaults [1870]

It had a ballroom.

A new assembly room was opened. [1768]

The Sherriff of Staffordshire held a court here, every third Monday for the recovery of debts under 40s. [1801]

John Vickers, CASTLE INN, High Street. [1813]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/2/1837

“At a meeting of the Walsall Finance Committee, on Wednesday evening, the market tolls were let to Mr. *John Vickers*, of the CASTLE INN, for the ensuing twelve months, for the sum of £350.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/11/1837 - Died

“On the 9th instant, Mr. *John Vickers*, of the CASTLE INN, High Street, Walsall, aged 58.”

Anne Vickers = Ann Vickers

1841 Census

George Street

- [1] *Anne Vickers* (50), victualler;
- [2] William Vickers (15), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Edward Vickers (1), born Staffordshire;
- [4] George Collier (25), ms, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Sarah Harris (15), fs;
- [6] Daniel Higgs (65), independent:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/2/1843

“A melancholy accident occurred at Walsall on Thursday afternoon. A youth named William Henry *Vickers*, aged 15, youngest son of the late Mr. *John Vickers*, of the CASTLE INN, High Street, took a gun out to shoot small birds, near to his brother’s, the Paddock House, when, in endeavouring to pass through a hedge, pulling the gun after him, the trigger caught some of the branches, and the contents of the piece entered the unfortunate boy’s body just below the heart. A person coming out of his garden at the time saw the gun lying in the road, and the youth several yards in the field, and he immediately informed his brother, to whose house he was taken, and where he lingered till five o’clock on Saturday morning, when he expired. An inquest was held the same day, before W. Cotterill, Esq, coroner, and a verdict of Accidental Death returned. The interment too place in Walsall churchyard

on Monday morning, the corpse being followed to the grave by his sorrowing mother and relatives.”

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *Edward Vickers* (39), innkeeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Catharine Vickers* (32), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ann Vickers* (65), mother, widow, born Walsall;
- [4] *Charles Vickers* (18), son, butcher, born Walsall;
- [5] *Edward Vickers* (11), nephew, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Daniel Higgs* (78), lodger, born Bromsgrove, Worcestershire;
- [7] *Ellen Judge* (20), house servant, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/4/1853 - Deaths

“On Saturday last, aged 65, *Ann*, relict of Mr. *John Vickers*, of the CASTLE INN, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/4/1853 - Deaths

“On the 20th inst, aged 30, Mr. *Charles Vickers*, son of the late *John Vickers*, of the CASTLE INN, High Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/10/1855

“On Wednesday last the members of the Walsall Ratepayers’ Protection Society dined together at Mr. *Vickers* of the CASTLE INN, High Street, Walsall. The variety and excellence of the viands, and the arrangements for the comfort of the guests, secured, as they deserved, the encomiums of all present.....”

1861 Census

40, High Street

- [1] *Edward Vickers* (48), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Catherine Vickers* (42), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Rose Holmes* (22), house servant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Mansfield* (20), house servant, born Polesworth, Warwickshire:

Walsall Free Press 19/4/1862 - Notice

“The Walsall District £25 Money Society.

The next meeting will be held at Mr. *Vickers*’ CASTLE INN, High Street, on Thursday, May the 1st.

All parties interested are requested to attend.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1836, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o’clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *Vickers*, CASTLE INN.”

Walsall Free Press 17/4/1866 - Advert

“CASTLE INN High Street, Walsall.

John Osbourn, begs respectfully to announce that he has received instructions from the proprietor Mr. *E. Vickers*, who is retiring from business, to Offer by Public Auction, on Wednesday and Thursday, March 21st and 22nd, 1866, upon the premises as above, all the valuable Brewing Vessels, Ale Barrels, 5-Pull-Beer Machine, Spirit Fountain and Cocks, Stock-In-Trade, Hams and Bacon, Household Furniture and Effects.

Particulars in catalogues to be had of the Auctioneer, 52, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.

Sale to commence each morning at Ten o’clock.”

Walter Paine, wine and spirit vaults, 40, High Street. [1868]

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1869

“This being the adjourned licensing day, those parties whose licenses had been either suspended or refused, again put in applications.....

Mr. *Paine*, of the CASTLE INN, High Street, said he wished to make a few remarks. He had no desire to occupy the time of the Bench unnecessarily, but he wished to know whether there was any reason why the practice which had existed for years in Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and in this town should be abandoned and a different system adopted, and why there should be a distinction made between himself and others. On the 1st instant he sent his man for his license, but the man was told Mr. *Paine* must come himself; but, although his license was not given to his man, Mr. *Fletcher*’s license was given to his servant.

The Magistrates’ Clerk explained to Mr. *Paine* that the Act of Parliament required the personal attendance of the applicant, unless

prevented by illness, or other causes which might be deemed by the Bench a reasonable cause of absence. He was not sure Mr. Fletcher had got his license; but if the license had been given to the party sent, the Bench had deemed the excuse a reasonable one, and had exercised that discretion with which they are vested.”

1871 Census

40, High Street

- [1] Mary Ann Paine (42), spirit merchant's wife, born Tutton, Northamptonshire;
- [2] Maria M. Paine (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [3] *Walter Paine* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Warren Albert Paine (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Laura Lizzie Paine (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Lucy Mary Paine (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Marian Sarah Paine (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Harriet Jane Smith (21), governess, teacher, born Scotland;
- [9] Mary Ann Sheffield (19), general servant, born Warmington, Northamptonshire;
- [10] Mary Elizabeth Bore (17), nursemaid, born Tutton, Northamptonshire:

Walter Paine – see also BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF.

1881 Census

40, High Street

- [1] *Mary Ann Paine* (52), widow, wine merchant, born Sutton, Nottinghamshire;
- [2] *Walter Paine* (21), son, wine merchant, born Walsall;
- [3] Laura Lizzie Paine (17), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Lucy M. Paine (16), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Handbury (45), visitor, born Sutton, Nottinghamshire;
- [6] Mary Mills (49), cook, domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [7] Elizabeth Jennings (14), housemaid, domestic servant, born Birmingham:

1891 Census

40, High Street

- [1] *Walter Paine* (31), wine and spirit merchant, born Walsall;
- [2] *Frances Paine* (33), wife, born Ireland;
- [3] Elizabeth Lawless (25), general servant, born Snareston, Leicestershire:

1901 Census

40+41, High Street

- [1] *Walter Paine* (41), wine and spirit merchant, born Walsall;
- [2] Frances L. Paine (42), wife, born Queens County, Ireland;
- [3] Margaret Paine (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Walter Paine (6), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Frances L. Paine (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Sarah J. Joynt (41), sister in law, unmarried, born Ireland;
- [7] Lucy A. Horton (24), nursemaid / domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Sarah J. Caddick (21), general servant, born Hednesford:

1939 Register

40+41, High Street (4 of 5)

- [1] *Thomas Smith*, date of birth 9/4/1889, manager licensed house, married;
- [2] *Eliza Smith*, dob 7/6/1888, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Ethel M. (Smith) Hughes*, dob 10/10/1915, tailoress, single;
- [4] *Hetty M. (Smith) Poole*, dob 6/12/1924, tailoress, single;

Walsall Observer 6/4/1940

“The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery yesterday, of Mr. *Thomas Smith*, licensee of the CASTLE INN, High Street, Walsall. The Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society, of which Mr. *Smith* was a member, was represented by Messrs. C. W. Garfield (president), T. P. Cole, F. Lord, A. P. Hopkins and W. T. Randle.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

PAYNE'S WINE VAULTS, High Street, £3 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
CASTLE, High Street. £7 0s 0d.”

Closed

It was occupied by Paines Wine Vaults, which closed on 11th December 1977.

It reopened with a full license in 1983.

It was renamed PUNCH AND JUDY. [1996]

It was renamed BREWERY STORES. [2000]

[2006]

Closed [2007]

It reopened as the MARKET TAVERN [2008]

Closed [2009], [2017]

BRICKLAYERS ARMS

4, Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

G. B. Stubbs, St. Pauls Close, Walsall
Elsha Jeffries

LICENSEES

James Dixon [1871] – [1872];
Mrs. Agnes Ingram [];
Martin Faughey [];
John Middleton [1877];
Henry Peplow [] – **1881**);
James Barber (**1881 – 1882**):

NOTES

It was originally an unnamed beerhouse.

1871 Census

4, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *James Dixon* (68), beerhouse keeper, born Brigbrook, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Patience Dixon* (65), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Sarah Ann Dixon* (19), daughter, born Walsall:

John Middleton was fined 10s and costs, on 11th May 1877, for Sunday trading.

1881 Census

4, Lower Rushall Street – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

- [1] *James Barber* (44), silver plater and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Eliza Barber* (45), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ellen Barber* (20), daughter, milliner, born Walsall;
- [4] *John Barber* (18), son, currier, born Walsall;
- [5] *Joseph Stevenson* (60), lodger, general labourer, born Uttoxeter;
- [6] *Annie Fellows* (15), general servant, born Cannock:

There was no application to renew in 1882, and the house was converted into a coffee shop.

BRICKLAYERS ARMS

Rolling Mill Street, Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Parkes [1834]
Bendego Simkiss [1849] – [1850]
Abediah Smith [1851]
Abednigo Simkiss [1858] – [1865]
Mrs. Simkiss [1866]

NOTES

BRICKMAKERS ARMS [1834], [1850]
BRICKLAYERS ARMS [1858], [1864]

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/11/1834

“Commitments To Stafford County gaol.

Thomas Christopher Reeves and William Lees, charged with assaulting William Snelson, at the Foreign of Walsall, and stealing from his person, two handkerchiefs, four yards of linen, and a waistcoat piece.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/3/1835

“Staffordshire Spring Assizes.

Thomas Christopher Reeves and William Lees were indicted for assaulting W. Snelson, on the 17th Nov, in the Foreign of Walsall, and stealing two handkerchiefs, four yards of linen, and one waistcoat piece, his property. Mr. Corbett conducted the prosecution; Mr. Godson defended the prisoners.

William Snelson, the prosecutor, a labourer, who lives at Darlaston, said he was returning home from Walsall, on the 17th November, when he met the two prisoners; there was also another man not far off. William Lees asked him what he had got there? (meaning in a bundle he was carrying, which contained the items specified in the indictment) and added. ‘d—n his eyes, take it of him.’ Reeves thereupon knocked him down, laid hold of him by the neck, and said, ‘if you make any noise, I’ll take your life.’ He asked prosecutor to loose the bundle, but he would not. Reeves then put his knee on prosecutors’ right breast, squeezed him, seized the bundle, and wrested it from him. He afterwards rolled prosecutor into a gutter, and they both ran away. Prosecutor got up, shouted ‘stop thief,’ and followed him; and about 100 yards off found that a man of the name of Rubery had seized Reeves. Prosecutor said if he would give up the things, he should have no further trouble about it.

Cross-examined. I had been drinking for about three hours; I was not quite sober; but I was not in drink.

John Rubery proved that whilst on his road home on the night in question he heard prosecutor cry out several times that he had been robbed. Lees passed him on the walk with a bundle and a bag; Reeves was running off, but witness secured him. Snelson was in liquor.

Parker, the constable, said he was called to the public-house where Reeves had been brought, and the prosecutor charged him with the robbery; but said if he would let him have the bundle again, he would forgive him. Reeves said he would find it in a quarter of an hour. Witness then went with Reeves, and he pointed to where the bundle was, in a hedge, near the road side. Witness then liberated him, but took him into custody again the same night, at Snelson’s request; found him at the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, at the Pleck, drinking with Lees.

Cross-examined. Snelson was very much in liquor. He did not make any charges against Lees.

For the prisoners, James Salt, a toll-gate keeper, was called, who said that between five and six o’clock on the evening in question, he saw the prosecutor lying drunk in a ditch by the road side with a bundle lying by his side. This was some distance from the place he said he was robbed.

William Butler, shoemaker, also deposed to the same fact.

Several witnesses were called, who gave Lees a good character.

Verdict both guilty.

Mr. Justice Coleridge said that the extreme punishment of the law would not be carried into effect. He could not say what would be the precise amount of the substituted punishment; but they must not expect to remain in their native land.

Judgement of death was recorded.”

[Thomas Christopher Reeves and William Lees were transported for life.]

Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/7/1847

"Hows and Crompton. These Wednesfield men have made the whole of their money good for their 440 yard race (Hows staking £13 to £10), which comes off on Monday, 26th inst., between one and three o'clock, at the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, the Pleck, near Walsall."

Bendego Simkiss = Abednego Simkiss

Abednigo Simkiss = Abednigo Simkins = Bendigo Simkiss = Abenego Simkiss

He was also a miner.

1861 Census

Pleck Lane – Beer House – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

[1] *Abednigo Simkiss* (45), miner and victualler, born Netherton;

[2] Ann Simkiss (45), wife, born Pleck;

[3] Mary Simkiss (20), daughter, born Pleck;

[4] John Simkiss (10), son, scholar, born Pleck;

[5] Francis Wi___ler (32), lodger, coal miner, born Stourbridge:

Birmingham Daily Post 8/9/1865

"The adjourned licensing session for the borough took place yesterday at the Free Library.....

The license of *Abednego Simkiss*, the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, The Pleck, which had been withheld in consequence of the house having made no use of it during the past year, was also renewed."

AND

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/9/1865

"The annual licensing meeting adjourned from the 31st ult., was held this morning.....

In the case of *Abenego Simkiss*, The Pleck, whose license was suspended because he had for two or three years past neglected to take out an excise license, his certificate was renewed on the understanding that an excise license should be taken out."

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

"General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. Mathews applied, on behalf of Mrs. Harriett Bassett, of the ROYAL OAK, Pleck Road.

Mr. Oerton said the magistrates having personally inspected the premises of the applicant, and being satisfied as to the suitability of the house, which was one of the cleanest and best arranged in the district, it would only be necessary for Mr. Mathews to address himself to the requirements of the district.

Mr. Mathews accordingly pointed out upon a plan the increase which had taken place in the locality, and the superiority of his client's house over any in the neighbourhood.

Mr. Barnett, for Mr. Edge, landlord of the HOPE AND ANCHOR, stated that there were only 200 houses at The Pleck, and there were five licensed houses for every 40 dwelling houses. The owner of one of those houses, finding four houses sufficient, had not taken out his license.

Mr. Mathews said that as the owner of the ROYAL OAK was the owner of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, he was willing to agree to his licence being transferred from the later house to the former.

Mrs. *Simkiss*, the tenant of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, was called; but as she declined to give up her license, both her application and that of Mrs. Bassett were adjourned till the 13th proximo."

Birmingham Daily Post 25/9/1866 - Advert

"By E. B. Scholefield, at the ROYAL OAK INN, Pleck, near Walsall, this day (Tuesday), at Eleven o'clock.

Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Ale Machine, Bagatelle Board, and Effects, removed to the above-named Inn for convenience of Sale."

[Might this be the end of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS?]

BRICKLAYERS ARMS

Norton Road, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Russell [1843] – [1862]
John Bullus [1863] – 1868;
Arthur Snape (1868 – [1876]

NOTES

Joseph Russell was also a farmer. [1849]

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/12/1849

“On Monday the 17th instant, when the miners were engaged in their usual avocation in a pit, at Goscot, a piece of coal, about two tons in weight, fell, and jammed a man named Thomas Stackhouse, between the slab and the side of the pit. His skull was fractured. When got out he was quite dead. The accident occurred from what is technically termed a slip in the coal. On Friday, an inquest was held on the body, at the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Pelsall, before W. W. Ward, Esq, (acting for T. M. Phillips, Esq., coroner), when a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1851 Census

Pelsall Common

- [1] *Joseph Russell* (58), farmer of 30 acres and publican, born Pelsall;
- [2] Phoebe Russell (57), wife, born Rushall;
- [3] John Courtley (28), servant, farm labourer, born Wigginton, Staffordshire;
- [4] Ann Welton (16), house servant, born Litchfield, Staffordshire:

1861 Census

Norton Road

- [1] *Joseph Russell* (68), farmer of 56 acres employing 8 men, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Phoebe Russell (67), wife, born Rushall:

John Bullus = *John Bullas* = John Bullows

[Birmingham Daily Post 4/3/1863 - Notice](#)

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1861.

Notice of Sitting for Last Examination, in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

John Bullas the Elder, formerly of Moxley, in the parish of Darlaston, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, and now of the township of Pelsall, in the said county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, having been adjudged Bankrupt under a Petition for Adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire holden at Walsall, on the 24th day of January, 1863, a Public Sitting for the said Bankrupt to pass his Last Examination, and make Application for his Discharge, will be held before the Judge of the said Court, on the 21st day of March, 1863, at the Court, Goodall Street, Walsall, at Ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said Bankrupt to surrender. F. F. Clarke, Esq, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Henry Jackson, Esq, of West Bromwich, is the Solicitor in the Bankruptcy. The First Meeting of Creditors has been duly held in the said Bankruptcy, and at the Public Sitting above mentioned Proofs of Debts of Creditors who have not proved will be received, and the said Bankrupt will be required to surrender himself to the said Court, and to submit himself to be examined, and to make a full disclosure and discovery of all his Estate and Effects, and to Finish his Examination.

Henry Jackson, Esq, Solicitor, West Bromwich.

C. G. Megevan, High Bailiff.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/3/1863

“*John Bullas*, publican, formerly of Moxley, and also of Pelsall, came up for final examination, but as Mr. Jackson, who appeared for the bankrupt, was unable, through indisposition, to attend, the case was, on the application of Mr. Crump Thomas, adjourned till the 15th of April.”

Walsall Free Press 18/4/1863

“In re *John Bullas*, licensed victualler, formerly of Moxley, and latterly of Pelsall. As the bankrupt’s solicitor, Mr. Jackson, was unable to attend, the case was adjourned.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/4/1863

“In the case of *John Bullas* the elder, formerly victualler at Moxley, and latterly of Pelsall, Mr. Jackson, of Darlaston, appeared for the trade assignee, but as it appeared there had been some irregularity in the appointment, Mr. Ebsworth appeared as official assignee, and consented to the bankrupt obtaining his discharge, upon the understanding that the statement of accounts should be amended, and £16, realised from the sale of the bankrupt’s estate, should be paid into court.”

Walsall Free Press 2/5/1863 - Notice

“In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

In the Matter of *John Bullas*, the elder, formerly of Moxley, in the Parish of Darlaston, in the County of Stafford, Licensed Vict-

ualler, and now of the Township of Pelsall, in the said County of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, a Bankrupt.
Whereas, at a public sitting of the Court, held this day, the Court granted an Order of Discharge to the said Bankrupt. Notice is hereby given, that an Order of Discharge will be drawn up and delivered to the Bankrupt after the expiration of thirty days from this date, unless, in the meantime, an appeal be duly entered against the Judgement of the said court.
Dated this 22nd day of April, 1863.
C. G. Megevan, High Bailiff.”

John Bullus – see also SWAN, Moxley, Darlaston.

Birmingham Daily Post 7/3/1864

“Snape v. Rowley. In this case, which was heard at the County Court, Walsall, on Saturday, before his Honour, A. M. Skinner, Esq, John Snape, better known, perhaps, as ‘the King of Pelsall,’ sought to recover £1 from Edward Rowley, of the Fleur De Lys Inn, Norton, under the following circumstances. A short time ago the defendant entered the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Pelsall, and there found the plaintiff quaffing his ale and smoking his pipe. After some conversation the plaintiff challenged the defendant to a ‘show of money’, with some such words as these, ‘I will show more money of mine than you can show of mine’; and forthwith, the defendant having accepted the challenge without noticing its peculiar form, each man staked a sovereign. The plaintiff’s exchequer being exhausted, while the defendant possessed other money, the latter swept the two sovereigns into his pocket and went off, affirming he was fairly the winner. Snape then instituted criminal proceedings before the County magistrates, but the case was dismissed, the Bench deeming it a matter for civil court to deal with. After hearing the evidence, his Honour gave a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed, without costs. Mr. Cranch (from the office of Messrs. Duignan and Lewis) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Ebsworth for the defendant.”

1871 Census

Norton Road – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

- [1] *Arthur Snape* (26), farmer (34 acres) and licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Julia Snape* (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Frederick J. Snape* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Lizzie Westwood* (17), general servant, born Walsall;
- [5] *William Johns* (20), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 6/9/1873

“John Whitehouse, miner, was charged with having, on the 19th of August, been drunk and having refused to leave the BRICKLAYERS ARMS public house, Pelsall. The charge having been proved, defendant was sentenced to pay a fine of 40s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/11/1876

“On Tuesday afternoon a rick of barley and a rick of clover, worth about £90, and standing in the rickyard of Mr. *Snape*, the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Pelsall were destroyed by fire, which had been caused by some children who had been playing in the yard. Three other ricks were saved, one by being taken down and removed, a work in which the Norwich brigade of Walsall rendered valuable assistance, as did many of Mr. *Snape*’s neighbours.”

BRICKMAKERS ARMS

Salters Road, Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

George William Moody [1939] – [1940]
Stephen Brampton [2007]

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/5/1938

“Sixteen applications, granted earlier in the year by the local justices, remained to be dealt with when an adjourned meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Confirmation Committee was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Tuesday.....
William Lowe applied successfully for the removal of the full license of the BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, to premises to be erected

in Salters Road, Walsall Wood. Mr. Brown explained that the license would be moved from a district well served to one where there were no facilities. If the application were granted, the owners were prepared to surrender the license of an off-license known as the Vigo Stores.”

It opened in 1939.

Walsall Observer 8/7/1939 - Advert

“The BRICKMAKERS ARMS, Salters Road, Walsall Wood has just been opened by W. Butler & Co. Limited. Fully Licensed. Good Car Park. Licensee Mr. G. W. Moody.”

[2017]

BRIDGE HOUSE

Bloxwich Road, **WALSALL**

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1982]
Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Thomas Revitt (1958 – 1959);
Amy Irene Revitt (1959 – 1961);
Eric Harper Morris (1961 – 1962);
Kenneth Ironmonger (1962 – [1966])

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Post 9/12/1957

“The annual general meeting of W. Butler & Co. Limited will be held on December 30 at Wolverhampton. The following is an extract from the circulated statement of the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. J. Yardley.....
Two former private houses are being adapted for use as licensed premises.....
BRIDGE HOUSE, Walsall.”

It opened on 5th June 1958.

The license was transferred from the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street.

Birmingham Daily Post 10/12/1958

“The annual general meeting of W. Butler & Co. Limited will be held on December 30 at Wolverhampton. The following is the circulated statement of the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. J. Yardley.....
The closure of uneconomic houses continues, 22 have ceased to trade during the year and seven of these were in connection with the following new premises, all of them let on tenancy.....
BRIDGE HOUSE, North Walsall, opened June 5th.”

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.
Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....
BRIDGE HOUSE, Bloxwich Road, Walsall.”

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn Quiz. [1974/5], [1978]

Two teams from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn-Quiz. [1973/74], [1979], [1980]

BRIDGEWATER

Stoney Lane, Little Bloxwich, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Ralph Francis Argyle (1964 – [1966])

NOTES

It opened on 29th May 1964.
The license was transferred from the CANAL TAVERN.

[Walsall Observer 17/12/1965](#)

“The BRIDGEWATER from Little Bloxwich, whose players are mostly from the old NAGS HEAD, competed in the Pelsall Darts League for the first time last season and completed the double at the first attempt. They carried off the league title by just pipping the favourites, Shelfield Social, and then carried off the knock-out trophy by beating strong contenders ROYAL OAK.....”

Ralph Francis Argyle – see also ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, and ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

It closed in 2006.

Demolished [2009]

BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS

54, (26), (26½), (25), Burrowes Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Frederick Birch, maltster, Great Barr
Messrs. Yardley, maltsters, Darlaston
The Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd. [1913]
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
Frank Myatt Ltd. [1925]

LICENSEES

W Hartop [1858]
Thomas Halfpenny [1860] – [1865]
W Halfpenny [1863] ?
William Shelton [1868] – 1870);
William Nicklin (1870 – 1873);
Joseph Beebee (1873 – [1881];
Mrs. Celia Beebee [1881]
Emmanuel Benjamin Scott [1891] – 1895);
Mrs. Rosannah Scott (1895 – 1913);
Joseph James Llewelyn (1913 – 1923);
James Llewelyn (1923 – 1924);
Thomas Statham (1924 – 1929);

Edward Charles Coley (1929 – 1937);
George Whitehouse (1937 – 1944);
Sylvia Whitehouse (1944 – 1945);
Arthur Lawton (1945 – 1946);
Hubert Rae Whalley (1946 – 1947);
Frank Wilson (1947 – 1948);
Joseph Russell (1948 – 1949);
James Bromley O’Hare (1949 – 1950);
Arthur Henry Mahon (1950 – 1951);
James Platt (1951 – 1955);
Harry Dobson (1955 – 1957);
William Thomas Hateley (1957 – 1958):

NOTES

It was previously the RED HOUSE TAVERN.

25, Burrowes Street [1858]
26, Burrowes Street [1864], [1865], [1881]
26½, Burrowes Street [1871], [1872]
54, Burrowes Street [1891]. [1896], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940]

W. Hartop, beerhouse, 25, Burrowes Street. [1858]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....
Thomas Halfpenny, Burrow Street. Refused.”

Thomas Halfpenny was also an engineer. [1861]

1861 Census

26, Burrow Street – RED HOUSE TAVERN
[1] *Thomas Halfpenny* (36), publican and engineer, born Leicestershire;
[2] Clara Halfpenny (31), wife, born Kings Norton;
[3] Ellen Halfpenny (11), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] Ann Halfpenny (9), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861

“The business of the general licensing day then commenced. There were seventeen applications.....
Thomas Halfpenny, RED HOUSE, Burrowes Street, also made his application through Mr. Wilkinson. Mr. Wilkinson employed the usual arguments – want of accommodation in the neighbourhood, good character of the applicant, &c., and handed up a memorial from the inhabitants of the district in favour of the license being granted, testifying to the good character of the applicant. License granted.”

Walsall Free Press 5/10/1861 - Advert

“Found, on Friday, the 27th ult, a Cross Bred Setter Dog, the owner by paying expenses may have him again on applying to Mr. *T. Halfpenny*, RED HOUSE TAVERN, Burrowes Street.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.
The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1836, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.
Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.
Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.
Dinner on the Table at Four o’clock precisely.
Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *W. Halfpenny*, BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS.”

1871 Census

26½, Burrowes Street – BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS
[1] *William Nicklin* (34), licensed victualler and brush maker, born Walsall;
[2] Mary Nicklin (29), wife, born London;
[3] William Allen Nicklin (4), son, born Walsall;
[4] Harriet Nicklin (2), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] George Nicklin (6 months), son, born Walsall:

1881 Census

26, Burrows Street

- [1] *Joseph Beebee* (68), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Alice Beebee* (69), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Henry Beebee* (35), son, chain maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Joseph Beebee* (33), son, chain maker, born Walsall;
- [5] *Albert Beebee* (24), son, gig saddler, born Walsall:

Evening Star 29/5/1882

“John Barnsley, Henry Kissett, Regent Street, and Thomas Taylor, Dudley Street, were summoned for having, with a fourth person named Wallbank, created a disturbance in Burrowes Street on Thursday, the 25th instant, after drinking at the BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS. Taylor, the least culpable, alone appeared, and was discharged, and Kissett and Barnsley were fined 5s and costs, and the latter 10s and costs. A summons was ordered to be issued against Wallbrook.”

Emanuel Scott = Emanuel Scoot

1891 Census

54, Burrowes Street

- [1] *Emanuel B. Scoot* (42), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Roseannah Scoot* (45), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Pauline E. Scoot* (16), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Claud S. Scoot* (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Mabel M. Scoot* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Rose A. Scoot* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Lucy Nicklas* (21), general servant, born Coseley:

Walsall Advertiser 4/8/1894

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The forty second annual meeting of the members of this society was held on Thursday We have to report with regret that by death we have lost five members Mr. *Emmanuel B. Scott*, the BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS, Burrowes Street.”

Emanuel Benjamin Scott – see also COACHMAKERS ARMS.

1901 Census

54, Burrowes Street

- [1] *Rosannah Scott* (54), widow, beer retailer’s manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Pauline E. Scott* (26), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [3] *Claud S. Scott* (24), son, sorting clerk, Tel, Post Office, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mable M. Scott* (22), daughter, domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [5] *Rose A. Scott* (20), daughter, cook, born Walsall:

1911 Census

Burrowes Street – BRIDLECUTTERS ARMS

- [1] *Rosannah Scott* (64), widow, publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mabel Maria Scott* (32), daughter, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [3] *Rose Amy Scott* (30), daughter, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [4] *Dora Reynolds* (20), servant, born Walsall:

Joseph James Llewelyn = Joseph James Llewellen

Walsall Advertiser 22/11/1913

“The sixty-first annual general meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday of last week. . . .

New Members: *Joseph James Llewellen*, BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS INN, Burrowes Street.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch). . . .

BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS, Burrowes Street, Walsall, 3s 3d.”

1939 Register

54, Burrowes Street (2 of 3)

[1] *George Whitehouse*, date of birth 18/2/1886, public house manager, married;

[2] *Sylvia Whitehouse*, dob 27/11/1896, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS, Burrowes Street, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS, Burrowes Street. £2 2s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS, Burrowes Street. £1 5s 2d.”

It closed on 4th September 1958.

The license was transferred to the THREE MEN IN A BOAT, Bloxwich.

Demolished

Birmingham Weekly Mercury 5/4/1964

“In many parts of Britain the local factory has its complement in the local public house.....

Local history can be read in many places through the sign at the local hostelry, but few towns flaunt their basic industry on their inn signs more fully than Walsall. Saddlery it is, so you might expect a SADDLERS ARMS, but several other parts of the trade occur in the SPUR MAKERS ARMS, the HAME MAKERS ARMS and the recently demolished BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS.”

BRITANNIA

Chapel Street, Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Boag [1858] – [1861]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Joames Boag = James Boaz

James Boag, beerhouse, Chapel Street. [1858]

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers’ licenses.....

James Boaz, Chapel Street, Pleck. Refused.”

1861 Census

Chapel Street

[1] *James Boag* (56), agricultural labourer, born Darlaston;

[2] Elizabeth Boag (59), wife, born Darlaston;

[3] William Boag (18), son, born Tipton;

[4] Samuel Betts (14), apprentice, born Heardington [Erdington?], Warwickshire;

[5] Caroline Cooper (21), domestic servant, born Bilston:

BRITANNIA

Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Whitney [1834] – [1835]

William Francis [1836]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

William Whitney, retailer of beer, Park Street. [1835]

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/5/1836

“*William Francis*, of the BRITANNIA, Park Street, was also fined 40s and costs for keeping open his house on Sunday, and permitting tippling therein during divine service.”

BRITISH OAK

4, Blue Lane East, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Harrison, Brownhills

James Gnosill

C. Wincer, Corporation Street, Walsall

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1924]

LICENSEES

Henry Gnosill [1834] – [1850]

Holden [1850s]

James Gnosill [1858] – [1871]

Charles Gnosill [1872];

William Brant [];

Richard Taylor [];

John Lea [1881] – **1894**);

James Frederick Gnosill (**1894** – [];

Mrs. Emily Jane Simpson [1896] – **1912**);

Elias John Martin (**1912** – **1915**);

Philip Perry (**1915** – **1921**);

Arthur Morris (**1921** – **1924**);

NOTES

It was situated opposite to St. Patrick's Church.

It was originally known as the FIGHTING COCKS. [1834], [1845]

ROSE [1861]
BRITISH OAK [1871], [1924]
OLD OAK
ROYAL OAK [1891]

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

Henry Gnossill = Henry Gnosall = Henry Gnosill

Henry Gnosall, retailer of beer, Blue Lane. [1835]
Henry Gnosill, beer retailer, Blue Lane. [1849], [1850]

Henry Gnossill was also a dealer in iron and steel, and a shopkeeper. [1845]

James Gnossill, beerhouse, 4, Blue Lane West. [1858]
James Gnossill, retail brewer, 4, Blue Lane. [1858]

1861 Census

4, Blue Lane East

- [1] *James Gnosill* (48), cart gear maker employing 4 men and 3 boys, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Gnosill* (47), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Frederick Gnosill* (16), son, cart gear maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Charles Gnosill* (13), harness saddle maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *James Melors* (18), apprentice, cart gear maker, born Walsall:

James Gnosill, retailer of beer, Blue Lane East. [1862]
J. Gnossill was also a cart gear maker. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 25/5/1867 - Advert

“Beer Shop. To Be Disposed Of, The BRITISH OAK, Blue Lane. Stock and Fixtures to be taken at a valuation. Apply on the premises.”

James Gnossill, beer retailer, 4, Blue Lane West. [1868]

1871 Census

4, Blue Lane – BRITISH OAK

- [1] *James Gnosill* (59), cart gear furniture maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Gnosill* (57), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Rollins* (14), cart gear furniture maker’s apprentice, born Wenlock, Shropshire:

Charles Gnossill = Charles Gnosil

Charles Gnossill, beer retailer, 4, Blue Lane East. [1872]

John Lea = John Leigh

1881 Census

4, Blue Lane East – BRITISH OAK

- [1] *John Lea* (38), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Lea* (37), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Alberta M. Lea* (13), daughter, general servant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Eleanor M. Lea* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *John Lea* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sarah E. Lea* (3), daughter, born Walsall:

1891 Census

4, Blue Lane East – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *John Leigh* (48), stone mason, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Leigh* (46), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Eleanor May Leigh* (21), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *John Leigh* (18), son, stone mason, born Walsall;
- [5] *Sarah E. Leigh* (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Ruby D. Leigh* (6 weeks), granddaughter, born Walsall:

John Lea was born on 1st August 1842.
He was the son of John and Sarah (nee Roebuck).
He married, firstly, Elizabeth Barlow in 1866.
He married, secondly, Annie Smalley, in 1902.
He taught at the Walsall Science and Art Institute from 1892 to 1903.
He was a wood carver, sculptor and stone mason of 33 Littleton Street.
He died on 25th October 1903.

Mrs. *Emily J. Simpson*, beer retailer, 4, Blue Lane West. [1896]

1901 Census

4, Blue Lane East

- [1] *Emily J. Simpson* (56), widow, living on own means, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Simpson (30), daughter, harness stitcher, born Walsall;
- [3] Harry Simpson (29), son, married, bricklayer's labourer, born Walsall;
- [4] Catherine Simpson (23), daughter, harness stitcher, born Walsall;
- [5] Edwin Simpson (21), son, harness furniture bobber, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Simpson (18), daughter, born Walsall;

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Emily J. Simpson, BRITISH OAK."

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

"The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Thursday.....

Respecting the magistrates' objection to the licenses of the BARREL INN, Stafford Street, and the BRITISH OAK, Blue Lane East, on the ground that there was a dilapidated building between the houses, Mr. Barrows (solicitor) said the owners could do nothing, as the tumbled down property belonged to neither of them. The renewal to be opposed at the adjourned meeting."

1911 Census

Blue Lane – BRITISH OAK

- [1] *Emily Jane Simpson* (68), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Simpson (42), daughter, purse stitcher, born Walsall;
- [3] Harry Simpson (40), son, annealing labourer, born Walsall;
- [4] Edwin Simpson (31), son, buckle polisher, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Simpson (28), daughter, servant at home, born Walsall;
- [6] Frank Simpson (12), nephew, born Walsall;

Walsall Observer 17/10/1914

"At Rycroft Cemetery on Monday, the funeral took place of Mrs. *Emily Jane Simpson*, aged 71, whose death (as announced in our last week's issue) occurred under somewhat tragic circumstances at her home, 42, Portland Street, where she was found lying at the bottom of the cellar steps. Formerly the licensee of the BRITISH OAK, Blue Lane, Mrs. *Simpson* was well known and respected in the district, as evidenced by the many expressions of sympathy tendered to the family in their loss. The burial service was conducted by the Rev. C. E. McCreery (vicar of St. Peter's)....."

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1915

"A foundryman who had words with his employer and then found solace in the cup that cheers and does inebriate was the central figure in a case that came before Mr. R. T. Jupp and Alderman P. Bull at Walsall on Wednesday, when *John Martin*, of the BRITISH OAK, Blue Lane was summoned for permitting drunkenness, and Thomas Truby, 1, Railway Street, Walsall, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended the landlord.

Police-constable Ball said that on February 1st, about 1.30pm, a complaint was made to him in consequence of which he went to the BRITISH OAK, He saw a number of young men sitting round a table with cards. He told Mrs. *Martin* that he had received a complaint about a man being drunk and neglecting his work. She replied that the man had left his employment and was sitting in the front. He went to the young men and asked which was Thomas Truby. The man Truby replied, 'I am,' and was turning round when he tumbled over and fell on the floor. He said, 'I have left Mr. Tompkins now. I can do as I like.' Witness asked him to walk along a line and said he must have no more beer there. The landlady said, 'He has not been supplied here.' Witness asked him to leave and he said he would when he had drunk up. He then drank something and followed witness out of the house. He was drunk and staggered in the street.

Mr. Jackson: Do you know he had only been in the house a few minutes? – Witness: I should think he had been there longer than that.

Witness said another young man had to take hold of him in the street. The landlady did say, 'He has given me his insurance card.'

Mr. Jackson: And that he had left his employment? – Witness: Yes, sir.

William Henry Tompkins, Blue Lane, Foundry, said the defendant was a workman of his on the date in question. He saw the man enter the house about ten minutes before the policeman went there. He had sent for a policeman to have him moved from the works, as he had used bad language at the works, upset a barrowful of bricks and threatened to hit him (the employer).

Mr. Jackson: Was he more excited than drunk, or the other way about? – Mr. Tompkins: I should say he was drunk.

Alfred Britain (a traveller for Mr. Tompkins) also gave evidence to show that the man was drunk.

Mr. Jackson: Would it not have been well to send to the house and suggest that he was the worse for drink? – Witness: Well, I did not see him go in.

Mr. Jackson pointed out that the management of this house devolved upon Mrs. *Martin* principally as her husband went to work. She was very much upset by these proceedings, as the house has always been conducted to lines. His case was that the man was naturally excited over having had words with, and left his employer. He was not drunk and had only been in the house five minutes, his object being to meet a person named Bullock (who had come from Caparn's factory), who had promised to find him a place of work.

David Bullock gave evidence and said that the man was not drunk. He could tell when a man was drunk or not. The man walked the line all right for the policeman when asked to do so.

The Chief Constable: Was he in such a condition that you would have started him right away? – Witness: Yes, only it was so late in the day.

Mrs. *Martin* in giving evidence said, 'this gentleman – pointing to the policeman – has given a false report.'

Edgar Booker and Albert Archer also gave evidence for the defence.

Mr. Jupp said the Bench were of the opinion that sufficient care had not been taken. They fined the landlord 10s and costs, and the man Truby 5s and costs."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BRITISH OAK, Blue Lane. £0 4s 1½d."

Walsall Observer 9/2/1924

".....Chief Inspector Cooke stated [at the annual licensing sessions] that the BRITISH OAK had very bad living accommodation, a kitchen and scullery and two bedrooms – although the property itself was in a fair state of repair The trade was about four barrels per week."

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/7/1924

"The Walsall justices sitting as the Compensation Authority, have referred for compensation, but conditionally renewed the licenses of.....

BRITISH OAK, Blue Lane East which had been objected to on the ground of redundancy."

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority

Compensation of £1,900 was paid on 25th October 1924.

It closed on 1st November 1924.

BRITISH OAK

14, John Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joshua Denham, plater, Day Street, Walsall
City Brewery (Lichfield), Ltd. (acquired in 1899)
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Robert Harrison [1861] – [1862]

David Dutton [1864] – [1865]

John Douglas [1871] – [1872]

Edward Machin [1872];

John Watson [];

George Littlewood [];

Henry Raybould [];

William Webb [];

Charles Breadney [];
John Carter [];
William Gillard [];
Emmanuel Forrester [];
Eliza Braceford [];
George Goddard [1881]
Henry Goodman [];
Joseph Yates [] – 1887);
David Dutton (1887 – 1889);
William Gough (1889 – 1899);
Maynard Ball (1899 – 1906);
Lizzie Ball (1906 – 1907);
Alfred Webster (1907 – 1933);
Walter Henry Barnett (1933 – 1934);
Frederick Sidney Walmsley (1934 – 1935);
George Ayres (1935 – 1936);
Mary Ayres (1936 – 1937);
Oliver Charles Summers (1937 – 1945);
Mabel (Dickson) Tart (1945 – 1955);
Percy Tart (1955 – 1964);
Brian Michael Steer (1964 – [1966]

NOTES

It was originally known as the ROSE.

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a brewery attached.

Robert Harrison, beer retailer, John Street. [1861]

1861 Census

14, John Street – ROSE INN, Masefields Building

[1] *Robert Harrison* (30), carter and retail brewer, born Sapcote, Leicestershire;

[2] Matilda Harrison (28), wife, born Staffordshire;

[3] Robert Harrison (10 months), son, born Staffordshire;

[4] George Charles Harrison (10 months), son, born Staffordshire;

[5] Thomas Tarlington (49), father in law, bridle bit filer, born Staffordshire;

[6] Amelia Tarlington (46), mother in law, born Staffordshire;

[7] Rhoda Tarlington (10), sister in law, born Staffordshire:

David Dutton, beer retailer, 14, John Street. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 6/8/1870 - Advert

“To be Let, the BRITISH OAK, John Street; doing a good Business both in and out.
Apply on the Premises.”

1871 Census

14, John Street

[1] *John Douglas* (38), brush maker, born Glasgow;

[2] Caroline Douglas (28), wife, born Walsall;

[3] John Douglas (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] William Douglas (3), son scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Caroline Douglas (6 months), daughter, born Walsall:

John Douglas, beer retailer, 14, John Street. [1872]

Robert Harrison was also a carter and retail brewer.

The licensee was fined £5 and costs, on 7th October 1874, for Sunday trading.

The licensee was fined 20s and costs on 8th October 1878.

1881 Census

14, John Street – BRITISH OAK

- [1] James Davies (30), retail brewer, born Wingaton (?), Herefordshire;
- [2] Ann Davies (30), wife, born Oswestry;
- [3] Mary F. Davies (4 months), daughter, born Herefordshire;
- [4] Mary J. Davies (24), servant and nurse, born Wingaton (?), Herefordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 26/5/1883 - Advert

“BRITISH OAK, John Street (Free House), To Be Let. Immediate possession. In coming low. Apply on premises.”

1891 Census

14, John Street – BRITISH OAK

- [1] *William Gough* (52), publican, born Harden;
- [2] Elizabeth Gough (61), wife, born Lane Head:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/7/1892

“On Tuesday, as Thomas Dutton (69), watch and clock repairer, of Butts Road, was attending to a clock at the BRITISH OAK, New John Street, he cried ‘Oh!’ and fell from a chair on which he was standing into the arms of the landlord. The latter found that he was unconscious, and sent for a doctor (Dr. Oliver’s assistant), who could do no more than say life had ceased.”

William Gough, beer retailer, 14, John Street. [1896]

See also HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane, and LORD RAGLAN.

1901 Census

14, John Street

- [1] *Maynard Ball* (38), private brewer and public house, born Hampstead Heath, London;
- [2] *Lizzie Ball* (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Charles Ball (10), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Thomas Smith (26), boarder, brewer’s assistant, born Walsall;
- [5] Adah Norgrove (24), domestic servant, born Weeford Park, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1902

“Enoch Higgenbottom, 25, James Street, was summoned for assaulting Annie Petty, of the back of 25, James Street, on January 25th.

Mr. H. H. Jackson represented the complainant, whose case was that after some words in the BRITISH OAK, John Street, the defendant assaulted her with a can, hit her on the head, causing a wound two inches long and half an inch deep. The defence case was that the complainant slipped down, and that the defendant did not touch her. Fined 10s and costs, or 14 days.”

Maynard Ball, beer retailer, 14, John Street. [1904]

He was fined 20s and costs, on 11th May 1902, for permitting drunkenness.

He was a committee member of the Walsall and District LVA. [1902]

Alfred Webster was also a currier. [1907]

Walsall Observer 14/11/1908

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the President, MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, Rushall. Mr. R. Anson, Daw End (president), occupied the chair.

Mr. A. E. Cliffe asked to be allowed to resign his seat on the Executive Committee, as he was unable to attend on the evenings the society met. The resignation was accepted with regret, and he was thanked for his past services. Mr. *Alfred Webster*, BRITISH OAK INN, John Street, was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy.”

1911 Census

14, John Street

- [1] *Alfred Webster* (36), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Harriet Webster (37), wife, married 14 years, born Walsall;
- [3] William Webster (12), son, school, born Walsall;
- [4] Frederick Webster (9), son, school, born Walsall;
- [5] Beatrice Pettifer (17), adopted, assistant in public house, born Madeley, Shropshire;
- [6] Hannah Griffin (17), general servant, born Walsall:

Alfred Webster, beer retailer, 14, John Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 10/5/1913

“A caster named John Spink (30), of 3 house, 1 court, James Street, appeared in the dock charged with stealing half-hundred-weight of parsnips, value 1/6, the property of William Pemberton, market gardener, of Harden Lane, Bloxwich. Prosecutor stated that at 10.40pm on Friday of last week he called at the BRITISH OAK, John Street, leaving his horse and waggon outside. On the waggon were two half-hundredweight bags of parsnips, and other vegetables. He left the public house at 11pm and at 2.30 the next morning was called up by the police. He was requested to examine his waggon, and upon doing so found one of the bags of parsnips missing.

A boy named David Condrey (14), of Marlow Street, stated that at 11pm on the date mentioned he saw a man take a bag containing something off Mr. Pemberton’s waggon. He carried it down Marlow Street, and across some waste ground to the backs of houses in James Street. He did not see the man’s face, but he knew he was of similar build to the prisoner. Witness afterwards informed the police.

Police-constable Williams (41), stated that from the description given to him he went to prisoner’s house, who, after using bad language, said ‘I know what you have come for.’ He came downstairs and fetched a bag of parsnips (produced) out of another room. He admitted having them off the cart.

Prisoner, who pleaded guilty, said he was out of work, and his children were starving. There were a number of previous convictions, and prisoner was sentenced to fourteen days’ hard labour.”

Walsall Observer 7/2/1914

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday morning.....

In connection with the BRITISH OAK, John Street, an application was made by Mr. H. H. Jackson for sanction to alterations, which consisted of converting certain outbuildings (within the licensed area) into a kitchen, &c, for the tenant; to take down the present boundary wall and convert four dwelling-houses (outside the licensed area) into out-offices. Mr. Jackson remarked that there was really no necessity to present plans of that description as there was not the slightest alteration to the licensed area, or the drinking area, but he did so in order that the Clerk might record what alterations were effected. It would be a great public improvement.

The application was deferred to the Adjourned Sessions.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1914

“An application by Mr. H. H. Jackson for sanction to alterations to the BRITISH OAK, John Street, was adjourned to the annual licensing sessions.”

Walsall Observer 25/7/1914 - Advert

“Store Pigs for Sale.
Apply BRITISH OAK, John Street.”

Walsall Observer 23/1/1915- Advert

“Store Pigs, for Sale; also good young Gilt.
Apply, BRITISH OAK, John Street.”

Walsall Observer 6/2/1915

“The annual licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall, were opened at the Guildhall on Wednesday..... Plans were deposited for improvements in the domestic arrangements at the BRITISH OAK, John Street These plans were approved.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
BRITISH OAK, John Street. £1 11s 6d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst..... the following houses which had been objected to were renewed....
BRITISH OAK, John Street.”

1939 Register

14, John Street

[1] *Oliver C. Summers*, date of birth 30/8/1883, innkeeper, manager, married;

[2] *Martha Summers*, dob 7/12/1879, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Elsie May (Summers) (Holt) Summers*, dob 9/5/1911, music teacher, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BRITISH OAK, John Street, £1 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
BRITISH OAK, John Street. £1 15s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 8/1/1944 - Acknowledgements

“Mr. William Myring wishes to thank all Relatives, Neighbours and Friends of BRITISH OAK, John Street, for sympathy in his sad bereavement, and for floral tributes.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BRITISH OAK, John Street. £1 8s 8d.”

BRITISH OAK, John Street (Darts Club). £2 3s 0d.”

Mabel Dickens married a Mr. *Tart* on 25th May 1955.

A full license was granted on 12th January 1962.

[2012]

Closed [2014], [2017]

BRITISH OAK

201, (101), Lichfield Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Charles Alsop, Mellish Road, Walsall

William Omer Letts

Twist’s Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Charles Alsopp [1853] – [1865]

Maria Alsopp [1861]

Francis Waites [1868] – [1870]

William Mackintosh [] – **1870**;

Frederick Augustus Westron (**1870** – [1875];

Thomas Wright Hartland [];

James Jolley [1879] – [1880];

James Barr [1883];

Edward Lester [1881] ?

William Omer Letts [1883] – **1931**;

Thomas Henry ‘Tom’ Joyce (**1931** – **1940**);

Mrs. Nellie Joyce (**1940** – **1946**);

Frederick Wyatt (**1946** – **1960**);

William Chilton (**1960** – **1965**);

Harold Leek (**1965** – **1966**);

Hilda Lena Swinburne (**1966** – []

NOTES

101, Lichfield Street [1860], [1862], [1865], [1871], [1879], [1891], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940]

201, Lichfield Street

Charles Alsopp = Charles Allsopp = Charles Alsop

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/9/1853

“At the adjourned annual licensing meeting on Wednesday last, eight of the sixteen persons who applied for victuallers’ licenses on the Wednesday previously renewed their applications, and with success.

Charles Alsop, Lichfield Street.”

1861 Census

101, Lichfield Street – BRITISH OAK

- [1] Charles Alsopp (47), horse collar maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Maria Alsopp* (41), wife, publican employing 3 men and 2 boys, born Walsall;
- [3] Phebe M. Alsopp (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Charles Alsopp (9), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Clara Ann Alsopp (3), daughter, born Walsall:

Charles Allsopp was also a horse collar maker. [1861], [1864], [1865]

[He appeared in Directories as the licensee.]

Walsall Free Press 17/12/1864 - Advert

“To Be Let, (in consequence of ill health) the BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street.

Apply on premises.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 13/7/1867 - Advert

“To Be Disposed Of immediately, the Licenses and Possession, of the well frequented Old Licensed Public House, known as the BRITISH OAK INN, situated in the best part of Lichfield Street, Walsall, now doing a good in and out-door trade, together with the garden, green-house, hot-house, and large range of shopping at the back.

Valuations to suit purchasers.

The proprietor having taken the BULLS HEAD INN, Bloxwich, is the sole cause of his leaving.

Apply to H. Farrington, Appraiser, St. George’s Buildings, Walsall.”

Accidentally(?) called ROYAL OAK in 1870.

1871 Census

101, Lichfield Street – BRITISH OAK

- [1] *Frederick A. Westron* (44), born London;
- [2] Eliza Westron (50), wife, licensed victualler, born Southampton;
- [3] Frederick Westron (16), son, scholar, born Stepney, London:

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

“Defensio, Non Provocatio. Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the Merchandize Marks Act, 1862, and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association.

Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association.

Agents For Staffordshire.

Walsall: S. Tonks, ROYAL OAK INN, 28, Ablewell Street; *F. Westron*, BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street; G. Holden, ODD FELLOWS ARMS, 1, Stafford Street; G. Smith, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street; J. Whittall, THREE CUPS INN, Park Street; J. H. Newell, ROYAL OAK Brewery, Pleck.”

James Barr was also a currier.

London Gazette 17/6/1879

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *James Jolley*, of the BRITISH OAK INN, No.101, Lichfield-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Victualler and Accountant.

Notice is hereby given, that a Second General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Abraham Baker, Solicitor, 8, Bridge-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on the 23rd day of June, 1879, at

three o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 14th day of June 1879.

A. Baker, 8, Bridge-street, Walsall, Solicitor for the said Debtor."

1881 Census

101, Lichfield Street

[1] *Edward Lester* (34), clerk and traveller and wine merchant, born Walsall;

[2] *Mary Lester* (30), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Lily Lester* (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Evelyn Lester* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *John E. Lester* (3), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/3/1883

"Walsall Licensed Victualler Association.....

It was unanimously decided that the Society should be represented at the Demonstration, to be held on Tuesday next, 14th instant, at 2.30pm, at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, to protest against the Liquor Traffic (Local Control) Bill, and Mr. E. Smith (BELL AND CUCKOO INN, Stafford Street), Mr. *W. O. Letts* (BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street), and Mr. H. Smallwood (VINE INN, Blue Lane) each of whom promised to oppose the measure, were chosen as the delegates."

London Gazette 25/12/1883

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *James Barr*, of the BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Currier.

Notice is hereby given, that a Second General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person is hereby summoned to be held at the office of Mr. T. H. Stanley, Solicitor, No.4, Bridge-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on the 2nd day of January, 1884, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 21st day of December, 1883.

T. Howard Stanley, Solicitor for the said Debtor."

Walsall Observer 14/3/1885

"BRITISH OAK Debating Society. On Friday evening, March 6th, the members of the above society held their weekly meeting at the BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street. There was a good attendance and an interesting discussion took place, the subject being an adjourned one, 'The Present State of the Empire'....."

William Omer Letts = William Ormer Letts = William H. Letts

William Omer Letts was fined 20s and costs, on 6th January 1890, for opening during prohibited hours.

Birmingham Daily Post 25/9/1890

"The adjourned licensing session was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The adjourned case of the BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street, was next brought on. Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. Cotterell) appeared for the applicant, and Mr. Willcock for the owner, whilst Mr. Jackson watched the proceedings on behalf of the mortgagee. The Chief Constable objected on three grounds, viz, previous conviction, disorderly conduct, and that the house was not needed [there is now a very long and tedious debate over a legal point] The Chief Constable then called Mr. T. Bott and Mrs. Grafton, residents in Lichfield Street, who said they had complained of disturbances in the street near the BRITISH OAK at closing time, but they would not say that the disorderlies came out of that house. The Bench granted the renewal, not deeming the evidence sufficient to warrant a withdrawal; but at the same time the Mayor warned the occupier (Mr. *Letts*) as to the future conduct of his house."

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

"At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Herbert (instructed by Mr. Cotterell) applied on behalf of *William O. Letts* for a music and singing license at the BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street. Refused."

1891 Census

101, Lichfield Street – BRITISH OAK INN

[1] *William H. Letts* (35), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Annie M. Letts* (23), wife, born Bilston;

[3] *Archibald Letts* (7), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Ada Walkirk* (18), domestic servant, born Walsall;

[5] *Miriam Letts* (3), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1892

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Satur-

day last at the house of Mr. William Wilson (hon. treasurer), DOLPHIN INN, George Street.....”

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Mr. *W. O. Letts*, BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street, on the day following the banquet viz, Thursday, December 8th, at 7pm.”

William Omer Letts established the Walsall Harmonic and Social Society here on 2nd October 1897.

Express and Star 5/1/1900

“The first annual soiree arranged by the Walsall Tobacconists’ Association took place on Thursday evening at the BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street, and the event passed very successfully. There was a good attendance. A miscellaneous programme was gone through and dancing was afterwards indulged in.”

Walsall Observer 10/3/1900

“Walsall Harriers Athletic Club. A slow run was the fixture of this cross country club, on Saturday last. Six members turned out from headquarters, BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street.....”

Walsall Observer 12/5/1900

“The adjourned meeting in connection with the formation of the Walsall Town Rifle Club was held at the BRITISH OAK HOTEL, Lichfield Street, on Monday evening.....”

Walsall Observer 22/9/1900

“On Saturday last, at the BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street, the staff of the London, and North Western Goods Department and friends met together to do honour to Mr. W. D. Swindells, the late agent at Walsall, who has recently been transferred to Wednesbury.....”

Walsall Observer 6/10/1900

“On Wednesday night an invitation dinner was given by Mr. *Letts*, at the BRITISH OAK to the president, committee, and officers of the Walsall Harmonic and Social Society. The president (Mr. J. Leaver) officiated as chairman, and proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. *Letts* for the excellent dinner.....”

Walsall Observer 8/12/1900

“Polytechnic Cycling Club. On Saturday night last the above club held their annual dinner at the BRITISH OAK, when nearly 70 members and friends attended. Mr. H. H. Bishop (the president) acted as chairman.....”

1901 Census

101, Lichfield Street

- [1] *William O. Letts* (45), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Letts (23), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Arciblad Letts (17), son, carpenter, born Walsall;
- [4] Miriam Letts (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Carmi O. Letts (4), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Beatrice P. Letts (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Florence A. Letts (16), niece, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [8] Sarah A. Starkey (21), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1911 Census

101, Lichfield Street

- [1] *William Omer Letts* (55), brewer and licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Letts (32), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Harold Letts (3), son, school, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street, Walsall, 8s 11d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street. £1 0s 9d.”

1939 Register

101, Lichfield Street

- [1] *Thomas H. Joyce*, date of birth 11/1/1880, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Nellie Joyce*, dob 20/5/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 16/12/1939 - Deaths

“On Dec. 10, 1939, *Tom*, dearly loved husband of *Nellie*, passed peacefully away.

Mrs. *Joyce*, of the BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street, wishes to thank the Doctors and Nurses of Manor Hospital, Members of the Harmonic and Social Society, Licensed Victuallers’ Society, Old Comrades South Staffordshire Regiment, Mr. G. S. Twist, Relatives, Friends and Customers, for their great kindness in her sad bereavement; also for beautiful flowers.”

AND

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held at the HAME MAKERS ARMS INN, Blue Lane West, on Thursday, Mr. C. W. Garfield (President) who presided made sympathetic reference to the losses the Society had suffered during the week by the deaths of Mr. *Thomas Henry Joyce* A resolution of sympathy with the respective families was passed and the company stood for a silent tribute.....”

AND

“The funeral took place at the Ryecroft Cemetery on Thursday of Mr. *Thomas Henry Joyce*, licensee of the BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street, Walsall. The Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society of which Mr. *Joyce* was a member for over eight years, was represented by Messrs. C. W. Garfield (president), James Bird, T. P. Cole, and T. H. Fenton.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1940

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Street, on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mrs. *Nellie Joyce*, BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street, £5 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 12/4/1941 - Advert

“Malt for Strength & Energy. Hops for The Appetite. Yeast for The Blood.

Twists The Best Beer for You.

You can Drink and Enjoy Twists Ale at any the of the following Licensed Houses.....

BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street.....

And All The Best Clubs.

Proprietary Whiskies, Foreign Wines and Spirits, High-Class British Sherries and Ports.

Head Office & Brewery, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street. £7 0s 0d.”

Hilda Lena Swinburne – see also MALT SHOVEL.

Closed

BROADWAY

The Crescent / Broadway North, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Toby Inns [1988], [1996], [2009]

LICENSEES

Edwin Henry Cutts (1964);

Selwyn Holden (1964 – [1966]

Peter Last [1982] – 1984)

NOTES

A special order was granted to remove the suspended license from the TURKS HEAD, Digbeth, to here, in January 1964. It opened on 9th January 1964.

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

“Free Pint of Carling.

With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We’ve a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....

Where to get your Free pint.....

BROADWAY, Broadway North, Walsall.”

[2017]

BROWN LION

388, (338), Wednesbury Road, (Darlaston Road), (Bescot View), Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Pomford

Caroline Pomford [1905]

Daniel Lawrence

William (?) Horden Bowen

Edward Fearn

Messrs. Fletcher [1904]

Caroline Pomford [1905]

Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd. leased [1905] owners [1908], [1939]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

Jennifer and Malcolm White (acquired in 1992)

LICENSEES

Edward Poyner [1858] – [1861]

Mrs. Jane Poyner [1861] – [1865]

Edward Machin [1868] – [1872]

William Pomford [1872];

Daniel Lawrence [1880];

William (?) Horden Bowen []

Edward Fearn [];

William O Fearn [];

Thomas Williams [] – 1886);

William Derry (1886 – 1899);

Harriet Laura Grose (1899 – 1901);

Mrs. Sarah Jane Rigney (1901 – 1906);

Charles William Mitchell (1906 – 1909);

John Forde (1909 – 1910);

William Perry (1910 – 1913);

John Ford (1913 – 1916);

Edith Ann Ford (1916 – 1918);

Harry Ernest Ballinger (1918 – 1922);

Thomas Rensford Johnson (1922);

John Hayward (1922 – 1924);

William Hargrove (1924 – 1929);

Samuel Roland Holmes (1929 – 1934);

Walter Edwards (1934 – 1936);

Lillie Edwards (1936 – 1939);

David Fisher (1939 – 1940);

William Taylor (1940 – 1953);

Ernest Horsley (1953 – 1958);

Arthur Harper (1958 – 1960);
James Laing (1960 – 1964);
Arthur Charles Roberts (1964);
Norman George Moir (1964 – [1966])
Tony Worley (1993 – [])

NOTES

Darlaston Road, Pleck [1860]
338, Wednesbury Road [1896], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1932], [1940]
388, Wednesbury Road

Edward Poyner = Edward Pynor = Edward Poynor

Jane Medlicott was the daughter of William Medlicott of the SPRING COTTAGE, Holtshill Lane.
She married *Edward Pynor* in the 4th quarter of 1853.

Walsall Free Press 30/3/1861 - Death

“On the 22nd instant, at the Pleck, Mr. *Edward Poyner*, aged 37 years.”

Jane Poyner = *Jane Poyner* = *Jane Poyner* = Jane Poynon = Jane Pynon

1861 Census

Wednesbury Road – BROWN LION Public House

- [1] *Jane Poyner* (38), widow, innkeeper, born Broom, Worcestershire;
- [2] Harriet L. Poyner (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] Caroline Poyner (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Walter C. Poyner (4), son, born Walsall;
- [5] William F. Poyner (2), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Joseph H. Poyner (8 months), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Sarah Poyner (82), mother-in-law, widow, born Brewood, Staffordshire;
- [8] Mary Butler (21), domestic servant, born Ireland;
- [9] Joseph Beckett (44), visitor, railway stoker, born Walsall;
- [10] Mary Beckett (44), visitor, railway stoker's wife, born Walsall:

Birmingham Journal 30/6/1866

“Mr. Fletcher, Coroner, on Wednesday held an inquest at the BROWN LION INN, the Pleck, touching the death of Harry Howard Swindle, aged 18 months, son of Mr. Frank Swindle, goods agent at Bescot Station. On Friday evening the deceased was playing near his father's house, when his aunt heard him scream, and on running in quest of him, found him in an adjacent ditch. He was at once put to bed, and the assistant of Mr. Proctor, surgeon, of Wednesbury, called in; but the mishap had caused a shock to the nervous system of the child, which induced congestion of the lungs, and ended in the poor little fellow's death on Saturday evening. A verdict in accordance with these facts was returned.”

Jane Poyner, widow, married *Edward Machin*, bachelor, brewer, on 17th December 1866.

Edward Machin = Edward Meecham

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/8/1870

“Mrs. *Meecham*, keeper of the BROWN LION INN, the Pleck, asked to be allowed to keep her house open after 11 o'clock that night, she having made arrangements for a housewarming supper, but the Justices declined to grant the request.”

1871 Census

Wednesbury Road

- [1] *Edward Machin* (29), victualler, born Gesemore (?), Staffordshire;
- [2] *Jane Machin* (40), wife, born Broom, Staffordshire;
- [3] Mary Poyner (16), unmarried, daughter-in-law, scholar, born Bescot;
- [4] Walter Poyner (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] William Poyner (13), son, scholar, born Pleck;
- [6] Joseph Poyner (10), son, scholar, born Pleck;
- [7] Thomas Machin (23), boarder, pointsman, born Gesemore (?), Staffordshire;
- [8] George Heskey (30), boarder, forgeman roller, born Shiffhall:

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

“Municipal Election. The Bridge Ward.....

On Tuesday evening the largest and most enthusiastic meeting of Mr. Grant’s friends that had been held from the commencement of his candidature was held at the BROWN LION, Darlaston Road.....”

1891 Census

Wednesbury Road – BROWN LION INN

[1] *William Derry* (26), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;

[2] *Annie Derry* (23), wife, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Susan Derry* (23), sister, barmaid, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 6/6/1896

“John Felton, 335, Pleck Road, is the handy man at the BROWN LION INN, Pleck. The water for this establishment is drawn from a private pump, but this, on May 19th broke down, and Felton obtained water for swilling purposes from a neighbouring standpipe. He was observed in the act by Police-constable 50 (Harcourt), who laid an information. It was explained that neither Felton nor his master was a customer of the Waterworks Company, and a fine of 5s and costs was imposed.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/12/1896

“The first fatality occasioned by the electric trams in Walsall since the opening of the system occurred on Monday night at a spot between the Pleck and James Bridge Station, known as the Black Gap. The victim was a coachbuilder named Samuel Spooner (57), of 158, Darlaston Road, Pleck, who on Monday night called at the BROWN LION INN, but, on account of his condition, was turned away. He went with his wife as far as Narrow Lane, but she then left him, and subsequently two youths, named Frank Newey and Tuckley, saw ‘something’ dark lying on the tram rails, but before they could get near enough to examine it a tram came up and ran over what turned out to be Spooner, who had lain there helplessly drunk. When extricated by means of a jack he was quite dead.

An inquest was held at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street (the body having been conveyed to the public mortuary) by the Borough Coroner, Mr. T. H. Stanley, on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Robins, Mr. H. Hackett, and Mr. F. Spencer represented the Tramways Company, and Mr. G. D. Elliot the Electrical Construction Company.

It was stated that the tram was not going at more than six miles an hour, and a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Observer 16/12/1899

“At the Birmingham Assizes, on Tuesday, Mrs. *Laura Harriet Grose*, Proprietress of the BROWN LION, Pleck, Walsall, brought an action against *William Derry*, also of Walsall, and former proprietor of the BROWN LION, for slander. The evidence showed that defendant for some reason unknown, maliciously stated to several people in a public-house that the plaintiff misconducted herself with her customers.

The jury returned a verdict in favour of the plaintiff, with £5 damages.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/9/1902

“With regard to the application (by Mr. Walford) for the sanction of alterations to the BROWN LION, Pleck, the Mayor said the Bench considered that as planned they would destroy the identity of the house. They would only deal with the application by way of a new grant, after due notice.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

The BROWN LION. Mrs. *Sarah Jane Rigney*, landlady of this house, was questioned as to dilapidated gates, a low wall, and defective out-houses.

Mr. Walford said the owners (Messrs. Fletcher) produced plans for the rebuilding of the house, but they were put back by the Bench, as a committee was going to visit all the houses. The license was renewed on an undertaking that what was required should be done.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1904

“A new letter-box has been provided for the Pleck, close to the BROWN LION, which will doubtless be a boon to the large population in that neighbourhood. There will be five collection on week days, from 7am to 7.20pm; and on Sunday the box will be cleared at 1.30pm.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1905

“The annual Brewster session were resumed on Tuesday at the Guildhall, for the third day.....

Mr. W. Walford (Wilkinson, Mills and Walford) applied on behalf of the Highgate Brewing Co, lessees, and Mrs. Caroline Pomford, owner of the BROWN LION, Pleck, for the approval of plans for rebuilding that house, or in the alternative for a new license for the proposed premises.

Mr. Walford said this case had been before the Court for three successive years. Last year the Bench visited the place and granted the application, but when it came before the Bench for confirmation they did not think it fit to confirm it.

Mr. H. Lester said he opposed on behalf of the Society for the Prevention of Intemperance, and objected to the application on the ground that the drinking area would be largely increased.

Mr. Loxton said the application was for a new license, and if the magistrates granted it they would have to fix the monopoly value.

Mr. Walford: I will leave you to advise the magistrates as to what course to adopt, and what course they decide we will fix.

Mr. Loxton: That is very fair. (To Mr. Lester) Are you representing the Society for Intemperance? (loud laughter).

Mr. Lester said he represented the Society for the Prevention of Intemperance, and he opposed on moral grounds also. The drinking area would be increased from 614 to 745 feet, and the clubroom would be increased from 320 to 612 feet, whilst the cellars would also be larger.

Mr. Hickton, architect (Hickton and Farmer), gave evidence as to the plans, and he mentioned that a cottage house adjoining would be taken away, so as to give a private entrance to the cottages in rear.

The application was granted provisionally, the magistrates intimating that they would instruct Messrs. Fowler and Bewlay to value the premises as to the monopoly value to be paid."

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

"The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Jackson applied for a music license on behalf of Mr. *C. W. Mitchell*, BROWN LION HOTEL, for a music license for every Monday evening, from 8 till 10.45. He explained that this was in connection with the meetings of the Free Gardeners Friendly Society, which has a lodge here of 96 members.

The Chief Constable said he had no objection, and the room was a very suitable. Granted."

Walsall Advertiser 11/12/1909

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the vice-president, CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.....

John Ford, BROWN LION INN, Wednesbury Road was elected member of the society as from 1st January, 1910."

1911 Census

Wednesbury Road – BROWN LION INN

[1] *William Perry* (51), public house manager, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Teresa Perry* (51), wife, married 12 years, born Erdington;

[3] *Kate Dyke* (21), servant, born Tipton;

[4] *Lillian Lloyd* (19), servant, born Wednesbury;

[5] *Frank Davis* (19), barman, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 1/2/1913

"On Saturday last at the BROWN LION, Pleck, between twenty and thirty friends sat down to a farewell supper with the Host (*Mr. W. Perry*), who is leaving to take over a house in Wednesbury."

Walsall Observer 1/8/1914

"The fourth annual flower and vegetable show, held under the auspices of the Darlaston Road and Bescot Allotment Holders' Mutual Improvement Association.....

The 'honorary' collection of vegetables staged by *Mr. Ford*, of the BROWN LION, Pleck, comprised a dozen varieties, including some fine large onions and vegetable marrows, and good peas and beans."

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BROWN LION, Pleck, Walsall, 9d."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BROWN LION, Pleck. £0 9s 10d."

Harry Ernest Ballinger – see also CRITERION.

John Hayward was fined £5, on 26th October 1923, for suffering his house to be used for the purpose of betting.

South Staffordshire Times 2/2/1924

"Your worships are no doubt aware of the reason for the transfer,' remarked *Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson*, when, at Walsall Police Court, he asked for the transfer of the license of the BROWN LION, Pleck, from *John Hayward* to *William Hargrove*. The application was granted."

Samuel Roland Holmes was married to *Lilian*.

Walsall Observer 27/5/1933

“Buffalo Ceremonies.....

At the Garrick Lodge of the R.A.O.B. at the BROWN LION, Pleck, on Wednesday evening, Mr. Harold Chare was initiated to the Order by the WP, Bro. S. R. Holmes, CP. He was sponsored by his brother, Mr. George Chare.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

BROWN LION, Pleck.”

1939 Register

Wednesbury Road – BROWN LION

[1] *David Fisher*, date of birth 9/1/1880, licensed manager, married;

[2] Doris Minnie (Fisher) Austin, dob 20/11/1905, housewife, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Phyllis Bradley, dob 26/7/1914, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BROWN LION, Wednesbury Road, Pleck, £12 12s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Taylor*, the BROWN LION, Wednesbury Road. £0 17s 1d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BROWN LION, Wednesbury Road. £15 2s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BROWN LION, Wednesbury Road, Pleck. £1 2s 0d.”

[1996]

Closed [2001]

It was converted into housing.

Express & Star 16/8/2019

“Temporary traffic lights have been put in place on a Walsall road due to the risk of a former pub collapsing. Part of Wednesbury Road has been cordoned off in Pleck due to the unstable former BROWN LION pub next to the road, with Walsall Council warning the problem is unlikely to be fixed quickly. Around 100 metres of the road is shut for eastbound drivers between Caledon Street and the A4148 Old Pleck Road but is open for people travelling west. Drivers heading towards Walsall town centre thus face a one-mile diversion via Bescot Road, Wallows Lane and Bescot Crescent. The bus stop adjacent to Caledon Street has been suspended and the stop adjacent to Prince Street was also set to be removed from use. Delays are expected at both the junction of Pleck Road and Wednesbury Road and on the diversion route, Walsall Council said.”

Express & Star 10/5/2021

“Burglars armed with machetes raided a cannabis farm in the Black Country. The raid at the old BROWN LION pub in Walsall happened just after midnight on Monday. Police were alerted to reports of a break-in at the pub, which has been turned into flats, and when they arrived they discovered around 50 cannabis plants. The knifemen had fled and it is not known how many plants they took with them. Uniformed and forensic officers were at the scene on Wednesbury Road throughout Monday morning. So far nobody has been arrested. A spokesman for West Midlands Police said, ‘Forensics officers recovered fingerprints from the lighting and photographed the cannabis plants and the damage caused by the suspects as they forced their way inside to the building. The electricity has been bypassed, so Western Power attended to make it safe. An investigation is underway.’”

BRUSHMAKERS ARMS

71, (26), Church Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Thomas Sanders, High Street, Bloxwich

LICENSEES

David Harris [1868] – [1881]
Philip Thomas Sanders [1882] – **1887**;
Harriet Ann Richards (**1887 – 1892**);
John Selvey (**1892 – 1895**);
Theophilus Wilkes (**1895 – 1899**);
Fanny Wilkes (**1899 – 1901**);
George Bentley (**1901 – 1903**);
John Wilkes (**1903 – 1904**);

NOTES

26, Church Street [1871]
71, Church Street [1891], [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

David Harris, beer retailer, Bloxwich. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

26, Church Street – BRUSHMAKERS ARMS
[1] *David Harris* (36), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
[2] Harriet Harris (36), wife, born Bloxwich;
[3] Sarah Ann Harris (16), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[4] David Harris (13), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
[5] Albert Harris (9), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
[6] Edward Jennings (19), visitor, coal miner, born Bloxwich:

David Harris, beer retailer, Church Street. [1872]

1881 Census

69+71, Church Street – Public House and Grocer's Shop
[1] *David Harris* (49), brush maker, born Blakenall;
[2] Harriett Harris (46), wife, born Bloxwich;
[3] Sarah A. Harris (26), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[4] Thomas A. Harris (19), son, bridle cutter, born Blakenall;
[5] Emma Somerfield (22), niece, born Bloxwich:

1891 Census

71, Church Street
[1] *Harriet A. Richards* (35), widow, publican, born Leicester;
[2] Liddia E. Richards (18), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
[3] Mary A. Aldridge (14), domestic servant, born Aldridge:

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing session for Walsall borough took place yesterday.....

The renewal of the license of the BRUSHMAKERS ARMS beerhouse to *John Selvey* was also opposed, on the grounds of a conviction for being drunk on his licensed premises, that the keeper was not a person of good character, and that the license was not required. Granted.”

John Selvey, beer retailer, 71, Church Street. [1896]

1901 Census

71, Church Street

[1] *George Bentley* (26), coal miner (hewer), born Bloxwich;

[2] *Fanny Bentley* (32), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Lillian Wilkes* (7), stepdaughter, born Walsall;

[4] *Amy Totty* (18), sister in law, brush trade boring, born Walsall:

John Wilkes, beer retailer, 71, Church Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

John Wilkes, BRUSHMAKERS ARMS.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

Mr. Loxton read a list of decisions (some of which had been given the previous day), and stated that in the case of some of the renewals the magistrates were of opinion that they were not required, but as they were taken out prior to 1869 they had been granted in order to give the owners an opportunity of considering their position and making any suggestions they thought necessary. The decisions included the following.....

BRUSHMAKERS ARMS, a valuer to be appointed.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting was continued on Thursday for the sixth day.....

In regard to the BRUSHMAKERS ARMS, Bloxwich, Mr. H. E. Farmer presented an independent valuation, and Mr. H. H. Jackson (for the owner) promised to have the property put into a proper state of repair. License refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/4/1904

“In connection with the recent Walsall Brewster Sessions, there were this week six appeals at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions against the decisions of the borough magistrates in refusing the renewal of licenses.....

John Wilkes, landlord of the BRUSHMAKERS ARMS, Bloxwich, appealed against the decision of the Walsall justices in refusing to renew the license of the house on the ground of insufficient value. Mr. Plumptre and Mr. Lewis were for the appellants, and Mr. Disturnal was for the respondent.

A question arose in this case as to whether this was an ante-1869 beerhouse, and after hearing the evidence the Court held that it was an ante-1869 house.

The question for the Court then resolved itself into one of value.

The evidence on behalf of the respondents was to the effect that the house was in a dilapidated condition, and that an expenditure of £45 was necessary to put the premises into tenantable repair, thereby reducing the annual rental of the house below the statutory minimum, Mr. Farmer, who inspected the house for the justices, putting the annual value at 7s below the statutory value.

For the appellant, Mr. Powell (valuer) put the value of the premises at £20 odd a year. Mr. Bewlay assessed the value at £18 odd, and Mr. Hughes placed a like value on the house.

The Court were unanimous in dismissing the appeal with costs.”

BUILDERS ARMS

73, (99), Wisemore / (3, Albert Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Hartop, Mountrath Street, Walsall

Showells Brewery Ltd. (leased) (acquired in 1902)

Frederick Paddock

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired on 15th September 1941)

LICENSEES

William Hartop [1837] – [1858]

Daniel Darby [1860] – [1865]

Samuel Darby [1868]
Daniel Darby [1871] – [1873];
Thomas Wright [1880] – [1883];
Stephen Hunter [1885] – 1889);
Richard Shazell (1889 – 1890);
William Sheeson Palmer (1890 – 1891);
Edward Clark [1892] ?
George Hunt (1891 – 1893);
John Thomas Hawkins (1893 – 1896);
John Taggart (1896 – 1901);
Thomas Murtock (1901 – 1902);
William Lawrence (1902);
Arthur Thomas Scotson (1902 – 1903);
William Edward Cooper (1903 – 1904);
Frederick Rollason (1904 – 1906);
William Barker (1906);
Alfred Rigby (1906 – 1907);
Alfred Lee (1907 – 1909);
Mrs. Louisa Jane McGarry (1909 – 1916);
Frank Yates (1916 – 1922);
Frank William Roberts (1922 – 1923);
Frederick Paddock [1925] ?
Harry Birch (1923 – 1940);
Mrs. Rose Emily Birch (1940 – 1941);
Cyril Vernon Sleigh (1941 – 1943);
Joseph William Wood (1943 – 1949);
Arthur Brown (1949 – 1952);
Edgar James Porter (1952 – 1954);
John Lawrence (1954 – 1955);
Frank Henry Price (1955 – 1956);
Frederick Arthur Sale (1956 – 1958);
John Stanley Coverdale (1958 – [1966])

NOTES

73, Wisemore [1860], [1861], [1871], [1881], [1901], [1911], [1939]
99, Wisemore [1891]

William Hartop = William Hortop

William Hartop was also a carpenter. [1842]
He was described as being also a builder, carpenter and joiner. [1845]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/7/1846

“On Monday week, before the Mayor and C. Greatrex, Esq., Thomas Small and John Penn, remanded from the 8th inst., were again placed in the dock, charged with cutting and wounding one William Moore, carpenter of Walsall. Mr. Duignan appeared on behalf of the prosecution. The prisoners were defended by Mr. Wilkinson. Mr. Duignan, in his opening address to the Bench stated that he was not prepared to offer any evidence against the younger prisoner, William Penn, who was discharged. William Moore, the prosecutor, was then sworn. He stated that about eight o’clock on the night of Tuesday, the 7th inst. he was at the BUILDERS ARMS, in Wisemore, in company with the prisoner Thomas Small, drinking in the taproom. In the course of the conversation, the prisoner offered to give the prosecutor a carpenter’s axe, if he (Moore) would call at his house for it. They remained drinking nearly two hours, when the prisoner left and went home. Some time afterwards the prosecutor left, and called at the prisoner’s house, which is situated in Marsh Lane, and asked for the axe, which was given to him. As soon, however, as the prisoner’s wife became aware that her husband had given away the axe, she flew into a passion, and refused to allow him to take it. An altercation therefore ensued, and blows were freely exchanged on both sides; in short the evidence went to show that no less than six or seven persons were engaged in the fracas at one time. In the scuffle, the prosecutor felt himself struck upon the left side below the small ribs, but was not aware he had been stabbed until he went home, about ten minutes afterwards. This was accounted for by his having worn a very strong belt on the night in question. He felt no doubt that the blow was given by the prisoner; he, however, could not positively swear to the fact. Several witnesses were called on both sides, including the medical man who attended the prosecutor, and who positively swore that the wound had been inflicted by a knife or other sharp instrument. This case lasted about two hours, and terminated in the discharge of the prisoner.”

William Hartop was described as being also a builder. [1849], [1851]

1851 Census

Wisemore

- [1] *William Hartop* (50), builder and publican, born Bedath, Warwickshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Hartop (49), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Henry Hartop (29), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah Hartop (54), sister, cuffle(?), born Bedath, Warwickshire;
- [5] Joseph Silvester (20), servant, waggoner, born Walsall:

Birmingham Journal 8/12/1855

“Between nine and ten o’clock on Wednesday night, the death of Mr. John Guest, a teacher of music, residing in Wisemore, under very sudden and afflicting circumstances. The deceased who had been performing on the organ at the Catholic Chapel, was returning home to his residence, in company with a young man, his organ-blower, and in passing along Bradford Street, and when opposite the TURF TAVERN, he suddenly said to his companion, ‘Hold me, or I shall fall.’ Immediately afterwards he dropped to the ground, and exclaiming, ‘Lord, have mercy on me,’ he expired. The body was removed to his residence, and an inquest was held on Friday (yesterday) by A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, at the house of Mr. *William Hartop*, the BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore, when the above facts having been given in evidence, the jury returned the usual verdict in such cases. The deceased left a widow and two children totally unprovided for.”

Birmingham Journal 25/4/1857

“On Monday last, a plasterer, named James Little, residing in Garden Walk, committed suicide by cutting his throat. The people of the house in which he lived had gone out in the forenoon, leaving him alone with his little girl. On the fact becoming known, however, Mr. Cox, assistant to Mr. Wymper, surgeon, was promptly called in, and proceeded to sew up the wound, but all his attention was unavailing, Little dying about half-past two. The recent loss of his wife and pecuniary embarrassments are supposed to have led to the desperate act, and the poor man had been observed for some time to be in a desponding way. An inquest was held on the body of Little, in the BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore, on the following day. The person with whom he lodged was examined, and detailed the facts as we have given them. It appeared that he had inflicted a dreadful wound upon himself, almost severing his head from his body. The verdict of the Jury was that the deceased had committed Suicide by cutting his throat while in a state of Insanity.”

Birmingham Journal 8/5/1858 - Advert

“Wisemore, Walsall Foreign.

To be Disposed Of, by H. Farrington, the Goodwill and Licenses of that old-established Inn, known as the BUILDERS ARMS, most advantageously situated at the Wisemore, in the occupation of Mr. *Hartop*, who is retiring from the trade.

The House contains Entrance Passage, Bar, two Parlours, Tap Room, Sitting Room, and several good Bed Rooms, good Brew-house, Cellars, Entrance Yard, Stable, Coach-house, and Shopping or Store Room.

The above is an excellent opportunity to a person in search of a respectable House having a good trade, and is situated in a thriving neighbourhood.

Rent and Payments very low.

The Stock of Ale, &c., (which is of the best quality), Furniture, &c., will be required to be taken to, in the usual way.

Apply to Mr. *Hartop*, on the Premises; or to H. Farrington, Appraiser, 49, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

1861 Census

73, Wisemore

- [1] *Daniel Darby* (38), chain maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Eliza Darby (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] John Darby (14), son, chain maker, born Walsall;
- [4] Thomas Darby (12), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Mary Darby (10), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Emily Darby (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Eliza Darby (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] Caroline Staple (20), general servant, born Thorne, Somersetshire;
- [9] Richard Yates (19), boarder, chain maker, born Walsall:

Daniel Darby was also a chainmaker. [1864], [1865]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/1/1865

“On Saturday, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Coroner, held an inquest at the BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore, upon the body of Martha Jane Vaughan, aged one year and ten months, daughter of Samuel Vaughan, Duncalfe Street. From the evidence it appeared on the 18th ult. she was playing with an elder sister, while her mother was in an adjoining room, and by some means or other she ignited her clothes, and before the flames could be extinguished she was severely burnt. No medical aid, however, was procured until the 30th ult. when Mr. Palmer, surgeon, was called in, but before he arrived the child had expired. The Coroner severely censured the mother for neglecting to procure aid sooner. The jury after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1871 Census

73, Wisemore – BUILDERS ARMS

- [1] *Daniel Darby* (49), licensed victualler and chain maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Eliza Darby* (48), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Emily Darby* (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Eliza Darby* (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Daniel Darby* (14), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Arthur Darby* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Alice Darby* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Thomas Darby* (20), son, chain maker, born Walsall:

1881 Census

73, Wisemore – BUILDERS ARMS

- [1] *Thomas Wright* (52), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Jane Wright* (47), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *John Wright* (21), son, collar maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Harriet Wright* (17), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [5] *Thomas Wisdom* (11), grandson, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Allice Williams* (18), visitor, scholar, born Walsall:

Thomas Wright – see also WISEMORE TAVERN.

London Gazette 26/1/1883

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Thomas Wright*, of the BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

Notice is hereby given, that a second General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at our offices, No.48, Bridge Street, Walsall aforesaid on the 5th day of February 1883, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.....

Marlow, Potter and Marten, Solicitors for the said Debtor.”

Walsall Observer 21/3/1885

“*Stephen Hunter*, The BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore, was summoned for having his house open after eleven o'clock on the 12th inst.

Police-sergeant Gore deposed that he visited the house, and found two men there. They were persons who lived in Stafford Street. Defendant told him they were his private guests.

Mr. Loxton, who defended, stated that what was told Gore was the truth.

Defendant deposed that he had had a children's party, and the two gentlemen came to fetch their children, who had, however, left. He thereupon invited them to stay to supper, and they did so.

Case dismissed.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 20/8/1887

“*Stephen Hunter* (39), landlord of the BUILDERS ARMS, Walsall; *Joseph Knowles* (49), Longacre, Nechells; and *William Jefferson* (29), Port Road, Icknield, were charged with aiding and abetting in a prize fight at Perry Barr on the 12th inst. The police succeeded in capturing a horse, a fruiterer's cart, with ropes, stakes, and towels, which were not claimed by anyone.

Defendants were remanded for a fortnight.”

William Sheeson Palmer was fined 40s and costs, on 9th July 1890, for permitting drunkenness.

Birmingham Daily Post 23/8/1890

“The annual licensing sessions for Walsall borough were held yesterday.....

The licenses on the black list were all renewed with a caution, except that of the BUILDERS ARMS, the landlord of which was not present when called. It was ordered that he should apply on the adjourned day.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1890

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions. The business from the annual licensing session last week took place at the Guildhall yesterday.... The license of the BUILDERS ARMS, The Wisemore, was renewed, the Chief Constable stating that the conduct of the house had been improved.”

1891 Census

99, Wisemore – BUILDERS ARMS

- [1] *William S. Palmer* (29), unmarried, publican, born Castor, Northamptonshire;
- [2] *Ann S. Pitchford* (46), housekeeper, born Heath Town:

John Taggart was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

73, Wisemore – Public House

- [1] *Thomas Murtock* (40), polisher, born Walsall;
- [2] *Rachel Ann Murtock* (35), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Thomas Murtock* (19), son, polisher, born Walsall;
- [4] *Annie Murtock* (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Sarah Dolphin* (14), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [6] *Ethel Mansel* (10), visitor, born Walsall:

William Lawrence was fined 5s and costs, on 26th February 1902, for selling ale not in the correct bottle.

Walsall Advertiser 14/4/1906

“The monthly meeting of the meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *William Barker*, BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore.”

1911 Census

73, Wisemore

- [1] *Louisa McGarry* (53), widow, licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Frank Yates* (30), son in law, chain weighman, born Cannock;
- [3] *Louisa Yates* (30), daughter, married 5 years, barmaid, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Cyril Yates* (1), son of above, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... BUILDERS' ARMS, Wisemore. £1 3s 7d.”

Demolished

It was rebuilt in the 1920s.

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/8/1923

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 16th inst.....

Mr. *Harry Birch*, BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore, was unanimously elected a member of the society.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/5/1925

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Monday, before a full Bench. Applications were made for the renewal of the BIRD IN HAND, James Street; BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore; BELL INN, Stafford Street, and the BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street, which had been objected to under the Compensation clause, and had stood over for plans for alterations to be submitted. It was stated that the justices' requirements had been met except in the case of the BELL INN The justices, after a brief retirement, renewed the whole of the licenses, but with regard to the BELL INN intimated that it was only provisionally renewed for a year to enable the committee to consider the question of alterations.”

1939 Register

73, Wisemore

- [1] *Harry Birch*, date of birth 11/9/1884, public house manager, married;
- [2] *Rose E. Birch*, dob 31/3/1892, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Joan B. (Birch) Coombes*, dob 2/4/1920, warehouse girl, electrical accessories, single;
- [4] *Sidney F. Birch*, dob 26/11/1913, dispatch clerk, electrical accessories, single:

Walsall Observer 25/5/1940

“The funeral took place at the Crematorium, Perry Barr, on Thursday week, of Mr. *Harry Birch*, of the BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore, Walsall. The Walsall Licensed Victualler's Society, of which Mr. *Birch* had been a member for over sixteen years, was represented by Messrs. C. W. Garfield (president), James Bird, T. H. Fenton, T. P. Cole, F. Lord, and H. Green.”

Walsall Observer 13/7/1940

“At the monthly meeting on Thursday of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society at the RED LION HOTEL, Park Street..... Mrs. *R. E. Birch*, BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore, was elected a member of the Society.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/1/1942

“Messrs. Fox and Harrison reported the following property transactions by private treaty.....

The BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Sleigh*, BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore. £2 17s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore. £1 0s 1d.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

There were six summons against the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, Park Brewery, Wolverhampton, in respect of the FORGE INN, Pleck Road; RISING SUN, Green Lane; RED LION, Park Street; BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich Road; BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore; and HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane; and the managers of those houses, William Allport, Joseph Thomas Astbury, Thomas Purton Cole, Constance Mary Horton, *Cyril Vernon Sleigh* (now of Stafford Street) [CRITERION], and Arthur Abraham Canning for aiding and abetting.

Mr. Cooper appeared for the brewery company and stated that it would be unfair and unjust if they were made to pay double the penalty imposed on the managers, as in the preceding cases, seeing that they had given specific instructions to all their managers that regulations must be strictly complied with and if they could not get sufficient coal for their purposes they should apply to the local Fuel Overseer for permits for extra supplies.

‘I regard it as somewhat ungenerous on the part of Mr. Cooper to try to throw the blame on the poor managers,’ said Mr. Hodgkinson, who pointed out that all the profits from the houses went to the brewery company and that the coal was not used for their own benefit but for the benefit of the public.

In these cases the brewery company was fined 10s in each case, and the other defendants £1 each except Horton who was ordered to pay £2.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore. £2 11s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/1/1944

“Edmund Griffin (24), labourer, a married man with one child, living in lodgings in Hollemeadow Avenue, pleaded guilty to stealing a glass, valued at 1s 6d, from the BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore. It was found in his possession when he was seen by Detective-constable Lloyd about another matter at 11.40pm on Sunday, and at first he said it was his. Later, however, he made a statement to the effect that a man paid for one or two whiskies for him in the public-house and just before he came out he put the glass in his pocket.

Griffin, who told the magistrates that it was the whisky that made him do it, was fined £1, with 5s costs. It was stated that he had been discharged from the Army as medically unfit, and that there were two previous convictions against him for cycle stealing.”

Walsall Observer 10/1/1964

“The quarter finals, semi-finals and final of the Walsall, Wolverhampton and district sub area competition of the *News of the World* individual darts championship of England and Wales, will be held in Pelsall Social Club, Norton Road, Pelsall, on Thursday next, January 16, all players to be on the mark at 8pm prompt. The eight finalists are.....

Billy Law (BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore, Walsall).”

[2005]

Closed [2006], [2009]

It was demolished in 2009.

BULLS HEAD

79, Park Road, (1, High Street), (79, The Green), Short Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Edwin Webster, saddler, South Road, Bloxwich
William Keats
J. W. Brookes, Bloxwich Brewery
Lord's Brewery
Highgate (Walsall) Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Colbourne [1812] – [1818]
Thomas Taylor [1828] – [1842]
Samuel Taylor [1849] – 1864)
William Henry Sanders [1867]
Reuben Brown Mantle [1868] – [1870]
Robert Roughford [1869]
Edwin Webster [1871] – [1872]
John James Grew (1888 – 1906);
William Fryer (1906 – 1910);
Arthur Banks (1910 – 1928);
Harold Ernest Alger (1928 – 1930); manager
Thomas Statham (1930 – 1931);
Harry Clifford Smith (1931 – 1936);
Harry Davenport (1936 – 1952);
Harold William Tolley (1952 – 1953);
Clifford Mullers (1953 – 1957);
Fred Preston (1957 – 1961);
Walter Raymond Lynch (1961 – [1966]
Mrs. Janet Craddock [2006]

NOTES

Green [1864], [1865], [1896], [1902], [1911]
1, High Street [1871]
79, The Green [1881], [1891]
79, Park Road [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940]

The Amicable Society (a friendly society) met here from 1785.

William Colbourne = William Colbourn

William Colbourn, victualler, BULLS HEAD INN, Bloxwich. [1813]

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

"Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Clubs.....

Friendly Society, male, held at BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, supposed number 260, surgeon Mr. Parnell, secretary Titus Somerfield.

Friendly Society, female, held at BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, surgeon Mr. Adams."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 13/10/1817 - Advert

"Capital Timber and Underwood.

To be Sold, by Henshaw and Smith, at Mr. *William Colbourne's*, the Sign of the BULLS HEAD, near Walsall, in the County of Stafford, on Thursday the 30th of October, 1817, at Four o'clock in the Afternoon, viz.

Lot I. 13 Acres (more or less) of Underwood.

Lot II. 152 Oak Timber Trees, 3 Cyphers, and 1 Beech.

The above Timber and Underwood are growing in the Deep Moor, near Walsall aforesaid. The Timber is Scribe-marked, and within a short distance of the Canal Banks and the Turnpike Road between Wolverhampton and Walsall.

The Gamekeeper at Bentley Hall will shew the Timber and Underwood."

Birmingham Journal 11/4/1829 - Marriages

"On Monday last, at St. Mathew's Church Walsall, (by the Rev. S. Lowe, A.M. Lecturer) Mr. Samuel Cotterill, farmer, of Gnosall, Staffordshire, to Miss Elizabeth York, of the BULLS HEAD INN, Bloxwich, in the Foreign of Walsall."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1831

“The Coronation. The bells commenced ringing at a very early hour, and in the more advanced part of the day the members of the different lodges assembled in their respective rooms preparatory to joining in procession, in honour of the occasion.....

The following is a list of the Lodges which formed the procession, and the house at which they are held. They had seven banners waving, and were accompanied by an excellent band.

Senior Lodge of Odd Fellows – BULLS HEAD.

Grand Lodge of Modern Druids – BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD.

Odd Fellows – ROYAL OAK.

Queer Fellows – WATERING TROUGH.

Two Lodges from the WATERLOO TAVERN.

Loyal Union Fellows – SPREAD EAGLE.

Fellows of Support – TURKS HEAD.

Social Fellows – TALBOT INN.

True Hearted Fellows – MALT SHOVEL.

The procession extended in length to about a quarter of a mile. The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the attendance being more numerous.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/11/1850 - Notice

“All Persons holding Cottages under the Right Honourable, the Earl of Bradford, at the following places within the Manor of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, are requested to Pay their Rents as directed underneath.

Coal Heath, Shelfield, Green Lane, Iron Dish, Walsall Wood, Holly Bank, Shire Oaks, Pepper Alley, Paul’s Coppice, Clayhanger, Catshill, Goblin’s Pit, and High Heath, will be received at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, on Thursday, the 14th of November at ten o’clock.

Broadstone, Harden, Blakenall Heath, Bloxwich Lane, Little Bloxwich, Fistley, Wallington Heath, Short Heath, and Dead Man’s Heath, will be received at the BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, on Friday, the 15th day of November, at ten o’clock.

Fullbrook, Walsall Towns End, Flaxoven, Blue Lane, Birchills Lane, Bloxwich Lane, Birchills, Park Brook, Wednesbury Road, the Pleck, and Bescote, will be received at the HORSE SHOES, at the Pleck, on Saturday, the 16th of November, at ten o’clock.

John Potter, Stewart of Walsall Manor.

Cross Street, Walsall 23rd October, 1850.

N.B. Attendance will be given from ten to three o’clock. No arrears will be allowed to remain outstanding after rent days.”

1851 Census

BULLS HEAD INN

[1] *Samuel Taylor* (54), victualler, innkeeper, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Hannah Taylor* (44), wife, domestic duties, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Jane Smith* (18), house servant, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Lucy Taylor* (8), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich:

1861 Census

Short Heath – BULLS HEAD INN

[1] *Samuel Taylor* (62), victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Hannah Taylor* (54), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Lucy Taylor* (18), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Sarah Dilkes* (19), domestic servant, born Pelsall;

[5] *Eliza Benton* (20), boarder, visitor, born Hednesford:

Staffordshire Journal 28/5/1864 - Deaths

“On the 21st instant, of apoplexy, Mr. *Samuel Taylor*, of the BULLS HEAD INN, Bloxwich, aged 68 years.”

Walsall Free Press 3/11/1866 - Notice

“Walsall Manorial Cottage Premises.

All Parties holding Cottages at the following places, within the manor of Walsall, in the County of Stafford, are requested to Pay Their Rents as directed underneath.

Coal Heath, Shelfield, Green Lane, Iron Ditch, Walsall Wood, Holly Bank, Shire Oaks, Pepper Alley, Paul’s Coppice, Clayhanger, Catshill, Goblin’s Pit, The Vigo, and High Heath, will be received at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, on Thursday, the 8th of November from Eleven till Three o’clock.

Broadstone, Harden, Blakenall, Bloxwich Lane, Little Bloxwich, Fishley, Wallington Heath, Short Heath, and Dead Man’s Heath, will be received at the BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, on Friday, the 9th of November, from Eleven till Three o’clock.

Fullbrook, Walsall Town’s End, Blue Lane, Birchills Lane, Stafford Street, Birchills, Park Brook, Wednesbury Road, The Pleck, and Bescote, will be received at the HORSE SHOES, at The Pleck, near Walsall, on Saturday, the 10th day of November, from Eleven o’clock till Three o’clock.

John Porter, St. George’s Buildings, The Bridge, Walsall, 1st October, 1866.”

Birmingham Journal 8/6/1867 - Notice

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1861. In The Court Of Bankruptcy For The Birmingham District.

William Henry Sanders, known and trading as '*William Sanders*,' formerly of Church Street, Bloxwich, in the county of Stafford, Lock Maker, Wine, Ale, and Porter Dealer, now of the BULLS HEAD INN, Bloxwich aforesaid, Lock Maker and Licensed Victualler, having been adjudged Bankrupt under a Petition for Adjudication in Bankruptcy, filed in the Court of Bankruptcy for the Birmingham District, on the 4th day of June, 1867, is hereby required to surrender himself to a Registrar of the Court at the First Meeting of Creditors, to be held before the said Registrar on the 19th day of June, 1867, at Twelve o'clock at noon precisely, at the said Court, at Birmingham, when and where Creditors can prove their Debts, and may proceed to the Choice of a Creditors' Assignee. Mr. George Kinnear, of Birmingham, is the Official Assignee; and Mr. John Glover, Walsall, the Solicitor in the Bankruptcy; Agents, Reece and Harris, Birmingham."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 13/7/1867 - Advert

"To Be Disposed Of immediately, the Licenses and Possession, of the well frequented Old Licensed Public-House, known as the BRITISH OAK INN, situated in the best part of Lichfield Street, Walsall, now doing a good in and out-door trade, together with the garden, green-house, hot-house, and large range of shopping at the back.

Valuations to suit purchasers.

The proprietor having taken the BULLS HEAD INN, Bloxwich, is the sole cause of his leaving.

Apply to H. Farrington, Appraiser, St. George's Buildings, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1868

"On Tuesday Mr. A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, held an inquest at the BULLS HEAD INN, Bloxwich, on the body of Chas. Craddock, aged 54, hay and straw dealer, who on the previous Saturday morning, while engaged in loading a cart with straw at the farm of Mr. Snape, Pelsall, fell from the top of a rick from which he was taking straw, fracturing his skull, dislocating his shoulder, and otherwise injuring himself so severely that he died on Sunday night. Verdict, Accidental Death."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/7/1869

"Petty Session. Offending Publicans.....

Robert Roughford, landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, Bloxwich, for having had his house open during prohibited hours, namely, at a quarter past 12 o'clock (noon), on Sunday last, was fined 1s and costs."

1871 Census

1, High Street

- [1] *Edwin Webster* (23), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Amelia Webster* (22), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Alfred J. Webster* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Lydia Cox* (19), general servant, born Walsall;
- [5] *Harriet Edge* (17), nurse, born Walsall;
- [6] *Adam Somerfield* (28), general servant, born Bloxwich:

William Keats = William Keates

1881 Census

79, The Green – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *William Keats* (51), publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *E. Keats* (51), wife, birthplace not known:

Walsall Observer 18/4/1885

"*William Keates*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, was summoned for having his house open for the sale of liquor, after ten o'clock on Good Friday night.

Acting sergeant Curtis deposed that at half past ten at night he saw the public house door open, and went in. Two men were sitting there, and one of them offered witness a drink.

Defendant denied that there wasn't any drink on the table. He also said that the two men were his brother and a man who had been helping him.

Defendant was ordered to pay the costs."

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

"At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of *John James Grew*, BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich. Refused."

1891 Census

79, The Green

- [1] *John J. Grew* (28), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Annie Grew* (25), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Beatrice Grew* (5), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *Harriet Grew* (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Thomas Witton* (14), brother in law, scholar, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Jno. Jas. Grew, BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, served 13 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Walsall Observer 16/6/1900

“On Sunday morning Sarah Ann Walker (67), widow, who lived with two married daughters at Elmore Green, Bloxwich, was found in a dying state in a coppice known as Dales Wood, Bentley. The statement made at the time was that about half past nine on Sunday morning a man named Daniel Poole was on his land looking after some cattle which had strayed, when he discovered deceased, who was in a shocking plight, her wrists and face being badly bruised, and her clothing saturated with blood. Knowing the woman he called her by name, and she opened her eyes and said she was very ill, and that she had been lying in the wood all night. Assistance was obtained from a cottage near by, but deceased rapidly sank, and died very shortly afterwards.

At the Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, a man named Jabez Pugh (28), a miner, of Field Street, Bloxwich, was charged with causing the death of the deceased.

Inspector Oakden said that about midnight on Sunday he arrested prisoner on suspicion of having caused the woman’s death, and told him that he was the last person seen in her company. Prisoner replied, ‘Yes.’ Witness applied for a week’s remand, which was granted.

The inquest was held on Wednesday morning, at the WHITE LION, Short Heath, by the County Coroner (Mr. T. A. Stokes), the accused Jabez Pugh being present, and was represented by Mr. A. J. Glover.

Mary Ann Beddow, 19, Elmore Green, Bloxwich, said that the deceased was her mother, and lived with her. Her mother was the widow of John Walker, farm labourer, of Bloxwich. She last saw her mother alive at 10.45pm on Saturday, when she went out of the house with a small whisky bottle. Witness saw Jabez Pugh on that night at about 10.30pm in the passage to the BULLS HEAD INN, which was a short distance from her house. The prisoner paid for a pint of ale at the BULLS HEAD for witness, her mother, and her niece. He also paid for some drink for witness and her mother at the GEORGE INN. They left him in the GEORGE, and went home, and immediately after they got in her mother went out without saying anything as to where she was going. Prisoner was dressed in uniform when they met him. In consequence of what she was told, she went to a small wood at Bentley on Sunday morning, and found her mother there dead.

Joseph Beddow, husband of the last witness, said that on Saturday last, at twenty-five minutes to eleven, Mrs. Walker went out. Witness heard Pugh call her to go and have a drink. Prisoner’s wife was ill, and he (prisoner) asked deceased to visit her, but she refused, and he then asked her to go and have a glass. They started over towards the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN. She did not come back that night, and, when he saw her on Sunday morning in the wood near Bentley, she was just dying. She was bleeding when he saw her.

John Smith, landlord of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, said that about five minutes to eleven, the deceased came to his house. Witness’s wife served her with some whisky. She was quite sober at the time, and was alone.

Fanny Hawley, Front Lane, Short Heath, said that on Saturday night, between twenty minutes and a quarter to eleven, she was walking in the direction of Bloxwich Railway Station with a young man, named John Jarvis. Witness saw Mrs. Walker, and a man in uniform with her, going in the direction of Bentley, where deceased was found.

Daniel Poole, Front Lane, Short Heath, said that on Sunday morning he was in his garden about 9am, when he saw something lying in a wood, about 40 yards away. He went down, and found the deceased (Sarah Ann Walker). Witness spoke to her, and she opened her eyes and said, ‘I am very bad, Dan’. The wind blew deceased’s bonnet aside, and showed him that she had a blackened eye. Witness asked her if she had been quarrelling with her daughter or anybody, and she said, ‘No’. Witness then asked her what brought her with a black eye, and she replied, ‘I have tumbled down, Dan’. Deceased said that she would like a cup of tea, and witness went to get one. On going back he saw a young woman, named Elizabeth Anson, and told her that Mrs. Walker was lying down and wanted some tea. They went back to the deceased together and tried to lift her up, but she refused to rise. A man who came up said that he would go to Bloxwich and tell Mrs. Beddow, and witness then went back home, not thinking that deceased was in such a dangerous condition. He saw no marks except the black eye. There was a footpath through the coppice, used by workmen as a short cut. The deceased was lying across the footpath, which was about 200 yards from the turnpike road. In answer to Mr. Glover, witness said that deceased made no complaint about anyone, and he saw no blood anywhere. Deceased was quite sensible when she spoke to him. Witness had never seen deceased drunk, but he knew that she was given to drinking.

Hannah Gosling, living at Beechdale Cottage, on the canal side, said that on Sunday morning she went into the coppice at the bottom of her house. Daniel Poole and Elizabeth Anson told her about Sarah Walker being in the coppice, and witness took her a cup of tea, and saw that her eye was discoloured and the bridge of her nose disfigured. Witness asked deceased what brought her there, and she said she did not know. Witness asked if she had been quarrelling with anyone at home, as she frequently did, but she replied that she had not. Witness asked her how long she had been there, and she said she had been there all night. Witness then asked her how she came there, and she said she had been brought there, but she did not know who by. Witness lifted her up, and she died with her head on witness’s knee. Witness saw her about ten o’clock, and at 10 minutes to 11 she died. Her clothing and boots were saturated with blood, and her wrist was frightfully blackened.

Police-constable Dodge (256), of the County Police, stationed at Short Heath, said that on Sunday morning, from information he had received, he went down to the coppice at Bentley at 10.55am. The woman was dead when he arrived, and he removed the body to the WHITE LION. He examined the body and found that the face and wrists were discoloured, and her clothes were saturated in blood. The place where she was found was about a mile from where she lived. On information received he went to the coppice again on the morning of the inquest, and found marks of a severe struggle having taken place about 200 yards from where the body was found. He had been given a flask containing some whisky which was found there, and there were marks showing that a man had knelt.

John Smith, of the THATCHED HOUSE, identified the flask as one that the deceased brought to his house on the Saturday night. The officer, continuing, said deceased appeared to have struggled towards the cottage where she once lived, as she was found at a distance of only 50 yards from the cottage while the marks of the struggle were 240 yards away.

Ernest Dodge, son of the last witness, said that he found the flask about 250 yards away from where the woman was found. He found it at about 8.30 on Tuesday night. He also saw signs of a struggle.

Jabez Pugh, collier, in the employment of the Springhill Colliery, Essington, having been duly cautioned, said that on Saturday night he was in uniform. He saw Mrs. Walker about 9.30pm on the Saturday night, when she was in the BULLS HEAD INN. He treated her to a glass of whisky, and had a pint of ale himself. She went out, leaving him drinking with another man. Later on he saw her in the GEORGE, where he had a pint of ale, and she had some more whisky, and, then she went away again. He did not go and call Mrs. Walker out on that night, and he did not ask her to go and have another drink with him. He saw her outside her house, but he did not walk off with her towards the THATCHED HOUSE. He was not walking in the direction of Bentley with her at about a quarter to eleven, and the last occasion on which he saw her was when she was leaning against her door shouting just before eleven. He had not asked Mrs. Walker to attend to his wife, as he had got one woman who was doing that work. There was a route march in the afternoon and there were a lot of the volunteers in uniform about the town. There were also militiamen about. He reached home at 12 o'clock, and between 11 and 12 he was walking about. The BULLS HEAD was about half a mile from his house, and going home he met several people he knew, but spoke to no one. The blood on the white cuff of his tunic was caused by his nose bleeding outside the GEORGE. The shoulder strap which was torn had been unstitched for some time, and the belt hook which was missing had been lost for months. With regard to the dirt on the trousers he had no idea how they got in such a state. There was also blood on his belt, but that got on from his nose at the same time as the other did on the cuff. The torn bayonet frog which was produced was an old one, and the one he wore on Saturday was in his house somewhere. Both himself and Mrs. Walker were sober. When he got home he spoke to no one except his wife. There was not a woman named Allen in the house when he reached home at twelve.

Eliza Allen, Field Street, Bloxwich, said that she was a near neighbour of Pugh's, and had known him for some time. She was in and out of Pugh's house all Saturday night, and the last time she went there was at twenty minutes to two in the morning. Witness left the house at two o'clock, and Pugh had not arrived at that time. Witness was absolutely certain on that point. There was no one in the house except Mrs. Pugh, who locked the door when witness left for the last time.

Dr. J. T. Hartill, MRCS, LRCP, police surgeon, in practice in Willenhall, said that he had made a post mortem examination on the body of the deceased on Tuesday, and found recent bruises and abrasions on both knees. The clothing worn by the woman was saturated with blood, and the external injuries would not account for the saturation. He attributed death to collapse and shock, due to rupture of the liver, injury to the kidneys, and effusion of blood into the peritoneum. He was further of the opinion that these conditions were brought about by violence, and that not long before her death the woman passed some bloody fluid from the right kidney. It seemed to be impossible that three conditions, namely, a rupture of the liver, a bruised kidney, with blood in considerable quantity in the cavity of the abdomen, could be present in combination except as the result of external violence. He would describe the woman as being unhealthy, although possessed of a strongly built frame. It would have needed considerable violence to have caused the symptoms found. A person might live for twenty four hours after the injuries. He thought that the bruises on the face and knees were the result of a fall. The blood on Pugh's tunic &c, might have been caused in the manner stated by him.

Thomas Oakden, inspector of police at Willenhall, said that on Sunday afternoon he saw the body of the deceased and called in Dr. Hartill. About 11.30 that night, witness, assisted by Inspector Marshall, (Walsall Police), arrested prisoner at his own house, from whence he was taken to Bloxwich Police Station. Prisoner, on being told that he was arrested for being the last person who was seen with deceased, answered, 'Yes'. Prisoner seemed quite cool and collected. Witness took possession of prisoner's uniform, the trousers were covered with dirt, the belt hook on the tunic was lost, and the shoulder strap torn partly off. Afterwards he found the damaged bayonet frog between the bed and the mattress. The distance from deceased's house to the wood was about a mile. Inspector Marshall, of the Walsall Police, in charge of the Police Station at Bloxwich, said that he went with the last witness to Pugh's house, and found the belt at the bottom of the steps leading into the cellar.

Sergeant Eaton, sergeant instructor to E Company of Bloxwich Volunteers said that Jabez Pugh was a member of that Corps, and that on Saturday there was a parade. Pugh was present, and was dressed in the clothes produced. Witness dismissed them about 6pm. Witness said that he would have noticed the shoulder strap had it been torn on parade. Witness did not know of anyone who had two frogs, but Pugh might have had two. At 9 o'clock on Saturday night witness thought that there might have been about 30 volunteers in uniform at the BULLS HEAD.

In answer to Mr. Glover, witness said that although there was no close examination he was sure that he would have noticed the tunic if it had been torn. Prisoner had been in the Volunteers for 10 years, and witness for two, so that it was possible to have had two of the frogs without witness knowing.

The Coroner having summed up, the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder by some person or persons unknown."

[Pugh was found not guilty at Stafford Assizes.]

- [1] *John J. Grew* (38), innkeeper, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Annie Grew* (34), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Beatrice Grew* (16), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *Harriet Grew* (12), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Ernest Grew* (9), son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Gertrude Grew* (7), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Victoria Grew* (4), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Elizabeth Haywood* (26), visitor, born Wednesbury;

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman supported an application by *William Fryer*, BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, for a music license six nights a week, for the purpose of clubs held there, viz. Foresters (648 members), Bloxwich Traders (50), Bloxwich Hockey Club (50), St. John’s Ambulance Society (31), and a sick and dividend club (65).

The Chief Constable objected, as he said it meant a full music hall license.

The Bench refused the application, but gave leave for a modified application to be made later in the day.

The Bench subsequently granted a music license for Mondays and Wednesdays.”

1911 Census

Park Road – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *Arthur Banks* (40), manager of public house, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mrs. A. Banks* (36), wife, married 10 years, manageress of public house, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Oliver Lewis* (30), boarder, journeyman baker, born Redditch;
- [4] *Elizabeth Henworth* (23), servant, born Bloxwich;

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/1/1912

“John Thomas Harvey, 31, miner, of Bell lane, Bloxwich, was charged with stealing a carpet bag containing 4s 7d worth of groceries, the property of Thomas Henry Ledbury, of Landywood, Great Wyrley, on Saturday. Mellie Ledbury stated she left the bag in a waggonette outside the BULLS HEAD INN, Bloxwich, for a few minutes, and on returning missed it, whilst prisoner, who had been sitting by her side in the vehicle, had also disappeared. Accused denied the allegations when the police visited his house, but subsequently his wife in his presence admitted that the bag had been burnt and that she has taken the groceries to her mother’s (where they were eventually found) on her husband’s instructions. He was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, £1 10s 9½d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich. £1 19s 6d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/2/1918

“The annual licensing sessions.....

The Bench renewed all the licenses except those of the BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich.....”

It was demolished in 1927.

It was rebuilt.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

BULLS HEAD, Park Road, Bloxwich.’

1939 Register

79, Park Road

- [1] *Harry Davenport*, date of birth 10/12/1892, hotel manager, married;
- [2] *Elizabeth L. Davenport*, dob 21/4/1890, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Annie (Coles) Gardener*, dob 28/10/1920, bar general, single;
- [4] *Lilian (Turner) Bills*, dob 14/1/1914, bar general, single;

Birmingham Mail 4/12/1939

“When walking last night with her daughter and grand-daughter on the Stafford-Cannock road at Teddesley Hay, near Cannock, Catherine Dodd (aged 62), of Council Houses, Huntington, was knocked down by a car and died instantly. The three pedestrians were walking abreast, with Mrs. Dodd on the outside. It was raining heavily. The car was travelling in the same direction, and was driven by Elizabeth Lily *Devonport*, of the BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich.”

[Elizabeth Davenport was fined £1 with £3 6s 6d costs, for driving without due care and attention, a charge of dangerous driving being dismissed.]

Walsall Observer 13/7/1940

“At the monthly meeting on Thursday of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society at the RED LION HOTEL, Park Street. Mr. *H. Davenport*, BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, was elected a member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.

BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, £2 13s 10d.”

Walter Raymond Lynch – see also FOUR WAYS.

It closed in August 2007.

Express & Star 20/8/2010

“The BULLS HEAD in Park Road has been bought by developers Dorchester Land Ltd, with the intention of converting it into a supermarket.”

It was damaged by fire in November 2010.

Closed [2010], [2016]

It was demolished in 2016.

BULLS HEAD

253, (263), Green Lane / Long Acre Street, Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

Samuel Cooper, 51, Lichfield Street, Walsall
Miss Cooper
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Robert Napp [1842]
Thomas Taylor [1845] – **1858**);
Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor (**1858** – [1862]
Patrick Morris [1864] – [1873];
James Duppa Fletcher [1880] – **1890**);
Francis Ephraim Flay (**1890** – **189_**); [1892]
Henry Welsh [1896] ?
Frank Barber [1899] – temporary license
Denis Gordon (**189_** – **1900**);
Francis Ephraim Flay (**1900** – **1905**);
George Whitbrook (**1905** – [1909] – last licensee

NOTES

263, Green Lane [1860], [1861], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1873], [1891], [1892], [1896], [1904]
253, Green Lane [1909]

1851 Census

Green Lane

[1] *Thomas Taylor* (46), miner, born Newport, Shropshire;

[2] *Elizabeth Taylor* (44), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Sophia Taylor* (15), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] *Elizabeth Taylor* (13), daughter, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/11/1851

“John Taylor, of the BULLS HEAD, Birchills, and John Beeber, beer-house keeper, Wismore, were severely fined 5s each and costs, for having their houses open at improper hours.”

Birmingham Journal 19/8/1857

“Michael Gunning was brought up at the Guildhall, on Monday, accused of drunken and disorderly conduct and assaulting the police, on the previous evening. It appeared that the defendant, who is a wild-looking fellow, and who seemed half intoxicated while in the dock, had gone to the BULLS HEAD, in Green Lane, with a drawn knife, and demanded drink. As he was then intoxicated the landlady very properly refused to draw any, and sent for the police. Police-constable Crombie, who apprehended Gunning, stated that he was very violent on his way to the station, and kicked him several times. Another witness whom the defendant also assaulted, having been examined in corroboration, Gunning was convicted, and sentenced to a fine of £1 and costs, or twenty-one days’ imprisonment. Police-constable Darlington then charged defendant with threatening Police-constable Crombie, upon which he was ordered further to enter into recognisances, himself in £10, and two sureties of £5 each.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/2/1858 - Deaths

“February 3rd, deeply regretted by his family and friends, aged 54 years, Mr. *Thomas Taylor*, of the BULLS HEAD INN, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/1/1861

“The inquiry into the cause of death of James Finn, who was stabbed on the morning of Monday week, was resumed on Monday last at the BULLS HEAD INN, Green Lane, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq. The accused, Richard Power, was not present during the inquiry, but Mr. Ebsworth watched the proceedings on his behalf. Mr. Beaton attended on behalf of the prosecution. The first witness called was Police-constable Beebee (No.13), he stated that on Monday, the 24th ult. he was on duty in Green Lane at about two in the morning. He saw there Power who had been fighting. He went with him to a house where there had been a christening and some fighting. Power went in, and soon came out with some men fighting. He seemed to be the ringleader of the disturbance, being determined to fight, and having blood all over his face. Afterwards he saw two men lying down on the ground fighting. At the moment he picked these man up the deceased cried out from behind witness, ‘I’m stabbed,’ and put his hand on witness’s shoulder. Saying, ‘Oh, dear!’ Pointed out to him all the men who were in the street, and asked him if it was any of them who had stabbed him. He said ‘No.’ Led him to the house before referred to. The accused was there. Did not see him in the street when he pointed out all the men to deceased, but he might have been there. When he got to the old man’s house and saw accused, he asked deceased if that was the man who had stabbed him. He was very ill and groaned very much, and said ‘No.’ The accused then said ‘Shake hands; you are a brave fellow for speaking the truth.’ They did shake hands. Heard some one say that Power was the man who had done it, and he then returned to the house where he had last seen accused; but they were all gone away, and the house was empty. There was subsequently a loud shout in the street that Power was the man who had done it. Was left in charge of the deceased after he was put to bed, and asked him if he could identify the man who did it, if he saw, and he replied that he could not. Asked him if he recollected shaking hands with ‘that man?’ and he said ‘No.’ During that time he was in great agony, and had struggled very violently. His bowels were protruding from a frightful wound in the abdomen. When the surgeon attempted to restore them to their proper place, deceased said, ‘Leave me be, and let me die.’

Bridget Keogh saw the fight. Could not say what took place between them before, but was certain that there was not any one near to deceased at the time the blow was struck, except the accused. She saw the blow aimed, and it looked as if it was aimed at the belly of deceased. Did not see anything in the accused’s hand. When deceased said he was stabbed, he pointed to the accused, and said, ‘He’s the chap’ and accused ran off. Heard someone say that he had gone into the old man’s house on the opposite side of the street. Would swear that no one had struck deceased but the accused.

Dennis Magrath saw deceased raise his hand to strike some one, but could not say for whom the blow was intended. He (witness) was knocked down, and the police picked him up. Just at that moment heard the deceased cry out that that he was stabbed, and saw the accused running away into the house. Did not see a knife or weapon of any kind in any one’s hand. Followed the accused into the ‘old man’s’ house, and pointed him out to the police as the man who had stabbed deceased. Saw the two shake hands, and heard deceased say that he could not be sure who had stabbed him. He thought the accused was not the man.

Mr. Edward Joseph Marshall, surgeon, Bridge Street, was called to attend Finn, who had been stabbed. He found him suffering from a puncture wound to the left side of the lower part of the abdomen, and had about two feet of the intestines protruded. He said that he had been stabbed, but could not identify the man who did it. Continued to attend him up to the time of his death, last Friday morning. He since had a post mortem examination of the body of the deceased, and from the conditions he observed he was of the opinion death had been caused by loss of blood, the consequence of the wound he had received, and by peritonitis, the consequence of the protrusion of the bowels.

Mr. Ebsworth called Timothy Coyne and Bridget Doolan, wife of Archibald Doolan, the 'old man' so frequently referred to. The tendency of the formers' statement was to show that a much shorter man than the accused had stabbed the deceased. Mrs. Doolan swore that she heard Bridget Keeh say, with respect of the accused, 'That is not the man, but he came into this house.' The Coroner summed up carefully, reading over the depositions, and pointing out the remarkably strong evidence of Bridget Keough, to which he begged the particular attention of the Jury. He then alluded to Coyne's evidence, showing how in some particulars it contradicted the statements of other witnesses. In conclusion, he told the Jury that they first had to settle who struck the deadly blow; and next, if the person who struck it was at the time labouring under the impression that the use of such a weapon was necessary for the defence of his own life, or if any provocation had been given. If they did not find that the evidence showed the existence of one of these latter conditions, it was his duty to tell them that their verdict must be one of wilful murder against the person who struck the blow. The Jury, after having been in consultation upwards of three hours, returned a verdict of 'Wilful Murder against Richard Power.' The prisoner who did not seem at all affected by the verdict, was committed for trial at the next Staffordshire assizes. Great excitement prevailed in the neighbourhood, and the prisoner's friends on his departure assured him he should have a good counsellor to speak for him."

[At the Staffordshire Lent Assizes 14th March 1861, Richard Power was found not guilty and discharged.]

1861 Census

263, Green Lane – BULLS HEAD

[1] *Elizabeth Taylor* (54), widow, publican, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Elizabeth Taylor* (22), daughter, assistant, born Walsall;

[3] *Maria Taylor* (20), daughter, assistant, born Walsall;

[4] *Mary E. M. Lellan* (5), granddaughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *Betsey Doolan* (17), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Advert

"The BULLS HEAD, Green Lane, Walsall.

The above excellent Old-Licensed House is To Be Let, in consequence of the present tenant retiring from business. There is a steady and respectable trade now being done, which may be increased by an enterprising party.

Apply on the premises, or to Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer, Walsall."

Walsall Free Press 11/2/1865

"*Patrick Morris*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD, Green Lane, for having his house open for the sale of beer, at half-past twelve on Sunday night, was fined 2s 6d and costs."

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

"Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

Patrick Morris, BULLS HEAD, Green Lane was cautioned."

Walsall Free Press 23/12/1865

"*Patrick Morris*, BULLS HEAD (beerhouse), Green Lane, pleaded guilty to having had his house open at two o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Police-constable Jones, who proved the charge, said he visited the house at the time stated, and found there three men, who, as well as the landlord, were drunk.

Mr. Glover, who appeared for the defendant, said that the men upon the premises were night soil men who had come to remove night soil.

Mr. Cater, chief of police, said that he felt bound, in this case, to state that not only had the police, but the inhabitants of the locality, complained of the conduct of the house. There were two convictions recorded against the defendant in the present year. The first was on the 6th of February, for being open during prohibited hours; and the second in November last, for permitting gambling in his house.

The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 25s."

1871 Census

263, Green Lane – BULLS HEAD

[1] *Patrick Morris* (50), widower, publican and brewer, born Cork, Ireland;

[2] *James Morris* (14), son, saddler, born Tipton;

[3] *Thomas Morris* (11), son, scholar, born Tipton;

[4] *Sarah Morris* (18), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/6/1871

"At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Patrick Morris*, of the BULLS HEAD, Green Lane, came up by adjournment from Monday, charged with having received, with a guilty knowledge, two bags of malt, which two of Messrs. Downing's workmen had purloined. The depositions were completed, and the prisoner was committed for trial at the ensuing Borough Quarter Sessions, his bail being enlarged."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/7/1871

“*Patrick Morris*, licensed victualler, was charged with having received, on the 14th of June, 1871, two bags of malt, the property of Messrs. Downing and Son, well knowing the said malt to be have been stolen. Mr. Young (instructed by Mr. Ebsworth) prosecuted, and Mr. Motteram (instructed by Mr. Glover) defended; and the jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of not guilty. Several witnesses to character, including the Rev. W. Dunne, Roman Catholic priest, were called, and gave the prisoner an excellent character.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1871

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions. This session took place at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

Mr. Glover then applied for the renewal of the licenses of the undermentioned, whose licenses were suspended on licensing day.....

Patrick Morris, the BULLS HEAD INN, Green Lane. Granted.”

Walsall Free Press 24/5/1873

“*Mary Clarey*, for having refused to quit the BULLS HEAD public house, Green Lane, was sentenced to pay a fine of 5s and costs.”

1891 Census

293, Green Lane

[1] *Francis E. Flay* (39), public house manager, born Melksham, Wiltshire;

[2] *Elizabeth Flay* (32), wife, public house manageress, born Birmingham;

[3] *Maud Ann Flay* (10), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;

[4] *Edith C. M. Flay* (8), daughter, scholar, born Bath;

[5] *George F. S. Flay* (5), son, scholar, born Bath;

[6] *Helen Flay* (3), daughter, born Bath;

[7] *Gertrude Flay* (1), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] *Kate Brooks* (20), general servant, born Walsall;

[9] *Mary J. Llewellyn* (19), general servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 20/10/1892

“Yesterday, at the Guildhall, *Edwin Burns*, Proffitt Street, was charged with wilfully breaking a pane of glass, value 32s, at the house of *Francis Flay*, the BULLS HEAD INN, Green Lane.

It seems that the defendant on Saturday night created a row in the house, and kicked a couple of men whom he had somehow got down on the floor, being aided by his brother. The landlord cleared the bar of the jugs and glasses that the defendant might not use them, and then got the defendant and his brother out of the house. In a few moments the violent pair returned, the defendant being armed with a belt, with the buckle-end of which he struck at everyone he could get near. Then there was a crash, and on the landlord going out he found one plate of glass broken, and the defendant with his belt uplifted with the intention of smashing another. The Bench ordered the defendant to pay a fine of 5s and costs and the damages (32s), with the option of twenty-one days’ imprisonment, with hard labour.”

Frank Barber, who held a temporary license, was fined £5 and costs, on 24th March 1899, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Since the 30th August, 1898, 8 licensed victuallers have been proceeded against, 2 of whom were convicted, viz.....

24th March, *Frank Barber*, BULLS HEAD, Green Lane, fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness.....

There were four licenses objected to by the Chief constable, the first being that of the BULLS HEAD, Green Lane. The Chief’s objection was on the ground that the previous occupant of the house, *Frank Barber*, was convicted and fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness.

Mr. R. A. Wilcock, who appeared for the owner, said that the man convicted did not now hold the license, and as they could see a very heavy penalty was incurred. He thought the Chief Constable would agree with him that so far as the house was concerned it had been well conducted since, and that every effort had been used to see that nothing of that kind took place again. He thought the history of the house and the efforts which had been made would justify the Bench in renewing the license.....

On returning the Magistrates announced their decisions as under....

BULLS HEAD, Green Lane, license renewed.”

Denis Gordon = Dennis Gordon

Walsall Observer 14/7/1900

“*Dennis Gordon*, BULLS HEAD INN, Green Lane, was summoned for assaulting *Ada Beddows*, 58, Green Lane, on July 9th and there was across summons against *Beddows* for using obscene language to *Gordon* on the same day.

Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for *Gordon*.

Complainant stated that she lived next door to *Gordon*. She was standing on the door step and *Gordon* came out of a window and threw a bucket of cold water over her and her baby.

Evidence was given by two witnesses corroborating *Beddows*’s statement.

Mr. Jackson, for *Gordon*, stated that he was the landlord of the BULLS HEAD, Green Lane, and on July 9th Beddows and her sister were quarrelling on the steps in front of his house. He requested them either to go in or desist. In response they threw mud into the public house and swore at *Gordon*. He admitted that *Gordon* threw the water, but under great provocation. *Dennis Gordon* said there had been 'a big spree' in the house next door, and that they fell out afterwards. They were using most filthy language, and were throwing mud at the house. It was in self defence that he threw the water over them. Evidence was brought to corroborate *Gordon's* statement, and the magistrates fined *Gordon* 5s and costs, or seven days' imprisonment, for the assault; and Beddows 5s and costs, or seven days' imprisonment for using obscene language."

Francis Ephraim Flay was elected a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in May 1901.

Walsall Advertiser 20/4/1907

"There was a special sitting of the magistrates at the Guildhall on Thursday, to consider the confirmation of the granting, by the Licensing Committee, of a new off-license to Arthur Edward Rogers, in respect to a shop at the corner of Cambridge Street and Arundel Street.

Mr. J. R. Lawrence (instructed by Messrs. Stanley and Jackson), appeared for the applicant and Messrs. Butler and Co., and there was opposition by Mr. S. Grundy-Newman, Mr. J. Pearman-Smith, and the Revs. E. A. Frost and A. H. Lee. The Bench confirmed the decision of the Licensing Committee, subject to Messrs. Butler surrendering the licenses of the COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street; the BULLS HEAD, Green Lane, and an off-license in Tantarra Street."

The license was surrendered.

It became a lodging house.

Closed

BULLS HEAD

Stubbers Green, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Picken [1858]

George Lowbridge [1868] – [1871]

Mary Ann Joberns [1881]

C A White [1889]

John Sivorn [1891] – **1896**;

Mrs. Mary Ann Sivorn (**1896** – []

Charles Smith [1901] – **1903**);

Henry 'Harry' Hopkins (**1903** – **1905**)

Enoch Jones [1905]

Charles Dalton [] – **1905**);

John Glover (**1905** – []

Arthur Rickard [1915]

NOTES

Thomas Picken = Thomas Pickin

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

"Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Thomas Pickin, licensed victualler, the BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green, was fined 10s and costs, for having four unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders."

1861 Census

Stubbers Green

[1] *Thomas Picken* (43), publican, born Aldridge;

- [2] Mary Picken (52), wife, born Bloxwich;
[3] Maria Picken (28), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[4] Jane Picken (18), daughter, born Aldridge;
[5] Sarah A. Picken (13), daughter, scholar, born Aldridge:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/11/1868

“*George Lowbridge*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD public house, Stubbers Green, was charged with having, on the 28th of August last, brewed four bushels of malt without having first entered the quantity in the brewing paper. The charge having been proved by Mr. John Wilkinson, supervisor of Excise, the Bench inflicted the smallest fine they had power to inflict, namely £50, and recommended that the Board of Inland Revenue should be requested to reduce it to £10.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“On Tuesday a special sessions was held in the Court House, Rushall.....

Before granting of licenses commenced Inspector McCrea presented to the Bench a list containing the names of those victuallers who had offended against the tenor of the licenses. The following were the names on the black list.....

George Lowbridge, landlord of the BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green, one conviction fined 10s and costs for having had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours.....

In the above cases the granting of the licenses was adjourned, all the others had their licenses renewed.”

1871 Census

Stubbers Green – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *George Lowbridge* (39), licensed victualler, born Walsall Wood;
[2] Rebeca Lowbridge (43), wife, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 7/10/1871

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions on Tuesday last, *George Lowbridge*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD public-house, Stubbers Green, was charged with having, on the 21st ult., permitted drunkenness in his house. Sentenced to pay a fine of 20s and costs.”

1881 Census

Stubbers Green – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *Mary Ann Joberns* (39), widow, hotel keeper, born Walsall Wood;
[2] Edith Cresswell (16), general servant, born Walsall Wood:

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/6/1883

“Charles Watson, Aldridge, for having assaulted George Brown at the BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green, on the 14th ult, was fined 10s and costs. The assault arose out of a dispute concerning a game of cards, in which it was alleged there was some cheating.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/9/1883

“Rushall Petty Sessions..... In the case of the BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green, where the offence was a trivial one, the licence would be renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/1889 - Advert

“BULLS HEAD INN, Stubbers Green. (About one mile from Aldridge Station).

Friday Next, March 22nd, 1889.

Important Unreserved Sale of a quantity of capital Household Furniture and effects.

Messrs. Fox & Harrison are instructed by Mr. *C. A. White*, whose tenancy of the BULLS HEAD INN expires at lady day, to Sell by Auction, without reserve as above.

A large quantity of excellent (equal to new) Household Furniture and miscellaneous effects. On view the morning of sale.

Sale to commence punctually at 11.30am.

Catalogues may be obtained at the place of sale, and at the Auctioneer’s Offices and Auction Rooms, 64, Upper Rushall Street.”

1891 Census

Stubbers Green – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *John Sivorn* (42), publican, born Darlaston;
[2] Mary A. Sivorn (48), wife, born Walsall, Wood:

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held on Monday at the Court-house, Rushall.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson (Walsall) applied for an out-door beer license for premises at Stubber’s Green, belonging to William Wolverton, but the application was opposed by the police, and Mr. Bill (Walsall), on behalf of Mr. *Sivorn*, of the BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green. Refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Licensing Sessions for this district took place at the Rushall Police Court on Monday morning. The magistrates pres-

ent were Messrs. F. James, W. H. Brookes and J. Naylor.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson made an application on behalf of William Wolverson, of Stubbers Green, for an off-license. He urged that this locality had increased considerably, and presented a memorial signed by over seventy inhabitants.

Mr. E. Evans opposed the application, being instructed by Mr. *Siven*, the landlord of the BULLS HEAD, which is the nearest public house.

The Bench refused to grant the license.”

Lichfield Mercury 21/8/1896

“On Saturday night, John Sivorn (52), of the BULLS HEAD INN, Stubbers Green, died at the Walsall Hospital from the effects of a street accident. On Tuesday afternoon he was driving down Lichfield Street in a trap, when the vehicle collided with one of the pillars of the refuge at Leicester Square, and he was thrown out upon his head. PS Riley, of Rushall, was near at hand, and he at once conveyed the injured man to the hospital, where he remained until his death under treatment for a fracture of the base of the skull.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/9/1896

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

On the proposition of the President, it was unanimously agreed that messages of condolence should be forwarded to the families of.....

the late Mr. *John Sivorn*, BULLS HEAD INN, Stubbers Green, Aldridge, in their recent bereavements.”

Lichfield Mercury 25/9/1896

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, the magistrates granted a full transfer of the license of the BULLS HEAD INN, Stubbers Green, from *John Sivorn* (deceased) to his widow, *Mary Ann Sivorn*.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, and attention having been called to that matter they had gone round the district where similar objections could be made, and had given notice to the houses of the district asking that some alteration should be made so as to comply alike with the necessities of the public and also the sanitary conditions of the district. There were several houses named.....

BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/11/1897

“George Jones, of Walsall Wood, denied a charge of being drunk and disorderly. Police-constable Lockley spoke to finding the defendant drunk and shouting outside the BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green. He had been in the public-house. Police-constable Bagshawe gave corroborative evidence. Defendant said he had never been drunk in his life. The postman passed him and asked if he was going home, so the postman gave him a ride and he went. He was sober, and created no disturbance. The case was dismissed, and Dr. Cook said they did not want the police to interfere too much with the liberty of the subject, which was calculated to provoke a breach of the peace.”

1901 Census

Stubbers Green

[1] *Charles Smith* (42), licensed victualler, born Brownhills;

[2] *Mary A. Smith* (60), born Walsall Wood;

[3] *Jessica R. Smith* (12), daughter, born Aldridge;

[4] *Samuel H. Smith* (9), son, born Aldridge;

[5] *Annie Coxoran* (21), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 17/1/1903 - Advert

“Important Sale of one of the best Full-licensed Road-side Houses in the District.

The BULLS HEAD INN, Stubbers Green, Fronting the road leading from Wolverhampton, Pelsall, and Shelfield, to Aldridge and Sutton Coldfield, and situate one mile from Aldridge Railway Station.

Mr. Walter Hughes is instructed to offer for Sale by Auction, at his Property Market, The Bridge, Walsall, on Tuesday, 3rd of February, 1903, at 7pm precisely, subject to conditions embodying the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society, the Full-Licensed Freehold Public-House Known as the BULLS HEAD INN, Stubbers Green, now in the occupation of Mr.

Charles Smith, the lease expiring 25th March, 1903.

The House contains three Bedrooms, Club-room large Taproom, Hall and Passage, Kitchen, Parlour, Scullery, and Cellar. There is a good Yard and Garden containing out-buildings which comprise Brewhouse, Stables, Piggeries, &c.

The Premises are well adapted for the carrying on of the large trade for which the house is noted, and the situation is unique, being

the only Public-house in that locality, and the nearest full-licensed house to about 100 houses, as well as the Copyhall Colliery and Brickyard, Messrs. Beddoes' Brickyard, The Empire Brickyard and the Leighs Wood Colliery and Brickyard, and is as a consequence extensively used as a calling house. The Mines and Minerals are excepted and reserved. For Lithographed Plan and particulars apply to Walter Hughes, F.A.I., Auctioneer, Valuer, and Surveyor, The Bridge, Walsall, or to Messrs. Marlow and Marten, Solicitors, Walsall."

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1905

"The annual licensing sessions were held at the Rushall Police Court on Monday.....

Since the last licensing meeting, six licensed victuallers had been proceeded against for offences against their licences.....

Harry Hopkins, BULLS HEAD INN, Stubbers Green, permitting drunkenness, fined £5 and costs.....

Since the convictions *Harry Hopkins* has transferred his license.....

AND

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1905

"The annual licensing sessions were held at the Rushall Police Court on Monday.....

Notice of opposition to the renewal has been served on the undermentioned license-holders.....

Enoch Jones, BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green."

Charles Dalton – see also FOUR CROSSES, Shelfield.

Walsall Advertiser 30/5/1914

"Organised by a committee of sympathising workers, a very successful smoking concert was held at the BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green, Aldridge, on Monday evening, for the benefit of Mr. Sam Holloway, a resident of that district and by calling a miner, who had the misfortune to slip down and break his leg some six weeks ago while getting ready for work....."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/2/1915

"Mr. *Arthur Rickard*, the BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green, Walsall, received three postcards from soldiers and sailors acknowledging gifts. These cards came from B. P. Foster, 'S House, H.M.S. Temeraire'; A Dredge, 'A' Company, Gloucester Regiment; and Corporal T. Partridge, 'C' Company, 3rd Worcesters. Mr. *Rickard* and his customers are naturally pleased that their gifts have arrived safely."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

"At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....

Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....

For repairs and alterations of structure.....

BULLS HEAD, Stubbers Green."

BUSH

Norton Road, (Rushall Road), (Walsall Road), Heath End, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Showell and Son [1894], [1903]

Ansells Ltd. [1990], [1992]

Punch Taverns

MTP Enterprises Ltd. (in liquidation in 2014)

LICENSEES

Thomas Stanley [1818]

William Wright [1849] – 1865);

Mrs. Elizabeth Wright (1865 – []

Samuel Wright [1875]

William Stackhouse [] – 1891);

Joseph Stackhouse [] – 1891);

James Hughes (1891 – []

James Harrison [1892]

John Dorsett [1893] – [1895]

John Hughes [1896]

Herbert Thomas [1900] – [1904]

William Starkey [] – 1907);

Charles Edward Craddock 'Charlie' Nicholls (1907 – [1908]

George Bertram [1911] – [1912]

Richard White [1916] – [1924]

Alfred Charles Mason [1932]

Ernest Arthur Bott [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

HOLLY BUSH [1818], [1847], [1865]

OLD BUSH [1892], [1893], [1894], [1900], [1903], [1907], [1911], [1927], [1939], [1952], [1992]

BUSH [1858], [1859], [1861], [1891], [1893], [1896], [1901], [1912]

It was situated opposite Pelsall common.

A pub has been on this site since the 14th century.

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1847

“An inquest was held on Saturday last at the HOLLY BUSH, Pelsall, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Joseph Hughes, a furnace keeper at the Pelsall ironworks. On Tuesday last the deceased was in a casting house when an explosion of hot metal in a furnace took place, in consequence, it is believed, of the water which runs round the tweer being stopped by some accidental means. The tweer had been thoroughly repaired a week previously to the occurrence; the water supplied from a cistern on the top of the engine, and a little dirt or mud would stop the pipe. The deceased was so badly burned that, notwithstanding medical assistance, he died on Thursday last. Thomas Lloyd, who had been a furnaceman sixteen years, stated he considered the occurrence quite accidental, and that he himself had had a narrow escape from losing his own life. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

William Wright, licensed victualler, BUSH INN, Pelsall, was fined 12s 6d and costs, for having seven unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859

“A Special Petty Sessions was held at Brownhills on Friday last, before C. Forster, Esq, MP, and the Rev. G. H. Fisher, when the following persons were fined for having in their possession unjust weights and measures, on the information laid by Mr. Inspector Tullett, Inspector for the South Staffordshire district.....

William Wright, BUSH INN, Pelsall, unjust measures, 3s and costs.”

1861 Census

Norton Road – BUSH

[1] *William Wright* (60), farmer and victualler, born Preston, Staffordshire;

[2] Elizabeth Wright (48), wife, born Lichfield;

[3] Joseph Wright (40), son, born Pelsall;

[4] Elizabeth Wright (8), daughter, servant, born Pelsall:

[Was Elizabeth William's second wife?]

Walsall Free Press 25/11/1865

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey and J. Harrison, Esqs, the license of the HOLLY BUSH, Pelsall, was transferred to the widow of the late Mr. *William Wright*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1875

“Rushall Licensing Business. For the first time in many years there were no applications for new licenses. For renewal there were 46 ale-house licenses, and 26 beerhouse licenses (including licenses for sweets). During the year there had been no offences on the part of the holder for any one of these to call for suspension, but the following five persons were cautioned, viz.....

Samuel Wright, BUSH INN, Pelsall.”

Lichfield Mercury 23/1/1891

“The BUSH INN, Pelsall, was transferred from *William Stackhouse* to *James Hughes*, who was granted temporary authority”

1891 Census

Rushall Road, Pelsall – BUSH INN

[1] *James Hughes* (28), publican, born Pelsall;

[2] Mary Hughes (22), wife, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire;

[3] Lillia Hughes (1), daughter, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
[4] Hannah Headon (16), servant, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1892 - Advert

“Preliminary Announcement. To Brewers, Wine and Spirit Merchants, or anyone wanting a First-Class Genuine, Full-Licensed Public-House.

Very Important Sale Of A Valuable Freehold Old-Licensed Public-House, known as the OLD BUSH INN, Pelsall, Staffordshire, unquestionably one of the most-noted and best Full-licensed Houses in the District.

Walter Hughes will Offer for Sale by Auction, upon the Premises, on Tuesday, 4th of October, 1892, at Six for Seven o’clock in the evening, subject to Conditions incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Society.

The well-known and much-frequented Old Licensed Freehold Public-House, known as the OLD BUSH INN, at Heath End, Pelsall, now in the occupation of *James Harrison*, fronting the main road from Norton, Brownhills, and Pelsall to Walsall, and now doing a large and lucrative trade.

The House lies back from the road affording ample space on its own land for the drawing up of numerous vehicles that make this the calling house of the neighbourhood.

The Premises comprises on Upper Floors 5 Capital Bedrooms, Clubroom (with 2 entrances) to seat 200 people, and large Landing; on the Ground Floor, Entrance Hall with Vestibule, large Bar splendidly fitted, Taproom to seat 60 people, Smoke-room, and Kitchens; also capacious Cellars, &c.

The house had been re-built at a heavy outlay, within the last two years, from special architectural designs; all the rooms are lofty, and the premises are second to none in the district.

Possession may be had in April next.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, 79, Park Street, Walsall; or to Messrs. Neve, Cresswell & Sparrow, Solicitors, Wolverhampton.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1893

“A fairly attended meeting of the men connected with the Pelsall Miners’ Association was held on Thursday morning behind the OLD BUSH INN, Pelsall, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ashworth.....”

Walsall Advertiser 16/12/1893

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last..... New Members..... Mr. *John Dorsett*, BUSH INN, Heath End Pelsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/3/1894

“Walsall Sanitary Authority. Mr. Garbett, the Inspector, reported that the small-pox hospital was now free from patients, and that it would be closed (hear, hear). He had to report that a nuisance existed at the OLD BUSH INN, Pelsall, in consequence of the absence of drains, and that he had served notice upon Messrs. Showell and Sons to provide the necessary drains.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/10/1895

“At the Petty Sessions on Monday, *John Dorsett*, licensed victualler, applied for an extension of one hour the same evening, the occasion being Pelsall wake. The application was granted.”

Walsall Observer 10/2/1900

“On Saturday last a sparrow shooting match took place in a field near the OLD BUSH INN. There was a goodly number of spectators on the ground, and notwithstanding the intensity of the weather some capital sport was witnessed. After the match, most of the number repaired to the OLD BUSH INN, and sat down to a sumptuous repast, consisting of roast legs of mutton, beef, vegetables, cheese and celery. The host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Thomas*) came in for no small amount of praise.....”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1901

“A miscellaneous concert was given in aid of the Aged and Widow’s Treat Fund on Wednesday, in the assembly room of the BUSH INN, Pelsall, Alderman J. Clare, JP, CC, presiding. The following contributed to the harmony: Miss Nora McEvoy, Mr. J. W. Binns, Mr. Joe E. Knapp, Mr. T. Parkes, Mr. S. Dean, Mr. C. Ford. There was a capital attendance.”

1901 Census

BUSH INN

- [1] *Herbert Thomas* (55), publican, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Emma Thomas* (47), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Kate Stanley* (16), general servant, born Pelsall;
- [4] *William B. Thomas* (24), boarder, coal miner, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Lilian Nicholls* (6), visitor, born Wednesbury;
- [6] *Edith E. Shotton* (24), visitor, born Shropshire;
- [7] *Elizabeth Newey* (48), visitor, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 4/7/1903

“The players a friends of Heath End Villa FC dined together at the OLD BUSH HOTEL, Pelsall, on Monday night, under the

presidency of Mr. W. Williams. Upwards of thirty sat down. Among the apologies sent was one from Mr. Holden, of the firm of Messrs. Showell's and Co., who regretted his inability to attend, and trusted all assembled would spend a most pleasant evening. The spacious club room had been tastefully decorated for the occasion with choice flowers of various hues, pretty garlands, with all the colours of the rainbow, and a liberal supply of banners, altogether making a most pleasing effect. This work had been entrusted to the willing hands of Miss Kate Stanley and Miss Olive Thomas.

After the removal of the cloth, Mr. Williams, in a few appropriate remarks, congratulated the club on their very satisfactory financial position. The receipts for the past season amounted to £9 15s, and the expenditure to £5 12s 4d, leaving a substantial balance to the good of £4 2s 8d. He thought for so young a club they had every reason to be very proud of themselves. Looking forward to the next season, he thought they could proceed with all confidence. He understood that some fresh blood would be introduced, and as they had now secured a field, which might justly be considered the best in the neighbourhood, they could all go on their way rejoicing.

Mr. Tom Dunn, the captain, announced that the club had played 28 matches, won 18, drawn 5, lost 5, goals for 91, against 51.

A little harmony was then indulged in All the songs and recitations were capitally rendered and highly appreciated.

Before parting, Mr. Councillor H. Taylor, a loyal supporter of the club, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Thomas*) for providing such an excellent supper, which had given to all the highest satisfaction (loud applause).

The singing of 'God Save the King' brought to a close a pleasantly spent evening long to be happily remembered by all who were present."

Charles Edward Craddock Nicholls was married to Sarah Ann ('Sally').

See also DUKE OF YORK, Darlaston, and WHITE LION, King Street, Darlaston.

1911 Census

Pelsall – OLD BUSH INN

[1] *George Bertram* (58), publican, born Stamford, Lincolnshire;

[2] *Lizzie Bertram* (52), wife, married 26 years, assistant, born Uttoxeter, Staffordshire;

[3] *Lillian May Yeomans* (19), general servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Observer 6/5/1916

"Nearly thirty persons were summoned at Rushall Police Court, on Monday, before Messrs. R. H. Holden, and E. J. Shaw, for breaches of the Lighting Order, and fines varying from 10s to 25s were imposed.

Richard White, of the BUSH INN, Pelsall, was represented by his wife, who pleaded guilty. She asked Inspector Needham whether the lights were satisfactory now.

Inspector Needham: That is not for me to say.

The Deputy Clerk (Mr. A. H. Lewis): You must see your blinds are properly drawn.

The Chairman: The best thing to do is to go outside and see for yourself. He added, 'I am afraid we shall all come here sooner or later.' (Laughter.)

Defendant: Yes, I am afraid we shall all fall.

A fine of 10s was imposed."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

"At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....

Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....

For repairs and alterations of structure.....

OLD BUSH, Norton Road."

1939 Register

Norton Road – OLD BUSH INN

[1] *Ernest A. Bott*, date of birth 22/12/1879, farmer, heavy worker, married;

[2] *Edith A. Bott*, dob 9/12/1879, wife, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Beatrice M. Wright*, dob 5/2/1897, unpaid domestic duties, single:

A team from here competed in the Shropshire, Staffordshire and Derby division of The People National Darts Teams Championship of England and Wales in 1952/3.

A team from here qualified for the *Sunday People's* Great Pub Sports Quiz (128 teams). [1973]

In the first round they were knocked out by RAILWAY, Bromford Road, Oldbury.

Sandwell Evening Mail 4/12/1990 - Advert

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

The Big Steak Menu is famous throughout the Midlands for its marvellous value. But for the next few weeks we're offering even better value with our Big Steak Christmas Special Menu with a choice of 3 starters, 3 main courses and 2 sweets for only £8.25 (incl. VAT) for all 3 courses. Big Steak pubs are not restaurants – they're pubs that serve top quality food at prices you can afford. But don't worry if you just fancy a pint, you'll find a choice of traditional hand-pulled ales and international quality lagers (including low-alcohol). But above all you'll receive a really warm welcome at whichever Big Steak Pub you choose – call in and

sample our Christmas hospitality.....
Ansell's. More of Everything.....
OLD BUSH, Walsall Road, Heath End, Pelsall.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 2/10/1992 - Advert

“Cheers! Have a free drink on us.

Cheers! Here's your chance to have Another drink Free on the *Evening Mail*. We've got thousands more Free pints to give away and the toast of the Midlands is once again Ansell's! Yes, it's Free Beer time again at over 100 selected Ansell's houses throughout the Midlands. Thousands of *Evening Mail* readers toasted the August Bank Holiday with our last two-pints-for-the-price-of-one opportunity. Now, for the next seven days, we are delighted to repeat the chance. You can enjoy a sparkling glass of beer or lager – or a generous measure of wine – Absolutely Free – when you buy an equivalent drink. Simply cut out the coupon below, fill in your name and address and take it along to any of the listed venues.....

Walsall: OLD BUSH (Pelsall).”

It had a golfing society. [2003]

[2012]

Closed [2015], [2017]

BUTLERS ARMS

614, (344), Bloxwich Road, (105, Walsall Road) / Harden Road, Leamore, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Mrs. Badger
Thomas Marshall
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Bass, Mitchells and Butlers
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Punch Taverns [2000]

LICENSEES

Richard Marshall [1865] – [1872];
Mrs. Mary Marshall [];
Thomas Marshall [1881] – **1911**);
Mrs. Margaret Marshall (**1911 – 1922**);
Alfred Marshall (**1922 – 1924**);
Joseph Wall (**1924 – 1942**);
Charles William Garfield (**1942 – 1948**);
Frances Annie Garfield (**1948 – 1954**);
William Smith (**1954 – 1963**);
John William Smith (**1963 – [1966]**)

NOTES

105, Walsall Road [1871]
344, Bloxwich Road [1881], [1911]
614, Bloxwich Road [1901], [1911], [1912]

It was formerly the BLACK HORSE.

It had a beerhouse license.

Richard Marshall, beer retailer, Walsall Road, Bloxwich. [1865]

Richard Marshall, beer retailer, Bloxwich. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

105, Walsall Road – NEW BLACK HORSE INN

- [1] *Richard Marshall* (68), miner and beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Marshall* (65), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Enoch Marshall* (26), son, miner, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Mary Bunney* (17), granddaughter, general servant, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Emma Marshall* (14), granddaughter, general servant, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Enoch Bawney* (?) (12), grandson, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *William Benton* (53), boarder, miner, born Bloxwich:

Richard Marshall, beer retailer, Leamore, Bloxwich. [1872]

1881 Census

344, Bloxwich Road – BLACK HORSE

- [1] *Thomas Marshall* (42), chartermaster, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Margaret Marshall* (39), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Alfred Marshall* (12), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Jabez Marshall* (11), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Thomas Marshall* (9), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *William Marshall* (7), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *George Marshall* (5), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Laura Marshall* (9 months), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [9] *Ada Hill* (17), general servant, born Bilston;
- [10] *Sarah Burney* (15), visitor, born Bloxwich;
- [11] *Eliza Burney* (13), visitor, born Bloxwich:

Thomas Marshall, beer retailer, Leamore. [1896], [1900], [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Beerhouses.....

Thos. Marshall, BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich, served 10 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

1901 Census

614, Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Thomas Marshall* (64), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Margaret Marshall* (60), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *George Marshall* (25), son, accountant’s clerk, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Norah Ball* (19), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 2/11/1901

“Another case that occupied the attention of the court on Wednesday was one in which a charge was preferred against *Thomas Marshall*, of the BLACK HORSE INN, Leamore, of supplying a constable on duty, on Saturday, October 19th. The Town Clerk prosecuted in this case, and Mr. H. H. Jackson was for the defence.

The case had some connection with the one reported above, for on Backhouse leaving the CROWN INN, on Saturday night, and going in search of a constable, he saw Police-constable Collins at about ten minutes to eleven. Backhouse wished to take the constable down to the CROWN INN, but the officer refused to go, and then it seemed that Backhouse must have closely followed the officer’s movements. He saw Collins go into the BLACK HORSE, and followed a minute or two afterwards. Backhouse was in time to see the officer drinking from a jug, which contained beer, and he promptly reported the matter to Collin’s superior officer. Answering Mr. Jackson, Backhouse said that he reported Collins because he would not go down to the CROWN INN. Collins was in the passage at the BLACK HORSE, but witness did not think it would be possible for him to be served without the people who served him seeing who he was. Witness did not call the attention of the landlord or lady, but only ascertained the officer’s number and went out.

Police-constable Collins, after being cautioned by the magistrates’ clerk that he was not obliged to give evidence as what he might say be used against him, stated that he was supplied with half a pint of ale in the outdoor department, but he could not see who it was that supplied him on account of the aperture through which his jug was passed being so small. He, however, judged it to be Mrs. *Marshall*, as he recognised the voice. His reason for not going down to the CROWN INN with Backhouse was that he expected his sergeant to come along every minute.

Cross-examined, Collins said he paid for the beer he had had, and as there were so many people in the outdoor department at the time it would be quite possible for those who supplied him not to see who he was. They certainly could not see his face because the window was only about three feet from the floor.

At this juncture Alderman Holden asked Mr. Jackson if he was content to leave the matter to the Bench, and on his replying in the affirmative, Alderman Holden said the defendant would have to pay the costs, and the Bench would recommend that in future the window of the outdoor department should be made sufficiently large so that those behind the bar could see plainly who was served.

The Town Clerk said he would take that opportunity of asking the licensing trade generally to assist the Watch Committee in carrying out their orders with respect to serving constables on duty. It would be a great help to the policemen themselves if the publicans took great care not to supply a man when on duty. The committee were determined in each instance that the policeman would be dismissed. It was a great hardship on the man but he had acted foolishly.

Mr. Jackson said that his client had no knowledge that the man was supplied. *Marshall* had kept the house for 21 years and his father 23 years before him, and there had not previously been a conviction against the house."

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Thomas Marshall, BLACK HORSE."

Walsall Observer 15/4/1911 - Deaths

"In loving memory of *Thomas Marshall*, the beloved husband of *Margaret Marshall*, of the BLACK HORSE, Leamore, who departed this life March 16th, 1911; aged 76 years. Interred at Bloxwich Cemetery, March 21st.

A light is from our household gone;

A voice we loved is stilled;

A place is vacant at our hearth

Which never can be filled.

Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Thy sight."

1911 Census

614, Bloxwich Road, Leamore – BLACK HORSE

[1] *Margaret Marshall* (69), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Elizabeth Edwards (19), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Mrs. *Margaret Marshall*, beer retailer, 614, Bloxwich Road, Leamore. [1912]

Walsall Observer 18/10/1924

"....With regard to the BLACK HORSE, Leamore, the justices could not accept the alterations suggested. The only thing that would satisfy them was the re-building of the whole place....."

Demolished

It was rebuilt in 1925.

Walsall Observer 26/8/1939 - Advert

"General Wanted, 18-25, daily or live in; plain cooking.

Apply, BUTLERS ARMS, Leamore."

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BUTLERS ARMS, Leamore, £5 0s 0d."

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Garfield*, BUTLERS ARMS, Leamore. £3 6s 1d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BUTLERS ARMS, Bloxwich Road. £43 0s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BUTLERS ARMS, Bloxwich Road. £100 2s 4d.”

A full license was granted on 2nd February 1950.

[2006]

Closed [2007], [2009]

Demolished [2010]

BUTTS INN

44, (46), Butts Street, (46, Old Butts), (Butt Street), (Butts Road), (Rushall Butts), WALSALL

OWNERS

James Bird (acquired in 1884)

Butts Brewery Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Stephen Sayer [1841] – [1845]

William Done [1849] – 1862);

Mary Done (1862 – 1863);

Thomas Hays (1863 – 1864);

Samuel King (1864 – 1865);

John Allen (1865);

George Veal (1865 – []

William Newton [1868] – [1870]

James Bird [1869] – 1890);

Mrs. Emma Bird (1890 – 1916);

George Bird [1916] – [1921] ?

William Sanders (1916 – 1919);

William Bird (1919 – 1928);

Harry Worrell (1928 – 1929);

Ernest Searle Brierley (1929 – 1947);

Claude Wilson (1947 – 1949);

William Mason (1949 – 1951);

John Stretton (1951);

Cyril Baden Nicholls (1951);

Alfred Coleman (1951 – 1954);

Job Coleman (1954 – 1960);

Raymond Shepherd (1960 – 1964);

Alfred Coleman (1964 – [1966]

Clifford Burbridge [1969]

NOTES

46, Butts Street [1858], [1860], [1865], [1881], [1891]

46, Butt Street [1861]

Butt Street [1862], [1868], [1908]

Butts Street [1932]

46, Old Butts [1939]

Butts Road [1993]

44, Butts Street [2009]

BUTT INN [1932]

Stephen Sayer, BUTTS TAVERN. [1841], [1842]

William Done = William Dunn

1851 Census

Butts Village or Hamlet

- [1] *William Done* (55), publican, born Hatherton, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Done* (32), wife, born Hatherton, Staffordshire;
- [3] Sarah Done (26), daughter, at home, born Hatherton, Staffordshire;
- [4] Richard Done (2), son, born Rushall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/9/1854

“On Thursday, the Magistrates R. C. Chawner, W. E. Jones, Edward Scott, and W. Mott, Esqs., assembled at the BUTTS INN, for the purpose of granting and renewing licenses for various houses in the district.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859

“A Special Petty Sessions was held at Brownhills on Friday last, before C. Forster, Esq, MP, and the Rev. G. H. Fisher, when the following persons were fined for having in their possession unjust weights and measures, on the information laid by Mr. Inspector Tullett, Inspector for the South Staffordshire district.....

Wm. Done, BUTTS INN, fined 1s and costs, for one unjust measure.”

1861 Census

46, Butt Street

- [1] *William Done* (66), publican, born Hatherton, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Done* (42), wife, born Shareshill, Staffordshire;
- [3] Richard Done (12), son, scholar, born Butt;
- [4] Fanny Done (9), daughter, scholar, born Butt;
- [5] Mary L. Done (7), daughter, scholar, born Butt;
- [6] John Done (4), son, scholar, born Butt;
- [7] Sophia Preston (21), general servant, born Wednesfield:

Walsall Free Press 1/6/1861

“Several summonses were heard before the justices this day, for infringement of weights and measures regulation of the district ‘C’ of South Staffordshire. All the summonses were preferred in the name of William Tullett, inspector of weights and measures for the district.....

William Done, BUTTS INN, two measures. Fined 2s and costs. In each of the above cases the costs amounted to 12s.”

Walsall Free Press 10/5/1862

“At the Rushall petty sessions, on Tuesday last, the following transfers took place.....
BUTTS INN, from William Dunn, deceased, to his widow.”

Thomas Hays = Thomas Hayes

Walsall Free Press 12/11/1864

“Rushall Petty Sessions..... the license of the BUTTS INN was transferred from *Thomas Hayes* to *Samuel King*, formerly of the TALBOT INN, High Street, Walsall.”

London Gazette 17/7/1868

“*Thomas Hayes*, formerly of the Butts, in the parish of Rushall, in the county of Stafford, Beer-house Keeper, subsequently of Russell-street, Wednesbury, in the same county, Beer-house Keeper, and now and for six calendar months last past, residing at Darlaston, in the same county, and carrying on the trade or business of a Beer-house Keeper and Blank-smith, adjudicated bankrupt on the 2nd day of March, 1867. A Dividend Meeting will be held on the 28th day of July, instant, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/10/1868 - Advert

“The BUTTS INN, Walsall.

This Licensed Victualler’s House to be Let. The In-coming merely nominal. The Premises are well situate, and comprise an exceedingly well-arranged Dwelling, with sufficient room for the carrying on of a combined trade.

Apply to Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“On Tuesday a special sessions was held in the Court House, Rushall.....

Before granting of licenses commenced Inspector McCrea presented to the Bench a list containing the names of those victuallers

who had offended against the tenor of the licenses. The following were the names on the black list.....

James Bird, BUTTS INN, Butts, one conviction, fined 40s and costs for having permitted card playing in his house.....

In the above cases the granting of the licenses was adjourned, all the others had their licenses renewed.”

Walsall Free Press 25/9/1869

“The adjourned licensing session was held at Rushall.....

James Bird, landlord of the BUTTS INN, who on the 2nd May last had been convicted of permitting card playing in his house, had his license granted after being duly cautioned.”

James Bird married *Emma* Brookes (see CROWN, Leamore).

He also owned the LAMP, 193, Stafford Street, Walsall.

1871 Census

46, Butts Street

[1] *James Bird* (26), innkeeper and brewer, born Walsall;

[2] *Emma Bird* (25), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *James Bird* (2 months), son, born Butts:

Midland Counties Evening Express 25/11/1874

“*James Bird*, landlord of the BUTTS INN, and *William Lowbridge*, brass caster, were, on the evidence of PC Williams, convicted of having been drunk and fighting at the Butts, at half past eleven on Saturday night.

Defendants were fined 10s each and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1875

“Rushall Licensing Business. For the first time in many years there were no applications for new licenses. For renewal there were 46 ale-house licenses, and 26 beerhouse licenses (including licenses for sweets). During the year there had been no offences on the part of the holder for any one of these to call for suspension, but the following five persons were cautioned, viz.....

James Bird, BUTTS INN.”

1881 Census

46, Butts Street

[1] *James Bird* (35), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Emma Bird* (34), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *James Bird* (10), son, scholar, born Rushall;

[4] *Emma Bird* (7), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;

[5] *George Bird* (5), son, scholar, born Rushall;

[6] *Rose Bird* (4), daughter, born Rushall;

[7] *Frank Bird* (1), son, born Rushall;

[8] *Esther G. Holmes* (22), general servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1885

“Walsall Conservative Association.

A Meeting of Conservatives will be held at the WHITE HART (Mr. Arthur’s), Walhouse Street, on Thursday, February 26th, at 8pm, to form a Branch of the Association for the Paddock Division of the Bridge Ward.

J. F. Crump, Esq, will preside. Mr. Lyons, of London, and others will address the meeting.

There will also be a meeting at the BUTTS INN (Mr. *Bird*’s), on Friday, February 27th, at 8pm, to form a Branch for the Butts Division.

Mr. J. T. Cottam, Esq, will preside. Mr. Lyons and others will address the meeting.

S. B. Wheway, A. Parsons, Hon Secs.”

Walsall Observer 2/5/1885

“Yesterday Mr. T. H. Stanley, Borough Coroner, held an inquest at the BUTTS INN, on the body of *George Slater* (62), of 55, Mill Lane, who died suddenly on Thursday. It appears that the deceased had been in good health until Tuesday, when he complained of pains in his chest. From that time he gradually got worse, and died.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

1891 Census

46, Butts Street – BUTTS INN

[1] *Emma Bird* (44), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *James Bird* (20), son, brewer, born Walsall;

[3] *Emma Bird* (17), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] *George Bird* (15), son, clerk, born Walsall;

[5] *Rose Bird* (14), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] *Frank Bird* (11), son, born Walsall;

[7] William Bird (9), son, born Walsall;

[8] Mary Jane Friar (23), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

Walsall Advertiser 23/7/1892

“Walsall Cottage Hospital.

List of Workmen’s Collections received by Treasurer in 1892, up to July 16th.....

Mrs. *Bird*, BUTTS INN. 7s 6d.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1894

“Ritchie Lodge. The Lodge hitherto met fortnightly, at the BUTTS INN. It has, however, been decided that in future the meetings shall be held weekly, alternatively at the BUTTS INN, and the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street. The first meeting at the latter hostelry was held on Tuesday evening, when between 40 and 50 of the brethren sat down under the presidency of Mr. G. White, W.M. Host Butler gave the Lodge a cordial welcome, and declared his intention of doing all that he could to make it a success. It was arranged that on Tuesday week a supper should be held. Several new members were initiated and a most successful and enjoyable evening was spent.”

AND

“The next meeting of the Ritchie Lodge will be held on Thursday next at the BUTTS INN. All members are requested to attend. We understand the secretary has received a very interesting letter from the Right Hon. C. T. Ritchie, which will be read at the meeting.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/7/1899

“Walsall Police Court. Charlotte Hinton (43) given 10 days with hard labour for stealing a bottle of whisky (value 3s 6d) from *Emma Bird*, licensee BUTTS INN.”

1901 Census

46, Butts Street

[1] *Emma Bird* (53), widow, landlady of public house, born Rushall;

[2] Rose Bird (23), daughter, born Rushall;

[3] Frank Bird (21), son, brewer, born Rushall;

[4] William Bird (19), son, saddlers’ ironmonger, born Rushall;

[5] Carrie Hampton (24), servant, born Brownhills:

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

Mrs. *E. Bird*, BUTTS INN. 11s 2d.”

1911 Census

46, Butts – BUTTS INN

[1] *Emma Bird* (66), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Frank Bird (31), son, brewer (working in brewery), born Walsall;

[3] Minnie Elizabeth Sturmy (27), domestic servant, born Cheltenham:

Walsall Observer 5/2/1916

“The general annual licensing sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday morning.....

The magistrates granted the following transfers of licenses.....

BUTTS INN, the Butts, from the executors of the late *Emma Bird* to *William Sanders*.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BUTTS INN, Butts. £1 10s 2d.”

Butts Brewery Ltd. was registered in February 1920 to acquire the BUTTS INN and two other public houses.

It went into voluntary liquidation in October 1929.

Harry Worrell = Harry Worrall

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/8/1928

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 9th inst, at the house of Mr. *Samuel Birch*, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention.....

Harry Worrall, BUTTS INN, Butts Street, elected member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 16/9/1939

“We are going to assist the authorities in carrying out the lighting restrictions,’ said Mr. H. Hucker, presiding magistrate at Walsall

Guildhall on Monday, when the first local prosecutions under the blackout regulations were before the court. Four of the five defendants in the five cases were publicans and three were each fined 20s, the fourth was ordered to pay 4s costs.....

Licensee of the BUTTS INN, Butts Street, *Ernest Searle Brierley* (40) was defended by Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson.

Police-constable Grant stated that at 9.35pm on September 4, his attention was attracted to lights shining through several windows of the BUTTS INN. Entering the house, witness pointed out this to defendant, who replied 'I have put out all I can.' Witness told him that he must put out the lights if he was unable to screen the windows and he replied: 'I can't do that while my customers are here.' When, however, witness pointed out that he was rendering himself liable to penalties, defendant switched out the lights and witness left. Returning a few minutes later, witness found the lights had been switched on again, showing through the window shafts of light that were visible from a distance. Witness again told defendant he must turn the lights and *Brierley* did so, using candles for illumination.

Mr. Hodgkinson: Did you say 'Put those lights out, the bombs are more important than business.' – Witness: I did not say it, but one of the customers did.

Did you raise your voice to alarm people? – No, sir. They only seemed to be alarmed at not being able to get their beer.

I put it to you that you beat on the door with your truncheon and made quite a panic in the district. – I did not.

Addressing the magistrates on behalf of *Brierley*, Mr. Hodgkinson said brewers and the Licensed Victuallers' Association had sent out circulars to publicans reminding them that every precaution must be taken to see that lights were obscured according to regulations.

'The black-out in Walsall,' added Mr. Hodgkinson, 'has been extraordinary good. All of us are proud of the way in which it has been carried out. It is perfectly true there have been exceptions, but I think they have been mostly eliminated last week. Broadly speaking, in Walsall the very greatest tact has been exercised by the police and wardens in dealing with these matters, but one does hear of cases – and this, I suggest, is one of them – where there has been rather too much enthusiasm displayed. Only the other day I heard it said, and not by a civilian, that the main difference between Walsall and Germany was that in Germany they only have one Hitler. I hope that tact and courtesy that have been generally used will be applied to every case, for if the black-out is to be effective it is necessary that there should be complete co-operation on the part of the public.'

Brierley in evidence asserted that the only light showing was little from the top of a bedroom window. He switched the light out when asked by Police-constable Grant to do so and he only momentarily switched them on again in order to find candles. 'The constable,' he said, 'then came in excited, and raised his voice telling me to put the lights out.'

Mr. Hodgkinson: What effect did that have on the customers? – Defendant: It made them very uncomfortable.

Did you hear him in the street afterward? – Yes, rapping the doors and calling out, in a loud voice, 'Put those lights out.'

Did it cause a mild panic? – Yes.

Joseph Oliver, 37, Mill Lane, who was in the bar of the BUTTS INN at the time, gave evidence that it was the constable who said 'the — bombs are more important than business.'

Mr. Isaac: I put it to you the remark was made by a customer and not the constable? – Witness No; the customers were too perturbed to say anything.

Brierley was fined 20s."

1939 Register

46, Old Butts – Public House (3 of 5)

[1] *Ernest S. Brierley*, date of birth 6/9/1893, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Nellie Brierley*, dob 22/12/1904, manageress public house, married;

[3] *Raymond Brierley*, dob 9/2/1920, plumber, single;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BUTTS INN, Butts Road, £5 10s 0d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BUTTS INN, Butts Street. £7 4s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BUTTS INN, Butts Street. £0 16s 7d."

Walsall Observer 17/3/1951

"At the monthly meeting of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers Society.....

New members elected were Mr. *C. B. Nicholls*, BUTTS INN."

Walsall Observer 30/5/1969

“The first meeting of Walsall Compensation Committee since 1966 will next month consider the cases of three public houses for which the licensing justices have decided not to renew licenses. The houses are the BARREL, Horton Street, Darlaston; the PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, Walsall, and the BUTTS INN, Butts Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 20/6/1969 - Notice

“County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given that the compensation authority for the above area having decided at their principal meeting held on the 12th day of June 1969, to refuse the renewal of the license of the premises specified below, all persons claiming to be interested in the said premises for the purpose of the payment of compensation under the said Act are required to send to the compensation authority notice of their claims before the 21st day of July, 1969.....

BUTTS INN, Butts Street, Walsall. Publican’s Old on-license. Licensee, *Clifford Burbridge*. Registered Owners, Mitchells & Butlers.”

BUTTS TAVERN

44, (1+2), (27), Butts Street, (Bott Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

William Lawrence

Joseph Armitage Brookes

Joseph Wells, Birmingham [1925]

Ansells Ltd. (leased) [1925]

Pubmaster

LICENSEES

William Swift [1858] – [1865]

William Lawrence [1866] – [1872];

Joseph Armitage Brookes [1881];

Moses Lawton [];

Joseph Armitage Brookes [1891] – **1918**);

Thomas Skermer [1896] ?

Arthur T Davies [1904] ?

Joseph White (**1918 – 1926**); manager

Rupert Raybould (**1926 – 1957**);

Ernest Raybould [1940] ?

Wilfred Peake (**1957 – 1965**);

Violet Ethel Greenwood (**1965** – [1966]

Richard Hill [2010] – [2017]

NOTES

1+2, Butt Street [1861], [1904]

27, Butts Street [1871], [1891], [1939]

44, Butts Street [2016]

It was originally the WHITE HORSE.

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

William Swift, beerhouse keeper, The Butts, was fined 15s and costs, for having ten unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

William Swift, beer retailer and grocer, Butt Street. [1861]

1861 Census

1+2, Butts Street – WHITE HORSE

- [1] *William Swift* (45), grocer and publican, born Leeds, Yorkshire;
- [2] Hannah J. Swift (42), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Elizabeth Swift (13), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] John Swift (11), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Samuel Swift (9), son, born Walsall;
- [6] William Swift (4), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Joseph Swift (8 months), son, born Rushall;
- [8] Thomas Swift (8 months), son, born Rushall;
- [9] Mary Naughton (26), domestic servant, born Ireland:

William Swift, retailer of beer, Butt Street. [1862]

William Swift, beer retailer and shopkeeper, 1, Butt Street. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey and B. Bloomer, Esqs, the following applications for new licenses were made.....

William Lawrence, BUTTS TAVERN, Butts Street, Rushall, made his application personally.....

The application of Mr. *Lawrence* was also refused, on the ground that a licensed house was not needed at the Butts.”

William Lawrence, beer retailer, Butt Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“On Tuesday a special sessions was held in the Court House, Rushall.....

The following beer-house keepers were reported.....

W. Lawrence, BUTTS TAVERN, Butts, for permitting cock-fighting on the 6th August, 1867, fined £5 and costs..... where the parties had been convicted the applications were adjourned.”

Walsall Free Press 25/9/1869

“The adjourned licensing session was held at Rushall.....

William Lawrence, landlord of the BUTTS TAVERN beer-house had his license renewed.”

William Lawrence was also a whip maker. [1871]

1871 Census

27, Butts Street – Beer House Tavern

- [1] *William Lawrence* (60), whip maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Lydia Lawrence (53), wife, born Rushall;
- [3] George Lawrence (30), son, brush maker, born Rushall;
- [4] John Lawrence (24), son, leather worker, brn Rushall;
- [5] Lucy Lawrence (18), daughter, born Rushall;
- [6] Fanny Lawrence (13), daughter, born Rushall;
- [7] Hannah Webster (11), domestic servant, born Pleck:

Joseph Armitage Brookes = Joseph Armitage Brooks

1881 Census

27, Butts Street

- [1] *Joseph A. Brook* (30), innkeeper, born Drighlington, Yorkshire;
- [2] Lucy Brook (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Ben Brook (20), brother, carpenter, born Drighlington, Yorkshire:

1891 Census

27, Butts Street – BUTTS TAVERN

- [1] *Joseph Armitage Brooks* (40), beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] Lucy Brooks (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Annie Brookes (4), daughter, born Walsall:

Thomas Skermer, beer retailer, 1 and 2, Butt Street. [1896]

Joseph Armitage Brookes, was fined £10 and costs, for selling beer exceeding the price (Defence of the Realm Act).

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/10/1930](#)

“Yesterday’s contributions to the relief fund organised by the *Birmingham Gazette* and *Evening Despatch* for the 14 victims of the Norton Canes colliery disaster were from many and varied sources.....

Licensed victuallers and their customers and social clubs continue to give splendid assistance, as today’s list shows.....

Customers, BUTTS INN, Butts Street, Walsall, £0 16s 0d.”

It was rebuilt in 1935.

Walsall Observer 16/9/1939

“We are going to assist the authorities in carrying out the lighting restrictions,’ said Mr. H. Hucker, presiding magistrate at Walsall Guildhall on Monday, when the first local prosecutions under the blackout regulations were before the court.

Four of the five defendants in the five cases were publicans and three were each fined 20s, the fourth was ordered to pay 4s costs.....

The case against *Rupert Raybould* (50), licensee of the BUTTS TAVERN, Butts Road, was that shafts of light were showing through the windows on the pavement from a number of points at 9.50 on Monday night, September 4. When requested by Police-constable Grant to extinguish the lights defendant made no reply and when the request was repeated he said (referring to the customers) ‘These people want their beer.’

‘I then ordered him to put them out,’ said the constable. ‘He switched them out, whereupon the customers asked if there was an air-raid. I said there was not and they then became objectionable, someone saying ‘Switch on the lights and never mind the cop-per.’ The lights were then switched on by someone other than the landlord.

Announcing a fine of 20s, the presiding magistrate impressed on *Raybould* that he was responsible for seeing that all the lights were obscured.”

1939 Register

27, Butts Street – Public House

[1] *Rupert Raybould*, date of birth 15/1/1893, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Florence Raybould, dob 30/10/1892, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Evaline (Evelyn) (Breedon) Williams, dob 12/10/1920, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

BUTTS TAVERN, Butts Road, £5 0s 0d.”

A full license was granted on 6th May 1948.

Richard Hill was married to Lydia.

[2023]

Express & Star 4/7/2023

“A popular Walsall pub which closed suddenly earlier this year could be converted into a care home for young people. JN Healthcare Group Ltd (JHNG) wants to transform the BUTTS TAVERN, in Butts Street, into accommodation for up to six people, aged between 16 and 24, who have behavioural issues and learning difficulties. The pub closed in March, prompting shocked locals to launch a petition to try to save it, which attracted support from almost 350 people. In the application to Walsall Council planning officers, JHNG said the pub closed because it was struggling and had been on the market, as a boozier, for more than four years without attracting interest. As well as converting the building, its plans involve the demolition of an existing outbuilding.....”

CAMBRIDGE ARMS

49, Arundel Street / Cambridge Street, Caldmore, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

Ernest Jackson (1930 – 1935);
Edmund Letts (1935);
Archibald Orton (1935 – 1938);
Joseph Edward Bowen (1938 – 1945);
Leslie Jepson Guest (1945 – 1950);
Ralph Simmons (1950 – 1953);
Leopold George Hall (1953 – 1959);
Stanley Colley Lowe (1959 – 1960);
James Cox (1960 – 1962);
Patrick Arthur Swain (1962 – 1963);
William Green (1963);
Dennis Gray (1963 – 1964);
Isaac Armstrong (1964);
Reginald Victor Whitton (1964 – 1966);
Raymond Harry Perry (1966 – []

NOTES

It opened on 6th February 1930.
The full license of the ROYAL OAK, Goscote, was transferred here in 1930.

1939 Register

Arundel Street – CAMBRIDGE INN (2 of 3)

[1] *Joseph E. Bowen*, date of birth 1/9/1897, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Beryl Bowen*, dob 12/3/1903, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

CAMBRIDGE, Arundel Street. £1 9s 5d.”

Patrick Arthur Swain – see also NEWPORT ARMS.

On 30th October 2008, a 75 year old woman suffered burns to her legs when youths threw a firework into the bar.

[2017]

It closed in 2019.

Express & Star 26/2/2021

“Plans to convert an empty Black Country pub into a day nursery could be given the green light – at the second time of asking. A developer, listed as Mrs. S. Kang, wants to open a 50-place nursery on the site of the former CAMBRIDGE pub in Cambridge Street, Walsall, which closed down in 2019. If members of Walsall Council’s planning committee approve this, the new nursery would create seven full-time and five part-time members of staff. Planning agent Design Space 2 also said the new nursery would provide much-needed facility following the closure of Palfrey Day Nursery in May 2019. The proposal was originally turned down because officers said there was no justification for the area to lose the pub as a community asset. They also raised concerns about the impact the noise from children using the new facility would create for neighbours in the area. But officers say the objections raised previously have been addressed by the applicant and are recommending approval is granted subject to conditions. This current application has attracted opposition from nearby residents with ward councillor Sabina Ditta handing in a petition with 42 signatures on it. Their objections are around the increased pressure on street parking spaces, more traffic on the surrounding roads and the extra noise the nursery would create.

A report to committee said, ‘The applicant’s supporting document claims that there is poor demand for the pub by locals as justification for its change of use, evidenced by its closure over the past three years. Whilst it is unclear why the pub closed and has remained closed, no representations to the applications have been about retaining the building as a pub. It is therefore considered difficult to refute the applicant’s claim.’

It added a noise impact assessment, submitted by the developer, had shown children would arrive at different times during the day and the opening hours of 9.30am to 3.30pm were far less than the former pub therefore reducing the levels for neighbours.

The proposal will be discussed at the planning committee meeting on Thursday.”

Express & Star 5/3/2021

“A Walsall pub which has stood empty for almost two years will be converted into a day nursery despite concerns about traffic and noise problems. Simrat Kang will open a 50-place facility on the former CAMBRIDGE public house, in Cambridge Street,

to serve families in the area. This is the second application by Mrs. Kang, as a previous application was refused for a number of reasons including impact on traffic and increase in noise and disturbance. But officers said these issues had been overcome and recommended approval. Walsall Council's planning committee approved her proposal on Thursday....."

Express & Star 4/8/2022

"Communities across Walsall have been forced to endure the depressing sight of once-thriving boozers calling time for good for a number of years. Factors such as high beer taxes, supermarkets selling cheaper alcohol and changing habits are among reasons cited why so many pubs are forced to close permanently.....

The CAMBRIDGE, Cambridge Street, Walsall, ceased trading in 2019 and stood empty for around two years after its closure. But it has since been converted into a 50-place day nursery after owner Simrat Kang managed to get the plans over the line. Her proposal was initially rejected over concerns about potential traffic and noise problems but officers said these were addressed in a subsequent application. Mrs. Kang said the new facility is providing much needed services in the area, which lost Palfrey Day Nursery in 2019."

CANAL TAVERN

26, (29), Little Bloxwich, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Benjamin Smith
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Benjamin Smith [1853] – **1888**);
Edward Withington (**1888 – 1891**);
Elizabeth Withington (**1891 – 1893**);
Enoch Astley (**1893 – 1894**);
Thomas Morris (**1894 – 1907**);
Thomas Peach (**1907 – 1909**);
John Elks (**1909 – 1912**);
Joseph Jones (**1912 – 1917**);
Hannah Maria Jones (**1917 – 1919**);
Joseph Jones (**1919 – 1931**);
George Smith (**1931 – 1951**);
Edith Smith (**1951 – 1964**);

NOTES

29, Little Bloxwich [1861]
26, Little Bloxwich [1871], [1881], [1901], [1939]

It was formerly the LAMP.

CANAL INN [1911]

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/9/1853

"At the adjourned annual licensing meeting on Wednesday last., eight of the sixteen persons who applied for victuallers' licenses on the Wednesday previously renewed their applications, and with success.....

Benjamin Smith, Little Bloxwich."

1861 Census

29, Little Bloxwich
[1] *Benjamin Smith* (46), publican, born Little Bloxwich;
[2] Mary Smith (40), wife, born Bunford, Middlesex;
[3] Emma Smith (14), daughter, born Little Bloxwich;
[4] Mary Smith (12), daughter, born Little Bloxwich;
[5] Julia Smith (9), daughter, born Little Bloxwich;

- [6] Henry Smith (9), son, born Little Bloxwich;
- [7] Benjamin Smith (5), son, born Little Bloxwich;
- [8] Eli Smith (2), son, born Little Bloxwich:

Benjamin Smith, retailer of beer, Little Bloxwich. [1862]

1871 Census

26, Little Bloxwich

- [1] *Benjamin Smith* (55), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Mary Smith (50), wife, born Brentford, Middlesex;
- [3] Henry Smith (17), son, agricultural labourer, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Benjamin Smith (15), son, agricultural labourer, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Eli Smith (13), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Julia Smith (20), daughter, domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Ellen Smith (9), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [8] John Teece (60), servant, boatman, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Joseph Lee (17), servant, boatman, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Amos Endon (10), servant, boatman, born Bloxwich;
- [11] Mary Evans (16), general servant, born Bloxwich:

1881 Census

26, Little Bloxwich – LAMP TAVERN Public House

- [1] *Benjamin Smith* (64), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Mary Smith (60), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Eli Smith (23), son, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Ellen Smith (20), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Ellen Watson (12), boarder, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Hannah Birch (12), boarder, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Thomas Bryce (14), general servant, born Bloxwich:

[Birmingham Daily Post 21/6/1890](#)

“On Thursday evening, *George Whittingham* [sic], the CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich, attempted to commit suicide by cutting his throat with a knife, but he failed to accomplish his purpose, and was afterwards removed to the Cottage Hospital. It is said that he had been drinking for some time.”

[Birmingham Daily Post 12/7/1890](#)

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Edward Withington*, of the CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich, was brought up, on remand, charged with having attempted to commit suicide by cutting his throat on the 19th June. The Chief Constable said that as the accused’s friends were willing to take charge of him he did not propose to offer any evidence in support of the charge. The prisoner was accordingly handed over to his friends.”

1891 Census

Little Bloxwich – CANAL TAVERN

- [1] *Elizabeth Withington* (34), widow, publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Leonard Withington (12), son, born Staffordshire;
- [3] Edward Withington (11), son, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Hettie Withington (9), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Harry Withington (7), son, born Staffordshire;
- [6] Nellie Withington (5), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [7] Lewis Withington (2), son, born Staffordshire:

[Birmingham Daily Post 17/8/1893](#)

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Enoch Astley*, the CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises and selling to a drunken person. Mr. R. A. Willcock appeared for the defence.

The Chief Constable said that on the 4th inst., three boatmen named Joseph Jones, George Johnson, and John Flannagan, all of Smethwick, whilst on their way from Fishley Colliery stopped at the defendant’s house from four o’clock until after six. When they entered they were sober, but when they left they were under the influence of drink. Jones was in such a state that he almost fell into the water whilst getting into the boat; and Johnson, who went on steering, was missed soon after, and was found to have fallen into the water with the tiller, and been drowned.

Flannagan and Jones were called, and the former said they were in ‘good working order,’ though they were a little overcome by the beer.

For the defence witness stated that four quarts of ale were had and shared by six or seven men, and that they were all sober when they left.

The Bench imposed a fine of £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness, nothing being done in the other case.

The Clerk said it was well to remind Mr. Willcock that his client was severely cautioned when a license was granted to him.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall were opened on Wednesday at the Guildhall, the Mayor in the chair. . . . Mr. Wilcock (Wolverhampton) applied in regard to the case of *Enoch Astley*, of the CANAL TAVERN, for a transfer of the license to George Willis. The object was to put in a proper tenant and have the house under thorough supervision. The Chief-constable said he raised no objection to the application provided that it did not prejudice the opposition to the house at the adjourned licensing day. He did not want to be confronted with the answer ‘Oh! We put another man in.’ The Bench assented.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing session for Walsall borough took place yesterday. . . .

The renewal of the license of *Enoch Astley*, the CANAL TAVERN, Bloxwich, was opposed by the Chief Constable on the grounds of conviction for permitting drunkenness, the house being of a disorderly character, and the license not required. Mr. Checkley (from the office of Messrs. Duignan and Elliot) also opposed on behalf of Mr. A. Stanley, and Mr. A. Young (instructed by Messrs. Willcock and Taylor) appeared for the applicant and the owners of the premises, Messrs. Butler and Co.

. . . .the CANAL TAVERN license was refused Mr. Willcock gave notice of appeal.”

[It was renewed on appeal at the Quarter Sessions held at Stafford on 18th October 1893.]

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall. . . .

The Chief Constable also objected to the renewal of the CANAL TAVERN license on the ground that the condition of the premises was such as to be beyond the control of the licensee.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, solicitor, at a later stage submitted plans of alterations proposed to be effected, by which the Chief Constable’s objections would be met. His client had agreed to build a wall, with a pair of substantial gates, so that the place could be absolutely closed at night, and at the same time reducing the area of the tavern.

The Chief Constable expressed himself satisfied, and withdrew his objection.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/12/1894

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held on Thursday. . . .

Mr. *Thomas Morris*, CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich, was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/3/1897

“Walsall Quarter Sessions

John Heler (39), farmer, on bail, was indicted for having unlawfully wounded Thomas Henry Morgan on the 26th December. Mr. Gerald Lewis (instructed by Messrs. Lewis and Sons) prosecuted, and Mr. Herbert (instructed by Mr. Jackson) defended. Mr. Lewis having opened.

Prosecutor stated that he was returning, with others, from a supper party at the CANAL TAVERN, Bloxwich, when prisoner, who was in front, turned round and asked why he was following him. He denied that he was, and was walking across the street, when prisoner gave him a blow. They struggled together, and subsequently he found he had been stabbed.

By Mr. Herbert: There had been no previous quarrel nor any provocation on either side. He did not know how prisoner received his wounded arm.

William Cattell, miner, Pelsall Lane, Little Bloxwich, who was with Morgan, said that as they struggled on the ground he saw a half-opened knife in prisoner’s hand.

Police-constable Yardley gave evidence as to prisoner’s statement when arrested.

Dr. Nixon said that the prosecutor’s injuries consisted of a wound in the neck, which started at the back on the right side, and extended round the neck towards the left for six inches. He was detained until the 18th January – practically three weeks – and was an out-patient for a further three weeks.

Mr. Herbert said his answer to the charge was that the blood-stained knife said to have been found on prisoner was not his, and that the finding of it in his pocket was a deliberate ‘plant.’

Sarah Fernahough, who said she had been housekeeper to prisoner for four years; John Smith, landlord of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich; and Enoch Bloor, lamp cleaner, Little Bloxwich, all denied that the blood-stained knife belonged to prisoner, and declared that a similar one produced was the one he always carried.

Dr. McKintosh, assistant to Dr. Wilson, the police surgeon, said he saw prisoner at the police station. He was in a weak state, and suffering from four clean cuts on the hands, varying in length from ½ an inch to 2½ inches, and other injuries. The wound on the left hand was a very serious one indeed.

By Mr. Lewis: Some of the bruises might have been caused by his falling.

William Jones, farmer, Tettenhall, and Andrew Barnes, FULLBROOK TAVERN, gave evidence of character, and Mr. Herbert having addressed the jury at some length, and the Recorder having summed up, prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment, with hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/7/1898

“*Thomas Morris*, landlord of the CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich, was summoned for selling intoxicating drink, during prohibited hours on the 3rd inst. Mr. H. S. Chapman (from Messrs. Fowler, Langley, and Wright’s of Wolverhampton) was for the defence.

Inspector Alden gave evidence to the effect that at a few minutes to 12 o'clock on the date named he was in Little Bloxwich in plain clothes, when he saw some men drinking in the taproom of the defendant's house. On his calling the attention of the defendant to the matter, Morris said the men came from Walsall. Witness remarked that it was not three miles from Walsall, and that unless they were bona-fide travellers he had no right to serve them. On going into the house witness found four navvies in the room. They gave their address as 56, Queen Street. Witness went to Queen Street, near Bridgeman Street, but could find no one there answering the description of the men. At Queen Street, Palfrey, he found a man named Brown had lived there, but it was stated that he had gone to see some friends at Pelsall. Witness on Saturday last served summonses personally on George Ruck, Charles Williams, and Harry Brown, who were at work on the sewerage works at Pelsall. Ruck lodged with Harry Brown, at the top of Pelsall, which was not above a mile and a half from Bloxwich, and Williams lived at Heath End, which was not above two miles from Bloxwich. The defendant admitted the men had had two quarts. The men were dressed as navvies, and there were sewerage works at Pelsall. Queen Street, Palfrey would be three miles from defendant's house.

Mr. Chapman said the men said they came from Queen Street, Walsall. The fact that the men were navvies was not sufficient to prove that the men came from Pelsall. He called the defendant who gave evidence.

Ruck also gave evidence for the defence. He told the landlady that they came from Walsall. As a matter of fact witness came from Pelsall. They had been for a walk and did not know exactly where they were.

The Bench fined defendant 40s and costs, but said they should not endorse his license.

The men Ruck and Williams pleaded 'guilty' to being found on licensed premises during prohibited hours, and were fined 7s 6d and cost, or seven days. Harry Brown did not appear."

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

"The annual licensing meeting for the county borough of Walsall was held in the Guildhall on Wednesday forenoon.....

Since the 27th August, 1897, 5 licensed victuallers have been proceeded against, 4 of whom were convicted, viz.....

15th July, *Thomas Morris*, CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich, fined 40s and costs for opening his premises during prohibited hours.

1901 Census

26, Little Bloxwich – CANAL TAVERN

[1] *Thomas Morris* (55), public house manager, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Sarah Morris (59), wife, born Oakengates, Shropshire;

[3] Eliza M. Williams (16), domestic servant, born Lane Head;

[4] William Grimmett (15), domestic servant, born Birmingham;

[5] Eleanor Eyre (8), granddaughter, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/11/1906

"*Thomas Morris*, of the CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich, was summoned before the Walsall magistrates yesterday for keeping his house open during prohibited hours. On Sunday morning, November 18, a constable saw Joseph Darby, a boatman, go to the house. He was supplied with drink by the landlord. When questioned Darby said, 'I have had half a pint and I have paid 1½d.' The defence was that Darby had been baling his boat all night. He bought the tobacco and the landlord gave him the drink out of pity for his miserable condition. Alderman Clare said that if the magistrates had been in the same position as the landlord they would very likely have done the same. They ordered the defendant to pay costs only."

1911 Census

Little Bloxwich – CANAL TAVERN

[1] *John Elks* (25), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] Lizzie Elks (23), wife, married 3 years, assisting in the business, born Walsall Wood;

[3] John Thomas William Elks (2), son, born Little Bloxwich;

[4] Leonard George Elks (1), son, born Bloxwich;

[5] Albert Edward Elks (5 months), son, born Little Bloxwich;

1939 Register

26, Little Bloxwich

[1] *George Smith*, date of birth 21/1/1896, licensed victualler and coal miner below – certificated, married;

[2] *Edith Smith*, dob 16/9/1897, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[4] Edna M. (Smith) Griffiths, dob 4/11/1930, at school, single:

Walsall Observer 13/4/1940

"Thanks to Sunday evening efforts by Mavis *Smith*, the nine years old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *Smith*, of the CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich, a sum of £6 10s has been raised by the process of sticking coins, from pennies to half-crowns, on a mirror in the bar. Similar efforts have been held at the house previously but this time the proceeds were for the Walsall War Aid Fund. The Mayor (Councillor J. Cliff Tibbits) visited the house and formally accepted the money. He outlined the objects of the fund and thanked Mr. and Miss *Smith* for their efforts. Miss *Smith* is now continuing with her novel collecting scheme to raise money for Servicemen."

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Smith*, CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich. £3 13 5d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich. £3 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich. £0 11s 0d.”

It closed in 1964.

It was demolished.
The BRIDGEWATER was built on the site in 1964.

CANAL TAVERN

BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Smith [1861]

NOTES

John Smith was also a tanner. [1861]

This is NOT the same as the one in Little Bloxwich.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

82, (83), (83-84), (84), Wisemore, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Mary Spurrier, victualler, Walsall (later at Acocks Green)
Edgar Jeffries
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Hale [1857] – [1859]
Richmond Samuel Cooper* [1860]
Richard S Cooper* [1861]

Richmond S. Cooper* [1862]
R Cooper* [1864] – [1865]
Samuel Gale [1868] – [1870]
Henry Perry [1871]
Samuel Gale [1873];
Titus Groves [1880] – [1881];
Edgar Jeffries [1891] – **1897**);
John Owen (**1897**);
John Edward Davis (**1897 – 1899**);
Edward Naginton (**1899 – 1900**);
Frederick Charles Williams (**1900**);
Mary Ann Campbell (**1900 – 1901**);
Frederick Mears (**1901 – 1904**);
John Thomas Lees (**1904 – 1908**); manager
Benjamin Lees (**1908 – 1909**);
Betsy Ann Lees [1909]
Alfred Deans (**1909 – 1912**);
Phineas Clark (**1912 – 1914**);
Ernest William Crump (**1914 – 1915**);
Thomas Ernest Blud (**1915 – 1924**);
Edward Mills (**1924 – 1925**);

NOTES

Wisemore Street [1858]
83, Wisemore [1860], [1861], [1862], [1865], [1868], [1871], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908]
83-84, Wisemore [1881]
84, Wisemore [1911]
82, Wisemore [1912]

London Gazette 22/12/1857

“In the Matter of the Petition of *Edward Hale*, now and for five years last past residing and carrying on business as a Licensed Victualler and Retail Brewer, at the house known by the sign of the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, at the Wisemore, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, and also employed during the time aforesaid as a Journeyman Spring Hook Maker, an Insolvent Debtor. Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 14th of January next, at ten o’clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... The following parties were then called over, and as they came for their licenses, were duly cautioned individually.....

Edward Hale, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Wisemore, for permitting card playing in his house at ten minutes past twelve o’clock on a Saturday, and for which, on the 24th of March last, he had been fined 20s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 17/9/1859

“*Edward Hale* of the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, beer-house, Wisemore, charged with having his house open at half-past eleven, on the night of Sunday last, was found guilty; and as he had been several times before the Bench for similar offences, he was fined 10s and costs.”

* probably the same person

1861 Census

83, Wisemore
[1] *Richard S. Cooper* (34), victualler, born Walsall;
[2] Elizabeth Cooper (32), wife, born Walsall;
[3] John G. Cooper (2), son, born Walsall;
[4] Sarah Busby (17), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Free Press 29/1/1870

“County Court. *Gale v. Powell*.

In this case, the plaintiff, *Samuel Gale*, landlord of the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE and LITTLETON ARMS public-houses, Walsall, sought to recover from the defendant Edwin Powell, currier, Walsall, the sum of £5 for injuries resulting from an assault committed by defendant upon complainant. Mr. Young (instructed by Mr. Crump) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Dale (from the

office of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis, and Lewis) for the defendant.

Mr. Young applied to have the plaint amended, and the damages increased from £5 to £15. The grounds for the application being that the injuries had turned out more serious than they were thought to be at the time the summons was taken out.

Mr. Dale objected on the ground that if the application were granted, his client would be deprived of a statutory right to have a jury. His Honour adjourned the case till the 23rd of February – the question of costs being reserved.”

1871 Census

83, Wisemore – CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

- [1] *Henry Perry* (30), carter and publican, born Gailey, Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Perry (30), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Ann M. Perry (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] William Henry Perry (3 months), son, born Walsall:

Samuel Gale was also of the LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton St. East. [1872]

1881 Census

83-84, Wisemore

- [1] *Titus Groves* (52), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] Sarah A. Groves (39), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Harry Groves (9), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] Sidney Groves (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Sarah A. Groves (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Emma Latham (16), general servant, born Bloxwich:

1891 Census

84, Wisemore – CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

- [1] *Edgar Jeffries* (44), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Jemima Jeffries (46), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Ada Blanche Jeffries (17), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] William Job Jeffries (15), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Clara Ann Jeffries (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Annie Sarah Jeffries (8), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 26/5/1894

“Frank Simpson, who hails from the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Wisemore, has found out that he cannot damage other people’s furniture with impunity. It appears he smashed a number of articles of furniture belonging to Mary Hawkins, 59, Ball Street, under what circumstances did not transpire, and the magistrates adjourned the case for a week to allow him time to pay £1 in the name of compensation and 5s 6d costs.”

Mary Ann Campbell = Mary Ann Cample

1901 Census

83, Wisemore – Public House

- [1] *Mary Ann Cample* (35), widow, publican, born Scotland;
- [2] Charlott Cample (16), daughter, teacher, born Scotland;
- [3] Jessie Cample (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] William Cample (13), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Annie Cample (11), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Wisemore, Ceiling Collection (per Mr. *Mears*). £3 8s 1d.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Frederick Mears, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

“Applications for transfer of license were heard in the Guildhall on Tuesday.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for the transfer of the license of the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Wisemore, from *Betsy Ann Lees* to *Alfred*

Dean. The Chairman said there must be something wrong when there were five changes since 1900. The Chief Constable (Mr. Thomson) said the applicant was a respectable man and a well-known footballer. Mr. Jackson said the frequent changes occurred through men being promoted. The Chief Constable added that the managers were frequently changed. The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1911

“*Alfred Deans*, well known in local football circles, having played last season for Walsall, and who is the licensee of the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, was summoned for assaulting Edward Lawrence, 161, Stafford Street, on the 2nd inst. Mr. R. Morgan appeared for the complainant, and Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

Detailing the facts of the case to the bench Mr. Morgan submitted that the assault was an absolutely unprovoked one. At 7 o’clock on the Friday night in question, Lawrence went into the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS HOTEL, in Park Street, and called for a glass of ale, but the landlord refused him, saying that he had had enough. Complainant was about to leave the house perfectly quietly when *Deans*, who was in the room at the time said, ‘Can’t I have one with you?’ Complainant replied that he would treat him to a glass of ale. ‘No,’ said *Deans*, ‘I will have a threepenny cigar.’ Lawrence told him he could not afford a threepenny cigar, but was willing to treat him to a glass of ale. *Deans* was not content with this, and repeated his request for a cigar three times. Complainant refused him at each request, and *Deans* thereupon lifted his fist and struck him in the jaw, following it up by pushing him outside, through the swing doors. Having done that he bundled him into the public-house window, and but for the brass bar protecting it, would have pushed him through it. Defendant himself was a license holder in the town and a man who ought to know how to conduct himself on licensed premises.

Complainant gave evidence in support of his solicitor’s statement, and describing the alleged assault, said, he gave me the smartest punch I have ever had in my life, and loosened my teeth. He bundled me through the swing doors with his shoulders, saying ‘I am gaffer here, I will show you, get off.’ He added that *Deans* would have been the last man in the world he should have thought would have struck him, as he (Yardley) was a customer at the house.

Mr. Jackson: Were you the worse for drink? – Complainant: I had had a glass or two. I was in the same state I am now.

Mr. Jackson: Can you understand why a respectable man like Mr. *Deans* should have hit you without any provocation? – Witness: I cannot understand his conduct whatever.

Further questioned he denied that he struck *Deans* on the nose, after the latter had tried to persuade him to leave the house.

Alfred Devereaux, George Walker, and Thomas Machin, a railway station policeman, gave evidence in support of Lawrence, the latter witness attending on subpoena.

During the examination of one of the witnesses, Mr. Clarke asked if the witnesses in that case were out of court, and was told they were not.

Mr. Clarke: They have no right to be in court. They are like children; if they have got any brains they will soon learn it. Witnesses were ordered to leave.

Mr. Jackson said that the case was a somewhat remarkable one, because defendant had been a licensee in this town for several years, and was a respectable man. He was in this public-house on the night in question when he heard Lawrence refused by the landlord. Knowing him, he persuaded him to leave, but about a minute later he returned and struck *Deans*, who was talking to the barmaid, a violent blow on the nose. Defendant then caught hold of him and turned him out, ‘It is not likely,’ continued Mr. Jackson. ‘that a respectable man of his (Mr. *Deans*) standard, would without the slightest provocation, hit him on the jaw while in another licensee’s house? I say it is absurd.’

Deans then gave evidence, and said that the whole story of the prosecution was a fabrication and all made up. Lawrence, who was under the influence of drink, wanted to toss for drinks, and being a friend of his defendant led him out. However, complainant struck him and he retaliated.

Dora Barber, the barmaid, told a similar story and the Bench dismissed the case.”

1911 Census

84, Wisemore – CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

[1] *Alfred Deans* (33), widower, licensed victualler, born Hensford [Hednesford?];

[2] Elizabeth Deans (71), mother, widow, born Bridgnorth;

[3] Emily Philpott (22), servant, born Brudgetown:

Walsall Advertiser 6/11/1915

“*Ernest William Crump*, licensee of the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Wisemore, was summoned by his wife, *Amelia Crump*, who applied for a maintenance order, for persistent cruelty.

Mr. F. A. Platt appeared for the complainant, and explained that the complainant and her husband had been married for about nine years. When they were married the complainant was a widow with one child and since the marriage they had had two children. The complainant had lived a happy life with the defendant until they went to live in Birmingham, when the defendant began to knock her about. Since they had lived in Walsall she had had to leave him on three occasions. The first time she had cause to leave him was in November last year, when the defendant gave her ‘a good hiding.’ Afterwards, he then begged her to go back to him, which she did on the defendant promising to behave differently towards her. The defendant went out in the morning and came home again at night, the worse for drink, and he was persistently using filthy and abusive language towards her. On Friday, October 8th, the defendant struck her a violent blow on the face and cut her chin. She threatened to take a summons out, but the defendant prevented her on promising to behave better. On October 26th the defendant went into the house, upset the table, punched the complainant, caught hold of her arm and threw her down three steps. He told her and the children to pack up, which the complainant did and left the defendant.

The complainant bore out her solicitor's statement, and added that when she married the defendant she had £285, but that had all gone. She asked for an order of £1 a week.

Defendant said he could not afford it.

When asked how much the takings of the house were in a week defendant stated that they were £12.

Complainant said that they were more like £15 or £16 a week, in fact on one occasion she reckoned up £17 11s 0d. She thought the profit would be for the week about £3 or £4.

An order was made for payment of £1 a week."

Thomas Ernest Blud – see also LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS.

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Wisemore. £0 10s 5d."

Bilston & Willenhall Times 20/12/1924

"When *Edward Mills*, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE INN, Wisemore, was summoned at Walsall, on Wednesday, for selling by his agent other than during permitted hours, an inspector said he followed a girl into the public-house at 10.15pm. Mrs. *Mills* said it was only just ten o'clock, but the inspector found the clock in the bar was ten minutes slow. Defendant was ordered to pay costs, and warned to be more careful in future."

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

"At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst, the justices referred the following houses for compensation.....
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Wisemore."

It closed on 31st October 1925, after compensation was paid.

CARRIERS ARMS

29, (11), Field Street, (29, Big Field), (The Field), (Bloxwich Field), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

George Salt, pawnbroker, Birmingham Road, Walsall
John Beard
Philip Sanders, High Street, (later at Field Street), Bloxwich
Bloxwich Brewery Co. Ltd. [1904], [1910]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Hughes [1849] – [1854]
E Deakin [1862] ?
Thomas Reeves [1857] – [1870]
Mrs. Mary Reeves [1871] – [1872];
Thomas Jarvis [1881] – **1887**);
Edward Byatt Somerfield (**1887 – 1892**);
John Cleobury (**1892 – 1899**);
Mary Elizabeth (Cleobury) Price (**1899**);
William Price (**1899 – 1903**);
Thomas Marshall (**1903 – 1906**);
Edward Goodman (**1906 – 1925**);
William Henry Poole (**1925 – 1928**):

NOTES

Bloxwich Field [1849], [1851]
Big Field [1861], [1865]
11, Field Street [1871]
29, Big Field

29, Field Street [1881], [1891], [1901]
Field Street [1911], [1912]

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/1/1849 - Advert

“Public House To Let.

To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, an old Public House, known by the sign of the CARRIERS ARMS, situated in Bloxwich.

For particulars apply on the premises.”

1851 Census

Bloxwich Field – CARRIERS ARMS

[1] *William Hughes* (27), victualler and moulder, born Dawley, Shropshire;

[2] *Elizabeth Hughes* (46), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] *William Amoss* (22), son, shoe maker, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/7/1854 - Advert

“An Excellent Opportunity.

The CARRIERS ARMS INN, Bloxwich Field, near Walsall, by H. Farrington.

To Be Disposed Of, the licenses, goodwill, and possession of the above old licensed house, situated in a most populous and improving neighbourhood, in the occupation of Mr. *Hughes*. Coming-in about £100.

For particulars, apply to H. Farrington, Auctioneer, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 23/5/1857

“Guildhall Police Court Sergeant Simpson preferred complaints against the following publicans residing at Bloxwich

Thomas Reeves, CARRIERS ARMS, fined one shilling and costs all for keeping their houses open during prohibited hours on Sunday last.”

Thomas Reeves, beer retailer, Bloxwich. [1861]

1861 Census

Big Field – CARRIERS ARMS

[1] *Thomas Reeves* (38), victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Mary Reeves* (44), wife, born Rugeley;

[3] *Mary Ann Deakin* (10), visitor, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Bessy Davis* (14), servant, born Bloxwich;

[5] *Henry Thomas Reeves* (2), nephew, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/1/1862

“On Wednesday last an inquest was held before Mr. A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, on the body of Benjamin Parker, brewer, who was found dead on Tuesday morning. From the evidence it appeared that deceased was engaged by Mr. *E. Deakin*, of the CARRIERS ARMS INN, Bloxwich, to brew, and that with a view of being up early in the morning he went to the house on Monday night and was allowed to sleep in the clubroom. When Mr. *Deakin* got up himself on the following morning he discovered to his alarm the body of the deceased at the bottom of the stairs. He sent for Dr. Somerville, but medical aid was not of any avail, as life was extinct. The jury, after hearing a statement of the foregoing facts, returned a verdict in accordance therewith.”

Walsall Free Press 4/3/1865

“*Thomas Reeves*, landlord of the CARRIERS ARMS, beer-house, Bloxwich, was charged, by Mr. W. G. Read, with having brewed, on the 20th of December, without having made an entry of his intention to do so. Mr. Read said, on visiting the defendant’s house on the day in question, he found the defendant’s brewer at work; and, on examining the brewing paper, he found no entry of an intention to brew on the 21st, and, thinking there had been a mistake of the date, asked the brewer if he intended brewing again on the following day, he replied that he did.

The Bench after hearing Mr. Read’s statement, sentenced him to pay a fine of £50, and recommended it to be reduced to £10 by the Board of Inland Revenue.”

1871 Census

11, Field Street – CARRIERS ARMS

[1] *Mary Reeves* (55), widow, victualler, born Rugeley;

[2] *Margaret Reeves* (15), niece, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Ernest Reeves* (13), nephew, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Henry Reeves* (11), nephew, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[5] *James Deakin* (4), nephew, scholar, born Bloxwich:

1881 Census

29, Field Street – CARRIERS ARMS

- [1] *Thomas Jarvis* (43), coal miner, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Ann Jarvis* (38), wife, born Rugeley;
- [3] *Mary J. Jarvis* (15), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Thomas J. Jarvis* (12), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Emma Jarvis* (9), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Alice M. Jarvis* (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *William Jarvis* (6), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Albert Jarvis* (3 months), son, born Bloxwich:

1891 Census

29, Field Street

- [1] *Maria Somerfield* (41), publican's wife, born London;
- [2] *Diana Somerfield* (18), daughter, general servant, born Brownhills;
- [3] *Jane Somerfield* (16), daughter, general servant, born Hednesford;
- [4] *Anne M. Somerfield* (10), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Amy Somerfield* (6), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *John Somerfield* (5), son, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Elizabeth Johnson* (35), widow, general servant, born Yorkshire:

Walsall Advertiser 12/12/1896

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society held on Thursday Mr. *John Cleobury*, CARRIERS ARMS INN, Field Street, Bloxwich were elected members.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/12/1898 - Notice

“Notice is Hereby Given, that all Creditors and other persons having any Claims or Demands against the estate of *John Cleobury*, late of the CARRIERS ARMS, Field Street, Bloxwich, in the County of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, deceased (who died on the 26th day of November, 1898, and whose Will was proved in the Lichfield District Registry of Her Majesty's High Court of Justice, on the 19th day of December, 1898, by *Mary Elizabeth Cleobury*, of Bloxwich aforesaid, and *James Cleobury*, of Portland Street, Walsall, in the said county of Stafford, the Executors therein named) are hereby required to send particulars in writing of their claims or demands to the said Executors, or to me, the undersigned, on or before the 1st day of March, 1899, after which date the said Executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice, and they will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims or demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 30th day of December, 1898.

Enoch Evans, 20, Bridge Street, Walsall, Solicitor for the said Executors.”

Mary Elizabeth Cleobury married *William Price* in the 3rd quarter of 1899.

1901 Census

29, Field Street

- [1] *William Price* (29), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary E. Price* (27), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *John Cleobury* (9), stepson, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ernest Cleobury* (7), stepson, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Frank Cleobury* (5), stepson, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Florence Cleobury* (4), stepdaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Dora Price* (4 months), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Mary Johnson* (16), domestic servant, born Clyhanger, Staffordshire;
- [9] *Martha Whitehouse* (14), nurse, born Dudley:

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1901

“*Mary Johnson*, a servant at the CARRIERS ARMS, Bloxwich, summoned a young married woman named *Florence Salt*, 31, Peal Street, at the Borough Court, on Monday, for assault; and there was a cross summons against *Johnson* for assaulting *Salt*. On Saturday evening *Johnson* alleged that *Salt* threw a plant pot at her whilst in her employer's yard; and on Sunday they again met, when *Salt* put down her child, and struck *Johnson* in the face whilst she had her mistress's child in her arms.

Two witnesses supported *Johnson*'s version, and the summons against her was dismissed, whilst *Salt* was fined 5s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/5/1902

“*William Price*, landlord of the CARRIERS ARMS, Field Street, Bloxwich was summoned for keeping his house open during prohibited hours on April 29th, an also for selling to *Charles Taylor*, of 49, Reeves Street, intoxicating liquors during the time his licensed premises should have been closed on April 29th.

The prosecution was conducted on behalf of the police by the Town Clerk (*M. J. R. Cooper*). He said that the case before the

Court was in no sense a difficult one. On Tuesday, the 29th of April, at 12.15 midnight, Sergeant Willetts was on duty in Field Street, and heard a noise in the CROWN AND ANCHOR [sic]. There was a light in the house, and he looked through the keyhole. He saw the defendant, Charles Taylor sitting on a sofa. He had previously seen Taylor leave at 11 o'clock, and heard him wish some persons there 'Good night.' The sergeant then called a police-constable, stationed him at the back door, and knocked for admission. He kept his eye to the keyhole whilst waiting, and saw Taylor get up and go towards the back of the house. Then the landlord opened the door, and Sergeant Willetts examined the ground floor of the premises. In the kitchen he found Mrs. *Price*, but could not find Taylor. He asked *Price* where the man was, and got no reply. He pressed him, and then Mrs. *Price* said 'Call him downstairs Bill,' and after several calls Taylor came down. The sergeant asked *Price* to account for Taylor being present, and was told he was staying there for the night, as his father and mother were not at their home. Taylor's reply to a similar question, however, was that he was staying because he was going to help the landlord at four o'clock the next morning. He admitted he had been a customer in the house up to eleven o'clock and after then. At this stage of the proceedings, notwithstanding his statement that his parents were from home, Taylor left the inn and went home. The Town Clerk said he thought that the magistrates would have no difficulty in convicting the case.

Sergeant Willetts was called, and gave evidence identical with the Town Clerk's statement. In reply to questions by Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson), who defended, he said he did not see Taylor drink any beer. There were five empty jugs on the table near which the latter had been sitting. He knew *Price* and Taylor were old friends.

Police-constable Morris, the constable who stood at the back door of the house, also gave evidence. He not see Taylor drink any beer.

Inspector Marshall spoke to visiting the house of Taylor's parents, and ascertaining from them that they were not from home on the night of the 29th April.

For the defence, Mr. Jackson said the case was one which required an explanation, and he thought he would be able to provide a simple but a thoroughly satisfactory one. *Price* was charged under the same section of the Act both with selling intoxicating liquor and with having his licensed premises open for the sale of liquor during prohibited hours. There was, however, a saving clause in that Act which stated that a licensed person might supply liquors during prohibited hours to a bona-fide traveller or lodger, and also might entertain his private friends after the hours of closing. No evidence had been produced that *Price* had sold liquor after prohibited hours; no evidence had been brought to show that Taylor drank in the house after closing time. The police did not even ask Taylor if he had been drinking since eleven o'clock. It was absurd to suppose that any landlord would endanger his license and reputation for the sake of the profit he could make out of one solitary customer. As a matter of fact, *Price* had asked Taylor to stay with him during the night, so that he might be up at four o'clock the next morning to get a number of barrels up the cellar, his own knee being injured.

The defendant *Price* was next called, and bore out Mr. Jackson's statement.

In cross-examination by the Town Clerk, he said he never told Sergeant Willetts that Taylor was staying at the CROWN AND ANCHOR [sic] because his parents were from home. Asked how he accounted for going upstairs as soon as the police knocked, he said he had been upstairs ten minutes when that happened.

Mrs. *Price* said that Taylor had several times before stayed all night, but he never had any drink after 11 o'clock.

In pronouncing the Bench's decision, Mr. Brookes said they thought it was a very proper case to have been brought and thrashed out, but a majority of the magistrates considered the evidence was insufficient, and it would therefore be dismissed."

[The previous item in the newspaper concerned the CROWN AND ANCHOR.]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various.....

Thomas Marshall, CARRIERS ARMS."

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

"The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

CARRIERS ARMS, Bloxwich. The license of this house (owners Bloxwich Brewery Company) was adjourned for the production of plans.

Mr. H. H. Jackson was for the landlord, *Thomas Marshall*, and the owners."

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1907

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... Mr. *Edward Goodman*, CARRIERS ARMS INN, Field Street, Bloxwich."

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

CARRIERS ARMS, Bloxwich Mr. Jackson appeared for the owners, the Bloxwich Brewery Company, and the tenant, *Edward Goodman*. He said it was a fully-licensed house, and the value could not be challenged."

1911 Census

Field Street

- [1] *Edward Goodman* (32), innkeeper, born Cheslyn Hay, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Colara Goodman* (27), wife, married 7 years, born Cheslyn Hay, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Hilda May Goodman* (6), daughter, born Cheslyn Hay, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Sarah Bates* (25), domestic servant, born Cheslyn Hay, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 24/5/1913

“The new green in connection with the CARRIERS ARMS Bowling Club was formally opened on Saturday.....”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
CARRIERS ARMS, Bloxwich, 3s 10d.”

Walsall Observer 24/11/1917

“At the CARRIERS ARMS Bowling Club, Bloxwich, on Monday evening, Mr. Sanders (president) presented the prizes to the following winners: J. Harvey, A. Hathaway, H. Price, E. Jones, W. Bradford, E. Goodman, S. Dolman, and J. Stanton. The secretary stated the past season had been a success, with a balance in hand. A cruet was presented to the captain (Mr. Hathaway) for services rendered to the club.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
CARRIERS ARMS, Field Street. £1 6s 10d.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 8th March 1928.

Lichfield Mercury 9/3/1928

“Walsall Licensing Sessions.....

The following five houses, all of Bloxwich, were referred for compensation:

CARRIERS ARMS, Field Road; STATION HOTEL, Station Street; VICTORIA STORES, High Street; BLUE PIG, Elmore Row; and the VINE INN, The Green.”

Compensation on £2,650 was paid on 22nd October 1928.

The license was extinguished on 27th September 1928.

CASTLE AND FALCON

Carless Street, (33, Oxford Street), Caldmore, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Westwood
Showells Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Westwood [1865] – **1901**);
Mrs. Maria Westwood (**1901 – 1911**);
Sarah Ann Allsopp (**1911 – 1914**);
Joseph Wilson (**1914 – 1915**);
George Thomas Carnell (**1915 – []**)
Joseph Beddows [] – **1930**): manager

NOTES

33, Oxford Street [1871], [1880], [1881], [1891], [1904], [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....
Mr. Matthews, from the office of Mr. Wilkinson, applied on behalf of the following parties.....
John Westwood, Oxford Street Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....
Mr. Mathews applied on behalf of Mr. *John Westwood*, beerhouse keeper, Oxford Street, and referred to the rapid growth of the district in the vicinity of Oxford Street. Application refused.”

John Westwood, beer retailer, Oxford Street. [1868]

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday applications for new licenses for the sale of spirits.....
Mr. Gillespie applied on behalf of *John Westwood*, beerhouse keeper, Oxford Street.
The Mayor announced that the Bench had decided not to grant any new licenses this year.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1870

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....
There were eight applicants for new spirit licenses.....
John Westwood, beerhouse keeper, Oxford Street.....
The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and after having been absent about half an hour they returned, and announced that they had decided to refuse all the applications, though they had come to this decision with much regret in some instances.”

John Westwood, beer retailer, 33, Oxford Street. [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

33, Oxford Street

- [1] *John Westwood* (51), beerhouse keeper, born Burntwood;
- [2] *Maria Westwood* (51), wife, born Walsall:

1881 Census

33, Oxford Street

- [1] *John Westwood* (60), innkeeper, born Burntwood;
- [2] *Maria Westwood* (60), wife, born Great Barr;
- [3] Betsy Burford (34), general servant, born Wednesbury:

1891 Census

33, Oxford Street – CASTLE AND FALCON INN

- [1] *John Westwood* (70), publican, born Burntwood, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Maria Westwood* (70), wife, born Great Barr;
- [3] Eliza Westwood (29), niece, born Burntwood:

Walsall Advertiser 24/6/1893

“A powerfully-built man named James Parkes, Sandwell Street, was summoned by *John Westwood*, landlord of the CASTLE AND FALCON, Oxford Street, Caldmore, for doing wilful damage at his house on Monday. The defendant was alleged to have entered the house ‘fresh’ with drink. He was refused liquor whereupon he began drinking from the glasses of customers, and when ordered out lay down on the floor. Ultimately the defendant put his arm through a glass door. Damage amounted to 10s. Defendant in answer to the charge, told the Bench he had been at the house five hours, and added that ‘when his money had gone he supposed he could go.’
An order for the payment of the damage and 5s and costs was made. Defendant went to gaol.”

John Westwood, beer retailer, 33, Oxford Street, Caldmore. [1896]

1901 Census

Oxford Street – CASTLE AND FALCON INN

- [1] *John Westwood* (79), publican, born Burntwood;
- [2] *Maria Westwood* (80), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Elizabeth Westwood (39), niece, born Burntwood;
- [4] Polly Westwood (35), niece, born Burntwood:

Mrs. *Maria Westwood*, beer retailer, 33, Oxford Street, Caldmore. [1904]

1911 Census

33, Oxford Street – CASTLE AND FALCON

[1] *Maria Westwood* (90), widow, beerhouse, born Walsall;

[2] *Sarah Ann Allsopp* (55), niece, widow, born Burntwood, Staffordshire;

[3] Ethel May Sort (19), servant, born Tipton:

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1911

“Friday’s Police..... The following licenses were transferred.....

CASTLE AND FALCON, Oxford Street, from the Executrix of *Maria Westwood*, deceased, to *Sarah Ann Allsopp*.”

Mrs. *Sarah Ann Allsopp*, beer retailer, 33, Oxford Street, Caldmore. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 4/7/1914

“We are informed that one of the few remaining home brewing houses in the borough has this week been disposed of by private negotiation by Messrs. Fox and Harrison, F.A.I. It was recently offered by them at public auction, and was withdrawn. The house referred to is the CASTLE AND FALCON INN, Oxford Street, Caldmore, with which was included the private dwelling house adjoining.

The solicitors acting on behalf of the late Mr. *John Westwood*’s executors (the owners) were Messrs. Wilkinson & Co., of The Bridge.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

CASTLE AND FALCON, Caldmore. £0 6s 4d.”

Walsall Observer 22/6/1918 - Advert

“For sale, Zither, Banjo and Case; Auto Harp and Case; also a Mule or Canary Breeding Cage, and a Singing Cage, all in splendid order.

CASTLE AND FALCON, Oxford Street, Caldmore, Walsall.”

It closed in July 1930.

CASTLE AND FALCON

Wisemore Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas German [1834] – [1835]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas German, retailer of beer, Wisemore. [1835]

CHAINMAKERS ARMS

97, (95), (94), Green Lane / Farringdon Street, (Blue Lane), Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

Henry Beebee
Brewers’ Investment Corporation
Showells Brewery Co. Ltd.

Ind Coope and Alsopp (leased from 29th June 1935)
Ansell's Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)

LICENSEES

John Webster [1841] – [1853]
Henry Beebee [1858] – 1889);
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gould (1889 – 1890);
William Vann (1890);
Henry Reynolds (1890 – 1910);
James Howard Biddulph (1910 – 1912);
William Cook (1912 – 1924); manager
John Walker (1924 – 1934);
Charles Edward Walker (1934 – 1936);
John Walker (1936 – 1942);
Thomas Sylvester Taylor (1942 – 1943);
John William Walls (1943 – 1944);
William Edward Hawkins (1944 – 1950);
John Charles Fell (1950 – 1951);
Thomas Foxall (1951 – 1953);
William Briscoe Clews (1953 – 1955);
George Alfred Charles Evans (1955 – 1956);
Harold Preston (1956 – 1957);
Mrs. Dorothy Margeret Waterfield (1957 – 1964);
Ronald Levy (1964 – [1966])

NOTES

95, Green Lane [1860], [1861], [1868], [1871], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1932], [1940]
94, Green Lane [1881]
97, Green Lane [1911]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 13/6/1847

“Benjamin Osband will, with any man in England, run and pick 50 or 100 stones a yard apart, for any sum, and at any time or place. He can be heard of at Mr. *John Webster*'s, CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, near Birchills, Walsall, Staffordshire.”

John Webster was also a curb and ship chain manufacturer. [1849], [1850]
He was described as also being a chainmaker. [1851]

1851 Census

Green Lane

- [1] *John Webster* (46), chain maker, born Rushall;
- [2] Cathrine Webster (43), wife, born Rushall;
- [3] John Dutson (24), son in law, brickmaker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Elenor Dutson (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Cathrine Webster (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Alfred Webster (8), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Edwin Webster (3), son, born Walsall;
- [8] Phoebe Cleobury (16), servant, born Walsall;
- [9] Edward Sly (20), servant, born Birmingham:

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/12/1853

“Walsall Petty Sessions.....

John Webster, of the CHAIN MAKERS ARMS, Blue(?) Lane, was fined £1 and costs, for having their houses open after twelve o'clock on Saturday night.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/8/1855

“On Saturday last an inquest was held by A. A. Fletcher, Esq, at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Birchills, on the body of Lockey Cumming, an Irishman, twenty-three years of age. On the previous Thursday the deceased was supplying the furnace at the Littleton Works, in the occupation of Messrs. Highway, when the boiler suddenly burst, and he received such injuries as to cause his death on the following day. The jury seemed to think that no blame could be attached to any one; the boiler was in good working order, and had been repaired only three weeks previously, and returned a verdict accordingly.”

Henry Beebee = Henry Beeby

1861 Census

95, Green Lane

- [1] *Henry Beebee* (32), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Catherine Beebee (26), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Ann Beebee (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Henrietta Beebee (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Henry John Beebee (4), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Alfred Beebee (2), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Jane Hodge (19), general servant, born Somersetshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 15/11/1861

“At the Walsall Petty Sessions, held at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

Henry Beeby, of the CHAINMAKERS ARMS INN, was charged with having in his possession two ducks, the property of William Abbott. Mr. Wilkinson appeared for the defence.

Complainant said that he had two ducks of a peculiar appearance in his possession on the morning of Friday last. They were a couple he had reared, and he knew them well. When he returned to his home on Friday evening, they were gone, and he did not see them again until Wednesday last, when he observed them upon the premises of defendant. He then went and claimed them, but defendant refused to give them up, saying that he bought them on Friday last from a man who had a drove of goats, and that he gave 3s 4d for them. Complainant insisted that the ducks were his, and defendant said he might have them on payment of the above-named sum. This did not suit Mr. Abbott's notions of restitution, and he called the law into requisition to vindicate his rights. When, however, the ducks were brought into Court, he could not identify them. For the duck, he said that it was not the same as the officer had seized under the warrant, and for the drake, he said he could only tell it by its walk, as it was bow-legged. (Laughter.) His evidence generally was so uncertain that he felt it necessary to ask for an adjournment, in order that he might produce witnesses. The Bench intimated that if they granted an adjournment complainant must pay all costs, and the attorney's fee as well.

Mr. Wilkinson said the case was so weak and frivolous, and his client was a man of such unquestionable character, that he hoped the summons would be dismissed. He commented at length on the evidence, showing that it could not be relied upon.

The Bench dismissed the case.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/4/1863

“On Thursday week, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Walsall, upon the body of Eliza Shelley, aged 13 days, who died under the following circumstances. On Tuesday the deceased, who had been ailing from birth, was taken by her mother to the shop of Mr. Smith, druggist, Stafford Street, who prescribed for the child; but as it was no better on the following morning, the mother took it back to Mr. Smith, who recommended her to take it to Mr. Palmer, surgeon; but on their way to Mr. Palmer's the child expired. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes; but the coroner censured the conduct of the druggist, and intimated that in the event of any similar case occurring in the future he should feel it to be his duty to institute proceedings against the chemist.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/12/1866

“On Saturday last, A. Fletcher, Esq, Borough Coroner, held an inquiry at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, touching the death of Lavinia Potts, 64 years of age, the wife of a resident in Short Acre. It seemed that on Friday morning deceased went to the shop of Mr. Hubbard, chemist, Stafford Street, and, addressing one of Mr. Hubbard's sons, who was in charge of the place, asked for fourpenny worth of laudanum. On being cautioned to the poisonous properties of the drug she pointed to the bottle she had bought, which bore Mr. Hubbard's labels, containing the words 'Laudanum' and 'Poison' and remarked that she had had some before. On receiving the laudanum she went home, and shortly afterwards called to her niece, a young woman named Gabb, who was staying with her, and said, 'Good bye, Ellen; I have done it.' Miss Gabb at once snatched the bottle from her lips, as she was draining its contents, and helped her to a chair. Subsequently some ipecuanaha wine was obtained from the shop of Mr. Hubbard, and administered to her in hot water, and she was soon afterwards seen by the assistant to Dr. Day, but she was then dead. She had been in the habit of purchasing laudanum from the shop of Mr. Hubbard, and taking it for the pain in her side. She had also been in the habit of drinking to excess, and had been subject to fits, which usually occurred at the full and change of the moon. The Jury found that she Committed Suicide while in a State of Temporary Insanity.”

1871 Census

95, Green Lane – CHAIN MAKERS ARMS

- [1] *Henry Beebee* (42), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Catherine Beebee (37), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah Ann Beebee (17), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Henrietta Beebee (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Henry J. Beebee (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Alfred Beebee (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Samuel E. Beebee (3), son, scholar, born Walsall;

- [8] Isaac W. Beebee (8 months), son, born Walsall;
[9] Clara M. Sartain (19), niece, born Walsall;
[10] John Massey (18), man servant, born Bridgnorth:

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/12/1876

“On Tuesday Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS on the body of Charles Foxall, aged eight years, who, on the 24th ult, whilst at Messrs. Bissell’s works, at the Birchills, accidentally fell into the canal and was drowned. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1881 Census

94, Green Lane – CHAINMAKERS ARMS

- [1] Henry Beebee (52), widower, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
[2] Samuel E. Beebee (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[3] Isaac W. Beebee (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[4] Florence M. Beebee (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] Howard W. Beebee (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] Eleanor Dutson (22), niece, barmaid, born Walsall;
[7] Maggie O’Brien (19), general servant, born Walsall:

Evening Express 18/5/1881

“An inquest was held at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Walsall, on Tuesday afternoon, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, relative to the death of Jonah Appleby, aged three and a half years, lately residing with his parents at Green Lane. From the evidence of several witnesses, it appeared that Enoch Brayford, scrap iron dealer, Wolverhampton Street, was driving a spring trap, containing about 15cwt of iron, up Green Lane to the furnaces. The deceased, who was picking up some beans that had been scattered in the street, started to run across to the opposite side just as the cart was passing, and got in front of the horse, which knocked him down, and the wheel of the trap passed over his head, causing instantaneous death. The driver, immediately he observed what had occurred, jumped off his seat and went to the assistance of the child, who was then quite dead. The independent witnesses who were called stated that the trap was going at a moderate pace – not more than five or six miles an hour – when the accident occurred, and that in their opinion the deceased could not have been seen by the driver till the accident took place.
A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Evening Express 8/9/1881

“An inquest was held at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, Walsall, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, relative to the death of Flora Lambert, aged two months, daughter of Kate Lambert, a single woman, residing at 246, Green Lane, Walsall. It appeared that the child had been delicate since birth. On Sunday night the deceased was put to bed about nine o’clock, and had been attended to during the night by its mother, who, however, when she awoke in the morning found the child dead in her arms. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

Walsall Observer 17/1/1885

“On Saturday last, Mr. T. H. Stanley, the Borough Coroner, held an inquest at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS on the body of Frederick Smith, aged 48, who died in Mr. Boy’s brickyard on the previous day, as briefly reported last week. Mary Ann Smith, of No.2 Court, Duncalf Street, deposed that she had known deceased for some years through his having worked with her husband. On the 2nd January deceased came to her house, and she remarked to him that he looked very bad and thin, and invited him in. He went in and sat by the fire, and told her that he had been for the last ten weeks at Daw End, sleeping in a hovel. He was a quarry maker by trade, and had had nothing to eat but what the workmen gave him. Witness cooked him a pork steak, and gave him some coffee. He ate a little, but said he could not eat any more as he was past it. Deceased slept on the sofa at her house that night, and in the morning witness gave him some breakfast, and recommended him to go to the Workhouse. He went away, but returned about six or half past. She asked him why he was not at the Workhouse, and deceased said that he had been told he must go to Wolverhampton, but that he had some soup at the Workhouse. Witness asked deceased to stay until Monday; and on Sunday she did him a chop, but he could not eat it, and was sick and ill at night. On Monday he had some mutton and coffee for breakfast, and witness gave him 1s. She told him to get somewhere where he could be taken care of, for he seemed very cold and drowsy. On Saturday morning, the 3rd instant, the relieving officer called at her house and asked for Frederick Clark; but deceased, whose body the jury had seen, was Frederick Smith. Mary Jones, Railway Row, deposed that she worked at Boy’s and saw deceased there on Friday. He looked very ill, and she asked him if he would have 4½d, and gave it him. He lay by the kiln, as he said he was very cold. She went to him about half an hour afterwards, and he said he was a little better. She had not seen him until Friday, but she heard from the men in the yard that he had been there all of the week. Soon after eight she said the deceased looked very ill, and lay with his eyes close; and he asked her to raise him up, which she did. She asked him if he would have some brandy, and he said, ‘No’ but she could get him some port wine. She got some and gave it to him, and he asked her to rest his head on her breast. She did so, and as he leaned back he spread out his hands, and one of the men said he was dead. She looked more closely, and saw he was so, having died quietly about a quarter past nine. Many people came to sleep at the kiln, and sometimes there were as many as 15. Deceased had been seen about from time to time from Monday until the Friday. John Barnsley, relieving officer, deposed that on Saturday morning, the 3rd January, he saw deceased in the lodge at the Work-

house, and he (deceased) said that he wanted to go into the house. Witness questioned him as to where he came from, and told him that, as he seemed ill, he ought to be in the house. He told deceased to come to his house, which was five minutes' walk distant, and he would give him a ticket. Deceased did not say that he could not walk to witness's house, but said he would come for the order; but did not do so. It was about half past eleven on Saturday that he saw deceased.

After the summing up of the Coroner, the jury returned a verdict of Death by Starvation, and stated that they considered Mr. Barnsley very much to blame for not allowing deceased to remain at the Workhouse, seeing that he was in such a very weak state; and that he did not send the note down to him, and ask the porter to keep him until it arrived.

Mr. Barnsley said that he had to make inquiries into all cases, and he did so in this case, and found that what deceased had said was the truth. He had been to Duncalf Street, and told the woman there that deceased would be admitted if he went there. He had not told him that he would have to go to Wolverhampton. Deceased never saw him again after seeing him at the Workhouse. The jury were unanimous in desiring the Coroner to express to Mr. Barnsley their opinion that the man ought not to have been allowed to go away."

Birmingham Daily Post 20/8/1885

"At the Guildhall, yesterday, George Rutledge, Wolverhampton, was convicted of having, on the 4th July, stolen two gig-lamps, a gig-apron, and a gig-cover, the property of *Henry Beebee*, of the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, and was sentenced to three months' imprisonment. It seemed he purloined the articles whilst at the prosecutor's house, and went the same day to the TEDDESLEY ARMS, where he offered the lamps to the landlord, Mr. Biddulph, for 4s. Mr. Biddulph felt convinced that the lamps had been dishonestly come by and detained them, and the prisoner made good his escape for the time being, but was secured by Detective-sergeant Drury this week."

Birmingham Daily Post 21/8/1885

"On Saturday Mr. T. H. Standley held an inquest at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane, on the body of Richard Jennings (35), miner, who died on Friday night from the effects of injuries to the neck sustained on the previous Wednesday through his falling out of a cart on his way home from Wolverhampton market.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1888

"At the Guildhall, yesterday, Patrick Curley, Green Lane, was charged with stealing from the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, in the same locality, four fowls, value 12s, the property of *Henry Beebee*, formerly keeper of the house.

The fowls, and another, were safe in the pen on Saturday afternoon, but at a later hour they were missed, and the prisoner was suspected, he having been seen to pass into the yard several times. The next morning Detective-officer Smith found fowls baking at the house of Thomas Myland, St. Patrick's Square, and Mrs. Myland admitted that she had bought them for 1s each from the prisoner. The birds were prize fowls worth 10s each.

Sixteen previous convictions were proved against the prisoner, who was sentenced to twenty-one days' imprisonment, with hard labour.

Mr. Gillespie appeared for the prosecution."

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1888

"Mrs. *Gould*, wife of the keeper of the Queens Hotel, Chase Town, applied for a temporary authority to keep the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, in her own name.

Mr. A. Whitehouse appeared for the applicant, and, after stating the law bearing upon the question, called Mrs. *Gould*, who said she and her husband had always lived on good terms, and that they intended to continue to live together. She had had the sole management of the Queens Hotel, but the money with which she was taking to the CHAINMAKERS ARMS was her own money. The Chief Constable opposed the application.

The magistrates retired for consultation, and on their return the Mayor said they had considered the matter at some length, deeming it an important one, and by a majority were in favour of the license being granted."

Birmingham Daily Post 1/1/1890

"Yesterday Mr. T. H. Stanley, borough coroner, held an inquest at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane, on the body of John Wallbank (47), stoker, Birch Street.

It seemed that on Monday the deceased was wheeling a loaded barrow in the retort-house at the gasworks, when he suddenly fell. His fellow workmen raised him up, but he partially fell again, and immediately expired. He had not been well for some days before, but he was in a jovial mood just before the fatal seizure.

Verdict, Death from Natural Causes."

Birmingham Daily Post 29/12/1890

"Mr. T. H. Stanley (coroner) held an inquest at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, Walsall, on Saturday, on the body of Sarah Needham (69), wife of Charles Needham, limestone miner, living at the back of 22, Long Acre.

The evidence bore out the statement already published, that in the temporary absence of her husband the deceased attempted to go upstairs carrying a lighted paraffin lamp, and stumbling, smashed the lamp, or caused it to explode, setting her clothes on fire. Her husband deposed that when he came back into the house he found her lying on the floor, and did his best to extinguish her burning clothes, also calling for assistance; but when Police-constable Curtis was called in the man was lying on the squab in a stupid condition from drink, the woman being still on the floor dead, but with her garments burning. There was also reason to

believe that the woman was not quite sober.
A verdict of Accidental Death from burns was returned.”

1891 Census

95, Green Lane

[1] *Henry Reynolds* (41), blacksmith, public house manager, born Broseley, Shropshire;

[2] *Emma Reynolds* (39), wife, born Ironbridge, Shropshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 17/7/1893

“On Saturday Mr. Stanley held an inquest at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, on the body of *Richard Mason* (35), warehouse clerk, 235, Green Lane.

He had been out of work since April, and on Tuesday was caught in the rain whilst seeking a situation in Birmingham. Afterwards he complained of pains in his limbs, and on Thursday vomited a little blood whilst going in and out of the house. In the afternoon, whilst on the couch, he became worse, and a neighbour who had previously put a mustard-plaister on his chest, went to his assistance, and sent for Dr. Lynch, but in a short time he had expired.

Pneumonia was assigned as the cause of death, and a verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/4/1899

“The Walsall Grand Lodge, will meet for business on Monday next at nine o’clock, at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, headquarters of the Lord Dudley Lodge. There will be supper at 7.30 prompt, in connection with the lodge. Tickets may be obtained from the lodge secretary Mr. S. B. Jones, or the secretary of the Grand Lodge.

The Churchill Lodge will meet on Wednesday next the 19th, and the Beaconsfield Lodge will meet on Monday, the 24th at 8.30.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1899

“Walsall & District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *Henry Reynolds*, CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 27/1/1900

“On Thursday evening, last week, upwards of 40 members sat down to a substantial repast, served in a most satisfactory manner, to the delight of all, at Mr. *Harry Reynolds*, CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane.....”

Walsall Observer 14/4/1900

“An inquest was held on Wednesday afternoon, at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, by the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley), on the body of *John Owen* (70), miner, of 89, Green Lane.

Mrs. Owen, widow of deceased, said that on Saturday morning last, between eleven and twelve o’clock, her husband left the house to go to his son, who lived at 91, Green Lane, to ask him to light his pipe. Witness asked him not to go, but he insisted.

Not many minutes after he had left a boy came to witness’s house and told her that her husband had fallen down, and a little while afterwards her son *John* carried the old man in and laid him on the sofa. He died at 7.30 on Monday morning.

John Owen, ironworker, 91, Green Lane, son of the deceased, said that he was just leaving his house when his son ran up to him and said that his grandfather had fallen down in the entry. Witness ran to assist his father, and carried him into the house and laid him on the sofa.

Dr. *McKinstry* said that on Saturday evening, between seven and eight o’clock, he was called in to see the deceased, and found that he was suffering from a fractured thigh. Witness saw him again on Sunday, and when he called on Monday morning he found that his patient was dead. Death was due to shock, caused by the fall and the injury. The deceased was a very feeble old man, and witness had attended him for five or six years.

The Coroner having summed up the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Observer 11/8/1900

“Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, on Tuesday, on the body of an infant named *Louisa Cartwright*, aged six weeks, who died on the night of August 5th.

Annie Cartwright, wife of *William Cartwright*, bricklayer’s labourer, of 6 house, 10 court, Green Lane, the mother of the deceased, said she took the baby to bed at 11 o’clock on Sunday night. When witness went to sleep the baby was lying on her right arm between witness and her husband. The baby had been in perfect health up till then. When she woke at 2.30am on Monday the baby was still on her right arm, but she noticed that the mouth was squeezed up, its hands were clenched, and its knees were drawn up. The child was dead when witness woke.

Dr. *O’Meara* said that he was called in by the police to see the child on Monday evening. The probable cause of death was over-laying.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the child died from suffocation from over-laying.”

AND

“An inquest was held on Tuesday at the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, by the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley), on the body of *John Kelly* (56), labourer, 62, Long Acre Street, who died on Sunday morning, August 5th.

Bridget Kelly, of 62, Long Acre Street, wife of the deceased, said that her husband went to bed at 8.30 on Saturday night, and he had been drinking, but not heavily. He was not drunk. At about a quarter or half past one in the night she heard something fall downstairs. Witness was sitting by the fire, and on opening the door of the stairs she saw her husband lying there, with his head

doubled under him. Witness and a lodger named Ford got the deceased on to a chair. He was unconscious, and was bleeding from the head.

Witness sent for Dr. O'Meara, but before his arrival her husband died.

Job Ford, lodging with Kelly at 62, Long Acre Street, said that he was in the entry at about half past one when Mrs. Kelly called him in. Witness went in and picked the deceased up and put him on a chair. He was insensible, and was bleeding from the top of his head. He died about ten minutes after he was picked up. There was no light on the stairs.

Dr. O'Meara said that he saw the deceased at about two a.m. on Sunday morning. He was quite dead when witness saw him, and had a wound on his head 2½ inches long, extending to the bone, and the deceased was also bleeding from the right ear. The wound was caused by a heavy fall, and death was due to concussion of the brain following on the blow to the head.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death from a fall downstairs."

1901 Census

95, Green Lane

- [1] *Henry Reynolds* (51), publican, born Broseley, Shropshire;
- [2] *Emma Reynolds* (50), wife, born Ironbridge, Shropshire;
- [3] *Maggie Linthorpe* (21), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 16/4/1904

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Henry Reynolds*, CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane....."

1911 Census

95, Green Lane

- [1] *James Howard Biddulph* (38), hotel manager, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Biddulph* (34), wife, married 4 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ethel Adams* (13), niece, school, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
CHAIN MAKERS ARMS, Green Lane. £1 10s 2d."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/10/1931

"I served the beer at 9.55. They went out at the back. I thought they had gone, but they must have stopped talking for a time.' This statement was made by *John Walker*, landlord of the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, Walsall, to Police-constable Bentley, when told on Sunday, 20 September, that the latter had met two men leaving the house at 10.18pm with a half-gallon bottle containing beer.

Yesterday William Kimberley, of Farringdon Street, Walsall, was fined 10s for taking intoxicating drink from licensed premises otherwise than during permitted hours, and two summonses against *Walker* for alleged aiding and abetting were dismissed.

Mr. F. Cooper (for the landlord) said that it was not sufficient to sustain a case of aiding and abetting against a publican that a man should be seen coming from a licensed house with a bottle of beer after hours. A landlord had a perfect right to be open after hours, although he was not entitled to sell after hours.

A summons against *Walker* for having, it was alleged, supplied the beer during non-permitted hours, was also dismissed."

1939 Register

95, Green Lane

- [1] *John Walker*, date of birth 7/9/1875, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Henriette Walker*, dob 7/7/1876, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, £0 2s 6d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane. £1 4s 2d."

John William Walls = John William Hall

Walsall Observer 14/8/1943

"At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society held on Thursday....

Mr. *John William Hall* [sic], CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, was elected a member of the society."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane. £0 19s 7d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1958

“It is thought that when several tons of bricks and masonry crashed from the top of a Walsall public house yesterday afternoon, a 14-year-old girl sacrificed her own life to save that of a baby. Kathleen Swain, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Swain of Rupert Street, Walsall, was on an errand in Green Lane. With her she had Marie Makin, aged 15 months, also of Rupert Street. As they were passing the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, a corner public house, the top nine rows of bricks, stretching the full width of the building, crashed down together with lead beading and masonry.

It is believed that Kathleen, realising the danger, pushed Marie to the safety of the doorway of the public house, but was herself unable to get clear. When she was extricated from the debris she was unconscious and was found to be dead on arrival at Manor Hospital. Although extremely frightened, Marie was unharmed.

Police officers cordoned off the area in front of the fall because the face of the building was slightly bulging. On their advice Mrs. *Dorothy Margaret Waterfield*, the licensee closed three top floor bedrooms. ‘Had the fall occurred an hour earlier, the pavement would have been crowded with customers leaving the public house,’ a police spokesman said.

A Walsall Corporation double deck trolley bus had just pulled away from a boarding stop, three yards away, when the fall occurred. Passengers and bus crew helped to free the buried girl.

In recent years, Walsall Corporation has been demolishing blocks of property in the Green Lane area. The scene of the tragedy is almost surrounded by new multi-storey flats which have been built on the cleared sites.

The cause of the brickwork falling was being investigated last night. At the time of the collapse there was no wind at all.

Representatives of the brewery company, after visiting the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, decided that the public-house should not open last night.”

Ronald Levy was the brother of Edward Levy of the NAGS HEAD (BEACON WAY), Little Bloxwich.

Birmingham Daily Post 18/6/1965

“A new public house at Walsall is to be fitted with a special green copper roof so that it will not detract from the view of tenants in nearby multi-storey flats. Walsall licensing justices were told this yesterday when they granted the removal of the license of the existing CHAINMAKERS ARMS in Green Lane, Walsall, to new premises proposed for the same site.

When the chairman, Mr. K. Preston, asked whether the roof could be considered a substitute for a blue sky, Mr. J. Foster, the architect, replied, ‘The people in the flats will probably have the benefit of both.’”

Closed

Demolished

CHESTNUT

Goscote, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

It was open on 31st December 2006.

It was destroyed by fire on 1st January 2007.

Demolished

CITY SLICKER

Bradford Place, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mike Bishop []
Craig Pinches [1991]

NOTES

It adjoined the Homebase store.

It opened in 1985.

Mike Bishop was married to June.

Sandwell Evening Mail 21/2/1991

“A Problem pub at Walsall re-opens tomorrow for over-20s with a new image as the town’s first American bar and night club. Mitchells and Butlers have spent thousands of pounds on alterations to the CITY SLICKER in Bradford Place where there have been several incidents in recent months. Tomorrow it will officially open as BRADFORD PLACE with a staff of 40 and a ban on customers under 20.

Mr. *Craig Pinches*, the licensee, said today, ‘In the past problems have occurred with young people drinking then getting involved in fights with the police outside.’

Security cameras have been placed inside and outside the building so that any potential difficulties can be spotted and dealt with. There will also be a guard on the car park.

Staff in the pub are learning to play musical instruments, juggle and even do simple magic tricks to help create a good atmosphere.”

CLOCKMAKERS ARMS

49, Rolling Mill Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Humphries [1871]
John West [1881] – [1894]

NOTES

It had an ante '69 beerhouse license.

1871 Census

49, Rolling Mill Street

- [1] *William Humphries* (24), retail brewer, born Bilston;
- [2] Sarah A. Humphries (23), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah A. Dutton (17), general servant, born Bilston:

1881 Census

49, Rollingmill Street

- [1] *John West* (30), publican, born Pershore, Worcestershire;
- [2] Phoebe A. West (30), wife, born Pershore, Worcestershire;
- [3] Mary Hog (24), general servant, born Bilston;
- [4] Mary J. Fry (17), boarder, born Pershore, Worcestershire:

1891 Census

49, Rollingmill Street – CLOCKMAKERS ARMS

[1] *John West* (40), publican, born Pershore, Worcestershire;

[2] Phoebe Ann West (40), wife, born Wick, Worcestershire;

[3] Henry Solman (18), nephew, clockmaker's apprentice, born Hanley Castle, Worcestershire;

[4] Sarah Willingham (22), domestic servant, born Priestfield:

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1893

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society..... The monthly meeting of this Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *John West*, the CLOCKMAKERS ARMS INN, Rolling Mill Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1894

“The Lottery Cases. In our issue of the 20th January in reporting some of these cases we stated that a lottery was held at the house of Mr. *West*, the CLOCKMAKERS ARMS, and got up by him. We now find that Mr. *West* was merely charged with aiding and abetting in a lottery, and that the lottery was neither got up by him nor held at his house.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

“Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday.....

In the case of *John West*, the CLOCKMAKERS ARMS, Rolling Mill Street, the Pleck, against whom there was a conviction for aiding and abetting a lottery, the decision was reserved; as was the case of John Tolly, the STAG INN, Bell Street, Bloxwich, against whom a was a like conviction.....

The Bench deliberated in private for some time, and on their return into court announced that all the other applications would be granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held in the Guildhall yesterday.....

Mr. W. H. Duignan, on behalf of Mr. Thomas Fowler, applied for the removal of the license of the CLOCKMAKERS ARMS beer-house, Rollingmill Street, to premises situate at 45 and 47 Arundel Street.

Mr. Cotterell opposed on behalf of Mr. Arthur Grice, the holder of a neighbouring off beer house license at the junction of Spout Lane and Whitehall Road, and Mr. Bill opposed on behalf of Mr. Brooks, the owner of that house.

Mr. Duignan explained that the CLOCKMAKERS ARMS was licensed before 1869, and as the Bench knew it was most desirable that such houses should be got rid of, as the renewal of their licenses was altogether outside the discretion of the Bench, except in case of certain infractions of the law. If the Bench, therefore, consented to the application, they would acquire control over one more license. The Arundel Street house was rated at £25, and the application was for a beer license only. Within a radius of 183 yards of the proposed house there was no license of any description, and an utter absence of anything like a public convenience, although there were 369 houses at present, and new ones were rapidly growing up in all directions. The applicant was a man of unexceptional character.

Evidence as to the desirability of the license in the neighbourhood, was given by Messrs. George Searle, 81, Arundel Street; John Finmore, 63, Thorpe Road; Benjamin Bargess, 17, Cambridge Street, and Frank Ross, Love Lane (Edward Street); and William Sanders, 34, Thorpe Road, said that he had counted the houses within the red circle – a radius of 183 yards – shown on the map, and found there were 369 houses, and not a single public house. Fifty houses had been erected within the last twelve or eighteen months, and others were being added almost daily.

By the Chief Constable: Fowler's house was 242 yards from Grice's, 275 from the CROWN AND ANCHOR, 382 from the ROYAL OAK, 417 from the BAKERS INN, and 457 from the WHITE HART.

Thomas Fowler, the applicant, cross-examined by Mr. Herbert, said he had secured the consent of the tenant of the CLOCKMAKERS ARMS, to the transfer of the license to him. The house was not at present being used for workshops.

The Chief Constable: The house is going to be pulled down under any circumstances.

By Mr. Cotterell: He did not know how much he would have to pay for the transfer of the CLOCKMAKERS ARMS. He had been there once – two months ago. He was offering the transfer of the license although he had no agreement as to its acquisition. His present rent (paid to Mr. Thorpe) was £20, and it would be increased if he secured the license to £23.

The Clerk here intimated that of course Mr. Thorpe was not adjudicating the case.

Mr. Duignan, however, said that Mr. Thorpe had agreed to sell the property before that application was entered upon, and therefore he had now no interest in the house.

Mr. Bill and Mr. Cotterell were about to speak, but the Bench said they did not wish to hear any more opposition.....

After some twenty minutes the Bench returned, and the Clerk announced that the application of Fowler for new a license would be refused.”

COACH AND HORSES

57, Ablewell Street / Hill Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Henry Bagnall, saddler, Ablewell Street and Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.
Messrs Showell and Co, brewers, Walsall
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Bout [1828] – [1830]
Joseph Freeman [1834] – [1842]
William Wright [1849] – [1850]
Joseph Henry Bagnall [1851] – [1861]
Henry Beech [1864] – [1872];
Arthur Arm [1873];
Joseph Lander [1878] – **1879**);
Edward Bolwell [1881];
James Rowley [1882];
Henry Paine [];
G W Rogers [];
Thomas Toon [];
Peter Young [] – **1885**);
Joseph Armishaw (**1885 – 1887**);
John Nuttall (**1887**);
George Jones (**1887 – 1889**);
Herbert Williams (**1889 – 1890**);
Vernon Perry (**1890 – 1895**);
Herbert Tuckley (**1895**);
Edward Cope Clarke (**1895 – 1896**);
William Lawrence (**1896 – 1898**);
Thomas McHugh (**1898 – 1899**);
Robert Oliver Walters (**1899**);
Charles Warley (**1899 – 1901**);
Herbert Kendall Hall (**1901 – 1903**);
James Loynes (**1903 – 1905**);
Benjamin Wilkes (**1905 – 1906**);
William Edward Dutton (**1906 – []**): last licensee

NOTES

It was built in 1750 on the site of John Hare's garden.

It was extended in 1832.

Walsall Free Press 8/8/1857

“Ann Tierney, a female of rather equivocal reputation, was placed in the dock charged with having uttered on the previous Monday, a base florin to Mrs. *Bagnall*, at the COACH AND HORSES INN, Ablewell Street, and further charged with passing another counterfeit florin on Saturday night to Mary Ann Palmer, a huckster in Dudley Street. The prisoner was remanded till Monday.”

Walsall Free Press 15/8/1857

“Ann Tierney, remanded on Monday for the production of further evidence on a charge of uttering two counterfeit florins, was again placed in the dock. Mr. *Bagnall*, landlord of the COACH AND HORSES INN, Ablewell Street, said on the 27th ult, the prisoner went to his bar and asked for half-a-pint of ale, in payment for which she tendered a bad two shilling piece. He acquainted her with its character, when she pleaded ignorance, and said it was all the money she had in the world. He allowed her to go, but he would not return the coin, and afterwards took it to the Police-station. Thomas Palmer, a dealer in tripe, said the prisoner went to his house on Saturday-week for two-pence worth of that article, and laid down a florin. He discovered it to be bad and took it to the Police-station. She tendered him 1s 6d, desiring him to return the florin, but he declined to do so. Police-constable Darlington took the prisoner into custody where she resided at the back of Church Street, when he charged her with the offence. She said it was all made right, for she had sent 1s 6d back. The Bench found her guilty. She was remanded for a week for the clerk to communicate with the Mint authorities.”

[Ann Tierney was acquitted at the Borough Session.]

Walsall Free Press 24/3/1860 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, in consequence of the proprietor retiring from business, that well accustomed and old licensed Inn, the COACH AND HORSES, situate in Ablewell Street.

The premises are replete with every convenience for the public business. Stock and Fixtures with part of the Furniture, to be taken at a valuation.

For particulars apply to John Osbourn, Auctioneer, 52, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.”

1861 Census

57, Ablewell Street – WAGGON AND HORSES

[1] *John Henry Bagnall* (34), black saddler, born Walsall;

[2] *Emma Bagnall* (33), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Clara Povey* (14), house servant, born Birmingham:

Walsall Free Press 7/2/1863

“Licensed Victuallers’ Association. At a meeting of this society, held last night at the COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street, it was resolved that the sum of 2s 6d be presented to each of the inmates of the Walsall Alms house, to enable them to commemorate the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales. We have no doubt this act of seasonal benevolence will be duly appreciated by the recipients.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 8/10/1864

“At Mr. *H. Beeche’s*, COACH AND HORSES INN, Walsall, on Monday, Oct 17, a nice home-fed pig and double gun will be shot for by 15 members, at 10s each, 3 pigeons each, double guns 1oz of shot, 19 yards rise; single guns 1¼oz of shot, 21 yards rise, 80 boundary, novices allowed two yards, the winner to take the pig, 10 score weight, or £5; the next best shot to take the gun. Shooting to commence at twelve o’clock precisely. Dinner at six o’clock.”

Walsall Free Press 18/2/1865 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant.

Apply at the COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

1871 Census

57, Ablewell Street – COACH AND HORSES

[1] *Henry Beech* (33), innkeeper, born Walsall;

[2] *Ann Beech* (29), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Alfred Beech* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Harry Beech* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *Elara L. Beech* (1), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] *Lucy Oram* (28), visitor, dairy maid, born Birmingham;

[7] *Elizabeth Tolley* (20), domestic servant, born Enderidge, Worcestershire:

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1879 - Advert

“Notice Of Removal.

THREE CUPS, Park Street, Walsall.

Mr. *J. Lander* (Sole proprietor of the above House) Begs to inform his friends and the public generally that he has Removed from the COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street to the THREE CUPS, Park Street, where he hopes to receive a continuation of the liberal support he has had hitherto.

Wines, Spirits, and Ales, Of the finest qualities, in large or small quantities.

Families Supplied With Ales, &c.”

[The advertisement was published regularly for several months.]

1881 Census

57, Ablewell Street – COACH AND HORSES INN

[1] *Edward Bolwell* (48), publican, born Nailsea, Somerset;

[2] *Ellen Bolwell* (49), wife, born Nailsea, Somerset;

[3] *William Bolwell* (24), son, railway servant, born Nailsea, Somerset;

[4] *Alfred Ernest Bolwell* (21), son, glasscutter, born Nailsea, Somerset;

[5] *Laura Bolwell* (17), daughter, born Nailsea, Somerset;

[6] *George Bolwell* (15), son, railway clerk, born Nailsea, Somerset;

[7] *Blanch A. Bolwell* (11 months), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] *Henry Mold* (31), son in law, brown saddler, born Walsall;

[9] *Emily E. Mold* (29), daughter, born Nailsea, Somerset;

[10] *Edward H. V. Mold* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[11] *Lilian B. Mold* (7 months), daughter, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/11/1882

“*James Rowley*, COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street, was summoned for having had his house open before half-past twelve on Sunday afternoon. Detective Smith deposed that at twenty to ten o’clock he saw a girl leave the defendant’s house carrying a glass under her apron, and on examining the glass found that it contained rum. Mr. Barnes (from the office of Mr. Cotterell) called witnesses for the defence, including the girl, who stated she went to the house for brandy for her brother, who was ill, and did not know she had received rum instead. The summons was ultimately dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1887 - Advert

“Capital Club Room, for lodges, sick societies, &c. Showell’s Ales.
COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street.”

Herbert Williams was fined 20s and costs, on 25th October 1889, for serving after hours.

1891 Census

57, Ablewell Street – COACH AND HORSES

- [1] *Vernon Perry* (45), publican and s_____ filer, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Ann Maria Perry* (49), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *George F. Perry* (19), metal worker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Louisa Perry* (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Edith Perry* (15), daughter, born Walsall:

Herbert Tuckley – see also GEORGE, and SWAN.

Walsall Advertiser 20/6/1896

“*Bernard Durkin* (33), labourer, Intown Row, was brought up on a warrant after a summons charged with having been disorderly upon and refusing to quit the COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street.

The landlord (Mr. *Lawrence*) said that on the 7th April prisoner came to the house. He was not drunk, but as there had previously been a row in the house with his (prisoner’s) wife he refused to serve him. Subsequently his wife came in, and he had to call Police-constable 55 (*Evans*) to eject them.

There were 48 previous offences, and he was now fined 10s and costs, or 14 days, to follow an unserved sentence of seven days’ hard labour.”

Charles Warley = Charles Worley

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1900

“The annual licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall was held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

During the period since 30th August, 1899, five licensed victuallers have been proceeded against.....

29th August, 1900, *Charles Worley*, COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street, fined 40s and costs for permitting drunkenness.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

James Loynes, COACH AND HORSES.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The following is the list of houses in respect of which the licensing justices have called the holders of the licenses to show cause why the licenses should be renewed.....

COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/4/1907

“There was a special sitting of the magistrates at the Guildhall on Thursday, to consider the confirmation of the granting, by the Licensing Committee, of a new off-license to *Arthur Edward Rogers*, in respect to a shop at the corner of Cambridge Street and Arundel Street.

Mr. J. R. Lawrence (instructed by Messrs. Stanley and Jackson), appeared for the applicant and Messrs. Butler and Co, and there was opposition by *Mr. S. Grundy-Newman*, *Mr. J. Pearman-Smith*, and the Revs. *E. A. Frost* and *A. H. Lee*. The Bench confirmed the decision of the Licensing Committee, subject to Messrs. Butler surrendering the licenses of the COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street; the BULLS HEAD, Green Lane, and an off-license in Tantarra Street.”

The license was surrendered on the grant of an off license.

Closed

It was a lodging house by 1911.

Demolished

COACH AND HORSES

King Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Eagles [1822]
Joseph Freeman [1835]

NOTES

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/6/1835 - Notice

"If the Pony left at my house on the 22nd of May, 1835, is not fetched away in the space of fourteen days from the date thereof, he will be sold to defray the expense.

Joseph Freeman, COACH AND HORSES INN, King Street, Walsall, May 30, 1835."

Check Ablewell Street.

COACH AND HORSES

Lichfield Road, (Walsall Wood Road), Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Blencowe and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Davis [1861]
Mary Davis [1875]
John Clews [1882] – [1888]
William Birch [1891]
William Fullelove [1900] – **1905**;
Alan Fullelove (**1905** – [1923])
Charles 'Charlie' Knowles [1927]
Albert Corbett [1932] ?

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

It was situated opposite to the TRAVELLERS REST.

1861 Census

Walsall Wood Road – COACH & HORSES

- [1] *Thomas Davis* (51), publican and brickmaker, born Lichfield;
- [2] *Mary Davis* (49), wife, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] *Ellen Davis* (17), daughter, brickyard labourer, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] *Thomas Davis* (13), son, brickyard labourer, born Walsall Wood;

- [5] Mary Davis (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall Wood;
[6] James Proffitt (47), lodger, brickmaker, born Stonnall, Staffordshire;
[7] Joseph Tighmont (33), lodger, brickyard labourer, born Broomsgrove, Worcestershire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1875

“*Mary Davis*, of the COACH AND HORSES, Walsall Wood, was summoned at the instance of Mr. J. G. Horder, inspector for the district, for having sold ale adulterated with salt. Mr. Sproston (from the offices of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Williams) appeared for the defence. The ale was purchased at the defendant’s house, for the purpose of analysis by Samuel Toy, who handed it to Mr. Horder, by whom it was transferred to Mr. Scott, the county analyst. The later gentleman’s certificate showed that ale contained salt to the extent of 116 grains to the gallon. The Bench imposed a fine of 5s and costs, at the same time intimating that they should have dealt more severely with the defendant if the ale as adulterated was injurious to health.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/7/1882

“*John Clews*, landlord of the COACH AND HORSES INN, Walsall Wood, was summoned for having permitted drunkenness in his house. Police-constable Aldritt stated that at half-past seven on the night of the 11th inst. he saw two men named Mathew Loftus and Thomas Roshford leave the defendant’s house drunk and create a disturbance in the street, on going into the house he saw two other men named William Bowen and Michael Fitzpatrick also drunk. He then went away, and on returning at ten minutes past eight found them still there with a pint jug before them half full of ale. The defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs, 11s 6d.”

Lichfield Mercury 24/8/1888

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, William Reynolds, Tantarra Street, and William Cox, Bernard Street, Walsall, two youths, were convicted of stealing a lark, the property of *John Clews*, the COACH AND HORSES INN, Walsall Wood, and were fined 2s 6d each and costs (9s).”

1891 Census

Walsall Road – COACH AND HORSES

- [1] *William Birch* (36), coal miner, born Walsall Wood;
[2] Ellen Birch (39), wife, born Walsall;
[3] William Lane (11), nephew, scholar, born Walsall Wood;
[4] Joseph Morris (40), lodger, coal miner, born Sodom, Staffordshire;
[5] William Cresswell (39), lodger, coal miner, born Walsall Wood;
[6] Ann Pinches (16), domestic servant, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Licensing Sessions for this district took place at the Rushall Police Court on Monday morning. The magistrates present were Messrs. F. James, W. H. Brookes and J. Naylor.

Superintendent Barnett opposed the renewal of the licenses of the following beerhouses.....

COACH AND HORSES INN, Walsall Wood, in consequence of the premises being insufficiently defined the police required certain alterations deferred until the Adjourned Sessions, and then, if the alterations had been effected, the license would be renewed.”

Walsall Observer 15/9/1900

“The annual supper was held at the COACH AND HORSES INN, on Monday, September 3rd, in connection with the Lodge No.18 of the Pelsall and District Miners’ Association, when between 40 and 50 members and friends sat down to an excellent repast served by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Fullelove* in their usual manner.....”

1901 Census

Lichfield Road – COACH AND HORSES

- [1] *William Fullelove* (55), coal miner, born Whitwick, Leicestershire;
[2] Elizabeth Fullelove (48), wife, born Brownhills;
[3] Florrie Fullelove (19), daughter, born Brownhills;
[4] John Fullelove (21), son, labourer, born Brownhills;
[5] Clara Fullelove (15), daughter, born Brownhills;
[6] Eva Fullelove (12), daughter, born Brownhills;
[7] William R. Fullelove (10), son, born Brownhills:

Alan Fullelove = Allen Fullelove

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Members..... *Allan Fullelove*, COACH AND HORSES INN, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1907

“The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall county division were held on Monday.....

Mr. S. E. Loxton applied on behalf of Mr. *Allan Fullelove*, COACH AND HORSES, Walsall Wood, for sanction to make a few alterations, which were really very minor. They wished to block up one doorway so as to make only two means of ingress – one to the private part and the other to the licensed part, and to take down a partition wall and make one large room. There would be absolutely no increase in the drinking area or licensed area. They had already put up a fence for police requirements. Plans were put in, and no objection was offered the application was granted subject to iron fencing replacing a hedge to enclose the premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/12/1908

“A commission agent named William Hathaway (40), of Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, was placed in the dock at Rushall Police Court on Monday, charged with stealing two rabbits, value 2s, the property of Patrick O’Neil, fishmonger and rabbit dealer, of Rushall Street, Walsall. Charles Smart, an employee, said he left his horse and wagon outside the COACH AND HORSES INN, Walsall Wood. After being inside a short time, Samuel Bloomer, who was also employed by Mr. O’Neil, brought him two rabbits, and from what he (Bloomer) said to him he followed prisoner to the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, but he refused to say anything and went away.

Samuel Bloomer said he was returning home with a horse and wagon, and when nearing the COACH AND HORSES INN saw prisoner take the rabbits from his (witness’s) fellow employee’s cart. He chased prisoner and snatched the rabbits off him. Police-constable Grindley deposed to arresting the prisoner on the 29th ult, and in reply to the charge he said he bought the rabbits for 6d off a tramp he did not know. He was drunk at the time.

Prisoner was fined 25s including costs, of 14 days’ imprisonment in default.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/11/1914

“*Allen Fullelove*, licensee of the COACH AND HORSES INN, Walsall Wood, was summoned for carrying out alterations to his licensed premises without the authority of the licensing justices. It was stated that the property had been knocked down and another building erected. Mr. C. Loxton, for the defence, pointed out that the alteration improved the domestic arrangements and did not increase the drinking area. Regret was expressed for what was described as an error of judgement. The magistrates allowed the case to be withdrawn on the understanding that the owners of the house, Messrs. Blencowe, of Cannock, should pay £25 to the county section of the Prince of Wales’s Fund.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/8/1923

“Wm. Baker, 48, of no fixed abode, but said to be a native of London, was charged on remand with stealing 4s belonging to *A. Fullelove*, licensee of the COACH AND HORSES INN, Walsall Wood, on Aug. 10. At the previous hearing the prosecutor stated after he had served the accused he went to another part of the house, and on returning found that the money was missing. The defendant who admitted taking 2s only, told the magistrates that it was his first offence, and that he had yielded to sudden temptation. Inspector Willis now stated that inquiries showed the man had a bad record. He had served sentences for six months for indecent assault and three months for indecent behaviour in other parts of the country. On Aug. 8 he was arrested at Stone on a charge of stealing 6d, but he then told the magistrates the same story about its being his first offence, and he was given only one day’s imprisonment. Each of the three convictions had been in different names. Asked if this record was correct, Baker replied that it was, ‘more’s the pity.’ Sentence of one month’s imprisonment was passed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

“At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....
Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....
On the ground of redundancy.....
COACH AND HORSES, Walsall Wood.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/5/1927

“Notice Of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.
Notice is hereby given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday, the 19th day of July, 1927, at 11 o’clock am.
And Notice Is Hereby Also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licences of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard; that is to say, the Persons interested in any Licensed Premises in question, and, unless it appears to the Compensation Authority unnecessary, any other persons appearing to them to be interested in the question of the renewal of the license of those premises (including the Justices of the Licensing District).
List of Licensed Premises.....
COACH AND HORSES, Walsall Wood. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee *Charlie Knowles*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/7/1927

“.....at the principal meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Compensation Authority held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday.....
Opposing the closing of the COACH AND HORSES Walsall Wood, Mr. Jackson handed a photograph of the house to Police Inspector Clarke, and asked him if it was not a good photograph of the premises.

Inspector Clarke: Yes, but it flatters it. (Laughter.)

Mr. Jackson: They usually do. When we have our photograph taken we expect to be flattered. (Laughter.)

Mr. Jackson said the trouble today was that if they closed a public house a club was usually opened, and he understood that in this neighbourhood clubs were increasing.

The Chairman: If we carried out your contention to the logical conclusion, we should never close a house.

Mr. Jackson: If we could close clubs in the same ratio I should be with you every time.

The Bench refused to grant the renewal of the licence.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/1/1928

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

COACH AND HORSES, Walsall Wood, beerhouse ante-1869. £1,300.

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

Closed

Demolished

COACHMAKERS ARMS

135, (134), Bridgeman Street / Augustus Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Boys, timber merchant, Bridgeman Street, Walsall

Benjamin Williams, retail brewer, Walsall

Eliza Williams, widow

William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

Oron Lunn [1871] – [1872];

Emanuel Benjamin Scott [1881]

David Taylor Lancaster [];

Mrs. Eliza Wilkes [1891] – **1907**);

Mrs. Ellen Smith (**1907 – 1923**);

Matthew Tolley (**1923 – 1924**);

Arthur Morris (**1924 – 1926**);

Arthur Cyril Ward (**1926 – 1929**);

Lucy Marguerite Ward (**1929** – []

Bert Benton [*1935*] – **1944**);

Daniel Simcox (**1944 – 1949**);

William Boys [1947] ?

George Henry Williams (**1949 – 1952**);

Frank Baden Cartwright (**1952**);

Alice Maud Cartwright (**1952 – 1966**);

NOTES

134+135, Bridgeman Street [1871], [1891], [1901]

134, Bridgeman Street [1881]

135, Bridgeman Street [*1912*], [1939], [*1940*]

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

Tokens were issued from here.

1871 Census

134 and 135, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *Oron Lunn* (44), publican, born Darlaston;
- [2] *William Lunn* (14), son, brass dresser, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Emma Tolly* (40), housekeeper, born Tipton;
- [4] *Emma Gelding* (14), general servant, born West Bromwich:

A wine license was granted pre 1881.

1881 Census

134, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *Emanuel B. Scott* (32), caster, born Walsall;
 - [2] *Roseannah Scott* (34), wife, born Birmingham;
 - [3] *Claude Samuel Scott* (4), son, born Walsall;
 - [4] *Pauline E. Scott* (6), daughter;
 - [5] *Mabel M. Scott* (2), daughter;
 - [6] *Rose Amy Scott* (6 months), daughter;
 - [7] *Mary Webster* (18), domestic servant, born Scotland:
- [No birthplace was given for 4-6, but probably born in Walsall.]

Emanuel B. Scott – see also BRIDLECUTTERS ARMS.

Eliza Wilkes = Elizabeth Wilks

1891 Census

134+135, Bridgeman Street – COACHMAKERS ARMS

- [1] *Elizabeth Wilks* (50), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary A. Vaughan* (74), widow, mother, born Walsall;
- [3] *Susannah King* (22), general servant, born Walsall:

Mrs. *Eliza Wilkes*, beer retailer, 135, Bridgeman Street. [1896], [1900], [1904]

1901 Census

134+135, Bridgeman Street – Tavern

- [1] *Eliza Wilkes* (60), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Nellie Vaughan* (25), niece, barmaid, born Walsall:

Eliza Wilkes was fined 40s and costs, on 24th July 1906, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

Black List..... *Eliza Wilkes*, COACHMAKERS ARMS, Bridgeman Street, who had been convicted during the year, was cautioned, and the renewal of the license postponed.”

London Gazette 16/4/1907

“Re *Eliza Wilkes*, Deceased.....

Notice is hereby given, that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands against the estate of *Eliza Wilkes*, late of the COACHMAKERS ARMS, Bridgeman-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Widow, deceased, who died on the 21st day of March, 1907, and to whose real and personal estate letters of administration were granted by the Lichfield District Registry of the Probate Division of His Majesty’s High Court of Justice, on the 11th day of April, 1907, to *Ellen Smith* (wife of *Joseph Smith*), of the COACHMAKERS ARMS aforesaid, are hereby required to send particulars, in writing, of their claims to us, the undersigned, the Solicitors for the said *Ellen Smith*, on or before the 11th day of May, 1907, at the undermentioned address, after which date the said *Ellen Smith*, the administratrix, will proceed to distribute the assets of the said *Eliza Wilkes*, deceased, amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims or demands of which she shall then have had notice; and the said *Ellen Smith* will not be liable for the assets of the said *Eliza Wilkes*, deceased, or any part thereof, so distributed, to any person or persons of whose claims or demands she shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 13th day of April, 1907.

John N. and E. A. Cotterell, Court-chambers, 150, Lichfield Street, Solicitors for the said Administratrix.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1907

“Applications for the transfer of licenses were granted as follows Beer retailers (on).....

COACHMAKERS ARMS, Bridgeman Street, *Ellen Smith* (administratrix of the estate of *Eliza Wilkes*, deceased), to *Ellen Smith*.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/1/1911

“*James Perry* (21), labourer, of 4, Moat Road, was charged with stealing one sovereign, the property of *George Fencott*, on January 12.

The case was adjourned from January 13 for further evidence.

Prosecutor alleged at the first hearing that the prisoner had snatched the sovereign from his hand while they were sitting together in the COACHMAKERS ARMS, Bridgeman Street. The sovereign was picked up at the bar the next morning by the landlord.

Aden Eaton now stated that he saw the prisoner snatch at the coin, but what became of it he did not know. The prosecutor afterwards complained that the prisoner had stolen the sovereign.

Prisoner emphatically denied the theft, and called Sydney Osborne, who stated that he never saw him snatch at the coin. Witness stated that Fencott had been 'flashing' the sovereign about the whole of the evening.

Fined 10s and costs, or ten days."

1911 Census

134, Bridgeman Street

[1] Joseph Smith (36), currier, born Penkridge;

[2] *Ellen Smith* (34), wife, married 7 years, born Walsall;

[2] Dora Smith (7), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] Nelly Smith (2½), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Phylis Smith (9 months), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Jane Davis (16), servant, born Walsall:

Mrs. *Ellen Smith*, beer retailer, 135, Bridgeman Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

COACHMAKERS ARMS, Bridgeman Street. £1 2s 8½d."

Closed

It was rebuilt in 1936.

A full license was transferred in 1936 from the JUNCTION.

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/2/1936

"Walsall Licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday.....

The removal of the license of the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street to the COACHMAKERS ARMS, Bridgeman Street, was sanctioned. Mr. F. Cooper, who made the application, said the net result would be that one licensed house would be closed without compensation being paid."

1939 Register

135, Bridgeman Street

[1] *Bert Benton*, date of birth 1/3/1898, publican, married;

[2] Myrtle G. R. Benton, dob 21/6/1897, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Mavis M. (Benton) Clay, dob 16/2/1930, at school, single;

[4] Jane Kinson, dob 9/9/1854, unpaid domestic duties, widowed:

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

COACHMAKERS ARMS, Bridgeman Street. £3 12s 2d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

COACHMAKERS ARMS, Bridgeman Street. £0 11s 3d."

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

"Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....

COACHMAKERS ARMS, Bridgeman Street, Walsall."

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 18th March 1965.

Compensation was paid and the house closed on 12th March 1966.

COALPOOL TAVERN

Coalpool Lane / Holden Crescent, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Richard Rushton (1938);
George Austin Hopkins (1938 – 1957);
Albert Daniel Peace (1957 – 1963);
Ronald William Mitford (1963);
John William Lake (1963 – 1964);
Albert John Tattam (1964 – 1965);
Harry Dobson (1965);
Abraham Tapper (1965 – [1966])

NOTES

It opened in May 1938.
A full license was transferred from the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street.

1939 Register

Coalpool Lane – COALPOOL TAVERN (3 of 5)

- [1] *George A. Hopkins*, date of birth 30/10/1886, manager public house, married;
- [2] *Violet N. Hopkins*, dob 23/10/1891, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Edith I. (Hopkins) Elcock*, dob 6/2/1921, barmaid, single;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
COALPOOL TAVERN, Ryecroft, £5 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund.
List of Subscriptions.....
COALPOOL TAVERN, Coalpool. £1 19s 3d.”

It had a football team which played in the Walsall Amateur Football League. [1950s]

Ronald William Mitford – see also WHITE LION.

John William Lake –see also CRITERION.

[1984]

Closed

COLLIERS ARMS

Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John James [1861]

COTTAGE

Hardern Road, Coalpool, WALSALL

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd.
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Albert Edwards (1939);
John Cockbill (1939 – 1943);
Howard Freeman (1943 – 1945);
Ethel May Freeman (1945);
Edgar George Russell (1945);
Westley Richards (1945 – 1946);
Howard Smith (1946 – 1947);
Thomas Walker (1947 – 1949);
Walter Granville Baker (1949 – 1950);
William Heeley (1950 – 1960)
Derek Edward Alexander (1960 – 1962);
Harry Dobson (1962 – 1963);
Stanley Herbert Kirk (1963 – 1964);
Gerald Ernest Kibble (1964 – 1965);
Frank Austin (1965 – 1966);
Malcolm Leslie Corbett (1966 – []

NOTES

It opened at 6pm on 4th May 1939.
The license was transferred from the GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane.

Albert Edwards – see also CROWN AND CUSHION.

Walsall Observer 12/8/1939

“There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society, at the COTTAGE, Hardern Road, Coalpool, Bloxwich on Thursday.....”

John Cockbill = John Cockbell

1939 Register

Harden Road – COTTAGE

- [1] *John Cockbill*, date of birth 24/3/1885, public house licensee, married;
- [2] *Maria Cockbill*, dob 5/2/1880, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Albert S. Cockbill*, dob 11/12/1914, motor fitter, single;
- [4] *Harold H. Cockbill*, dob 17/1/1917, carpenter, single:

Walsall Observer 16/12/1939

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held at the HAME MAKERS ARMS INN, Blue Lane West, on Thursday, Mr. C. W. Garfield (President) who presided made sympathetic reference to the losses the Society had suffered during the week He also referred to the loss by Mr. *J. Cockbill* by the death of his son. A resolution of sympathy with the respective families was passed and the company stood for a silent tribute.....”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
COTTAGE, Harden Road, £13 5s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.
Third List Of Subscriptions.....
COTTAGE INN, Harden Road, Coalport (Second donation). £5 15s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Cockbill*, the COTTAGE, Harden. £3 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
COTTAGE, Harden Road, Coalpool. £45 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

Mr. Gordon Hawley appeared for the Holt Brewery Co. Ltd, Birmingham, and the licensees of the COTTAGE INN, Harden Road; RED LION, Blue Lane; CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street; PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street; and GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Blakenall – *John Cockbill*, Howard Freeman, Sidney Canner, May Middleton (now of 39, Caledon Street), and Bertram Albert Stone (now of 80, Hollemeadow Avenue). Mr. Hawley said the purchase of coal at these houses had always been left to the licensees, and the brewery company would have no reason to be suspicious that the permitted amounts were being exceeded. Moreover, as far as the licensees were concerned, in all the cases except one the coal was delivered without being specifically ordered, and the trouble would have been avoided if the merchants had refused to deliver without the requisite permits, which the licensees could have obtained if they had applied for them.

Stone was fined £2, the other licensees £1 each, and the brewery company 10s in each case.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
COTTAGE, Harden Road. £1 0s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 20/1/1945

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....
The chairman sympathetically referred to the death of two members of the society, Mr. William Bayliss of the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, and Mr. *Howard Freeman*, COTTAGE INN, Coalpool.”

Walsall Observer 17/2/1945

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....
The following were elected members of the society..... Mr. *E. Russell*, COTTAGE INN, Harden, Coalpool.”

Edgar George Russell – see also STARTING GATE.

Harry Dobson – see also GREEN MAN.

Stanley Herbert Kirk – see also GREEN MAN.

Frank Austin – see also GREEN MAN.

Malcolm Leslie Corbett – see also GREEN MAN.

[1980]

COTTAGE

230, Wolverhampton Road, (Park Street), (230, Park Hill), (Bentley Moor), WALSALL

OWNERS

William Taylor, tobacconist, Digbeth, Walsall [1872]
Henry Taylor, music dealer, Digbeth, Walsall
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Mrs. Ann Moore [1845]
[Thomas Hedges \[1850\]](#)
Eliza Moore [] – 1857);
Edward Noble (1857 – [1861]
William Hems [1863] – [1873];
Mrs. Susannah Hems [1881];
Edward Liggins [1891] – 1916);
Martha Elizabeth Liggins (1916 – 1924);
Frank Wood (1924 – 1935);
Terence Moran (1935 – 1939); manager
Frederick Quimby (1939 – 1940);
William Edgar Stafford (1940 – 1941);
Violet Stafford (1941 – 1946);
William Edgar Stafford (1946);
Walter Charles Sharman (1946 – 1952);
William Horace Latham (1952 – 1957);
Thomas Marlow (1957 – 1965);
Arthur Middlebrook (1965 – [1966]
[Michael and Carol Wain \[1999\]](#)

NOTES

Park Street [1858]
Park Hill [1860], [1861], [1868], [1881]
Bentley Moor [1871]
230, Wolverhampton Road [1891], [1932], [1940]
230 Park Hill [1901], [1911]

It was originally the SPRING COTTAGE. [1872], [1881]
COTTAGE [1911]

1861 Census

Wolverhampton Road – COTTAGE INN
[1] *Edward Noble* (61), victualler, born Scaleby, Cumberland;
[2] Edward N. Sepeding (22), nephew, cabinet maker, born Carlisle:

Birmingham Daily Post 5/12/1863

“The gale of Thursday seems to have been experienced much less severely in Walsall than in many other towns in the immediate neighbourhood. Sleet and rain fell, it is true, and the wind careered along the streets with unwonted violence; but, with the exception of the displacement of a few loose tiles and chimney pots, there were, so far as we can learn, only two buildings damaged, and happily no loss of life in either case. In one a chimney fell at the house of Mr. Coxon, Hall Lane, and passed through the kitchen roof; and in the other, four chimneys were blown down at the house of Mr. *Hems*, the COTTAGE INN, Park Hill, in the outskirts of the town. The greater portion of the materials fell upon the roof, which was almost entirely destroyed, and descending into one of the bedrooms, carried away the floor of the room, and passed into a passage beneath.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/6/1869

“Yesterday afternoon Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the COTTAGE INN public house, Park Hill, upon the body of a child named Joseph Glover, aged 1 year and 8 months. From the evidence it appeared that on Wednesday, the 16th inst, deceased upset the contents of a pot of boiling water upon his chest and other parts of his body, and was so severely scalded that, notwithstanding Dr. Hartshill was called in, and everything done that could be devised to save his life, he expired on

the following day. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1871 Census

Bentley Moor – COTTAGE INN

- [1] *William Hems* (42), licensed victualler, born Kings Norton;
- [2] *Susanna Hems* (43), wife, born Kings Norton;
- [3] Ann Wilkes (18), domestic servant, born James Bridge:

Walsall Advertiser 10/7/1880 - Deaths

“On the 27th ultimo, in his 52nd year, *William Hems*, of the COTTAGE INN, Wolverhampton Road; well and deservedly respected by his relations and friends.”

1881 Census

Park Hill

- [1] *Susannah Hems* (54), widow, licensed victualler, born Kings Norton;
- [2] Ann Hems (21), niece, domestic servant, born Kings Norton:

1891 Census

230, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Edward Liggins* (56), widower, licensed victualler, born Nuneaton;
- [2] Martha Swims (16), general servant, born Darlaston:

Walsall Advertiser 17/2/1900

“Walsall Harriers Athletic Club. Cross-country running on Saturday last was out of the question, and for once the local club were somewhat lucky, the fixture being a five miles road race from Vice-President *Liggin*’s, the COTTAGE INN, Wolverhampton Road. Nevertheless, the wretched state of the weather greatly interfered with the ‘turn-out’, several of the members preferring to look on instead of participating. The club offered three prizes for the event, which was run on the Willenhall Road. Seven members braved the elements and were soon set on their journey, the weather being bitterly cold, and King Frost making himself keenly felt.....

After the run and the inner man had received a necessary share of attention, a smoking concert was held at the COTTAGE INN, Mr. *E. Liggins* being in the chair. The following programme was gone through. Song, ‘There is a flower that bloometh’, Mr. J. Glover; song, ‘The Midnight Sun’, Mr. J. T. Newton; song, ‘As your hair grows whiter’, Mr. H. Kingdom; song, ‘Too True’, Mr. J. Russell; song, ‘She wore a wreath of roses’, Mr. J. Glover. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.”

1901 Census

230, Park Hill – Public House – COTTAGE INN

- [1] *Edward Liggins* (63), licensed victualler, born Nuneaton;
- [2] *Martha E. Liggins* (25), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] Arthur G. Liggins (5), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Alice M. Liggins (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Thomas H. Liggins (3), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Florence G. Liggins (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Clara B. Liggins (9 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] Ann Siverns (19), general servant, born Darlaston;
- [9] Florence Siverns (17), general servant, born Darlaston:

1911 Census

230, Park Hill

- [1] *Edward Liggins* (74), licensed victualler, born Nuneaton;
- [2] *Martha Elizabeth Liggins* (35), wife, married 16 years, born Darlaston;
- [3] Arthur G. Liggins (15), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Alice M. Liggins (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Thomas Henry Liggins (13), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Florence Gertrude Liggins (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Clara Beatrice Liggins (10), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] Lilian Alice Brookes (28), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

COTTAGE INN, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, 19s 2½d.”

Edward Liggins died on 29th June 1916.

Walsall Observer 1/7/1916 - Deaths

“On June 29th, at the COTTAGE INN, Park Hill, *Edward Liggins*, in his 83rd year.
His own most gracious smile shall welcome him above.”

Walsall Observer 8/7/1916 - Notice

“Re *Edward Liggins*, Deceased.

All Persons having any Claims against the Estate of *Edward Liggins*, late of the COTTAGE INN, Park Hill, Bentley, Walsall, Licensed Victualler, who died on the 29th day of June, 1916, are requested forthwith to send particulars thereof to us, the undersigned, the Solicitors for the Executors.

Dated this 7th day of July, 1916

Enoch Evans and Son, 20, Bridge Street, Walsall, Solicitors to the Executors”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
COTTAGE INN, Park Hill. £1 11s 1½d.”

Walsall Observer 4/10/1924

“At a recent gathering Mrs. *M. E. Liggins*, who with her late husband, Mr. *Edward Liggins* (prominently associated with the Walsall Football Club, as long ago as 1883), and since his death as he himself had been, associated with the management of the COTTAGE INN, Park Hill, for 40 years, take leave of a number of her friends on retiring prior to her marriage.”

Walsall Observer 15/4/1939 - In Memoriam

“Goodwin (M. E. Liggins, late of COTTAGE INN, Walsall).

In ever affectionate and loving memory of our dear Mother, who passed away three years ago.

It is not exile, rest on high,

To fall asleep is not to die.

From her Five Children.”

1939 Register

230, Wolverhampton Road

[1] *Terence Moran*, date of birth 21/3/1903, licensed victualler, late capstan lathe setter, married;

[2] *Winifred M. Moran*, dob 10/6/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Eileen E. (Remo) Beeson*, dob 1/6/1917, barmaid, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

COTTAGE INN, Wolverhampton Road, £1 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

COTTAGE, Wolverhampton Road. £0 14s 6d.”

Thomas Marlow – see also DUSTY MILLER.

Arthur Middlebrook – see also BAKERS ARMS.

Sandwell Evening Mail 23/2/1999

“Five Black Country pubs which between them have raised thousands of pounds for worthy causes are in the running for the Community Pub of the Year title. The COTTAGE in Wolverhampton Road, Walsall; the MOXLEY ARMS in High Street, Moxley; the HIGHGATE ARMS in Rowley View, Wednesbury; the ROYAL OAK in Blakenall; and the FOUNTAIN INN at Victoria Road, Quarry Bank, have all been nominated for the award.

The competition is organised by the Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association and £21,000 in prize money is on offer, which goes to charities and good causes.....

Michael and *Carol Wain*, licensees of the COTTAGE, raised £1,000 for cystic fibrosis research and to send a disabled boy to Disneyland Paris by staging a variety of fundraising events.

Regional judging panels will select 11 winners across the country, each of which will receive £1,000 to go to a charity or worthy cause of their choice. Regional winners will go on to a national final.”

It was refurbished in 2000.

Closed [2007], [2010]

It was converted into housing. [2011]

Check COTTAGE OF CONTENT and COTTAGE SPRING.

COTTAGE OF CONTENT

Wolverhampton Road, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Bridges [1851]

NOTES

Check COTTAGE or COTTAGE SPRING.

COTTAGE SPRING TAVERN

Wolverhampton Road, Park Brook, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Ricketts [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Wolverhampton Road – COTTAGE SPRING TAVERN

- [1] *John Ricketts* (44), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Caroline Ricketts* (42), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *John Ricketts* (16), son, chainmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Anne Ricketts* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Henry Ricketts* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Frederick Ricketts* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Arthur Ricketts* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Mary Ricketts* (3), daughter, born Bilston;

London Gazette 8/5/1863

“*John Ricketts*, of the VICTORIA INN Public-house, in Lower Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, previously thereto of Park Brook, in the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, and carrying on business there as a Beerhouse Keeper and Dealer in Tobacco, and previously thereto of the COCK INN Public-house, at Swan Bank, Bilston, in the county of Stafford, and carrying on business there as a Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 21st day of May instant, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. John Ebsworth, of Wednesbury, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

AND

Walsall Free Press 4/7/1863 - Advert

“In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

In the matter of *John Ricketts*, of the VICTORIA INN Public House, in Lower Rushall-street, Walsall, in the County of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, previously thereto of Park Brook, in the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, and carrying on business there as a Beerhouse Keeper and Dealer in Tobacco, and previously thereto of the COCK INN Public House, at Swan Bank, Bilston, in the Sounty of Stafford, and carrying on business there as a Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, a bankrupt.

Whereas, at a Public Sitting of the Court, held this day, the court granted an Order of Discharge to the said bankrupt. Notice is hereby given, that an Order of Discharge will be drawn up and delivered to the bankrupt after the expiration of thirty days from this date, unless, in the meantime, an appeal be duly entered against the Judgment of the said Court.

Dated this 20th day of June, 1863.”

AND

[London Gazette 14/9/1866](#)

“*John Ricketts*, of the VICTORIA INN Public House, in Lower Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, previously thereto of Park Brook, in the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, and carrying on business there as a Beerhouse Keeper and Dealer in Tobacco, and previously thereto, of the COCK INN Public House, at Swan Bank, Bilston, in the county of Stafford, and carrying on business there as a Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, adjudicated bankrupt on the 6th day of May, 1863. A Dividend Meeting will be held on the 25th day of September instant, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely.”

Check COTTAGE or COTTAGE OF CONTENT.

CRIMEA TAVERN

Well Lane, (1, Barracks), (135, Blakenall), (Crimea Row), (Harden), Blakenall Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Mrs. Whiteho
Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.
W. Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Upton [1859] – **1888**);
Arthur Breeze (**1888 – 1890**);
Thomas Watson (**1890 – 1892**);
Enoch Watson (**1892 – 1898**);
John Benton (**1898 – 1899**);
William Duce (**1899 – 1901**);
Sampson Brindley (**1901 – 1902**);
Esther Brindley [1901] ?
Richard Allen (**1902 – 1904**);
John Foxall (**1904 – 1917**);
Eliza Elizabeth Foxall (**1917 – 1923**);
Joseph Seagar (**1923 – []**)

NOTES

135, Blakenall [1871]
1, Barracks [1881], [1901]
Crimea Row
Well Lane

CRIMEAN TAVERN [1872]

It had a beerhouse license.

[Walsall Free Press 1/10/1859](#)

“*Joseph Upton*, beerhouse keeper, Bloxwich, was charged with having kept his house open during prohibited hours on the night of

Monday last. The officer said on the night in question he visited the defendant's house, and heard one of the women say as he was entering, 'take the drink away.' As this was *Upton's* first offence, he was fined 1s and costs."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 9/3/1862

"T. Emery (alias Uncle) of Blakenhall will run T. Batkin Money ready any night next week at *J. Upton's*, CRIMEA TAVERN, Blakenhall."

Joseph Upton, beer retailer, Blakenall. [1865]

Joseph Upton, beer retailer and bit maker, Harden, Bloxwich. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

135, Blakenall – CRIMEA TAVERN

- [1] *Joseph Upton* (62), bit maker, born Derbyshire;
- [2] Hannah Upton (51), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] James Upton (27), son, bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Mary A. Appleby (19), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Emma Upton (17), daughter, domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Thomas Upton (15), son, bit filer, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Walter Anderson (15), apprentice bit filer, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Rachel Upton (13), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Alfred Upton (11), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Ellen Upton (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [11] Alice Upton (4), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [12] Emma Appleby (2), granddaughter, born Bloxwich:

Joseph Upton was fined 2s and costs on 8th October 1873.

1881 Census

1, Barracks – CRIMEA INN beerhouse

- [1] *Joseph Upton* (72), bit maker, employing 2 men, born Stapenall, Derbyshire;
- [2] Hannah Upton (60), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] James Upton (37), son, bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Alfred Upton (20), son, bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Emma Appleby (11), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Joseph Allsopp (30), lodger, bit filer, born Tamworth:

1891 Census

1, The Barracks – CRIMEA INN

- [1] *Thomas Watson* (45), beerhouse keeper, born Pelsall;
- [2] Emma Watson (49), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] Ellen M. Watson (21), daughter, dressmaker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Emma Watson (19), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Charles H. Watson (17), son, coal miner, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Thomas Watson (15), son, labourer, born Pelsall;
- [7] Clara Watson (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich:

William Duce – see also ROYAL OAK.

1901 Census

1, Barracks – CRIMEA TAVERN

- [1] *Esther Brindley* (53), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Samson Brindley* (26), son, coal miner, born Rugeley;
- [3] *Esther Brindley* (19), daughter, born Chadsmoore, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Isaac Brindley* (13), son, born Chadsmoore, Staffordshire:

Richard Allen, beer retailer, Crimea Row, Blakenall Heath. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Richard Allen, CRIMEA."

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

“At the Police Court, Walsall, on Monday, George Brooks (17), 85, Blakenall Road, was summoned to answer a charge of stealing a silver watch, value 30s, the property of Agnes *Allen*, CRIMEA INN, Barracks Lane, on December 26.

Complainant’s statement was to the effect that she left the watch hanging upon a nail in her bedroom at about eight o’clock am, but on retiring to rest the same night missed it. The house was used by football teams, who dressed in a room next to the one from which the watch was taken. On the day in question the clubroom was engaged by the Hednesford team until about four o’clock, after which it was used by the customers of the house.

Richard Allen, miner, and landlord of the CRIMEA INN, said that from something communicated to him he, on January 18, went to Wyrley and there interviewed a man named Wilkins, and from him received a case which, by the number inside, he identified as his wife’s property. He afterwards saw defendant, who admitted the theft, but said he was tempted.

William Wilkins stated that he worked with the defendant at the Quinton Colliery. About a month ago he saw him with a silver watch case in his possession, but at his (witness’s) request he gave it to him.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) now informed the Bench that prosecutrix had not wished to appear against the defendant, but as the robbery had been reported to the police it was bound to be cleared up.

A fine of 40s and costs was imposed, or one month in default.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

John Foxall, CRIMEA, Harden.....

With respect to the CRIMEA TAVERN, Harden, Mr. Farmer was called by Mr. H. H. Jackson, and stated that the premises included four rooms on the ground floor and five bedrooms, and were worth, in his opinion £15 12s a year without a license. He valued them five years ago for the magistrates, and his valuation was the same.”

John Foxall, beer retailer, Blakenall Heath. (1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

CRIMEA TAVERN, Bloxwich. £0 4s 7½d.”

It closed in 1928.

Compensation of £1,125 was paid.

CRITERION

7, (6), Stafford Street, (347, Green Lane), (Walsall Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

John Hawkins, bit maker, Station Street, Walsall

Walter Showell and Co. Ltd. [1890], [1901]

Highgate Brewery (acquired in 1902)

Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased from 29th June 1935)

Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 3rd July 1959)

LICENSEES

Robert Smith [1818] – [1822]

John Jennings [1828] – [1830]

William Stoddard [1834] – **1865**;

Daniel Grove (**1865** – [1870])

Henry Mills [1871]

Robert Hawkins [1872];

James Bullard [1873];

John Hawkins [] – **1873**;

Frederick William Plant (**1873** – [];

James Browning [];

Thomas Hall [1881] – **1888**;

Mrs. Rebecca (Madeley) Atkins (**1888** – **1900**);

William Bertram ‘Bert’ Evans (**1900** – **1901**);

George Day (1901);
John Penton (1901 – 1902);
John Longford (1901 – [] manager
George Bates (1902 – 1903);
John Gibbons Hunt (1903 – 1910);
John Ford (1910 – 1913);
Harry Ernest Ballinger (1913 – 1918);
James Platt (1918 – 1922);
James Vann (1922 – 1923);
James Platt (1923 – 1930);
George Sidwell (1930 – 1931);
Joseph Patrick Jennings (1931 – 1932);
Arthur Standley (1932 – 1938);
Cyril Mottram Wakeman (1938 – 1939);
Joseph Bernard Reeves (1939 – 1943); manager
Cyril Vernon Sleigh (1943 – 1944);
Mark Astbury (1944 – 1948);
Henry Ormonde Parkes (1948);
Samuel Hands (1948 – 1950);
William John Hamilton (1950 – 1951);
Harold Waterfield (1951 – 1952);
Norman John Dearn (1952 – 1953);
David Lawrence Lewis (1953 – 1954);
Sidney Frank Strange (1954 – 1956);
John Ernest Patnell (1956 – 1957);
Leo Alphonsus Cullein (1957 – 1960);
John William Lake (1960 – 1963);
Albert Daniel Peace (1963 – 1964);
James George Hughes (1964);
John William Lake (1964 – [1966])

NOTES

7, Stafford Street [1858], [1860], [1862], [1868], [1870], [1881], [1896], [1900], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940]
Walsall Street [1881]
347, Green Lane [1892]
6, Stafford Steet [1901]

It was originally the DUKE OF WELLINGTON. [1818], [1822], [1828], [1830], [1834]

Name changed to EARL GREY. [1835], [1841], [1842], [1849], [1850], [1858], [1860], [1861], [1862], [1863], [1864], [1865], [1868]

[Could William Stoddard have been a Whig supporter? – Wellington was a Tory; Charles, Earl Grey was a Whig]

It was known locally as the ‘Madhouse’.

It had a music hall attached.

1861 Census

7, Stafford Street – EARL GREY

[1] William Stoddard (61), victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Casey Stoddard (60), wife, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1836, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o’clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. Stoddard, EARL GREY.”

Daniel Grove = Daniel Grover

Walsall Free Press 28/1/1865

“The following licenses were transferred.....

The EARL GREY, from the executors of the late *William Stoddard* to *Daniel Grover*.”

1871 Census

7, Stafford Street

[1] *Henry Mills* (42), licensed victualler and cab proprietor, born Walsall;

[2] Sarah Mills (40), wife, born Walsall;

[3] William Mills (30), son, waiter, born Walsall;

[4] Sarah J. Mills (13), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Henry Mills (9), son, born Walsall:

[Was William really 30? If he was then Henry was 12 and Sarah 10 when he was born!]

Named ROYAL ST. JAMES. [1873]

Birmingham Daily Post 11/1/1877 - Advert

“Barmaid. Wanted, a respectable young Person, with good character.

Apply, EARL GREY VAULTS, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

Evening Express 1/3/1881

“Stephen Harris (19), Butts Street was charged with stealing a shilling from William Sanders at the EARL GREY public house on Saturday evening last.

It appeared that the complainant dropped a shilling on the floor, which defendant picked up, and, as he alleged, passed it to another man who represented himself as the prosecutor’s friend.

The defendant having promised to pay the complainant a shilling, the case was dismissed.”

1881 Census

7, Stafford Street

[1] *Thomas Hall* (28), publican, born Leamington;

[2] Isabella Hall (26), wife, born Paisley, Scotland;

[3] John M. Hall (3), son, born Walsall;

[4] Mary Jane Hall (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Laura E. Hall (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Charlotte Barton (20), barmaid, born Bloxwich;

[7] Hannah Haywood (17), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

Evening Express 2/6/1881

“This (Thursday) morning an inquest was held before W. H. Phillips, Esq, (coroner), at the EARL GREY INN, Walsall Street, in this town, on the body of Mary Ann Dodd, aged two years and eleven months, daughter of Mr. William Dodd, an ironworker, of No.5 Court, Walsall Street.

It appeared from the evidence of the mother of the deceased that the child was taken unwell on the 21st of May, but after being under the care of the parish surgeon she recovered from the illness. On Monday last she was again taken ill similar to the previous attack. The mother obtained a medical relief note to enable her to get some medicine from the parish surgeon, and returned home just before one o’clock, when the child was worse, and died directly afterwards. She was satisfied that the child had not been injured, and that death was due to Natural Causes. This was her fifth child, and the only one she had lost.

A neighbour who was present at the death of the child gave evidence of the kindly manner in which the deceased had always been treated by her parents.

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

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Hugo Young (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson) applied for a music, singing, and dancing license for Mrs. *Atkins*, the EARL GREY, Stafford Street. He stated that the concert-room was 75ft by 21ft, and was furnished with a stage and orchestra, and that Mrs. *Atkins* held the property from Messrs. Showell under a fourteen years’ lease (of which twelve years were unexpired), at an annual rent of £150. She paid £1,700 for the fixtures and goodwill when she entered, and it would be very hard upon her to apply suddenly to the Walsall houses regulations which had been introduced gradually from Birmingham, and only after a number of years’ experience. Messrs. Hoyland (pawnbroker), Edwards (grocer), and Brough (musician) deposed to the good conduct of the house; and a memorial in favour of the application was offered, but not received. Granted for Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday evenings, the Sanitary Authority to inspect the premises.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain

Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Mr. Jackson (an adjournment being refused) withdrew an application of which notice had been given, for a singing and music license for *Rebecca Atkins*, the EARL GREY, Stafford Street.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/2/1891

“At Walsall. Yesterday – before Messrs. W. Bayliss, E. Bliss, and W. E. Blythe – Patrick Cullinan, ex-sergeant of the Staffordshire Constabulary, was charged with publishing defamatory libels on postcards with regard to Christopher Taylor (chief constable of the borough). Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. Gillespie) appeared in support of the complainant, and Mr. Ward, Dudley, for the defence.

The alleged libel was: ‘I was not surprised to hear the comments which were made by several persons at the Temperance Hall on Wednesday night last relative to the chief constable’s connection with the ‘Madhouse.’ It may be advisable, under the circumstances, to erect a fire-escape at Green Lane, similar to the one used by O’Shea’s MP, when the Fox made his exit from her arms, fearing there would be another incident at Walsall one of these nights, when the Yankee returned home. Your truly, Becca.’

Mr. Herbert in opening the case, said a public-house, the EARL GREY, was locally known as ‘The Madhouse,’ and at a public meeting held at the Temperance Hall, with reference to the issue of music licenses, observations were made with regard to this house, which was kept by a lady named *Rebecca Atkins*, whose husband or ex-husband was in America. The ‘C.C.’ he should ask the Court to conclude, could only refer to the chief constable, and the allusion to the ‘Fox’ was, of course, to the name assumed by a certain prominent politician, whose case had recently been before the public, the obvious imputation being that the chief constable had been guilty of improper relations with the lady named. This was false, a wicked, and he might say an infernal lie, and a wicked deformation of the character of an official of the borough. In all, three postcards, bearing the words given above, had been sent out to Alderman Holden, Alderman Newman, and the Mayor (members of the Watch Committee).

Evidence of the delivery of the first of these was then given; and Alderman Holden said in his evidence that the only conclusion he could come to when he received the postcard was that the writing upon it was an imputation upon the character of the chief constable, the words ‘The Fox’ were a mystery to him.

John Cullinan, clerk in the chief constable’s office, was called to speak to the writing being that of the prisoner. He said the latter was his father; but the prisoner declared that such was not the case, and that the young man’s name was Hanily. The witness produced a letter which he had received in October from the prisoner to show the similarity of the writing, and admitted there had been considerable angry correspondence between them, but he said that he had always borne the name Cullinan, and that when at school the prisoner wrote to him as ‘My dear son’ and subscribed himself as ‘Your father.’ He denied that he had ever spoken of himself as the ‘confidential clerk’ or ‘chief clerk’ to the ‘chief constable,’ but he admitted that his mother had been known as ‘the Yankee.’

Other witnesses were called to identify the writing and to show that the prisoner had stated that he had written to the Mayor about the chief constable; and Mr. W. Harrison, reporter, deposed as to the expressions used at the public meeting.

The other two cases were then gone into. Mr. Ward said his client had never libelled or intended to libel the chief constable, and contended that this being a criminal case, the whole libel must be strictly construed. The letters ‘C.C.’ might reasonably be construed to mean ‘confidential clerk,’ and the prisoner was entitled to the benefit of the doubt.

The magistrates came to the conclusion that there was a prima facie case, and committed the accused for trial at the assizes, but consented to accept bail – himself in £50, and two sureties in £25 each.

The hearing occupied between four and five hours.”

[At the Staffordshire Spring Assizes, in March 1891, due to some technicality, the Judge discharged the jury and liberated Patrick Cullinan.]

1891 Census

7, Stafford Street – EARL GREY

- [1] *Rebecca Atkins* (34), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Laura Atkins* (15), daughter, born Burntwood, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Lillie Morris* (21), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Ellen Hargrove* (20), domestic servant, born Rugeley;
- [5] *James Allen* (19), cellarman, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

Plans for alterations at the EARL GRAY public house were submitted by Mr. Jackson, but he explained to the Bench that they were only in connection with the doorway. These plans were also sanctioned.”

EARL GREY P.H. and Music Hall. [1896]

William Bertram Evans was fined 5s and costs, on 21st February 1900, for supplying a constable whilst on duty.

Walsall Observer 1/9/1900

“At the Police Court, on Wednesday *Rebecca Madeley*, of the EARL GREY, Stafford Street was summoned for unlawfully permitting her licensed premises to be the habitual resort of immoral characters on the 8th, 11th, 17th, and 18th of August, and on the 21st and 28th July.

Mr. Dorsett (instructed by Shakespeare and Co, Birmingham) appeared to defend.

At the opening of the case, Mr. Dorsett pointed out that the summons for the 21st and 28th July were only served last night. He wanted to know what the Chief Constable was going to do.

The Chief Constable: I certainly propose going on with the case.

Mr. Dorsett: Then I oppose it.

The magistrates expressed their willingness to adjourn the summons served last night.

Some discussion then ensued, and Mr. Dorsett said it was not advisable to go into four cases now, and another on a later date.

There was no excuse for such conduct as serving the summons for the earliest dates as late as the previous night.

The Chief Constable: How does that prejudice the case?

Mr. Dorsett: I should have thought the four cases sufficient.

Mr. Jupp (one of the magistrates): I think you must leave that to the decision of the magistrates.

After some further discussion Mr. Dorsett consented to have all the cases taken on that day.

The Chief Constable (Mr. N. Roche Gardiner), said that on July 21st and 28th, and on August 4th, 6th, 11th, 15th, 17th, 18th, 20th, and 27th, he visited the EARL GREY, in company with Detectives Haycock and Burrell, and once with Sergeant Pritchard. On each occasion he saw women, who seemed to be of loose character.

In cross-examination, the Chief Constable denied that he had been to the EARL GREY 31 times; nor had he been there as often as four times a day. On one occasion there were four women in the house, on another three, and another two. At that time he did not know the character of the five women, but since then he had learnt it. He had seen the women in the music hall and the bar. He never called Mrs. *Madeley*'s attention to anyone who was in the bar, nor made any complaint. He had not had the house open after eleven to search it. He had not ordered Mr. and Mrs. *Madeley* to go inside one night when they were outside at five minutes past eleven.

Mr. Dorsett: Have you been on the wrong side of the bar – by the till – ten minutes at a time?

The Chief Constable: Certainly not.

Mr. Dorsett: No relation to the till, you know, but inside the private bar – (laughter)?

The Chief Constable: Not at all. I merely walked inside.

Mr. Dorsett: After eleven o'clock, and behind the bar?

The Chief Constable: No, and all these visits were before 11 o'clock.

Detective-sergeant Haycock said that on Saturday, July 21st, he visited the EARL GREY with the Chief Constable and Detective Burrell. He there saw women of loose character – Kate Leonard, Annie Moseley, Ellen Fisher, and Elizabeth Bradbury – who were in company with men, and were about to leave the premises. On July 28th he visited the house again at 9.40pm, and saw there, loose women again – Leonard, Moseley, Fisher, and Smith. Witness was present at the door at 11 o'clock, and the women left the house at that time. On both occasions the women were in the vaults. On August 4th he saw two or three other loose characters, and a woman named Beddoes was ejected by the landlord for disorderly conduct. On August 6th he saw two women named Harvey and Smith, and on August 8th he visited the place at 7.50pm, and saw Ricketts drinking. At 9pm he again visited the place, and Ricketts was there then, and there were two other women talking to some men. On August 11th he again saw women there drinking, and on August 15th he saw Leonard, Kendrick and Harvey sitting in the music hall at 10.35pm. On August 17th, at 8.57pm, he saw Moseley, Morris and Riley in the vaults, and Kendrick and Harvey in the music hall. On August 18th, at 10.35pm, he saw a woman named Lawless with a man, and Leonard was also there. They were also there at 10.55. On August 27th he again visited the house at 8.50 and 9.40pm, but found no loose characters there. He had made twelve visits with the Chief Constable, and had seen fourteen women there who were reputed prostitutes, and in those twelve visits he had seen some of the women seven times and some five times. In cross examination, witness said that two of the women had been charged with prostitution, but one had been discharged, and the other fined 5s and costs. He had never spoken to Mrs. *Madeley* about them. The house had improved since the charge was taken out.

Alderman Lindop asked if he came as a stranger into the house whether he would have considered them anything but respectable women?

Witness: They are respectably dressed, but if you looked like spending anything you would not be in long before they asked you to pay for a drink.

Detective Burrell was called, and said, in reply to Mr. Dorsett, that he had never cautioned the defendant.

Police-constable Dalton stated that on August 24th he went into the EARL GREY at 9.20, and stayed until 10.50. He saw two professionals and another woman.

By Mr. Dorsett: Where do you come from?

Police-constable Dalton: Ireland.

Mr. Dorsett: Ah. I thought there wasn't much doubt about that. (Laughter) Been here since the Chief Constable came?

Police-constable Dalton: I don't know when he came.

Mr. Dorsett: How long have you been here?

Police-constable Dalton: About a fortnight.

Mr. Dorsett: Was this your first job?

No answer.

Mr. Dorsett: If you don't answer you had better go back to Ireland. – (Laughter)

No answer.

Mr. Dorsett submitted that there was no case made yet, and called the landlady, *Rebecca Madeley*, who said that she had occupied the EARL GREY for thirteen years, and no complaint had been made against her. She had been in the trade all her life. She had not been warned by the Chief or any constable. She conducted her house in a proper manner. She did not know that any of the women who came to her house were prostitutes. There were hundreds of women came in every year. She had never allowed people of loose character in her house, and if improper characters came she did not know them as such.

In answer to the Chief Constable, witness said that she knew that people called the EARL GREY the 'Madhouse', but it was by people who did not know how well it was carried on, and it got that name before she came to the house.

The Chief Constable: Is it not better known as the 'Madhouse' than the EARL GREY?

Witness: No! Respectable people would not call it such. She did not know that Kate Leonard was a prostitute, and did not know that she had been in gaol. She did not see the woman Fisher leave the house with one man and return with another. She was in the bar, and, if they did so, she would have seen it. She had never seen Smith there with men, and did not know her well. Witness said she did not know any of the fourteen at all well, though some of them were known to her by sight.

Re-examined by Mr. Dorsett, witness said that about 300 people came in every day, but she did not know their trades.

In answer to Dr. Lynch, witness said that she did not know that the woman Lawless was an immoral character, and that the woman Bradbury had been sent to gaol for soliciting prostitution.

By Mr. Dorsett: She had been living in a reign of terror.

Mr. Dorsett said that the case was not a prosecution, but a persecution. The prosecution had taken upon itself the responsibility of a grave charge. It would be difficult for anyone to exclude reputed prostitutes from a bar. It appeared to him that it was hard on anyone to have no notice whatever of what was hanging over them than to have the allegations laid over a long period as had been done. In this case the prosecution could bring unlimited evidence while the defendant could bring none. He pointed out that there was one great secret in this case, which was that the house had been conducted in the same way for 13 years. It was a disgrace to Walsall if it had been allowed for such a time. The witnesses and the defendant all said that defendant had never been warned all the time she had been a licensee in Walsall, and he put it that the lady would be the last person in the world to do a thing of that kind. The Chief Constable had tracked the house down and had made no secret of his intention of bowling the house out. It was noted down every time the Chief Constable came, and the total was 31, some days he came four times. He submitted that there was no case whatever. The defendant said that she did not know any of the women as prostitutes. All women were entitled to drink, but it must be that the landlady should knowingly permit them to loiter there. This the prosecution had not proved. There was no evidence that the women went there for anything else but refreshment. The police constables had done their duty, but they had brought no evidence that the women stayed any length of time, and he submitted that the persons were not there for an unreasonable time but simply for refreshments. Besides there were three hundred customers a day, that was eighteen hundred a week, and one of these women had according to the police evidence been there once a week, and another seven times in five weeks. The others had been there for shorter periods.

The magistrates after a long consultation inflicted a fine of £10 and costs, and ordered the license to be endorsed.

Mr. Dorsett gave notice of appeal, and the magistrates fixed the recognizance at £50, and a surety of £50."

[At the Licensing Sessions, held on 31st August 1900, the magistrates refused to renew the license to *Rebecca Madley*, and refused the music license altogether.]

Walsall Advertiser 29/9/1900

"Yesterday the adjourned Brewster session for the borough were held at the Guildhall.....

The transfer of the license of the EARL GREY INN, from Rebecca Madely to Bert Evans was confirmed."

Walsall Observer 13/10/1900

"No little excitement was caused in Walsall on Saturday night by the death of Henry Frederick Ledbrook (21), of Portland Street, Walsall. Ledbrook, it is alleged, went into the EARL GREY public house, Walsall, on Saturday night, where Josiah Smith and William Adams were together drinking. Ledbrook asked one of them for a light, and a refusal led to a dispute. After some angry words it is alleged that both Smith and Adams struck Ledbrook, who fell to the floor unconscious. He was carried into the open air, but did not recover consciousness, and on the arrival of a medical man it was found that Ledbrook was dead. Information was of course given to the police, and Sergeant Cattermole arrested Smith and Adams at the Pleck.

At the Walsall Police Court, which was crowded with spectators, who were also in great force outside, before the Mayor (Councillor Pearman-Smith), Messrs. G. Gill and J. F. Crump, Josiah Smith (26), striker, 26, Chapel Street, and William Adams (24), labourer, back of 318, Wednesbury Road, Pleck, were charged with feloniously killing Henry Frederick Ledbrook.

Mr. J. N. Citterell represented Smith, and Mr. H. H Jackson appeared for the tenant and owners of the house.

William Bert Evans, the landlord of the EARL GREY, Stafford Street, stated that on Saturday night, the 6th October, at a quarter to ten he was behind the counter of the vaults, serving customers. At that time he noticed the two prisoners enter. They were entire strangers to him, and a quarter of an hour later a man named Ledbrook came in and called for a 'lemon and a dash', and sat down on the side of the table in the vaults. He asked Smith for a light for his cigarette, and Smith pretended to light a piece of paper, but did not do so. Deceased then said that Smith was 'swanking'. Smith said, 'B ____ you, light it yourself.' Up to this Adams made no remark. The prisoners then drank up the lemonade and whisky which they had, and witness heard them say, 'Come on, let's go.' They went towards the Green Lane door, and Ledbrook was sitting on the edge of the table near the door, so that they would have to pass him to go out. Smith said, 'Take that, you b ____,' and let drive at him, striking him with his right fist on the right jaw. At the same time the prisoner Adams struck him on the other jaw with his clenched fist. Both men were in fighting attitudes, and both blows were delivered together. Four or five blows were delivered in quick succession by both prisoners. After he had received several blows Ledbrook fell on to his knees, and then on to his side. This occurred about ten minutes at most after Ledbrook came in. All these men were perfectly sober. Witness ran round to Ledbrook, and gave him some water, but he could not take it, and went black in the face. Witness and three or four more took deceased into the street, and the police were sent for. Smith and Adams ran away across the land at the back of the theatre. When witness got Ledbrook outside he was dying. The police carried Ledbrook back to the house, but he appeared to be dead. The police sent for a doctor, but when he arrived he was dead. The next time he saw the prisoners was on Sunday, when they were in custody at the police station. There were many men present, but witness identified prisoners at once. He was positive that these were the men who assaulted Ledbrook.

Mr. Cotterell said that he would reserve his cross examination, and this was agreed to by the magistrates.

The Magistrates' Clerk then said that considering the serious nature of the charge Adams ought to be defended by a solicitor. The magistrates would allow him to reserve any questions he wished to ask.

John Ricketts, 59, James Street, a private in the 3rd South Staffordshire regiment, stated that he was in the EARL GREY, and he saw the prisoners there. He only knew the prisoner Smith, whom he had seen boxing in Transfield's Circus, which used to be at the top of Park Street. Ledbrook was there also, within two yards of the prisoners. He heard no conversation between Ledbrook and the prisoners, but he saw Smith strike him on the left jaw, and then between his nose and the right eye. Deceased was rolling off the table when Adams struck him the last blow. There were only three blows struck. Adams struck him underneath the right ear. All the blows were struck with the clenched fist. He heard Adams say to Smith, 'Look out, I'll soon polish him off.' Two or three women then went at the prisoners with umbrellas, and they darted through the Green Lane entrance. When the first blow was struck he heard Smith say, 'For old time's sake, I have had it in for you a good while.' After the first blow, deceased got up, and as he was doing so Smith knocked him on to the side of the table. As he was rolling off the table Adams hit him. The landlord was behind the bar, about seven or eight yards away. There were about thirty people present. Ledbrook was making a moaning noise, and was carried outside. He was not outside long before someone said he that was dead, and he was carried into the house again. He was positive about Smith, and afterwards was quite sure of Adams also.

Alfred Swinton, caster, of James Street, Ryecroft, stated that on Saturday, the 6th inst, he went into the EARL GREY at about half past nine. He saw a man named Ledbrook enter at about 10 o'clock, and the prisoners were in at the time. Smith was sitting not a yard from Ledbrook, and struck him under the earhole. The other prisoner struck him on the eye, and raising his fist again said, 'Shift out, and I'll polish him off.' He could not say that he struck again. Deceased fell by the side of the counter, and was carried outside. He saw the prisoners at a quarter to five on Sunday morning, at the police station. He was positive about Smith, but not quite certain about Adams.

The case was here remanded until Wednesday to await the result of the inquest.

The magistrates would not consider the question of bail at this point."

[The inquest returned a verdict of manslaughter, and the two prisoners were committed for trial at Stafford on the charge of manslaughter, bail being refused.]

[At the Stafford Assizes on 4th December, 1900, the jury found both prisoners guilty, and they were sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.]

The name was changed to the KIMBERLEY RESTAURANT in December 1900.

Walsall Advertiser 8/12/1900

"Since the EARL GREY INN, Stafford Street, changed its name to the KIMBERLEY RESTAURANT, it has also been undergoing a change internally to make the place conform to the title, and it is to be opened to the public on Monday as a restaurant. The large room which served as a music hall has been fitted up as a dining hall, for which it is most admirably adapted; and it will seat some 80 people in comfort. Yesterday noon a sort of sampling dinner was given, to which about a score gentlemen were invited. The dinners are to be served at the modest figure of fourpence a time – a cut from a hot joint, two vegetables, and bread – on similar lines to the restaurant Sir Thomas Lipton opened in London last spring, to which it will be remembered the Prince of Wales paid a surprise visit; and the fourpennyworth which the guests partook of yesterday was a good, square meal, which would well satisfy the average appetite. It was also served up admirably, and the whole place has been thoroughly equipped for the business, which is to be commenced on Monday, and for which there will no doubt be a large call in such a busy centre as Walsall. After dinner yesterday Mr. Twyford, of Birmingham, who occupied the chair, proposed 'Success to the KIMBERLEY RESTAURANT' in appropriate terms, and the toast was acknowledged by Mr. *Bert Evans*, the genial host – a gentleman, by the way, who is well known in Variety circles as a champion trick shooter, &c."

1901 Census

6, Stafford Street

- [1] *William B. Evans* (49), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Lucy Evans* (36), wife, born Ludlow;
- [3] *Beatie Evans* (21), daughter, barmaid, born Ledbury, Herefordshire;
- [4] *Gerty Evans* (17), daughter, barmaid, born Kidderminster;
- [5] *Alice Evans* (16), daughter, barmaid, born Swansea;
- [6] *Jenny Evans* (10), daughter, born Ireland;
- [7] *Dorothy Evans* (7), daughter, born Kidderminster;
- [8] *Bertie Evans* (12), son, born Wem. Shropshire;
- [9] *Reginald Evans* (2 months), son, born Walsall;
- [10] *Harriet Lucas* (70), mother in law, widow, born Bromford, Shropshire:

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1901

"The Streets Committee..... The following plans have, during the past month, been approved, subject to the usual conditions..... Showell's Brewery Company, limited alteration to the KIMBERLEY RESTAURANT, Stafford Street."

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

"The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Black List. The Chief Constable opposed the renewal of the license of the KIMBERLEY RESTAURANT, against the tenant

of which here had been a conviction. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) appeared for the owners (Messrs. Showell) and for the present licensee (*George Day*).

Mr. Jackson said the only objection to the renewal was that on Dec. 21st, 1900, *William Bert Evans* was convicted and fined 5s and costs for supplying drink to a police-constable. Since the conviction the house had changed hands and had been properly conducted, and to the satisfaction of the police. He remarked that the magistrates could not have thought seriously of the offence, or they would have imposed a heavier penalty, and he would now therefore ask that the license should be renewed.

The Chief Constable said he did not press his objection.

The Mayor intimated that decision would be reversed. Renewed.”

The name was changed to CRITERION VAULTS in 1901.

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1901

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New members..... Mr. *John Penton*, CRITERION VAULTS, Stafford Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/1/1903

“To-day was the adjourned transfer day. Transfers of full licenses were granted in the case of.....

The temporary authority of *John Gibbons Hunt*, of the CRITERION, Stafford Street, was renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

The CRITERION, Stafford Street. 4s 9d.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1904

“Walsall & District Air-Gun League. Hospital Cup & Medals.

The concluding draw, to be shot on Tuesday next, the 21st inst, at the VINE HOTEL, Lower Hall Lane, is as under:

1. VOLUNTEER or KING WILLIAM v GOLDEN EAGLE.

2. NEWPORT No.1 or CRITERION v CROWN or Leamore.

Final. Winner of No.2 v Winner of No.1.

The first team to have choice of shooting. The first match to commence at 8pm sharp, the second at 8.45, final at 9.45. Individuals to immediately follow.”

Cyril Mottram Wakeman was born on 27th June, 1904.

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

“Walsall Air-Gun League.

The first annual meeting of the above was held at the CRITERION, Stafford Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smallwood presided, and there was also present Messrs. Hicken (EAGLE), G. Smith (OLD KINGS ARMS), Powell (TANNERS ARMS), E. James (PLUMBERS ARMS), McDonald (CRITERION), Cliffe (GOLDEN EAGLE), Hunt, E. Towe (treasurer), and Mason (secretary).....

The undermentioned clubs with power to add to their number, were elected to the League for the forthcoming season: The WHITE HART (Walhouse Street), TANNERS ARMS, OLD KINGS ARMS, EAGLE, PLUMBERS ARMS, CRITERION, GOLDEN EAGLE, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, OAK, and DUKE OF YORK.

There was no other business of public interest.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

“There was a large attendance of those interested in air-gun shooting at the CRITERION HOTEL, Stafford Street, on Monday evening, when the final shoot for the ‘Hospital’ and ‘R. A. Cooper’ Cups took place. With the formation of the Walsall Air-Gun League it was felt that through it some benefit could be conferred upon the Walsall Hospital, and eventually a handsome cup was offered for competition, and the proceeds derived from the meetings of the respective clubs given to the Hospital. So far £29 had been handed over to the treasurer of the institution by the Air-Gun Executive, which should be largely augmented this year. The final was between those old rivals, NEWPORT ARMS and WALSALL ARMS, and, as expected, the shooting was of a high-class order. In the end the cup went to the WALSALL ARMS team for the second time. It will be remembered that the WALSALL ARMS won the Cup outright but returned it to the Executive of the League, and it now forms the basis of an annual competition for the benefit of the Hospital.

Mr. F. J. Cotterell, chairman of the Hospital was in the chair, and supporting him were Mr. E. Hall (president), Mr. T. A. Sadler (honorary secretary), Mr. R. E. Ledbury, &c.”

1911 Census

7, Stafford Street

[1] *John Ford* (30), public house manager, born Birmingham;

[2] *Edith Ford* (30), wife, married 2 years, public house manageress, born Oldbury;

[3] Doris Ford (15 months), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] Florence Taplin (20), general servant, born Oldbury;
[5] Charles Blockwood (18), potman, born Walsall:

Harry Ernest Ballinger – see also BROWN LION.

‘Walsall Pubs : A History’ by John Cockayne

“The CRITERION in Stafford Street was known familiarly as the ‘Blood Bath’ or ‘Mad House’ for the heated political arguments that took place here had access from both Green Lane and Stafford Street The bar was 67’ 8” long, it had two snug bars, two club rooms and a Smoke room.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917. . . . The CRITERION, Stafford Street. £1 6s 11½d.”

Walsall Observer 8/3/1924

“Many new members were enrolled at a meeting of the newly formed Walsall and District Roller Canary Club, which was held at the CRITERION HOTEL on Monday.”

Cyril M. Wakeman married Selina H. Wall in September 1928.

1939 Register

7, Stafford Street

[1] *Joseph Bernard Reeves*, date of birth 23/9/1889, public house manager, married, Walsall Special Constable;

[2] *Alice M. Reeves*, dob 7/6/1879, public house manageress, unpaid duties, married:

Arthur Standley – see also ENGINE.

Cyril Mottram Wakeman – see also BIRCHILLS TAVERN.

Walsall Observer 18/3/1944

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held at the CRITERION HOTEL, Stafford Street, Walsall. Mr. C. W. Garfield (president) occupied the chair, and Mr. T. Hawkins (vice-president) the vice-chair. The President made sympathetic reference to the sudden death of the Magistrates’ Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton), and as a mark of respect the members stood for a short time in silence. Sympathy was also expressed with Mr. James Bird and his wife and Mrs. Garfield in their illnesses. Mr. George Peach, KINGS HEAD, Stafford Street, Willenhall, and Mr. Sidney Wood, of the NEW INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, were elected members of the committee. Mr. Herbert Dallow, of the OLD CROWN INN, Willenhall, was elected a member of the society. A message was read from Mr. M. F. Harrison, secretary, expressing his thanks and greetings for the kind wishes extended to him on the occasion of his 85th birthday. The arrangements made for the forthcoming charity ball on Friday May 19, were reported. The society is arranging to co-operate with the appeal of the Mayor in aid of the Red Cross and St. John Staffordshire appeal, and a box collection will shortly be made. The next meeting will be at the TIGER INN, Walstead Road, on April 13.”

Cyril Vernon Sleigh – see also BUILDERS ARMS.

Albert Daniel Peace – see also PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

Cyril M. Wakeman married Ivy A. Jones in June 1972.

It closed on 2nd January 1980.

Demolished

Cyril Mottram Wakeman died in July 1988.

CROSS GUNS

Little Street , Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Holder [1865] – [1869]

NOTES

It had an ante '69 beerhouse license.

Birmingham Gazette 14/7/1865

“Before Messrs. Thos. Hazledine and H. Highway, *John Holder* landlord of the CROSS GUNS beer house, Birchills, was fined 10s and costs, for having had his house open during prohibited hours on Sunday last. There had been several complaints of his harbouring working men on Sundays.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/7/1869

“*John Holder*, landlord of the CROSS GUNS beerhouse, Little Street, Birchills, who had been previously convicted, was sentenced to pay a fine of 15s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for fourteen days.”

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1869

“This being the adjourned licensing day, those parties whose licenses had been either suspended or refused, again put in applications.

Mr. Glover applied on behalf of Mr. *Holder*, landlord of the CROSS GUNS beer-house, Little Street, Birchills, whose license had been refused because he had been convicted of keeping open during prohibited hours. Application refused.”

CROSS GUNS

Bloxwich Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joshua Hope [1851] – [1855]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/1/1855

“Patriotic Fund – Willenhall. Third List.
Joshua Hope, CROSS GUNS. 2s 6d.”

Check Wednesfield.

CROSS KEYS

114, (173), Blue Lane West, WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Cooper, Blue Lane, Walsall
Mr. Weaver, South Street, Walsall
Thomas Banks and Co. Ltd, Wolverhampton

LICENSEES

John Critchlow [1858]

Edward Moore [1860] – [1861]
William Russell [1864] – [1865]
David Cooper [1868] – [1870]
Enoch Scott [1870] – [1872]
John Arnold [] – 1872);
John Carswell (1872 – []);
Edward Darby [1876] – [1877];
William Russell [1880] manager?
James Swinbrook [1881];
William Dabbs [];
John Sargent [] – 1887);
Job Bagby (1887 – 1889);
Thomas Powell [1904]
W H Clark [1909]

NOTES

173, Blue Lane West [1861], [1864], [1865]
114, Blue Lane [1872]
114, Blue Lane West [1868], [1869], [1881], [1904]

It had a beerhouse license.

John Critchlow, beerhouse, 173, Blue Lane. [1858]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....
E. Moore, Blue Lane. Refused.”

Edward Moore, beer retailer, Blue Lane West. [1861]

1861 Census

173, Blue Lane West
[1] *Edward Moore* (39), victualler, born Libley North, Shropshire;
[2] *Lina Moore* (34), wife, born Land Biston [Llanbister?], Radnorshire:

William Russell, beer retailer and chainmaker, 173, Blue Lane West. [1864], [1865]

David Cooper, beer retailer, 114, Blue Lane West. [1868]

Walsall Free Press 9/1/1869 - Advert

“To Be Let, an Old-established Beerhouse, No.114 Blue Lane West, Walsall; changed hands once in 29 years.
Enquire, 116 Blue Lane.”

David Cooper and *Enoch Scott* were both listed in the same directory as beer retailer, 114, Blue Lane West. [1870]

The licensee was fined 20s and costs, on 9th December 1872, for Sunday trading.

Sporting Life 29/1/1876

“Birmingham and District. Royal Oak Grounds, Burnt Tree.

Mr. Nuttall, the proprietor, will give £10 for an all-England dog handicap, distance 200 yards, on Saturday and Monday, February 5 and 7; first prize £7; second prize £2; third prize £1. Entrance 1s each. Entrance to close on February 1. Entrance to be made at Mr. *E. Darby*'s, CROSS KEYS, Blue Lane, Walsall; Mr. E. Noble's, DOCK INN, Dock Lane, Dudley; Mr. I. Baker's, innkeeper, Westbromwich; Mr. W. Taylor's, Dudley; or at Mr. Samuel Burrows's, SEVEN STARS INN, Bilston. Conditions as usual. Admission to the grounds, 6d each.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 3/2/1877

“Mr. Nuttall will give £10 to be run for in an all-England dog handicap, distance 200 yards, for dogs of all weights, on be run on Mondays, February 12 and 19 – first prize £8; second £1 10s; third 10s. Entrance 1s each; no acceptance. Entrances to be sent not later than Wednesday, February 7 (Thursday morning's post in time), to be made at the grounds; Mr. Rickbury, Old Plough, Suffolk Street, Birmingham; Mr. Bradley, ALBION INN, Oldbury; Mr. Fairn, RAILWAY INN, Wednesbury; Mr. Brindley, COCK INN, Willenhall; Mr. Stevens, RAILWAY INN, Walbrook; Darby Tom, 29, New Cross Street, Tipton; Mr. *E. Darby*, CROSS KEYS INN, Walsall, or Mr. Parsons, FOX AND GOOSE INN, Darby End. Conditions as usual.”

Sporting Life 6/10/1877

“Royal Oak Recreation Grounds, Burnt Tree.

Mr. T. Walker, of Burnt Tree, and Mr. W. Taylor will give £6 10s to be run for on Mondays, October 15 and 22 – first prize £5, second £1, third 10s; entrance 1s each, and no acceptance. Entrances to be made not later than Tuesday, October 9, at the grounds, or at.....

Mr. E. Darby's, CROSS KEYS INN, Blue Lane, Walsall.”

William Russell was also a chainmaker. [1880]

1881 Census

114, Blue Lane West – CROSS KEYS

[1] *James Swinbrook* (45), publican, born Whitmore, Staffordshire;

[2] *Rosannah Swinbrook* (43), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *John Swinbrook* (71), father, commission agent, born Cheswardine, Shropshire;

[4] *Hannah Butcher* (15), niece, dress maker, born Walsall;

[5] *Ann Wheeler* (13), adopted child, domestic servant, born Walsall:

John Sargent was fined 20s and costs, on 12th September 1883.

Job Bagby = *Job Bagley*

Job Bagby was fined 20s and costs, on 21st May 1888, for being open at 12.15 at night.

He was fined 10s and costs, on 8th February 1889, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1889

“The adjourned licensing day, which was held at the Guildhall, on Monday [23/9], had been looked forward to with considerable interest on account of the large number of objections to the renewal of licenses made by the Chief Constable. All the houses objected to, something like 162, had been visited by the Magistrates, and in the vast majority of cases the structural alterations required by the Chief Constable had been made, hence the objections were withdrawn. Others persisted in, however, with the result that the bench refused to renew the licenses of five houses, these being, the SHAKESPEARE, Peel Street; the UNION, Ryecroft; the BARLEY MOW, Church Hill; the PEOPLE'S MUSIC HALL, High Street; and the CROSS KEYS, Blue Lane. There is a very angry feeling on the part of the publicans at this result, and notice of appeal has been given in each case. As the matter will be brought for decision before the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, I will refrain from commenting on it.”

The license was withdrawn in 1889.

Birmingham Daily Post 23/8/1890

“The annual licensing sessions for Walsall borough were held yesterday.....

Mr. Lawrence applied for a license to *Job Bagby* for the CROSS KEYS, and stated that the license was taken from the house last year, in consequence of the present applicant having been convicted. On appeal the decision of the Bench was upheld, but costs were not given. He urged that that showed that the charges against applicant were not thought serious, and the year's suspension of business was sufficient punishment. Evidence of character was given for applicant, and by Detective-sergeant Cliffe that the house was not wanted. The application was refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/9/1890

“The adjourned licensing session was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Mr. Whitehouse, in the absence of Mr. Lawrence, applied for an out-door license for the house formerly known as the CROSS KEYS INN, but now 114, Blue Lane West, the license having been withdrawn twelve months ago, and the withdrawal having been sustained on appeal. He said it was a very hard case for the occupier, *Job Bagley*, who when he went into the house a short time before the license was withdrawn undertook to pay £130. The Mayor said the magistrates thought they would only be doing justice to the applicant by granting the license. They would therefore do so.”

Job Bagby, beer retailer, 114, Blue Lane West. [1896]

Thomas Powell, beer retailer, 114, Blue Lane West, and 71, Hatherton Street. [1904]

[1911]

CROSS KEYS

Wisemore Street, (14, Wisemore), WALSALL

OWNERS

Nicholas Roper, Lichfield Street, Walsall
Mrs. Susan Roper [1904]
Frank Myatt Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

Isaac Falconer [1859]
George Browning [1861]
John Masters (1863 – [])
Luke Riley [1867]
James Sharpe [1871] – [1872];
John MacNolty [1877] – [1886];
P M Naughton [] – 1887);
Bridget Ann McNally (1887 – 1889);
Moses Lawton (1889 – 1891);
Christopher Firbank (1891 – 1893);
Moses Lawton (1893 – 1897);
Mrs. Christina Lawton (1897 – 1900);
Henry John ‘Harry’ Birkin (1900 – 1909);

NOTES

14, Wisemore [1861], [1871], [1891]

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 3/9/1859

“*Isaac Falconer*, landlord of the CROSS KEYS beerhouse, Wisemore, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer after eleven o’clock on the night of the 23rd inst. Police-constable Hunt said he visited the house of the defendant at about twenty minutes to twelve, and found two men in the house, and two cups upon the table with liquor in them. Mrs. *Falconer*, who appeared for her husband, said one of the men seen by the officer was her brother, and the other was the brewer who was getting some barm. As this was Mr. *Falconer*’s first offence, the case was dismissed. Mr. *Falconer* was then charged by the same officer with having his house open, at the same hour, on the following evening. The officer said about twenty minutes to twelve on the night of the 24th, he again visited the house of the defendant, and found four men in the house, while on the table there was a bottle and a glass containing liquor. Mrs. *Falconer* said the parties were some friends from Wolverhampton, who were having supper with them (Mr. and Mrs. *Falconer*). The defendant was sentenced to pay a fine of 20s and costs.”

1861 Census

14, Wisemore – CROSS KEYS

- [1] *George Browning* (45), beerhouse keeper, born Shadford, Suffolk;
- [2] *Henrietta Browning* (54), wife, born Perry Barr;
- [3] *Elizabeth Stanley* (20), daughter in law, born Walsall;
- [4] *Simona Robinson* (19), house servant, born Gnossall, Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 28/2/1863

“*John Masters*, landlord of the CROSS KEYS beerhouse, Wisemore, was charged with having, on Sunday last, had his house open for the sale of beer. Defendant admitted the charge; but stated that, as he had only been a few days in business, he was not, at the time, fully aware of the law upon the subject. Cautioned and discharged.”

Walsall Free Press 23/2/1867

“*Luke Riley*, landlord of the CROSS KEYS beer house, Wisemore was fined 2s 6d and costs for having, at half-past four o’clock, on Sunday afternoon last, permitted beer to be consumed on his premises, at which time Sergeant Ogden and Police Constable Lakin found in the back room three men and two women drinking.”

Walsall Free Press 30/3/1867

“*Catherine Hurley* and *Michael Ford* were charged with having, on the 17th inst, [a Sunday] assaulted *Joseph Mosedale*, for whom Mr. *Glover* appeared.

The evidence showed that, about five o'clock on the afternoon in question, complainant was drunk in the CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, where the defendants, it being St. Patrick's Day, were 'drowning the shamrock'. Murphy and his forthcoming lectures formed the topic of conversation, which became very animated, and ultimately ended, as all such discussions usually do, in an angry dispute. Complainant, being a staunch defender of Murphy and the liberty of speech, denounced the priests in language not at all calculated to soothe the defendants, who became much irritated, and followed complainant out of the house, and, when about thirty yards from the door, without any further provocation, knocked him down and kicked him.

William Walters, hearing complainant's cries, ran to the spot, and saw complainant lying on the ground, and the male defendant kicking him. The female defendant also kicked complainant on the head. Complainant was afterwards removed into the house of William Wood, and, for a time it was thought his eye was burst. His face was frightfully disfigured with blood and dirt, and much swollen.

The female defendant, who stated in defence that complainant in course of the conversation about Murphy called her foul names, and made use of disgraceful language, called Mrs. *Riley*, the landlady of the beerhouse before mentioned, to give evidence in support of her statement.

Mrs. *Riley* said that the complainant, who had drunk of five or six quarts of ale in her house, was somewhat inebriated, and made use of offensive language, for which she reproved him, and requested him to be quiet, but he would not, and used a foul threat, whereupon her husband turned him out. On cross-examination this witness prevaricated very much. Patrick O'Connor, who lodges at the CROSS KEYS, was next called, and stated that complainant, who appeared to be drunk, came into the house between six and seven o'clock in the evening, and commenced creating a disturbance, using bad language, and calling the female defendant improper names. He was eventually expelled. After he was turned out, he fought with and threw the female defendant down. She then got up and kicked complainant.

The Bench being of opinion that the charge had been clearly proved, sentenced the defendants to two months' imprisonment each with hard labour."

AND

"*Luke Riley*, beerhouse-keeper, pleaded guilty to having had his house open during prohibited hours on Sunday afternoon for the sale of liquor, and was fined 5s and costs, having been previously convicted."

Walsall Free Press 25/5/1867 - Advert

"The CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, Walsall.

To Be Let, the above, with immediate possession.

Apply to Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer, 4, Lichfield Street, Walsall."

Walsall Free Press 12/6/1869 - Advert

"Goods carefully Removed by William Glover, CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, Walsall."

1871 Census

14, Wisemore

[1] *James Sharpe* (40), bit maker, born Walsall;

[2] *Elizabeth Sharpe* (28), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *John Sharpe* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Susan Sharpe* (18), domestic servant, born Walsall;

[5] *James Ripon* (48), boarder, cartgear maker, born Walsall:

John MacNolty = John McNally

London Gazette 17/4/1877

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John MacNolty*, of the CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beer Retailer and Cigar Merchant.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. John Glover, of No.66, Park-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Solicitor, on the 1st day of May, 1877, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 14th day of April, 1877.

John Glover, No.66, Park-street, Walsall, Solicitor for the said Debtor."

London Gazette 29/6/1880

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John MacNolty*, of the CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beerseller and Plasterer.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Alfred Baldwin East, Solicitor, 43, Temple-street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 12th day of July, 1880, at three o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 26th day of June, 1880.

Alfred B. East, 43, Temple-street, Birmingham, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

1881 Census

Wisemore – CROSS KEYS

[1] *John McNally* (38), innkeeper, born Ireland;

[2] *Bridget McNally* (49), wife, born Ireland:

Lichfield Mercury 3/12/1886

“On Monday a petition was filed by and the usual order made against *John McNolty*, of the CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, Walsall, beerhouse keeper. Mr. E. Evans, Walsall, is the solicitor to the debtor.”

1891 Census

14, Wisemore

[1] *Moses Lawton* (53), press tool maker and publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Christina Lawton* (51), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Enoch Lawton* (24), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Clara Lawton* (17), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Hannah Lawton* (15), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] *John Lawton* (14), son, born Walsall;

[7] *Alice Lawton* (12), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] *Fanny Lawton* (6), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 7/7/1891 - Advert

“To Let. The CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, Walsall; Free Beerhouse; doing a good trade. Incoming very low. Apply, *Watkins and Powell*, Auctioneers, Walsall.”

Moses Lawton, beer retailer, 14, Wisemore. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 10/4/1897

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

The following items of expenditure were passed for payment, viz, a funeral donation of £4 10s to the representatives of Mr. *Moses Lawton* (deceased), CROSS KEYS INN, Wisemore, and the expenses in connection with his funeral.....”

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1897

“Wednesday was a special transfer day at Walsall and the following licenses were transferred.....

CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, Executors of *Moses Lawton* (deceased), to *Christina Lawton*.”

Christine Lawton = *Christiana Lawton*

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Billiard licenses were applied for by the following....

Christiana Lawton, beerhouse keeper, CROSS KEYS, Wisemore. Refused”

Henry John Birkin = *Henry John Burkin*

1901 Census

14, Wisemore

[1] *Henry J. Birkin* (40), beerhouse keeper, born Penkridge, Staffordshire;

[2] *Florence Birkin* (27), wife, born Ocker Hill;

[3] *Jinnie Lee* (16), general servant, born Tipton;

[4] *John Birkin* (72), father, widower, groom, born Bradley, Staffordshire:

Henry John Birkin, beer retailer, 14, Wisemore. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Henry John Birkin, CROSS KEYS.”

The license renewal was refused at the Brewster Sessions 1904, but was allowed on appeal to the Quarter Sessions.

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

Henry John Birkin, of the CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, had his license objected to on the ground that the license was not needed, the premises not structurally adapted, and were not used as a bona fide public-house.

Mr. R. J. Lawrence (instructed by Messrs. Addison and Cooper) appeared for the owner, Mrs. Roper.

Police-constable Lloyd gave evidence to watching the house a few weeks ago, when he saw a man who was afterwards convicted of street betting enter the house eight times between 1.10 and 3.20pm. Police-constable Lloyd spoke to having chased the same man score of times for betting; twice or thrice he ran into the CROSS KEYS, and when witness followed him in he could not find him.

The license was refused on the ground that the house was disorderly, and that the applicant had failed to produce satisfactory evidence of good character.

Notice of appeal was given, and the recognisances were placed at £100 and two others of £50.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/4/1904

“In connection with the recent Walsall Brewster Sessions, there were this week six appeals at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions against the decisions of the borough magistrates in refusing the renewal of licenses.....

Henry John Burkin, the tenant of the CROSS KEYS INN, Walsall, appealed against the decision of the borough justices not to renew the licence of the house. Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Hazel appeared for the appellants, and Mr. Disturnal was for the respondents. The first question which came up for decision was whether the house was an ante-1869 beerhouse, and after hearing the evidence of old inhabitants the court decided that it was in existence before 1869.

Mr. Disturnal said the case involved matters relating to the conduct of the house, and the complaint about the house was that it had been frequented by betting people. The police had observed betting going on frequently in front of the house. The police gave evidence as to the allegations of betting transactions going on in front of the house, which was frequently used by Groves.

Mr. Lawrence, in addressing the court, said that there was no evidence to show that the landlord connived at the betting transactions, which the man Groves carried on in front of the house.

The committee allowed the appeal without costs, the chairman saying that the landlord had brought the trouble on himself by his careless conduct of the house.

In reply to Mr. Disturnal, the chairman said that the bench did not think there was any evidence that the house was disorderly.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 3rd February 1909.

It was refused.

Walsall Advertiser 6/3/1909

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

Applications were also made for the renewal of the licenses of the CROSS KEYS, Wisemore which had been opposed. Mr. Cooper appeared on behalf of the CROSS KEYS, and said he had no further facts to place before the justices. The house was referred for compensation.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1909

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, 1909, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, Beerhouse. Licensee, *Henry J. Birkin*.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The principal meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, when eight beer-houses and one ale-house, the licenses of which had been referred by the licensing justices, were dealt with, and in each instance the houses were referred for compensation, which means in due course the houses will close.....

The CROSS KEYS, Wisemore. Is another beer-house, the owner being Miss Susan Roper, the lessees Messrs. Frank Myatt, Limited, and the tenant *Harry J. Birkin*.

Mr. F. J. Addison represented all the parties, and said the lease had some six years to run. The lessees paid £65, and let it to *Birkin* at £32, and he was entitled to three months' notice.

Replying to the Magistrates' Clerk, Mr. Addison admitted that the license had been refused previously, but was renewed on appeal, but that, he said, could in no way have any influence upon the amount of compensation. It was refused on the ground of redundancy, and they were quite prepared to leave the matter in the hands of the authority. He had no figures to submit at present.....

The Bench having heard each case separately retired to consider their decision. In returning, the Mayor intimated that the renewals authority report would be adopted, and all the houses referred for compensation.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1909

“A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall, on Thursday, Sir Edward T. Holden presiding over a

full Bench of Magistrates.....

In the case of the CROSS KEYS, Wisemore, Mr. F. Cooper appeared for the owner, and also for the lessees and tenant.....

The Magistrates decided to hold a further private sitting to go into the question of figures with the solicitors.

The decisions will be announced at a later date.”

It closed in 1909.

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

Henry John Birkin, CROSS KEYS, Wisemore.....”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

CROSS KEYS, Wisemore. Evidence was given as to the value of this house and the magistrates decided to renew the license.” ?

Walsall Observer 14/2/1914 - Advert

“Sale of Important Freehold Investments on Tuesday, the 3rd of March, 1914.....

Three Freehold Dwelling Houses, Nos.14 (formerly the CROSS KEYS), 15 and 16 Wisemore, Walsall.....”

CROWN

6, (6+8), Leamore Lane, (High Street), Leamore, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Samuel Birch

Josiah James Brookes

Mrs. Picken

James Bird

Norman Frank Bird

Bird's Crown Brewery Ltd.

Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 1st May 1967)

LICENSEES

Thomas Baker [1841] – [1842]

Samuel Birch [1845] – [1872];

Josiah James Brookes [1879] – **1887**);

Sarah Ann Brookes (**1887 – 1889**);

Thomas Birch Jennings (**1889 – 1900**);

James Bird (**1900 – 1937**);

Norman Frank Bird (**1937 – 1953**);

William Ewart Mountford (**1953 – 1954**);

Levi Plimmer (**1954**);

Alfred Coleman (**1954 – 1961**);

James John Bird (**1961 – 1968**)

NOTES

High Street [1841], [1842], [1861]

Leamore Lane [1861]

6+8, Leamore Lane [1881]

6, Leamore Lane [1891], [1939], [1940]

It dates to the 18th century.

It was the former site of Bird's Crown Brewery.

1841 Census

Leamore Lane

- [1] *Thomas Baker* (45), victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Baker (40), born Staffordsdhire;
- [3] Charles Baker (20), j, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Edward Baker (20), j, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Mark Baker (15), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Sarah Baker (13), born Staffordshire;
- [7] Benjamin Baker (12), born Staffordshire;
- [8] Ann Baker (10), born Staffordshire;
- [9] Hyla Baker (6), born Staffordshire;
- [10] Martha Baker (5), born Staffordshire;
- [11] David Baker (4), born Staffordshire;
- [12] Elizabeth Baker (3 months), born Staffordshire;
- [13] Elizabeth Aston (20), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [14] John Webster (13), ap, born Staffordshire:

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 20/12/1841 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by E. Walker, this present Monday the 20th of December, at the sign of the TURF TAVERN, situated in Bradford Street, Walsall, at four o'clock in the afternoon precisely, all that capital Freehold Public House, known by the sign of the CROWN INN, situated in Leamore Lane, Bloxwich, in the county of Stafford, together with the Shopping and other Outbuildings thereto belonging, late in the occupation of *Thomas Baker*.....”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/8/1845

“.....*Joseph Powell* wishes us to remind *Gough, Allsopp, Haywood, the Flying Clogger, Boulton Phillips, and Book*, that he is open to run any of them eight score yards for £10 a side. The money ready any moment at *Samuel Birch's*, CROWN INN, Bloxwich.”

Samuel Birch was also a shopkeeper. [1849]

1851 Census

Leamore Lane

- [1] *Samuel Birch* (34), victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Lucy Birch (31), wife, born Redditch;
- [3] Susannah Birch (12), daughter, scholar, born Harden;
- [4] Eliza Birch (11), daughter, scholar, born Harden;
- [5] Sarah A. Birch (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Catherine Deakin (30), house servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] Charles Wall (22), servant, farm waggoner, born NK, Worcestershire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/5/1853

“*Samuel Birch*, the landlord of the CROWN, Leamore Lane, Bloxwich, was fined 10s and costs, for severely assaulting an old man named Welsh, whom he lashed with a whip, for crossing land which *Birch* contended belonged exclusively to himself.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/2/1854 - Advert

“Stallions. To be Sold.

Young Driver, rising 7 years old, stands 16 hands 1 inch high, a fast trotter, and is a good bay, with black legs, clear from white, with great bone.

Young Merryman is a strong cart colt, rising 5 years old, stands full 17 hands high, with a star on the head; is a dapple brown, with good action and great bone.

Royal George, rising 4 years old, is a strong dark brown colt, stands 16½ hands high; has a star on the forehead, and has clear black legs.

For particulars as to pedigree, &c, apply to Mr. *Samuel Birch*, CROWN INN, Bloxwich, near Walsall, Staffordshire.”

1861 Census

Leamore Lane – CROWN INN

- [1] *Samuel Birch* (44), victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Lucy Birch (41), wife, born Redditch;
- [3] Eliza Birch (21), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Sarah Birch (17), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Mary Birch (14), niece, scholar, born Bloxwich:

Samuel Birch was also a shopkeeper. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/4/1869

“About half-past seven o’clock on Tuesday evening, William Hayes, aged 50, a sinker, who resided at Lane Head, went to the CROWN public house, Bloxwich, kept by Mr. *Samuel Birch*, in a state of intoxication, and called for a pint of beer, with which he was supplied by the servant girl. He then went out, but as he was going he accidentally knocked over a glass containing spirits. After being absent a short time he returned and paid 6d for the damage he had done, but complained about the charge being too much, and made use of abusive language. As he continued to be very noisy, Mr. *Birch*, the landlord, requested him to be quiet. Deceased then put his fist into Mr. *Birch*’s face, and on Mr. *Birch* attempting to put him out, he seized Mr. *Birch* by the throat and attempted to strangle him. Mr. *Birch* called for help, and Joseph Healey, Henry Healey, John Carrington, John Parker, and Marry Hicking, Mr. *Birch*’s servant, went to Mr. *Birch*’s assistance, and they succeeded in turning deceased out. Deceased fell, but got up again, and struck Joseph Healey, who struck at deceased, but missed him, and struck the girl Hicking. Some persons then interfered to prevent a fight, and pushed deceased, who fell heavily on the back of his head, and was picked up in a state of insensibility. When raised up blood was flowing from his nose and ears. He was taken to the house of Mr. Mellors, at Bradstone, and afterwards to the Cottage Hospital, Walsall, where he was attended by Mr. Maclachlan, who found the pupil of one of deceased’s eyes much dilated, and quite insensible to the action of light, thereby showing extensive effusion of blood upon the brain. Deceased, who was in a hopeless condition, expired about three o’clock yesterday morning.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/5/1869

“On Wednesday Mr. A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, resumed an inquiry at the Cottage Hospital, touching the death of William Hague, who lost his life from injuries received in the course of a row at the CROWN INN, Leamore Lane, Bloxwich. Mr. L. W. Lewis (Duignan, Lewis, and Lewis) watched the proceedings in behalf of Mr. *Birch*, landlord of the CROWN INN. Dr. Maclachlan deposed to having made a post mortem examination of the body, and to having found death had resulted from effusion of blood upon the surface of the brain, caused by an extensive fracture of the left side of the skull, which the deceased had sustained. The fracture might have been caused by a fall or kick. Three other witnesses were examined, for the purpose of showing the precise circumstances under which the deceased sustained the fracture, and although the evidence was not conclusive on the point, the balance favoured the theory that the injury was caused by a fall. In the end, the jury, after a few moments’ deliberation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1871 Census

17, Leamore Lane

- [1] *Samuel Birch* (55), grocery retailer, born Bloxwich;
 - [2] Lucy Birch (52), wife, born Redditch, Worcestershire;
 - [3] Josiah J. Brookes (30), grocer’s shopkeeper, born Bloxwich;
 - [4] Sarah Ann Brookes (26), wife, born Bloxwich;
 - [5] Samuel Brookes (3), son, born Bloxwich;
 - [6] Harriet Davis (16), general servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [Although this is at a different address, it is the same Birch couple.]

Samuel Birch was described as also being a grocer. [1872]

Walsall Advertiser 8/4/1879 - Advert

“To be Sold by Private Contract, a good Piece of Freehold Land, about 600 yards, suitable for Building, situate at Green Lane, Bloxwich, close to the FOUR CROSSES INN.
For particulars, apply to Mr. *Brookes*, CROWN INN, Leamore, Bloxwich.”

1881 Census

6+8, Leamore Lane – CROWN INN

- [1] *Josiah J. Brookes* (40), corn dealer, licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Sarah A. Brookes* (36), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Samuel B. Brookes (13), son, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Eliza A. Brookes (5), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Thomas Mortimer (20), corn dealer’s assistant, born London;
- [6] Eliza Pearson (19), domestic servant, born Wyrley;
- [7] George Pickin (15), corn dealer’s assistant, born Coalport, Shropshire:

Walsall Observer 10/1/1885

“Caledonian Corks. On Saturday evening last, a new lodge of the above Order was opened at the CROWN INN, Leamore, Host Bro. *Brookes*. The officers of No.1 Lodge, Walsall, were entrusted with the duties, assisted by the Chief Lieutenant of the Order, Bro. Braidsmore, of Birmingham, and Bro. J. H. Allsop, a man of the Executive Council (Walsall).....”

1891 Census

6, Leamore Lane

- [1] *Thomas Jennings* (32), unmarried, grocer, born Walsall;
- [2] Jane James (42), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [3] Ellen Clark (24), domestic servant, born Sedgley;

[4] Thomas Mason (22), grocer's assistant, born Hednesford:

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1895

"A section of the Weights and Measures Act, which has previously been unheeded by Inspector Whitworth, was brought into operation when *Thomas Jennings*, of the CROWN INN, Leamore, was summoned for not having had his jugs properly stamped. The Inspector said when he visited the defendant's house on February 15th, and found the jugs unstamped, *Jennings* wished to square the matter with him by giving him 10s. The magistrates, in imposing a fine of 20s and costs, remarked that the fine would have been heavier had it not been for the first offence of that kind brought before them. They had also taken into consideration the attempted bribery of the Inspector."

Walsall Advertiser 23/11/1895

"Annadine Smith, a disreputable-looking individual living at Bentley, pleaded guilty to the usual charge of being drunk and disorderly. It was stated that at 4.35 on Thursday afternoon she had to be ejected from the CROWN INN, Leamore. After this operation had been completed she defied Police-sergeant Marshall's order to go away, and deliberately lay down in the road, with the result that the officer was compelled to convey her to the station in a sand-cart. To this declaration prisoner uttered an expository 'Oh!'

The Chief Constable reminded the Bench that there was a whole page of convictions registered against her. A fine of 5s and costs only was imposed."

Thomas Jennings was fined 20s and costs, on 24th February 1899, for selling adulterated whisky.

Walsall Observer 8/9/1900

"There was a nice quiet little party at the CROWN INN, Leamore, last Wednesday evening, where, at the invitation of mine host Mr. *James Bird*, the members of the community of the Floral Society dined and supped – call it what you will – en familie....."

1901 Census

6, Leamore Lane

- [1] *James Bird* (30), licensed victualler and grocer, born Walsall;
- [2] Eliza A. Bird (26), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Eleanor M. Bird (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] James B. Bird (2), son, born Walsall;
- [5] William Oakley (15), grocer's apprentice, born Cleobury Mortimer;
- [6] Lucy Thorley (17), barmaid, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Rosannah Thorley (66), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 2/11/1901

"On Wednesday the Walsall Magistrates had before them a case in which *James Bird*, the landlord of the CROWN INN, Leamore, was summoned for suffering gaming at his house on the 19th October. The Town Clerk (Mr. J. R. Copper) conducted the prosecution on behalf of the police, and Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) defended.

The Town Clerk stated that on Saturday, October 9th, at about 6.30pm in the evening, a man named John Backhouse went into the CROWN INN, and found two persons named Thomas Collins and Howard Burton playing at bagatelle for beer. The landlord was present at the time. Collins lost the first game and paid for a pint, and in the second game they played Collins won and Burton paid. During the progress of the first game the landlord made a bet of threepence with a man named Thomas Stanton that Collins won, and as Collins did not win the landlord paid over threepence to Stanton. The landlord also had a bet over the second game, backing Collins to win, and he won his threepence back over this game. Subsequently four men played together for a quart of beer, and Backhouse also took part in the game with three others. Backhouse made a bet with Charles Cooper the elder, that he did not make 21 off one of his breaks. It was a bet of threepence. Backhouse lost, and he paid the sum of threepence to Cooper. Then Cooper bet Backhouse that another man who was playing would not make 21 off his break. The man made 30, and therefore Backhouse won the bet, but Cooper refused to pay and in consequence there was an altercation. The landlord was present in the room when these bets were made, but when he heard Backhouse claiming from the man Cooper the threepence which he had won, he turned round and, although the evidence went to prove that he himself had made bets earlier in the night, said 'I don't allow betting in my house; I won't have it.' At a later period of the evening Backhouse made a complaint to the police, and in consequence these proceedings were taken.

John Backhouse, miner, of 43, Blakenall Lane, gave evidence bearing out the Town Clerk's statement.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jackson, Backhouse said that there was a notice in the bagatelle room that gambling was not allowed and that beer was not allowed to be played for. Witness had previously seen the landlord stop any attempt at gambling, and he had heard him tell people that they must not play for money. Witness knew it was wrong to bet, but he was the same as other people, and he knew that if the landlord was about he objected to that kind of thing. The landlord was not about when the bet was made with Cooper, and he tried to stop it as soon as he knew there was any bet made. His reason for telling the police was not merely because he had lost threepence.

Charles Burton, of Victoria Terrace, Leamore, subpoenaed by the police, said he was in the CROWN INN on Saturday night playing bagatelle.

In answer to the Town Clerk, he said he was playing for pastime and nothing else. They had some beer to drink whilst playing, but they did not play for it. When they were dry they had a jug of beer filled, and paid for it in turns, whether they won or lost at

bagatelle. Witness had seen Inspector Marshall about the matter, and had made a statement to him, and after being reminded of that he would still persist in saying that they did not play for beer. When he saw inspector Marshall he was that 'flustered' that he did not know what he really did say to him. Collins and he played two games after Backhouse came into the room.

By Mr. Jackson: It was two days afterwards that Inspector Marshall saw him.

Thomas Collins, a bit maker, of Victoria Terrace, also attended on subpoena, and he denied that he played for beer. They had a game merely to pass the time away. They did not play for beer as it was not allowed. They had beer while they were playing, but they were drinking together out of the same jug and each paid in turn. The witness said he still adhered to that in face of which he had previously told Inspector Marshall.

The Town Clerk said he would then ask the Bench's permission for him to treat the witness as a hostile one.

Alderman Holden: I think you could have done so with the last if you had liked.

The Town Clerk (to witness): Did you tell Inspector Marshall that you played for the beer? – No, nothing of the kind.

In answer to further interrogation by the Town Clerk, Collins admitted having told Inspector Marshall that he and Burton each won one game. He saw one bet made by Backhouse. The landlord was not in at the time but Mrs. *Bird* fetched him. Witness assisted occasionally as a waiter at the CROWN, and he had himself called Mr. *Bird's* attention to customers who wanted to make bets on a game of bagatelle.

Mr. Jackson: The landlord ordered Backhouse out of the house as soon as he was told he was betting.

Charles Cooper, sen., of Green Lane, Bloxwich, stated he made a bet with Backhouse in the CROWN INN, on Saturday night. Backhouse was 'noising' and wanted to have a bet over a game of bagatelle, and witness accepted the bet. They were playing for pastime, and not for beer, as each of them had drinks of their own. There was no betting whilst witness was there except on this particular game, and before the game was finished Mrs. *Bird* fetched the landlord, and he said he would not have any gambling. Witness told Backhouse immediately that the bet was off.

Replying to Alderman Holden, witness said that the landlord was not in the room at the time the bet was made, and as soon as he came in he told them he did not allow betting.

Inspector Marshall said that on Saturday, October 19th, Backhouse came to him at about ten minutes to eleven and made a complaint, in consequence of which witness went to see the defendant *Bird* on the following morning. Witness saw Burton on the Monday following, and Burton told him that on Saturday night he was playing bagatelle at the CROWN for beer.

Cross-examined, witness admitted Burton seemed flurried at the time he told him.

For the defence, Mr. Jackson, said it was incumbent upon the prosecution to prove that if any gambling did take place it was with the knowledge of the landlord. The only evidence touching the landlord was the evidence of Backhouse, and he admitted having made a bet, and although he knew it was wrong and against the rules of the house. The fact that the landlord stopped the gambling showed that he wanted to keep his house perfectly free from anything of the kind. As soon as the landlord knew that a bet had been made he told them that he would not allow it, and Cooper then told Backhouse that the bet was off. Backhouse created a disturbance, and because he did not get his threepence went and rounded on the landlord. He did not think that there was any case to answer. The only evidence against the landlord was by Backhouse, and it was absolutely denied by four or five witnesses called by the prosecution, and they were bound by those witnesses.

After consultation in private, Alderman Holden announced that the Bench considered there was not sufficient evidence to affect the landlord, but the evidence of the two witnesses was very unsatisfactory.

Mr. Jackson: I am glad they were not mine.

Alderman Holden: I am sorry they were anybody's. We expect to get the truth in this Court, but I am afraid we did not then.

The Town Clerk said the police thought the case was one which ought to be inquired into.

Alderman Holden: We think the police did their duty."

AND

"Another case that occupied the attention of the court on Wednesday was one in which a charge was preferred against Thomas Marshall, of the BLACK HORSE INN, Leamore, of supplying a constable on duty, on Saturday, October 19th. The Town Clerk prosecuted in this case, and Mr. H. H. Jackson was for the defence.

The case had some connection with the one reported above, for on Backhouse leaving the CROWN INN, on Saturday night, and going in search of a constable, he saw Police-constable Collins at about ten minutes to eleven. Backhouse wished to take the constable down to the CROWN INN, but the officer refused to go, and then it seemed that Backhouse must have closely followed the officer's movements. He saw Collins go into the BLACK HORSE, and followed a minute or two afterwards. Backhouse was in time to see the officer drinking from a jug, which contained beer, and he promptly reported the matter to Collin's superior officer. Answering Mr. Jackson, Backhouse said that he reported Collins because he would not go down to the CROWN INN. Collins was in the passage at the BLACK HORSE, but witness did not think it would be possible for him to be served without the people who served him seeing who he was. Witness did not call the attention of the landlord or lady, but only ascertained the officer's number and went out.

Police-constable Collins, after being cautioned by the magistrates' clerk that he was not obliged to give evidence as what he might say be used against him, stated that he was supplied with half a pint of ale in the outdoor department, but he could not see who it was that supplied him on account of the aperture through which his jug was passed being so small. He, however, judged it to be Mrs. Marshall, as he recognised the voice. His reason for not going down to the CROWN INN with Backhouse was that he expected his sergeant to come along every minute.

Cross-examined, Collins said he paid for the beer he had had, and as there were so many people in the outdoor department at the time it would be quite possible for those who supplied him not to see who he was. They certainly could not see his face because the window was only about three feet from the floor.

At this juncture Alderman Holden asked Mr. Jackson if he was content to leave the matter to the Bench, and on his replying in the affirmative, Alderman Holden said the defendant would have to pay the costs, and the Bench would recommend that in future

the window of the outdoor department should be made sufficiently large so that those behind the bar could see plainly who was served.

The Town Clerk said he would take that opportunity of asking the licensing trade generally to assist the Watch Committee in carrying out their orders with respect to serving constables on duty. It would be a great help to the policemen themselves if the publicans took great care not to supply a man when on duty. The committee were determined in each instance that the policeman would be dismissed. It was a great hardship on the man but he had acted foolishly.

Mr. Jackson said that his client had no knowledge that the man was supplied. Marshall had kept the house for 21 years and his father 23 years before him, and there had not previously been a conviction against the house.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

CROWN INN, Leamore, Bloxwich. 2s 7d.”

James Bird was also a grocer. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The following is the list of houses in respect of which the licensing justices have called the holders of the licenses to show cause why the licenses should be renewed.....

CROWN INN, Leamore.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905], [1906]

1911 Census

Bloxwich – CROWN

[1] *James Bird* (40), licensed brewer and grocer, born Walsall;

[2] Daniel Smith (36), boarder, grocer, born Dudley;

[3] Sarah Ann Smith (35), boarder, wife of D. Smith, married 10 years, born Walsall;

[4] Ada Eleanor Smith (2), daughter, of D. Smith, no birthplace given;

[5] Mary Ann Smith (18), servant, born Bloxwich;

[6] Rose Cooper (14), servant, born Bloxwich:

The CROWN Brewery was established here in 1911.

It survived until 1953.

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

CROWN, Leamore, £2 4s 8½d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

The CROWN, Leamore. £6 14s 1½d.”

James Bird was treasurer of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1935]

1939 Register

6, Leamore Lane – CROWN INN

[1] *Norman F. Bird*, date of birth 12/9/1904, master brewer and licensed victualler, married, ARP group warden;

[2] Edith C. Bird, dob 28/11/1908, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[4] Doris Bate, dob 30/1/1920, nursemaid, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

CROWN INN, Leamore, £10 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 22/2/1941

“A successful party was held at the CROWN INN, Leamore, on Thursday week, for wardens of Sector C5 and their wives. About fifty persons were present and the entertainment included musical items by Mr. T. Gibbs and Mr. S. Dean, dancing and games.

Mr. M. Brown and Mrs. Bird were at the piano. The wardens provided the refreshments themselves. During the evening a presentation of an ink-stand was made to the Group warden, Mr. *Bird* (licensee of the inn) and his wife, by the Sector warden, Mr.

Coleman, on behalf of the wardens. The gift was a mark of gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. *Bird*, who allowed the wardens to use part of the CROWN INN as their post, before they could provide one of their own.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
CROWN INN, Leamore. £2 2s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

CROWN INN, Leamore. £170 0s 0d.”

William Ewart Mountford – see also ENGINE.

Levi Plimmer – see also SPURMAKERS ARMS.

[2008]

Closed [2009], [2012]

It was damaged by fire.

It reopened in 2015.

[2017]

CROWN

6, (76), Long Acre Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Hannah Osborne

James Osborne

Emma Osborne

R. A. Harper Ltd., Hall Park Brewery, Bilston [1908]

Butts Brewery Ltd. (Norman F. Bird)

Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 1st May 1967)

LICENSEES

James Osbourn [1858] – [1862]

John Osbourn [1864]

Mrs. Hannah Osbourn [1868] – [1881];

James Osborne [1882] – 1887);

Mrs. Emma Osborne (1887 – 1893);

John McGarry (1893 – 1906);

Jane McGarry (1906 – 1908);

John William Perrott (1908 – 1910);

John Thomas Millington (1910 – 1914);

Albert Mayer (1914 – 1916);

Elizabeth Mayer (1916 – 1920);

George William Plant (1920 – 1936);

Joseph Walker (1936 – 1945);

Hannah Fletcher (1945 – 1953);

Derek Silvester (1953 – 1954);

Leslie Cooke (1954 – 1958);

Rex Coxshall (1958 – 1960);

John Chapman (1960);

John Edward Rochelle (1960 – [1966]
G S Shocker [2007]
Michael McMurrough [2015]

NOTES

76, Long Acre Street [1862], [1864], [1868], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1881]
6, Long Acre Street [1891], [1901], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

James Osbourn, beerhouse, 76, Long Acre. [1858]
James Osbourn, beer retailer, Long Acre Street. [1861]

1861 Census

76, Long Acre Street – CROWN INN
[1] *James Osbourn* (57), sewage and road contractor and victualler, born Sale Green, Worcestershire;
[2] *Hannah Osbourn* (48), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Emma Osbourn* (15), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[4] *Sophia Osbourn* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] *William Llewelyn* (4), grandson, born Walsall;
[6] *James White* (36), boarder, carter, born Lichfield;
[7] *George Osbourne* (42), nephew, sewage and road labourer, born Walsall:

James Osbourn, retailer of beer, 76, Long Acre Street. [1862]

John Osbourn, beer retailer and contractor, 76, Long Acre Street. [1864]

Hannah Osbourn = Hannah Osborne = Anna Osbourne

Mrs. *Hannah Osbourn*, beer retailer, 76, Long Acre Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1869

“Henry Osbourn appeared to answer a charge of having assaulted Henry Crowley.
The parties, with others, were card-playing in the CROWN beer-house, Long Acre, and, quarrelling over a game, the defendant committed the assault complained of.
The evidence was very conflicting, and the case was dismissed.”

1871 Census

76, Long Acre Street – CROWN INN
[1] *Anna Osbourne* (56), beerhouse keeper, born Goscote;
[2] *Henry Barnes* (26), boarder, blacksmith, born Hartshill, Warwickshire;
[3] *Sarah Bailey* (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1881 Census

76, Long Acre Street
[1] *Hannah Osborne* (66), publican, born Goscote;
[2] *Mary A. Osborne* (16), domestic servant, born Walsall;
[3] *Eliza Day* (35), daughter, married, born Walsall;
[4] *Eliza Egan* (17), visitor, born Walsall;
[5] *Julia Day* (7), daughter, born Walsall;
[6] *Leah Day* (14), daughter, born Walsall;
[7] *Alice Day* (6), daughter, born Walsall;
[8] *Thomas H. Day* (4), son, born Walsall:
[Were Julia, Leah, Alice and Thomas, the children of Eliza?]

James Osborne was fined 10s and costs, on 20th November 1882, for Sunday trading.

Emma Osborne = Emma Osbourn

1891 Census

6, Long Acre Street – CROWN INN
[1] *Emma Osborne* (50), widow, publican, born Kidderminster;

- [2] John Osborne (27), son, imbecile, born Walsall;
- [3] James Osborne (18), son, mopping (?), born Walsall;
- [4] Harriet Osborne (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Sarah Osborne (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Rose Osborne (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] John Hill (24), son in law, coal miner, born Walsall;
- [8] Mary Ann Hill (25), daughter, born Walsall:

Mrs. *Emma Osbourn*, beer retailer, 6, Long Acre Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 28/7/1900

“*John McGarry*, the landlord of the CROWN INN, Long Acre Street, was summoned for permitting gaming to be carried on on his premises; and George Lawrence, of 189, Pargeter Street; Samuel Walker, 196, Pargeter Street; Howard Beebee, Slaney Road; and William Moss, 58, Lime Street, were summoned for aiding and abetting. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) was for the defence.

Detective-sergeant Haycock said he visited the CROWN INN in company with the Chief Constable and Detective Burrell at about ten o’clock on the night of July 21st, and in the smoke-room found the four defendants round a small table, upon which there was a pack of cards and a cribbage board. On entering Beebee pushed the cards towards the centre of the table, at the same time remarking ‘Let’s see, I have got to give you threepence.’ There was a threepenny-piece and a number of coppers upon the table, and Beebee put down three more pennies. In answer to the Chief Constable, witness heard *McGarry* say that he knew the defendants had been in the smoke-room for about twenty minutes, but did not know anything wrong was going on.

Cross-examined, witness said he did not suggest to the defendants that they were gaming, but at the suggestion of the Chief Constable he took their names and addresses. There was nothing said in witness’s presence about the money on the table being for the payment for refreshments.

Detective Burrell gave corroborative evidence, and deposed to having heard Walker say either ‘we are caught’ or ‘we are collared’ upon their entering the room.

For the defence it was stated that the defendant, *McGarry*, had been a licensed victualler for nine years and never had a charge brought or a complaint made against him, and for 28 years he was a member of the police force. So far as *McGarry* was concerned it was submitted that there was no case made out against him. He had not been seen in the smoke-room, and no evidence had been offered to show that he knew that cards were being played at all, much less for money. Mr. Jackson contended that it must be proved that he had some knowledge or had reasonable means of seeing what was going on. However, it was denied that the other defendants were playing for money; the money the police saw upon the table was simply for refreshments.

The defendants Lawrence, Walker, Beebee and Moss were sworn, and each denied that they were playing cards for money. They also denied that any remarks about their being caught or collared passed when the police made their entry. *McGarry* sworn, denied any knowledge of the defendants playing at all.

After a brief consultation, in private, the Magistrates announced that each of the defendants would be fined 20s and costs each. On the application of Mr. Jackson the Bench fixed the recognisances in case of appeal with regard to the landlord at £30.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1900

“The annual licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall was held yesterday at the Guildhall.

During the period since 30th August, 1899, five licensed victuallers have been proceeded against.

27th July, 1900, *John McGarry*, CROWN INN, Long Acre Street, fined 40s and costs, for permitting drunkenness.”

1901 Census

6, Long Acre Street – The CROWN INN

- [1] *John McGarry* (60), beerhouse keeper, born Ireland;
- [2] Louisa McGarry (45), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Louie Slack (22), stepdaughter, domestic, born Pelsall:

John McGarry, beer retailer, 6, Long Acre Street. [1904]

1911 Census

Long Acre Street – CROWN INN

- [1] *John Thomas Millington* (36), iron caster, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ann Maria Millington (34), wife, married 13 years, born Portobello;
- [3] Miriam Elizabeth Millington (13), daughter, born Portobello;
- [4] Winniefred Millington (11), daughter, born Portobello;
- [5] Bertie Millington (9), son, born Portobello;
- [6] John Thomas Millington (6), son, born Portobello;
- [7] Beatrice Sarah Millington (2), daughter, born Portobello;
- [8] Doris Millington (1), daughter, born Portobello:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.

CROWN INN, Long Acre Street. £0 16s 1½d.”

South Staffordshire Times 1/3/1924

“An inquest was held at Walsall, on Tuesday, on John Gallagher (34), annealer, Butts Road, who, on Sunday night collapsed in the CROWN INN, Long Acre Street, and when taken to the hospital was dead. The widow said her husband joined the army as an A1 man, and when discharged in 1918 he was certified to be suffering from valvular disease of the heart, and was allowed 50 per cent disability pension of 31s 9d per week. Death was attributed to heart failure, and a verdict was returned accordingly.”

1939 Register

6, Long Acre Street

- [1] *Joseph Walker*, date of birth 11/1/1884, publican, married;
- [2] Sarah Walker, dob 25/6/1884, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Nellie M. (Walker) Cook, dob 29/12/1915, tailorress, single;
- [4] Doris J. (Walker) Morgan, dob 6/3/1920, fancy leather machinery, single:

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Walker*, the CROWN, Longacre. £1 5s 8d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
CROWN INN, Long Acre. £2 2s 8d.”

A license to sell beer, cider and wine was granted on 5th March 1959.

A full license was granted on 23rd November 1961.

[2017]

Express & Star 21/11/2022

“A struggling pub which saw a sharp drop off in trade when Covid struck could be closed and converted into new apartments in Walsall. Plans have been put forward to demolish the CROWN INN on Long Acre Street, near the town centre, and replace it with a two and a half storey block of 14 flats. Applicant Gurmeet Shocker said the number of customers using the boozier has fallen and never recovered following lockdown in 2020. He also added there were a number of other pubs close to the CROWN INN and redeveloping it would be more beneficial to the area. The application is currently being considered by Walsall Council planning officers with a decision expected to be made in the new year.....”

Express & Star 27/11/2022

“The future of a struggling pub which was heavily impacted by Covid-19 is expected to be decided by council chiefs in the new year. Plans have been put forward to demolish the CROWN INN on Long Acre Street, Walsall, near the town centre, and replace it with a block of 14 apartments, along with undercroft parking and cycle storage. The 14 apartments would be made up of eight one-bed flats, three two-bed homes and three studio flats. The application states the number of customers using the pub has fallen and never recovered since Covid-19 and replacing it would be beneficial. And it has been revealed a likely date for the decision over the site’s future is likely to be taken on January 11 next year, according to Walsall chiefs. The application said, ‘The proposals seek to produce a historically delicate, high quality residential development on the site of the existing PH, with the intention to negate any negative impact on the surrounding listed buildings. The proposal seeks to create a development that is befitting of the site’s locality, which sits on the border between a predominately residential and industrial/commercial area, whilst reintroducing an invigorated active frontage along Long Acre Street. The demand and viability of the public house is none existent particularly given the current economic climate of the country and the housing shortage we currently face. The redevelopment presents the opportunity for regeneration of the site and the wider area through the creation of much needed high-quality homes.’ The application adds the current state of the building adds to its ‘existing decline’ and the redevelopment of the pub is not economically viable.....”

Express & Star 13/3/2023

“A bid to convert an ailing Walsall pub which struggled for trade as a result of the pandemic into new apartments has failed. Applicant Gurmeet Singh had wanted to demolish the CROWN INN on Long Acre Street, near the town centre, and erect a block of 14 flats in its place. But planning officers at Walsall Council raised a number of concerns about the proposal including the ‘un-acceptable impact’ on road safety and concerns over the security of the site and potential crime and anti-social behaviour. Fears were also raised over the impact the development would have on the nearby Grade II Listed Victoria Mills site. The CROWN INN is also situated within the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation, which means every planning application with 15km has to carry out assessments on the impact it might have on Cannock Chase, and planners said no mitigation measures had been included.....”

CROWN

44, (45), Lower Hall Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Thomas, Paradise Street, Birmingham
J. F. Thomas, Highgate Works, Leopold Street, Birmingham
Noah Mills (acquired in March 1924)
Millward Bros., maltsters, Albrighton [1937]

LICENSEES

Thomas Vass [1861]
James Birch [1865]
Elizabeth Hands [1872];
John Busst [1880] – **1891**);
Arthur Edwin Bennett (**1891 – 1894**);
Joshua Bloomer (**1894 – 1920**);
Noah Mills (**1920 – [1925]**)
Reginald Cornwall [] – **1937**):

NOTES

44, Lower Hall Lane [1861], [1872], [1881], [1901], [1904], [1911], [1912]
45, Lower Hall Lane [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

44, Lower Hall Lane – CROWN INN
[1] *Thomas Vass* (21), publican, born Walsall;
[2] *Agness Vass* (23), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Sarah Wright* (14), general servant, born Walsall:

James Birch, beer retailer and silver plater, 44, Lower Hall Lane. [1865]

Walsall Free Press 25/5/1867 - Advert

“To Be Let, The CROWN, Lower Hall Street.
Apply on the premises.”

1881 Census

44, Lower Hall Lane
[1] *John Busst* (35), saddler and beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
[2] *Dinah Busst* (32), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Sarah A. Busst* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[4] *John W. Busst* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] *Louisa Busst* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] *Emily Busst* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[7] *Alfred Busst* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[8] *Alice Busst* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
[9] *Bertha Busst* (5 months), daughter, born Walsall:

John Busst – see also IVY HOUSE.

1891 Census

44, Lower Hall Lane – CROWN INN
[1] *Arthur Edwin Bennett* (26), saddler’s tool maker, born Cheltenham;
[2] *Elza A. Bennett* (26), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Arthur E. Bennett* (3), son, born Walsall;

[4] Ethel M. Bennett (11 months), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Edith Bullock (14), wife's sister, visitor, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1895

"Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society.

The monthly meeting of the Executive Committee was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *Joshua Bloomer*, of the CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane was elected a member of the society."

Joshua Bloomer, beer retailer, 44, Lower Hall Lane. [1896], [1904], [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 10/10/1896

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held at the house of Mr. William Brown, BLUE PIG INN, New Street, Walsall.....

Mr. *Joshua Bloomer*, CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane was elected member of the Executive Committee."

Walsall Advertiser 23/4/1898

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday, at Mr. *Joshua Bloomers'*, CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane....."

Walsall Advertiser 30/9/1899

"Mr. H. H. Jackson applied on behalf of *Joshua Bloomer*, owner and occupier of the CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane, for a license to sell wine on or off the premises. The Mayor did not adjudicate this case.

Mr. Jackson said the application was merely for the convenience of Mr. *Bloomer's* customers, and not with a view to gain, and he pointed out that there was only one another house (the VINE) where wine could be bought between the CROWN and Caldmore.

Mr. Stanley opposed, and pointed to the large number of licensed houses in the immediate vicinity.

Application refused."

Walsall Observer 10/2/1900 - Advert

"Wanted, respectable General.

Apply Mrs. *Bloomer*, CROWN INN, Hall Lane."

Walsall Observer 17/3/1900

"On Monday evening last a smoking concert was held at the CROWN INN, Hall Lane, for the benefit of the benevolent fund of the Walsall and District Gig Saddlers' Union. The chair was occupied by Mr. Frank Marsden (the president of the union), who briefly explained the object of the concert. The room was well filled....."

1901 Census

44, Lower Hall Lane

[1] *Joshua Bloomer* (37), beerhouse keeper, born Islington, London;

[2] Frances Bloomer (37), wife, born Worcester;

[3] Margaret Bloomer (10), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] Lizzie Walker (18), domestic servant, born Hednesford:

Joshua Bloomer was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1904

"Walsall & District Air-Gun League. Hospital Cup & Medals.

The concluding draw, to be shot on Tuesday next, the 21st inst, at the VINE HOTEL, Lower Hall Lane, is as under:

1. VOLUNTEER or KING WILLIAM v GOLDEN EAGLE.

2. NEWPORT No.1 or CRITERION v CROWN or Leamore.

Final. Winner of No.2 v Winner of No.1.

The first team to have choice of shooting. The first match to commence at 8pm sharp, the second at 8.45, final at 9.45. Individuals to immediately follow."

Walsall Observer 14/11/1908

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the President, MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, Rushall. Mr. R. Anson, Daw End (president), occupied the chair.....

The President and Vice-president were chosen to represent the society at the 84th Annual Banquet of the Birmingham Licensed Victuallers' Society to be held at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Wednesday, November 25th, 1908.

It was decided to hold the next monthly meeting of the Executive Committee at the house of the Vice-president, Mr. *Joshua Bloomer*, CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane, on Thursday, December 10th."

Walsall Advertiser 11/12/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the vice-president, CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

“On Monday last at the CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane the following resolution was unanimously passed: ‘That the Executive Committee of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in special meeting assembled this 9th day of May, 1910, hereby records its profound sorrow at the lamented death of His late Majesty, King Edward the Seventh, and to humbly tender its most respectful sympathy with Queen Alexandra, King George V, and the Royal Family in the terrible and sudden bereavement which they have sustained by the death of our late beloved King’.”

1911 Census

44, Lower Hall Lane

- [1] *Joshua Bloomer* (47), beerhouse keeper, born London;
- [2] Frances Bloomer (46), wife, married 23 years, assist in the business, born Walsall;
- [3] Marguerite Bloomer (20), daughter, assist in the business, born Walsall;
- [4] Laura Gardiner (20), general servant, born Hednesford:

Joshua Bloomer was vice president and secretary of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society. [1918]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane. £1 1s 1d.”

In 1925 it was described as having a brewery and malt room. The Bar measured 12’ 1” by 13’ 10”. It also had a tap room, smoke room and club room.

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/2/1936

“Walsall Licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday.....
Formal objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses: CROWN (beerhouse), Lower Hall Lane; VINE (alehouse), Lower Hall Lane; and the CROWN AND CUSHION (beerhouse), Bridgman Street. All other licenses were renewed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/8/1937

“At the Walsall Licensing Transfer Sessions on Tuesday.....
The Justices referred for compensation the EAGLE, Lower Rushall Street and the CROWN, Lower Hall Lane.”

£2,375 Compensation was paid in December 1937

It closed in December 1937.

Walsall Observer 11/2/1939 - Public Notice

“County Borough Of Walsall. Housing Act, 1936.

The Walsall (Little Newport Street No.1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1939.

Notice Is Hereby Given that the Minister of Health, in pursuance of the powers vested in him by the Housing Act, 1936, on the 28th day of January, 1939, confirmed with modifications an Order submitted to him by the Council of the County Borough of Walsall authorising them to purchase compulsorily under Section 29 of the said Act the lands described in the Schedule hereto, which lands are lands in an area declared to be a Clearance Area by a resolution of the Council dated the 13th day of December, 1937, and also lands surrounded by and/or adjoining the said Clearance Area.....

De-licensed public house known as the CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane.”

CROWN

14, The Square, WALSALL

OWNERS

Elizabeth Burton, Lichfield Street, Walsall

Mrs. Barlow

Joseph Brookes, Caldmore, Walsall

Arthur Beebee

LICENSEES

Thomas G Hill [1851]
Samuel Middlebrook [1858]
Joseph Gostlow [1859] – [1860]
William Barnabus Richardson [1861] – **1862**)
Thomas Priestley []
Thomas Titley [1863] – [1865]
Mrs. Ellen Tomes [1868] – [1872];
John Taylor [];
George Rogers [1878];
Joseph Russell [];
John Glover [1881];
James Barber [] – **1891**);
William Henry Manson (**1891 – 1893**);
Mrs. Lucretia Hickman (**1893 – 1897**);
William Mason (**1897 – 1898**);
James Freeman (**1898 – 1905**);
David Thomas Read (**1905 – 1909**);
Alfred William Nicholls (**1909 – 1910**);
Thomas Heath (**1910 – 1919**);
Ernest Powell (**1919 – 1924**):

NOTES

It was formerly known as the JUG. [1861], [1872]

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Hill was a painter and publican [1851]

1851 Census

Square

- [1] *Thomas G. Hill* (35), painter and publican, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary Ann Hill (22), wife, born Nottingham;
- [3] Rowland Hill (2), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary Ann Grubel (13), house servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/9/1851

“At the Guildhall, Walsall, on Wednesday last, before the Mayor and Arthur Adams, Esq., Mr. *Thomas Hill*, landlord of the CROWN retail beerhouse in The Square, was summoned by the police for keeping his house open for the sale of beer after the hour of eleven on the night of the 12th ultimo. James Smith, police-sergeant, stated about twelve o’clock on the night in question he visited defendant’s house, where he saw four persons seated in the parlour, one of whom was smoking; a glass was also standing on the table containing ale. Defendant stated, in reply, that very shortly before the police entered his house, a person named Boden, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL public house in Rushall Street, knocked at his door, and asked if a friend of his, who was with him, could remain there. While he was speaking, four other persons came in and asked for a quart of porter, but which was refused them; at this moment Boden quitted the house. The defendant called two witnesses in support of his statement, and the Bench dismissed the information. Mr. Armishaw, the police superintendent, stated that he had always found the house well conducted, and that it was in consequence of a communication made to him at the police station by Mr. Boden, that he sent two police officers to the house.”

Samuel Middlebrook, beerhouse, 14, The Square. [1858]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/1/1861

“At Rushall, on Thursday, a special session was held in the New Police Court, to investigate certain charges against two men, named respectively James Bayley and Daniel Kite. The inquiry was partially heard on a former occasion, but the whole of the facts were not elicited. The specific charges were that Bayley had, on the 9th instant, committed a rape upon the person of a young woman named Ellen Yorke; and that Kite had assaulted another young woman named Edith Arnold with intent. Mr. W. D. Taylor appeared for the defence. From the evidence the following facts were elicited.

On the evening of the 9th instant the two girls went from Willenhall to Walsall, and there called at the JUG public house in the square. Yorke said she wanted a situation, and asked if anyone knew of a servant being wanted, and Bayley, who represented himself as the landlord, said he could find her a place. She then asked for a place on behalf of her companion, Arnold, and Bayley said he thought he could find her a place too; and with the professed view of inquiry after these promised places, he asked the girls to go out with him, and they did so, and walked up Lichfield-street. When they got to the Lichfield-road they were joined by the

prisoner Kite, and they all four went to a public house and had some rum and water, after which they went along Aldridge-road, which is also known as Longwood-lane. Here Bayley and the girl Yorke separated from Kite and Arnold, and when the former had got some distance he committed the offence with which he was charged. In the meantime Kite had assaulted Arnold, but fortunately a man named Cyrus Kington came up, and being appealed to by the girl, he protected her until she got back to Lichfield-street. The evidence left no doubt as to the guilt of both prisoners, and Bayley was committed for trial at the Assizes on the charge of rape, and Kite for assault with intent.”

1861 Census

14, The Square

[1] *William Richardson* (21), victualler and collar maker, born Lichfield;

[2] *Abigail Richardson* (20), wife, born Walsall:

Birmingham Journal 7/9/1861

“Insolvent Debtors. *Joseph Gostlow*, now and for six months last past renting furnished apartments at No.53, Bagot Street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, occasionally employed as a Porter and Keeper in Stables, my Wife having for a portion of the period occasionally employment in needlework, and being now employed as an out-door servant, previously thereto and since the 10th day of January last past lodging at the house known by the sign of the Duke of York, in Duke Street, Birmingham aforesaid, in no way of employment for about two months previously thereto residing at the house known by the sign of the OLD QUEENS HEAD, Temple Street, in the township of the borough of Walsall in the county of Stafford, for about eighteen months previously thereto residing at the house known by the sign of the CROWN, in the Square, in the township of the borough of Walsall aforesaid, and during the whole period of my residence at the said two last named places, carrying on business as a Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, for about two years and one month previously thereto residing at the house known by the sign of the SLATERS ARMS, at the Pleck, in the foreign of Walsall, in the said county of Stafford, carrying on business as a Licensed Brewer, Retailer of Beer, and Dealer in Tobacco, and for about two months previously thereto lodging at Bridgeman Street, in the township of the borough of Walsall aforesaid, in no way of business.”

William Richardson, retailer of beer, 14, the Square. [1862]

London Gazette 30/5/1862

“*William Barnabus Richardson*, now of No.3, Newhall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, in no business or occupation, previously of the Paddock, Walsall aforesaid, out of business, previously thereto of the Square, Walsall aforesaid, Beer-house Keeper and Dealer in Tobacco, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 12th day of May, 1862, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination, and make application for his Discharge, will be held before the Judge of the said Court, on the 19th day of June next, at the Court-house, Goodhall-street, Walsall, at ten o’clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. *Frederic F. Clarke*, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and *Mr. John Glover*, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Walsall Free Press 21/3/1863 - Advert

“For A Really Fine And Good Glass Of Ale Or Stout,
go to the CROWN LUNCHEON STORES, The Square, Walsall.

Thomas Titley, Proprietor,”

London Gazette 15/5/1863

“*Thomas Priestley*, formerly of the CROWN INN, the Square, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse-keeper, Dealer in Tobacco, and Saddler, and now of No.42, Wisemore, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, in lodgings, out of business, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 21st day of April, 1863, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination and make application for his Discharge, will be held before the Judge of the said Court, on the 17th day of June next at the Court-house, Goodhall-street, Walsall, at ten o’clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. *Frederic F. Clarke*, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and *Mr. Thomas Brevitt*, of Darlaston, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Thomas Titley, beer retailer, 14, The Square. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 9/4/1864 - Advert

“To Be Let, with immediate possession, the CROWN INN, The Square, Walsall, the present tenant leaving through other engagements at a distance.

For particulars apply on the premises, or to *Mr. Whitehouse*, TURKS HEAD INN, Wednesbury.”

Mrs. Ellen Tomes, beer retailer, 14, The Square. [1870]

1871 Census

14, Square

[1] *Ellen Tomes* (45), widow, publican, born Gloucestershire;

[2] Tommas Tomes (12), son, born Walsall;

[3] Alford W. Tomes (8), son, born Walsall;

[4] Richard Ganderton (36), boarder, draper's assistant, born Inkborough, Worcestershire: [Inkberrow?]

George Rogers was fined 20s and costs, on 17th April 1878, for permitting gaming.

Walsall Advertiser 29/3/1881 - Advert

"Beerhouse To Let, the CROWN INN, situated in The Square, handsomely fitted up; must be disposed of; no reasonable offer refused. Satisfactory reasons for leaving.

Apply, SWAN WITH TWO NECKS, Park Street."

London Gazette 23/3/1883

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

In the Matter of a Bankruptcy Petition against *John Glover*, of the CROWN INN, the Square, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper and Journeyman Saddler. Upon the hearing of this Petition this day, and upon proof satisfactory to the Court of the debt of the Petitioner, and of the trading, and of the act or acts of the Bankruptcy alleged to have been committed by the said *John Glover* having been given, it is ordered that the said *John Glover* be, and he is hereby, adjudged bankrupt.

Given under the Seal of the Court this 19th day of March, 1883.

By the Court, F. F. Clarke, Registrar.

The First General Meeting of the creditors of the said *John Glover* is hereby summoned to be held at the Courthouse, Walsall, on the 4th day of April, 1883, at twelve o'clock at noon, and that the Court has ordered the bankrupt to attend thereat for examination, and to produce thereat a statement of his affairs, as required by the statute. Until the appointment of a Trustee, all persons having in their possession any of the effects of the bankrupt must deliver them, and all debts due to the bankrupt must be paid, to the Registrar. Creditors must forward their Proofs of Debts to the Registrar."

1891 Census

14, The Square – CROWN

[1] *James Barber* (54), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] *Eliza Barber* (51), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Emily Thomas* (18), general servant, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Ada Robinson* (11), niece, scholar, born Walsall:

Mrs. Lucretia Hickman, beer retailer, 14, The Square. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 29/12/1900 - Advert

"Pure Malt & Hops.

James Freeman, CROWN INN, Walsall, Begs to inform the public that All Ales Sold at the above House are Brewed Solely From Malt and Hops, and are Absolutely Pure.

(Signed), *James Freeman*."

[This advertisement was published extensively for nearly two years!]

1901 Census

14, The Square

[1] *James Freeman* (28), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Gertrude E. Freeman* (27), wife, born Wednesbury;

[3] *Dorothy Freeman* (3), daughter, born Wednesbury;

[4] *Gertrude E. Freeman* (2), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Eliza Horton* (15), servant, born Brownhills:

James Freeman, beer retailer, 14, The Square. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1909

"A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall, on Thursday, Sir Edward T. Holden presiding over a full Bench of Magistrates.....

In the case of the CROWN INN, Mr. Pearman-Smith appeared for Mr. A. Beebee, the owner, and for the tenant.....

The Magistrates decided to hold a further private sitting to go into the question of figures with the solicitors.

The decisions will be announced at a later date."

1911 Census

14, The Square

[1] *Thomas Heath* (63), widower, licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;

[2] *Maria Heath* (19), daughter, assisting in the business, born Chasetown:

Thomas Heath, beer retailer, 14, The Square. [1912]

Walsall Observer 9/2/1924

“.....Chief Inspector Cooke gave evidence [to the annual licensing sessions] that there were four bedrooms but that the kitchen was the only living room, while the rear portion of the building was very congested. The trade of the CROWN was about two barrels a week, and the house had been fairly well conducted, but the living accommodation was absolutely inadequate.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/7/1924

“The Walsall justices sitting as the Compensation Authority, have referred for compensation, but conditionally renewed the licenses of.....

The CROWN INN, the Square which had been objected to on the ground of redundancy.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on the ground of redundancy.

Compensation of £2,400 was paid on 25th October 1924.

It closed on 1st November 1924.

It was demolished.

CROWN

197, Stafford Street / Portland Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Oliver Joint, Portland Street, Walsall

Mrs. Mary Joint, off license, Walsall

Arthur Beebee, Sandwell Street, Walsall (acquired in April 1905)

LICENSEES

Samuel Broomhall [1858]

William Thomas [1861]

George Smith [1864]

James Cleobury [1868] – **1872**);

John Darby (**1872** – [1881]

Joseph Histon [1891] – **1899**);

Charles Merrick (**1899**);

Benjamin Letts (**1899** – **1903**);

Henry Gossage (**1903** – **1905**);

Elijah Ford (**1905** – **1909**);

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

It was formerly known as the FOUR CROSSES.

S. Broomhall, beerhouse, 197, Stafford Street. [1858]

1861 Census

197, Stafford Street – FOUR CROSSES

[1] *William Thomas* (56), publican, born Kidderminster;

[2] *Harriet Thomas* (46), wife, born Clent;

[3] *Maria Cowdell* (15), house servant, born Clent:

George Smith, beer retailer, 197, Stafford Street. [1864]

James Cleobury, beer retailer, 197, Stafford Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

Walsall Free Press 30/7/1870 - Advert

“Wanted, a Collar Maker.

Apply, *James Cleobury*, 197, Stafford Street.”

1871 Census

197, Stafford Street

- [1] *James Cleobury* (35), collarmaker, born Birchills;
- [2] *Sophia J. Cleobury* (37), wife, born Aldridge;
- [3] *Ann M. Cleobury* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *James C. Cleobury* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Clara L. Cleobury* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Thomas Cleobury* (4), son, born Walsall;
- [7] *Martha Jones* (17), general servant, born Hill Top:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/6/1872

“Peane’s black bitch Guest and Bromwich’s brown dog Peter (both of Walsall) ran 200 yards for £10 a side, on handicap terms, two yards and a half to the pound, Guest scaling 26lb, Peter 23½lb, the latter receiving six yards and a quarter start. Betting opened at 6 to 4 and finished at 2 to 1 on the bitch, Mr. Bissell of Wednesbury starting them to a good slip. Peter led the way for three-quarters of the distance, when Guest got in front, and finished the winner by half a yard. Mr. *Cleobury* of the CROWN INN, Walsall, was referee.”

James Cleobury – see also WHITE LION, Portland Street.

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1874

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall took place yesterday, at the Guildhall.....

The undermentioned persons applied for wine licenses.....

John Darby, beerhouse keeper, Stafford Street. Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

“Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

John Darby, beerhouse keeper, Stafford Street, asked on his own behalf for a wine licence Granted.”

1881 Census

197, Stafford Street – CROWN INN

- [1] *John Darby* (58), married, beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ann Darby* (21), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] *Arthur Darby* (15), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Charles H. Headley* (2 months), grandson, born Walsall;
- [5] *John Millistrap* (22), pulley dresser, born Walsall;
- [6] *Charles Headley* (24), son in law, coal miner, born Bloxwich:

1891 Census

197, Stafford Street

- [1] *Joseph Histon* (43), beer retailer, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mary Histon* (42), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Mary Ann Histon* (13), relative, born Walsall;
- [4] *Alice Johnson* (19), domestic servant, born Birmingham:

Joseph Histon, beer retailer, 197, Stafford Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 22/7/1899 - Advert

“The CROWN INN (a noted corner Home-brewing House).....

Walter Hughes is instructed by the executors of the late Oliver Joynt to Offer for Sale by Auction, at his Auction Mart, The Bridge, Walsall, on Tuesday, 15th August, 1899, at 7pm precisely.....

Lot 1. The Valuable Freehold Corner Public House, known as the CROWN INN, being No.197, Stafford Street, Walsall, and forming the corner of Stafford Street and Portland Street, with Beer and Wine Licences, now in the occupation of Mr. *Charles Merrick*.

The accommodation comprises on Upper Floors, very large Clubroom, 4 Bedrooms, Hop and Malt Rooms; on Ground Floor, Bar and Smoke-room, as also Taproom, both at front, capacious Kitchen at rear, Scullery, small Brewery and Outhouses including Stable with Loft over, in enclosed Yard; whilst in the Basement are 3 excellent Cellars. There is a cart-way approach from Garden Street.

This House is held under Lease at the low old-fashioned rental of £35, but arrangement has been made by the Vendors to purchase the Leaseholder’s interest in his Lease, as also all the Trade Fixtures, Fittings, Brewing Plant and Licenses, which will be included in the sale, and possession will be given on completion if desired on the 29th September next.

Note. This is one of the best Public-houses in Walsall, it is most admirably situated, and has always done a large and lucrative trade. To a home brewing man there is a sure fortune to be made at this house, whilst to a Brewer not represented in this part of

the town, it is worth special attention.....”

Walsall Advertiser 16/12/1899

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held at the house of Mr. John William Chapman, the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.....
Mr. *Benjamin Letts*, CROWN INN, Stafford Street, Walsall, was elected a member of the Society as from 1st January, 1900.”

1901 Census

197, Stafford Street

- [1] *Benjamin Letts* (32), unmarried, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Harry Letts (30), brother, feeble minded, born Walsall;
- [3] Elizabeth Letts (26), sister, born Walsall;
- [4] William Letts (23), brother, currier, born Walsall;
- [5] Joseph Letts (20), brother plumber’s servant, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary Jane Cavner (20), domestic servant, born Leicester:

Henry Gossage, beer retailer, 197, Stafford Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1905 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell St., Walsall.

Houses.....

CROWN INN (Corner of Portland Street).”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 3rd February 1909.

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1909 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1904. Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, 1909, at 11 o’clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

The CROWN, Stafford Street, Beerhouse. Licensee, *Elijah Ford*.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The principal meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, when eight beer-houses and one ale-house, the licenses of which had been referred by the licensing justices, were dealt with, and in each instance the houses were referred for compensation, which means in due course the houses will close.....

The CROWN, Stafford Street. This is another beer-house, owned by Mr. A. S. Beebee and let to Mr. *Elijah Ford*, under agreement, at £60 per year. Mr. F. S. Wilson-Smith represented the parties concerned, and pointed out that it was an ante-’69 house, in which the three previous tenants had made incompetencies. The present owner purchased the property in April, 1905, and the tenant, who was paying £60 a year for it, was quite content to pay a portion of income tax that was allotted to him. Further Mr. Beebee considered it rather a hardship upon him to have two houses taken away from him in one neighbourhood in so short a time.....

The Bench having heard each case separately retired to consider their decision. In returning, the Mayor intimated that the renewals authority report would be adopted, and all the houses referred for compensation.”

CROWN

43, (7), Upper Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mr. Daniels, Worcester

Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.

James Allen

LICENSEES

Mills [1855]

Griffiths [1860]
Ann Binns [1861]
John Oakes [1862]
John Lester [1862] – [1870]
Luke Riley [1868] – [1871]
John Bayley [1872];
Joseph Wedge [];
Lawrence Belcher [];
William Woolley [];
Martin Faughey [1881];
Martin McTye [];
Charles Henry Worley [];
John Barrick [];
George Berry [] – **1886**);
Joseph Evans (**1886 – 1887**);
John Stanley Flynn (**1887**):

NOTES

7, Upper Rushall Street [1861], [1862], [1864], [1870], [1872]
43, Upper Rushall Street [1871]

It was formerly known as the CARPENTERS ARMS. [1872]

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/10/1855

“Commemoration Of The Fall Of Sebastopol. Between 70 and 80 of the most respected tradesmen of this borough assembled on Tuesday evening at Mr. *Mills*, the CROWN INN, Upper Rushall Street, when a dinner was served up in a style that reflects much credit on the catering and liberality of the host and hostess. Councillor B. Abnett presided, and Mr. N. Roper, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, occupied the vice-chair. An excellent glee party was in attendance, and the proceedings were conducted in the most enthusiastic and harmonious manner.”

Walsall Free Press 26/6/1858

“John Lynch, John Connolly, Thomas Gately, and Patrick Gately were charged with having on the night of Saturday week assaulted Thomas Lawley. It appears that the prisoners had been enjoying themselves with some of their national drink and their national jigs, in the CROWN, Beerhouse in Upper Rushall Street, when an Englishman, whose name did not transpire, by way of varying the performance, got up to dance an English hornpipe; but scarcely had the dancer commenced, when Thomas Gately went up and tried to stop him, whereupon complainant gave it as his opinion that the man had as good a right to have his hornpipe as they had to have their jigs, and for this gratis advice Patrick Gately gave Lawley a blow on the face, and Thomas Gately, not wishing to be behind with his namesake, pitched into Lawley in a similar manner, as did also Connolly and Lynch. After hearing the evidence the Bench sentenced the prisoners each to pay 10s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for twenty-one days.”

Walsall Free Press 8/12/1860 - Advert

“The CROWN Public House, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.

To Be Disposed Of, the above Public House well situated in Walsall, near to the Market Place, and now doing a good business, in the occupation of Mr. *Griffiths*.

The Stock, Fixtures, Brewing Utensils, &c., which are very good will be required to be taken to in the usual way.

For further particulars apply to H. Farrington, Appraiser, 10, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

1861 Census

7, Upper Rushall Street

[1] *Ann Binns* (58), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] Jane Hill (14), general servant, born Walsall:

John Lester, retailer of beer, 7, Upper Rushall Street. [1862]

Walsall Free Press 19/4/1862 - Advert

“Hallo! Look Here! Just Arrived Prime London Porter.

To be sold at 5d per Quart, in or out doors, To Be Had Only at Mr. *John Oakes*’s Porter Stores, CROWN INN, Upper Rushall Street.

Prime Home-brewed Ales, Cigars, and Tobacco.”

John Lester, beer retailer and carpenter, 7, Upper Rushall Street. [1864], [1868], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 12/9/1868

“*Luke Riley*, landlord of the CROWN, Upper Rushall Street, was fined 30s and costs, for having had his house open for the sale of beer at five minutes past nine o’clock on Sunday morning last. Defendant had been previously convicted.”

1871 Census

43, Upper Rushall Street

[1] *Luke Riley* (48), publican, born Ireland;

[2] Sarah Ann Riley (48), wife, born Tamworth:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1871

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions. This session took place at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

Mr. Glover then applied for the renewal of the licenses of the undermentioned, whose licenses were suspended on licensing day.....

Luke Riley, beerhouse keeper, Rushall Street. Refused.”

John Bayley, beer retailer, 7, Upper Rushall Street. [1872]

The licensee was fined 20s and costs, on 22nd September 1873, for Sunday trading.

The licensee was fined 50s and costs, on 4th December 1874, for Sunday trading.

John Stanley Flynn – see also BLACK HORSE.

The magistrates refused to renew the license at the Adjourned Licensing Meeting 23rd September 1887.

The license was not applied for.

CROWN

1, Walhouse Street / 108, Lichfield Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Airston [1853] – [1862]

Jane Airston (1863 – 1866);

James Robertson (1866 – []

NOTES

It was known as the LETTERS. [1862]

1, Walhouse Street [1860]

108, Lichfield Street [1861]

William Airston = William Airstone

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/9/1853

“At the adjourned annual licensing meeting on Wednesday last, eight of the sixteen persons who applied for victuallers’ licenses on the Wednesday previously renewed their applications, and with success.....

William Airston, Lichfield Street.”

1861 Census

108, Lichfield Street

[1] *William Airston* (60), tea and spirit dealer, born Scotland;

[2] *Jane Airston* (53), wife, born Scotland;

[3] Margaret Airston (25), daughter, teacher, born Walsall;

[4] Eubalus Airston (22), son, none, born Walsall;

- [5] Jane Airston (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] William Airston (17), son, saddler's journeyman clerk, born Walsall;
- [7] Amelia Airston (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] John James Airston (12), son, born Walsall;
- [9] William Patterson (35), boarder, draper's traveller, born Scotland:

Walsall Free Press 19/12/1863 - Deaths

“On the 12th inst, aged sixty-two years, Mr. *William Airston*.”

CROWN

Pelsall Common, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Stackhouse [1831] – [1861]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/11/1831

“On Saturday night, the 30th ult, Mr. John Moss, farmer, of Norton, returning home between eleven and twelve o'clock, in approaching his residence, thought he heard a horse coming towards him at a slow pace, and soon after observed three men get over the gates into his yard. Mr. M. went secretly by another door into the house and called up his sons, who, with their father, armed themselves, and proceeded in quest of the supposed robbers, whom they found employed in bagging the poultry. A severe contest ensued between Mr. M. who was armed with a poker, and one of the three men, armed with a crow bar, in which both were bruised about the head, but the villain at length surrendered; and another was captured by one of Mr. M.'s sons; the third escaped unperceived. Two bags were found in possession of the thieves, (one of them with two couple of fowls in it, belonging to Mr. Moss), and the horse they had with them was stolen from Mr. *Stackhouse*, of the CROWN INN, Pelsall. The bridle on the horse was also stolen. The prisoners were detained at Norton on Sunday, in the care of a constable, on Monday morning conveyed to Walsall, where the case underwent an investigation before Charles Smith Forster, Esq, one of the magistrates for the county, by whom they were committed to our county gaol for trial. The names of the prisoners were Thomas Wright and Isaac Haywood.”

Staffordshire Observer 10/3/1832

“Staffordshire Lent Assizes.....

Thomas Wright and Isaac Haywood, were indicted for stealing a mare, at the parish of Pelsall, on the 26th of October, the property of *Thomas Stackhouse*. Mr. Corbett conducted the prosecution, and Mr. Godson the defence.

The prosecutor proved the loss of the mare, which was taken out of a field during the night, in order to fix the guilt of the robbery upon the prisoners, Mr. John Moss, of Norton, deposed, that about the middle of the night in question, being outside his house he heard the noise of a horse's footsteps coming up a bye lane, and that the noise changed and became faint when the horse seemed to be within seventy or eighty yards of the spot where he stood. Shortly afterwards he saw two men come from the same direction where he heard the footsteps, and get over a wall which protected his brother's out-buildings. Mr. M. immediately called his sons up, and the prisoners were captured in a cart-hovel. The horse was found next morning in a field within a short distance of the place where Mr. Moss heard the footsteps become faint as from the animal being turned upon the turf, and a bridle was also discovered suspended to the hedge of the same inclosure. The foot-marks between the field of the prosecutor and that wherein the mare was found, corresponded to the prisoner's shoes.

The Jury not agreeing in their verdict, were directed to retire, and a fresh jury was summoned. In a little time the Foreman of the old set returned into court with his companions, and gave a verdict of guilty. Judgement of Death was recorded.”

1851 Census

Pelsall Common

- [1] *Thomas Stackhouse* (64), victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Lydia Stackhouse* (57), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] *William Stackhouse* (35), son, engineer, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Josiah Stackhouse* (18), son, roll turner, born Pelsall;
- [5] *George Stackhouse* (13), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [6] *Eliza Stackhouse* (8), granddaughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Free Press 7/9/1861

“*Thomas Stackhouse* applied for a renewal of his license of the CROWN at Pelsall, under the following circumstances. His house it would appear had lately been dis-used in consequence of repairs, and the license having lapsed, he wished to renew it. He had had a victualler’s license for fifty years, and had never been once before the magistrates during that period. The application was postponed to that day fortnight.”

CROWN AND ANCHOR

Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Cressell [1828] – [1830]

Thomas Taylor [1834] – [1835]

William Miner [1841] – [1842]

NOTES

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 13/8/1827 - Advert

“To be Sold by private Contract, the Licences, Goodwill, and possession of that desirable Public House, known by the sign of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, most eligibly situated in Lower Rushall Street, in the Foreign of Walsall, upon the turnpike road to Lichfield, comprising five sleeping-rooms, large club-room, two front parlours, kitchen, commodious bar, with a four-pull beer machine, four excellent cellars, store room, brewhouse, with malt-room over, capital dairy, stabling for 15 horses, and piggeries. At the back of the house is a running stream of soft Water, adjoining a valuable piece of Pasture Land, comprising about seven Acres, which will be let with the house.

N.B. There are two Clubs attached, and Col. Walhouse’s half-yearly rent dinners are regularly held at this house, and the coming-in tenant may take to the whole or part of the furniture.

The usual effects to be taken to at a fair valuation.

For further particulars and to treat apply (if by letter, post paid) to E. Jukes, Land Surveyor and Auctioneer, Park Street, Walsall, or at his offices, Bath Street, Birmingham.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 11/4/1831 - Advert

“.....E. Jukes, Land Surveyor and Auctioneer, Bridge Street, Walsall, who has also the letting of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Lower Rushall Street.”

Check North Street.

CROWN AND ANCHOR

(Lower) North Street, Ryecroft, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Miner [1845]

John Plant [1849] – [1850]

Sampson Davis [1851]

George Keeling [1855]

Joseph Taylor [1857]

James Baker [1860]

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/4/1847

“On Wednesday evening last, an inquest was held before George Hinchliffe, Esq, coroner, at the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, Ryecroft, near Walsall, on the body of Eliza Tonks. It appears that the deceased was at work at a coal pit bank in the Ryecroft colliery, on Tuesday last. She was engaged in pushing an empty skip along the railroad to the pit mouth. The skip went along at great velocity, and before she could stop it fell into the pit, and the deceased still continuing to hold it, also fell down the pit and was killed. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

North Street

- [1] *Sampson Davis* (41), currier, born Middleton, Warwickshire;
- [2] Maria Davis (42), wife, born Sutton, Warwickshire;
- [3] John Davis (15), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] Maria Margaret Davis (11), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] Robert James Davis (3), son, born Rushall;

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/5/1851 - Advert

“Sale at the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, Lower North Street, Ryecroft, Walsall.

G. Allin will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday next, the 7th day of May, 1851, upon the premises as above, all the clean and useful Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *Sampson Davis*.

Particulars in catalogues, now in circulation, may be had at the Office of the Auctioneer, Bridge Street, Walsall.

Sale to commence at eleven o'clock.

The above old-licensed House, with Shopping and Premises at back, to be Let, and may be entered upon immediately.

For rent, and further particulars, apply to G. Allin, Surveyor, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

London Gazette 5/6/1855

“Whereas a Petition of *George Keeling*, formerly of Green-lane, Walsall, Staffordshire, Provision Dealer and Baker, then of Green-lane, Walsall aforesaid, Provision Dealer and Baker, and at the same time carrying on business at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Ryecroft, in the parish of Rushall, Staffordshire, as a Licensed Victualler and Provision Dealer, and then and now of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Ryecroft, in the parish of Rushall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Provision Dealer, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *George Keeling*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *George Keeling* is hereby required to appear before said Court, on the 15th day of June instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination, touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *George Keeling*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke, Clerk of the said Court, at his office, in Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/10/1857

“*Joseph Taylor*, landlord of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Ryecroft, was fined 20s and costs for keeping his house open for the sale of beer at one o'clock on Sunday morning last.”

London Gazette 25/12/1857

“Whereas a Petition of *Joseph Taylor*, of North-street, Ryecroft, in the parish of Rushall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, Journeyman Saddle Tree Maker, and Tailor, and formerly of Lower Rushall-street, Walsall, in the said county of Stafford, Journeyman Saddle Tree Maker, Tailor, and Huckster, an insolvent debtor having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Joseph Taylor* under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Joseph Taylor* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 14th of January next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditor's assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Joseph Taylor*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke, Esq., Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Check Lower Rushall Street.

CROWN AND ANCHOR

59+61, West Bromwich Street (Road) / Little London, Doveridge, WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Marsh, Sandwell Street, Walsall
John Ricketts (acquired in 1880)
Atkinsons Ltd. [1900], [1920s]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 1st October 1959)
Courage Ltd. (acquired in 1978)

LICENSEES

Charles Poppleton [1872] – [1881]
John Ricketts [1881] – 1897);
William Bailey (1897 – 1898);
George Reay (1898 – 1904);
George Marshall (1904 – 1905);
Walter Brompton (1905 – 1908);
Arthur Bucknell (1908 – 1909);
William Sanders Sanders (1909 – 1930);
Ernest Charles Williams (1930 – 1936);
James Kenealey (1936 – 1940);
Samuel Richard Hipkiss (1940 – 1941);
Ernest Robinson (1941 – 1944);
James Kenealey (1944 – 1949);
Edward Kennison (1949 – 1952);
George Dennis Weaver (1952 – 1953);
Edward Weston (1953 – 1954);
William Chilton (1954 – 1959);
Vincent Geoffrey Maun (1959 – 1960);
George Alfred Hall (1960);
George Albert Adams (1960 – 1964);
Paul Bevan Walton (1964 – 1965);
Gregory Joseph Insull (1965 – 1966);
Carl Norman Walker (1966 – []
Patrick Joseph Cahill and John Philip Prior [2007]

NOTES

West Bromwich Road [1898]

CROWN [1876]

It had a beerhouse license.

Charles Poppleton, beer retailer, Little London. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/8/1876

“On Saturday afternoon, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the WHITE HART INN, Caldmore, on the body of John Giles, aged 22, who was killed on the previous Wednesday evening in the course of an affray between himself and a man named William Bond, under circumstances stated in last week’s *Advertiser*. Mr. Glover attended on behalf of Bond, who was present in custody, and Chief-supt. Cater represented the authorities. The evidence of several witnesses showed that on the day named the deceased and the prisoner met at the CROWN AND ANCHOR beerhouse, and the deceased used bad language to Bond and accused him of having told lies about him. Bond removed into the bar for the purpose of avoiding Giles, and subsequently went to the skittle alley in the yard. Giles for a time remained in the house abusing Bond, and offering to stake money to fight him. When he went on to the alley, and with much bad language challenged Bond to fight, and pulled out money to stake on the encounter, Bond refused to fight, saying he had a wife and a family to keep, but after enduring much provocation from Giles and being taxed with cowardice by the on-lookers, he jumped up and the two fell to fighting and fought four or five rounds. In the last round Bond struck Giles with the right hand, and as the latter was falling or reeling, hit him again somewhere near the right ear with the left hand. Giles then fell and almost immediately expired. Giles stripped and tied a handkerchief round his waist while challenging Bond, who already had his jacket off, he having been bowling. Dr. James Maclachlan, who made a post mortem examination of the body, deposed that the face, neck, and upper limbs were much swollen and covered with contusions, the left ear and left side of the face being quite black, as were both hands. The two principal contusions were over the right frontal eminence and behind the ear, a less extensive one being over the occipital prominence. The veins of the brain were engorged with blood, and a quan-

tity of effused blood, about 2ozs, occupied the posterior part of the base of the brain. It appeared to have issued from the right lateral sinus, which was ruptured. He was satisfied that death was caused by the effusion of blood at the base of the brain, and was of opinion that the rupture of the sinus was caused by external violence, such as a blow inflicted at the back of the ear. If the deceased was a drunken man the injury would be more likely to be produced, because the vessel under such circumstances would be in an unhealthy condition.

The Coroner, in summing up, said there was nothing in the evidence that would justify a verdict of wilful murder; but, unfortunately for the prisoner, who was very unwillingly drawn into fighting the deceased, he was afraid there was no escape from a verdict of Manslaughter.

The jury, after a short consultation, found a verdict of Manslaughter against Bond, adding that they considered the fight begun under very great provocation from the deceased.

The Coroner committed the prisoner for trial at the assizes, and adjourned the Court till Monday afternoon for a preparation of the warrant of committal.

In answer to Mr. Glover, he said he should be prepared to admit the prisoner to bail, himself in £100 and two sureties in £50 each. On Monday the Court resumed, and bail was accepted on the terms named above. The prisoner was not liberated, however, until after he had been taken before the magistrates on the following morning.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session. Mr. Glover applied for the renewal of the licences to *Charles Poppleton*, the CROWN beerhouse, Doveridge all the licenses were withheld on the licensing day he made explanations with reference to the causes of the suspension of their licenses Mr. *Poppleton's* were renewed with cautions The Mayor also stated that the Bench intended to take notice of all evidence that might come before them, and use it against the victuallers at the next licensing session.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/4/1877

“Staffordshire Spring Assizes.

William Bond, on bail, was indicted for killing and slaying John Giles, at the borough of Walsall, on the 16th of August. Mr. John Rose conducted the prosecution, and Mr. Underhill defended the prisoner.

The prisoner and the deceased were both at the CROWN AND ANCHOR public-house, kept by *Charles Poppleton*, at Doveridge, Walsall. Some words passed between them in the tap-room, and the deceased making use of bad language, he was reprimanded by the landlord. The prisoner then went into the bowling alley attached to the public-house, and engaged in a game at bowls.

After a short time the deceased also went into the bowling alley, and again assailed the prisoner with strong language, while accusing him of having said something which was likely to get him (deceased) into trouble. The deceased then pulled off his coat and waistcoat and challenged prisoner to fight. The prisoner at first declined the invitation, but upon some bystanders taunting him with cowardice, he faced deceased, and they fought three or four rounds. In the last round the deceased was ‘knocked out of time’ – as one witness put it. He never spoke again, and died upon the alley. Dr. Maclachlan, who made the post mortem examination of the body, found, with other injuries, a large contusion at the back of the ear, and that death had resulted from effusion of blood upon the brain, caused by blows. It appeared that the prisoner was a man who had borne a good character.

Mr. Underhill (on the conclusion of the case for the prosecution): Does your Lordship think this case is also on the line? – His Lordship: I shall leave it for the jury.

The learned counsel then addressed the jury, contending that the prisoner had acted in self-defence, and that any person who had reason to fear an attack by another was imminent had a right to defend himself with such weapons as nature had given him.

The Learned Judge briefly summed up, remarking that the features of the case were to his mind rather favourable to the prisoner than otherwise; and the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.”

Lichfield Mercury 17/9/1880

“The adjourned annual licensing session took place on Friday, at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Gillespie (of the firm of Messrs. Wilkinson and Gillespie), applied for a spirit license on behalf of Mr. *Charles Poppleton*, of the CROWN AND ANCHOR beerhouse, West Bromwich Road, and at the same time explaining that the application was practically on behalf of *John Ricketts*, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Wolverhampton Street, who had bought the premises, his own house being among those to be removed under the improvement scheme.”

1881 Census

Doveridge

- [1] *John Ricketts* (36), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Ricketts (30), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Samuel Ricketts (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] John Ricketts (9), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Frederick Ricketts (7), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Ricketts (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Eliza Lynex (17), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [8] James Wood (62), lodger, born Walsall;
- [9] Joseph Booker (39), lodger, born Walsall;
- [10] Ellen J. Booker (27), lodger, born West Bromwich;
- [11] Henry Booker (3 months), lodger, born Walsall;

Walsall Observer 16/5/1885

“A new lodge of the Caledonian Corks was opened on Tuesday night last at Bro. *J. Ricketts*’, CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Road, by the officers of the Great Lodge Philanthropist, No.329 of the Order.

36 new members were initiated, and many others were left over till next lodge night.

Bro. Captain Lockley congratulated the new brothers on the capital start they had made, and referred to the great strides Corkism had made all over the district. He also alluded to the many benefits that working men would receive by belonging to the order.”

1891 Census

West Bromwich Road – CROWN AND ANCHOR

[1] *John Ricketts* (47), publican, born Walsall;

[2] Betsy Ricketts (43), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Emma Ray Ricketts (17), [probably daughter], born Walsall;

[4] Betsy Ricketts (11), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Jane Ricketts (9), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

John Ricketts, keeper of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Road, applied for a license to sell all intoxication liquors on or off the premises.

Mr. J. N. Cotterell appeared in support of the application, which was opposed by Mr. F. Bill, on behalf of the proprietor of the JOLLY BACCHUS; by Mr. Checkley on behalf of Mr. Stanley [the Gospel Temperance Union], and by the Chief Constable. Mr. Cotterell described the house as a splendid old-fashioned house, which was well suited in every way for a full license. The place was well known for the good ale brewed there, and the applicant was a most suitable person.

The applicant having been examined, the Mayor said he must continue to brew good ale. The Bench could not grant him a new license.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall were opened on Wednesday at the Guildhall, the Mayor in the chair.....

Mr. J. N. Cotterell made what he said might be described as his annual application for the granting of a full license to Mr. *Ricketts*, of the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, West Bromwich Road. Mr. Plant (Dudley) opposed on behalf of Mrs. Ross, of the OLD KINGS ARMS; Mr. Stanley, on behalf of the temperance party. Mr. Bill stated that he was instructed to oppose, but in view of what had taken place that morning, Mr. Brookes did not think it gracious to oppose.

Mr. Cotterell said that Mr. *Ricketts* was an ideal publican, who looked to his house for a living. During 25 years he had never been at the Court except voluntarily. The house was in the centre of a new district. They were the first to ask for the license, and if a license was to be granted it should be to Mr. *Ricketts*.

Mr. Plant urged that the house was not any more necessary today that when at first refused. Refused.”

John Ricketts, beer retailer, 61, West Bromwich Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall.....

Mr. J. N. Cottrell applied on behalf of *John Ricketts*, CROWN AND ANCHOR beerhouse, West Bromwich Road, for a full license. Mr. Herbert opposed on behalf of the Walsall Temperance Federation (Messrs. Alfred Stanley, J. Bunting, George Wain, J. Powis, T. Page, and A. Woolley, and the Rev. J. Rhodes); Mr. Pearman Smith opposed on behalf of the owner of the nearest fully-licensed house, the KINGS ARMS; and the Chief Constable said that he also must oppose.

Mr. Cotterell said the application was one which he had made for a number of years, and he knew he had to get over very deeply-rooted disposition on the part of the Bench against the granting of any new license in Walsall. That disposition and unwritten resolution he had nothing to say against, but he did wish to draw the attention of the Bench to the general aspect of the application. First of all, the Bench might ask what was the difference between the present application and that which he had made for many years past. There was no difference in the application, but there was a great difference in the circumstances, for as he had truthfully stated every year, the number of houses in the neighbourhood was increasing continually. If the Bench would carry their minds back some twenty years they would remember Caldmore was then an outlying district – nothing more in fact, than a small hamlet adjacent to Walsall – and contained nothing more than green fields and open country; so much so in fact, that at that time it was regarded as dangerous ground, and an association for the prosecution of felons was started in the neighbourhood. Ten years ago the district was only half built up, while now the neighbourhood was one of the most densely populated districts of the town. The ward now contained double the population of some of the other wards, and the Council had lately granted a fourth polling district. During the last twenty years no new license had been granted, but he certainly thought it was no just reason that because one street in Walsall possessed thirty licensed houses, thirty streets in another part should not have more than one between them. More than two thousand houses had been erected since any new license was granted in the district, and it was a rank injustice to the population that their wants were not met.

The Magistrates’ Clerk said he thought that was a remark and reflection upon the Bench, which he was sure Mr. Cotterell did not mean, and would withdraw.

Mr. Cotterell replied that it was no reflection on the Bench, but he really did think it was a rank injustice that there should be no license in a district which contained such an enormous mass of people. The freehold was Mr. *Ricketts*’s own property, and there

was no one at the back of him. The granting of the application would not increase the number of licenses in the borough.

Mr. *Ricketts* said he had managed and owned the house for 16 years.

The Chief Constable explained that the house was 220 yards away from the WHITE LION, 260 yards from the KINGS ARMS, 350 from the WHITE HART, and 436 from the UNION INN, Bath Street.

Mr. Herbert said that as that was a court of justice he should not endeavour to emulate the peculiar eloquence of Mr. Councillor Cotterell, whose remarks, he thought, were more in the nature of a political speech than an argument for Mr. *Ricketts*'s application. He submitted that the requirements of the neighbourhood were already sufficiently met by the existing houses, and he hoped the Bench would do Mr. Cotterell the justice of allowing him to retain the annuity which the making of that application provided him. Mr. Pearman-Smith based his objection on the ground that the granting of the application would increase the value of the CROWN AND ANCHOR at the expense of the OLD KINGS ARMS. Application Refused."

John Ricketts – see also WHITE ROSE.

George Reay = George Ray

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

"The annual licensing meeting for the county borough of Walsall was held in the Guildhall on Wednesday forenoon....

Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith applied for the approval of the plans of certain alterations proposed to be made to the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, West Bromwich Road, kept by Mr. *George Ray*, and owned by Atkinson's Brewery Co. Ltd, Aston. He said the proposed alterations to the drinking portion of the house were practically nil. The alterations were chiefly outside, and would be a public improvement. The house stood at the corner of an opening leading up to Bath Road. Some old structures, closets, &c, which abutted on that open space and were an eyesore, were to be down, together with some old cottages which had been closed for some years at the request of the police in order that the house might have better supervision. In place of them it was proposed to put up coal-houses, conveniences, and stabling for three horses. The place was used by people who attended football and cricket matches, and whilst the drinking area would not be interfered with a decided public improvement would be made.

Mr. Stanley [temperance movement] said it was a shame that amusements and drink should go together, and that football and cricket should be followed by such debauch.

Mr. Beebee: Do you object to the old closets open to your view being removed, and put in to another place where it will be almost impossible to see them?

Mr. Stanley: I know that house too well.

Mr. Jackson: I am sorry for that (laughter).

Mr. Stanley said he had not seen the plans, and no notice of the application had been given to him (laughter).

Mr. Pearman-Smith said the plans had been deposited in the usual way. The Streets Committee were now negotiating for the giving up of the old grounds now occupied by the buildings abutting on the open space.

The application was granted."

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

"The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Beerhouses.....

George Reay, CROWN AND ANCHOR, served 10 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution."

Walsall Observer 14/4/1900

"After considerable structural alterations, additions, and modernizing, which has been carried out at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Road, by Mr. W. Wistance, contractor and builder, &c, of this town, and under the direction of Messrs. J. Belcher and Son, of Darlaston and Wednesbury for Messrs. Atkinson's, Aston Park Brewery, the house was formally re-opened on Monday evening. Mr. *George Reay*, the landlord, gave the house warming to his friends, customers, and the workmen, when about eighty sat down to a good substantial supper, which was splendidly served. After the cloth was drawn, Mr. W. Wistance occupied the chair....."

1901 Census

West Bromwich Street – CROWN AND ANCHOR

[1] *George Reay* (49), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Ann Reay (49), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Ellen Carrol (25), daughter, married, barmaid, born Walsall;

[4] Frank Reay (16), son, plumber, born Walsall;

[5] Frederick Reay (17), nephew, harness maker, born Walsall;

[6] William Reay (13), son, born Walsall;

[7] George A. Reay (2), son, born Walsall;

[8] Emily Bagley (30), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 10/5/1902

“*George Reay*, landlord of the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, Westbromwich Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness and for selling intoxicating liquor to one John Derry, a person then drunk, on April 28th.

John Derry, Boney Hay, was summoned for being drunk on the CROWN AND ANCHOR premises.

Mr. S. A Newman, who appeared to defend, asked that the case be adjourned for a week, and there being on opposition, this was granted.”

[The case was dismissed.]

Walsall Advertiser 16/5/1903

“*George Reay*, residing at the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, West Bromwich Street, was charged with persistent cruelty to his wife, and thereby causing her to leave him. The case had previously been adjourned for a month, during which time defendant was ordered to pay his wife 5s a week. Complainant said her husband had promised to get her a home in a month.

The magistrates again adjourned the case for 28 days to see what would be done, defendant in the meanwhile to continue to pay her the 5s weekly.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

George Marshall, beer and wine retailer, 61, West Bromwich Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

George Reay, CROWN AND ANCHOR.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1908

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough took place at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable asked that the renewal of the CROWN AND ANCHOR beerhouse, West Bromwich Street, should stand over to the adjourned sessions, ‘on account of something which had just occurred.’ The renewal was accordingly postponed.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/2/1908

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall.....

On the application of Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman, the Bench granted a new license in respect of the CROWN AND ANCHOR beerhouse, West Bromwich Street, to *Arthur Bucknell* (the well-known professional cricketer). Mr. Newman explained that the previous license holder, *Walter Brompton*, had left the house without giving any notice, the license therefore lapsing; and he had written to the Chief Constable intimating his intention of not returning.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

“There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....

Mr. E. J. Pearman-Smith applied for a full license for the CROWN AND ANCHOR, it being urged that there was a good demand for spirits in that particular district.

Mr. S. A. Newman, for the OLD KINGS HEAD, and the WHITE LION, opposed the application, and contended that it was a hardy perennial, which he himself made about 25 years ago, and was then surprised that he was refused – (laughter).

Evidence in support of the application was given by George James, commission agent, of 16, Cambridge Street, and James Eggington (a neighbouring shopkeeper), and Mr. *Bucknell*, landlord, said he had a book showing the large applications made for spirits.

The Rev. A. H. Lee, in opposing the application, intimated that there was a large deputation present that morning, representing the Women’s Temperance Association, who desired to tender their thanks to the magistrates for the reduction that had been effected in the number of houses.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/3/1909

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

The first application was that made by Mr. Pearman-Smith asking for the removal of the ale-house license of the VAULTS, High Street, to the beerhouse, CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street.

Mr. Pearman-Smith contended that the district was a most respectable one, and there was a need for a spirit license.

Mr. James Cox, the present licensee of the VAULTS, stated that he was on annual tenancy, and that if the license was transferred, and the house closed, he was quite willing, as he had arranged to be satisfactorily compensated.

Mr. Pearman-Smith, stated it would mean the closing of one house, and in addition his clients were prepared to surrender in addition an off-beer license, with which was a grocer’s wine and spirit license. Mr. Newman opposing on behalf of Messrs. Showell’s Brewery, stated that if the application was granted, it would create a precedent for granting spirit licenses every 160 yards. He remembered that when an off-license was granted in this locality, 12 months ago, three licenses were given up. Surely if one

off-license was worth three, a spirit license should be worth a dozen. Mr. F. E. Bill (Bill and Clark, Birmingham), also appeared in opposition, and said that there were four public houses in close proximity. The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/9/1909

“Some interesting information respecting the trade done at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street, Walsall, came to light at the Guildhall, on Tuesday, when an application was made for the transfer of the license from Mr. *Arthur Bucknell*, the well-known Smethwick and Staffordshire County cricketer to Mr. *W. S. Sanders*.

Mr. *Sanders* informed the Bench that he was to be a tenant of the house, and not an agent, and was to pay an annual rent of £52. Mr. *Bucknell* was then questioned by the Chief Constable and the Magistrates’ Clerk (Mr. Loxton), as follows:

Chief Constable: Did you give notice to leave the house? – Mr. *Bucknell*: No.

You received notice? – Yes.

You were a tenant? – Yes.

What was your annual rental? – £52.

Do you know why they determined the tenancy – No.

Does the amount of trade done at that place admit of your keeping a servant? – No.

And it is a large house? – Yes.

Could you maintain a family on the trade of the place without going to work at something else? – Not my family.

Would the trade maintain you and your wife, and could you save money? – Well it would maintain we two, but there would be nothing to put away.

It might maintain husband and wife, but not a family, and you could not save anything? – That is so.

Is there any trade during the day? – Very little indeed.

You are well-known? You are a cricketer? – Yes.

So I suppose there is a little amount of attraction? – I get a good many friends to see me.

It was through you that an application was made for a full license for the place at the last annual sessions? – Yes.

And that was eventually refused? – Yes.

And within a few months you get notice? – Yes.

How long is it since you received notice? – Three months.

How long have you been in the house? – About fifteen or sixteen months when I received notice.

Was it an annual tenancy? – It was subject to three months’ notice from any date.

You spent some money I believe in making the place comfortable for yourself? – I spent a good deal of money on the garden.

For your own comfort? – To keep the place respectable.

Has the Brewery Company allowed you anything for that? – No.

I think they positively declined? – Well, there had been nothing done yet.

Did you put it to them? – When I acknowledged their notice, I wrote about it, but nothing has resulted satisfactorily. I asked them to put me in communication with the future tenant, but nothing came of it.

Do these figures represent the taking for the month of August, including Bank Holiday? – Yes. The total receipts for the month were £55 5s 5d, and the payments were £48 8s 2d, leaving a balance of £6 17s 2d. And of course the winter months there would be coal to pay for.

And out of that you have to feed and clothe your wife and yourself – I should have to do it if I had not another occupation.

And in the winter you would have to pay for coal out of it? – Yes.

And you have to pay for the gas? – Of course the gas bill would be considerably heavier in the winter.

Magistrates’ Clerk: Does that include any rates or taxes? – No, the Brewery Company pays them.

Chief Constable: Do you burn a ton a coal a week there in the winter? – Very nearly.

Mr *Sanders*, the prospective tenant, then went into the box, and was asked by the Magistrates’ Clerk whether he knew anything about the trade of the house.

Mr. *Sanders*: Yes, I knew it was not a very big trade, but I hope I shall be able to improve a little. I thought if it did not actually pay, I should be able to get some employment during the daytime to help me out.

Magistrates’ Clerk: Do you think you could possibly make a living? – I am hoping so.

What are you now? – I have been an assistant brewer.

At Messrs. Atkinson’s Brewery? – Yes, I was there until a fortnight ago.

If this transfer is granted today that means Mr. *Bucknell* is going out at once? – Yes.

In reply to the Chief Constable, Mr. *Sanders* said he was a married man, with three children.

The Magistrates’ Clerk pointed out that the agreement relating to the new tenancy was only handed to him two minutes before the Court opened, and he had not had an opportunity of examining it, and in the end the application was adjourned until the transfer sessions on Wednesday next.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/10/1909

“A number of applications for the transfer of licenses came before Mr. H. D. Clarke (presiding) and other magistrates, at the Walsall Police Court, on Wednesday.....

The first application taken was that of Mr. *William S. Sanders* for the temporary transfer of the license of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street, from Mr. *Arthur Bucknell*, the well-known Staffordshire county cricketer, which was part heard last week.

Mr. Maddocks (barrister), appeared to continue the application and said he wished to correct what might have been a wrong

impression created upon the minds of the magistrates and upon the public by certain questions at the previous meeting. When Mr. *Bucknell* took the house there was an average trade of thirty-nine and a half barrels per month being done, and he saw from the paper that an impression had been given that the takings in August last were the average takings at the house. That was not so, and if one took the average monthly trade from January, 1907, to August, 1909, the month of August was practically half of any other month during that period. He thought it was only fair to say that on behalf of the house and the people who owned it. There was another point he should like to mention. Last week a statement was made regarding certain improvements in the garden, and the tenant rather expressed the opinion that he was not being paid properly for them, but as a matter of fact the owners offered to pay him accordingly to a valuation. The outgoing tenant wanted what they thought a rather unreasonable amount, and it had been settled, but from the first they had offered to pay a reasonable valuation. With regard to the transfer he believed there was no objection against Mr. *Sanders*, and that he would be a good tenant in every way.

The Chief Constable intimated that he had no objection, and the transfer was granted, the Chairman observing that the magistrates would further consider as to whether it was advisable to remit that matter for further consideration by the renewal authority later."

Walsall Advertiser 18/12/1909

"Several applications were made for the transfer of licenses.....

The license of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street, was transferred from *Arthur Bucknell* to *William Sanders*. The Chairman observed that there too had been three transfers since 1900. The representative of Messrs. Atkinson said that the only reason they could give with regard to the last transfer was that the Brewery Company considered that Mr. *Bucknell* was away from home so much he was not able to have proper control of the house. Mr. *Sanders* was a very old servant, and they put him into the house.

The Chairman: I suppose there are ways of making a living honestly? – Mr. Loxton (Magistrates Clerk): At the last sessions there was a little misunderstanding between the outgoing tenant and the Brewery Company, and the tenant said he could not make a living. The Brewery Company's answer was that he was giving more attention to cricket than to his business. The matter was adjourned and gone into at the last Sessions, and the Justices were then prepared to grant the transfer.

Messrs. Atkinson's representative: Our present tenant has taken £21 or £22 a week."

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Mr. Pearman-Smith next asked that the application by Daniel Dalton for the removal of an alehouse license attached to the VAULTS, High Street, to the CROWN AND ANCHOR beerhouse, West Bromwich Street, should be allowed to stand over until the adjourned meeting. This was granted.

Mr. S. Grundy intimated that he had been instructed to oppose the application on behalf of the owners and licensees of the WHITE LION, the KINGS ARMS, and the FOUR HORSE SHOES."

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

Mr. Pearman-Smith appeared in respect of the license of the VAULTS, High Street, and said that the tenant Daniel Dalton, was doing about £12 per week.

Licensed refused."

AND

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

CROWN AND ANCHOR, Caldmore. An application was made by Mr. Pearman-Smith for the transfer of a spirit license from the VAULTS, High Street, to the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street.

The Rev. A. H. Lees, and Mr. S. A. Grundy Newman and Mr. H. H. Jackson on behalf of the houses in the district opposed.

Mr. Smith said that the owners were prepared to surrender a full license if the application was granted, and the name of the house was handed to the Bench. He submitted that the need of the district necessitated a spirit license at that house.

The application was refused."

Walsall Advertiser 30/4/1910

"The Walsall Transfer Sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday morning.....

CROWN AND ANCHOR. In the case of the above house, situate in West Bromwich Street, Mr. F. S. Wilson Smith applied for the sanction of the magistrates to certain alterations. They were, he said, to the interior of the house, and consisted simply of making the outdoor department separate from the indoor trade, and making a separate entrance to it from the street.

Mr. Hickton, of Messrs. Hickton and Farmer, architects, explained the plans, and Sir Edward intimated that the magistrates wished to visit the house before giving their decision."

1911 Census

West Bromwich Street – CROWN AND ANCHOR

[1] *William Sanders* (42), publican, born Lingfield, Surrey;

[2] *Cecilia Sanders* (40), wife, married 16 years, assisting in business, born Birmingham;

[3] *Stuart Sanders* (14), son, school, born Aston;

[4] *Daphne Sanders* (12), daughter, school, born Aston;

[5] *Vera Sanders* (4), daughter, school, born Aston;

[6] *Edith Baker* (29), general servant, born Deepfields;

[7] Ada Jones (19), general servant, born Hednesford, Staffordshire:

William Sanders, beer retailer, 61, West Bromwich Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1912

“The annual licensing sessions for the borough were held yesterday (Friday) at the Guildhall.

Mr. Frank Cooper applied on behalf of *William Sanders*, landlord of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street, for an ale-house license, the inn at present being only a beer-house. Mr. S. A. Newman opposed the application on behalf of the WHITE LION, and the OLD KINGS ARMS, which are neighbouring public-houses, and the Rev. A. H. Lees opposed as a ratepayer and minister working in the district. This was the sixth occasion on which the application had been made.

Mr. Cooper pointed out that since the last application there had been considerable alterations in that locality, and it was a part of the borough that had grown rapidly. He had a memorial signed by no less than 350 inhabitants asking for the full-license. He was prepared to offer £650 as a monopoly value for the privilege to supply liquor.

Mr. Loxton pointed out that this was £400 less than was offered four years ago. In return for a full license an offer made to surrender the license of the VAULTS and another house. Compensation to the extent of £1,033 had been awarded for the VAULTS alone, and now the full offer was only £650.

After the Justices had retired that Chairman announced that they were not prepared to receive any offer of any kind.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1912

“The transfer Sessions of the borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.

A plan was submitted for alteration to the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street.

In answer to the Magistrates’ Clerk, the landlord (Mr. *Sanders*) said that the building was for storing bottled goods at present stored in the cellar. Further questioned, he said the building would be used to load up carts for delivering bottles from house to house on behalf of the brewers.

The Bench said they objected to anything of the kind and refused to confirm the plan.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.

CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Road. £0 19s 3d.”

A full alehouse license was transferred from NEW STATION HOTEL on 6th April 1929.

1939 Register

59+61, West Bromwich Street

[1] *James Kenealey*, date of birth 29/6/1893, public house manager, married;

[2] *Maud Kenealey*, dob 1/10/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Thomas Kenealey*, dob 21/5/1922, capstan lathe hand, single;

[4] *James Kenealey*, dob 24/1/1925, cutter machinist, single:

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.

CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street. £2 4s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.

CROWN & ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street. £1 14s 5d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1977

“Thousands of Midland drinkers will be forced to change their drinking habits next year – because of a Government report. Three major breweries are to swop 437 pubs – leaving drinkers to choose between their favourite public house or their favourite beer.

The deal was announced yesterday by Ansells, owned by Allied Breweries, Mitchells and Butlers, owned by Bass Charrington, and Courage. The move, involving public houses valued at £11,000,000, was prompted by a Monopolies Commission report seven years ago which claimed that breweries had too much of a stranglehold in certain towns and cities. Tenants and managers are being given the opportunity to stay on new terms or change to another establishment. Managers can also opt for voluntary redundancy.

M & B tenanted houses transferred to Courage.

CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street, Walsall.”

It was locally listed in 2006.

Closed [2010], [2017]

CROWN AND CUSHION

37, Bridgeman Street / Queen Street (Dunn Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Shaw
Benjamin Wilkes
Thomas Roston, Rushall
George F. Vaughan
Messrs. Yardley, Darlaston
South Staffordshire Brewery Co.
Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd. [1911]
Frank Myatt Ltd. (leased)
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

D Dutton [1858]
Thomas Smith [1861] – [1865]
James Mold [] – **1869**;
Samuel Brown (**1869** – [])
Benjamin Wilkes [1871] – [1881];
Martha Alice Wilkes [];
George F Vaughan [] – **1887**;
James Oldham (**1887** – **1894**);
George Wright (**1894** – **1907**);
Annie Wright (**1907** – **1911**);
George Sidwell (**1911** – **1912**);
Alfred Young (**1912** – **1913**);
George Sidwell (**1913** – **1923**);
Edwin Arthur Poulton (**1923** – **1926**);
Ernest Joseph Glover (**1926** – **1928**);
Henry Davis (**1928** – **1929**);
Albert Smith (**1929** – **1930**);
John Cockbill (**1930** – **1939**);
Albert Edwards (**1939** – **1940**);
Sidney Ganner (**1940** – **1947**);
William Boys (**1947** – **1949**);
Gerald Hubert Hopkins (**1949** – **1952**);
John Bott (**1952** – **1955**);
John Charles Bishop (**1955** – **1960**);
Henry George Edward Mason (**1960**);
Leonard Jones (**1960** – **1961**);
Frank Harold Newall (**1961** – **1963**);
Samuel Hand (**1963** – **1964**);
Margaret Castrey (**1964** – **1965**);
Peter Kenneth Smith (**1965**);
Ivy Shaw (**1965**);
Jack Pargiter (**1965** – **1966**);
Leonard Philip Chapman (**1966** – **1967**);
George Edward Morris (**1967**);
Betty Elizabeth Butter (**1967** – [])
William Boys [1967]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license,

A wine license was granted.

D. Dutton, beerhouse, 37, Bridgeman Street. [1858]

1861 Census

37, Bridgeman Street – Beer House – CROWN AND CUSHION

- [1] *Thomas Smith* (47), railway signal man, born Worcester;
- [2] *Mary Ann Smith* (54), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Smith* (22), son, saddler, born Walsall;
- [4] *James Smith* (20), son, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [5] *Thomas Smith* (17), son, stirrup filer, born Walsall:

Thomas Smith, retailer of beer, 37, Bridgeman Street. [1862]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 14/9/1862

“J. Paddock of Walsall informs Rees, if he is not satisfied, he will run him 100 yards level, and give him the choice of sides, at Aston Cross Grounds, or he will run Gibbs 200 yards if he will give him a yard start, or Marsh the like distance with three yards start, or run Broadhurst 100 yards level, for £5 or £10 a side. Either match can be made at *Smith's* CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street, Walsall, any night during the week.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 12/10/1862

“T. Paddock of Walsall will run any lad of the same place (17 years of age) 120 yards, or he will run Bauker the like distance with three yards start, or Seabright with two yards, or Marsh the like distance, or Thacker with five yards, or Gibbs level; either match for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready at Mr. *Smith's*, CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street, Walsall, any time next week.”

T. Smith, beer retailer, 37, Bridgeman Street. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....

Thomas Smith, Bridgeman Street.” [Refused]

Walsall Free Press 15/8/1868 - Advert

“To Be Let, a Beer-house, the CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street.
Apply on the premises.”

Benjamin Wilkes = Benjamin Wilks

1871 Census

37, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *Benjamin Wilks* (29), beer seller, born James Bridge;
- [2] *Emma Wilks* (32), wife, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1871

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions. This session took place at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

Mr. Glover then applied for the renewal of the licenses of the undermentioned, whose licenses were suspended on licensing day.....

Benjamin Wilkes, beerhouse keeper, Bridgeman Street. Granted.”

Benjamin Wilkes, beer retailer, 37, Bridgeman Street. [1872]

1881 Census

37, Bridgeman Street – CROWN AND CUSHION

- [1] *Benjamin Wilkes* (39), brewer, born James Bridge;
- [2] *Eliza Wilkes* (39), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Martha Ann Wilkes* (15), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] *Catherine Fisher* (15), general servant, born Hints, Staffordshire:
[Hints is about 3 miles W of Tamworth.]

Evening Star 7/6/1882

“William Taylor, of Bridgeman Street, was fined 5s and costs, or in default 10 days imprisonment, for assaulting a married woman, named Maria Rowley, in the CROWN AND CUSHION, on Saturday last. The woman had gone to see her husband, and the defendand called her foul names and tried to strike her.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of *James Oldham*, CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street. Refused.”

1891 Census

37+38, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *James Oldham* (35), public house manager, born Derby;
 - [2] *Grace Oldham* (31), wife, born Barrow on Soar, Derbyshire;
 - [3] *Gerty Oldham* (3), daughter, born Barrow on Soar, Derbyshire;
 - [4] *Mary Parker* (17), general servant, born Wolverhampton:
- [Barrow upon Soar is in Leicestershire.]

Birmingham Daily Post 10/12/1891

“At the Guildhall yesterday, *John Wilkinson* (19), Birchill’s Green, was charged with inflicting grievous bodily harm upon *William Ruddle*, tube welder. It seems that on Monday night the parties were playing ‘tip it,’ at the CROWN AND CUSHION INN, Bridgeman Street. A quarrel arose, and when the men got outside blows were exchanged between some of them, according to the evidence, the prisoner took a knife from his pocket and stabbed the prosecutor with it in the thigh. Dr. Wilson said it was a superficial wound. The prisoner was committed for trial at the quarter sessions, but was admitted to bail, himself in £10, and a surety in the same amount.”

George Wright, beer retailer, 37, Bridgeman Street. [1896], [1904]

1901 Census

37, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *George Wright* (40), tavern keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Annie Wright* (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Thomas Wright* (17), son, bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Wright* (15), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [5] *Leonard Wright* (6), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Thomas Wright* (67), father, widower, living on own means, born Grendon, Warwickshire;
- [7] *Thomas Wright* (43), brother, barman, born Walsall;
- [8] *John Williams* (17), boarder, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [9] *Harriet Emery* (24), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905], [1906]

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1907

“Applications for the transfer of licenses were granted as follows Beer retailers (on)..... CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street, *Annie Wright* (widow of *George Wright*), to *Annie Wright*.”

1911 Census

37, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *George Sidwell* (43), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Keziah Sidwell* (35), wife, married 15 years, assisting in the business, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Ellen Louisa Sidwell* (14), daughter, at home, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Lydia Lycett* (22), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Alfred Young, beer retailer, 37, Bridgeman Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 10/1/1912

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held last Thursday.....

Mr. *Young*, CROWN AND CUSHION INN, Bridgeman Street was elected member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street. £1 9s 10½d.”

Walsall Observer 2/2/1924

“An enjoyable smoking concert was given at the CROWN AND CUSHION INN, Bridgeman Street, on Thursday of last week. Mr. *Bob Jefferson* presided and a capital programme was given.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/2/1936

“Walsall Licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday.....

Formal objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses: CROWN (beerhouse), Lower Hall Lane; VINE (alehouse), Lower Hall Lane; and the CROWN AND CUSHION (beerhouse), Bridgeman Street. All other licenses were renewed.”

1939 Register

37, Bridgeman Street (2 of 3)

[1] *Albert Edwards*, date of birth 31/8/1888, manager public house, married;

[2] *Elizabeth A. Edwards*, dob 22/11/1890, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 9/12/1939

“Hospital Darts Tournament.

Final To Be Played at the RISING SUN Next Wednesday Evening.

In one of the semi-finals of the Hospital Darts Tournament, G. Hall (Rushall Central) beat J. Davis (OLD HOUSE AT HOME) at the Ex-Servicemen’s Club on Wednesday night by two legs to one, but unfortunately the other semi-final could not be played as C. Hadland (Palfrey W.M.C.) is serving with H. M. Forces. His opponent, W. Till (CROWN AND CUSHION) therefore had a walk-over and automatically qualified to meet Hall in the final.

As it happens Till is due to join the Colours also next Friday and consequently the final has been fixed for Wednesday evening next at the RISING SUN, Green Lane, commencing at 8 o’clock. The winner will be presented with the trophy given by the proprietors of the *Walsall Observer*, and there will be prizes also for the runner-up and the beaten semi-finalist.”

[In the final, W. Till beat G. Hall by two legs to none.]

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street, £3 14s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street. £3 1s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

Mr. Gordon Hawley appeared for the Holt Brewery Co. Ltd, Birmingham, and the licensees of the COTTAGE INN, Harden Road; RED LION, Blue Lane; CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street; PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street; and GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Blakenall – John Cockbill, Howard Freeman, *Sidney Ganner*, May Middleton (now of 39, Caledon Street), and Bertram Albert Stone (now of 80, Hollemeadow Avenue). Mr. Hawley said the purchase of coal at these houses had always been left to the licensees, and the brewery company would have no reason to be suspicious that the permitted amounts were being exceeded. Moreover, as far as the licensees were concerned, in all the cases except one the coal was delivered without being specifically ordered, and the trouble would have been avoided if the merchants had refused to deliver without the requisite permits, which the licensees could have obtained if they had applied for them.

Stone was fined £2, the other licensees £1 each, and the brewery company 10s in each case.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

CROWN & CUSHION, Bridgeman Street. £1 5s 0d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1945 - Advert

“By Direction of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Bradford. Third Sale of Valuable Freehold Ground Rents.....

Nine Licensed Houses..... CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street.”

Gerald Hubert Hopkins – see also LORD RAGLAN.

A full license was granted on 23rd November 1961.

Margaret Castrey – see also GLOBE.

George Edward Morris – see also HOPE AND ANCHOR, PRESIDENT LINCOLN, STARTING GATE, SIR CHARLES NAPIER, and GREEN MAN.

CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL

13, New Street / Temple Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Reverend Peter Davies, Vicarage, Walsall Wood [1872]
James Stokes, Pelsall, Walsall
Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd. [1880]
Northampton Brewery Co. Ltd. (leased)
J. and J. Yardley and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Elton [1813] – [1835]
William Babb [1841] – [1842]
William Middlemore [1845]
George Holden Snr. (1846 – 1855);
James Holden (1855 – [1861])
George Holden Snr. [1861] – [1868]
George Holden Jr. [1868]
George Leadbetter [1871] – [1878];
Mrs. Dinah Leadbetter [];
Arthur Scattergood [];
William Woolley [1881];
James Garner [1881] – 1886);
Joseph Alldutt Flynn (1886 – 1887);
Benjamin Francis Wood (1887);
William Holder (1887 – 1888);
George Holden (1888 – 1890);
James Stokes (1890 – 1897);
Joseph Stackhouse (1897 – 1899);
Samuel Mann (1899 – 1901);
Thomas William Davidson (1901);
George Boulton (1901 – 1902);
Thomas Bates (1902 – 1904):

NOTES

CROWN AND SHOVEL [1813], [1818]
MALT SHOVEL [1822], [1850], [1862], [1868], [1873]
CROWN AND HORSESHOE [1858]

John Elton, victualler, New Street. [1813]

['The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813](#)

["Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Clubs.....](#)

[Friendly Society, male, held at Elton's, New Street, supposed number 43, surgeon Mr. Woollatt, secretary Joseph Burns."](#)

John Elton was also a maltster. [1818], [1834]

George Holden = George Holding

George Holden was born in 1821, in Walsall.

He was a bare knuckle fighter, from 1843 to 1846.

[Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/4/1846](#)

"George Holden of Walsall has retired from the Ring, and has taken the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, New Street, Walsall, where he intends to accommodate all friends that wish to give him a call. He takes a benefit tomorrow, at Mr. Whitehouse's,

WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, when he will be assisted by John Lane, Tom Lane, Simmonds, Cotterill, and many more of the Birmingham and Walsall Fancy.”

Bells life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/9/1846

“Thomas Storer will fight Isaac Russell at 8st 10lb, for £10 or £20 a side; or Thomas Butler or Ned Clarke can be accommodated with a match at catch weight. Money ready at *George Holden's*, the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, New Street, Walsall.”

1851 Census

New Street

- [1] *George Holden* (30), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Holden (27), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] George Holden (9), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Emma Holden (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Harriott Holden (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary Ann Holden (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Harriet Moor (11), servant, born Walsall;
- [8] William Smith (36), servant, born Walsall;
- [9] John Rigby (31), servant, born Walsall;
- [10] John Arnold (40), lodger, labourer, born Walsall:

Bells life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/2/1854

“Edward Cunningham of Wolverhampton will fight Isaac Baker of Westbromwich, at 9st 12lb for £25 a side. Man and money ready any night next week, at *G. Holden's*, CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, New Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/5/1854

“Richard Gibbs, a farm servant, advanced in years, in the service of Mr. Osborne, of Great Barr, came into Walsall, on Monday last, to bring a bundle of clothes to his daughter, who is a domestic servant in the town, and was enticed into the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, where, after some men had made him intoxicated, they prevailed upon him to let them pawn a suit of good black clothes which he wore. Having stripped him and placed upon him a pair of old trowsers, they pawned the clothes, and then spent the 18s, which they obtained upon them. During the night Gibbs was found in the street drunk and shivering from the cold. Before the Magistrates, on Wednesday, it transpired that *George Holding*, the landlord of the house, had taken care of his bundle.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/4/1858

“*James Holden*, landlord of the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, New Street, appeared at the Guildhall, yesterday, in answer to a peace summons brought by Thomas James, formerly his brewer, who stated that about three o'clock last Tuesday morning, the defendant, who had had his house open all the previous night, came to his door in company with others, and roused him out of his sleep, employing very abusive language, and challenging him out to fight. On his refusal, the defendant threatened to do for him next time that should meet, when he would, he said, cut off his legs to mend the roads with. Hannah Murthal, examined for the prosecution, partially corroborated the complainant's statement, adding that she believed the occurrence would not have happened had Mr. *Holden* been sober. Mr. Wilkinson, on the part of the defendant, held that the shrewish tongue of the complainant's wife caused all the mischief, and that there was no ground for ordering sureties in the case. The defendant was, however, bound over in his own recognisances in £10 to keep the peace for twelve months.”

1861 Census

13, New Street

- [1] *George Holden* (41), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Holden (37), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Emma Holden (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary Ann Holden (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Edward Arch (30), brother, gas fitter, born Walsall;
- [6] John Arch (12), nephew, gas fitter, born Walsall:

George Holden, retailer of beer, New Street. [1862]

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/6/1862

“James Wilkes, a militiaman, was charged with having on Monday week used threatening and violent language to Mr. *George Holden*, of the MALT SHOVEL INN, New Street. Prisoner pleaded drunkenness, but he was ordered to find two sureties for his good behavior for six months.”

George Holden, beer retailer, 13, New Street. [1864], [1865]

George Holden, beer retailer, New Street. [1868]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/2/1868

“W. Collins (*G. Holden's* Novice) of Walsall will run and pick up one 100 stones a yard apart at the Belle Vue Grounds, Moat

Lane, against any other one in Walsall for £5 a side. Money ready at *G. Holden's*, jun., MALT SHOVEL INN, Townend Bank, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 12/9/1868

“*George Holden*, landlord of the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, New Street, charged with having had his house open between the hours of one and four o'clock on Tuesday morning, pleaded guilty, and as it was his first offence he was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

1871 Census

13, New Street – CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *George Leadbetter* (43), brassfounder and publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Hannah Leadbetter (43), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] John Jenna Leadbetter (23), son, brassfounder, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah Leadbetter (67), mother, born Bilston:

George Leadbetter, beer retailer, 13, New Street. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/1/1878

“Jonah Hitch, a labourer, was convicted of having on Sunday stolen a piece of india-rubber piping and a brass screw from the brewhouse at the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL INN, the property of *George Leadbetter*. Previous convictions being on record against him, he was sentenced to two months' imprisonment with hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/6/1880 - Advert

“Cannock Brewery Co. Limited require Tenders for Painting the Cement Work of the Frontage of CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, New Street..... Sign Writing, as per List, at CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, New Street..... All the above are situate in the town of Walsall. Particulars as to class of work may be obtained at, and Tenders received by Cannock Brewery Co. Limited, Cannock.”

1881 Census

13, New Street – Publick

- [1] *William Woolley* (34), silver hame (?) plater, born Walsall;
- [2] Ellen Woolley (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Gertrude Ellen Woolley (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Edith Emily Woolley (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Fanny Arrowsmith (18), general servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/12/1886

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Joseph Aldutt Flynn*, the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL INN, New Street, was charged with being drunk on his own premises. It seemed that on the night of the 18th inst. police-constables Skidmore and Cross went to the defendant's house, and were accosted with gross language by the defendant, who taxed them with being the superintendent's spies, and told them to 'take their hook.' He was drunk at the time. The Bench fined him in the maximum penalty for first offence, viz. 10s and costs.”

1891 Census

13, New Street – CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *James Stokes* (63), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Sydonia Stokes (63), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Paulina Harrington (39), daughter, married, born Walsall;
- [4] George Harrington (11), grandson, born Pelsall;
- [5] Frances Mason (18), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

James Stokes – see also WHITE LION, Pelsall.

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1899

“*George Kellett* (59), described as a puddler, but whose appearances were more that of a tramp, was placed in the dock on a charge of doing wilful damage to the property of *Samuel Mann*, landlord of the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL INN. On Saturday night he went into that public-house and asked for a penny smoke. He was served, and on asking for a light was referred to the taproom. Here he quickly had an altercation with the company, and, seizing a jug, threw it through a plate-glass window in the door.

Defendant said it would not have occurred if one of the men had not interfered with him. But he could tell the Bench that he was sorry he had ever been in Walsall, and he should never trouble Walsall again.

The Mayor: I can tell you Walsall is very sorry to be troubled with you; there is no doubt about that.

Mr. Loxton: Can you pay a fine? – Defendant: I would go dead in penal servitude first.

Defendant had seven previous convictions against him, one of them for a similar offence, and he was now sent for 14 days, with hard labour.

Defendant: Thank you, sir (accompanied with a military salute).”

Samuel Mann was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in November 1900.

1901 Census

13, New Street

[1] *Thomas W. Davidson* (26), public house manager, born Walsall;

[2] *Margaret M. Davidson* (26), wife, born Wrockwardine Wood, Shropshire:

Walsall Advertiser 7/12/1901

“*John Wakelam*, of Navigation Street, was summoned for being disorderly at the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, New Street, on November 28th, and with refusing to quit. *Mrs. Boulton*, the landlady, stated that the defendant came into her house with a number of other young men. They were supplied with a quart of beer, but the defendant became disorderly, used abusive language, and refused to leave.

Fined 5s and costs or seven days.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Thomas Bates, CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL.”

George Boulton was fined 40s and costs, on 28th February 1902, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 7/3/1903

“On Tuesday the adjourned annual licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall, when the Court was crowded.....

Formal notice of objection had been given to the renewal of the following licenses.....

Thomas Bates, CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL.

In the case of the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, *Mr. Jackson* appeared for the applicant and owners in support of the application for renewal.

All the licenses were renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day.....

Inspector *Ballance* deposed to visiting the locality in which the BLACK BOY, the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, and the JOLLY BACCHUS were situated. With regard to the first named, it was a very old house.

In answer to *Mr. Plumtre* (instructed by *Mr. H. H. Jackson*), witness said that so far as he knew *Mrs. Russell* was a most respectable tenant.

Mr. Plumtre: I believe this house is a very interesting one is it not? I mean that it was the house at which Baptist Society was founded in Walsall (laughter).

Mr. Loxton: I don’t think we ought to raise a joke at the expense of any religious denomination, *Mr. Plumtre*.

Mr. Plumtre: I am sure I did not mean any disrespect.

Mr. Loxton: As a matter of fact, it was a very large room at the rear in which the meetings were held, but it was entirely cut off from the premises of the house in question.

Further cross-examined: There were several large works close at hand.

Mr. Plumtre went on to remind the magistrates that an objection was raised against the renewal of the license last year, but finally it was withdrawn. He asked the Bench whether it was quite fair to inform a tenant one year that the license was required, and the next year to attempt to take it away. He could prove that trade had increased during the last year, and he supposed that was sound evidence that the license was required. Coming to the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL there had, the previous year, unfortunately been a conviction for permitting drunkenness. The license, however, was not taken away, but a fresh tenant was put in, and he, as Inspector *Ballance* admitted, has since that time conducted the house without complaint. In conclusion, he said both houses were very old ones, and he thought that if the magistrates were to inflict punishment – he could not term it anything else – it ought not to fall upon the owners and tenants of the oldest established houses, whose licenses had been renewed year after year.

Evidence was given by the tenant and several customers, one of the latter, *Mr. Jacob Wright*, stating amidst laughter that he never went to any other house because he liked the beer, and it suited him better than any other house.

Mrs. Russell, who when previously giving evidence said that her license was taken in her name because she used her own money, was recalled, and admitted that when she entered the house she was not living with her husband, and that the latter about that time was fined £50 for betting at Cannock. He had since returned, and had lived with her for three years, helping her in the business.

Letters were read from Messrs. Evans and Thacker, who bore testimony to the excellent manner in which the BLACK BOY was conducted.

Thomas Bates of the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, was called and stated that he had held licenses for 16 years.

The license of the BLACK BOY was renewed on the undertaking to deposit plans, but the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/4/1904

“In connection with the recent Walsall Brewster Sessions, there were this week six appeals at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions against the decisions of the borough magistrates in refusing the renewal of licenses.....

Thomas Bates, landlord of the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL INN, Walsall, appealed against the decision of the justices not to renew the licence of the house. Mr. Plumtre and Mr. H. Staveley Hill were for the appellants, and Mr. Disturnal for the respondent justices.

Mr. Disturnal said the grounds of the objection to the house stated in the notices were that the premises were not structurally suitable, that the licence was not needed, and that on February 28th, 1902, the then tenant, *Joseph Bolton*, [mis-spelt] was convicted and fined for having permitted drunkenness. It appeared that the house was situated in the old part of the town, and in the neighbourhood of the old church. It was a neighbourhood which had been for some time undergoing a change in its character. Old houses had been pulled down, and the population in that part of the town had been decreasing; and, so far as the population was concerned, it had been what one might call the lowest population of the whole town. The district was one which had given the police a great deal of trouble, and the magistrates apparently thought that something ought to be done with reference to the licensed houses in the locality, having regard to the fact that there was an enormous number of them, far in excess of the requirements of the district. The magistrates visited the locality, and they also engaged a gentleman (Mr. H. E. Farmer, Hickton and Farmer) to inspect the houses; and in the result, after hearing evidence, the magistrates came to the conclusion that the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL INN was the house of all the others which ought to be selected for the loss of the licence, especially having regard to the fact that there was a recent conviction. Under those circumstances he asked the Bench to say that the justices exercised a reasonable discretion in refusing to renew the licence.

Evidence was given as to the character of the locality, and as to the number of public houses.

Inspector Ballance stated that there were 37 fully-licensed houses within a radius of 250 yards, and six off-beerhouses. Within 95 yards of the house there were five licensed houses, and in the street there were 279 adult persons. In the two years there had been 101 charges of drunkenness in the locality.

In cross-examination Inspector Ballance said there was no complaint against the way in which appellant had conducted the house.

Mr. Plumtre argued that the house had been extremely well conducted by *Bates*, and that the loss of the license would inflict extreme hardship on a deserving person. The house, he urged, was well suited as far as police supervision was concerned.

The appeal was dismissed with costs.”

It closed. [1904]

It became a lodging house.

CUP

Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Smith [1818]

CURRIERS ARMS

35, (38), (37), (37+38), Day Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Beebee, Littleton Street, Walsall

Mrs. Beebee

Clara Emma Newton, 64, Holts Hill, Walsall

Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Marlow [1858]
William Abnett [1861] – [1865]
William Parker [1868] – [1870]
Charles Perry [1872] – [1881]
John Beebee [1881] – **1888**;
Mrs. Sarah Beebee (**1888 – 1889**);
Isaac Beebee (**1889 – 1920**);
George Russell (**1920 – 1923**);
Water Henry Barnett (**1923 – []**)

NOTES

38, Day Street [1862], [1891]
37+38, Day Street [1881], [1901]
37, Day Street [1911]
35, Day Street

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Marlow, beerhouse keeper, 38, Day Street. [1858]

William Abnett was also a buckle finisher. [1861]

1861 Census

Day Street – CURRIERS ARMS

- [1] *William Abnett* (65), widower, publican and buckle finisher, born Walsall;
- [2] William Abnett (30), son, boot and shoe maker, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Abnett (25), son, buckle finisher, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah Abnett (24), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] William Abnett (18), grandson, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Abnett (1), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Louisa Price (10), house servant, born Plymouth:

William Abnett, retailer of beer, 38, Day Street. [1862]

William Abnett, beer retailer, 38, Day Street. [1864], [1865]

William Parker, beer retailer, 38, Day Street. [1868], [1870]

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/10/1872

“*Charles Perry*, of the CURRIERS ARMS, Day Street, was charged with selling ale after eleven o’clock on the night of the 5th inst. The defence was that the ale supplied after eleven o’clock had been ordered and paid for long before closing time, and that the house was open simply owing to the defendant’s clock being out of repair. The case was dismissed.”

1881 Census

37+38, Day Street – CURRIERS ARMS

- [1] *John Beebee* (70), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Beebee (68), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Russell (39), son in law, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah Russell (35), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] William Russell (7), grandson, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Thomas Russell (5), grandson, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] John Russell (5), grandson, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Sarah Russell (3), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [9] Arthur Russell (2), grandson, born Walsall:

1891 Census

38, Day Street

- [1] *Isaac Beebee* (52), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Paulina Beebee (50), wife, born Walsall;

- [3] William Beebee (27), son, caster, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah Beebee (20), daughter, harness stitcher, born Walsall;
- [5] Frank Beebee (19), son, bit filer, born Walsall;
- [6] Annie Beebee (17), daughter, machinist, born Walsall;
- [7] Phoebe Beebee (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Joe Beebee (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Alfred Beebee (7), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1897

“Henry Phillips (35), bobber, of 5 court, 18 house, Blue Lane East, was charged with stealing from the CURRIERS ARMS, Day Street, one oxydized watch, value, £1 10s, the property of Nathan Ghek, licensed hawk, of 27 Ellis Street, Birmingham. Prosecutor gave evidence that he went to the public-house mentioned on Monday afternoon last, and saw prisoner and about four other men there. He offered some watches for sale, among them the one subject of the charge. Prisoner picked up this particular watch and was going out with it when prosecutor took hold of him by his arms, and endeavoured to prevent his leaving. Prisoner, however, went away with the watch, and prosecutor reported the matter to the police. Prisoner had no authority to take the watch away. Witness next saw the watch on Tuesday, when it was shown him by Detective Harper.

By the Bench: Prisoner did not ask the price of the watch.

Benjamin Tonks, engraver, Blakenall Heath, Bloxwich, said the prosecutor priced the watch at 15s. Prisoner picked one up, remarking that he thought it was blackleaded, and would go and have it tested (laughter). Prisoner was sober. Witness took the matter more as a lark than anything else.

William Walters, bit-maker, 2, Duncalfe Street, deposed that at 5.30 on Monday he was standing at the door of the WISEMORE TAVERN, when prisoner offered him the watch produced, which he said was his son-in-law's, for 3s. Witness ultimately purchased the watch for 2s 6d.

Isaac Beebee, landlord of the CURRIERS ARMS, gave corroborative evidence as to the prosecutor trying to stop the prisoner leaving the house.

Detective Harper spoke to arresting prisoner on suspicion, and to charging him with the theft. He replied ‘I took one for fun, and only fun.’ Subsequently he charged the prisoner with stealing the watch, and he replied ‘I took it for fun, and sold it for devilment.’

Prisoner now pleaded guilty, expressed his sorrow, and said he had had a drop of beer.

Mr. Beebee thought beer ought not to be made an excuse for all sorts of offences.

The Bench fined the prisoner 20s and costs, or 14 days' imprisonment.”

1901 Census

37+38, Day Street

- [1] *Isaac Beebee* (63), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Patience Beebee (61), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William Beebee (33), son, brewer, born Walsall;
- [4] Phoebe Hollingshead (28), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Arthur Hollingshead (2), grandchild, born Walsall;
- [6] Alfred Beebee (16), son, carpenter, born Walsall;
- [7] Amy Beebee (15), daughter, born Walsall:

Isaac Beebee, beer retailer, 38, Day Street. [1904]

1911 Census

37, Day Street

- [1] *Isaac Beebee* (73), widower, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] William Beebee (40), son, brewer, born Walsall;
- [3] Amy Beebee (25), granddaughter, servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 14/10/1911

“An interesting match was decided on Monday, two contestants, named Alfred Beebee and Roland Yorke, walking from Walsall to Lichfield and back – a distance of twenty-one miles – for a stake of £10 a-side. The start was made from the FOUR WAYS, Birchills, about 8.30 in the morning, and Beebee, who is considerably the younger man, was eighteen minutes in front at Lichfield, but evidently over-exerted himself, for at Rushall, on the return journey, when he was twenty-two minutes in front, he collapsed. Yorke who is over forty years old, kept a uniform pace throughout, finished at the CURRIERS ARMS, Day Street, in 3hrs 53min.”

Isaac Beebee, beer retailer and brewer, 38, Day Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 27/2/1915

“From Company-Sergeant-Major Joseph Beebee (1st South Staffords), who is a prisoner of war at Gottingen, in Germany, and whose photograph appears on our soldiers' page, we have received a letter giving the names of the following other non-commissioned officers and men who are interred at the same camp: Corporal J. Parker (8235), Private W. Dean (8328), Pte. D. Choyce (8907), Pte. A. Powell (8034), Pte. T. Rochelle (8081), Pte. R. McLeod (7252), Pte. W. Pearce (8202), Pte. E. Saunders (9133),

Pte. J. Turner (8471), Pte. J. Bagnall (9024), Pte. S. Abley (6903), and Pte. A. Benton (7911).

Owing to the needy condition of these local 'Tommies' he requests us to appeal to readers to forward boots and clothing, etc. This we are glad to do, feeling sure there will be a generous response. Parcels should be addressed:

Pte. _____, No. _____, 1st South Staffs. Regiment, No.70 Hut, Gottingen, Hanover, Germany.

Sergeant-Major Beebee is a native of Walsall, and has relatives residing at the CURRIERS ARMS, Day Street. He has served some sixteen years in the Army, took part in the Boer war, and, following the outbreak of European hostilities, returned from the Transvaal with the regiment last September for active service."

Walsall Observer 15/6/1918

"Writing from the Hague, where he has arrived from a German prison camp, Company Sergeant-Major Joe Beebee, South Staffs, writes to his father at the CURRIERS ARMS, Day Street:

'You think that you are bad enough in England; well you should just see Germany! They have got nothing; all the shops are empty. Although they are our enemies I really feel sorry for the children, for they are starving and half-clothed. It is a cake-walk for us. The Germans are absolutely down and out, but they are just hanging out for better peace terms'."

It closed in December 1932.

CURRIERS ARMS

Dudley Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Oakley [1849] – [1850]

DANCE'S DINING ROOMS

35, Digbeth, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard William Tivey [1911] – **1940**);

Richard William Tivey (**1940** – [1954]

NOTES

Walsall Advertiser 21/12/1895 - Advert

"DANCE'S CENTRAL DINING ROOMS.

35, Digbeth, Walsall, Two Minutes Walk from Station.

Hot Joint Daily at 12 o'clock.

Ales, Wines, and Stouts. Well-aired Beds."

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1900

"William Henry Webb, of Brunswick Park Road, Wednesbury, was summoned for leaving a horse and cart unattended in Digbeth, on January 24th. Police-constable Lloyd said the horse and cart remained outside DANCE'S DINING ROOMS, in Digbeth, for nearly an hour. Defendant contended that his conveyance did not remain in Digbeth twenty minutes. Two witnesses were called in support of defendant's statement.

The case was dismissed, but it was pointed out to defendant that he was liable to be summoned for leaving his horse unattended for even five minutes, unless actually delivering goods."

Walsall Advertiser 4/2/1911

"The annual general licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The Clerk announced that the Magistrates would impose upon licensees half of the maximum charges to the Compensation Fund.....

Application was also made for a similar reduction [a reduction to one sixth of the maximum] by Mr. Tibbitts, of DANCE'S DINING ROOMS. In this case there was a condition previously that no excisable liquors should be sold except in connection with dinners and luncheons.

The applicant, in reply to the Clerk, said that this condition had been fulfilled. The Magistrates proceeded to hear other applications before coming to a decision The compensation levies for the theatres, railway refreshment rooms and DANCE'S DINING ROOMS had, subject to the latter being endorsed with the former condition been fixed at one half of that imposed in other cases."

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1911 - Notice

"Notice Is Hereby Given that the partnership hereto consisting between us the undersigned, George Dance, Elizabeth Deborah Dance, his Wife (formerly Elizabeth Deborah Davies, Spinster), and *Richard William Tivey*, carrying on business as Restaurant Keepers and Caterers, under the firm of DANCE'S DINING ROOMS, at 35, Digbeth, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, had been Dissolved by mutual consent as from the 23rd day of March, 1911. The business is and will be carried on by the said *Richard William Tivey*, solely under the style of DANCE'S DINING ROOMS, at number 35, Digbeth, aforesaid.

Dated the 10th day of May, 1911.

George Dance, Elizabeth Deborah Dance, *Richard William Tivey*.

Witness to all their signatures: W. H. Talbot, Solicitor, Kidderminster."

Walsall Observer 5/10/1912

"Thomas Smith (38), labourer, Dudley Street, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Digbeth, also with fraudulently obtaining food from *Richard William Tivey*, to the value of 8d, on Tuesday.

PC Flynn stated that at 5-50 the previous evening, he was called to DANCE'S DINING ROOMS, where he was told that the prisoner had had a meal for which he refused to pay. Witness asked him if he intended to pay, and he replied in the negative and that he had no money. Witness took him in charge, and on the way to the police station he became violent, and made use of obscene language. He was drunk at the time.

Richard William Tivey, proprietor, said the prisoner came into his rooms and ordered a meal, with which he was supplied without any question. He had a sixpenny plate of beef and potatoes, and while he was eating that he asked one of the girls to fetch him some sweets. This was done, but the prisoner only had part of them, and got up to go. When asked to pay he refused, and on witness threatening to give him in charge, he said, 'It'll do you no good to do that.'

The prisoner said he was drunk all day, and knew nothing about what had occurred.

The Chief Constable said there were 59 convictions against the man, who had not, however, been there for three years.

Sentenced to 28 days' hard labour."

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1915

"Frederick Sanders, 47, labourer, of no fixed abode, was charged with having been found drunk on licensed premises, 35, Digbeth, on Saturday. Police-constable Ward said he was called on Saturday evening to DANCE'S DINING ROOM, where defendant had ordered a dinner and refused to pay for it. He was drunk.

Defendant was discharged on promising to leave the town."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection by the Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

DANCE'S DINING ROOMS, Digbeth. £1 12s 8½d."

Walsall Observer 14/1/1939 - Advert

"So you can't get home – well have a Real Good Dinner either 11d or 1/1 at DANCE'S DINING ROOMS, Digbeth, Walsall. Licensed For Ales & Stout."

Walsall Observer 4/11/1939

"We have given so many warnings that we have been instructed not to give any more, but to inform the police,' was the statement made to the magistrates (Messrs. D. E. Parry and D. Jones and Mrs. Cresswell) by a warden giving evidence in one of a number of cases relating to breaches of the lighting regulations.....

Other defendants, each fined 10s, were.....

William Kemp (51), manager of DANCE'S DINING ROOMS, Digbeth."

Walsall Observer 2/12/1939 - Deaths

"On November 30, 1939, after a very short illness, *Richard William Tivey*, 55, Longwood Road, passed peacefully away in his 76th year. Funeral service at Great Barr Church, Monday, 12.30pm. Deeply mourned by his Wife and Son."

Walsall Observer 6/1/1940

"The license attached to DANCE'S DINING ROOMS, Digbeth, was, at Walsall Guildhall on Wednesday, transferred from the name of the late *Richard William Tivey* to his son, Mr. *Richard William Tivey*, who has been carrying on the business for some time past."

Walsall Observer 3/3/1940

“Mr. *Richard William Tivey*, of 55, Longwood Road, Barr Common, restaurant keeper (DANCE’S DINING ROOMS, Digbeth, Walsall), who died on November 30 last, left £17,248 16s 10d gross, with net personality £9,812 4s 7d. Estate duty amounts to £1,328 1s 5d. He named Howard L. Fellows as sole executor, who, however, predeceased him, and letters of administration with the will annexed have been granted to his widow, Mrs. Florence May Tivey, and *Richard William Tivey*, both of the above address.”

Walsall Observer 25/10/1941

“Mr. Kemp, of DANCE’S DINING ROOMS, has brought us a carrot shaped remarkably like a hand, with four fingers and a thumb.”

Walsall Observer 17/12/1954

“Elected members of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society at the monthly meeting on Thursday last were..... Mr. *Richard William Tivey*, Refreshment House, 35, Digbeth.”

DELVES

339, West Bromwich Road / Walstead Road, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Beecham Broome (1935 – 1936);
Thomas Osborne Ayre (1936 – 1949);
Edwin Malton (1949 – 1952);
Percival Clarence Corns (1952);
William Henry Stanton (1952 – 1955);
Ernest Alfred Baggott (1955 – 1956);
Henry George Edward Mason (1956 – 1959);
Stanley Joseph Bill (1959 – 1961);
Frederick Kitchener Wells (1961 – [1966])
Michael ‘Mick’ Scott [c.1980s]

NOTES

It opened on 7th May 1935.
The license was transferred from the SWAN, High Street, Bloxwich.

Thomas Beecham Broome – see also SWAN, Bloxwich.

1939 Register

339, West Bromwich Road – DELVES INN

- [1] *Thomas O. Ayre*, date of birth 19/5/1894, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] Mildred Ayre, dob 10/1/1895, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [4] Joseph Ayre, dob 10/6/1865, licensed victualler (retired), widowed;
- [5] Margaret Ellen Wilkinson dob, 11/10/1897, barmaid, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
DELVES, West Bromwich Road, £1 15s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DELVES, West Bromwich Road. £0 14s 10d.”

Thomas Osborne Ayre – see also KING EDWARD.

Walsall Observer 7/10/1944 - Advert

“Barmaids required evenings, week-ends.
The DELVES INN, Walsall.”

Edwin Malton – see also DOG AND PARTRIDGE.

Percival Clarence Corns was fined £5 and £3 3s 0d costs, on 12th July 1952, for suffering his premises to be used for betting.

Henry George Edward Mason – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY, LORD RAGLAN, and WOOLPACK.

Frederick Kitchener Wells – see also NEWPORT ARMS.

Michael Scott – see also WHITE SWAN, Bromford Lane, West Bromwich.

Closed

DERBY ARMS

Raleigh Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Lord

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 11th August 1939)

Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Thomas Pedley (1924 – 1925);

Edward Goodman (1925 – 1935);

Thomas McCloud (1935 – 1950);

Brynmor Davies (1950 – [1966])

NOTES

It opened at 6pm on 29th July 1924.

Thomas Pedley – see also ROYAL EXCHANGE.

Walsall Observer 2/8/1924

“A new public house, to be known as the DERBY ARMS, in Raleigh Street, was opened on Tuesday evening. At the transfer sessions at the Guildhall on Tuesday morning, Mr. Frank Cooper, on behalf of Charles Wootton, applied for the formal removal of the license from the TIGER INN, Short Acre Street, to the new premises in Raleigh Street. A provisional grant, he explained, was made at the Court on the understanding that plans which had been deposited would be carried out, and this had been meticulously observed.

Mr. G. A. Phillips (presiding) said the Licensing Committee had inspected the premises and were very pleased with them. They therefore granted the transfer.

Mr. Cooper then asked that a temporary authority be granted in respect of the new house to *Thomas Pedley*. This was granted, it being understood that the TIGER INN, Short Acre Street, and the FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, would be finally closed at 2 o’clock the day and the DERBY ARMS opened at 6 in the evening.....”

Walsall Observer 11/2/1939

“There was a good attendance of members of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society at the meeting held at the DERBY ARMS INN, Raleigh Street, on Thursday.....”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

John Lord’s houses.....

DERBY, Raleigh Street.”

1939 Register

Raleigh Street – DERBY ARMS

[1] *Thomas McCloud*, date of birth 4/1/1885, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Gertrude McCloud, dob 7/11/1892, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Doreen B. (McCloud) Clark, dob 22/10/1924, no employment, single;

[4] Gordon T. McCloud, dob 25/3/1926, at school, single;

[5] Nellie (Hale) (Lowes) Silver, dob 6/1/1918, maid, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

DERBY ARMS INN, Raleigh Street, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 4/1/1941 - Advert

“Captain & Mrs. *McCloud*, DERBY ARMS, Raleigh Street wish to thank the men of the Home Guard Platoon for the wonderful reception they received on Tuesday night; also for the electric clock presented to Mrs. *McCloud*.”

Walsall Observer 22/2/1941

“Birchills Home Guard (No.1 Platoon, ‘D’ Company) held a highly successful smoking concert at the DERBY ARMS, Raleigh Street, on Monday night. Corporal Hardiman presided and the artists (all of whom gave their services) were Messrs. J. Lord (comedian); F. Addis (accordionist); B. Brevitt (pianist); E. Mills (baritone); G. Lowbridge (comedian); Misses B. McCloud and N. Hales (duettists); Messrs. Rowbottom (harmonica); L. Wolverson (conjurer); J. Hawkes (comedian); Sergeant New (harmonica) and Mr. Addis’s dance band which provided a very welcome addition to the programme. Much of the credit for the success of the gathering was due to the Host and Hostess, Platoon Commander and Mrs. *T. McCloud* and Sergeant Coleman, who enlisted the services of the artists.”

Walsall Observer 29/3/1941

“At a Birchills Home Guard concert, at the DERBY ARMS on Tuesday, when Mr. G. T. Smallwood presided, Captain L. Hales-Finch, T.D., presented an electric clock to Sergeant-Major Holmes, for his valuable services to the platoon and referred to his fine Army record. Musical items were given by Messrs. J. Beech (tenor) and H. Brevitt (pianist and entertainer), Misses N. Hales and B. McCloud (close harmony singers), Mr. J. Hawkes (monologues), Miss V. Mills (soprano), Mr. Pritchard (accordionist), and Mr. Swain (baritone).”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DERBY ARMS, Raleigh Street. £2 0s 0d.”

[1993]

Closed [2006]

Demolished

Housing was built on the site. [2009]

DILKE ARMS

26, Aldridge Road, WALSALL

OWNERS

W. Butler and Co. Ltd.
Bass, Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Brewers Fayre [1999]

LICENSEES

Harry Harvey (1939 – 1947);
Lena Vesta Harvey (1947 – 1959);
William John Westley (1959 – 1963);
Reginald West (1963 – 1965);
Violet Eileen (West) Caddick (1965 – [1967])
Linda Ann Schofield [1980s]
Graham Pinches [1990] – [1991]

NOTES

It opened on 8th February 1939.
The license was transferred from PEACOCK, Lower Rushall Street.

Walsall Observer 11/2/1939

“The annual licensing day, held at the GUILDHALL, on Thursday....
In connection with the opening of the DILKE ARMS, a new house in Aldridge Road, the magistrates made a final order transferring thereto the full license of the PEACOCK, Lower Rushall Street, the license being taken over from John Rogers by *Harry Harvey*, who was also granted a music and singing license for the use of gramophone and wireless.”

1939 Register

Aldridge Road – DILKE ARMS

[1] *Harry Harvey*, date of birth 27/10/1916, licensed victualler, married;
[2] *Lena V. Harvey*, dob 28/12/1902, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 27/4/1940 - Advert

“Barmaid Wanted, for weekends; also Waiter.
DILKE ARMS, Aldridge Road.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions....
DILKE ARMS, Aldridge Road, £8 8s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 28/12/1940

“Of all the dangers to the public, a man under the influence of drink driving a vehicle is certainly one of the most serious,’ remarked the presiding magistrate (Mr. A. A. Fraser Wood), when imposing a fine of £10, with £2 18s 6d costs, on Alfred Coleman (39), lorry driver, 18, Somerfield Road, for driving a motor car when under the influence of drink to such an extent as to be incapable of exercising proper control. With Mr. Fraser Wood sat Mr. W. R. Wheway and Miss Windle.

Prosecuting, Mr. W. T. Isaac, stated that when driving along Broadway North at about 11 o’clock on Wednesday night, December 18, Coleman collided with the refuge island near the junction of Prince’s Avenue. After completely demolishing one bollard and knocking down another, the car turned over on its roof. When assistance arrived, Coleman and his companion (owner of the car) were extricated from the car.

John Titley, licensee of the TIGER INN, Walstead Road, owner of the car defendant was driving, told the court that on the night in question they went first to see a friend at the DILKE ARMS, Aldridge Road then another at the WHITE HORSE, Bosty Lane, and afterwards went back to the DILKE ARMS to see a Mr. *Harvey*. They stayed until 10.20 in order to be able to give two members of the staff a lift to Lichfield Street. Describing the collision in Broadway North, witness said: ‘The night was very dark and I was looking forward towards the kerb when I felt the bump. That’s all I know.’

Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson (defending): In your opinion he was perfectly fit to drive? – Witness: Certainly.

Dr A. B. Davies (police surgeon) detailed to the magistrates the symptoms that led him to certify Coleman to be under the influence of drink.

Police Inspector Lavender, who also expressed the same view as to the defendant’s condition, stated that the accused told him he had ‘had a drink or two’, and that ‘drink is a matter of routine with me.’

Further evidence that the defendant was under the influence of drink was given by Stephen George Day, 86, Broadway North, and Police-constable Brazier.

Coleman in the witness box, said he had five half-pints of 'mild' on the night in question. He was looking for the white line when he had the accident, which caused him to hurt his shoulder and receive cuts on the face and knee.

Told that the defendant was engaged on work of national importance, the magistrates refrained from suspending his driving license on his undertaking not to drive anything but his lorry for the next three months."

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Harvey*, DILKE ARMS. £2 6s 1d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
DILKE ARMS, Aldridge Road. £6 10s 6d."

Walsall Observer 11/9/1943

"Walsall ramblers led by Mr. W. Everton, this afternoon go to Dumblederry. They meet at the DILKE ARMS, Aldridge Road, at 3.30pm"

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

"After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

W. Butler and Co. Ltd, Springfield Brewery, were summoned in respect of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road; KING GEORGE V, Wallows Lane; DILKE ARMS, Aldridge; The HARDEN, Harden Road; and VINE INN, Lower Hall Street; and the managers, Thomas Henry Atkins, Kenneth Dawes, *Harry Harvey*, Leonard Charles Lampitt, and Edwin George White, for aiding and abetting. Mr. Cooper said this brewery company also had given specific instructions to their managers, and Mr. Hodgkinson emphasised that the managers' offences were purely of a technical character and that if they had applied for permits for extra supplies they would have got them.

Dawes and Hawkes were fined £2 each, the other managers £1 each, and the brewery 10s in each case."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DILKE ARMS, Aldridge Road. £0 0s 5d."

Violet Eileen West remarried to a Mr. *Caddick* on 12th August 1967.

London Gazette 3/9/1984

"*Schofield, Linda Ann* previouslt residing and carrying on business at The DILKE ARMS, Aldridge Road as a Caterer
Date of Order – 8th August 1984....."

Express and Star 12/1/1985 - Advert

"DILKE ARMS, Aldridge Road, Walsall. Telephone 24913.

Lunches being served Monday to Friday, 12 noon – 2.0pm.

Disco Monday-Friday. Saturday Night Disco. 8 o'clock till late.

Dress restrictions apply. Sunday: Mal Rich."

Sandwell Evening Mail 17/12/1986

"Brewers Mitchells & Butlers have spent £1.5 million on refurbishing 11 pubs for Christmas and the New Year Other pubs getting a facelift include the DILKE, Walsall."

Sandwell Evening Mail 16/3/1990

"A popular Walsall night spot is reopening after a £100,000 facelift. The DILKE public house in Aldridge Road, Walsall, has been closed for almost two months for refurbishment.

It was feared the pub would shut down after magistrates refused a late night opening licence. But it has now been given a new look, including a video 'wall' and cocktail bar. Landlord Mr. *Graham Pinches* said, 'The pub will be unlike anything else in the area.'"

Sandwell Evening Mail 20/2/1991

"Toys and gifts have been rolling in for the tombola and raffle at the Mayor of Walsall's annual charity ball in the Town Hall on Friday night.....

Mr. *Graham Pinches*, licensee of the DILKE, Walsall, donated £1,000 raised at his pub."

Graham Pinches – see also TAVERN IN THE TOWN.

THE DILKE [2005]

[2017]

DOG AND PARTRIDGE

46, (153), (23), Sandwell Street / Windmill Street, (Mallins Ruins), (Highgate Passage), WALSALL

OWNERS

George Jackson
William Dean
Walter Ernest Simcox
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

John Mountford [] – **1796**
Gold [1809]
Henry Clenton [1834]
William Sartain [1835]
Joseph Archer [1841] – [1851]
Thomas Osbourne [] – **1858**
Mrs. Emma Osbourne [1859] – [1861]
George Jackson [1862] – [1875];
Mrs. Emma Jackson [];
William Dean [1881];
Mary Ann Jackson [1884];
Walter Ernest Simcox [1889] – **1896**);
Arthur Gormley (**1896 – 1901**);
Frederick George Gatrell (**1901**);
Arthur Robert Boyce (**1901 – 1904**);
George James Bush (**1904 – 1913**);
Thomas Henry Fenton (**1913 – 1926**);
John Kingdon (**1926 – 1928**);
Walter Reginald Noake (**1928 – 1929**);
Thomas Henry Fenton (**1929 – 1945**);
Edwin Malton (**1945 – 1949**);
Samuel Godfrey Plimmer (**1949 – 1954**);
William Cyril Emmanuel Birch (**1954** – [1966])
[Kathleen Baker \(1984 – \[1994\]\)](#)
Martin A P Williams [2007]
[Samantha Angela Jones \[\]](#)

NOTES

Windmill Street [1842]
Mallins Ruins [1851]
23, Sandwell Street [1858], [1860], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]
153, Sandwell Street [1872], [1873], [1881], [1892], [1896]
46, Sandwell Street [1908], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932], [1939], [1940], [1993], [2005]

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 26/9/1796 - Deaths](#)

“On Friday last, Mr. *John Mountford*, master of the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, at the Windmill bowling-green, near Walsall.”

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 29/5/1809 - Advert](#)

“Valuable Brewing Vessels, Coppers, &c.

To be Sold by Auction, on the Premises, by R. Crump, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 31st of May and 1st day of June 1809, all the valuable Brewing Vessels, large Mashing Tub, two large Coppers, Deal Backs, with Lead Spout, casks from 40 to 180 Gallons each, Ale and Porter; all the Household Furniture, Bedding and Linen, 23 pairs of Bowls and 7 Jacks, two large Stone Rollers, garden Seats, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *Gold*, at the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, at Windmill, near Walsall. The Sale to begin each Morning at Ten o’clock.”

[‘The History and Directory of Walsall’ by Thomas Pearce 1813](#)

“At the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, situate at the Windmill, there is a pleasant Bowling Green, on which is erected a room for the accommodation of the visitors, which commands an extensive view of the adjacent country.”

[Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/9/1846](#)

“Fight between Mathew Beeby and Thomas Darby, for £10 a side.

The little mill between Mathew Beeby and Thomas Darby, two Walsall novices, for £10 a side, came off on Monday last, at the IVY HOUSE INN, near Bloxwich. Neither of the men, we understand, has appeared in a public ring before, but are well known in the Walsall locality for their frequent fistic broils, in which Darby had frequently displayed a fair show of science. Beeby being much larger made, and longer in the reach than Darby, was fully expected to come off triumphant, but the result proved that his younger and shorter antagonist was too strong and ‘downy’ for him. Beeby was seconded by Bill Sykes and Jack Holden (George Holden’s brother), and Darby was attended by Frazer Brown and Will Birch. The betting was even. The fight occupied 22 rounds. The battle was on the whole was a very good one, and lasted 48min. Darby, who is only nineteen years of age, and about five feet five inches in height, is certainly a good man for Beeby, although less in stature, and might, with care, turn out to advantage. Beeby towards the last did not like the work, or he might have punished his opponent severely several times while off his guard. He was very weak, having been thrown frequently with much force. The money was given up to Darby the same night at the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Windmill Street, Walsall.”

[Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 20/9/1846](#)

“Thomas Darby and William Pearson. On Monday £2 a side more were put down, for the engagement between Darby and Pearson (alias Slack) at the FIGHTING COCKS, Blue Lane, Stafford Road; and a further deposit of £2 a side is to be made tomorrow (Monday) night at *Archer*’s, the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Windmill Street, Walsall.”

[Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 23/4/1848](#)

“Tom Darby takes a benefit on Tuesday evening next, at the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Windmill Street, Walsall, when he will be prepared to fight any 7st 12lb man in Staffordshire for £20 a side.”

[1851 Census](#)

Mallins Ruins

- [1] *Joseph Archer* (49), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Archer* (39), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Edward Mould* (26), lodger, born London;
- [4] *Elizabeth Mould* (22), lodger, born Walsall;
- [5] *Jane Mould* (5 months), lodger, born Walsall;
- [6] *John Perkins* (11), visitor, born Walsall:

Joseph Archer – see also GREEN MAN, Dudley Street.

Thomas Osbourne = Thomas Osborne

[Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/7/1858](#)

“John Fleming, of the RING OF BELLS, Hill Street, Walsall, will fly a pigeon from Birmingham against John Birch for £10 a side, or will fly a bird from Weedon a home and home match, for £25 a side. Money ready any night next week at Mr. *Osborne*’s, DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Windmill Street, Walsall.”

[Birmingham Journal 4/12/1858 - Deaths](#)

“On the 27th ult., in Newall Street, Walsall, Mr. *Thomas Osborne*, landlord of the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Windmill; deeply regretted.”

[Birmingham Daily Post 30/3/1859](#)

“Late on Monday night, the inhabitants of Sandwell Street, Walsall, were thrown into a state of excitement in consequence of an alarm of fire having been given. On examination it was discovered that some flames proceeded from the attic of the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, kept by Mrs. *Osborne*. Mr. Superintendent Cater, with a detachment of the police force, immediately repaired the spot, and rendered every assistance. The engines of the Norwich and Birmingham companies were also in attendance, but they were not required to play, as by the active exertions of the police and others the flames were extinguished before any great amount of damage was done. The fire was caused through the carelessness of a servant, who left a candle close to a wooden safe which was in the room, and had not assistance been so promptly rendered, a serious amount of damage would have been done.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 16/1/1865

“Between seven and eight o’clock yesterday (Sunday) morning, Wm. Bridges, brass driver, Highfield Passage, Sandwell Street, entered the house of *George Jackson*, landlord of the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Sandwell Street, and after carrying away a quantity of cigars and other articles returned and went into the bedroom, where Mr. *Jackson* was asleep, and struck several blows with a crowbar, about a yard long. *Jackson* on recovering from the surprise caused by the attack, got out of bed and closed with the prisoner, and detained him till assistance came. The prisoner was given in charge of the police. *Jackson* received two severe wounds, one on the forehead and one on the lower part of the face. By the blow which caused the wound on the jaw some of *Jackson*’s teeth were knocked out. Mrs. *Jackson*, who was in bed with her husband, also received a blow on the side of the head with the crowbar, but was not seriously injured. The prisoner was immediately conveyed to the Police Station and will be brought before the justices this day (Monday). The prisoner’s sister and her husband, who have occupied a house under the prosecutor for years and immediately adjoin his premises, are also in prison upon a charge of receiving the goods – which had been taken by Bridges and which were found in their house – knowing them to have been stolen.”

[At Staffordshire Lent Assizes, William Bridges was sentenced to seven years’ penal servitude for feloniously breaking into the pub and feloniously wounding George Turner; his sister and husband were acquitted.]

1871 Census

Sandwell Street – DOG AND PARTRIDGE

[1] *George Jackson* (46), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Emma Jackson (61), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Jane Cooper (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/3/1873

“On Thursday, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest on the body of Robert Cook, aged 67, bricklayer, Bott Street, who fell from his chair at the DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, Sandwell Street, on Tuesday evening, and expired almost momentarily. Verdict, Death from Natural Causes.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 21/5/1875

“*George Jackson*, licensed victualler, was summoned for having his house open for the sale of excisable liquors in prohibited hours. Mr. Gillespie appeared for the defendant.

Police-sergeant Wright stated that on Sunday morning, at eight o’clock, he visited the DOG AND PARTRIDGE public house, Sandwell Street, kept by the defendant. In the kitchen he found five men, with a quart jug half full of ale by the side of them. The defendant came in, and threw the ale away, and informed witness that he had served the men because they told him they came from Lichfield. He also asked witness not to report him. Witness asked the men their names and addresses, and he then learned that only two lived at Lichfield, the others being residents of Walsall.

In cross-examination, Mr. Gillespie elicited that a report was entered in the report book at the police office, and he thereupon asked for the production of the book.

Chief-superintendent Cater said he should decline to produce the book unless asked for by the justices.

The Magistrates, after conferring with their clerk, informed Mr. Gillespie that they refused to allow the book to be produced. There were other reports in the book besides the one required, and if it were produced, it would be liable to give information which ought to be kept secret.

Mr. Gillespie: Then I must ask that the case be adjourned in order that I may take legal process to summon Mr. Cater to produce the book.

Mr. Stephens: It is a very unusual request. I never remember such an application being made.

Mr. Gillespie: I have made a similar application before, and had the book produced.

The Magistrates’ Clerk: Yes; but no one else ever has.

The Bench declined to grant an adjournment, and Police-constable Higgins, who also went to the house, was then called, and corroborated the evidence of the last witness.

For the defence it was contended that the men were apparently travel stained, and that they were not supplied with ale until they stated that they came from Lichfield. The defendant did not know them to be Walsall men and he simply acted as he did in the belief that their statement was correct.

On this being positively sworn by the defendant, the magistrates dismissed the case. Mr. Cater remarked that the Walsall men found in the house would be summoned.”

1881 Census

153, Sandwell Street

[1] *William Dean* (36), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Hednesford;

[2] Charlotte Jackson (58), mother, widow, born Bednall, Staffordshire;

[3] Mary Ann Jackson (26), sister, widow, born Burntwood:

Birmingham Daily Post 10/5/1884 - Married

“On the 8th inst, by license, at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Caldmore (by the Rev. J. Fenwick Laing, vicar), *Walter Ernest Simcox*, of the Tame Bridge Farm, Wednesbury, to *Mary Ann Jackson*, the DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, Sandwell Street, Walsall.”

Walter Ernest Simcox was fined 20s and costs, on 1st March 1889, for opening during prohibited hours.

1891 Census

Sandwell Street – DOG AND PARTRIDGE

- [1] *Walter E. Simcox* (38), licensed victualler, born Handsworth;
- [2] *Mary A. Simcox* (36), wife, born Edgehill, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Annie E. Simcox* (45), sister, poultry farmer, born Handsworth;
- [4] *Hannah Whatmore* (23), general servant, born Rushall:

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1894 - Advert

“Important Sale Of Freehold Public House and Other Properties at Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction. By Messrs Watkins, Powell, & Wood, in their Property Sale Rooms, at their Offices, 28, Bridge Street, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 27th day of February, 1894, at Seven o’clock in the evening to the minute (subject to conditions incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society).

Lot 1. The Valuable Free Old-Licensed Public House, known as the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, situate in Sandwell Street, occupied by Mr. *W. E. Simcox*, who is retiring from public business.

The house contains front taproom, front sitting room, and back parlour (forming together a spacious club room), bar parlour, kitchen, brewhouse, store and malt rooms, good cellaring, two large bedrooms, two attics, dressing room, &c.

The large yard and stabling at the rear, with side entrance.

Together with two dwelling-houses adjoining, being Nos. 151 and 152 in Sandwell Street, Walsall, occupied by Messrs. Rushton and Hancox, at weekly rentals producing together £21 13s 4d per annum. Also the dwelling-house at the rear, occupied by Mr. Anslow, at a weekly rental producing £9 2s per annum. And also ranges of one and two-storey shopping, occupied by Messrs. Burns, Smith, and Arthur, at weekly rentals producing £9 2s per annum.

The whole of the properties are plentifully supplied with both hard and soft water.

The land is freehold.

The Public House, by reason of its excellent situation, has always been noted for doing a large trade, and is in proximity to the New Athletic Grounds.....”

Walsall Advertiser 7/4/1894

“*Mary Ann Simcox*, deceased, late of the DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, Sandwell Street, wife of *Walter Ernest Simcox*. All persons having and Claims or Demands against the above deceased are requested to send particulars thereof to us, the undersigned, on or before Thursday, the 26th day of April instant, and all persons indebted to the deceased are requested to pay the same to us. Dated the 7th day of April, 1894.

A. Pearlman-Smith & Sons, 139, Lichfield Street, Walsall.

Solicitors to the Executors.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Arthur Gormley, DOG AND PARTRIDGE, served 76 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Arthur Gormley – see also LORD RAGLAN.

1911 Census

Sandwell Street – DOG AND PARTRIDGE

- [1] *George James Bush* (41), public house manager, born Watford, Northamptonshire;
- [2] *Sophia Bush* (32), wife, married 10 years, assisting in business, born Crowthorne, Berkshire;
- [3] *Vera Grace Bush* (7), daughter, school, born Crowthorne, Berkshire;
- [4] *Percy Hawkins* (27), boarder, barman, born Crowthorne, Berkshire:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Sandwell Street, Walsall, 12s 1d.”

Thomas Henry Fenton – see also FALCON.

[Walsall Observer 12/1/1918](#)

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Sandwell Street. £3 15s 7d.”

[Walsall Observer 1/3/1924](#)

“At the Walsall Police Court yesterday, before the Mayor (Councillor J. Thickett) and other magistrates, Grace Clews, widow, 30, Sandwell Street, was summoned for taking intoxicating liquor from the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Sandwell Street, other than during the permitted hours, on February 15th, and *Thomas Henry Fenton*, the licensee, for aiding and abetting in the commission of the offence. Mr. A. F. Griffin appeared for Mrs. Clews, and Mr. H. H. Jackson for *Fenton*, and both defendants pleaded not guilty. Sergeant Baker stated that he saw the defendant leave the DOG AND PARTRIDGE at 10.15pm on the date named with two jugs each containing a pint of ale. When he spoke to her she said she had only got some supper beer, and added, ‘Do you want some?’ Inside the public house he found Mrs. *Fenton* behind the bar, and at the same time several men left the smoke room and went out. Mr. *Fenton* just afterwards came up from the cellar, and when his attention was called to the time, he said Mrs. Clews had not been served since 10 o’clock. Subsequently he saw Mrs. Clews at her house and she then said Mrs. *Fenton* served her ‘all ten minutes’ before she left and she had since been talking to two women.

In cross-examination by Mr. A. F. Griffin, witness denied that it was ‘nothing like 10.15’ when he saw defendant leave Highfield Passage.

Answering Mr. H. H. Jackson witness agreed that Mrs. Clews’s statement to him appeared quite reasonable and straightforward. When witness first saw her, she was actually passing through the door of the licensed premises into Highfield Passage. Witness said that all the glasses had been cleared from the smoke room when he entered the house.

When the question of the exact time of the alleged offence was again raised, Mr. Jackson asked the sergeant what time his watch recorded at that moment. ‘Twelve minutes to eleven’, replied the officer, producing his timepiece. Turning to the court clock and producing his own watch, Mr. Jackson then remarked that there was a minute’s difference in each case, and the Mayor, bringing forth his watch also, said his differed from the other three!

Police-constable Capewell, corroborating Sergeant Baker’s evidence, said he actually saw Mrs. Clews leave the public house with the beer at 10.15pm.

The defendant, in the box, said she was served with the ale by Mrs. *Fenton* at 10 minutes to 10, and she afterwards stood on the step outside talking to two acquaintances for six or seven minutes. It was only a minute or two after ten o’clock when Sergeant Baker spoke to her.

Annie Wakelam, 54, Sandwell Street, and Harriet Hicken, 25, Newhall Street, both stated that Mrs. Clews called them as she was leaving the premises and they had several minutes conversation with her while she stood outside and they were just inside the door.

Addressing the Bench on behalf of *Fenton*, Mr. Jackson said he had held the license of the DOG AND PARTRIDGE for eleven years without any previous complaint. ‘Before a man can get a license,’ added Mr. Jackson, ‘He has to have a character like a bishop. Indeed I don’t know if any bishop could produce such a character.’

Thomas Henry Fenton, the defendant, giving evidence on his own behalf, said no drink was supplied after 10 o’clock, and he was under the impression that Mrs. Clews had left the premises.

Mrs. *Fenton* said she served Mrs. Clews at 9.50, and at 9.56 she saw her open the side door, and therefore concluded that she had gone home. She had no idea that Mrs. Clews remained any where near the house.

The magistrates retired, and on their return after a short absence, the Mayor said they were of the opinion that Mrs. Clews had committed a technical offence, but they did not think she did it wittingly, and she would be let off with a fine of 5s. With regard to Mr. *Fenton*, it had not been proved to the magistrates’ satisfaction that he was in any way cognicent of any offence being committed, and the case against him would be dismissed on payment of costs. They hoped, however, that he would exercise the greatest care in the future to see that his premises were cleared as punctually as possible.”

John Kingdon – see also FIELDGATE TAVERN.

[Staffordshire Advertiser 18/8/1928](#)

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 9th inst, at the house of Mr. *Samuel Birch*, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention.....

Walter Reginald Noake, DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, Sandwell Street, elected member of the society.”

Demolished

It was rebuilt.

It had a bowling green. [1934]

Thomas Henry Fenton was a trustee of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Friendly and Provident Society. [1934]

[1939 Register](#)

46, Sandwell Street

[1] *Thomas H. Fenton*, date of birth 5/7/1871, publican, married;

[2] *Ada E. L. Fenton*, dob 16/10/1874, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, Sandwell Street, £2 12s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Sandwell Street. £0 10s 2d.”

Edwin Malton – see also DELVES.

Samuel Godfrey Plimmer – see also THATCHED HOUSE, Bloxwich.

Sandwell Evening Mail 13/8/1994

“Down Your Local. DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Walsall.

Bet you didn’t know Bob Dylan performs at a back street local in the Black Country. He can often be found belting out those old favourites like ‘Mr. Tamborine Man’ and ‘Rainy Day Woman.’ It’s true, well, partly true, anyway. Actually the ageing crooner that packs ’em in isn’t the 60s folk legend, but Bob Dillon, Walsall councillor and a regular at the DOG AND PARTRIDGE. ‘He may not be the real thing, but he’s very good,’ said landlady *Kathleen Baker*. ‘In fact, if you closed your eyes when he starts singing, you could almost think you were listening to the Bob Dylan.’

Bob, elected to Walsall council last May after defeating the town’s mayor in the local elections, likes nothing more than to join in the pub’s regular ‘mime-o-gram’ nights when customers take to the stage and mime to their favourite singers. The soundalikes who have performed there include Shirley Bassey, Elvis and Pavarotti. A corner of the pub is turned into a mini night club for the occasion. Participants emerge from behind a black curtain to do their bit on a hastily-erected stage, under bright spotlights. There are even posters on the walls from concerts in the 60s. ‘Our little ‘club’ may not exactly be the Palladium,’ said *Kathleen*, ‘but creating a bit of a night club atmosphere makes the mime-o-gram nights a bit more special. Everyone takes them very seriously as well. Before doing their act, they’ll watch videos of the stars and rehearse to try to perfect their act before they go on the stage.’ The DOG AND PARTRIDGE has a mock Tudor, large L-shaped bar with a pleasant and comfortable lounge and is situated in a residential area close to the town centre. The regulars do their bit for charity by running an old folks’ club which provides a trip to Blackpool and a Christmas dinner each year. They have also raised cash for local charities and Walsall Manor hospital..... This autumn, *Kathleen*, who used to run the WATERING TROUGH pub in Walsall, celebrates ten years at the pub, and plans a big party to mark the occasion.....”

Samantha Angela Jones, 10 Grace Road, Tividale, unemployed, lately residing at 16 Greenhill Road, Dudley, and lately carrying on business as the GEORGE, Birmingham Road, Oldbury, the BULLS HEAD, Birmingham Street, Oldbury, the OAK AND IVY, Oxford Street, Bilston, the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Sandwell Street, Walsall, the PRINCE BLUTCHER, Stafford Street, Walsall, the ROYAL OAK, Daw End Lane, Rushall, and the SPRING MEADOW, Halesowen Road, Old Hill, filed for bankruptcy in the County Court at Dudley on 1 March 2016.

[2012]

Closed [2017]

DOLPHIN

26, (24), George Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

E. Shannon

Nicholas Roper, Lichfield Street, Walsall

Richard Roper, 16, Lichfield Street, Walsall

W. Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edmund Denham [1834] – [1838]
Edward Thacker [1841] – [1865]
James Thacker [1868] – [1870]
Richard Worsey Shutt [1871] – [1875];
William John Baker [1881] – **1891**);
Harriet Wilson (**1891 – 1897**);
William Wilson [1892] – [1896] ?
Matthew Isaiah Robinson (**1897 – 1899**);
Frank Dewsbury (**1899 – 1900**);
William Marston (**1900**);
William Billing (**1900 – 1903**);
Alfred Medlam (**1903 – 1904**); manager
George Frederick Bird (**1904 – 1913**);
Joseph Berwick (**1913 – 1916**);
Leonard Sidney Jones (**1916 – 1923**);
John Edmund Horsfall (**1923 – 1925**);
Elizabeth Horsfall (**1925 – 1926**);
James Henry Hobson (**1926 – 1927**);
John Henry Brotherton (**1927 – 1928**);
Ernest John Glover (**1928 – 1930**);
George William Moody (**1930 – 1939**);
Alfred Charles Mason (**1939 – 1957**);

NOTES

26, George Street [1860], [1861], [1862], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872], [1881], [1892], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1916]
24, George Street [1873]

DOLPHIN HOTEL

It had a beerhouse license.

Edmund Denham, retailer of beer, George Street. [1835]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/1/1836 - Deaths

“On the 8th instant, aged 38, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. *Edmund Denham*, of the DOLPHIN public house, George Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/9/1838

“Patrick Kirby, who stated himself to come from Castlebar, in Ireland, was charged with uttering one counterfeit six-pence to Mr. *Edmund Denham*, of the DOLPHIN INN, George Street, on Saturday evening. On Wednesday he went again to the same house and tendered another counterfeit coin, upon which Raymond, the officer, was sent for and Kirby given into charge. He was remanded till Monday. Raymond made further inquiry, and has discovered that the prisoner had been at a shop, in Dudley Street, and tendered base coin.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/1/1841

“Walsall Election. Supper parties of the friends of Mr. Gladstone were held on Thursday night, at the WOOLPACK INN, High Street, and at the DOLPHIN, George Street.”

Edward Thacker was also a harness maker. [1845], [1849], [1850]

1851 Census

George Street

- [1] *Edward Thacker* (42), leather harness maker, born Chester;
- [2] Ellen Thacker (43), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Francis Edward Thacker (20), son, apprentice, born Walsall;
- [4] James Lewis Thacker (17), son, apprentice, born Walsall;
- [5] Lewis Thacker (15), son, apprentice, born Walsall;
- [6] George Thacker (7), nephew, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Richard Tisdale (74), lodger, commercial traveller, born Walsall;
- [8] Ann Smallwood (26), house servant, born Walsall;
- [9] George Hicken (44), visitor, in police force, born Walsall;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/2/1855

“Darlaston. The Late Fatal Boiler Explosion.....

On Monday afternoon an adjourned inquest was held before the Walsall coroner, at the house of Mr. *Edward Thacker*, the DOLPHIN INN, George Street, on the bodies of Michael Nicholas and John Farricourt, two more of the men who were killed by the explosion, the jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased men met their death by the explosion of a boiler, and that such explosion was caused by a man named Gough (one of those killed), incautiously heaping fuel on the boiler fire. Nicholas has left a widow and three children; Henry Gough (another man killed), had left a widow enceinte, with four children; and Joseph Wood, another victim, has left a wife in the same condition.”

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1858

“*Edward Thacker*, of the DOLPHIN public house, George Street, was charged by Police-constable Robert Smith with having on Sunday last kept his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours. The officer said at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock he found four persons drinking in the parlour. Mr. *Thacker*, who said that during the nineteen years he had been in business there never had been grounds for a complaint against him before, was fined in the mitigated penalty of 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 3/9/1859

“The bench proceeded to entertain the applications for new licenses.....

Mr. Wilkinson's application on behalf of Mr. Henry Whittaker, beerhouse keeper, George Street, was opposed by Mr. Duignan on behalf of Mr. *Thacker* of the DOLPHIN, which is within a few doors of Mr. Whittaker's house, was refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1860

“On Wednesday afternoon an inquest was held before A. A. Fletcher, Esq., at the DOLPHIN INN, George Street, upon the body of William Grady, a child aged eight months. Deceased lived with its parents, at No.3 New Buildings George Street, and was found dead in bed on the 14th instant. A post mortem examination was ordered to satisfy all parties, as the mother of the deceased had a child some time ago who died suddenly. After hearing the medical testimony, and having it stated that during the night of the 13th the mother suckled the deceased, the Jury returned a verdict of Died from Natural Causes.”

Walsall Free Press 3/3/1860 - Advert

“Notice To Sick Societies.

A Sick Society meeting at Mr. *Thacker*'s, DOLPHIN INN, George Street, comprising twenty members, and having £50 stock; are prepared to receive overtures from another Society wishing to join them.”

1861 Census

26, George Street

- [1] *Edward Thacker* (52), sadler, born Chester;
- [2] Ellen Thacker (53), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] James Thacker (26), son, collar maker, born Walsall;
- [4] George Thacker (17), son, saddlers' ironmonger apprentice, born Walsall;
- [5] Caroline Martha Thacker (6), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [6] Emma Upton (18), servant, born Aston, Canterbury:

London Gazette 25/6/1861

“*Edmund Denham*, late of Walsall, Staffordshire, School Master and Victualler, Retailer of Spirituous Liquors and Tobacco, since Brick Maker, Victualler, Retailer of Liquors and Tobacco, and lately Brick Maker, only.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton's, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1836, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o'clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *Thacker*, DOLPHIN INN.”

Edward Thacker was described as a saddle, harness and collar maker. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 31/3/1866 - Advert

“Independent Order Of Odd Fellows (Manchester Unity). Bescot Bridge Division.

The members of the Bescot Bridge District of the above Order respectfully inform the Public that they intend holding their First Annual Tea Party, Concert, & Ball, in the Guildhall Assembly Room, Walsall, on Easter Monday, April 2nd, 1866.

The entire proceeds of which will be invested in Trust for the Benefit of the Cottage Hospital.

Tickets, 1s 6d each.

Early applications for tickets is requested, as the Committee have limited the number to 500, and no Money will be taken at the door.

Tickets may be obtained at the DRAGON INN, and the WHITE LION INN, High Street; the DOLPHIN INN, George Street; the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street; at 16 Bath Street, the 'Walsall News' Office, and of Mr. J. T. King, printer, Stafford Street."

Birmingham Daily Post 22/10/1867 - Notice

"All Persons having Claims against James Lewis *Thacker* late of the DOLPHIN INN, George Street, Walsall, who died on the 15th instant, will please send same for payment to the undersigned; and all Persons owing are Respectfully requested to pay to Francis Edward *Thacker*, 310, Green Lane, Coventry Road, Birmingham."

Walsall Free Press 26/10/1867 - Advert

"To Be Let, with immediate possession, that Old Licensed Public-house, known as the DOLPHIN INN, George Street. Fixtures, Good-will &c. to be taken at a Valuation.
Apply to Mr. Osbourn, Lower Hall lane."

1871 Census

26, George Street

- [1] *Richard Shutt* (62), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Maria Shutt (58), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Powell (11), grandson, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Frederick Hitch (19), son in law, buckle tong maker, born Walsall;
- [5] Anne Hitch (11), daughter in law, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Bridget Higgins (21), general servant, born Ireland:

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

"Municipal Election....."

On Thursday evening two meetings, in favour of Mr. Grant's candidature, were held – one at the DOLPHIN, George Street, and one at the PHEASANT, Windmill Street....."

Midland Examiner 23/1/1875

"*Richard Shutt*, landlord of the DOLPHIN INN, was summoned for having his house open for the sale of beer before half-past twelve o'clock on Sunday, the 17th inst. Mr. Gillespie defended.

PC Bailey deposed to seeing a woman coming out of the defendant's premises with ale in a jug about 20 minutes before 12 o'clock. The defence set up was that there was no sale of the liquor, but that the woman in question went to defendant's with some greens on the morning in question, and the ale was given to her.

Mr. Gillespie said that it was no doubt a strong case, but suspicion was not guilt. The Act did not prevent a person giving away liquor under such circumstances, as he should be able to prove.

Ann Benton, servant to defendant, deposed to a woman named Winston rapping at her master's door. She opened the door and found that she had some greens for dinner. She did not come into the house. She took the greens to her mistress, and she was told to give her some beer for dinner. She drew her some, and went to the door and gave it to her. Another woman was then there having brought her washing. Not having any money she told her to go to Mrs. *Shutt* and ask for a shilling. No beer was paid for. After they left the policeman came back with Mrs. Winston and complained.

Mrs. Winston deposed to being requested by Mrs. *Shutt* on Saturday night to get her some greens for her. She did so, and took them Saturday night, but the house was closed. She took them on Sunday morning and the servant took them in. The beer was given to her in a bottle, and she did not ask for it, and she did not pay for it.

Mrs. Murphy deposed to going to defendant's house on Sunday morning with some clothes for the servant. The last witness was standing at the door at the time. She saw the servant give Mrs. Winston the bottle at the door. She had nothing whatever to drink. The magistrates then consulted together; the Mayor said they were of opinion that the police had done their duty in bringing the case forward, but in the event of similar evidence in future, they should look upon similar evidence with suspicion. The summons was then dismissed."

1881 Census

26, George Street

- [1] *William John Baker* (41), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Baker (38), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] William John Baker (2), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Elizabeth Mary Baker (2 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] John Hearn (13), stepson, scholar, born Burntwood;
- [6] Mary Nicklin (75), mother in law, widow, annuitant, born Walsall;
- [7] Laura Holden (18), born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 4/5/1889 - Deaths

"On the 26th Ult. at Mount Pleasant, Walsall, aged 82 years, *Richard Worsey Shutt*, late of the DOLPHIN INN, George Street, Walsall."

1891 Census

26, George Street – DOLPHIN INN

- [1] *William J. Baker* (50), brush maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Baker (46), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William J. Baker (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Elizabeth M. Baker (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Fanny Lees (17), general servant, born Blakenall;
- [6] John Mickle (61), boarder, tailor and draper, born Scotland;
- [7] Herbert H. Watton (46), boarder, spring bar maker, born Walsall;
- [8] John Sparke (28), lodger, tailor, born Scotland;
- [9] Michael Sharam (27), lodger, tailor, born Ireland;
- [10] Robert Crawford (30), lodger, tailor, born Scotland;
- [11] Jonah Woodward (47), lodger, tailor's heater, born Gornall;

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1892

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Saturday last at the house of Mr. William *Wilson* (hon. treasurer), DOLPHIN INN, George Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 21/7/1894

“Bernard Durkin, labourer, George Street was charged with inflicting grievous bodily harm upon George Page, of 8, George Street, on June 23. Prisoner pleaded ‘not guilty’, Mr. Lewis, barrister-at-law, instructed by Mr. Cooke, solicitor, prosecuted. Prisoner was undefended.

Page said he was in the DOLPHIN public house in George Street, on June 23, along with the prisoner. The latter followed him out and knocked him down, and he remembered nothing more until Sunday. That evening he bled very much, and on the Monday sent for Dr. Angove.

He did not begin speaking about scaffolding in the DOLPHIN. He never offered to fight or challenge Durkin. Both of them had had beer. Some time before they had had a quarrel, and Durkin then challenged him to fight. He was sure he had not spoken to the prisoner since.

Gertrude Fenimore, domestic servant, 50, George Street, deposed that she saw Durkin knock down Page with a blow from his right fist. He fell in the middle of the road. Durkin picked him up and knocked him down again, and a third time picked him up and threw him. All the time she never saw Page strike Durkin. Prisoner came up behind Page, but when he struck him they were face to face.

Dr. Angove said he was called to attend Page on June 25. His face was very much swollen and discoloured, and there were wounds on the corner of the right eye and the temple. He had been bleeding freely, the pupil of his eye was very sluggish, and he was then in a semi-comatose state, and inclined to faint. The bleeding was stopped with difficulty. For some days he was in danger. The probable cause of the injuries was from a blow coupled with a fall on something hard. The beer he had taken would make him more inclined to bleed.

For the defence, Mrs. *Wilson*, landlady of the DOLPHIN public house, George Street, in reply to prisoner, said Page was using bad language in the house, and she ordered him out. When she returned to the room she heard Durkin say, ‘If you hit me I shall summons you’. They were very particular about bad language in the DOLPHIN. She had never seen Page before that she knew of. She did not hear any quarrelling between the parties, although she ordered Page out. He was swearing, and he used some words about scaffolding. Durkin, addressing the Jury, said Page provoked him, as he had done before, and, losing his temper, he struck him twice with his fist.

The Recorder said the prosecutor had given the impression of a respectable, truthful man, and there was no doubt also that the DOLPHIN was a place of the highest respectability. A landlady of Mrs. *Wilson*'s appearance, and a place with those rules were a combination rarely to be met with even in the highly moral and respectable borough of Walsall. But nevertheless he must hold as facts that this was Saturday night, that the place was a public house, that both parties were in drink, and that an assault took place as to which they had the perfectly reliable, truthful, unprejudiced evidence of the girl, Gertrude Fenimore, who had no interest in either of the parties, and saw and heard nothing except the assault. On the other hand prisoner's version of the affair received a certain amount of corroboration from the landlady's statement that she heard the word ‘scaffolding’ mentioned.

The jury found the prisoner guilty of ‘assault occasioning grievous bodily harm.’

The Recorder, in passing sentence, said he had some difficulty in deciding what amount of punishment to inflict upon an habitual, violent, disorderly man like the prisoner, for his career had been such as to justify a sentence of almost any length. He was now 29 years of age. He began to break the law at ten years of age, and since then he had been charged and imprisoned for assaulting the police and others, and for many other minor offences. Only in January this year he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for an assault, and within two months he was at it again. There was this much to be said for him, however: there was not a single charge of dishonesty against him during his public career of nineteen years; he had only been a disorderly young savage in the town. Taking that fact into consideration, and also that he had not used a knife or his foot, and that the prosecutor had probably obtained his injuries by falling on the pavement, the Recorder thought the justice of the case would be satisfied with a sentence of six months' hard labour. He urged the prisoner in future to refrain from drinking too much beer.”

[The Mysterious Case of the Scaffolding!]

Matthew Robinson was fined 10s and costs, in 1897, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 20/11/1897

“An application for sanction to plans for alterations to the DOLPHIN public house premises came before the Walsall Licensing Bench on Monday. More than ordinary interest attached to the application. The premises named are situate in George Street, nearly opposite Messrs. Shannon’s factory.

Mr. Langley now submitted the plans on behalf of Messrs. Butler and Co, of Wolverhampton, the owners of the premises, and, in doing so, threw out a suggestion that the Bench should take into consideration at the same time an application by Messrs. Butler for an extension of the premises of the DUN COW HOTEL in Wolverhampton Street. If the Bench were willing to grant this extension his clients were willing to come to an arrangement to set back the DOLPHIN premises.

The Town Clerk remarked that for many years past now the Corporation had been anxious to secure the widening of George Street, which was one of the main arteries of the town. Unfortunately, George Street at one point was 18ft 6in wide only. Messrs. Shannon’s factory was situate in the street, and workpeople numbering over 1,600 were employed there. In addition to that, there were usually a large number of railway and parcel drays in the street, and the narrowness of the street was a serious objection and a positive danger to the workpeople employed by Messrs. Shannon. The Corporation possessed no power to compel Messrs. Butler to take down these premises. The only way to do that would be to obtain a provisional order. When it came to the notice of the Corporation that plans had been deposited for the alteration of the DOLPHIN premises, they felt it their duty to make known to the Bench the serious objection there was to the sanction of plans which, if carried out, would have the effect of indefinitely postponing the widening of George Street. They asked if their Worship were satisfied that the public requirements demanded a reasonable extension of the DUN COW premises, their Worship would take the matter into favourable consideration, having regard to the fact that the public would obtain a quid pro quo by the proposed improvement in George Street.

Evidence having been given in support of the applications, in the course of which it was pointed out that it was proposed to increase the licensed area of the DUN COW premises by ninety yards, the accommodation there being inadequate for customers, especially on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays.

Mr. E. J. Shannon went into the witness box, and stated that they had 1,650 people in their employ. Recently they had had to make arrangements to turn a number of their workpeople out another way. He did not see why another thousand people should not be employed there eventually, but the firm would have to consider whether they could get the workpeople out if the present narrow street were continued. He understood the DOLPHIN premises some time ago could have been bought for £800. If he had known that he would have bought the premises himself and have made the town a present of them.

The Bench, in regard to the DUN COW, refused the application. In regard to the other application, they could not sanction the alterations unless the premises were set back to the building line fixed by the Council.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/1/1898

“The Widening of George Street. The following plans had been approved by the Streets Committee.....

W. Butler and Co, rebuilding of the DOLPHIN INN, George Street.....

The committee had inspected the properties adjoining the DOLPHIN INN, George Street, part of which are required for widening and improving the street, and the Town Clerk reported that as a result of the negotiations he had been directed to make, he had entered into provisional agreements under which the whole of the land required by the Council for widening the street could be acquired, and the houses and buildings now standing thereon pulled down, at a cost to the Council of about £850, if the borough justices would consent to certain alterations proposed to be made by Messrs. W. Butler and Co. Limited to the DUN COW INN, Wolverhampton Street, and to the DOLPHIN INN being pulled down and re-erected. The committee, recognising the great importance of such an improvement being carried into effect, had approved and confirmed such agreements, and recommended that the Council enter into agreements for acquiring so much of the land on the southerly side of George Street, from George Street Terrace to the GREEN MAN INN, as is required for the widening of George Street, at a cost to the Council of £850.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/1/1898

“*Matthew Isaiah Robinson*, landlord of the DOLPHIN INN, George Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness, and for supplying drink to drunken persons. Mr. C. N. Wright (Messrs. Fowler and Langley, Wolverhampton) defended.

Evidence was given by Acting-sergeant Shipley that at 9.30 on the night of the 15th inst. he visited the house in company with Detective Haycock, and there found in the kitchen a man named Coolley asleep, and a man named Keenan there drunk. Keenan tried to rise, but fell back. Witness drew the landlord’s attention to the man Keenan, and defendant said that he saw the man in the passage, but did not know that he had gone into the kitchen. He also said Coolley had been drinking with his wife, and had been working late. Mrs. Coolley and a man named Morley tried to wake Coolley up, but he was practically unconscious, witness thought with drink. Witness said that he should report that the men were drunk, and the landlord said, ‘Don’t be too hard on me. I have left a nice comfortable home to come to this place’. In cross-examination, witness said he did not know that Coolley had ever complained of being unable to take his proper sleep.

Detective Haycock gave corroborative evidence, and witness, in cross-examination, while admitting that Coolley might have been tired, said that the man was certainly drunk. Coolley on the Sunday morning came to him and asked him what took place on the previous night, because he could not remember.

Police-constable Powell deposed that he also went to the DOLPHIN and saw Coolley and Keenan, both of whom were drunk. Witness was also called by the landlord at another time the same evening to eject some men. He then found seven or eight men, who were more or less drunk, in the house.

Mr. Wright, for the defence, argued that it was no offence against the landlord for the men to be drunk on the premises. It was necessary to prove that the landlord permitted them to be there when they were drunk, and that he served them with intoxicating drink. His case was that no drink was served to either of the men. As to why Coolley was asleep, he (Mr. Wright) suggested that it was because the man, who was in a comfortable corner, had previously been unable to get his regular rest owing to a family trouble, his son had disappeared, and not since been heard of. He also mentioned that the DOLPHIN was shortly to be rebuilt, and

that it was unfortunate that in the closing days of its present existence it should have been overshadowed by a prosecution of this kind. His client held a very good character, and was formerly steward of the Kates Hill Social Club, Dudley. Witnesses were then called for the defence.

Mr. E. John Shannon, managing director of Messrs. Shannon and Sons, Limited, stated that he had noticed that there was a distinct improvement in the management of the house since the defendant had kept it.

Defendant was called and stated that he was in the cellar when the men came into the house, and they were not served with anything. He did not know that they were in the house.

Mrs. Coolley denied that her husband was drunk.

Several other witnesses were called, one of them being John Morley, an old Walsall footballer, who once played centre-half for the town club.

The Bench retired for consultation, and on returning into Court, Mr. Beebee said that as regards Coolley, the Bench thought there had been sufficient carelessness on the part of the landlord to justify a small fine. Defendant would be fined 10s and the costs, but there would not be any endorsement of the license. The charge of supplying would be dismissed.

Richard Coolley, of Freer's Yard, and James Keenan, of 65, George Street, were fined 5s and costs each for being found drunk on the licensed premises."

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

"The annual licensing meeting for the county borough of Walsall was held in the Guildhall on Wednesday forenoon.....

Since the 27th August, 1897, 5 licensed victuallers have been proceeded against, 4 of whom were convicted, viz.....

26th January, *Mathew Isaiah Robinson*, DOLPHIN, George Street, fined 10s for permitting drunkenness."

Frank Dewsbury – see also FALCON.

[It looks like it was demolished and rebuilt, opening as the DOLPHIN HOTEL.]

Walsall Observer 10/3/1900

"Last week the employees of Mr. W. Whistance, builder and contractor, met at the DOLPHIN INN, George Street, on the occasion of their annual dinner. About 140 thoroughly enjoyed an excellent and sumptuous repast. A rather remarkable feature in connection with the dinner this year was that a number of the men who at present are employed on the Walsall Seaside Home, Pensard, Abergele, were being entertained at the same time....."

1901 Census

George Street – DOLPHIN INN

- [1] *William Billing* (45), licensed victualler, born Heath Town;
- [2] *Kate Billing* (40), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Ernest Billing* (19), son, cycle works manager, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Beatrice Billing* (13), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Percy Billing* (11), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Frederick Billing* (8), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Bertram Billing* (6), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [8] *Ada E. Booth* (29), boarder, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/4/1901

"On Thursday evening on the occasion of the opening of a new billiard room at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, an exhibition game was played between F. Bateman, Midland champion, who conceded 300 start to W. Bateman, 750 up. The champion gave a brilliant display and won by 64, his best break being 126. Afterwards he gave an exhibition of fancy strokes."

Walsall Advertiser 10/8/1901

"We were informed yesterday by Mr. Breeze, the secretary, that Mr. *W. Billing*, of the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, has consented to become president of the Walsall Football Club for the ensuing season."

Alfred Medlam – see also WHITE HORSE, and LITTLETON ARMS.

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1906

"The members of the Walsall Tobacconists' Association held their annual dinner at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, on Thursday week The room in which the dinner was partaken of was most tastefully decorated, and the company must have been abundantly satisfied with the manner in which the repast was served up by Host and Hostess *Bird*....."

Walsall Advertiser 2/6/1906

"The quarterly meeting of the Walsall and District Friendly Societies' Council was held at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street on Thursday evening.....

It was decided to adjourn the discussion as to what steps to take to improve the attendance at the court and lodge meetings to a special meeting to be held at the WHITE HART, Caldmore, on August 22nd, Bro. Bridgewater who should have opened the discussion, stating his inability to place his views before them in the short time at his disposal.

The MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, was the place selected for the next quarterly meeting.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“Councillor G. W. Warner presided over a well attended meeting of the newly-formed Walsall and District Working Men’s Hospital Representative Association, held at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 9/3/1907

“The quarterly meeting of the Walsall and District Friendly Societies Council was held at the OLD WHITE HART, Caldmore, on Thursday.....

Mr. Bridgewater moved that a clause in the minutes referring to the change of headquarters from the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street be rescinded. The clause was proposed under a misapprehension that there was no lodge meeting at the house subscribing to their society. He represented the Bescot Bridge District Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows, which met there and they did subscribe to their society.

Mr. Warner seconded.

Mr. Sankey said that Mr. Bridgewater was present when the resolution was proposed and he should like to know why he did not object at that time.

The President said Mr. Bridgewater was perfectly in order bringing the matter forward.

The resolution was eventually carried.

The DOLPHIN HOTEL was appointed as the headquarters of the society for the ensuing twelve months.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1908

“On Monday afternoon, a meeting of Messrs. Butler’s managers and tenants was held at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, to protest against the proposed Licensing Bill. Alderman C. B. Plant, of Wolverhampton, presided. On the motion of Mr. *Evans*, of the DUSTY MILLER INN, seconded by Mr. Chadd, the following resolution was unanimously passed: ‘That this meeting of customers of Butler’s Brewery, Wolverhampton, emphatically protests against the proposed new Licensing Bill as a grossly unfair and confiscatory measure, prejudicial to their interests as free Englishmen, and certain to cause loss of employment; and those present pledge themselves to use every legitimate effort to prevent its becoming the law of the land.’ The following resolution was also carried unanimously: ‘That the principle of a time limit is inadmissible and must be opposed by the full strength of the trade’.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/10/1909 - Notice

“Walsall Troop Staffordshire Yeomanry.

The Annual Dinner and Smoking Concert of the above Troop will be held at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, Walsall, on Thursday, the 28th inst. The Squadron Officers will be present, and it is hoped that every member will do his utmost to make it a success. Tickets may be had at Troop Headquarters, or the Sergeants’ Mess of the 5th Battalion; or any Member of the Yeomanry. Tickets 3s 6d each.

Drills will commence on Tuesday Evening Next, at 8 o’clock, and will continue every Tuesday through the Winter months.

Members to attend in Drill Order whenever possible.

(Signed) H. Caldicott, Sergeant.

Troop Headquarters: the FALCON, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/10/1909

“The members of the Walsall Troop of the Q.O.R.R. Staffordshire Yeomanry held their tenth annual dinner and smoking concert on Thursday evening at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street. There was a good muster Host *G. F. Bird* served up an excellent repast, at the conclusion of which the loyal toast was honoured the host and hostess were thanked for the admirable way in which they had catered for the company.

During the evening the following programme was rendered: Pianoforte solo, Mr. H. Breeze; songs, ‘Will o’ the Wisp’, ‘The Demon King’, and ‘The Bandelero’, Mr. Gibson; comic songs, Mr. H. Lawrence; musical monologue, recitation, and comic song, ‘Oh, Mr. Moon!’, Trooper A. Ross. Mr. Breeze ably accompanied throughout the evening, and the National Anthem terminated the proceedings.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/12/1909 - Advert

“General Wanted, about 20; references required; one from country preferred.

Apply, DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/3/1910

“In connection with the Walsall Branch of the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers and Confectioners, a successful smoking concert was held at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, on Saturday evening, when Mr. Hill (Birmingham) occupied the chair. An interesting programme of items had been arranged and the proceeds of the concert were in aid of the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. H. Thorney was in capital form with his comic songs and several enjoyable mandolin and guitar duets were rendered by Messrs. Webb and Tidey. Mr. Kemp, Mr. Baggott and Mr. Taylor also rendered songs while the latter rendered a pianoforte solo and played the accompaniments.....”

1911 Census

George Street – DOLPHIN HOTEL

- [1] *George Frederick Bird* (47), hotel manager, born Walsall;
- [2] *Louisa Bird* (56), sister in law, born Walsall;
- [3] *Sidney Herbert Bird* (17), son, tailor's woolen department, born Walsall;
- [4] *Vera Bird* (14), daughter, at home, born Walsall;
- [5] *Frederick Alonzo Bird* (12), son, school, born Walsall;
- [6] *Wilhelmina Bird* (9), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [7] *William Albert Bird* (6), son, school, born Walsall;
- [8] *Katherin McHugh* (24), servant, birthplace not given:

Walsall Observer 7/2/1914

“The quarterly meeting of the Walsall District of the Loyal Caledonian Corks was held at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, on Saturday afternoon All the lodges in the district were represented, and there were present 112 delegates.....”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

DOLPHIN, George Street, Walsall, 3s 9½d.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/7/1915

“A general meeting of the Walsall Church Parade Council was held on Tuesday evening at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, for the purpose of distributing the proceeds of the recent Church parade. The amount collected in boxes in the streets and at the service at the Parish Church (including donations from Sir R. A. Cooper, £3 3s; John Shannon & Son Ltd, 10s 6d; Henry Cozens, 5s; F. F. Harrison, 5s; W. Binedon, 2s 6d; G. Power, £1; and amount in hand from last year, £1 2s 8½d) amounted to £35 7s 7d..... It was decided to distribute the money collected among the following institutions: Walsall and District Hospital, Pensarn Home, Winter Convalescent Home, and the Walsall Rescue Home, each to receive £6 6s.....

Hearty votes of thanks were passed to all who assisted to make the parade so successful.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

DOLPHIN INN, George Street. £1 0s 5½d.”

John Henry Brotherton – see also SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich, and TALBOT, Digbeth.

1939 Register

George Street – DOLPHIN Public House

- [1] *Alfred C. Mason*, date of birth 10/3/1883, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Nellie Mason*, dob 13/4/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Cyril G. Bullock*, dob 12/8/1915, annealer, non-ferrous metals, married;
- [4] *Doris G. Bullock*, dob 13/2/1915, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [5] *Sylvia M. Bullock*, dob 17/1/1937, under school age, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, £1 8s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street. £7 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street. £3 8s 6d.”

Closed

The license was transferred to the DOLPHIN, Goscote Lane, in 1957.

Birmingham Daily Post 27/5/1961 - Advert

“By direction of W. Butler & Co. Ltd. in the Counties of Stafford and Worcester.

Sale by Auction of the Important and Valuable Freehold De-licensed Properties.

Prominently situated in and adjacent to Shopping Centres and ripe for early conversion or re-development.....

Lot 4. DOLPHIN INN, George Street, Walsall.

Situate just off High Street close to the Town Centre.

The property has a Frontage of 55ft and a Site Area of 458 square yards or thereabouts.

Vacant Possession on Completion.”

DOLPHIN

Goscote Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Pubmaster [2006]

LICENSEES

Joseph Henry Mason (1957 – 1958);

Kenneth John Price (1958);

Joseph William Wesson (1958 – 1963);

Patrick Arthur Swain (1963 – 1965);

George William Beeley (1965 – [1966]

NOTES

It opened on 25th July 1957.

The license was transferred from the DOLPHIN, George Street.

[Birmingham Daily Post 9/12/1957](#)

“The annual general meeting of W. Butler & Co. Limited will be held on December 30 at Wolverhampton. The following is an extract from the circulated statement of the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. J. Yardley.....

The policy of dealing with uneconomic licensed houses has been continued during the year. In all, sixteen have been closed, twelve of those being in respect of the following new houses opened during the year.....

DOLPHIN, Walsall.

These have played their part well in the increased sales of draught beer and wines and spirits.....”

Patrick Arthur Swain – see also CAMBRIDGE, and NEWPORT ARMS.

George William Beeley – see also NEWPORT ARMS.

[2005]

It closed in 2006.

The building was damaged by two fires over the Christmas period 2006. The roof was destroyed by the second fire on December 27th.

It was demolished in 2007.

DRAGON

New Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Farmer [1818]

DRUNKEN DUCK

55, High Street, (Lichfield Road), Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Boulter and Son

LICENSEES

Samuel Harrison [1868] – **1875**);
Matthew Cherry (**1875** – []
Job Sivorn [1887]
Charlotte Sivorn [1891]
T Davies [1900] ?
Thomas Dalton [1900] – **1901**);
William Purslow **1901** – **1912**);
H Bateman (**1912** – [1914]
Alfred Litherland []
Benjamin Samuel Bailey [1932] – [1940]
Len Jackson [late 1950s]
Joanne Malin [2010]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

It was originally the HAWTHORN TREE.

HAWTHORN [1901]

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1868

“Rushall, Tuesday. Adjourned Licensing Meeting.

Mr. Glover applied on behalf of Mr. *S. Harrison*, the HAWTHORNE TREE free beerhouse, Walsall Wood, for a spirit license. Mr. Dale (from the office of Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) opposed the application, on behalf of Mr. T. Jackson, the RED LION INN, and it was refused.”

Birmingham Gazette 21/10/1868

“Charles Jackson was charged with having, on the 16th inst., been disorderly in the HAWTHORN TREE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, and also with having assaulted the landlady, Mrs. Fanny *Harrison*. It appeared that, defendant, on the 16th inst, went to the HAWTHORN TREE beerhouse, and called for two glasses of ale, with which he was supplied. He then became very disorderly, and was ordered to leave, but he refused, and threatened to knock out the landlord’s teeth; and Mrs. *Harrison*, fearing the defendant would strike her husband, touched the defendant on the shoulder, and advised him to leave, but instead of doing so he struck her a blow, which for a time rendered her senseless. Defendant denied striking Mrs. *Harrison*, and said he left the house when requested to do so.

The Bench, however, ordered him to pay a fine of £1 and costs, or in default to be imprisoned fourteen days, for the first offence, and a fine of £2 and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for one month, for assaulting Mrs. *Harrison*. Defendant, who pulled out a bag full of gold, paid the fine, and declared that would not break him, nor would £1,000 break him.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/1/1869

“Geo. Parish, Thos. Cox, William Johnson, William Mold, John Ingle, and Henry Tyball, were charged with having, on the 8th December last, assaulted *Samuel Harrison*, landlord of the HAWTHORN TREE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, and John Snowbridge. From the evidence it appears the defendants came to the HAWTHORN TREE, and after quarrelling with some people in the kitchen, they went into the parlour, where a club meeting was being held, and on the complainant Snowbridge requesting them to leave the room till the club business was over, Parish struck him, and then Johnstone struck him, and called on the others, who

also set about Snowbridge, and kicked and pulled him out of the house, and on the landlord (*Samuel Harrison*) attempting to save Snowbridge, the defendants struck him. A regular row then ensued, in the course of which the lamps were broken, furniture and windows smashed, and Mrs. *Harrison*, as well as her husband assaulted. The defendants were further charged with at the same time and place damaged Mr. *Harrison's* house to the extent of 50s; and Snowbridge's watch and guard-chain, to the extent of 10s. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, in *Harrison's* assault case, ordered Johnson to pay a fine of £2 and costs; and the others to pay a fine of £1 and costs. In Snowbridge's assault case, Johnson and Parish were each ordered to pay a fine of £1 and costs. In *Harrison's* damage case, all except Ingle to pay a fine of 10s and costs; and in Snowbridge's damage case, Johnson, Parish, Mold, and Cox, to pay a fine of 10s and costs, the alternative in each case being one months' imprisonment with hard labour."

Matthew Cherry, (28), bachelor, brewer, married *Charlotte* Littler, (20), spinster, domestic servant, on 19th February 1871.

1871 Census

Walsall Wood – HAWTHORN TREE

- [1] *Samuel Harrison* (45), beerhouse keeper, born Pelsall;
- [2] Fanny Harrison (42), wife, born Wilnecote, Warwickshire;
- [3] Thomas Hinton (9), nephew, scholar, born Cannock;
- [4] Elizabeth Smith (20), general servant, born Yoxhall, Staffordshire:

1881 Census

Lichfield Road

- [1] *Matthew Cherry* (39), publican, born Long Itchington, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Charlotte* Cherry (33), wife, born Brownhills, Staffordshire;
- [3] Sarah Ann Cherry (8), daughter, born Chasetown, Staffordshire;
- [4] Clara Cherry (6), daughter, born Brownhills, Staffordshire;
- [5] Louisa Cherry (3), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] William Cherry (2), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] Matthew Cherry (1 month), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [8] Ann Sculley (12), domestic servant, born Walsall Wood;
- [9] Sarah Percival (14), domestic servant, born Blakenhall:

Job Sivorn, aged 41, married *Charlotte* Cherry (nee Littler), born 1848, on 28th April 1887.

Lichfield Mercury 25/11/1887

"At the Brownhills Petty Sessions on Wednesday, *Charlotte Sivorn*, wife of *Job Sivorn*, innkeeper of Walsall Wood, was summoned on a charge of being drunk whilst in charge of a horse and trap at Pipe Hill on the 14th November. Mr. Enoch Evans, solicitor, of Walsall, defended.

Job Hobbs, a pensioned police-constable of Pipe Hill, stated that he was looking through the bow window of his house, when he saw defendant come along the road from the direction of Lichfield with a horse and gig. A man was with her, but she held the reins, and was driving at a furious rate. He (witness) merely saw her for about three hundred yards along the road, but he was certain she was drunk, by the manner in which she reeled in the gig. A man was driving some sheep just past his house, but although he shouted to her, she did not try to stop the horse, and appeared to have no power over it. Witness had known her a long time. The driver of the sheep afterwards came to him, and asked if he saw the defendant's gig knock one of his sheep over, as it had broke its leg, and the witness told him he did.

George Wright, Ogleby Square, Brownhills, labourer, who was driving the sheep on the day named, saw defendant driving a gig at a furious rate, her husband being with her. He shouted to her to be careful, but she took no notice, and drove through the sheep, cutting the hoof off one. She was drunk, and after they passed him, her husband took the reins from her.

Mr. Evans denied defendant was drunk, and said as she was sitting in the gig by the side of her husband no one could have noticed had she been drunk. He also denied that she was driving the trap. He added that the husband of defendant had bought the sheep which was injured.

Job Sivorn, husband of defendant, said he was with his wife on the day named at Lichfield. When they returned, he drove all the way, and his wife did not touch the reins. She was perfectly sober.

The witness Hobbs was recalled, and swore that Mrs. *Sivorn* was driving when he saw her.

William Bowen, landlord of the BLACK COCK, Walsall Wood, was called for the defence, but as he saw nothing of the occurrence, his evidence was not taken.

Supt. Barrett, in reply to the Bench, said there was no previous offence recorded against Mrs. *Sivorn*. She kept a public-house before she married, and it was very well conducted.

A fine of 10s and £1 0s 6d was imposed."

Walsall Observer 21/4/1888

"At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, *Job Sivorn*, landlord of the HAWTHORN TREE INN, Walsall Wood, was charged with permitting drunkenness, and also with having his house open for the sale of liquor during prohibited hours. Mr. R. A. Willcock, Wolverhampton, appeared for the defence

Police-constable Aldritt stated that at 6.20 on March 17th he visited the house and found a man named Thomas Richards drunk.

He called the attention of the landlady to the condition of the man, who said the man had not had anything to drink there, and she

had told him to leave the premises.

For the defence, it was stated that the man had been working in a pit where there was fire-damp, and it had overcome him. Fined 10s and costs.

The man Richards was then charged with being drunk upon the said premises, and was fined 2d 6d and costs.

The landlord was next charged with having his house open during prohibited hours, on the 1st inst.

Police-constable Aldritt deposed that at 12.13 the house was opened, and on going in at 12.25 he found four men with drink in front of them. When those in charge of the house were asked to account for what was going on, they said no drink had been supplied until the officer came in.

William Keay and John Collington, who had been subpoenaed to attend, deposed that they saw four men enter the premises at 13 minutes past 12 on Sunday, April 1st.

Mr. Willcock took a technical objection to the summons, and the case was dismissed, but the Bench said defendant had had a very narrow escape of being convicted.”

1891 Census

Lichfield Road – YEW TREE INN [May have chosen to call it YEW TREE for some reason.]

[1] *Charlotte Sivorn* (42), widow, licensed victualler, born Brownhills;

[2] *Clara Cherry* (17), daughter, born Brownhills;

[3] *Louisa Cherry* (14), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] *William Cherry* (12), son, born Walsall;

[5] *Matthew Cherry* (10), son, born Walsall;

[6] *Florence Cherry* (8), daughter, born Walsall;

[7] *Mary Leonard* (14), domestic servant, born Aldridge:

Charlotte Sivorns (nee *Littler*), born 1851, married *Thomas Dalton*, aged 39, on 16th January 1893.

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Licensing Sessions for this district took place at the Rushall Police Court on Monday morning. The magistrates present were Messrs. F. James, W. H. Brookes and J. Naylor.

Superintendent Barnett opposed the renewal of the licenses of the following beerhouses.....

HAWTHORN TREE INN, Walsall Wood, in consequence of the premises being insufficiently defined. Renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood.....”

Walsall Observer 13/1/1900

“Miners’ Supper. A most successful function in connection with the No.3 Lodge was held on Saturday last at the HAWTHORN TREE INN, when nearly seventy members and friends sat down to a capital repast provided in their usual excellent style by Mr. and Mrs. *Dalton*, the host and hostess.....”

Walsall Observer 29/9/1900

“The annual supper in connection with No.3A Lodge of the Miners’ Federation was successfully held at the HAWTHORN TREE INN, on Saturday, when about eighty members and friends sat down to an excellent repast provided by the host and hostess Mr. and Mrs. *T. Davies*.....”

[Were the host and hostess really Mr. and Mrs. Dalton?]

1901 Census

Lichfield Road – HAWTHORN INN

[1] *Thomas Dalton* (48), widower, beerhouse keeper, born Brownhills;

[2] *William Cherry* (22), stepson, butcher, born Walsall Wood;

[3] *Matthew Cherry* (20), stepson, hairdresser, born Walsall Wood;

[4] *Florence Cherry* (18), stepdaughter, barmaid, born Walsall Wood;

[5] *Louisa Purslow* (24), visitor, born Walsall Wood;

[6] *William Purslow* (27), visitor, colliery engine winder, born Birmingham;

[7] *Sarah Whiles* (17), general servant, born Hednesford:

Walsall Advertiser 23/5/1903

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *William Purslow*, HAWTHORN TREE INN, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/12/1908

“A labourer named James Bourne (24), of High Street, Walsall Wood, was summoned at the Rushall Police Court on Monday for refusing to quit licensed premises when requested to do so.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who prosecuted, stated that the defendant went to the HAWTHORN TREE INN, Walsall Wood, on the 21st November three times in a drunken condition, and on the last occasion he became disorderly and a policeman had to be called in to eject defendant. They had no vindictive feeling in that matter, but they knew the responsibility of landlords and they wanted protection. *William Purslow*, landlord gave evidence, and defendant who expressed his regret, was fined 5s and costs (8s 8d).”

Walsall Advertiser 27/3/1909

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, before Messrs. W. H. Brookes (presiding), J. A. Lloyd, and J. Smith, the adjourned summons against John Bailey (51), of Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood, for assaulting Ann Blakemore, a married woman, of The Vigo, Walsall Wood, was heard.

Mrs. Blakemore repeated her evidence given at the previous week’s hearing to the effect that on Saturday, March 6th, she went for her husband, at the HAWTHORN TREE, Walsall Wood, and there was defendant ‘mopping the floor with one or another.’ She stopped in the house about a quarter of an hour, and when she went out defendant followed her and knocked her down, and she was ‘unscience’ for five minutes. Police constable Williams caught hold of him, but defendant released himself and struck her a second time.

In answer to Mr. Jackson, complainant said she had not had anything to drink, and she never shouted at defendant, ‘You — you’re a bobbies’ man.’ She also denied running at defendant and pushing him down.

Henry Brown said that on the date in question he saw a bother and went to see what was the matter. As he was speaking to Mrs. Blakemore, defendant came up, deliberately struck her and knocked her down again, when she got up hit her again. Witness then went home.

Selina Seedhouse, married daughter of complainant also corroborated her mother’s evidence.

Police-constable Williams said that at 11pm he was passing the HAWTHORN TREE, when he heard some loud talking, and as he was going into the house the landlord was turning several persons out an account of a row. No one was drunk. There was a crowd of about one hundred people outside the house and there was a general disturbance. There were several people around Bailey, and he, in trying to free himself from the crowd, struck Mrs. Blakemore, but he (witness) could not say whether it was intentional or not. Mrs. Blakemore was interfering with Bailey.

The case was dismissed.

Arising out of the above disturbance, there were summonses against John Bailey (31), defendant in the above case, and John Blakemore, son of complainant, for disorderly behaviour.

Police-constable Williams said that at 11pm on the 6th of March he saw the two defendants fighting with a crowd around them.

Mr. Jackson said that Bailey was a most respectable man. He had worked at the Walsall Wood Colliery for seventeen years and was now a fireman. Sometime last year there had been a robbery at Walsall Wood, and Bailey helped to catch the two thieves, one of whom was Mrs. Blakemore’s nephew, and at Stafford Assizes he was sentenced to four months’. Ever since then the whole of the Blakemore family had been on to Bailey, and on this particular occasion he was simply trying to get out of the crowd and away from the Blakemores. He had been set upon by those people, and he was struggling to get away.

Bailey gave evidence in corroboration of his advocate’s statement.

The case against Bailey was withdrawn, and Blakemore, who said he was taking his mother’s part, was fined 2s 6d and 9s 6d costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/10/1910

“On Saturday evening a supper was held in connection with the No.3 Lodge of the West Bromwich Miner’s Association, at the HAWTHORN TREE INN, Walsall Wood, the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Purslow*, being the caterers, in which capacity they left nothing to be desired. About 100 members sat down to the good things provided and needless to add did full justice to them. Eventually the ‘inner man’ was satisfied and the cloths were drawn.....”

Walsall Advertiser 8/4/1911

“On ‘All Fools’ Day’. The story of an alleged theft of 9s 6d on April 1st was told at Rushall Police Court on Monday, before Messrs. R. H. Holden (presiding), E. Wilkes, E. J. Shaw, and W. Precey, when Samuel Powell, who lives at a lodging house in New Street, was charged with stealing that amount from *William Purslow*.

Prosecutor stated that he was the landlord of the HAWTHORN TREE, Walsall Wood, and the prisoner had been in his employ for some time. On Saturday, April 1st, at 8.30am, he went into the passage, which was not well lighted at the time, and called the prisoner to go a couple of errands, and witness gave him as he thought, two sixpenny pieces and some coppers. He knew that he had 11s in silver and half sovereign in his pocket before he called the prisoner, and at 11 o’clock he missed the gold coin. Witness made enquiries and found that prisoner had changed half a sovereign that morning, and so at 5 o’clock when he next saw him he asked him for the change out of the half sovereign. Prisoner replied that he had not changed one.

Nellie Moreton, domestic servant at the RED LION, Walsall Wood, deposed that the prisoner called for a quart of ale, and after he had paid for it he asked her to change a half sovereign.

Police-constable Williams spoke to arresting the prisoner on the same day, and in reply to the charge he said ‘I have only got a halfpenny on me beside half a sovereign, and I worked for that.’ Witness searched him and found 7s 7½d in his possession, and he was also wearing a new shirt which he said he had bought that day. Prisoner asked by Inspector Platt if he could say where he had had the half sovereign from and he replied ‘No.’

Prisoner said he had saved the half sovereign, and maintained that the prosecutor only gave him two sixpences, besides the coppers.

Re-called, the prosecutor, answering the Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. W. L. Lewis) said he had known the prisoner for 20 years but he would not trust him with more than 9d or so at a time.

Prisoner: You have trusted me with £20 at a time.

Prosecutor then raised a laugh in Court by saying that he did not mind losing a sovereign if it was stolen honestly, but he did not like deceptive work like that by the prisoner.

A fine of 10s and 23s costs was imposed, the alternative being 14 days' hard labour."

Walsall Advertiser 17/2/1912

"The Rushall annual Licensing Sessions were held on Monday.....

One beerhouse keeper 'on' had been proceeded against for an offence against his license, and fined. Notice of opposition to the renewal of his license had been served upon *William Purslow*, then the licensee of the HAWTHORN TREE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, but he had since temporarily transferred his license and left the premises.....

The Chairman said that the license of the HAWTHORN TREE, Walsall Wood, would be adjourned to the next meeting of the authority. The late licensee (Mr. *Purslow*) had nothing to say against this.

Mr. Gilbert Bailey, however, who appeared on behalf of the owner, said that Mr. *Bateman* had recently taken over the license in place of Mr. *Purslow*, who had been given notice to leave by the owners of the house. He had applied to them for a temporary authority for Mr. *Bateman*, which they had granted. Mr. *Bateman* was now in the house, and he asked them for a further extension of that temporary authority in order that he could apply to them in March for a full transfer.

The extension was granted."

Walsall Observer 31/1/1914 - In Memoriam

"In Loving memory of Daisy, only daughter of *H. Bateman*, HAWTHORN TREE, Walsall Wood, who passed away January 28th, 1913, aged 18 years. Still fondly remembered."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

"At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....

Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....

On the ground of redundancy.....

HAWTHORN TREE, Walsall Wood."

1939 Register

High Street – HAWTHORN TREE INN

[1] *Benjamin S. Bailey*, date of birth 8/3/1877, publican, married;

[2] *Minnie Bailey*, dob 28/8/1913, shorthand typist, single;

[3] *Pheobe Carson*, dob 29/7/1859, unpaid domestic duties, widowed:

Len Jackson was married to Gladys.

Its name was changed to BRASS TACKS in April 1979.

Its name was changed to TIPPLERS in November 1982.

Its name was changed to DRUNKEN DUCK in April 1987.

[2017]

DUKE OF WELLINGTON

46, (12), Birmingham Street, (Birmingham Road), WALSALL

OWNERS

Henry Beech, victualler, Ablewell Street, Walsall

John Lord, Short Acre [1908], [1939]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 11th August 1939)

LICENSEES

John Longmore [1853] – [1861]
William Holmes [] – **1861**);
Henry Perkins (**1861** – [1867]
Mrs. Dinah Smallwood [1868] – [1870]
John Johnson [1869] – [1873];
Henry Stone [];
William Henry Anderson [];
Henry Scott [1881] – **1887**);
Benjamin Brittain (**1887** – **1888**);
Charles Taylor (**1888** – **1889**);
George Simpson (**1889**);
Hezekiah Wood (**1889** – **1892**);
Charles Taylor (**1892** – **1893**);
Harry Beech (**1893** – **1896**);
Harry Clenton (**1896** – **1909**);
Walter Gee (**1909** – **1911**);
Frederick John Bromwich (**1911** – **1912**); manager
Ernest Thomas (**1912** – **1914**);
Harry Grubb (**1914** – **1917**); manager
Florrie Grubb (**1917** – **1922**);
Henry Grubb (**1922** – **1927**);
Thomas McHugh (**1927** – **1938**);
Annie Minnie Marion McHugh (**1938** – **1940**);
George Hugh O'Neill (**1940** – **1945**);
Ernest Horsley (**1945** – **1953**);
Joseph Brazier (**1953** – **1956**);
William Anson Griffiths (**1956** – **1957**);
Alec Henry Snow (**1957** – **1959**);
Mary Hodgkiss (**1959** – [1966]
Gordon Boyes [1994]

NOTES

12, Birmingham Street [1858], [1860], [1861], [1862], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1891], [1892]
Birmingham Road [1890]
46, Birmingham Street [1896], [1901], [1903], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932], [1940]

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/9/1853

“At the adjourned annual licensing meeting on Wednesday last., eight of the sixteen persons who applied for victuallers’ licenses on the Wednesday previously renewed their applications, and with success.....

John Longmore, Birmingham Street.”

Walsall Free Press 23/8/1857

“Several persons holding spirit licenses were cautioned, and one certificate suspended pro tem, that of Mr. *J. Longmore*, DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, Birmingham Street.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/3/1860

“A melancholy case of self-destruction occurred at Walsall, on Tuesday evening. The deceased was Mr. Charles *Longmore*, formerly clerk to the parish of Walsall. He had for some time been in a desponding state of mind, and on Monday he left home on a visit to his brother, Mr. *John Longmore*, of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, Birmingham Street. On Tuesday he was suddenly missed, and, after an anxious search, he was found hanging to a beam in a workshop over a brewhouse attached to the above inn. He was instantly cut down, and medical assistance was procured but life was extinct. It transpired in the course of the Coroner’s inquiry, on Monday, that the mind of the deceased had been for some time disturbed, and that, though before this he and his wife had lived on the most affectionate terms, yet that afterwards he became so violently excited when he saw her, and she kept out of his way, and would not be left alone with him. He had suffered from delirium tremens about twelve months ago, which corresponded with the time when the symptoms of insanity first commenced. On Monday night his conduct was very strange, but his brother watched him carefully, and eventually it seemed as if he had become tolerably composed. On Tuesday Mr. *John Longmore* and his wife took great care of deceased, but he had to go out on business in the afternoon, and during that time deceased was missed out of the kitchen, and though search was immediately made, he was not found for about half an hour afterwards, when his body was discovered as above described. The Jury found a verdict of Suicide in a State of Insanity.”

John Longmore was also a stone mason. [1861]

London Gazette 12/3/1861

“Whereas a Petition of *John Longmore*, now and for ten years and six months last past of Birmingham-street, Walsall, Staffordshire, Licensed Victualler and Stone Mason, and previously thereto for upwards of six years of Church-street, Walsall aforesaid, Stone Mason, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *John Longmore*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *John Longmore* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 28th day of March instant, at ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *John Longmore*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/4/1861

“Walsall. At this Court on Thursday, before A. M. Skinner, Esq, QC, the following insolvents were heard on their petitions. *John Longmore*, of Birmingham-street, Walsall, publican, first hearing supported by Mr. Sheldon, opposed by Mr. Warmington, of Dudley; passed.....”

1861 Census

12, Birmingham Street

[1] *John Longmore* (55), stone mason employing 3 men, born Walsall;

[2] Ann Longmore (53), wife, born Wednesfield;

[3] Fanny Longmore (15), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 4/1/1862

“Guildhall Police Court. Monday. The license of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON was transferred from *William Holmes* to *Henry Perkins*. The transferee had a very good character from the police.”

Walsall Free Press 3/10/1863

“On Tuesday last, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, held an inquest, at the DUKE OF WELLINGTON public house, upon the body of Joseph Harrison, aged nine years, son of John Harrison, brass caster, Birmingham Street, who was found dead in bed, about a quarter to twelve o'clock, on Saturday night. About five o'clock, the deceased, who had been at work for Mr. Deykin, Field Gate, complained of headache and sickness. About eight o'clock, he went to bed, and, at a quarter to twelve, his brother went into the bedroom, and called to his mother that deceased had been sick. The mother went into the room and found that her son was quite dead. Mr. D. S. Moore, who had made a post mortem examination of the body, said he found the stomach gorged with meat, and in the wind-pipe were large pieces of beef. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict in accordance with the above facts.

It is rather singular that the last inquest held at the DUKE OF WELLINGTON public house was upon the body of another child of Mr. Harrison's, who had been burned to death.”

Henry Perkins was also a plated harness furniture maker. [1864]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 23/4/1864

“T. Busst of Walsall will run T. Thacker of the same place 140 yards if Thacker will give him three yards start, for £5 a side; or E. Jeffries level 100 yards, for £5 a side. To run within a month from signing articles. Money ready any night next week at Mr. *H. Perkins*'s, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 7/10/1865

“Thomas Cook, landlord of the RED LION, Park Street; *Henry Perkins*, landlord of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street; and Mrs. Taylor, landlady of the SWAN AND PEAL, were charged with having had their houses open to entertain friends; each was cautioned and ordered to pay costs.

The Mayor intimated that in all cases where victuallers require to keep their houses open beyond the time fixed by law, they should apply to the bench in petty session for a special license.”

Walsall Free Press 16/12/1865 - Advert

“Notice. Now being Sold, good Home-Brewed Ale at 3d and 4d per quart, at the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, 12, Birmingham Street.”

London Gazette 17/7/1868

“*Henry Perkins*, of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, Birmingham-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Plater, adjudicated bankrupt on the 2nd day of March, 1867. A Dividend Meeting will be held on the 28th day of July instant, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/2/1869

“At the Public Office yesterday, before Messrs. J. Hildick (Mayor), J. Brewer, and H. Highway, the following publicans and beer-

house keepers were each fined 2s 6d and costs for having had their houses open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours.....
John Johnson, landlord of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON, public-house, Birmingham Street, who had his house open and four men drinking in it at twenty minutes past one o'clock on Saturday morning."

John Johnson was also a chaser. [1871]

1871 Census

12, Birmingham Street – DUKE OF WELLINGTON

- [1] *John Johnson* (45), chaser and publican, born Longton, Staffordshire;
- [2] Sarah Ann Johnson (32), wife, born Gnossall, Staffordshire;
- [3] Eliza Johnson (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Elizabeth Johnson (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Frederick Ross (58), wife's father, brush maker, born Barr, Staffordshire; [Great Barr?]
- [6] Louisa Tomkiss (24), visitor, born Gnossall, Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 2/12/1871

"On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Fletcher held an inquest at the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, upon the body of a child named Abigail Johnson, aged one month, whose parents reside in North Street; and who, about five o'clock on Tuesday morning, was found dead by his mother in bed. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

1881 Census

Birmingham Street – DUKE OF WELLINGTON

- [1] *Henry Scott* (37), licensed victualler, born Stourbridge;
- [2] Ellen Scott (36), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] H. Walter Scott (15), son, pattern maker (unemployed), born Stourbridge;
- [4] C. F. Scott (14), son, pattern maker (unemployed), born Stourbridge;
- [5] G. H. Scott (8), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [6] Clara Scott (6), daughter, scholar, born Lye;
- [7] Albert Edward Scott (3), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Ellen Scott (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] Elizabeth Poole (20), general servant, born Stourbridge:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

"At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses The following applied in person *Geo. Simpson*, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Road. Refused."

1891 Census

12, Birmingham Street – DUKE OF WELLINGTON

- [1] *Hezekiah Wood* (25), manager public house, born Wednesbury;
- [2] Matilda Wood (24), wife, born Darlaston:

Birmingham Daily Post 7/7/1891

"Yesterday, at the Guildhall, *Hezekiah Wood*, the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, Birmingham Street, was summoned for selling intoxicating liquors to a drunken person. Mr. F. Bill appeared for the defence.

Police-sergeant Marshall and Police-constable Nicholls proved having been called in to eject a man named Stackhouse, who was drunk and disorderly, and whilst in the house defendant told them that he had supplied a pint of ale to Stackhouse. The defence was that the man was ill, not drunk.

The accused was ordered to pay the costs."

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/10/1892

"George Hill, caster, Windmill Street, appeared by adjournment from a previous court, charged with doing grievous bodily harm to *Hezekiah Wood*, landlord of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, Birmingham Street. Mr. F. Bill appeared in support of the charge and Mr. H. H. Jackson for the defence.

The evidence showed that whilst the complainant was putting out of his house a man who had entered in a drunken condition, the defendant went to him, seized him by the collar, and, putting his knees in the complainant's back, threw him down, dislocating his foot, and the dislocation causing a fracture of the small bone. The complainant came into court on crutches, and it was stated that he had been in bed three weeks and would not be able to walk properly under another month. Mr. Jackson for the defence, said the defendant had no malicious intent, but hearing one of his companions call out that Mr. Wood was strangling the man, he got up and pulled him away, but he did not put his knees into his back. The complainant slipped on the floor and so caused the injury. If the magistrates decided to commit, however, he would not call witnesses till the trial.

The accused was committed for trial, but was admitted to bail, himself in £20 and one surety in a like amount."

AND

"A true bill was found against George Hill, caster, on bail, for unlawfully and maliciously inflicting grievous bodily harm on *Heze-*

kiah Wood, landlord of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street, under the circumstances reported in another column under the head of Monday's Police. The case was adjourned to the next sessions, however, the prosecutor having been taken with fits during the night and being unable to attend."

Birmingham Daily Post 27/1/1893

"George Hill (on bail) was charged with inflicting grievous bodily harm upon *Hezekiah Wood*, landlord of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, Birmingham Street. Mr Vachell (instructed by Mr. F. Bill) prosecuted. The case had stood over from the previous sessions. The evidence for the complainant was that as he was turning a drunken man out of his house the accused put his knee in his back and threw him down, causing a fracture of the leg. On the other hand it was declared that the prisoner merely went to the rescue of a man whom the prisoner [sic] had got across a table and was practically strangling. The accused was found guilty of a common assault and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, with hard labour. Subsequently the learned Deputy Recorder called the prisoner back and reduced the sentence to four months' imprisonment, stating that he did so on the intercession of the prosecution, who did not wish to be vindictive."

Walsall Advertiser 7/1/1899

"An inquest was held on Tuesday afternoon by Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) touching the death of James Broadhurst, who lived at Ford's Lodging House, Bott Lane, who died suddenly on Saturday at the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, Birmingham Street.

William Broadhurst, iron-caster, Bott Lane, brother of deceased said that he was with deceased in the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN on Saturday, in company with several others. After they had been in about three minutes deceased complained of very bad pains in the stomach. They took deceased outside. Witness then went for a doctor.

Henry Clenton, landlord of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, said that he helped to take deceased into the yard. There some ale was called for, but deceased scarcely touched it. Deceased died shortly after the arrival of the doctor.

Sergeant Pritchard said that he had made enquires respecting the death of deceased. He saw a man named Thomas Ford, who spoke to having breakfast with deceased on Saturday morning. They had a tin of salmon between them, and Ford said it made him sick, but he could not say whether it affected Broadhurst or not. Ford was not at present in the town, having gone to work in Yorkshire. He (witness) knew that deceased was an habitual drunkard.

Dr. Phillips said that he was called to attend deceased on Saturday. He found him sitting on a chair in the back yard. He looked very ill, and complained of his head. His hands were quite cold, and was apparently in a dying condition. He gave instructions for him to be laid down somewhere and kept warm. In a few minutes afterwards he passed the house again, and was told that he was dead. There was nothing he could form an opinion as to the cause of death. At the coroner's request he made a post-mortem examination of the body and found the heart and lungs healthy, both kidneys being enlarged, but they did not show evidence of heavy drinking. The brain itself was healthy, but there were traces of old-standing inflammation in the covering, especially on the side corresponding to an old scar on the top of the head. On opening the stomach he found it contained about half-a-pint of clear liquid smelling strongly, but there was no food in the stomach. The lining of the stomach was acutely inflamed over the whole extent of its surface. The inflammation extended over quite 12 inches along the intestine which joins the stomach. The symptoms pointed to acute irritant poisoning. There was a great deal of inflammation all round the outside of the stomach was well. The symptoms might be caused by a very decomposed substance, such as tinned salmon, and the symptoms observed during life also confirmed that opinion. The man was in a state of profound collapse when he (witness) saw him. He could find no other cause of death. He thought the reason why this man was affected and not the other was because deceased was a heavy drinker, and there was also so very little traces of food in the stomach. Deceased had evidently only had very little food for some time past, and that would dispose him. It was very clear indeed that from the extraordinary amount of inflammation that it was exceedingly irritant to deceased on an empty stomach.

A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned of Death due to Irritant Poisoning."

1901 Census

46, Birmingham Street

- [1] *Harry Clenton* (46), public house manager, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Clenton (47), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] George H. Clenton (20), son, bricklayer, born Walsall;
- [4] Edward Clenton (18), son, manufacturer's carter, born Walsall;
- [5] Eliza Clenton (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Jane Clenton (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Harry Clenton (9), son, born Walsall;
- [8] Samuel Clenton (6), son, born Walsall;
- [9] Rose Clenton (3), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

The OLD 'DOOK.' The DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street was also on the list. *Harry Clenton*, the manager, said all the rooms downstairs were used for the purpose of drinking. They had a kitchen upstairs, with 'a cooking range and everything

free of fear; but there is only one thing in it; one has to be upstairs and one down' (loud laughter). Asked what he meant by this, he said, 'the wife has to go upstairs to have her dinner whilst I mind the house, and she has to mind the house whilst I have mine' (laughter). Adjourned, the magistrates laying an objection to the renewal."

1911 Census

46, Birmingham Street

- [1] *Walter Gee* (32), brown saddler and licensed victualler and manager public house, born Walsall;
- [2] *Esther Jane Gee* (32), wife, married 9 years, assisting in the business, born Walsall;
- [3] *Dorothy Willis Gee* (7), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [4] *Winnifred Gee* (6), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [5] *Daisy Elks* (18), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Frederick Bromwich = Frederick Bramwich

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

"The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

An application was made by Mr. Frank Cooper, in respect of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street, to divert a right-of-way, erect a kitchen and other domestic offices, and enclose a yard. He stated that the object of the plan was simply to enable the licensed premises to be enclosed and self-contained. The alterations would be of such great benefit to the supervision of the house that he felt that it was almost unnecessary to say anything with regard to it. The premises had for some years had running through them a right-of-way to some adjoining cottages, and the present suggested alterations were only possible after very protracted negotiations with the owner of those cottages. Now that the owner of the licensed house was in the position to make his premises self-contained, he asked the Bench, for the benefit of the supervision of the house, and the benefit of the police to allow the alterations to be carried out. The only argument he could see against the application was that it might improve the value of the house, in case of compensation; but he did not think there was the slightest likelihood of the license being taken away, and even if they did, he suggested that the alterations which it was proposed to make would so much improve the unlicensed value of the premises that the necessary compensation would be less.

This application was refused."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street. £0 6s 6d."

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

"Another 'opposed' house was the DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street, owned by John Lord, of Short Acre, on whose behalf Mr. Cooper (applying for renewal) stated that in spite of slum clearance the house was still doing a substantial trade. Now that the district had 'settled down,' the trade had definitely increased. The DUKE OF WELLINGTON was the only house left in this particular area and in the last ten years over £1,000 had been spent on the interior of the premises. At the moment the exterior walls were in a bad condition because of demolition of the adjacent property, but plans for alterations had been submitted before it was known that it was to be objected to. On six occasions the owner, a small brewer, had asked for the removal of licenses to other sites he had purchased and each application had been refused.

Reminding the justices of other license that had been taken from the area, Mr. Cooper enumerated the LEATHERN BOTTLE, BLACK BOY, PAUL PRY, STORES (corner of New Street), DUKE OF YORK, BLUE PIG, JOLLY BACCHUS, COACH AND HORSES and BARLEY MOW.

'The DUKE OF WELLINGTON,' he remarked, 'is left as the last of the Mohicans!'

The magistrates renewed the license, subject to plans."

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

"More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company's acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

John Lord's houses.....

DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street."

1939 Register

Birmingham Street – DUKE OF WELLINGTON

- [1] *Annie M. (McHugh) Porter*, date of birth 21/3/1896, licensed victualler, widowed;
- [2] *Thomas H. McHugh*, dob 24/9/1919, insurance managing clerk, single;
- [3] *William H. McHugh*, dob 12/4/1922, metal polisher, clerk, single;
- [4] *Consia Hammonds*, dob 17/4/1920, domestic servant, single;
- [5] *Frederick T. Porter*, dob 30/10/1906, reinforced concrete leveller, single:

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.
Mr. *O’Neil*, DUKE OF WELLINGTON. £0 10s 2d.”

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle’s references in last week’s Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remembers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKESPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.

DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street. £0 3s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 7/7/1945

“The Pleck and District Darts league is headed by the FORGE INN ‘A’ who have won all their seven matches. The next three positions are filled by the NEWPORT ARMS, HOPE AND ANCHOR ‘A’ and ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, with 12 points each, then come the DUKE OF WELLINGTON and ROYAL OAK, Pleck. Highest score and highest finish, 146, J. Bullock, HOPE AND ANCHOR ‘B’; highest start, 140, S. Hogan, WINDMILL TAVERN.”

Joseph Brazier – see also ANCHOR.

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn Quiz competition. [1973/74], [1974/5]

[1996]

Closed [2006], [2009]

It was converted into housing. [2012]

DUKE OF YORK

Blue Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Bradbury [1841] – [1842]

William H Perrins [1845] – [1850]

NOTES

William Perrins was also a painter and glazier. [1845]

DUKE OF YORK

31, Dudley Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Alfred Spiers, George Street, Walsall

Thomas Whittaker

Susannah Whittaker, Dudley Street, Walsall
Stephen Dawson, Butt Lane (acquired in 1911)

LICENSEES

Robert Whittaker [] – **1831**);
Mrs. Mary Whittaker [1834] – [1854]
William Arrowsmith [1860] – [1865]
Edward Roberts [1872] – [1880];
Thomas Whittaker [1869] – [1881];
James Whittaker [1882]
Mrs. Fanny Whittaker [] – **1887**);
Miss Mary Ann Whittaker (**1887 – 1895**);
Thomas Whittaker (**1895 – 1913**);
Alfred Williams (**1913**);
Benjamin Baggott (**1913 – 1924**);
Ernest William Price (**1924 – 1929**);
Daniel Mahoney (**1929 – 1930**);
Robert Baden Walker (**1930 – 1937**):

NOTES

31, Dudley Street [1862], [1871], [1880], [1881], [1891]
30+31, Dudley Street [1911]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/12/1831 - Deaths

“On the 1st instant, Mr. *Robert Whittaker*, of the DUKE OF YORK public-house, Dudley Street. Walsall.”

1841 Census

Dudley Street

- [1] *Mary Whittaker* (60), victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] James Whittaker (20), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Lazarus Marsden (25):

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 16/3/1845

“Fraser Brown and George Giles. The fifth deposit of £3 a side for this affair was made all right on Tuesday evening last, at Mr. Deebank’s, Kings Head, London Prentice Street. The sixth and last of £4 a side is to be made on Monday evening, the 24th inst, at Mr. *Whittaker*’s, DUKE OF YORK, Dudley Street, Walsall.”

1851 Census

Dudley Street

- [1] *Mary Whittaker* (70), widow, victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Hart (20), house servant, born Galway, Ireland;
- [3] John Bunn (48), lodger, tailor, born London:

1861 Census

31, Dudley Street

- [1] *William Arrowsmith* (55), file cutter, born Walsall;
- [2] Harriet Arrowsmith (54), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Thomas Arrowsmith (18), son, file cutter, born Walsall;
- [4] James Arrowsmith (13), son, born Walsall;
- [5] William Arrowsmith (6), grandson, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 16/11/1861

“*William Arrowsmith* summoned a lad named John Hymes for splattering his sign-board with mud. The defendant did not appear. The serving of the summons having been deposed to, complainant (who keeps the DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street) said that on Friday the defendant threw clay at his sign-board, and defaced it. He complained to the boy’s mother about it, but as she gave him no satisfaction, but, on the contrary, abused and blackguarded him, he had taken out the present summons. William Bullock deposed that between four and five o’clock on the Friday afternoon he saw the defendant throwing wet clay at complainant’s sign-board. The clay stuck to the board every time it touched it. Fined 2s 6d and costs or fourteen days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 16/8/1862

“On Tuesday last William Arrowsmith, aged seven years, died at the residence of his grandfather, *William Arrowsmith*, landlord of the DUKE OF YORK public house, under the following circumstances. The child, whose mother died when he was very young, had been brought up by his grandfather, had on Sunday, the 3rd instant, in company with some other children, kindled a fire in an old uninhabited house, when by some means or other, the deceased’s clothes came in contact with the fire, and before they could be extinguished the unfortunate child was so severely injured that, notwithstanding medical aid was called in promptly, he, after lingering in great agony, expired at ten minutes past one on Tuesday night.”

William Arrowsmith was also a file maker. [1864], [1865]

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/1/1867 - Deaths

“On the 13th instant, after a short illness, *Mary Whittaker*, late of the DUKE OF YORK, Dudley Street, Walsall, aged 87.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/5/1869

“Edward Millett, for having, in a state of intoxication, broken the panels of a door in the house of Mr. *Thomas Whittaker*, landlord of the DUKE OF YORK public house, Dudley Street, was sentenced to pay a fine of 10s and costs, in addition to the damage, 10s.”

1871 Census

31, Dudley Street

- [1] *Thomas Whittaker* (32), iron founder, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Fanny Whittaker* (30), wife, stitcher, born Walsall;
- [3] Henry Whittaker (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Thomas Whittaker (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Richard Whittaker (10 months), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary Ann Whittaker (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Midland Counties Evening Express 9/4/1875

“*Edward Roberts*, landlord of the DUKE OF YORK public house, Dudley Street, was summoned for having, on Tuesday night last, had his house open during prohibited hours. Police-constable Hickman said that at half past eleven on Tuesday night he saw a woman named Potts going into the DUKE OF YORK with a can, and heard her ask for half a gallon of ale, which was supplied to her. On the woman, Potts, being called, she gave an emphatic denial of the above statement, swearing that she was not in the house at the time in question, but that the constable seized her as she went along the street, that she then asked him to go with her to her own house, and that he did so, and putting down her name in a book, told her that she should hear from him again. He did not say anything to her about beer. The Bench dismissed the case.”

Edward Roberts was fined 10s and costs, on 4th May 1877, for Sunday trading.

1881 Census

31, Dudley Street

- [1] *Thomas Whittaker* (42), iron caster, born Walsall;
- [2] *Fanny Whittaker* (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Henry Whittaker (19), son, iron caster, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary A. Whittaker (17), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Thomas Whittaker (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Richard Whittaker (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] William Whittaker (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Emma B. Whittaker (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/11/1882

“At the Guildhall yesterday.....

James Whittaker, the DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street, was fined 5s and costs for having his house open at twenty minutes to nine o’clock on Sunday morning.”

1891 Census

31, Dudley Street – Public House – DUKE OF YORK

- [1] *Mary A. Whittaker* (27), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Thomas Whittaker* (22), brother, brass caster, born Walsall;
- [3] Richard Whittaker (20), brother, presser, born Walsall;
- [4] William Whittaker (16), brother, tailor, born Walsall;
- [5] Emma Whittaker (14), sister, scholar, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/11/1882

“*James Whittaker*, the DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street, was fined 5s and costs for having had his house open at twenty

minutes to nine o'clock on Sunday morning."

Walsall Advertiser 19/5/1894 - Advert

"To Be Sold By Auction.

By Messrs. Watkins, Powell, & Wood (by order of the executors of Henry Whittaker deceased), on Tuesday Next, May 22nd, in the Property Saleroom at their Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall, at Seven o'clock in the evening precisely (subject to conditions incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society).

Lot 1. The free Old-Licensed Public-House, known as the DUKE OF YORK, situate in Dudley Street, Walsall, in the occupation of *Mary Ann Whittaker*.

The house, which is double-fronted, contains Bar, Clubroom, Kitchen, Brewhouse, Scullery, three Cellars, and three Bedrooms, and has a good trade.

Together with the Three Freehold Dwelling-House adjoining, and being Nos.28, 29, and 30, in Dudley Street, Walsall, occupied by Messrs. Warley, Cosgrove, and Scoltock, at weekly rentals producing £29 12 per annum.

There is a large Yard common to the property, and the South Staffordshire water is laid on....."

Walsall Advertiser 12/9/1896

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *Thomas Whittaker* DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street, Walsall, was elected a member of the society."

Walsall Advertiser 10/10/1896

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held at the house of Mr. William Brown, BLUE PIG INN, New Street, Walsall.....

Mr. *Thomas Whittaker*, DUKE OF YORK, Dudley Street, were elected members of the Executive Committee."

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1899

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday evening at the DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street.....

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

"An interesting supper and smoking concert was held at the DUKE OF YORK on Thursday evening, the 28th ult, the repast being served in Mr. and Mrs. *Whittaker*'s well-known style. The gathering was for the purpose of giving a cordial send off to Gunner Reynolds, who has been called up to rejoin the colours. Reynolds only returned from the Transvaal last June....."

1901 Census

Dudley Street – DUKE OF YORK

[1] *Thomas Whittaker* (32), widower, publican, born Walsall;

[2] Rose Green (18), niece, born Walsall;

[3] Lily Green (16), niece, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 1/6/1901 - In Memoriam

"In loving memory of my dear wife Caroline (Carrie) *Whittaker*, DUKE OF YORK, Dudley Street, who died May 28th, 1900.

Rest, rest in peace, thy toils are o'er.

Sorrow shall sting and sickness waste no more.

Hard, hard the task from such one to part.

Whilst fond remembering clings around my heart."

Thomas Whittaker was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903

"Air-Gun Shooting.

DUKE OF YORK Rifle Club v BAKER'S INN Rifle Club.

The above clubs met of Saturday last on the DUKE OF YORK range, Dudley Street....."

[The DUKE OF YORK won 387 to 320.]

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

"Walsall Air-Gun League.

The first annual meeting of the above was held at the CRITERION, Stafford Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smallwood presided, and there was also present Messrs. Hicken (EAGLE), G. Smith (OLD KINGS ARMS), Powell (TANNERS ARMS), E. James (PLUMBERS ARMS), McDonald (CRITERION), Cliffe (GOLDEN EAGLE), Hunt, E. Towe (treasurer), and Mason (secretary).....

The undermentioned clubs with power to add to their number, were elected to the League for the forthcoming season: The WHITE HART (Walhouse Street), TANNERS ARMS, OLD KINGS ARMS, EAGLE, PLUMBERS ARMS, CRITERION, GOLDEN EAGLE, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, OAK, and DUKE OF YORK.

There was no other business of public interest.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1907

“The annual picnic to the friends and customers of the DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street, took place this week. The party proceeded by train to Kidderminster, and thence by tram to Stourport, where dinner and tea were partaken of at the Swan Hotel. During the afternoon they went for a sail up the river Severn to Holt Fleet, the lovely scenery appealing strongly to the visitors, especially the hop gardens and orchards. On the return journey a stay was made at Kidderminster and Walsall was reached about 10 o'clock, bringing to a close an enjoyable day.”

1911 Census

30+31, Dudley Street

- [1] *Thomas Whittaker* (42), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Lillian Green (26), stepdaughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [3] Francis Lillian Westley (23), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 8/7/1911

“Sarah Plant (34), charwoman, New Street, was originally charged with throwing a lighted lamp at Harry Brown, on Saturday night, but the charge was reduced to one of common assault.

Harry Brown stated that he was a brewer employed at the DUKE OF YORK, Dudley Street, and he had lived with the prisoner some time. On Saturday night he was in the house alone when prisoner came in drunk and started quarrelling. He tried to put her out and she first struck him with a knife on the fingers and then picked up the lighted lamp off the table and threw it at him. It struck him on the side of the eye and then fell on the ground where it went out.

Prisoner alleged in cross-examination that prosecutor had all her money from her and then beat her black and blue.

Brown said if she was bruised at all it must have been with bumping against the door when he put her out.

William Andrews, rag and bone gatherer, New Street, said he heard a smash at Brown's on Saturday night and on going outside he saw prisoner throw the lamp at Brown.

Police-constable Doyle said he was called to the house and he found the woman drunk, lying on the ground outside. He took her inside and Brown then complained that she had thrown the lamp at him. He found pieces of glass and parts of the lamp on the kitchen floor. Brown had cuts on the eye and the bridge of the nose.

Prisoner had some blood on her face, apparently from some injury she had received.

Prisoner denied the offence and said the lamp was knocked over during a struggle. She also stated that Brown assaulted her.

Mrs. Haycock, female searcher, said prisoner's face was covered in blood and she was badly bruised about the body.

Prisoner was discharged with a caution as to her future conduct.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/8/1913 - Notice

“Re *Thomas Whittaker*, Deceased.

All Person having any Debts or Claims against the estate of *Thomas Whittaker*, late of the DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street, Walsall (licensed victualler), who died on the 15th day of August, 1913, are requested to send particulars in writing of the same to the undersigned at once.

Dated this 22nd day of August, 1913.

Stanley & Jackson, Solicitors for the Executors, 35, Bridge Street. Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/8/1913 - Advert

“Important Sale by Auction of a Freehold Fully-Licensed Home-Brewing House at Walsall.

Fox and Harrison, (Mr. Matt F. Harrison F.A.I.) having been favoured with instructions from the Executors under the Will of Mr. *Thomas Whittaker*, will offer for Sale by Public Auction at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 16th day of September, 1913, at Seven o'clock in the evening (subject to conditions incorporating the Common Form of Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society).

The Old Established Freehold Full-Licensed House, known as the DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street, Walsall, with Modern Brewing Premises, and the adjoining Freehold Cottage in the occupation of the deceased's representatives.

The Premises are well arranged for carrying on a large business, and are in good repair.

The inn is one of the Oldest and best in the Borough being a Noted Home Brewing House.

Possession will be given on completion (or earlier if desired).

For further particulars and cards to view apply to the Auctioneers (Messrs. Fox and Harrison, F.A.I.) 51, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall; or to Messrs. Stanley and Jackson, Solicitors, 35, Bridge Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/11/1913

“The sixty-first annual general meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday of last week.....

New Members: Mr. *Benjamin Baggott*, DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street.”

Walsall Observer 5/9/1914 - Advert

“To Let, good Shopping, back 314 Green Lane, suitable for leather trades.

Apply, *B. Baggott*, DUKE OF YORK, Dudley Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
DUKE OF YORK, Dudley Street. £1 7s 4½d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/8/1928

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 9th inst, at the house of Mr. *Samuel Birch*, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention.....
Ernest William Price, DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street, elected member of the society.”

Ernest William Price – see also FOUR WAYS.

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/8/1937

“At Walsall Licensing Transfer Sessions on Tuesday, the Justices granted the special removal of the license of the DUKE OF YORK, Dudley Street, to premises erected at the junction of Kinnerly Street and Lumley Road. It was stated that the DUKE OF YORK premises were included in a highway improvement to be carried out by the Corporation, and that the Corporation proposed to demolish them and acquire the site.

In granting the application, the Chairman (Alderman W. Millerchip) congratulated all who had been concerned in the erection of the new premises. He said the Justices had been trying for many years to get improvements in the licensed premises in the borough and they had succeeded to a large extent, particularly with regard to living accommodation for licensees, who they considered should have the greatest convenience and comfort.”

It closed at 2pm on 10th August 1937.

The license was transferred to DUKE OF YORK, Lumley Street.

It was demolished.

Walsall Observer 21/11/1942

“After nine months’ suspense good news reached two Walsall homes on Wednesday that soldiers, posted missing in the Far East since the middle of February, are prisoners in the hands of the Japanese at Chosen, in Korea. Both are time-serving men of the Loyal Regiment – Private Walter Arthur Shutt, whose parents live at 392, Bloxwich Road, Walsall, and Private Joseph Pritchard, whose mother and step-father, Mr. and Mrs. S. Cain, of 32, Oxford Street, Pleck. Mrs. Cain will be better known to many people as the last tenant, when she was Mrs. *Walker*, of the old DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street.....”

DUKE OF YORK

27, Lumley Road / Kinnerley Street, The Chuckery, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Lord

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 11th August 1939)

Punch Taverns

LICENSEES

Walter Thomas Heeley (1937 – 1948);

Edward Henry Sollory (1948 – 1950);

James Henry Allbutt (1950 – 1962);

James Baughan (1962 – 1965);

Paul Bevan Walton (1965 – 1966);

Frederick John Bell (1966 – 1967);

Charles Leslie Pallett (1967);

Stasys Markevicius (1967 – []

Verinder Singh [2021]

NOTES

It opened at 6pm on 10th August 1937.

The license was transferred from DUKE OF YORK, Dudley Street.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

John Lord’s houses.....

DUKE OF YORK, Lumley Road.”

1939 Register

27, Lumley Road

[1] *Walter T. Heeley*, date of birth 7/11/1905, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Muriel Heeley, dob 15/11/1905, housewife, married;

[3] Louise N. Blakeley, dob 16/9/1907, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DUKE OF YORK, Lumley Road. £4 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DUKE OF YORK, Lumley Road. £1 0s 9d.”

Paul Bevan Walton – see also CROWN AND ANCHOR.

Stasys Markevicius – see also SEVEN STARS.

Express & Star 15/1/2021

“A Black Country pub could have its licence reviewed after allegedly hosting a gathering during the latest coronavirus lockdown. Walsall Council has launched an inquiry into the DUKE OF YORK in Lumley Road, Chuckery, after police handed out £3,000 worth of fines to seven people found inside the venue on Monday. People inside the pub told officers they were all family and part of the same bubble, but this explanation was not accepted by the police.

A spokeswoman for West Midlands Police confirmed two people were given £1,000 fixed penalty notices each while a further five were hit with £200 fines apiece – all for a breach of coronavirus rules. After being given evidence from the police, Walsall Council regulatory services officers put a prohibition notice on licence holder *Verinder Singh*, under the Covid regulations brought in last year. This specifically prevents the DUKE OF YORK from opening for the sale and consumption of food and drink inside the premises. A breach of this could result in legal proceedings being launched.

A Walsall Council spokeswoman said a full investigation is underway and discussions will be held with police on how the case will be progressed. A review of the licence hasn’t been ruled out. While she said the authority was unable to comment further, due to the investigation, Councillor Garry Perry, deputy leader for resilient communities, warned they will take action on anyone breaking the law. He said, ‘It is distressing that despite the huge rise in Covid infections locally, regionally and nationally and the resulting deaths sadly caused by this relentless virus, that a few business owners and residents still feel it is acceptable to break the legislation. The council, in partnership with the police are working hard to ensure that intelligence is shared, allowing appropriate joint enforcement to be carried out. This action is deemed necessary to protect the rest of the borough and public in general. Most businesses are compliant with the regulations and should be applauded and protected from those businesses who seek to gain advantage over them by acting in a criminal manner, endangering the health and safety of our residents. For those businesses that aren’t compliant, the council will of course refer to licensing committee for review. This is especially important given the massive challenges we are facing on a daily basis in fighting the Covid-19 pandemic and where not following the regulations can mean the difference between life and death.’

The *Express & Star* has been unable to reach the pub for comment.”

[2021]

DUN COW

(2+3), 2, (5), (4), Wolverhampton Street, (5, Wolverhampton Road), (Wolverhampton Lane), (Park Street), Town End Bank, WALSALL

OWNERS

Miss Mary Smith and the Devises of late Samuel Smith
William Butler and Co. [1897]
J. P. Smith, solicitor
Maria Cartwright
Andrew Holmes
John Shaw Shaw
William Butler and Co. (leased from 27th January 1940)

LICENSEES

Thomas Smith Jnr. [1839] – [1858]
William Lunn [1861] – [1862]
William Young [] – **1864**;
William Horobin (**1864** – [1866]
John Perry [1868] – [1870]
Henry Woolley [1868] – **1869**;
Thomas Francis Laffey (**1869** – []
Henry Minor [1871]
Henry Mills [1871]
Thomas Reynolds [1872] – [1873]
Enoch Ball [1872] – [1876];
Fidoe [1876] – [1880] manager
Alfred Beebee [1881];
Emma Agnes Ankrett [];
Henry Marlow [];
John Shaw Shaw [];
Thomas Darby [];
Mrs. Emma Darby [] – **1890**;
John Shaw Shaw (**1890** – **1891**);
Edward Egan (**1891** – **1905**);
Joseph Thomas Chadd (**1905** – **1912**);
E Egan [1911] ?
Charles William Garfield (**1912** – **1915**);
Mrs. Ann Garfield (**1915** – **1918**);
Robert Alfred Collins (**1918** – **1924**);
Arthur James Pickering (**1924** – **1925**);
Joseph Starkey Knowles (**1925** – **1927**);
Harry Male (**1927** – **1944**);
Harry Lowe (**1944** – **1952**);
John Thomas Westwood (**1952** – **1954**);
Charles Allen (**1954** – **1956**);
Maurice William Troman (**1956**);
Arthur Harold Smith (**1956** – **1960**);
Owen Alban Tombs (**1960** – **1961**):

NOTES

Park Street [1845], [1849], [1851], [1940]
5, Wolverhampton Street [1858], [1868], [1870], [1872], [1873]
5, Wolverhampton Road [1861]
4, Wolverhampton Street [1862]
Wolverhampton Lane [1853], [1871], [1876]
Wolverhampton Street [1871], [1872], [1900], [1939]
2, Wolverhampton Street [1901], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1916], [1932], [1940]
2+3, Wolverhampton Street [1939]

DUNN COW [1853], [1881], [1911]
DUN COW HOTEL [1895], [1897], [1900], [1901], [1904], [1906], [1924], [1927]
DUNCOW HOTEL [1939]

Thomas Smith Jnr. was also a hackney bit and spring saddle bar maker. [1845]
He was described as being also a bridle, bit and spring bar maker. [1849], [1850]

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/8/1853

“On Saturday last, Gilbert Wright, a blacksmith, and John M’Cormick were drinking together at the DUNN COW, Walsall, when M’Cormick refusing to pay his share of the ‘reckoning,’ Wright attempted to prevent him from leaving the house, upon which M’Cormick drew a razor and cut his companion with it upon the cheek and hand. The offender was taken before the magistrates on Monday, and committed for trial at the borough sessions.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/10/1853

“The Quarter Sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday last, before Mr. Sergeant Clarke, recorder. The Recorder, in his charge to the grand jury, referred briefly to the case of John M’Cormick, who was charged with a misdemeanour in maliciously cutting and wounding with a razor one Gilbert Wright, which was of the class of cases formerly restricted to courts of assize, but was now made a misdemeanour.....

John M’Cormick was arraigned on a charge of cutting and wounding Gilbert Wright, with a razor, on the 13th of August. It appeared that on the day in question both parties were drinking in the DUNN COW, Wolverhampton Lane, and during a quarrel prisoner struck at the prosecutor with a razor. It was contended for the defence that the razor was closed in the prisoner’s hand when he struck at the prosecutor, but that by accident it opened. The jury acquitted the prisoner.”

London Gazette 31/3/1857

“In the Matter of the Petition of *Thomas Smith*, now and for upwards of thirty years last past residing at the house known by the sign of the DUN COW, in Park-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Retail Brewer, and during the whole of the said period also carrying on business there as Bridle Bit Maker, an Insolvent Debtor.

Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 16th day of April next, at ten o’clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.”

1861 Census

5, Wolverhampton Road – DUN COW INN

[1] *William Lunn* (40), victualler and chain maker, born Walsall;

[2] *Elizabeth Lunn* (34), wife, born Hinckley, Leicestershire;

[3] *John Lunn* (13), son, chain maker, born Walsall;

[4] *Mary A. Lunn* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *William Lunn* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] *Elizabeth Lunn* (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 26/11/1864 - Advert

“To Be Let, with immediate possession, an Old-licensed Public-house, situated near the Market Place, doing a good trade, the present proprietor leaving through other engagements; rent and coming-in moderate.

Apply, *W. Horobin*, Auctioneer and Valuer, DUN COW INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/2/1866 - Advert

“To Be Let, with immediate possession if required, an old licensed Public House, with about two acres of Land, pleasantly situated, and near extensive coal works. Other engagements the sole cause of leaving.

Apply to *W. Horobin*, Auctioneer and Valuer, DUN COW INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/12/1868

“Walsall Bankrupts.....

In the matter of *Henry Woolley*, licensed victualler and chain maker, Walsall, Mr. Dale, on behalf of the official assignee, applied for an order for the sale of certain goods in the order and disposition of the bankrupt at the time he filed his petition. The application was acceded to.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/2/1869

“At the Public Office yesterday, before Messrs. J. Hildick (Mayor), J. Brewer, and H. Highway, the following publicans and beer-house keepers were each fined 2s 6d and cost for having had their houses open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours.....

Thomas Laffey, landlord of the DUN COW public house, Wolverhampton Lane, who at three minutes past eleven, had his house open and five men in it – some of whom were being supplied with beer.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/3/1869

“At the Guildhall, Monday, the following transfers took place.....

The DUN COW, Wolverhampton Street, from the assignees of the estate of *Henry Woolley* to *Thomas Francis Laffey*.”

1871 Census

5, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Henry Minor* (24), publican, born Bitterswell, Leicestershire;
[2] *Julia Minor* (27), wife, born Elmore, Gloucestershire;
[3] *Agnes J. Minor* (3 months), daughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 14/7/1871

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, Patrick Nugent, an old offender, was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment, for stealing a jacket from the shop of Mary Glover, Rushall Street, and to a further period of one month for stealing a pepper-box, the property of *Henry Mills*, of the DUN COW INN, Wolverhampton Lane. His defence, as to the jacket, was that two other men stole it, and he was to pledge it to get money for drink for the three.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/7/1876

“*Enoch Ball* was summoned for having kept his house, the DUN COW INN, Wolverhampton Lane, Walsall, open at 10 o’clock on Sunday morning, when Police-constables Nicholls and Prosser saw a man leave the house with a can containing a quart of beer. The defence was that the manager of the house, Mr. *Fidoe*, had given the beer to the man for having helped him some days previously to put some barrels of beer into the cellar. The Bench convicted, but in consideration of the previous good character of the house, imposed a fine of only 10s and costs. Mr. Glover appeared for the defendant.

Dudley and District News 14/8/1880

“On Wednesday afternoon a man named William Burcott, aged 35, who had lived in the Dun Cow Yard, committed suicide by cutting his throat.

It appears that deceased was seen by a neighbour in the act, and her cries summoned Mr. *Fido*, the landlord of the DUN COW, who had a struggle with deceased, and was struck by him with the knife, but happily not wounded. Two other men also arrived, and afterwards PC Wilkes, and deceased was overpowered. Dr. Wood was sent for, but by the time he arrived deceased, whose head is almost severed from his body, was dead.”

1881 Census

5, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Alfred Beebee* (21), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
[2] *Maria Beebee* (20), wife, born Blakenall;
[3] *Sarah Emery* (19), domestic servant:

Lichfield Mercury 22/4/1881

“At Walsall Guildhall on Wednesday week Bridget Durkin (50) and Sarah Durkin (18), her daughter, both of Blue Lane, were fined 40s and costs each, with the alternative of one month’s imprisonment, with hard labour, the former for being drunk and guilty of indecency, at the DUN COW public house, and the latter for striking and biting Police-constables Allkins and Watson, as they were taking her mother to the police station.”

Evening Express 22/5/1881

“Michael MacLoughlin (83), Blue Lane, was charged with having, on the 20th inst, stolen a quart of rum, value 4s, from the DUNN COW public house.

From the evidence of Sarah Emmery it appeared that prisoner came to the public house, where he was supplied with three pints of fourpenny, and on the witness leaving the bar the prisoner went and helped himself to the rum, the tap of which was running when witness returned and saw prisoner push a quart jug between a man and a woman. Witness said she would fetch her master, upon which prisoner said, ‘Send for a policeman, and have me locked up.’

Mr. *Beebee*, landlord of the DUNN COW, having given corroborative evidence, Police-constable Watson said he was sent for to the DUNN COW, and was shown a quantity of rum in a quart jug, and also some more in a pint mug. He then took prisoner into custody.

Prisoner was sentenced to 21 days’ imprisonment, with hard labour.”

Evening Express 10/8/1881

“Reuben Davis, Portland Street, for being drunk and refusing to quit the DUN COW public house, on Monday evening, was sentenced to pay a fine of 5s and costs; in default ten days.”

Evening Express 14/11/1881

“John Devanney (18), Blue Lane, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly at Town End Bank, on Saturday night; and his brother James Devanney (13), was charged with having, at the same time and place, assaulted Police- constable Smith while in the execution of his duty. John, who had been turned out of the DUN COW public house, had pushed over the watchman’s box at the Town End Bank, where some street repairs are being done, and was taken into custody by Police-constable Bailey and Police-constable Smith, and as they were proceeding with their prisoner James Devanney threw a brick-end, which struck Police-constable Smith between the shoulders. John Devanney was fined 40s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned one month; and James Devanney was fined 20s and costs, or in default, one month’s imprisonment. Defendant had been very disorderly, and made use of very disgraceful language, and on the officer taking him into custody, he struck the officer a blow in the mouth.”

Thomas Darby was married to *Emma*.

Walsall Advertiser 2/7/1892

“Joseph Hughes (17), Regent Street, Pleck, was put forward on remand to answer five different charges (1) obtaining by false pretences 2s from Emily Mold, (2) obtaining by false pretences 2s from Peter Vickers, (3) obtaining by false pretences 2s from John Reynolds, (4) obtaining by false pretences 2s from John Hennessy, (5) obtaining by false pretences 2s from Thomas Green Cleobury.

Emily Mold, landlady of the GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, said that on the 25th the prisoner came to her house and obtained 2s from her, stating that it was for Mr. Lawson of the Conservative Club. He also said he was working for him in the committee room, and Mr. Lawson had gone to Birmingham without leaving him any money, and he was out of stationary. She gave him the money.

Ada Wadsworth corroborated.

Walter Lawson, secretary to the Walsall Conservative Association, said that he did not know the prisoner. He was not employed by the Association, and he had not authorised the prisoner or anyone else to borrow money on his account.

Detective Smith deposed to the arrest of the prisoner.

Peter Vickers, 48, Goodall Street, deposed that on Saturday last the prisoner came and asked him for 2s for Mr. Lawson, on the same representation as in the previous case.

John Reynolds, barman at the DUN COW, Wolverhampton Street, stated that the prisoner came to the house and asked for Mr. Egan, the landlord. Mr. Egan was out, and the prisoner said that he was employed in the Liberal Committee Rooms. He said Mr. Hughes had gone to Birmingham without leaving him any money, and he wanted 2s for stationary. Witness knew Mr. Hughes was secretary to the Liberal Association, and he gave prisoner the money.

Richard Harry Hughes, hon. sec. Liberal Association, said he did not know prisoner, and he had not authorised him or any other person to borrow money in his name.

Thomas Cleobury, landlord of the NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street, deposed to the prisoner asking him for 2s for Mr. Lawson. He did not lend him the money. He told him to go about his business, as he did not believe him.

John Hennessy, landlord of the BRADFORD ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, deposed to a similar attempt on the part of the prisoner, and his refusing to lend him the money.

The prisoner was returned for trial to the sessions on the several cases.”

[At the Walsall Quarter Session (July 1892), Joseph Hughes was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/10/1892

“The New Brown Saddlers Society. A conference of employers and employed, called at the instance of this newly-formed society, took place at the DUN COW INN on Monday, Mr. Davis, president of the society, in the chair, to consider the question of boy labour. It was stated that a year or two ago there were 238 men in the trade, but 21 of them had left. Of the remaining men, 208 were members of their society, so that they could claim to speak in the name of the men. As to the apprentices, there were 154 of them, and in consequence of their number 30 men were out of work and about 70 were barely getting an existence. On the other side, it was stated that the masters had to complain of the hiring system, of the refusal of the men to do common work when trade was good, and of underselling by small masters. The meeting was ultimately adjourned.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/11/1892

“A special meeting of the Midland Counties Trades Federation was held at the DUN COW INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall on Wednesday 19th inst.....”

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1893

“.....On Monday, May 17th instant, a special representative meeting [Pelsall Miners' Association] would be held at the DUN COW INN, Walsall.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/1/1895

“A special meeting of the council of the Midland Counties Trades Federation took place last evening, at the DUN COW INN, Walsall, Mr. J. Taylor (president) presiding.

The application on the part of the brown saddlers in the employ of Mr. Archer, Walsall, for an advance of 10 per cent, was first considered, and after considerable discussion, in which it was stated that Mr. Archer had conceded the advance as from the 1st of April, and, as was understood, had withdrawn conditions which he had first laid down, it was agreed that Mr. Juggins, and a delegate to be selected by the Brown Saddlers Society, should wait upon Mr. Archer to obtain definite information as to the supposed withdrawal of the conditions.....”

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1895

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last..... New Members..... Mr. Edward Egan, DUN COW HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/11/1897

“An application for sanction to plans for alterations to the DOLPHIN public house premises came before the Walsall Licensing Bench on Monday. More than ordinary interest attached to the application. The premises named are situate in George Street, nearly opposite Messrs. Shannon's factory.

Mr. Langley now submitted the plans on behalf of Messrs. Butler and Co, of Wolverhampton, the owners of the premises, and, in

doing so, threw out a suggestion that the Bench should take into consideration at the same time an application by Messrs. Butler for an extension of the premises of the DUN COW HOTEL in Wolverhampton Street. If the Bench were willing to grant this extension his clients were willing to come to an arrangement to set back the DOLPHIN premises.

The Town Clerk remarked that for many years past now the Corporation had been anxious to secure the widening of George Street, which was one of the main arteries of the town. Unfortunately, George Street at one point was 18ft 6in wide only. Messrs. Shannon's factory was situated in the street, and workpeople numbering over 1,600 were employed there. In addition to that, there were usually a large number of railway and parcel drays in the street, and the narrowness of the street was a serious objection and a positive danger to the workpeople employed by Messrs. Shannon. The Corporation possessed no power to compel Messrs. Butler to take down these premises. The only way to do that would be to obtain a provisional order. When it came to the notice of the Corporation that plans had been deposited for the alteration of the DOLPHIN premises, they felt it their duty to make known to the Bench the serious objection there was to the sanction of plans which, if carried out, would have the effect of indefinitely postponing the widening of George Street. They asked if their Worship were satisfied that the public requirements demanded a reasonable extension of the DUN COW premises, their Worship would take the matter into favourable consideration, having regard to the fact that the public would obtain a quid pro quo by the proposed improvement in George Street.

Evidence having been given in support of the applications, in the course of which it was pointed out that it was proposed to increase the licensed area of the DUN COW premises by ninety yards, the accommodation there being inadequate for customers, especially on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays.

Mr. E. J. Shannon went into the witness box, and stated that they had 1,650 people in their employ. Recently they had had to make arrangements to turn a number of their workpeople out another way. He did not see why another thousand people should not be employed there eventually, but the firm would have to consider whether they could get the workpeople out if the present narrow street were continued. He understood the DOLPHIN premises some time ago could have been bought for £800. If he had known that he would have bought the premises himself and have made the town a present of them.

The Bench, in regard to the DUN COW, refused the application. In regard to the other application, they could not sanction the alterations unless the premises were set back to the building line fixed by the Council."

Walsall Advertiser 15/1/1898

"The Widening of George Street. The following plans had been approved by the Streets Committee.....

W. Butler and Co, rebuilding of the DOLPHIN INN, George Street.....

The committee had inspected the properties adjoining the DOLPHIN INN, George Street, part of which are required for widening and improving the street, and the Town Clerk reported that as a result of the negotiations he had been directed to make, he had entered into provisional agreements under which the whole of the land required by the Council for widening the street could be acquired, and the houses and buildings now standing thereon pulled down, at a cost to the Council of about £850, if the borough justices would consent to certain alterations proposed to be made by Messrs. W. Butler and Co. Limited to the DUN COW INN, Wolverhampton Street, and to the DOLPHIN INN being pulled down and re-erected. The committee, recognising the great importance of such an improvement being carried into effect, had approved and confirmed such agreements, and recommended that the Council enter into agreements for acquiring so much of the land on the southerly side of George Street, from George Street Terrace to the GREEN MAN INN, as is required for the widening of George Street, at a cost to the Council of £850."

Walsall Observer 24/2/1900

"The first annual meeting of the Walsall Excelsior Cycling Club was held at the headquarters, the DUN COW, Wolverhampton Street, on Monday evening, for the election of officers for the coming season. About forty members attending. Mr. G. Burgess was elected president, and Mr. E. Moore was again elected captain....."

Walsall Observer 5/5/1900

"A successful smoking concert in connection with the Court Lord Hatherton, 3888, was held on Tuesday last, at the court house, DUN COW HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street, in aid of the benevolent fund to assist special cases of need. Bro. P. A. Shore occupied the chair, and Bro. J. H. Webb, DCR, the vice chair....."

Walsall Observer 2/6/1900

"A smoking concert was held at the DUN COW HOTEL, on Thursday, the 24th ult, by the employees of the Permanent Way Department (painters' section), when a large number were present to give a send-off to Sergeant Cox, of the West Riding, Yorkshire, who has been called upon to join his regiment for the purpose of going to the front....."

Demolished

It was rebuilt c.1900.

1901 Census

2, Wolverhampton Street – DUN COW HOTEL

[1] Edward Egan (47), licensed victualler, born Athlone, Ireland;

[2] Harry Skidmore (24), barman, born Wednesbury;

[3] Edward Egan (22), barman, born Athlone, Ireland;

[4] Ellen Brady (38), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/5/1901

“Walsall and District Reservists’ Fund.

The Committee wish to acknowledge their indebtedness to the following.....

Proceeds of Smoking Concert held by the Brown Saddlers Society at the DUN COW HOTEL. £2 7s 8d.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/6/1901 - Letters

“Sir, In the report of this betting prosecution, appearing in your issue of the 25th inst, the answers given by the witness for the police to questions, put by one of the magistrates, are calculated to place me in a false position with the public without some explanation on my part, and, as neither myself nor my servants were afforded an opportunity of being heard in this case, I shall be obliged if you will allow me to make the following statements in your next issue.

1. I have always done my best to prevent an infraction of the licensing and betting laws in the DUN COW HOTEL, and more that 12 months ago, when the defendant, Phineas Boot, began to use my house, I warned him that I would not permit any betting, or paying for bets, there, by him, or anyone else; and to my knowledge, no such thing has taken place there.

2. On Monday, May 6th, and each of the four following days, during the dinner hour, a person dressed as a painter, and whom, I now understand, was the witness, Police-constable Marston, had his dinner, and was supplied with beer, in the bar of the DUN COW HOTEL, but no complaint has been made by the police to me of anything objectionable having taken place.

3. I am informed that, on the evening of May 14th, Police-constable Marston followed the defendant, Boot, from near the Railway Station, into the DUN COW HOTEL, and immediately Boot had taken a seat, demanded his winnings. The two bar-men referred to, state most positively that they saw nothing of the payment by Boot, either to Marston, or any other person, nor did I, and I was passing between the bar and the smoke room from 7 to 10.30 that evening. I did not see Boot, who could not have been in my house five minutes, or I should have done so.

Thanking you in anticipation, I am Sir, yours obediently,

Edward Egan.

DUN COW HOTEL, Walsall, 30th May, 1901.”

Edward Egan – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY.

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/4/1904

“On Wednesday night a general meeting of the Midland Leather Trades Federation was held at the DUN COW HOTEL to consider the reply of the War Office to the letter of the secretary of the Federation. This letter was with regard to the War Office contracts for saddlery and harness, and asked that a deputation of the men might be received as to the giving out of the contracts, which it was urged should be done as soon as possible in consequence of the present alarming depression in the leather trades. To this letter the Secretary (Mr. Power) stated a reply of acknowledgement only had been received, and it was ultimately decided that a deputation of three representatives from Walsall and two from Birmingham should be sent to have an interview with the War Office officials.”

Lichfield Mercury 21/7/1905

“The half-yearly meeting of the delegates forming the Bilston, Walsall, and Cannock District of the Free Gardeners, representing 3,166 members, was held in the Public Rooms, Hednesford, on Monday.....

Bro. Chas. Andrews, District Master, in his report, concerning the Funeral Fund, said he was very sorry to find that they had not made such headway as he should have liked, seeing that their Funeral Fund had only made the small gain of £1 3s 3d. They had paid for death claims the large amount of £355 during the half-year, which gave them some cause for congratulation to know that they had been able to meet their demands for their deceased brethren and their wives. He was very sorry that the Management Fund showed such a large deficit (£51 9s 8½d), which, he dared say, to some extent was accounted for by the annual levy and delegates’ expenses to the AGM. The Benevolent Fund also showed a small loss, but when they considered that they had relieved no less than nine of their more unfortunate brethren and one Lodge, it gave them some cause to be thankful to know that they had done what they could for their more unfortunate brethren. The District Sick Fund, he was glad to say, showed a gain of £3 13s 3d.....

The first portion of the afternoon sitting was given up to a recommendation by Bros. Linnell and C. Blain that in future the District meetings be held permanently at the DUN COW HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, and this was carried by fifty-five votes to five.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/6/1906

“At Walsall yesterday a man named Thomas Coley, of Camwall Street, Leamore, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at the DUN COW HOTEL, and also with assaulting William John Hateley, a barman. It was stated that the man went into the public house drunk. The barman told a man named King not to serve him because he was drunk. Defendant smashed two dozen bottles by throwing a glass at the barman. He also threw a second glass, which hit the barman on the head. The defence was that the barman threw a glass first at the defendant. Fined 10s and costs or fourteen days.”

Lichfield Mercury 24/1/1908

“The half-yearly meeting of the Bilston, Walsall, and Cannock District of Free Gardenery was held at the DUN COW HOTEL, Walsall, on Monday.....

The death claims had been very heavy, the sum of £342 having been expended, causing a loss to the funeral fund of £40 14s 6d. There were, however, substantial gains in the other funds. The juvenile branch continued to prosper, increases being recorded both numerically and financially.....”

Walsall Advertiser 11/12/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the vice-president, CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.....

J. T. Chadd, DUN COW INN, Wolverhampton Street was elected member of the society as from 1st January, 1910.”

1911 Census

2, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Joseph Chadd* (55), widower, publican, born Birmingham;

[2] *Bertha Berkes* (37), barmaid, born Wednesbury;

[3] *Susan Drakard* (35), barmaid, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Annie Shutt* (31), bar general, born Coasley [**Coseley**];

[5] *Sarrah Thompson* (21), general servant, born Tividale:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

DUN COW, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, 14s 4½d.”

Birmingham Mail 30/10/1915

“New Roll of Honour. Birmingham men who have answered the King’s Call. 200 more names.

The following are the names of the men who enlisted in Birmingham yesterday.....

Royal Navy (Broad Street).....

C. W. Garfield, DUN COW HOTEL, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/12/1915

“*Charles Garfield*, DUN COW HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street, was summoned at Walsall yesterday for assaulting *Walter Sanders*, who keeps a gramophone shop in the same street. *Sanders* alleged that on Saturday night defendant went to his shop, created a disturbance, and whilst being put out struck him on the nose.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, for the defence, said *Garfield*, who was in the army, had been in a military hospital through illness, and on returning home had his sleep disturbed by the noise of the gramophones in defendant’s shop. It was not until nearly midnight that he went to complain about the nuisance, and he alleged that *Sanders* not only grossly insulted him, but used considerable force to get him out of the shop. Defendant, however, denied striking complainant.

The Bench dismissed the case.”

Evening Despatch 27/8/1918

“Engine-room Artificer *Charles Garfield*, of the DUN COW HOTEL, Walsall, who is on leave, had had an interesting three years’ experience of escort convoy work on a sloop in the Mediterranean.

He was some years ago the organising secretary of the South Staffordshire Boy Scouts’ Association, and hon. secretary of the County Association of Boy Scouts, being a pioneer of the Scouts movement in South Staffordshire.”

Arthur J. Pickering was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in April 1924.

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/8/1927

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers’ Society was held at the house of *Mr. Samuel Birch*, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention, on the 11th inst. *Mr. P. B. Cooke* (president) occupied the chair. *Miss Alice Jones*, NEW INN, Blue Lane West, and *Mr. Harry Male*, DUN COW HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street, were elected members of the Society.....”

Walsall Observer 11/2/1939

“There was a good attendance of members of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society at the meeting held at the DERBY ARMS INN, Raleigh Street, on Thursday *Mr. Harry Male*, DUNCOW HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street, was elected a member of the society The next meeting will be held at 6pm at the BRADFORD ARMS, Milton Street, Palfrey, on Thursday, 9th March.”

1939 Register

2+3. Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Harry Male*, date of birth 10/1/1880, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Maude Male*, dob 4/5/1883, unpaid domestic duties and assistant, married;

[3] *Maude E. Male*, dob 17/6/1909, unpaid domestic duties and assistant, single;

[4] *Margaret (Jennings) Heavin*, dob 15/8/1916, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
DUN COW INN, Park Street, £3 5s 0d.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/12/1940

“A women’s burial and dividend society, organised by Mrs. *Male*, of the DUN COW HOTEL, Walsall, the biggest society of its kind in the town and one of the biggest in the area, has been discontinued for the duration of the war. It was formed 13 years ago, and yesterday more than £2,000 dividend was paid out to 1,789 members.”

Walsall Observer 3/5/1941

“The large and representative attendance at the funeral yesterday week of Mrs. Maude *Male*, wife of Mr. *Harry Male*, licensee of the DUN COW, Wolverhampton Street, was an indication of the affectionate regard in which she was held not only in Walsall, but in Willenhall and Wolverhampton. One of the best-known figures in the Walsall licensing trade, Mrs. *Male* was 57, and had been with her husband at the DUN COW for 14 years. In that time Walsall people had come to admire her business capabilities, and many of the poorer folk in the neighbourhood will have cause to remember her unadvertised kindness towards them. She had been in poor health for two years and since Christmas her condition had further declined. Her death has robbed the Walsall Ladies’ Bowling Club and the local Electrical Association for Women of an enthusiastic member, and the DUN COW of a charming hostess. A native of Heath Town, Mrs. *Male* went into the licensed trade with her husband in Wolverhampton and afterwards they were for seventeen years at the NEW INNS, Willenhall, whence they came to Walsall. She is survived by her husband and two daughters, Mrs. S. J. Wiley and Miss Edith *Male*. The Rev. T. E. W. Rudd conducted the choral funeral service at St. John’s Church and the interment was at James Bridge Cemetery. There were about 50 floral tributes from sympathisers all around the district.”

Walsall Observer 28/6/1941 - Advert

“Lost, on Sunday noon, June 22nd, Wire Fox Terrier Dog, named Paddy. Reward will be given to finder. Please return to M. E. *Male*, the DUN COW HOTEL, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DUN COW, Wolverhampton Street. £0 5s 2d.”

John Thomas Westwood – see also PRINCE OF WALES.

Arthur Harold Smith – see also ROYAL EXCHANGE.

It closed on 25th March 1961.

DURHAM OX

53, (24), Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Ann Hayes, Palfrey, Fullbrook, Walsall

Northampton Brewery Co. Ltd. (leased) [1901]

Mrs. Jeffreys, Spon Lane, Walsall

Highgate (Walsall) Brewery Co. (leased) [1904]

Arthur Beebee, Malt Shovel Brewery, 130 Sandwell Street. [1910], [1913]

Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. (acquired in 1924) [1939]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

John Davis [1861]

Thomas James [1862]

George Brookes [1863] – **1864**;

George Plant (**1864** – [1870])

Daniel Partridge [1872] – [1873];

Moses Millington [1880] – [1881];
James Gretton [];
George Jeffries [1891] – 1904);
Charles William ‘Charley’ Mitchell (1904 – 1906);
William Hughes (1906);
Joseph Henry Jeffries (1906 – 1910);
William Alfred Banks (1910 – 1913);
John Thomas Smith (1913);
George Henry Mole (1913 – 1917);
Frederick Charles Vale (1917);
Thomas Dolphin (1917 – 1920);
John Rogers (1920 – 1922);
James Edwards (1922 – 1923);
Alfred Broome (1923 – 1924);
Samuel Roland Holmes (1924 – 1929);
Roland Pettet (1929);
William Taylor (1929 – 1940);
Thomas Allsop Chapman (1940 – 1958);
Robert Watson (1958 – 1961);
Reginald Thomas Paget (1961 – 1963);
Reginald John White (1963 – 1966);
Cyril Shaw (1966 – []

NOTES

24, Park Street [1861], [1862], [1868], [1870], [1872], [1873], [1881]
53, Park Street [1891], [1892], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1916], [1932], [1940]

1861 Census

24, Park Street

- [1] *John Davis* (60), victualler, born Penn;
- [2] *Mary Davis* (56), wife, born Sandwich, Kent;
- [3] *Vincent Davis* (34), son, lodger, auctioneer, born Aldridge, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Elizabeth Davis* (34), wife, born Lydney, Worcestershire;
- [5] *Lizzie Beams Davis* (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Vincent Cholditch Davis* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *John Davis* (31), son, barman and waiter, born Sheffield:

Walsall Free Press 14/6/1862

“Elizabeth Fletcher, charged with having done wilful damage to a window belonging to Mr. *James*, landlord of the DURHAM OX, public-house, Park Street, failed to appear; but as the service of summons was proved, the case was gone into, when it was proved by the evidence of Mr. *James* that the defendant had been guilty of disorderly conduct in his house, and on being ejected she damaged a window to the extent of 8s, which she was ordered to pay, together with a fine of 5s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for one month.”

Walsall Free Press 2/12/1862 - Advert

“To be Let, the DURHAM OX, Liquor Vaults, Park Street, Walsall.
Enquiries as to particulars on the premises, or of George Bayley, Auctioneer.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 1/9/1863

“Richard Longmore, alias ‘Dampy,’ was yesterday charged at the Guildhall, with having on Friday last stolen a bottle of peppermint, value 4s, the property of Mr. *Brookes*, landlord of the DURHAM OX public-house, Park Street. After hearing the evidence, which was very conflicting and contradictory, the Bench dismissed the prisoner.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/3/1864

“On Monday, at the Police Court, before Messrs. S. Cox (Mayor), W. Ward, and J. W. Newman, three Irish labourers, respectively named Owen O’Donnell, John Higgin, and Patrick Moore, were brought up in custody, charged with assaulting Police-constable McCaffrey. Mr. Ebsworth defended O’Donnell. It seems that, on Saturday night, the constable entered the house of Mr. *Brookes*, the DURHAM OX INN, Park Street, while off duty, and was asked to eject some of the company, who were disorderly; he attempted to do so, and was immediately struck with a jug by one of the defendants, and knocked down, all three men then brutally kicking him and beating him about the head and body as he lay on the ground. He succeeded in getting his handcuffs out, and vigorously used them in self-defence; and eventually, the assistance of Police-constables Bishton and Ward having been obtained, the defendants were got to the police station. The Magistrates expressed a determination to put a stop to assaults upon the police, and

sentenced the defendants to one months' imprisonment, without the alternative of a fine."

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/2/1866

"A respectably dressed young man named John Welsh, who was stated to have come from the neighbourhood of Stafford, was charged with stealing on Tuesday last in the DURHAM OX public-house, Park Street, £27 and a silver watch belonging to a greengrocer named Roberts, living in Stafford Street. Mr. Mathews appeared in support of the charge, and as the prosecutor on being robbed had gone to Stafford in search of the prisoner and had not yet returned, he simply asked that sufficient evidence might be taken to justify a remand, and called Detective Kates, who deposed to apprehending the prisoner at the DURHAM OX. On searching him at the police station he found upon him a silver hunting watch, £12 in gold, and £1 15s 3d in silver. Witness charged him with stealing the money, when he replied that it was his own; he added that he had been employed for five months as an usher in the household of Lord Hatherton. Another witness named James Partridge, buckle maker, Lower Rushall Street, also gave evidence that he had seen the accused on Tuesday in the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, with two watches and a quantity of gold in a leather bag, which was produced and said to belong the prosecutor. The prisoner was then remanded until Monday." [The case against John Welch was subsequently dismissed.]

1881 Census

24, Park Street

- [1] *Moses Millington* (56), licensed victualler, born Dunnington [Donnington?], Shropshire;
- [2] *Martha Millington* (55), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Martha Butler* (32), general servant, born Darlaston;
- [4] *Elizabeth Nicholls* (15), general servant, born Wednesbury:

George Jeffries = George Jeffrie

1891 Census

53, Park Street – DURHAM OX

- [1] *George Jeffrie* (38), unmarried, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Sarah Jeffrie* (69), mother, born Walsall;
- [3] *Florence Baker* (13), cousin, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Edward Emsley* (25), lodger, currier, born Leeds:

1901 Census

53, Park Street

- [1] *George Jeffries* (48), unmarried, hotel keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Sarah Jeffries* (80), mother, widow, born Walsall;
- [3] *Florence Baker* (23), barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] *Lucy Law* (18), barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/4/1901 - Advert

"Sale by Auction.....

The Valuable Freehold Full Licensed Public House, the DURHAM OX, adjoining Walsall Railway Station and being No.53, Park Street, held under lease by the Northampton Brewery Co, under Lease, expiring 24th June, 1904."

Charles William Mitchell – see also BROWN LION.

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

"A. Beebee's Noted Home-Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.

Houses.....

DURHAM OX, Park Street, Walsall."

1911 Census

53, Park Street

- [1] *Emma Banks* (37), wife, married under one year, born Walsall;
- [2] *William Banks* (32), licensed victualler manager, born Walsall;
- [3] *Mrs. Cooper* (35), boarder, harness stitcher, born Walsall;
- [4] *William Cooper* (3), boarder, born Darlaston;
- [5] *Annie Summer* (19), general servant, born Blakenall:

Walsall Observer 26/2/1916

"The adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

DURHAM OX, Park Street. Mr. J. W. Pearman-Smith appeared for the license holder, and applied for a renewal of the license. Chief Inspector Ballance gave evidence as to the structure of the house, and added that, particularly on market night, the yard, which opened into Park Street, was frequented by a large number of men and women, and a good deal of drinking went on, while

a nuisance was created by the yard being so public. He cautioned the landlord about the drinking in December 1914, and so far as he knew there had been no improvement.

In reply to Mr. Pearman-Smith, Chief Inspector Ballance said it was quite possible that this drinking in the gateway was due to the congestion of trade just now. The plans that had been submitted for alterations, would prevent such a nuisance.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said that since the license-holder was cautioned he had never served any drink outside, and had done his best to prevent it. Owing to the curtailment of hours the pressure was great. When the house was full a man might purchase a pint and prefer to drink it outside, and the only thing the licensee could do in that case was to refuse to serve him at all.

Mr. Phillips said that showed that the premises were not under proper control, and treating and other things which were illegal could not be prevented.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said there was no question of treating.

The Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton) said the idea was that a man might take a jug of beer outside and half a dozen of his pals drink out of it. Then he could go and fetch another.

Inspectors Cook, Evans, and Jones gave evidence corroborating that of the Chief Inspector.....

The case of the DURHAM OX would be adjourned for a month for alterations to be carried out. These were as follows: A gateway to be placed right across the entry, such gateway to be used only for the rolling way, the entry to the house to be confined to one main door. It was suggested there should be grill gates.”

Walsall Observer 29/4/1916

“At an occasional court on Thursday morning Alice Beckett and her brother Isaac Tipton, of the R.F.A., both of Rushall, were charged before Messrs. E. J. Shaw and E. H. Barnett with being drunk and disorderly. The woman was also charged with assaulting Inspector Needham, while the soldier was charged with assaulting Police-constable Pass. The evidence showed that a disturbance occurred when the defendants and other relatives alighted from a car on which they had come from Walsall. There was a melee, in which it was alleged the woman struck the inspector, and that Tipton knocked down Police-constable Pass, kicked him on the head, and bit his finger. The soldier denied that he was drunk and asserted that all he had had that night was a pint of porter at the DURHAM OX, Walsall.

The defendants were each ordered to pay £2 (£1 for each offence).”

George Henry Mole – see also FOX.

Walsall Observer 10/3/1917 - Deaths

“On March 6th the death occurred of *George Henry Mole*, of 44, Upper Rushall Street, and late of the DURHAM OX INN, Park Street, after a long and painful illness. RIP.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
DURHAM OX, Park Street. £1 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 5/4/1924

“As a result of recent negotiations, the freehold licensed properties belonging to Messrs. Artur Beebee Ltd, which include The DURHAM OX, Park Street; OLD STILL, Digbeth; THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road; Red Lion, Aldridge; MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street; GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street; the off license, 6, Camden Street; the brewery in Sandwell Street; and the lease of the FOX INN, Stafford Street, have been sold to the Highgate Brewing Co, Ltd, through Messrs. Fox and Harrison, FAI, of Walsall.”

Samuel Roland Holmes – see also BROWN LION.

Roland Holmes was married to Lillian.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

DURHAM OX, Park Street.”

William Taylor – see also BROWN LION.

Walsall Observer 13/7/1940

“At the monthly meeting on Thursday of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....

Mr. *T. Chapman*, DURHAM OX INN, Park Street, was elected a member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

[“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
DURHAM OX INN, Park Street, £5 0s 0d.”](#)

[Walsall Observer 24/12/1942](#)

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
DURHAM OX, Park Street. £7 7s 2d.”

[Walsall Observer 15/1/1944](#)

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
DURHAM OX, Park Street. £2 8s 2d.”

[Evening Despatch 27/4/1945](#)

“People in Park Street, Walsall, today looked with amazement when a driverless lorry parked on The Bridge outside the railway station suddenly started moving towards them. Gathering speed down the slope it wheeled across the pavement and crashed into the DURHAM OX public house. Luckily no one was hurt. It is believed that the vibrations of passing traffic sent the unattended vehicle on its lone expedition.”

Thomas Allsop Chapman died in 1957.
See also DUSTY MILLER.

Robert Watson – see also FOUR WAYS.

Reginald Thomas Paget – see also KING EDWARD.

DUSTY MILLER

1, Butts Road / (Lower) North Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Utting, Littleton Arms, Littleton Street, Walsall
W. Butler and Co. Ltd. [1902]
Highgate (Walsall) Brewery Co. Ltd. [1925], [1939]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

John Clarke (1891 – 1897);
William Henry Surridge (1897 – 1899);
Edwin James Warner (1899 – 1902);
Charles Lammas (1902 – 1904);
George Edward Evans (1904 – 1908);
George Ernest James (1908 – 1910);
Frank Roberts (1910 – 1911);
James Loynes (1911 – 1912);
John Thomas Griffiths (1912 – 1913);
John Littler (1913 – 1919);
John Arthur Campey (1919 – 1922);
James Platt (1922 – 1923);
Harry Lloyd (1923 – 1934);
Ernest Carden (1934 – 1936);
Thomas Alsop Chapman (1936 – 1940);
John Benjamin Mulliss (1940 – 1949);
Alfred Lawrence Mulliss (1949 – 1956);
Thomas Marlow (1956 – 1957);
Colin Derek Harris (1957 – 1959);

Edward James Whiting (1959 – 1962);
Arthur Charles Westwood (1962 – 1963);
William Leonard Cantrill (1963 – 1964);
David Donald Chambers (1964);
William Whitelaw Dewar (1964 – 1965);
John Roland Hayes (1965 – 1967);
Brymby John Phillips (1967 – []

NOTES

It opened on 30th September 1891.

The licenses of the STORES (WARWICK ARMS), Warwick Street and the LITTLE SWAN, North Street, were transferred here.

Walsall Advertiser 13/8/1898

“The forty-sixth general meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday afternoon.....

William Henry Surridge, DUSTY MILLER, Hatherton Street.”

1901 Census

Lower North Street – DUSTY MILLER

[1] *Edwin James Warner* (41), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Maria Warner* (43), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *Gertrude E. Warner* (15), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Harold E. Warner* (11), son, born Walsall;

[5] *Ellen Stokes* (3), niece, born Walsall:

George Ernest James – see also LITTLETON ARMS, and WHITE HORSE.

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1908

“On Monday afternoon, a meeting of Messrs. Butler’s managers and tenants was held at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, to protest against the proposed Licensing Bill. Alderman C. B. Plant, of Wolverhampton, presided. On the motion of Mr. *Evans*, of the DUSTY MILLER INN, seconded by Mr. Chadd, the following resolution was unanimously passed: ‘That this meeting of customers of Butler’s Brewery, Wolverhampton, emphatically protests against the proposed new Licensing Bill as a grossly unfair and confiscatory measure, prejudicial to their interests as free Englishmen, and certain to cause loss of employment; and those present pledge themselves to use every legitimate effort to prevent its becoming the law of the land.’ The following resolution was also carried unanimously: ‘That the principle of a time limit is inadmissible and must be opposed by the full strength of the trade’.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/7/1909

“An engineer named *Thomas Wilson*, of St. Andrews Road, Bordesley, Birmingham, was admitted to the Walsall Hospital on Wednesday suffering from severe injuries to one of his feet. It appears that *Wilson* reached Walsall during the afternoon in charge of a motor wagon belonging to Messrs. *Milson* and *Cheetham* and proceeded to the DUSTY MILLER public house, Hatherton Street, for the purpose of delivering some barrels of beer. It is stated that while the barrels were being transferred one rolled on to *Wilson*, and before he could get clear his foot was caught and one toe smashed.”

1911 Census

1, Butts Road – DUSTY MILLER

[1] *Frank Roberts* (39), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Florence Roberts* (36), wife, married 14 years, assisting in business, born Moxley;

[3] *Ada Seagar* (19), general servant, born Bleakenall:

John Thomas Griffiths – see also QUEENS, Bloxwich.

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

DUSTY MILLER, Butts Road, Walsall, 7s.”

John Littler – see also BIRD IN HAND.

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

DUSTY MILLER, Butts Road. £1 16s 1d.”

Walsall Observer 7/9/1918 - Advert

“Preliminary.

Fox & Harrison, FAI, are favoured with instruction to offer for Sale by auction, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, 15th October, 1918 (unless previously disposed of privately), the undermentioned Four Licensed Houses.

The Full Licensed House, LITTLETON ARMS INN, Corner of Hatherton Street, and Littleton Street, Walsall.

The Full Licensed House, DUSTY MILLER INN, Corner of Butts Road (and facing down Hatherton Street, Walsall).

The Full Licensed House, TEDDESLEY ARMS INN, Corner of Warwick Street and Teddesley Street, Walsall.

The Ante '69 Beerhouse, Old Wilkin Inn, Corner of Wilkin Road and Hednesford Road, Norton Canes, Brownhills.

Full particulars will be announced later.

Auctioneers Offices, 51, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall. Telephone 198.”

James Platt – see also CRITERION.

Walsall Observer 5/4/1924

“W. O. E. Utting, Deceased. For Sale by Private Treaty, the well-known, fully licensed, Public houses, the LITTLETON ARMS (leasehold), Littleton Street; the TEDDESLEY ARMS (leasehold), Teddesley Street; the DUSTY MILLER (freehold), Butts Road, Walsall; and the freehold beerhouse Old Wilkin, Hednesford Road, Brownhills.

Apply: The Owners, namely W.O.E. Utting's Trustees, 117, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

Ernest Carden – see also BROWN LION.

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/4/1936

“George H. Dyall, aged 64, married, 22, Francis Street, walked into the DUSTY MILLER public house, Butts Road, on Monday, called for a glass of brandy, and collapsed and died. At the inquest on Tuesday Dr. F. L. Richard said that Dyall was in such a condition that he might have died at any time. A verdict of Death from Heart Failure was returned.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company's acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

DUSTY MILLER, Butts Road.”

1939 Register

1, Butts Road

[1] *Thomas Chapman*, date of birth 13/12/1892, public house manager, married;

[2] *Catherine Chapman*, dob 20/11/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Thomas Allsop Chapman – see also DURHAM OX.

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

DUSTY MILLER INN, Butts Road, £3 11s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DUSTY MILLER, Butts Street. £2 2s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

DUSTY MILLER, Butts Road. £0 1s 0d.”

Thomas Marlow – see also COTTAGE.

William Leonard Cantrill – see also GOLDEN LION.

Sandwell Evening Mail 6/8/1994

“Down Your Local. LITTLETON ARMS, Walsall.

The regulars at this popular street corner local are getting in a right old froth, and it's no wonder. Their beloved watering hole is under threat of demolition from a road modernisation scheme and the customers are working up a thirst for a ding-dong battle to save it The pub is on the route of Walsall's much-vaunted new Ring Road and unless the local authority has a rethink it is likely that a compulsory purchase order will be slapped on it. And that will come as a bitter blow to landlord Paul Fletcher and his partner Liz Chambers who have been at the pub less than 12 months This is Paul and Liz's first pub, although she is no stranger to such places, having been born and brought up in a pub 100 yards away! Her dad *John Hayes* used to run the now-demolished DUSTY MILLER in Littleton Street.....”

It closed in September 1977.

EAGLE

Cresswell Crescent, Mossley, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Admiral Taverns [2007]

LICENSEES

John Turner (1959);
James Fern (1959 – 1964);
Sidney George Haycock (1964 – 1966);
Reginald Victor Whilton (1966 – []

NOTES

[Birmingham Daily Post 10/12/1958](#)

“The annual general meeting of W. Butler & Co. Limited will be held on December 30 at Wolverhampton. The following is the circulated statement of the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. J. Yardley.....

Tenders have also been accepted in respect of the following new licences.....

EAGLE, Mossley Estate, Bloxwich.”

It opened on 2nd April 1959.

The license was transferred from WINDMILL, Bath Street.

[Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1959](#)

“The 69th annual general meeting of W. Butler & Co. Limited will be held on December 28 at Wolverhampton. The following is the statement by Mr. Frank Yardley (Chairman and Managing Director) which has been circulated with the report and accounts.....

Further progress has been made with the building of new properties, and the following were opened during the financial year.....

EAGLE, Mossley, Walsall – 1st May, 1959.”

It closed in 2007.

[Express and Star 20/8/2010](#)

“The EAGLE pub, also in Cresswell Crescent, is due to be pulled down after standing empty since 2007 when a man was shot. Plans for 18 apartments on the site were approved by council chiefs earlier this summer.”

[Express & Star 10/6/2017](#)

“Developer SEP Properties has applied to build 17 flats on the site of the EAGLE, on Cresswell Crescent, in Bloxwich. In November, travellers set up camp outside the derelict pub, which was shut in 2007 after a man was shot. The proposal is to demolish the existing public house and erect an apartment block of 17 one bed flats with parking spaces in its place.

Walsall Council's planning committee will meet on Thursday to discuss the application, with it being recommended that they delegate the decision to the head of planning to approve based on organising a suitable section 106 agreement. This is despite concerns being raised by residents that the apartments block will be out of character with other buildings in the area.

Papers set to be discussed at the meeting read, ‘Objections have been raised that the design and visual appearance of the building is out of keeping with the surrounding properties and that a two storey building would be more appropriate. On balance it is

considered that the three storey building does not adversely affect the character of the surrounding area and offers the opportunity to make more efficient use of derelict land in the urban area.”

Express & Star 16/6/2017

“Walsall Council planning chiefs agreed at a meeting on Thursday that the EAGLE pub, on Cresswell Crescent in Bloxwich, be knocked down and replaced by an apartment block with 17 apartments. The pub has been derelict since 2007 when it was shut after a man was shot in the leg with a shotgun. Travellers have regularly pitched up on the site and it has been left to ruin, prompting legal action to be taken by Walsall Council against the owner – which remains ongoing. There was no hesitation around the plans at Thursday’s meeting, with councillors unanimously approving the plans go ahead.

Councillor Angela Underhill, the deputy-chair of the committee, raised concerns over fire safety given the tower block fire in London, but a council officer assured her that the strictest regulations are in place. Once this had been addressed the plans sailed through. It means, subject to the council’s head of planning agreeing a section 106 agreement, the pub will be replaced by a three-storey apartment block. The block will contain 17 one-bed flats with 13 parking spaces, including two disabled spaces, and shared private amenity space at the rear.

The block will be split into three segments joined by staircase lobbies. Cycle storage will be available within each of the lobbies and a separate motorcycle store will also be available on site.

Bloxwich councillor Bradley Allen has welcomed the plans. He said, ‘Me and my colleagues welcome the decision made at planning. It is something we have been campaigning for a number of years. Obviously the redevelopment in the area has been needed for years and it is going to help improve the overall look of the area. Naturally now the plans have gone through the development will stop travellers pitching up and put a halt to the fly-tipping that has blighted the land. I am sure the Mossley estate residents are glad of the plans.’”

Express & Star 30/9/2022

“A dilapidated old pub which was shut 15 years ago shortly after a shooting during a bar room brawl could finally be developed into new housing in Bloxwich. Sep Properties Ltd has put forward a proposal to Walsall Council planners for the demolition of the EAGLE on Cresswell Crescent to be replaced by a block containing 17 apartments. If approved, the new building would contain one and two bedroom flats aimed at the social rental market and parts of it will be one storey bigger than the two storey pub. The EAGLE closed in 2007 shortly after a brawl broke out on St Patrick’s Day which resulted in one man being shot in the leg. It has remained boarded up ever since but suffered from a number of anti-social behaviour issues including fly-tipping, which have previously prompted calls for action to clean up the site from politicians and locals.....”

Express & Star 18/7/2023

“A Bloxwich pub which was shut down following a shooting in the bar more than 15 years ago will be pulled down to make way for new apartments. Sep Properties Ltd has been given the go-ahead to demolish the EAGLE, on Cresswell Crescent, and replace it with a new block containing nine two-bedroom flats. The building is currently dilapidated and boarded up, and has been since it closed following a bar room brawl on St Patrick’s Day in 2007, which resulted in one man being shot in the leg. In the years following its closure the site has suffered from anti-social behaviour issues including arson and fly-tipping, resulting in calls for the area to be cleaned up.

Agents Simpatico Town Planning said, ‘The existing building in situ on the site was formerly a public house. It has, however, lain disused for many years and, as a result, is now dilapidated beyond repair, being also potentially dangerous. An inspection of the site confirms that the building has fallen victim both to break ins, and also to arson both inside and outside the building. This development proposal represents an opportunity to provide nine high quality residential apartments.....”

EAGLE

54, Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Lord Hatherton (ground landlord)

Thomas J. Beebee

G. W. Whitehouse, Mellish Road, Walsall

Lichfield Brewery Co. and George Whitehouse, Walsall

W. Butler & Co. Ltd, Wolverhampton

LICENSEES

Isaac Beebee [1858] – [1881];

Arthur Beebee [1884] – **1887**);

Sarah Beebee (**1887 – 1890**);

John Peate (1890 – 1893);
George Harry Peate (1893 – 1895);
Joseph Harris Fereday (1895 – 1896);
William Bromwich Wilson (1896 – 1899);
Harry Smallwood (1899 – 1904);
Harry Hicken (1904 – 1906);
George London Barnfield (1906 – 1907);
Edwin Carter (1907 – 1912);
John Hill (1912 – 1914);
William Perry (1914 – []
Frederick Jacques [1929] – 1937);

NOTES

It was originally known as the SHIP.

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....
Isaac Beebee, Rushall Street. Refused.”

Isaac Beebee, beerhouse, 54, Lower Rushall Street. [1858]

1861 Census

54, Lower Rushall Street – EAGLE HOTEL

- [1] *Isaac Beebee* (42), chair maker employing 4 men and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Agnes Beebee (32), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Arthur Beebee (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Agnes Beebee (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Mary Bould (63), mother in law, widow, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 5/9/1863

“On Monday last, after the police business had been disposed of, the magistrates proceeded to consider the applications for the granting new licenses and the renewal of those already existing.....

Mr. Mathews applied on behalf of Mr. *Isaac Beebee*, beerhouse-keeper, Lower Rushall Street, for a license for his house, the EAGLE, after pointing out the adaptability of the house, which had formerly been a licensed-house, for the purpose of the trade expatiated upon the requirements of the locality, and handed in the applicant’s memorial. Application unanimously refused upon the ground that a licensed house was not required in the locality.”

Isaac Beebee, beer retailer and saddlers’ ironmonger, 54, Lower Rushall Street. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....

Isaac Beebee, EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street.” [Refused]

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. H. Barnett, jun., applied on behalf of *Isaac Beebee*, landlord of the EAGLE beerhouse, Lower Rushall Street. The house was formerly licensed, and known as the SHIP. Application refused.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/11/1866

“*Isaac Beebee*, landlord of the EAGLE beerhouse, Lower Rushall Street, was fined 5s and costs for having had his house open during prohibited hours on Monday night.”

Isaac Beebee, beer retailer, 54, Lower Rushall Street. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

54, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Isaac Beebee* (53), beer seller and sadler’s ironmonger employing 2 men and 1 boy, born Walsall;
- [2] Agnes Beebee (43), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Arthur Beebee (21), son, manufacturer’s clerk, born Walsall;

[4] Mary Bould (72), mother in law, born Walsall:

1881 Census

54, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Isaac Beebee* (63), widower, beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Agnes Beddoe* (28), daughter, widow, born Walsall;
- [3] *Florence Beddoe* (8), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Eleanor Smallwood* (21), niece, born Walsall;
- [5] *Ann Perks* (44), servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1884

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions were held yesterday.....

Arthur Beebee, the EAGLE INN, Rushall Street, renewed his application to have his license extended to a large room near to but not connected with his house. The application was, however, refused.”

1891 Census

54, Lower Rushall Street – EAGLE INN

- [1] *John Peate* (53), widower, plater and beerhouse keeper, born Bromsgrove;
- [2] *George Peate* (26), son, plater, born Walsall;
- [3] *Frank Peate* (3), grandson, born Walsall;
- [4] *Annie Johnson* (27), housekeeper, born Walsall;
- [5] *Francis Homer* (22), general servant, born Walsall:

London Gazette 14/12/1894

“Bankrupts. *Peate, George Harry*, the EAGLE INN, 54, Lower Rushall Street Walsall. Licensed Victualler.”

AND

“Bankrupts. *Peate, John*, formerly the EAGLE INN, 54, Lower Rushall Street, now the WHITE ROSE, 81, Lower Rushall Street, both in Walsall, Staffordshire, trading in copartnership with *George Dant*. Foreman Harness Furniture Manufacturer and Licensed Victualler.”

AND

“Re *George Harry Peate*, licensed victualler, the EAGLE INN. Assets £21 13s, liabilities £89 5s 2d.

Bankrupt was represented by Mr. Pearman-Smith, and Mr. Oakley by Mr. Craddock.

Bankrupt said that he worked as a journeyman silver-plater until June 1893, when he went to the EAGLE INN, to manage the business for his father. He had no interest in the license. He became surety for his father to the London and Midland Bank and to a money lender. The latter sued his father and bankrupt was called upon to pay £67 12 2d.

The examination was concluded.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/11/1895

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *Joseph Fereday*, EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, elected member of the society.”

Joseph Harris Fereday, beer retailer, 54, Lower Rushall Street, and boot maker, 3, Lower Rushall Street and 4 and 20a, Caldmore. [1896]

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

“EAGLE Sick and Dividend Society. The fifth annual meeting of the above society was held on Thursday, at the house of Mr. *H. Smallwood*, Lower Rushall Street.....”

1901 Census

Lower Rushall Street – EAGLE INN

- [1] *Harry Smallwood* (45), beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Jane S. Smallwood* (39), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ada Smallwood* (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *May Smallwood* (16), daughter, pupil school teacher, born Walsall;
- [5] *Edith Smallwood* (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Nellie Smallwood* (10), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Harry Smallwood* (8), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *Sidney Smallwood* (11 months), son, born Walsall;
- [9] *Elizabeth Kinney* (23), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street. 3s.”

Harry Smallwood, beer retailer, 54, Lower Rushall Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

“Walsall Air-Gun League.

The first annual meeting of the above was held at the CRITERION, Stafford Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smallwood presided, and there was also present Messrs. Hicken (EAGLE), G. Smith (OLD KINGS ARMS), Powell (TANNERS ARMS), E. James (PLUMBERS ARMS), McDonald (CRITERION), Cliffe (GOLDEN EAGLE), Hunt, E. Towe (treasurer), and Mason (secretary).....

The undermentioned clubs with power to add to their number, were elected to the League for the forthcoming season: The WHITE HART (Walhouse Street), TANNERS ARMS, OLD KINGS ARMS, EAGLE, PLUMBERS ARMS, CRITERION, GOLDEN EAGLE, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, OAK, and DUKE OF YORK.

There was no other business of public interest.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/1/1906

“A petition was filed on Tuesday, in the Walsall County Court, by *Harry Hickin*, of the EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street, beer-house keeper. The usual receiving order was made appointing Mr. S. Wells Page (Official Receiver) receiver to the estate. Mr. Enoch Evans is the solicitor acting on behalf of the debtor.”

London Gazette 16/1/1906

“*Hickin, Harry*, the EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall-street, lately residing at Moncrieffe-street, both in Walsall, Staffordshire. Beer-house Keeper.”

George Barnfield = George Bamfield

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1909

“Another Chance. Story Of A Walsall Man’s Lapse After Reclamation.

‘During the last nine months he had kept absolutely sober and absolutely straight, and he has been to my chapel twice every Sunday. His case has been one of the most marvellous in that respect that I know.’

The man of whom this was said by the Rev. Isaiah Jones, minister of the Wesleyan Chapel at the Walsall Police, on Wednesday, was Henry Boyce, of 68 Lower Rushall Street, whose case brought to light an interesting story of his reclamation, as the result of a mission, his own valiant endeavour at reformation, and his temporary lapse from the straight and narrow path of an exemplary life. Boyce is forty-five years of age, and a rag gatherer, and he was in the dock charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street, and, also with wilfully breaking seven panes of glass, value £1 1s 8d.

The first part of the story was told by *Edwin Carter*, licensee of the EAGLE INN, and Henry Robert Parr, of Tantarra Street. The landlord stated that Boyce entered his house on Tuesday, and asked for half-a-pint of beer and a ginger beer, but he refused to serve him. Boyce then used abusive language and attempted to strike him with a policeman’s helmet which he was wearing. He also refused to comply with the request to leave the premises, and, with assistance, he was ejected. The prisoner then smashed all the windows in the bar with his fist, and forced the door open, and attempted to kick him (witness) when he tried to stop him entering the house again.

This version of the proceedings was corroborated by Henry Robert Parr, who was in the bar when Boyce first entered, and assisted the prosecutor to eject him, and the thread of the narrative was taken up by Police-constable Bell, who deposed to arresting Boyce when he left the hospital, where he had had some injuries to his hand attended to.

A Minister’s Testimony.

Then came the testimony to prisoner’s good conduct during the past nine months. Boyce himself informed the Bench that he had been teetotal, and had only broke out again on Tuesday, and he had a friendly advocate in the Rev. Isaiah Jones, who remarked that there were circumstances in the case which he thought ought to be brought to the notice of the Court. ‘I think perhaps,’ continued the rev. gentleman, ‘Boyce is better known to the Court than he is to me, but I have known him for the last nine months. He was brought onto connection with my church at a great mission we had in the town, and during these nine months he had kept absolutely sober and absolutely straight, and he has been to my chapel twice every Sunday. His case has been one of the most marvellous in that respect that I know of. I think I can explain why he lapsed, if you think it necessary. All I ask for is that if it is possible you should give him another chance. I will do what I can to help him. It was a bit of domestic trouble which might happen in any household, and it is possible that he was not responsible for what he did. He is one of those men who had been drinking for many years, and when he breaks out – well, I need not describe him, but if your Worships knew the conditions under which he lives, the surroundings, and his past history, I think you would extend leniency.

Reaping The Benefit.

Addressing the prisoner, the Chairman (Mr. R. T. Jupp) said he was going to reap the benefit of his endeavouring to be good. It was an excellent thing for him that he made the effort Mr. Jones had told them of, and that he had been faithful and persevering in trying to lead a good life. He was sure the Bench would be the last to do anything that would be the cause of his reverting to his old habits, and they were going to put him on his good behaviour for three months, in the hope that he would go on as he had been doing during the past nine months. They had known many men in Walsall who had fallen like him, and had afterwards led a good life and become useful citizens. If there should be anything about his home life he should do his best for his wife, and for his family, and it might be that his wife would join him in his endeavours. If that was so, it would be a very good thing.

Prisoner: It would be a good thing for me if she would.

Prisoner's wife then stepped forward and Mr. Loxton (Magistrates' Clerk) told her it was obvious that she could do a great deal to help her husband if she liked.

Mrs. Boyce: I have been teetotal for nine months, and have been attending chapel with him.

The prosecutor agreed to accept £1 in settlement of the damage, and this was paid by the prisoner."

1911 Census

54, Lower Rushall Street

[1] *Edwin Carter* (43), beerhouse keeper, born Shire Oak;

[2] Lavinia Carter (44), wife, married 20 years, housewife, born Walsall;

[3] Edwin Carter (17), son, coal merchant's clerk, born Walsall;

[4] Florrie Carter (14), daughter, school, born Walsall;

[5] Lavinia Carter (10), daughter, school, born Walsall:

Edwin Carter, beer retailer, 54, Lower Rushall Street. [1912]

John Hill – see also ANCHOR.

William Perry- see also RED HOUSE.

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

EAGLE, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, 1s 6d."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street. £1 0s 7½d."

Walsall Observer 19/10/1918 - Advert

"Wednesday and Thursday Next, 23rd and 24th, October, 1918.

Under instruction from Messrs. W. Butler & Co., Ltd., Springfield Brewery, Wolverhampton, Leonard C. Philpot will Sell by Auction the Brewing Plants and Utensils at the following Licensed House, viz.:

EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.

FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, Walsall.

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, Walsall.

WISEMORE TAVERN, Wisemore, Walsall.

PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, Walsall.

Comprising 11 Steel and Iron Boilers, various sizes from 100 to 250 gallons, 7 large Oak Mash Tuns, 6 Mash Rules, Malt, Shovels, Copper, Lead and Iron Piping, Brass and other taps, Wooden Platforms, 6 large Cooling Vats, 6 Copper Refrigerators (by Potterton and Keyte), 6 Troughs, 2 Copper Sparges, 2 Copper Attemperators, 6 Hop Backs, 50 casks (various sizes from 36 to 120 gallons), 8 Barn Tubs, 6 Large Fermenting Vats, 2 Underbacks, Rotary Pump and Piping, 2 Avery's Weighing Machines (4cwt and 3cwt), Pulley Rope, and Sundry Utensils.

Order Of Sale

Wednesday, October 23rd

EAGLE INN, 10.30 prompt.

FOUNTAIN INN, 12 prompt.

WALSALL ARMS, 1.30 prompt.

Thursday, October 24th

WISEMORE TAVERN, 10.30 prompt.

PHEASANT INN, 12 prompt.

On View, 9 o'clock, Morning of Sale. No catalogues.

Further particulars from the Auction and Valuation Offices, Midland Bank Chambers, The Bridge, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/8/1937

"At the Walsall Licensing Transfer Sessions on Tuesday.....

The Justices referred for compensation the EAGLE, Lower Rushall Street and the CROWN, Lower Hall Lane."

It closed in December 1937, after compensation of £1,175 had been paid.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

73, (75), Wolverhampton Street, (Wolverhampton Lane), (Wolverhampton Road), WALSALL

OWNERS

Mr. Plant (acquired in April 1885 for £700)
James Nightingall, beer retailer, Wolverhampton Street and Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.
Smith and Barton, brewers, Tipton
William Roberts Brewery Ltd., Brownhills [1924]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Samuel Nightingale [1849] – **1861**);
Mrs. Patience Nightingale (**1861**)
James Nightingale (**1861** – [1865]
John Davis [1868] – [1878];
Joseph Burley [];
Thomas Hawkins [];
James Browning [];
Arthur Scattergood [];
Thomas Hingley Lloyd [1881];
William Gough [1885];
Thomas Lawley [] – **1885**);
Thomas Plant (**1885** – **1890**);
Charles Blakeman (**1890** – **1893**);
Thomas Deakin (**1893** – **1897**);
John William Chapman (**1897** – **1904**);
James Vaughan (**1904** – **1924**); manager
Frederick Sidney ‘Fred’ Walmsley (**1924** – **1927**);
John Albutt (**1927** – **1936**);
Richard Sidney Manwaring (**1936** – **1956**);
Thomas Revitt (**1956** – **1958**);
Ralph Francis Argyle (**1958** – **1964**);
Arthur Edwin Leadbeater (**1964** – [1966]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Lane [1851]
75, Wolverhampton Street [1858], [1860], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1873], [1881]
Wolverhampton Road [1862]
73, Wolverhampton Street [1891], [1892], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908]. [1911], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932], [1939], [1940]

1851 Census

Wolverhampton Lane

- [1] *Samuel Nightingale* (38), victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Patience Nightingale* (56), wife, born Bedworth, Warwickshire;
- [3] *James Nightingale* (17), son, joiner, born Bentley, Staffordshire;
- [4] Mary Ann Nightingale (20), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] William Hogan (24), son in law, bricklayer, born Pendleton, Lancashire;
- [6] William Mayo (40), house servant, born Reading, Berkshire;

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/8/1852

“*Samuel Nightingale*, Mark Maley, and James Fisher were charged by the police with having their respective public-houses open at improper hours, and were severally fined 5s each and costs.”

[Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857](#)

“On Saturday night last an Irishman named M’Quade was drinking in several of the public houses in the town. To some of his companions he stated that he was going to leave Walsall, and did not return to his lodgings that night. About half-past nine on the following morning the keeper of the lock on the Birmingham Canal, opposite the gas works, observed something apparently floating in the canal, about a hundred yards from his house. On approaching it, he discovered it to be the head of a man, who proved to

be M'Quade. The body was standing quite upright in the water. An inquest was held the following day at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton Road, before A. A. Fletcher Esq, borough coroner, and a verdict of Found Drowned was returned."

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/4/1859

"On Friday night, about half-past eleven o'clock, the body of a man named John Hayward was found in the canal, near Bridgman Street. The deceased had been at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Lane, drinking up to ten o'clock, at which time he left, being rather the worse for liquor, and he was not afterwards seen alive."

1861 Census

Wolverhampton Road – ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

- [1] *Patience Nightingale* (60), widow, victualler, born Nuneaton;
- [2] *James Nightingale* (26), son, victualler, born Bentley;
- [3] William Mays (50), brewer, born Buckinghamshire;
- [4] Sarah Moore (17), house servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861

"The business of the general licensing day then commenced. There were seventeen applications.....

Horatio Hefford, ORANGE TREE, Wolverhampton Road, applied for a license. Mr. Wilkinson supported the application, and pointed out that although the ORANGE TREE was within 150 yards of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, the landlord of the latter (Mr. *Nightingale*) had signed a memorial in favour of granting a license, because the additional business which would be brought to the house by the license would not be of a local character, and would not interfere with the trade of the locality. Refused."

James Nightingale – see also ORANGE TREE.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/10/1866

"On Saturday afternoon, a boatman named Charles James observed the body of a man floating in the canal near the Gas Works. The body was immediately got out of the water, and conveyed to the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE public-house, where it was identified as that of Patrick Martin, a blind fiddler, who had left his residence in Short Acre on Monday to go to Bilston, and it is thought that on his way home he had fallen into the canal, which at the point he was found is unfenced. Several parties within the last few years have been drowned at the same place."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/4/1868 - Advert

"To be Disposed of, a capital Old-licensed Inn, doing a good in and out-door trade, with spacious Concert Hall, Stabling, &c, for thirty horses, and other appurtenances. Reason for leaving, illness. Rent under £30. Setting off reduces it to £20. No Agents treated with.

Apply to Mr. *Davis*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/12/1868

"On Tuesday Mr. A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, held an inquest at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Lane, touching the death of Mr. W. White, of the firm of White and Son, coal-merchants, who died on Monday from the effects of severe injuries sustained by him on the 12th ult. through being knocked down by a runaway pair of horses which he was attempting to stop, one of the wheels of the waggon to which they were harnessed passing over his body. Verdict Accidental Death."

John Davis = John Davies

See also OLD BUSH, Bilston Road, Wolverhampton.

1871 Census

75, Wolverhampton Street – ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN

- [1] *John Davis* (51), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Eliza Davis (48), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] Harriet Arnold (19), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/5/1874

"The usual monthly delegate meeting [Amalgomated Association of Miners] for the Darlaston district took place on Monday, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Walsall....."

Midland Counties Evening Express 28/4/1875

"The usual monthly delegate meeting of this district [Darlaston] of the Amalgamated Association [of Miners] was held on Monday, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Walsall, Mr. G. Carter presiding....."

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

"On Wednesday, Mr. Fletcher held an inquest at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Road, on the body of Arabella Lambourn, aged 37, widow, Francis Street. The evidence showed that on Monday night a vein in the calf of the deceased's right leg burst, the blood flowing copiously and causing death in about 40 minutes, before the arrival of Dr. Pattle, who was at

once sent for. Verdict, Death from Natural Causes.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 1/1/1878 - Deaths

“On the 20th ultimo, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Walsall, Eliza, the beloved wife of *John Davies*.”

1881 Census

75, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Thomas Hingley Lloyd* (57), painter, born Weston on Trent, Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Lloyd (50), wife, born Hoxley, Staffordshire;
- [3] Thomas William Lloyd (24), son, painter, born Weston on Trent, Staffordshire;
- [4] John Lloyds (21), son, painter, born Burton on Trent;
- [5] Emma Mercer (16), boarder, milliner, born Swinstock, Derbyshire:

Walsall Observer 31/1/1885 - Advert

“Birmingham Town Brewery Co.

Stores – ELEPHANT & CASTLE, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall.

Mr. *W. Gough* Having been appointed Agent for Walsall and District, begs to call special attention to these Celebrated Ales and Stouts, Which he will keep regularly in Stock. Samples may be tasted and Orders received at the above address.

Proprietors of the Registered Acme Stoppered Bottles, In which their Ales and Stouts may be had; also Bass’s Pale Ale and Guinness’s Stout.”

Walsall Observer 28/2/1885

“Mr. R. W. Gillespie (of the firm of Wilkinson, Gillespie and Wilkinson) made an application for the license of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton Street, to be transferred from *Thomas Lawley* to *Thomas Plant*.

Mr. *Lawley* opposed the transfer, stating that there were certain considerations due to him.

Sergeant Drury said he visited the house on Thursday, when he found that it was not in *Lawley*’s possession.

The Bench said they had nothing to do with any dispute between *Lawley* and the Brewery Company, and transferred the license to *Thomas Plant*.”

1891 Census

73, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Charles Blakeman* (57), licensed victualler, born Swinnerton, Staffordshire;
- [2] Ada Jane Blakeman (56), wife, born Alton, Hampshire;
- [3] Kate Mary Blakeman (24), daughter, tailoress, born Swinnerton, Staffordshire;
- [4] Matthew Hale Blakeman (23), son, painter, born Swinnerton, Staffordshire;
- [5] Austin Henry Blakeman (21), son, painter, born Stone;
- [6] Harriet Edgar (14), domestic servant, born Chester:

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1892 - Advert

“ELEPHANT & CASTLE, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, to Let; cause, ill-health of proprietor; an excellent business house, with good stables and premises.

Apply Watkins & Powell, Auctioneers Walsall.”

[This was repeated for several weeks.]

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1892

“On Wednesday afternoon Mr. T. H. Stanley (Borough Coroner) held an inquest at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Walsall, on the body of Charles Hearne (43), of 53, Rowland Street, who died on Sunday morning. The inquiry occupied a long time, and the facts appeared to be that the deceased worked at Messrs. Thomas’s furnaces, and found at the top of one of them a small lump of a white substance. He showed this to a fellow-workman, telling him that it would do him (deceased) good, as he was in poor health. On Sunday morning he was getting his breakfast, when he suddenly fell forward and died, and it is supposed that he put into his tea the lump of stuff, which proved to be cyanide of potassium. No one saw or knew that he did this, but Dr. J. Scott Wilson, who made the post-mortem examination of the body, stated that the stomach smelt strongly of prussic acid, and showed that death had been caused by a violent irritant poison. In the bottle which contained deceased’s tea he found the same poison which had caused death. One of the workmen who had been engaged at the furnaces for five years stated that he had never known or heard of such a substance as that found by the deceased being formed in the furnaces. After a long consultation the jury returned a verdict of Death by Poison, taken by Misadventure.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/4/1893 - Advert

“Club Room to let, 1893.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1894

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *Thomas Deakin*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 20/4/1895

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held at the house of Mr. *Thomas Deakin*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Mr. Jackson made application for permission to alter the license of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton Street. The magistrates in this case expressed no opposition.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/12/1899

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held at the house of Mr. *John William Chapman*, the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.....”

1901 Census

73, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *John W. Chapman* (39), public house manager, born Wandsworth, London;

[2] *Martha A. Chapman* (43), wife, born Rothwell, Northamptonshire;

[3] *Martha B. Chapman* (16), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Florence E. Chapman* (14), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[5] *Annie M. Chapman* (10), daughter, born Wednesbury;

[6] *Arthur E. Chapman* (6), son, born Walsall;

[7] *Dora M. Chapman* (6), daughter, born Walsall:

J. W. Chapman was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1902

“Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of the above society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *John William Chapman*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 4/7/1903

“The fourth annual excursion promoted by the members of the Harris Davis Lodge of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, which has its headquarters at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Walsall, took place on Monday.....”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905], [1906]

Walsall Advertiser 27/6/1908

“Joseph King, 2, Thomas Street, was summoned for being found drunk on licensed premises. Inspector Haycock stated that on Saturday, the 13th inst, about 7pm, he was passing along Wolverhampton Street, and when in front of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE he saw defendant leave the bar in a very drunken condition, and when out of the house fell down twice. Witness questioned the barman, who said that he had refused to serve defendant, and it was just as he was leaving that witness saw him. Defendant, who said he was out of work, was fined 5s, including costs.”

1911 Census

73, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *James Vaughan* (42), licensed victualler, born Kidderminster;

[2] *Betty Vaughan* (38), wife, married 17 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[3] *Ada Catherine Vaughan* (16), daughter, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[4] *Caroline Vaughan* (8), daughter, school, born Walsall;

[5] *Joseph William Vaughan* (3), son, born Walsall;

[6] *Rosa Nock* (21), general servant, born Tamworth, Warwickshire:

Walsall Observer 21/6/1924

“A reminder that *Fred Walmsley* has removed to the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall. Roberts Ltd, excellent Ales, Wines and Spirits.”

1939 Register

73, Wolverhampton Street – ELEPHANT AND CASTLE (2 of 3)

[1] *Richard S. Manwaring*, date of birth 13/6/1900, publican, tenant, married;

[2] *Annie Manwaring*, dob 30/11/1905, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....
ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton Street, £2 17s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 10/1/1942

“There was good attendance at the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society, on Thursday, at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Walsall.....”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Manwaring*, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE. £0 15s 1d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
ELEPHANT & CASTLE, Wolverhampton Street. £1 12s 4d.”

Richard Sidney Manwaring – see also RED LION.

A team from here competed in the Shropshire, Staffordshire and Derby division of The People National Darts Teams Championship of England and Wales in 1952/3.

Thomas Revitt – see also BRIDGE HOUSE.

Ralph Francis Argyle – see also ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, and BRIDGEWATER.

ENGINE

Pleck Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

W Cox [1864] – [1865]

NOTES

W. Cox was also a shopkeeper. [1864], [1865]

ENGINE

(82), 81, (80), Wolverhampton Street, (81, Wolverhampton Road), (Wolverhampton Lane), WALSALL

OWNERS

Sarah Hildick, widow, Birmingham Road, Walsall
Robert Hodson, Park Street, Walsall [1880]
J. E. Hennessy, lessee
Peter Walker and Co. Ltd., Burton on Trent

LICENSEES

William Osborn [1834] – [1842]
William Turner [1845]

Richard Jackson [1849] – [1850]
John White [1858] – [1862]
Thomas Bassett [1864] – [1881];
Joseph King [1880] ?
Joseph King (1886 – 1894);
George Brookes (1894 – 1898);
Charles Lyons (1898 – 1900);
John Edward Hennessy (1900 – 1904);
Charles Gwynne [1902] manager
Charles Hennessy (1904 – 1910);
Carnaby Ansdell (1910 – 1911);
Alfred Saunders (1911 – 1919);
Thomas Alfred Gough (1919 – 1922);
James Roden (1922 – 1936);
Rowland Davenport Massey (1936 – 1938);
Arthur Standley (1938 – 1939);
Norman David/Donald Tennant (1939 – 1942);
Thomas Henry Noake (1942 – 1954);
William Ewart Mountford (1954 – 1957);
Walter Jeffrey Johnson (1957 – 1958);
John Zenas Watts (1958 – 1959);
George Edward Franks (1959 – [1966])

NOTES

Wolverhampton Road [1849]
81, Wolverhampton Road [1858], [1861], [1908]
Wolverhampton Lane [1862]
80, Wolverhampton Street
81, Wolverhampton Street [1860], [1865], [1871], [1881], [1891], [1911], [1912], [1932], [1940]
Wolverhampton Street [1881]
82, Wolverhampton Street [1939]

It was situated near the junction of Wolverhampton Street and Blue Lane West.

STEAM ENGINE [1834]
ENGINE TAVERN [1861]
ENGINE HOUSE [1871]

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

81, Wolverhampton Road – ENGINE TAVERN
[1] John White (56), innkeeper, born Tamworth;
[2] Maria White (41), wife, born Birmingham;
[3] Thomas Trow (23), lodger, boat builder, born Bilston, Montgomeryshire;
[4] Enoch Baldwin (20), lodger, boat builder, born West Bromwich;
[5] George Darby (18), lodger, boat builder, born Bedworth, Warwickshire:

Walsall Free Press 19/4/1862 - Advert

“To Be Let, that Old-licensed Public House, the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Lane. May be entered upon immediately. Apply on the premises.”

Thomas Bassett, beer retailer, 81, Wolverhampton Street. [1864], [1868], [1872]

Walsall Free Press 23/7/1864

“Thomas Bassett, landlord of the ENGINE public house, was charged with permitting disorderly conduct on his premises. From the evidence, it appeared that Police-constables Keats and M’Caffrey visited the house, and, on going into the back yard, they found, besides six others, one man very drunk, and locked up in a stable, from the window of which a jug was thrown. Fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Assessment Committee. At the meeting of this committee, held yesterday, the following appeals were disposed of.....

Thomas Bassett, Wolverhampton Lane, had the valuation of his house reduced from £20 to £17.”

1871 Census

81, Wolverhampton Street – ENGINE HOUSE

- [1] *Thomas Bassett* (48), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] Sarah Bassett (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joshua Bassett (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Catherine Bassett (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Mary Ann Bassett (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

The license was transferred from 80, Wolverhampton Street to 81, Wolverhampton Street circa 1880.

1881 Census

81, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Thomas Bassett* (58), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] Sarah Bassett (49), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joshua Bassett (22), son, general labourer, born Walsall;
- [4] James Byng (22), son in law, harness maker, born Birmingham;
- [5] Catherine Byng (20), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Julia May Byng (1), granddaughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/9/1890

“The adjourned licensing session was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Mr. Whitehouse applied either to remove the license from the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, to the next house, or for permission to alter the present house. He pointed out that in neither case would more difficulty be cast upon the police, whilst either of them would ensure the convenience of the public. The decision was ordered to stand over.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1890

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions. The business from the annual licensing session last week took place at the Guildhall yesterday.... The Bench after a long deliberation in private.....

The Bench also refused the application of the owner of the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, for sanction to the removal of the license to an adjacent house, or for alterations of the present premises. At the same time, they explained that that did not prejudice a reconsideration of the matter on an offer similar to that of the LITTLE SWAN [surrendering another license] being made.”

1891 Census

81, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Joseph King* (31), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Ann King (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Bassett (72), father, born Birmingham;
- [4] Sarah Bassett (61), mother, born Walsall;
- [5] Joseph William King (9), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Charles Henry King (7), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Rose Ward (19), servant, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1892 - Advert

“To Builders.

Parties desirous of Tendering for the taking Down of the Existing Buildings known as the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, and for the Erection of New Premises on the site, must apply by letter to Mr. S. Loxton, Architect, Bridge Street, Walsall, on or before Monday, the 11th day of April.

Quantities will be supplied.

The Proprietors will not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/8/1892

“A special sessions for licensing business was held on Wednesday morning at the Guildhall....

Mr. W. J. Disturnal (barrister) asked for the approval of plans prepared in respect of the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street. He explained that at the last licensing sessions the renewal of the license was opposed by the police on the ground that the house was not structurally adapted for its purpose, and applicant then undertook to carry out certain required improvements. Plans for this purpose had already been submitted to the magistrates, but as they would entail a cost of £1,000, modifications had to be carried out. The new plans were now submitted, and could be carried out for £300. Granted.”

[It would seem that the house was rebuilt, with suitable accommodation for inquests, as it became a very popular venue with the Coroner.]

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The Chief-constable then gave formal notice that he intended to oppose the renewal of the following licenses.....

The ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, the reason being that the house was not structurally adopted for the purpose. In this case the Chief said that plans for satisfactory alterations had been approved by the justices, and he (the Chief) took this course in order to ensure the commencement of work before the adjourned sessions.”

Walsall Observer 1/10/1892

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday.....

Mr. W. J. Corbett applied for the renewal of the license of the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, which had been adjourned owing to the structural inadaptability of the house.

Plans for improvements had been passed by the magistrates, and Mr. Loxton (architect) now stated that the work had been commenced, and would be completed by the middle of January Renewed.”

George Brooks, beer retailer, 81, Wolverhampton Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 12/12/1896

“The first fatality occasioned by the electric trams in Walsall since the opening of the system occurred on Monday night at a spot between the Pleck and James Bridge Station, known as the Black Gap. The victim was a coachbuilder named Samuel Spooner (57), of 158, Darlaston Road, Pleck, who on Monday night called at the BROWN LION INN, but, on account of his condition, was turned away. He went with his wife as far as Narrow Lane, but she then left him, and subsequently two youths, named Frank Newey and Tuckley, saw ‘something’ dark lying on the tram rails, but before they could get near enough to examine it a tram came up and ran over what turned out to be Spooner, who had lain there helplessly drunk. When extricated by means of a jack he was quite dead.

An inquest was held at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street (the body having been conveyed to the public mortuary) by the Borough Coroner, Mr. T. H. Stanley, on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Robins, Mr. H. Hackett, and Mr. F. Spencer represented the Tramways Company, and Mr. G. D. Elliot the Electrical Construction Company.

It was stated that the tram was not going at more than six miles an hour, and a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/12/1898

“Mr. T. H. Stanley, Borough Coroner, held an inquest at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, yesterday afternoon touching the death of John Astbury (48), caster, 28, Lower Hall Lane. Deceased died at his home on Wednesday. The firm of Messrs. H. Frost and Co. was represented by Mr. F. Dolman, and Mr. J. Jackson, factory inspector, was present. Deceased came home from work some few days ago and complained of having ‘overlifted’ himself. A medical man was called in, and attended him till the time of his death.

Dr. McKinstry said deceased told him that he felt something give way when he was lifting a pot of metal. The post-mortem examination revealed the presence of a large abscess in the abdomen, and he was of opinion that this burst. The bursting of the abscess might have been due to great muscular effort or considerable violence, but it might have burst spontaneously. Deceased was also suffering from congestion of the lungs. The bursting of the abscess would accelerate death.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased died from the bursting of an abscess.

Deceased was well-known and respected amongst bellringers, and for many years was a member of the Volunteer band.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/4/1899

“Mr. T. H. Stanley (coroner) held an inquest at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, on Thursday, touching the death of Patrick Murphy (29), single, labourer, who lived at Powell’s Lodging House, Peal Street. Deceased died suddenly on Tuesday afternoon. Medical evidence showed that the deceased was suffering from consumption, and that syncope resulted.

A verdict in accordance with this was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Charles Lyons, ENGINE INN, served 137 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Walsall Observer 20/1/1900

“On Monday afternoon the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, on the body of Fanny Bowen (27), wife of Alfred Wm. Bowen, in lodgings at 7, Navigation Street, who was burnt to death by a lamp accident.

Alfred William Bowen (husband of deceased) stated that he and his wife had been in lodgings for three or four months at 7,

Navigation Street. On Sunday night they were together in the kitchen, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, with whom they lodged, being in the front room. At about a quarter past twelve they passed through the kitchen to go to bed. About five minutes later witness's wife got up from the chair on which she was sitting and took the double burner oil lamp from the table to go to bed. She had got up one or two steps when she called out. Witness jumped up and saw that she was a mass of flames. He got his coat and endeavoured to extinguish the flames, calling at the same time for help. She seemed to fall to the floor as he wrapped his coat round her, and it did not seem above a minute or so before she lay on the floor a corpse, with all clothes burned off. They were both on good terms. Witness thought she had caught the lamp against the stairs and smashed it, the burning oil going all over her clothes. It did not explode. They had had this same lamp for about three years, and the oil was the kind they always used.

By a juror: When deceased took the lamp he was left in darkness. His wife did this often to make him go to bed, as he was a great reader and it aggravated her.

William Johnson, 7, Navigation Street, puddler, stated that the Bowens lodged with them, and on Saturday night at about a quarter past twelve, he and his wife went to bed leaving the Bowens in the kitchen. A few minutes afterwards they heard a smash – like that of some crockery – and then he heard a shout for help. Witness opened his bedroom door, but could see nothing for the flames and smoke. Witness hurriedly dressed and came downstairs. He then found deceased at the bottom of the stairs – apparently dead – with her husband standing near and he then went for the police.

Sarah Johnson, wife of the last witness, gave similar evidence.

Inspector Ballance stated that at 12.35 on Sunday morning he was called to the house, where he found the woman Fanny Bowen lying on her back at the bottom of the stairs, quite dead, her body being badly burned and her clothes, which were nearly burned out, still smouldering. The lamp (broken) lay on the floor by the side of her, and the stairs door and doorposts were burned.

By a juror: The husband, who was on his knees by the body, was drunk.

Dr. Harry Shore spoke to seeing the body of the deceased at about half past twelve. It was lying at the bottom of the stairs and was fearfully charred, there being no clothing on except about the waist. The cause of death would be suffocation and shock. Her clothes must have been burned very quickly, and they must have been saturated with oil. The man Bowen was drunk.

Mrs. Johnson recalled, stated that deceased had apparently had drink, but she could not say she was drunk.

The Coroner, having summed up, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Observer 3/2/1900

“The Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest on Thursday afternoon, at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, on the body of Frederick Henry Siddons (7), whose parents reside in Westbourne Road, and who was found dead in bed on Wednesday.

Henry Siddons, clerk, of Westbourne Road, gave evidence of identification of his son, and deposed that on Tuesday night, at ten minutes after seven, he carried his son to bed, as he had been ailing for about two days. At eight o'clock next morning witness went into his bedroom, and as he appeared to be asleep he left him. Mrs. Siddons saw him about five minutes afterwards, and he still appeared to be asleep. She went up some short time later, and called witness, stating that he looked queer. Witness then examined him, and came to the conclusion that he was dead, as he could find no pulsation of his heart. He then called in Dr. Oliver, who, however, could only pronounce life to be extinct.

Dr. Oliver deposed that on his arrival at the house between eight and nine o'clock he found the child dead, but there was nothing that would enable him to form any opinion as to the cause of death. At the Coroner's request he had that day made a post-mortem. The cause of death was a very large and highly organised blood clot, which had become detached from the inner side of the right auricle of the heart and passing to the pulmonary artery, completely closing it, and so stopping the entire supply of blood to the lungs. This was very unusual, and he had never seen so large a blood clot even in an adult.

The jury returned a verdict of Natural Causes, and both Coroner and jury expressed their deep sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Siddons in their sad bereavement.”

Walsall Observer 10/2/1900

“On Wednesday afternoon the circumstances attending the death of a child named Alfred Evans, aged 3 years and 8 months, of 10, Francis Street, were investigated by the Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley), at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street.

John Evans, a gas works labourer, of Francis Street, identified the body as that of his son, who was injured on Thursday, January 18th. He was brought into the house at about 3.15 in the afternoon with his head badly cut. They bathed the wound, and the hair was cut away, and some sticking-plaster was put over the wound. He did not think it was a serious one, and did not send for a doctor. On the following Monday the child cried to go out, and the mother took him out. Next day, on Wednesday, Dr. Shore was fetched, and he attended the child until his death on Saturday last.

Margaret Connally, the wife of John Connally, of Francis Street, stated that on January 18th her nephew, John Roach, brought her some coals in a barrow, which he took through the front door. He was putting the coal into the coal-place in the back kitchen, and finding a piece of bat [a piece of brick] among the coal threw it through the door into the street. She heard a child cry, and found the deceased with his head cut. She took him into the house, bathed his head, and took him home. She did not think it was possible for her nephew to have seen the child.

Dr. P. A. Shore spoke to attending the child from January 24th to the time of his death on Saturday last. When witness saw the child he was only half conscious, and had a scalp wound 1¼ inches long and half an inch wide extending to the bone. About a couple of days afterwards the child developed inflammation of the lungs, on top of the already existing inflammation of the brain. These complaints, in his opinion, were caused by the absorption of the matter into the blood, namely, septic inflammation. Death was caused, firstly, by inflammation of the brain, and, secondly, pneumonia, both the result of the injury. It was probable that the child might have caught a chill, which fed to the wound. The wound was by no means a serious one in the first place.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned, and the boy Roach was cautioned.”

AND

“On Wednesday afternoon the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, relative to the death of a boy, named Alfred Powell (12), of 167, Queen Street, who was found dead on a hot cinder heap at the back of the Cyclops Ironworks, on Sunday.

William Powell, the father of the deceased boy, stated that he lived at 167, Queen Street, and was an iron caster. Deceased went to school when they could get him to, which was not very often. He had also stayed out at nights on one or two occasions. On Tuesday morning of last week the boy was told to wash himself, but had to be forced. He then went off in a passion, saying that he would never come home again. They did not see him again, and, although enquiries were made, he was not seen again. The cinder heap, where deceased was found, was at the back of their house.

John Cheadle, of 76, Queen Street, a polisher, stated that he did not know the deceased, but at about twenty minutes after two on Sunday afternoon he was in the yard, when a boy came and told him that he had seen two boys on the mounds. He and another youth went to the cinder mound at the back of the Cyclops Ironworks, where they found two boys lying face downwards on the cinders, which were warm and smoking. They carried the boys to houses close by, and sent for the police. Both boys were insensible, and one was found to be dead, and the other boy was taken to the hospital.

Dr. Hoden (assistant to Dr. Dearden) stated that on Sunday afternoon he saw the deceased boy Alfred Powell at a house in Queen Street. Witness examined him, and found that he was dead. Judging from the other boy, he should say that death was due to carbolic acid gas poisoning from the cinder heaps.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Observer 10/3/1900

“On Saturday morning, Mr. T. H. Stanley (the borough coroner) held an inquest at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, on the body of a man whose name was unknown, but who was described as being about 63 years of age, height 5ft 5in, thin face, grey hair, grey beard and moustache, currier by trade, and has the appearance of a tramp. He was dressed in a felt hat, black and white plaid muffler, striped shirt, two coats, one dark material and the other dark blue, both dirty and very much worn; black and white striped trousers, lace-up boots, and no stockings.

Martin Burke, living at 101, Lower Rushall Street, common lodging house keeper, said he saw deceased come into the lodging house at a quarter to twelve on Tuesday night. Witness did not know his name or anything about him. He said he had only got 3½d and wished witness to let him stop, and as he consented, deceased went to bed. Next morning, at half past nine, he was found at the bottom of two flights of steps, lying on his back. He seemed to be very ill, and they went for the police.

Jane Burke, employed by the last witness, as a domestic servant, stated that about 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning she saw a man trying to slide down the stairs. He was on his back, and could not speak, but came down three flights of stairs in that manner. Witness and another young woman picked him up and put him on the sofa. Dr. McKinsty afterwards saw deceased. When witness saw deceased the night before he seemed to have been drinking heavily.

Dr. McKinsty gave evidence that he was called in to see this man at Lower Rushall Street on Wednesday morning. He was quite dead, and from an external examination witness was unable to give an opinion as to the cause of death. At the coroner's request he had made a post mortem examination, and found that the cause of death was inflammation of the lungs following on an old kidney disease.

Sergeant Pritchard (9) [his number] stated that he had made enquiries respecting the deceased. He found that the man had been seen about the town for the last three weeks. At the club-house of the carriers he had stated that he was 63 and a currier. He was, last night (Friday), seen by Dr. Utting, who believed he was a man he had known for years. If he was the man he was named George or Harry Gen, a native of Derby, but Mr. Utting was not prepared to swear to his identity. He had been photographed, and his description and photo had been circulated round the district, but no information had been received.

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

Walsall Observer 21/4/1900

“On Saturday morning last an inquest was held at the ENGINE INN by the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley), in relation to the death of Job Stanley (44), an engine fitter, of 2 House, 1 Court, Ryecroft Street, who is alleged to have met with an accident whilst at work in Northampton, and who died on Thursday morning last at his house.

Sarah Ann Stanley, of 2 House, 1 Court, Ryecroft Street, stated that she was the wife of the deceased, who had recently been working at Northampton, returning home on the previous Saturday night. He was then so ill that he could not work, and was brought home by two men whom she did not know. Deceased said he had got his 'death blow'. Witness replied, 'Don't say that.' He answered, 'Yes I have, I'm sure. I was hit with a swing hook three weeks ago.' On the Monday the deceased went to see Dr. O'Meara, and he was afterwards attended by him. On Thursday morning her husband died, and witness told the doctor what deceased had said about the accident. She asked for a certificate and Dr. O'Meara said he could not give her one.

Lucy Roberts, the wife of William Roberts, of 1 House, 1 Court, Ryecroft Street stated that she lived next door to Mrs. Stanley, and on Sunday morning she saw the deceased. She asked him how he was. He replied, 'Oh! This blow has killed me. I've been hit with a swing hook.' On witness further enquiring about he accident, he said the windlass was loosed and the swing hook caught me.

John Baggott, of 17, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, a foreman engine fitter, stated that deceased and himself were in the employ of Messrs. G. and B. Thomas. Since February 7th deceased and other men had been employed at the Greendon Iron Works, at Finedon, Northamptonshire, removing machinery from there to Bloxwich. Witness had been to Finedon once each week, and on Saturday the 7th inst. he travelled to Walsall in the same train as deceased. Stanley seemed to be very unwell, and told witness he was suffering from bronchitis, stating that he had been to a doctor in Finedon. He said nothing about an accident, and no accident had been reported to witness.

Dr. O'Meara stated that he saw Stanley on Monday evening at his surgery in Stafford Street. He complained of a cough, and said his breath was very bad. Witness finding him to be seriously ill, ordered him to bed, and prescribed for him. He made no mention of an accident. Witness afterwards saw him at his own house, when he was dangerously ill, suffering from pneumonia in the right lung. On Thursday morning witness heard of his death. He would have been surprised had deceased recovered, and was satisfied that death was due to pneumonia. A severe blow on the chest or side might have caused the pneumonia. He did not hear any suggestion of an accident until after the man's death. He had since, by the Coroner's direction, made a post mortem examination of the body. The right lung showed signs of advanced pneumonia, the other organs being normal. This confirmed his previous opinion, and although he examined the body carefully, he could find no evidence of violence. Had the man's death been due to violence he would naturally have expected to find some trace of it. The cause of death was syncope, due to pneumonia. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

Walsall Observer 4/8/1900

"An inquest was held on Saturday morning at the ENGINE INN, by the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley), on the body of John Maitland Christie (66), Windsor Street, who died in the Arboretum on Thursday, July 26th.

George Watt Christie, of 101, Borneo Street, son of the deceased, said that his father had been living with his son John in Windsor Street. Until a few years ago the deceased worked for his brother, William Christie, brown saddler, in the office.

William Charles Robothan, 29, Camden Street, ironfounder, said that he met the deceased, whom he knew well, as he was coming out of the Arboretum on Thursday night, July 26th. Witness was just going in when he met the deceased, and stopped to speak to him. He found him practically unable to speak. He advised him to rest, and the deceased seated himself on the seat under the clock, where he was immediately afterwards seized by some kind of a fit. Witness, with assistance, laid him on the grass plot in front of the entrance, and sent for medical assistance. Afterwards deceased seemed to recover himself a little, and he was conveyed back to the seat, where he died. Dr. Sydenham was fetched to him about two minutes after his death.

Dr. Sydenham stated that he saw the deceased in the Arboretum a few minutes after nine. He was quite dead then, and was being supported on the seat under the clock. On making a post mortem examination witness found that death was due to heart failure, caused by an effusion of fluid into the chest, the result of pleurisy.

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

Walsall Observer 1/12/1900

"Mr. T. H. Stanley, borough coroner, held an inquiry at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, yesterday afternoon, into the death of Emma Mason (40), 78, Bentley Lane, who died suddenly on Wednesday.

Thomas George Mason, living at 78, Bentley Lane, a pattern maker, gave evidence that the deceased was his wife. On Wednesday morning he left home at about a quarter after nine. She was then apparently quite well, but at half past eleven he was fetched from his work by a woman named Burrowes who told him his wife was dying. He found his wife prostrate on the rug before the fire quite unconscious and breathing heavily. Witness went for a doctor, and meeting Dr. McKinstry in his carriage, he asked him to go and see his wife. The doctor saw her, and twice afterwards that day. The last time, however, she was dead. Her death took place at about ten minutes to seven the same evening, without regaining consciousness.

Harold Mason, son of the deceased, stated that on the 28th November he was at home in bed, and at about eleven o'clock he heard a noise. On coming down he found Mrs. Walker, a neighbour, shouting at his mother in the yard, the former challenging her to fight. Witness asked his mother to come into the house, which she did. Mrs. Walker appeared very excited, and his mother was crying. The quarrel was about some fowl belonging to Mrs. Walker, which came into the house, and which deceased drove out. After sitting down for a short time his mother went about her work again, but in a few moments she stumbled, and she asked him to fetch Mrs. Read, a neighbour. Witness did not see any blows struck.

Mary Read, living at 99, Bentley Lane, said that on Wednesday morning Harold Mason fetched her to his mother, whom she found sitting in a chair. Deceased said she was dying, and asked for brandy and for a doctor to be fetched. She laid deceased on the hearth rug, and she became unconscious.

Sarah Ann Walker, 75, Bentley Lane, gave evidence that on Wednesday morning Mrs. Mason complained that her fowl had broken a tree. Witness said she could not help it, and that she had not done it. She promised to give deceased another tree for it. Mrs. Mason replied that she did not want the tree, but that she would go down to the landlady. Witness, in reply, said that she did not care for the landlady. Some other words passed, and deceased's son fetched her in. Witness did not go near deceased.

The husband of the deceased questioned the witness with a view to showing that there had been a long standing disagreement in reference to the fowls. Witness denied any knowledge that in consequence of her abuse deceased had been ill two days on a previous occasion.

Dr. McKinstry stated that as a result of a post mortem examination he found the cause of death to be bleeding on the base of the brain, the result of diseased kidneys and arteries. Excitement would tend to produce the hemorrhage.

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

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1902

"Thomas Navin, 108, Blue Lane, was summoned at the instance of *Charles Gwynne*, of the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, for breaking a plate glass window, and doing damage to John Hennessey to the amount of £5.

Jane Toft said she was standing by the ENGINE INN the previous night, and saw prisoner throw a brick (produced) through one of the windows of the house.

Charles Gwynne, the manager of the ENGINE INN, said that he heard a crash, and on going outside found one of his windows broken, and prisoner standing near it. He admitted having broken the window, and gave him in charge.

Police-constable Lloyd deposed to arresting Navin, who said he had smashed the pane for fun, as he wanted to be locked up.

A fine of 40s and costs, with payment of the damage, was given prisoner as the alternative to two months' hard labour.”

John Edward Hennessy died in the last quarter of 1904.

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904

“The Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, yesterday, upon the body of John Wilkins (35), lately landlord of the BRITANNIA INN, Cross Street, Darlaston, who was found drowned in the canal on the Darlaston Road, Pleck, on Thursday morning.

Marth Gregory, wife of William Gregory, of Reynolds Street, Smethwick, identified the body as that of her brother-in-law, whom she last saw about six weeks ago, when he appeared cheerful and well.

Ruth Wilkins, widow of deceased, said he had suffered from pains in the head, but since he went to the public house he had been worse and it had preyed upon his mind. He was on Wednesday week served with two summonses for supplying drink to a drunken person, and permitting him to be upon the premises. That night he did not have his supper, and was unable to sleep. She saw him crying the next morning when he got up, and when she tried to cheer him up he replied that he could not face the summonses. He afterwards went out of the house, and she did not see him again alive. Her husband was a steady man, and they had always got on well together. He was a steel tube drawer by trade, and made some money, but had lost it at the house, which was misrepresented to him when he went in. When his brother-in-law went over to see him deceased told him that he was a ruined man, and that it had nearly driven him to it (meaning suicide).

The foreman requested that the Press might make a special note of the misrepresentations that had been made. There had been a great deal of that sort of thing going on.

The Coroner, in summing up, said that deceased had undoubtedly made a bad bargain, and he thought the loss of money had preyed upon his mind.

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/4/1908

“About 7.30 on the evening of March 28th there was a crowd outside the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, and Police-constable Ashby going inside, saw William Stephens, whom he deemed to be the worse for liquor, and the man now answered his name to a charge of being drunk on licensed premises. At the time, the manager of the house was in the cellar, an on being called said he had not served the defendant and did not know he was in the house, but he corroborated the officer's statement so far that had he asked for drink he should not have served him. Defendant said he had been at home 3½ hours before he went to the ENGINE to pay his club money – he did not ask for a drink, but before he had been there two seconds a man named Gavan set about him, he went outside, and he returned into the house for protection, when the officer arrived.

A witness spoke of defendant's sobriety at the time.

The case was adjourned for three months to see how defendant conducted himself, and he had to pay the costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction by Mr. A. C. Fraser Wood, FAI (Watkins, Powell & Wood), at the BRADFORD ARMS, Upper Bridge Street, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 20th day of September, 1910, at Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely (subject to Conditions to be then produced).....

Lot 2. The unexpired residue of the Lease of the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, held by the representatives of the late Mr. *J. E. Hennessy* from Messrs. John Walker and others, on a repairing lease for a term of 21 years from the 23rd day of March, 1897, at an annual rental of £150.

The ENGINE INN is an old full-licensed house, now in the occupation of the above-named lessees, and contains: bar, smoke room, 2 kitchens, 5 rooms on first floor, cellar, yard and stable.

The trade of the house in ale, beer and other malt liquors and wines and spirits is tied to the lessors.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, Mr. A. C. Fraser Wood, FAI, 28, Upper Bridge Street, Walsall; or to Messrs. C. & S. Loxton, Solicitors, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

1911 Census

81, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Carnaby Ansdell* (24), licensed victualler, born Cheltenham;

[2] Sarah Ansdell (28), wife, married 2 years, assisting in business, born Tipton;

[3] Hilda Ansdell (1), daughter, born Wednesbury;

[4] Florence Kirkham (26), visitor, born Tipton;

[5] Gertrude Wilson (17), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1915 - Advert

“Barman Wanted at once; good references required.

Apply ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street. £1 2s 4d.”

South Staffordshire Times 25/2/1922

“At Staffordshire Assizes this week, *Thomas Alfred Gough* (30), licensed victualler, of the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, was charged with between the 17th December, 1910, and the 5th December, 1921, at Walsall, converting to his own use £116 18s, entrusted to him by Alice Wright, being the monies of the Female Gift and Friendly Society. According to the opening of Mr. J. Wylie, who prosecuted, Mrs. Wright was the secretary of the society, and accused’s wife was appointed treasurer. Accused seemed to have received all the money paid in with one or two exceptions, and when asked to account for the money not being available to pay out to the members, he told Mrs. Wright that he put it in a box, intending to put it later into the safe, but he forgot about it for eight days, and when he did go to put it in the safe, it was gone. Mrs. Wright, who lives at 8, Mountrath Street, Walsall, said that December 16th last was fixed for the distribution of the funds, and on the afternoon of that day *Gough* went to her house and said he had some bad news. He said he could not pay out that day, as the money had not come through the bank. He suggested that the members should be told this, and *Gough* wrote a notice and placed it on the smoke room door of the ENGINE INN, where the club was held, saying, ‘Sharing postponed until the 20th.’ *Gough* was found guilty and sentenced to six months hard labour.”

1939 Register

82, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Norman D. Tennant*, date of birth 26/9/1905, licensed victualler, married:

Arthur Standley – see also CRITERION, and WHITE LION.

Walsall Observer 6/12/1941 - Advert

“Barman or Barmaid, week-ends; also Cleaner, daily.
Apply, ENGINE, Wolverhampton Street.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.
ENGINE, Wolverhampton Street. £1 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 13/2/1943

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ meeting on Thursday at the NEW INNS, Park Street was well attended.
Mr. *T. H. Noake*, of the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, was elected a member of the committee.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.
ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street. £2 7s 3d.”

William Ewart Mountford – see also CROWN, Bloxwich.

John Zenas Watts – see also SPURMAKERS ARMS.

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority in February 1966.

George Edward Franks – see also MALT SHOVEL.

ERIN GO BRAGH

4, Wolverhampton Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Roper Archer [1860] – [1861]

NOTES

Walsall Free Press 18/5/1860

“*Joseph Roper Archer*, landlord of the ERIN GO BRAUGH, corner of Marsh Lane, Wolverhampton Street, was fined 5s and costs, for having had his house open at twenty minutes past twelve, on the morning of Sunday last.”

London Gazette 11/8/1860

“Whereas a Petition of *Joseph Roper Archer*, at present and for twelve months and upwards last past residing at Nos.4 and 5, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, and for about four months of the first part of that period being also a Chaser and Embosser, previously residing in Stafford-street, Walsall aforesaid, Chaser and Embosser, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Joseph Roper Archer* under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Joseph Roper Archer* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 8th of October next at ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Joseph Roper Archer*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

FALCON

108, Lichfield Street / Walhouse Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John James Airston and his sister
Jane Airston, widow, 117, Lichfield Street, Walsall
P. J. J. Airston and others
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased) [1903], [1921]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mrs. Maria Rennison [1871] – [1873];
Edward Machin [];
John James Anslow [1880] – [1881];
John Edwards [1884] – 1887);
Thomas Dennison (1887);
Sydney Robert Harvey (1887 – 1890);
Harry Hill (1890 – 1891);
Thomas Dennison (1891 – 1893);
Miss Agnes Rush (1893 – 1898);
Benjamin Astbury (1898 – 1900);
Frank Dewsbury (1900);
Albert George Johnson (1900 – 1903);
Albert Davis (1903 – 1906);
Charles Wrighton Newman (1906 – 1907);
Frederick James Westwood (1907 – 1909);
Harold Caldicott (1909 – 1910);
Charles William Garfield (1910);
Reginald Hugh ‘Reg’ Barlow (1910 – 1915);
Mrs. Ethel Eleanor (Stanley) Wells (1915 – 1920);
Henry Lewick (1920 – 1925);
Isaac Genders (1925 – 1926);
Thomas Henry Fenton (1926 – 1929);
Harry Worrall (1929 – 1937);
Mrs. Minnie Worrall (1937 – 1945);
Leonard Thomas Cox (1945 – 1947);
Allen Bertram Oakes (1947 – 1982):

NOTES

FALCON HOTEL

It had a billiards room.

1871 Census

108, Lichfield Street

- [1] *Maria Rennison* (62), widow, publican, born Gurnsey [Guernsey?];
- [2] *Margaret Lightfoot* (29), visitor, income from interest on money, born St. Helens;
- [3] *William B. Hall* (22), boarder, upholsterer, born Birmingham;
- [4] *George Thomas* (28), boarder, billiard marker, born Carmarthen:

1881 Census

108, Lichfield Street

- [1] *John James Anslow* (38), beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Anslow* (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Anslow* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 23/4/1881 - Advert

“To Let, genteel House, 107, Lichfield Street, 3 Bedrooms, Parlour, Sitting-room and Kitchen, &c.; and may be entered upon immediately.
Apply FALCON INN, or 105, Lichfield Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/12/1884 - Advert

“On Tuesday and Saturday evenings (Weekly), a Free and Easy Concert will be held at the FALCON HOTEL, Lichfield Street, Walsall, commencing at 7 o’clock.
John Edwards, Proprietor.”

Walsall Observer 7/2/1885

“.....To be Sold by Auction by Mr. J. U. Fellows.....

The capital Old-licensed, Public House called the FALCON, situate at the corner of Lichfield Street and Walhouse Street, Walsall, now in the occupation of Mr. *T. Edwards*.....

Lichfield Street is one of the most important streets in the Borough, is partly bounded by the Arboretum, and is brought into easy connection with other districts by the new Tramway, the carriages on which pass the FALCON INN every half hour during the day.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/9/1890

“The adjourned licensing session was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

In the adjourned case of the FALCON INN, Lichfield Street, the Chief Constable said he opposed the renewal at the licensing session on the complaints of the neighbours, but as these persons refused to repeat their complaints nothing remained for him but to withdraw the opposition. Mr. Jesse Herbert, who appeared for the applicant (instructed by Mr. Gillespie), said in that case he need not trouble the Bench with the excellent character with which he was prepared on behalf of his client.

The opposition to the renewal of the FALCON beerhouse, Lichfield Street, being withdrawn, the license was renewed, the occupier being warned as to the future conduct of the house.”

1891 Census

108, Lichfield Street – Public House – FALCON INN

- [1] *Harry Hill* (33), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mary Hill* (40), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] *Mary J. Habberley* (15), daughter, imbecile, born Brierley Hill;
- [4] *Mary Habberley* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Harry Habberley* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *William Hill* (2), son, born Walsall:

Harry Hill was fined 20s and costs, on 25th May 1891, for supplying constables with intoxicating liquor when on duty.

Walsall Advertiser 11/7/1896

“Henry Parkes, 19½, Lower Walhouse Street, was placed in the dock charged with having stolen sixpence from a till at the FALCON INN, Lichfield Street, the money of *Agnes Rush*, the landlady.

Lottie Frankham, domestic servant, said that on Tuesday morning she was cleaning the smoke room when she heard a noise in the vaults. She proceeded there, and saw prisoner handling the till. He had sixpence in his hand, and said he had only taken it for a lark. She then informed her mistress.

Prisoner said he ‘had had drink,’ and did not know what he was doing.

There being no previous conviction a fine of 5s and costs only, or seven days, was imposed.”

Frank Dewsbury – see also DOLPHIN.

Walsall Observer 28/4/1900 - Advert

“Wanted, respectable girl, about 16.
Apply FALCON INN, Lichfield Street.”

1901 Census

108, Lichfield Street

- [1] *Albert G. Johnson* (31), publican, born Manchester;
- [2] *Lizzie Johnson* (27), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Mary Johnson* (57), mother, widow, born London;
- [4] *Ernest Johnson* (29), brother, traveller – mineral water, born Dublin;
- [5] *Nellie Johnson* (26), sister, bridle stitcher, born Limerick, Ireland:

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.
List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....
FALCON INN, Lichfield Street. 4s 1d.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1903 - Advert

“Walsall And District Hospital.
Workpeople’s Contributions.
Amount advertised last week ... £1,440 1s 1d
Employees of W. T. Lees, Builders, Darlaston ... £4 0s 0d
W. Thacker & Son, Fieldgate ... £2 10s 6d
Ceiling Collection at the FALCON INN, Lichfield Street (per Mr. *Albert George Johnson*) ... £1 13s 3d
Total ... £1,448 4s 10d
Total amount last year, £1,577 0s 11d
T. J. Hansor, Chairman of the Workpeople’s Collection Committee.
F. V. Hacket, Secretary ditto.
Ernest W. Llewellyn, Secretary of ditto.”

Albert Davis = Albert Davies

Frederick James Westwood – see also RAILWAY.

Walsall Advertiser 21/8/1909 - Notice

“Staffs. Yeomanry. The Walsall Troop will attend in the procession of the Saturday Lifeboat Fund to-day.
Parade at Headquarters, as below at 1.30. Full dress uniform and white gloves.
(Signed) H. Caldicott, Sergt, FALCON, Lichfield Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/10/1909 - Notice

“Walsall Troop Staffordshire Yeomanry.
The Annual Dinner and Smoking Concert of the above Troop will be held at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street, Walsall, on Thursday, the 28th inst. The Squadron Officers will be present, and it is hoped that every member will do his utmost to make it a success. Tickets may be had at Troop Headquarters, or the Sergeants’ Mess of the 5th Battalion; or any Member of the Yeomanry. Tickets 3s 6d each.
Drills will commence on Tuesday Evening Next, at 8 o’clock, and will continue every Tuesday through the Winter months. Members to attend in Drill Order whenever possible.
(Signed) H. Caldicott, Sergeant.
Troop Headquarters: the FALCON, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1910

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....
Mr. *Charles William Garfield*, FALCON INN, Lichfield Street, Walsall, was elected a member of the society.”

1911 Census

108, Lichfield Street

- [1] *Reginald Hugh Barlow* (34), printing (letterpress), born Walsall;
- [2] *Edith Florence Barlow* (33), wife, married 10 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Beatrice Elizabeth Baker* (22), relative, born Bilston;
- [4] *Nellie Arthur* (18), relative, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1912

“The annual licensing sessions for the borough were held yesterday (Friday) at the Guildhall.....

There was an application for certain alterations at the FALCON INN, Lichfield Street, but Mr. H. H. Jackson asked that this matter should remain over until the adjourned Sessions, as more suitable plans would then be brought forward. The Rev. E. M. Durbin said that he would give notice that if the alterations would mean any more accommodation to the licensed premises, as a citizen and a resident of that district he would consider it his duty to oppose it.

Mr. Loxton: There is no application at present.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1912

“Mr. W. Bayliss presided at the adjourned Licensing session on Tuesday.....

On the application of Mr. H. H. Jackson the Bench agreed to plans for alterations to the FALCON INN, an ale-house, in Lichfield Street, to include in the licensed area part of an adjoining private house, at 1, Walhouse Street, for the purpose of an additional kitchen, scullery, bedroom and bathroom, and to make several internal alterations.....”

Walsall Advertiser 5/10/1912 - Advert

“Fifth Annual Dog Show.

On Saturday, October 26, 1912, in the Skating Rink, Darwell Street.

Schedules ready October 10.

Further particulars from *Reginald Barlow*, FALCON, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/10/1913

“The Walsall and District Kennel Association has just completed the arrangements for their sixth annual show. This year (through the kindness of Lieutenant Colonel C. Fiddian Green) the show will be held in the Drill Hall, Whittimere Street, on Saturday, November 8th. Mr. Chris. Houliker, the celebrated judge of Accrington, had been engaged. There will be specialist judges for Great Danes and Airedales. The Birmingham Great Dane Club had thrown in their lot again this year and there is every reason to believe that the best collection of Great Danes to be seen anywhere in the Midlands will be at the Walsall Show. The catering will again be in the hands of Mr. Harry Stevens and the benching and feeding of the dogs will be carried out by Messrs. Spratts Patent Ltd. Any further particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. *Reg. H. Barlow*, the FALCON, Lichfield Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/4/1915

“Whatever may be one’s opinion of the playing of professional football in war-time, there would be, it is safe to say no adverse criticism of a match played by the Walsall Early Closers last week. They visited Birmingham University and there played an enjoyable match with a team chosen from the Royal Army Medical Corps men, who are now tending the wounded soldiers in hospital there. For the ‘doctors’ it was a pleasant relaxation from a heavy round of hard and trying work, whilst the Walsall men were provided with a keen and sportsmanlike game, which resulted in a win for the ‘Closers’ by three goals to one.

A return match will be played next Thursday on the MALT SHOVEL ground, Birmingham Road, and afterwards there will be a gathering at the FALCON HOTEL, Lichfield Street.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

FALCON INN, Lichfield Street. £1 2s 4d.”

Thomas Henry Fenton – see also DOG AND PARTRIDGE.

1939 Register

108, Lichfield Street

[1] *Minnie Worrall*, date of birth 26/12/1875, licensed victualler, widowed:

Walsall Observer 3/8/1940

“A garden rubbish fire was responsible for the appearance of William Woodcock (58), charge hand, 25, Dartmouth Avenue, to a summons for a breach of the lighting restrictions, on the night of June 28. Seeing flames one foot or two feet high leaping from the fire, Police-constable Ballance investigated and found defendant standing at the back of his house. He was, he explained, on watch to put the fire out if any enemy aircraft appeared. ‘I am digging for victory and am anxious to keep the acre of land I cultivate in a hygienic condition,’ Woodcock told the court. In reference (presumably) to garden pilferers, he added: ‘I can assure you I have often to be on watch not for foreign invaders, but English invaders.’ A fine of 10s was imposed.

Two other black-out offenders, each fined 20s, were *Minnie Worrall* (64), licensee of the FALCON INN, Lichfield Street, and William Wise (24), 41, Brockhurst Street.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

FALCON INN, Lichfield Street, £1 17s 1d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FALCON INN, Lichfield Street. £1 3s 9d.”

Leonard Thomas Cox – see also ROYAL EXCHANGE.

[Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert](#)

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....

FALCON, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

It closed on 12th September 1982.

It was demolished.

FALCON

Portland Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[Wolverhampton Chronicle \(October 1902\)](#)

“On an application being made by Mr. Bill for the sanction of the magistrates to alterations at the FALCON, Portland Street, the Mayor said the whole of the licensing question was being considered by the licensing justices, and they refused to sanction any alterations until the matter had been considered by the full licensing bench at the annual meeting.”

FARM

Little Bloxwich, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1911]

FARMERS BOY

Barns Lane / Kings Road, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

NOTES

It was refurbished in the late 1990s.

[2017]

FARRIERS ARMS

51, Dudley Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Whitticase [1855] – [1858]

Price Pennell [1859]

John Johnson [1860]

NOTES

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/3/1859

“A gentleman will be at Mr. *Pennell's*, the FARRIERS ARMS, Dudley Street, Walsall, on Tuesday next, between seven and ten pm, to match Samuel Wallace of Darlaston to run Reuben Craddock of Bloxwich half a mile on an enclosed ground, or Young Jones of Lye Waste a mile level, for £15 or £20 a side either match.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/11/1859 - Advert

“To Publicans, Brokers, and Others.

Sale at the FARRIERS ARMS, in Dudley Street, in the borough of Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. T. P. Stokes, on the premises as aforesaid, Tomorrow (Tuesday), November 8, all the Household Furniture, Stock of Ale and Spirits, Brewing Utensils, sweet iron-bound Casks, Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of the above-named Public House and Premises, with the Fixtures, and other Articles and Effects, belonging to Mr. *Price Pennell*, under a bill of sale.

The sale to commence in the morning at ten o'clock.

The Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession will be put up at one o'clock at noon precisely.”

London Gazette 24/7/1860

“Whereas a Petition of *John Whitticase*, at present and for three weeks and six days last past residing in lodgings at No.81, Wisemore, in the Foreign of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, carrying on in Hall Lane, Walsall aforesaid, the trade of a Shoeing and Jobbing Smith, previously thereto and for two months residing in lodgings at No.112, Lower Forster Street, Walsall aforesaid, at the same time carrying on in Hall Lane, Walsall aforesaid, the trades aforesaid, previously thereto and for one year and about four months residing in Digbeth, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, previously thereto and for four years and upwards residing in Dudley Street, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, and during his residence at both the last mentioned places also carrying on in Hall Lane, Walsall aforesaid the trades of a Shoeing and Jobbing Smith, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *John Whitticase*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *John Whitticase* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 11th of August next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *John Whitticase*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at Walsall, the Official Assignees of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/11/1860

“*John Johnson*, of the FARRIERS ARMS INN, Dudley Street, and Edward Page, beerseller, Green Lane, were each convicted of having kept their houses open for the sale of liquor during prohibited hours on Sunday week. Fined 1s and costs.”

Check Town End Bank

FARRIERS ARMS

Town End Bank, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Roper [1845]

NOTES

Check Dudley Street

FIELDGATE TAVERN

25, (25a), New Street, (18, (25a), Field Gate), WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Cook, brush maker, St. Pauls Close, Walsall

Mrs. Cooper, New Street, Walsall

Ann Maud Wilkes

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Spink [1864] – 1892);

John William Spink (1892 – 1893);

Peter Cooper (1893 – 1895);

Mrs. Patience Cooper (1895 – 1899);

Abner Rushton (1899 – 1900);

William Woods (1900 – 1901);

Henry White (1901 – 1903);

John Kane (1903 – 1904);

John Sweeney (1904 – 1913);

Annie Wright (1913 – 1922);

Frank Ashwell (1922 – 1923);

John Kingdon (1923 – 1926):

NOTES

18, Field Gate [1871]

25a, Fieldgate [1881], [1891]

25a, New Street [1911]

25, New Street

It was originally an unnamed beerhouse.

It had a beerhouse license.

James Spink = James Spinks

James Spink, beer retailer, Fieldgate, New Street. [1868]

James Spinks, beer retailer, Fieldgate, New Street. [1864], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 1/7/1865

“*James Spink*, beerhouse keeper, Field Gate, was charged with having had his house open at twenty minutes to one o’clock on Saturday morning last. Police-constable Reynolds said he visited the house and heard some parties playing at cards, and, on going to the back door, saw three men and a woman in the passage, and in the yard another man and woman, the latter of whom had a jug containing malt liquor. On the kitchen table was a jug and a glass.

The defendant said that the parties were himself, his wife’s brother, a lodger and his wife, and the servant girl.

The Bench, after hearing the evidence of Police-constable Nutt, another witness, sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 10s and costs.”

James Spink was also a cart hame maker. [1871]

1871 Census

18, Field Gate – Beerhouse

[1] *James Spink* (47), cart hame maker and beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] Mary Ann Spink (50), wife, born Walsall;

[3] James Spink (14), son, cart hame maker, born Walsall;

[4] *John W. Spink* (12), son, caster, born Walsall;

[5] Clara Spink (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] David Spink (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] Mary J. Spink (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] Alice Spink (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[9] Elizabeth Jackson (13), servant, born Walsall:

James Spink, beer retailer, 25a, New Street. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 19/9/1873 - Notice

“The committee of the Walsall Cottage Hospital beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following contributions that have been received up to yesterday from the Licensed Victualler and beersellers.....

Mr. *James Spink*, FIELDGATE INN, 8s.”

1881 Census

25a, Field Gate

[1] *James Spink* (59), cased hame maker, born Walsall;

[2] Mary Spink (60), wife, born Walsall;

[3] David Spink (18), son, cased hame maker, born Walsall;

[4] Mary J. Spink (16), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Alice Spink (15), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Mary Ann Jones (2), adopted, born Walsall:

1891 Census

25a Fieldgate

[1] *James Spink* (68), publican, born Walsall;

[2] Mary A. Spink (66), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Clara A. Spink (30), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] Mary A. Spink (12), niece, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 5/11/1892

“Henry McCrudden (24), Hill Street, was charged with in custody with having stolen two herrings from Henry Evans (13), a boy employed by James Mannison, fish hawker, 22, Lower Rushall Street.

Complainant stated that he was selling bloaters in Ablewell Street, on Thursday afternoon, and saw the prisoner, who asked him for a penny. He replied that the money belonged to his master, and McCrudden thereupon coolly took two herrings out of basket, and went with them into the FIELDGATE TAVERN.

Prisoner now pleaded it was all a lark, and he knew Mr. Mannison as well as he knew the clerk himself.

Mr. Loxton: I hope that isn’t very much (laughter).

Prisoner added that the boy Evans gave him a small herring, and all he did was to put it in the basket, and take the biggest he could find. He was in beer at the time.

Prisoner was discharged, Mr. Newman remarking that there seemed to be a doubt in the case. He advised him, however, to be more careful in future.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/4/1893

“*John William Spink*, the FIELD GATE TAVERN, Field Gate, was summoned for selling ale during prohibited hours. Mr. T. H. Stanley defended. Police-constables Mason and Nicholls gave evidence to the effect that at about 10 minutes to 12 on the night of the 18th ult. they heard a noise as if a fight was going on in the house. They knocked twice or thrice at the front door, and, not being admitted, then went to the back. There they found a young man named Charles Priest lying on the ground and bleeding from the face, his brother William being on the floor in the passage, and also bleeding badly, and the landlord being in a chair. The defence was that the brothers were related to the landlord, and that one of them had been living in the house for some time, whilst the other had been invited to stay there that night. The magistrates, by a majority, dismissed the case, but they expressed an opinion that the conduct of the landlord was reprehensible in allowing two young men to get into such a state, and that the matter ought to be brought before the justices at the next licensing session.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/10/1893

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, Sarah Spinks, formerly of the FIELDGATE TAVERN appeared by adjournment from a previous court charged with having deserted her children.

Mr. Barrows (Messrs. Crump and Barrows) appeared on behalf of the Children’s Protection Society, and contested a point raised last week – viz. that the father was the responsible person. He explained that both the parents absconded, the father leaving a few days after the mother, and argued that when the man left the responsibility reverted to the woman. If she had remained at home and done her duty towards the children they would not have been in the deplorable condition in which they were found by the society’s agent.

The magistrates, after some deliberation in private, dismissed the summons.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/12/1893

“*John William Spink*, 4, John Street, formerly keeper of the FIELDGATE TAVERN, New Street, was charged on a warrant with neglecting to maintain his four children.

Mr. W. L. Lewis prosecuted on behalf of the Guardians and stated that the prisoner first deserted his family in July last, when he was prosecuted by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. Since serving this term he had been given every opportunity of amending his ways, but without effect, the children still remaining in the house. Mr. Lewis added that prisoner sold his public-house for a considerable sum of money, and when apprehended was in company with a female to whom he handed £17 and a watch.

Mr. Decker, relieving officer, gave evidence, and said he believed prisoner had £60 in his possession a month or two ago, the cost to the Guardians had been £25 10s.

Detective Williams said he arrested the prisoner in the NEW INNS, Park Street, when he (*Spink*) was in the company of a woman named Ellis.

Prisoner pleaded guilty, but said he was out of work.

The Magistrates committed him for a months’ hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/5/1895

“The death of *Peter Cooper* (63), FIELDGATE TAVERN, took place on Tuesday evening. He felt a little unwell about 9pm, and went for a walk. On returning he retired to bed, and when his wife followed at eleven she found that he was in dying state. Dr. Phillips was sent for, but before he could arrive death took place.”

[A verdict of Death from Heart Disease was returned at the inquest.]

Mrs. *Patience Cooper*, beer retailer, 25a, New Street. [1896]

John Kane, beer retailer, 25a, New Street. [1904]

1911 Census

25a, New Street

- [1] *John Sweeney* (34), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Annie Sweeney* (31), wife, married 9 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Catherine Sweeney* (9), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [4] *Nora Sweeney* (6), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [5] *Annie Sweeney* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *John Sweeney* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [7] *John Maloney* (20), boarder, apprentice to legging making, born Walsall:

John Sweeney, beer retailer, 25a, New Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... FIELDGATE TAVERN, New Street. £0 17s 4d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/6/1926

“The Licensing Justices on Wednesday refused to renew the licenses of the FIELDGATE TAVERN, New Street and scheduled the houses for compensation.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson, for the owners of the FIELDGATE TAVERN, suggested that the license be renewed until next year, when it was probable that three other houses in the immediate neighbourhood would come before the justices.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority.

Compensation was paid on 23rd October 1926.

It closed on 30th October 1926.

It was demolished in 1929.

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle’s references in last week’s Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remembers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKESPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

FIGHTING COCKS

Blue Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Henry Gnosill [1841] – [1845]

NOTES

1841 Census

Blue Lane

[1] *Henry Gnosill* (40), iron dealer, born Staffordshire;

[2] Ann Gnosill (40), born Staffordshire;

[3] Maria Gnosill (5), born Staffordshire;

[4] Frederick Gnosill (5), born Staffordshire;

[5] Henry Gnosill (4), born Staffordshire;

[6] Ann Gnosill (1), born Staffordshire;

[7] Lueza Taylor (15), servant, born Staffordshire:

Henry Gnosill was also a dealer in iron and steel, and a shopkeeper. [1845]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 20/9/1846

“Thomas Darby and William Pearson. On Monday £2 a side more were put down, for the engagement between Darby and Pearson (alias Sack) at the FIGHTING COCKS, Blue Lane, Stafford Road; and a further deposit of £2 a side is to be made tomorrow (Monday) at Archer’s the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Windmill Street, Walsall.”

FIRST AND LAST

New Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Sarah Ann Green [1868]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 19/2/1868

“*Sarah Ann Green*, landlady of the FIRST AND LAST beerhouse, New Street, Bloxwich, was charged with having her house open for the sale of beer at half-past eleven on Monday night, the 7th instant. Police-constable Acton said he visited the house at the time in question, and found four men in the tap-room playing cards, and on going up stairs he found the club-room full of men and women.

The defendant, who failed to appear, and who had been previously convicted, was fined £1 and costs.”

FITTERS ARMS

20, (19), Hatherton Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

David Broadhurst, 18, Hatherton Street, Walsall

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1897]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Lees [1856] – **1861**);

William Read (**1861**);

James Whittall (**1861** – [1870]

Daniel Smith [1871] – [1873];

David Broadhurst [];

George Smith [1881];

Mrs. Elizabeth Smith (**1891** – **189**_); [1892]

Joseph Butler (**189**_ [1893] – **1897**);

William Homer Reynolds (**1897** – **1898**);

Edgar Jeffries (**1898** – **1902**);

Thomas Pedley (**1902** – **1904**);

George Alfred ‘Alfred’ Merrall (**1904** – **1908**);

Thomas Henry ‘Harry’ Kertland (**1908** – **1938**);

William James Hawkeswood (**1938** – **1939**);

Sidney Statham King (**1939** – **1967**);

William Amos Griffiths (**1967** – []

Jean Elizabeth McGee [2007]

NOTES

20, Hatherton Street [1860], [1861], [1862], [1901], [1908], [1932], [1939], [1940]

19, Hatherton Street [1871]

FITTERS ARMS [1868]

ENGINEERS ARMS [1871]

GAS FITTERS ARMS [1873]

Walsall Free Press 22/11/1856

“A meeting of the Ratepayers Protection Society was convened on Thursday evening at the house of Mr. *Lees*, FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street.....”

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....

John Lees, Hatherton Street. Granted.”

John Lees was also an engineer. [1861]

He was described as a manufacturer of engines, planing machines &c. in 1861.

1861 Census

20, Hatherton Street – FITTERS ARMS

[1] *John Lees* (48), engineer and victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Rhoda Lees (46), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Isabella Lees (20), daughter, born Birmingham;

[4] Henry Lees (15), son, engineer, born Walsall;

[5] Ellen Lees (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

William Read = William Reid = William Reed = William Head = Ham Read

Walsall Free Press 17/8/1861 - Advert

“FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, Walsall.

William Read, Proprietor, successor to Mr. *John Lees*.

Mr. *R.* respectfully announces to the inhabitants of Walsall and its vicinity that, having had twenty years experience in business, he is enabled to practically assure them that every article vended by him at the above establishment shall be of the best quality, and confidently solicits a trial.

All kinds of foreign Wines and Spirits, Irish and Scotch Whiskey. Fine home-brewed and Burton Ales, and Dublin Stout, on draught, bottles, or in casks for family consumption. Chops and Steaks on the shortest notice. Good Beds.

Capital quoit ground and skittle alley. Coffee always ready at five o'clock in the morning.”

Walsall Free Press 7/9/1861

“Adjourned Licensing Day. Mr. Ebsworth renewed his appeal on behalf of Mr. *Reed*, who desired to become transferee of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, went over the circumstances of the case as reported in our last week's impression, showed that his client was a man of good character, that he had kept the Cherry Tree, in Birmingham, for a period of eleven years with credit and respectability, and that the officious interference of the police, and any imputations on his character they had attempted to throw upon the character of the applicant were uncalled for, and trivial.

The deposition made by Mr. *Reed* on the last occasion were repeated. He again asserted that he could not distinctly remember that he had been before the magistrates of Birmingham more than twice.

Mr. Carter then stated that he had been to Birmingham since this case had last been before the Bench, and found the following records against Mr. *Reed*, in the police book there: August 11th 1855, fined 1s and costs for keeping open after proper hours, August 30th 1857, unlawfully open, fined 1s and costs, March 27th 1859, card playing in house, fined 1s and costs, October 11th 1859 unlawfully open, fined 1s and costs.

Mr. Ebsworth pointed out that Mr. *Reed's* account of himself and his residence at Birmingham were perfectly correct. He admitted he had been some twice – and it might have been more – before the magistrates, in the course of eleven years occupancy of a licensed house. He (Mr. Ebsworth) thought the Bench would agree with him when he said what the police had produced against Mr. *Reed* ought not to affect the transfer of the FITTERS ARMS to him for a single hour. He had – in the course of eleven years – been fined four times, in the smallest possible penalties and for the most trivial offences, and it would indeed be hard if his reputation as a public-house keeper was left under a cloud of suspicion, by the transfer he sought being refused. He made arrangements for that transfer, confident his good character would secure it; and laid out something like £170 on account of it, but at the eleventh hour the police step in, impugn his character in some mysterious way, of which he (Mr. Ebsworth) and his client were kept in ignorance, have nothing worse against Mr. *Reed* than four paltry convictions just mentioned.

The Bench after some deliberation said that although Mr. *Reed's* character was not all they could wish, yet, as he had considerable expenses, they would grant the transfer. Mr. *Reed* was also cautioned as to the way in which he should conduct the FITTERS ARMS.

Mr. *Reed* (who seemed somewhat affected) said that he had always endeavoured, honestly and heartily, to conduct the business properly, and he could only say that when the magistrates found him doing otherwise he hoped they would deprive him of his license on the following licensing day.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/9/1861

“At the Public Office, yesterday, before J. Solley and J. Haines, Esqs., Mr. *Reid*, victualler, keeping the FITTERS ARMS INN, Walsall, charged John Sutcliff with having robbed him. Mr. Ebsworth appeared to prosecute, and Mr. Bayley was instructed for the defence.

From the address of Mr. Ebsworth it appeared that the prosecutor was conveyed ‘accidentally’ to Wednesbury wake on Tuesday last; that finding himself there he thought he might as well stay on an hour and enjoy himself, and having done so until the last train had departed he prepared to walk back to Walsall. He, however, changed his mind, fancying some danger from two men who were following him; so he turned back and decided to pass the night in Wednesbury. He tried all respectable inns in the town, but they were full, and he failed to get a bed in any of them, and ultimately he decided, upon invitation, to pass the night in a house near to the BELL INN. He went into the house, where he saw the prisoner and a woman. He sent for some rum, and the woman drank thereof, and became in such a state that she fell asleep in a chair. Prosecutor fell asleep also in another chair, and when he awoke some time afterwards, he discovered that the contents of his pockets had been taken possession of. This was just the statement made by the advocate for the prosecution, who, on being asked if he could carry the case further, said he could not. The Bench then said there was nothing for them to try, and therefore the prisoner must be discharged. Mr. Bayley intimated that

ulterior proceedings would be taken.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/11/1861

“*William Head* [sic] landlord of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, was brought up in custody charged with an aggravated assault on Edwin Coates, on the night of Saturday last. Mr. Moore appeared for the complainant. Mr. Ebsworth, who represented the prisoner, directed the attention of the magistrates to what he termed a most improper course which had been taken in this case. The defendant had been apprehended on a warrant of Mr. Cater, the superintendent of police had filled up on an oath of some person, and which had been handed to a magistrate for signature. Mr. Ebsworth contended that such a proceeding was fraught with danger, and that all warrants should emanate from a magistrates’ clerk. He further complained that his client had been locked up during the whole of the night, and Oerton quite agreed with all that he been said by Mr. Ebsworth, and although he had the highest opinion of Mr. Cater as a police officer, yet he thought he had not acted with his usual discretion. He considered the practice adopted to be bad, and hoped that all warrants, summons, &c, would be in future be filled up only by magistrates’ clerk or his deputy.

Mr. Cater said he did not consider that he had been guilty of any impropriety in connection with the case. The brother of the complainant came on Sunday to his private dwelling-house and stated that complainant had been struck with a life-preserver on the head by the prisoner, and produced a certificate signed by Mr. Whympier, surgeon, that he was in considerable danger from the effects of the wound. He at once accompanied the brother to complainants’ house, and saw he was suffering from severe injuries; and having ascertained from complainant the nature of the case, he took what he deemed a safe course, and having blank forms in his office, kindly supplied to him by the Magistrates’ Clerk for his assistance in urgent cases, filled up the warrant, which was signed by J. B. Anderson, Esq, one of the borough magistrates. The assault was of an aggravated nature, and the Act of Parliament gave full power to apprehend without a warrant, but the safest course had been adopted to put the law in motion. The prisoner was remanded until Monday next, bail being taken for his appearance.”

[The Bench finally dismissed the case.]

Walsall Free Press 30/11/1861

“Mr. *Whitall*, formerly keeper of the IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street, applied that the license of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, should be transferred from *William Reed*, to him. The police gave the applicant a good character, and the transfer was granted.”

London Gazette 31/12/1861

“*Ham Read* (known, sued, and trading as *William Read*) of No.27, Balsall-street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, out of business and employment, in lodgings, late of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 14th day of January next, at one o’clock in the afternoon precisely, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Messrs. East and Parry, of Birmingham, are the Solicitors acting in the bankruptcy.”

Walsall Free Press 4/1/1862

“Guildhall Police Court. Monday. The license of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, was transferred from *William Read* to *James Whittall*. Some months ago a temporary permission to manage the FITTERS ARMS was granted by the magistrates to Mr. *Whittall*, and the transfer was formally made out on the present occasion. Mr. *Whittall* kept a beerhouse in Stafford Street for more than two years, and was well spoken of by the police.”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/2/1862

“In Re *Ham* alias *William Read*, formerly innkeeper, of the FITTERS ARMS Hatherton Street, and previously of Birmingham, beerhouse keeper. This was a meeting for last examination, and order of discharge. Mr. Duignan supported the bankrupt, and Mr. Barnett, jun., opposed on behalf of creditors, on the grounds of fraudulent preference, vexatious defence to an action at law, and the existence of debts exceeding £300. The bankrupt having been briefly examined upon these points, it was deemed by the Court necessary to have an adjournment until the second Court day of March.”

Walsall Free Press 31/5/1862 - Advert

“Ancient Order of Foresters’ Friendly Society.

Registered pursuant to Act of Parliament.

The Lord Hatherton Court, No.3887, of the above Order meets at the house of Mr. *James Whitall*, the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street.

Any person desiring to become a member may obtain every information by applying to the host.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1836, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o'clock precisely.
Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *Whittall*, FITTERS ARMS."

James Whittall – see also IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street, and THREE CUPS.

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1868

"Walsall. The FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street.
This House, known to be one of the best in the Town, is to be Let, with immediate possession.
Apply on the Premises; or to G. Bayley, auctioneer, Walsall."

Daniel Smith was also an engineer. [1871]

1871 Census

19, Hatherton Street
[1] *Daniel Smith* (30), licensed victualler, born Gloucester;
[2] Mary A. Smith (36), wife, born Walsall;
[3] Sarah A. Taylor (18), step daughter, born Walsall;
[4] Sophia Taylor (13), step daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] Harriet Taylor (5), step daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] Florence Smith (5 months), daughter, born Walsall;
[7] Mary Hall (19), domestic servant, born Bilston:

Walsall Free Press 25/11/1871

"Yesterday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, Esq., coroner for the borough, held a n inquest at the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, on the body of Louisa, wife of Charles Acton, packer, Albert Terrace, Teddesley Street, who went to bed in her usual health on Wednesday night, and died about ten o'clock on Thursday morning. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/3/1873

"The following meetings of creditors have been held during the past week.
Daniel Smith, FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, at the office of Mr. Glover. The statement of accounts showed: Liabilities, £771 14s; assets, £210 17s. An offer of 2s in the pound, unsecured, was rejected, and a resolution passed to liquidate the estate, Mr. J. F. Watkins being appointed trustee."

Walsall Free Press 27/12/1873

"Mr. Glover applied on behalf of Mr. *Daniel Smith*, GAS FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, for a special license for the whole of the night of the 31st inst, on the occasion of the Odd Fellows' Ball, to be held in the Agricultural Hall. The application was granted."

1881 Census

Hatherton Street – FITTERS ARMS
[1] *George Smith* (57), licensed victualler, born Sowe, Warwickshire;
[2] *Elizabeth Smith* (47), wife, born Coleshill, Warwickshire;
[3] Emma Smith (25), daughter, born Coleshill, Warwickshire;
[4] Mary Ann Smith (23), daughter, born Sutton Coldfield;
[5] Phoebe Smith (20), daughter, born Walsall;
[6] Samuel F. Smith (19), son, born Walsall;
[7] Ellen Smith (16), daughter, born Walsall;
[8] Elizabeth G. Smith (14), daughter, born Walsall;
[9] Clara Smith (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[10] George Smith (10), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Evening Express 28/6/1881

"Walsall Amateur Florists' Society. There was a good attendance of members at an adjourned meeting of this society, held at the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, Walsall, on Monday evening. The Secretary pro tem reported that he had not yet received the books and moneys belonging to the society from the late secretary, who promised to forward them at the end of last week. A lengthened conversation ensued, during which it was stated that there was a desire on the part of some persons to see the Florists' and the Horticultural Societies amalgamated, and it was believed that the books were being detained in the hope that such union would be thereby effected. It was unanimously resolved that until put in possession of their property the members felt they were not in a position to entertain any overtures for amalgamation. It was further resolved to hold a flower show early in the autumn of the present year."

Walsall Advertiser 20/8/1881 - Advert

"Walsall Amateur Florist Society.
A Meeting of the above Society will be held at the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, at 2 o'clock. on Monday Next; Thursday,

RED LION, Bloxwich Road; Friday, SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Palfrey.

Any person desiring to tender for Refreshments, please send tender in by 6 o'clock on Monday next, August 22nd, to the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street.

H. C. Bowen, Hon. Sec."

Walsall Observer 3/1/1885

"Inquests in Walsall by T. H. Stanley, borough coroner On Tuesday last, at the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, on the body of Eleanor Bell, two and a half years old, whose parents reside at 111, Hatherton Street. The evidence showed that the deceased was climbing on the fireguard on the 23rd December, and fell over, striking her head on the fender and dragging over on to her a kettle of hot water. The injuries did not appear to be serious, and deceased was not taken to Dr. Shore until the 26th. He attended to her, but she died on Saturday. Deceased was a weakly child, and had two fits after the accident. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

Walsall Advertiser 10/12/1889

"Walsall Florist Society. A general meeting of this society was on Monday evening, 2nd inst, at the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, Mr. A. Thompson presiding....."

1891 Census

20, Hatherton Street

[1] *Elizabeth Smith* (58), widow, victualler, born Coleshill, Warwickshire;

[2] Ellen Smith (27), daughter, domestic servant, born Walsall;

[3] Clara Smith (23), daughter, domestic servant, born Walsall;

[4] George Smith (20), son, born Walsall;

[5] Ellen Smith (4), niece, born Walsall;

[6] Ann Steed (22), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1894

"Ritchie Lodge. The Lodge hitherto met fortnightly, at the BUTTS INN. It has, however, been decided that in future the meetings shall be held weekly, alternatively at the BUTTS INN, and the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street. The first meeting at the latter hostelry was held on Tuesday evening, when between 40 and 50 of the brethren sat down under the presidency of Mr. G. White, W.M. Host *Butler* gave the Lodge a cordial welcome, and declared his intention of doing all that he could to make it a success. It was arranged that on Tuesday week a supper should be held. Several new members were initiated and a most successful and enjoyable evening was spent."

Walsall Advertiser 31/3/1894

"Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for a music and singing license for Mr. *Joseph Butler*, FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, on Tuesdays, from 7.30 to 10.30 on the occasions of the meetings of the Ritchie Lodge of the Staffordshire Conservative League. Granted."

Walsall Advertiser 16/3/1895

"Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *Joseph Butler*, FITTERS ARMS INN, Hatherton Street....."

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1897 - Advert

"FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, Walsall.

Unreserved Sale by Auction of Capital Brewing Plant, Comprising Iron Boiler, to hold 150 gallons; Fermenting Vat, Mash Tub, two Collecting Vats, with refrigerator and piping; three Tubs, Wort Sprout, mash Rule, one 90 gallon Cask, two 70 gallon Casks, two 36 gallon Casks, a 4-pull Beer Engine, with piping and other utensils; also 19 Pockets of Prime Hops (cost £145, consisting of Worcestershire, Sussex, Surrey, Hereford, and Seven Oaks).

Walter Hughes is instructed by Messrs. Butler and Co. Limited, Wolverhampton, to Sell by Auction upon the Premises as above, on Wednesday Next, 3rd March, 1897, commencing at half-past Two o'clock prompt.

On View morning of the sale from 9am.

Catalogues may be obtained from place of Sale, or from Auction Offices, St. Paul's Buildings, The Bridge, Walsall."

Walsall Advertiser 8/1/1898

"*William Reynolds*, landlord of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, was charged with selling liquor during prohibited hours, and also with allowing gaming on his premises; and Harry Ladbury, carpenter, Butts Street, and Ernest Dewey, South Street, potman, were charged with being on licensed premises during prohibited hours and aiding and abetting the gaming. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

On the 19th of December (Sunday), at 11.55, Police-sergeant Marshall and Police-constable Woolley were on duty in Hatherton Street, when they noticed a light in the passage of the FITTERS ARMS. They went behind, and were able to see between the window blind and the wall, there being a space of three inches. They saw Harry Ladbury with his face to the window, shuffling some cards; he had money on the table beside him, both silver and copper, and also a glass containing liquor. They saw the back of a second man, and the side of a third man. The sergeant instructed the constable to remain behind, whilst he went round the

front. He knocked several times, and heard a shuffling of men in the passage, but it was not until he had knocked six times that defendant came to the door. When he went into the house he was surprised to see Woolley in the passage. He asked defendant how he accounted for the men being in the house. He replied, 'I asked Mr. Ladbury to stay as a friend, and the other man works for me, and nobody had paid for anything.' The other man was Ernest Dewey, of 37, South Street. The sergeant said, 'I have seen card-playing for money,' and he replied, 'There has been no card-playing at all.' The sergeant said, 'I wish to be fair with you; I have seen Ladbury dealing cards out, and seen money on the table.' *Reynolds* said, 'How could you see?' Witness replied 'By the side of the window outside; you come outside and I will show you.' *Reynolds* came outside, and then said, 'What are you going to do?' Witness replied, 'Report it.' There were two porter glasses on the table, two porter bottles, and one small glass and a jug. There were two packs of cards between the ornaments on the mantelpiece. Whilst watching them play cards he heard Ladbury say 'That's sixpence.' That was all he heard as they were playing a very quiet game.

Police-constable Woolley corroborated the sergeant as to seeing the card-playing. When he heard the sergeant knocking at the front door, he saw the men who were round the table get up. Ladbury scooped the money that was in front of him on the table, and put it in his pocket. He also saw him raise a glass and drink the contents. Presently the back door opened, and Ladbury ran down the steps. Witness put his lamp in his face, and told him to stop, but as he was going away witness got hold of him and said, 'You must come back with me.' Ladbury said, 'It's all right, go on, go on.' They went into the house, and he heard someone say, 'And you'll be my friend, Harry, see?' He said to Mr. *Reynolds*, 'Go and open the door Mr. *Reynolds*, the sergeant's knocking.' He replied, 'I thought you were knocking at the back.'

In defence, Mr. Jackson said Dewey was employed on the premises every day, and he also had supper each night. Ladbury was an old school friend of Mr. *Reynolds*, and was also invited to supper that night. There was an absolute denial that there was any card-playing in the house at the time in question, or that there was any money on the table. Defendant had been in the trade ten years in the borough and this was the first complaint there had been.

Defendant was then called. He said that on the night in question he had been to a Buffalo Lodge at the NEW INNS, and left at ten o'clock. Near the STORK he met Ladbury and asked him to go and have his supper. Dewey was employed every day, including Sunday. They got supper over by about a quarter past eleven, and no drinks were paid for. Dewey never paid for anything he had in the house.

Cross-examined by the Chief Constable, defendant denied that Mr. Lancaster went upstairs or that he was in the house at the time. There were no cards or money on the table. Mrs. *Reynolds* had gone to bed. The back door was opened first because he heard knocking there.

Ernest Dewey corroborated defendant's evidence. There had been a new gate put up since the affair, and the police could not get to the back now, unless they got over the top, and spikes had been put on the top of the new gate. A man named Lancaster was not in the house that night and did not go upstairs.

Harry Ladbury, 20, Butts Road, was next called. He was invited to go into the house by Reynolds to have supper and did so. He paid for no drinks, there was no card-playing, and he had no money on the table. He did not try to run away or have a tussle with the officer outside. He went on to the step for the purpose of going out, but when he saw the constable he went back.

The Bench retired to consider their verdict, and on returning the chairman said that in the first case the charge of selling during prohibited hours would be dismissed. In the second case against *Reynolds*, for gaming, he would be fined 40s and costs. The charges of being on licensed premises against Ladbury and Dewey would be dismissed, but for aiding and abetting gaming they would be fined 10s each and the costs."

[The Mysterious Case of Mr. Lancaster!]

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

"The annual licensing meeting for the county borough of Walsall was held in the Guildhall on Wednesday forenoon.....

Since the 27th August, 1897, 5 licensed victuallers have been proceeded against, 4 of whom were convicted, viz.....

3rd January, *William Reynolds*, FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, was fined 40s for permitting gaming on his licensed premises."

1901 Census

20, Hatherton Street

[1] *Edgar Jeffries* (53), widower, public house manager, born Walsall;

[2] Clara Jeffries (24), daughter, born Walsall;

[3] Annie Jeffries (18), daughter, tailor machinist, born Walsall;

[4] Elizabeth Sharp (57), boarder, widow, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/7/1902 - Deaths

"*Jeffries*. On the 7th inst., *Edgar Jeffries*, FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, aged 55 years."

Walsall Advertiser 19/7/1902 - Notice

"Re *Edgar Jeffries*, Deceased.

All persons having Claims or Demands against the Estate of *Edgar Jeffries*, of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, Walsall, Licensed Victualler, deceased, who died on the 7th day of July, 1902, are requested to Send Particulars Thereof to me, the undersigned, not later than the 26th inst; and all Persons owing Money to the Estate are requested to pay the same to me forthwith.

Dated the 18th day of July, 1902.

James Armstrong, Bank Buildings, Bridge Street, Walsall. Solicitors for the Executors."

Thomas Pedley – see also WOOLPACK.

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....
FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street. 3s 9d.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4], [1905/6], [1906/7]

Walsall Advertiser 3/10/1908

“The following licenses were transferred.....

Temporary authorities were granted to.....

Thomas Henry Kertland, FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street.....

With regard to the temporary transfer of the license of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, the manager, Mr. *Alfred Merrall*, in answer to a question by Sir Edward Holden, said the reason he was he was leaving was because he was tired of the district, and should leave the town. He thought of applying for a tenancy in another district. Granted.”

1911 Census

20, Hatherton Street – FITTERS ARMS

- [1] *Thomas Henry Kertland* (42), public house manager, born Walsall;
- [2] *Clara Ann Kertland* (34), wife, married 8 years, assists in business, born Walsall;
- [3] *Violet Kertland* (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Harry Edgar Kertland* (6), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Sarah Dobbins* (22), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street. £0 14s 4d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/7/1935

“William Ferns, 18, Duncalfe Street, was summoned on Monday, for assaulting *Thomas Harry Kertland*, licensee of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, on June 29. Mr. H. H. Jackson, who prosecuted, said as Mr. *Kertland* was clearing the glasses in the bar at 10pm, he was touched on the arm, and when he turned round the defendant struck him a violent blow and rendered him unconscious. Defendant expressed his sorrow to the Bench, and admitted he had been led into it by others. In view of the prosecutor’s plea the Bench fined the defendant 10/-, but warned him not to offend again.”

1939 Register

20, Hatherton Street

- [1] *Sidney S. King*, date of birth 28/4/1896, public house manager, married;
- [2] *Elizabeth (Ruth) King*, dob 16/2/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [4] *William H. Mellor*, dob 15/2/1898, (ex) public house manager, married:

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street. £26 19s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/4/1944 - Acknowledgments

“The Family of the late Mrs. A. Robinson wish to thank the Doctor and Nurse (VNI); also Relatives, Friends and neighbours of Cambridge Street, Staff of Employment Exchange, Mr. and Mrs. *King* and Customers of FITTERS ARMS for floral tributes and sympathy shown in their sad loss.”

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....
FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, Walsall.”

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn Quiz competition. [1974/5]

[2007]

Closed [2009]

It was demolished in 2012.

FLITCH OF BACON

57, (55), Wolverhampton Street, (57, Wolverhampton Road), WALSALL

OWNERS

Charles Butler
Rowland Higgins
Charles Beebee
Joseph Steadman, Bescot, Walsall
Arthur Lowbridge
J. and J. Yardley and Co. Ltd.
Old Wolverhampton Breweries Co. Ltd.
Frank Myatt Ltd. (leased) [1922]

LICENSEES

John Pagett [1861] – [1862]
Charles Butler [1864] – [1872];
Rowland Higgins [1881];
Edward Nightingale Butler [1888] – **1889**;
Emma Jane Butler (**1889 – 1890**);
Albert Lowbridge (**1890 – 1891**);
Thomas Lloyd (**1891 – 1906**);
John Edward Buckley (**1906 – 1907**);
Charles Worley (**1907 – 1910**);
Mrs. Emma Lloyd (**1910 – 1922**):

NOTES

57, Wolverhampton Road [1861], [1862]
55, Wolverhampton Street [1872]
57, Wolverhampton Street [1871], [1891], [1901], [1904]

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

57, Wolverhampton Road – FLITCH OF BACON TAVERN
[1] *John Pagett* (32), butter dealer, born Walsall;
[2] *Mary Pagett* (33), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Richard Pagett* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[4] *Joseph Pagett* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] *Mary Brown* (22), servant, born Ireland;
[6] *Thomas Poxson* (22), manservant, born Lockington, Leicestershire:

John Pagett, retailer of beer, 57, Wolverhampton Road. [1862]

Charles Butler, beer retailer, 57, Wolverhampton Road. [1864], [1865], [1868]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/2/1868

“Machett of Birmingham and Brettle of Bilston. These men have to make their final deposit good to the stakeholder, Mr. *Butler*, FLITCH OF BACON, Walsall, this (Saturday) evening between eight and ten o’clock, and choose referee and place of meeting for their match at catch weight, for £10 a side. The whereabouts can be known as above, and at J. Dane’s, Red Rover, Bridge Street West, Birmingham.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/10/1868

“Charley Skeyte of Walsall will fight Tom Price of Manchester, or Rough of Wolverhampton, or any man in Staffordshire at catch weight, for £10 up to £25 a side. Money ready at *C. Butler’s*, FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 6/8/1870

“*Charles Butler*, landlord of the FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street, pleaded guilty to having had his house open for the sale of cider, on the morning of Sunday last, during prohibited hours, but was dismissed on paying costs.”

1871 Census

57, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Charles Butler* (47), beerhouse keeper, born Aldridge;
- [2] Elizabeth Butler (57), wife, born Aldridge;
- [3] James Smith (71), boarder, past work was bit maker, born Walsall:

Edward Nightingale Butler was the son of Thomas Butler, farmer.

Edward Nightingale Butler (30), bachelor, grocer, married *Emma Jane Chaplin* (21), spinster, on 28th November 1888 at St. Peter's church, Walsall.

Birmingham Daily Post 5/12/1888

“Yesterday Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the COTTAGE INN, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, touching the death of *Edward Nightingale Butler* (30), keeper of the FLITCH OF BACON beerhouse, whose lifeless body was found on Sunday morning under circumstances already reported. Mr. T. H. Evans represented the sister of the deceased, and Mr. Wilcock (Wolverhampton) his widow.

It appeared that the deceased was married last Wednesday, and on Friday morning he took his double-barrelled gun and went out, saying he would go to Bentley and shoot a kingfisher for his wife to wear, and would be back dinnertime. As he had not returned at dark information was given to the police, and searchers went out on Saturday morning, and scoured the country until Sunday morning, when, as one of them was about to get through a gap in the hedge of a field on the Willenhall Road, he saw deceased lying in a ditch on the other side, with one foot doubled under him, his gun at his feet, and the top of his skull blown off, his brains being scattered about. The ground bore marks showing that his foot had slipped, and the supposition was his hand or a bramble caught the trigger of his gun at the same moment, and caused the discharge of one barrel. The gun was rusted from exposure to the atmosphere, and the trigger of one barrel, which contained an empty cartridge case, was down, the trigger of the other barrel being at full cock. The deceased was said to be careless in the use of his gun.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1891 Census

57, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Albert Lowbridge* (37), beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] Sophia Lowbridge (35), wife, born Cottingham, Staffordshire;
- [3] Joseph Lowbridge (13), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Ada Lowbridge (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Rowland Lowbridge (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Mark Lowbridge (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Florey Lowbridge (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Albert Lowbridge, beer retailer, 57, Wolverhampton Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1898

“The second meeting in connection with the Walsall Unity Football Club was held on Wednesday evening at the FLITCH OF BACON INN, Wolverhampton Street, when there was again a large attendance. The chief items of interest were the election of president, treasurer, and secretary. Mr. John Lord, jun, was unanimously elected as president, Mr. E. Ford as treasurer, and Mr. Theo. Simpson as hon. secretary. The new headquarters of the club will be the FOUR CROSSES HOTEL, Birchills, which is close to the ground. Mr. W. Rollins, of the Walsall Association, gave a few well chosen remarks regarding the old club and the new which were much appreciated. The next meeting will be held at the new headquarters on Monday evening, May 23rd.”

Walsall Observer 15/9/1900

“A supper and smoking concert was held at the FLITCH OF BACON INN, on Tuesday last, when upwards of 25 sat down to a capital repast. After doing justice to the good things provided, the cloth was drawn, and Mr. W. Boys was elected chairman, and Mr. T. Jones vice-chair.....”

Walsall Observer 17/11/1900

“A supper and smoking concert was held at the FLITCH OF BACON on Monday last, when upwards of 25 sat down to an excellent repast.....”

1901 Census

57, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Thomas Lloyd* (47), tavern keeper, born West Bromwich;

- [2] Emma Lloyd (47), wife, born Willinhall;
- [3] Mary J. Lloyd (26), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] William Lloyd (18), son, labourer (Iron Tube Works), born Walsall;
- [5] Alice Lloyd (14), daughter, born Walsall:

Thomas Lloyd, beer retailer, 57, Wolverhampton Street. [1904]

He was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Thomas Lloyd, FLITCH OF BACON."

Walsall Advertiser 16/4/1904

"*Thomas Lloyd*, FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street, appeared to answer a charge of permitting drunkenness on Saturday, the 2nd inst. Inspector Pritchard was passing the house when he was called in. An altercation was going on, a drunken man named Turner quarrelling about some money he said he had given as a bet in the house. This case was dismissed, as the man had not been served and the landlord had asked him to leave."

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The following is the list of houses in respect of which the licensing justices have called the holders of the licenses to show cause why the licenses should be renewed.....

FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall."

1911 Census

57, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Emma Lloyd* (54), widow, publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Mary Jane Holt (35), daughter, married, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Lloyd (11), grandson, born Walsall:

Mrs. *Emma Lloyd*, beer retailer, 57, Wolverhampton Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street. £1 10s 0d."

Walsall Observer 2/11/1918 - Roll Of Honour

"Mrs. *Lloyd*, FLITCH OF BACON INN, Walsall, wishes to thank all enquiring friends for their kindness and sympathy in her sad bereavement."

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 2nd March 1922.

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1922

"Annual Licensing Sessions.....

There were also objections, to the renewal of the licenses chiefly on the ground of redundancy of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich; ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street; FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street; VINE, Blue Lane; WOODMAN, Blue Lane; and VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street; and it was announced that the applications in respect of these houses would be considered at the adjourned sessions on March 2nd."

Compensation was paid on 29th September 1922.

It closed on 15th October 1922.

Walsall Observer 29/11/1924

"The ten freehold dwelling houses and also the delicensed FLITCH OF BACON, leasehold, 57, Wolverhampton Road, have been sold by private treaty during the past week by Messrs. Fox and Harrison....."

FORESTERS ARMS

4, Proffitt Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Hadley [pre 1869]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 30/5/1868 - Advert

“FORESTERS ARMS, Proffitt Street, Ryecroft.

To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately. The above old established Beer-house has formerly done a fair amount of business. The present proprietor giving up through other engagements. The Fixtures, which are all new, can be taken to at a valuation or not.

For further particulars and to treat, apply to Mr. Fox, Appraiser and House Agent, 58, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.”

London Gazette 24/12/1869

“*Joseph Hadley*, of No.61, James-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Bridle Bit Maker, previously thereto of the FORESTERS ARMS, No.4, Proffit-street, Walsall, Retailer of Beer and Bridle Bit Maker, previously thereto of the MINERS ARMS, Leamore-lane, Bloxwich, in the said county of Stafford, Retailer of Beer and Bridle Bit Maker, and previously thereto of the UNION INN, Bloxwich aforesaid, Retailer of Beer and Bridle Bit Maker, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 23rd of November, 1869, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination and make application for his Discharge, will be held at the said Court, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall, on the 25th day of January next, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Frederic F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Abraham Baker, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

FORGE

Watsons Lane, The Wood, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1910]

LICENSEES

Richard Sherratt [1861] – [1881]

Benjamin Stevens [1890] – [1891]

James Ward [1896] – [1901]

Thomas Smith [1902] – [1904]

Mary Ann Smith [1903]

George Stretton [1904]

William Hendley [] – **1906**;

John Horan (**1906** – [1910])

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Richard Sherratt = Richard Sherrett

1861 Census

Pelsall Wood

- [1] *Richard Sherrett* (25), brewer, born Lichfield;
- [2] *Sarah Sherrett* (31), wife, born Chatwell, Staffordshire;
- [3] *William Sherrett* (3 months), son, born Pelsall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/9/1863

“Yesterday was the annual licensing day for the Rushall division of the county.....

Other victuallers had their certificates for renewal granted, after which the Bench disposed of new applications.....

Richard Sherratt, beerhouse keeper, Pelsall. Refused.”

1871 Census

Pelsall Wood – FORGE INN

- [1] *Richard Sherrett* (35), brewer and beerhouse keeper, born Lichfield;
 - [2] *Sarah Sherrett* (42), wife, born Shropshire;
 - [3] *Thomas Sherrett* (13), son, born Pelsall;
 - [4] *William Sherrett* (10), son, born Pelsall;
 - [5] *Richard Sherrett* (8), son, born Pelsall;
 - [6] *Sarah Sherrett* (5), daughter, born Pelsall;
 - [7] *Marther Sherrett* (3), daughter, born Lappleley [*Lapley*], Staffordshire;
 - [8] *John Price* (70), wife’s father, widower, labourer at coal pits, born Lappleley [*Lapley*], Staffordshire;
 - [9] *William W. Sherrett* (18), nephew, clerk, born Lappleley [*Lapley*], Staffordshire:
- [Lappleley is possibly Lapley, about 7 miles SSW of Stafford.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/5/1873

“Disputed Liability. *Sherratt v. Bromwich*.

The plaintiff, the keeper of the FORGE INN, Pelsall, sued the defendant, a surveyor, living at Birmingham, for £13 10s for board, lodgings and refreshment, supplied to three of the defendant’s assistants, Thos. Johnson, Benj. Thornton, and Alfred Hickman, who were engaged for the defendant in making a survey of a part of the property of Messrs. Bloomer, at Pelsall, from the 29th of November last till January 25th, and who stopped at the plaintiff’s house. The point in dispute was whether or not the defendant had guaranteed payment, which his Honour decided in the negative. The plaintiff was therefore nonsuited. Mr. Glover appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Ebsworth for the defendant.”

1881 Census

The Wood – FORGE INN

- [1] *Richard Sherratt* (45), beerhouse keeper, born Lichfield;
- [2] *Emma Sherratt* (52), wife, born Rochester, Kent;
- [3] *William Sherratt* (20), son, grocer’s assistant out of employ, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Sarah Sherratt* (15), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Martha A. Sherratt* (13), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall:

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

“The following publicans were granted one hour’s extension on Monday, October 6th, on the occasion of Pelsall wakes *Benjamin Stevens*.”

1891 Census

The Wood – FORGE INN

- [1] *Benjamin Stevens* (33), publican, born Mount Pleasant, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Harriett Stevens* (29), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Clara Stevens* (5), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Jabez Stevens* (4), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Sarah J. Evans* (17), general servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/12/1896

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society held on Thursday Mr. *James Ward*, FORGE INN, Pelsall Wood, Pelsall were elected members.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, and attention having been called to that matter they had gone round the district where similar objections could be made, and had given notice to the houses of the district asking that some alteration should be made so as to comply alike with the necessities of the public and also the sanitary

conditions of the district. There were several houses named.....
FORGE, Pelsall Wood.”

Lichfield Mercury 25/2/1898

“On Monday, at the Rushall Police Court, *James Ward*, landlord of the FORGE INN, Pelsall Wood, was summoned for being drunk in charge of a horse and trap in the Lichfield Road, Rushall, on the 8th instant.

PC Lockley, who proved the case, said defendant was unable to take proper care of the vehicle owing to the state he was in. Defendant asked the magistrates to allow him to pay something into the poor box rather than be fined, but the Bench declined to accede to his request and fined him 1s and 9s costs.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1900

“On Tuesday morning the County Coroner, Mr. H. A. Pearson, held an inquest at the RED LION, Walsall Wood, on the body of John Henry Rowbotham, colliery and commission agent, of 88, Corporation Street, who was found dead in the Birmingham Canal, Walsall Wood, on Wednesday morning. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the relatives of the deceased.

James Price, labourer, of Sheffield, said that he saw the deceased on Tuesday evening, at 7.40pm, in Hall Lane, when he asked witness the way into Walsall Wood. Deceased had been drinking, and staggered as he walked. They were about 200 yards from the BEEHIVE INN, near where deceased was found. In answer to Mr. Jackson witness said that there was a way from where he met deceased to the BEEHIVE INN. Deceased could walk and talk all right.

Samson Coffin, manager at the Empire Brick Works, Aldridge, said that he saw deceased at 7.20 on Tuesday night, at High Heath. He was the worse for beer then, and asked witness where he was going, and said that he wanted to go to Walsall. Witness did not see deceased alive again. In answer to Mr. Jackson, witness said that he had often seen deceased in that district. He walked straight enough on the footpath. Deceased could get from where he met him to the canal side.

Charles Beale, boatman, of Walsall Wood, said that he saw deceased in the canal near the BEEHIVE INN early on the morning of Wednesday, and with assistance got him out.

John Percy Rowbotham, 88, Corporation Street, Walsall, son of the deceased, gave evidence of identification. In answer to Mr. Jackson witness said that his father’s business necessitated his going about the district a lot. He had no troubles and nothing to worry him. His father knew all of the short cuts in the district, and from the path on which his father was he was probably taking a short cut to the BEEHIVE INN. A mere slip there would put anyone in the canal.

James Ward, landlord of the FORGE INN, Pelsall Wood, said that he knew the deceased well. On Tuesday, at 2.30pm the deceased came to witness’s house, had something to eat, and went out to do some business. He returned and stayed until twenty to six, drinking only tea, and went away apparently to catch a train. In answer to Mr. Jackson witness said that deceased went away from his house jolly and well as usual, and was about the last man to commit suicide. He had business dealings with the deceased, which necessitated his frequent coming to his house. Deceased was quite sober when he left the Inn.

PC Lockley, stationed at Walsall Wood, said that at 6.45am on the 10th inst, the witness Beale reported the death to him, and witness went to the canal near the BEEHIVE, and saw the deceased lying in a stooping position face downwards in the canal, and with assistance got him out of the canal. He had been dead then for some time.

PC Allcock, stationed at Walsall, said that he was sent for to the canal, and on arriving there found deceased lying on the towing path. The clothes were not disarranged, and on searching the body he found 29s 3d, a silver watch, and other jewellery. The watch was stopped at two minutes after half past seven.

Dr. Wolverson, practicing at Walsall Wood, said that he had made a post mortem examination of the body. There was no sign of violence, and he had no doubt that death was due to suffocation by drowning. There was no sign of alcohol in the body.

The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death from Drowning.”

1901 Census

Watsons Lane – FORGE INN

- [1] *James Ward* (50), widower, publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] James Ward (17), son, clerk (colliery), born Pelsall;
- [3] Frederick Victor Ward (15), son, horse driver, born Pelsall;
- [4] Eliza Ward (21), niece, barmaid, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Florence Busan (?) (31), general servant, born Birmingham;
- [6] Selina Biddiard (57), sister in law, widow, charwoman, born Dudley:

Walsall Advertiser 7/3/1903

“At Rushall adjourned licensing sessions, on Monday, *Thomas Smith*, of the FORGE INN, Pelsall Wood, made application for the renewal of his license.

The objections to the house were those of disorderly character, the license holder in 1902 having been convicted for permitting drunkenness. Evidence was also called to prove that two drunken men left the house in January, whilst the applicant held the license. They were afterwards fined, but it was not proved in what house they became drunk.

Mr. Jackson, who appeared on behalf of the applicant, said that the fact that these drunken men left the FORGE INN drunk was no evidence that they had become drunk in the place. He urged the general good character of the house.

The license was renewed, but Mr. Frank James remarked that the FORGE INN had rather a bad reputation, as requiring a great deal of police supervision. If the licensee came before another licensing meeting with a record against his house, he would receive different treatment.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

Mary Ann Smith, FORGE INN, Pelsall. 11s 5d.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/1/1904

“*George Stretton*, of the FORGE, Pelsall, lies in the Walsall and District Hospital as the result of a fall while skating. He was admitted on New Year’s Day, with his shoulder dislocated and broken.”

John Horan = John Horam

Walsall Advertiser 31/3/1906

“On Monday, at the Rushall Police Court, before Mr. A. W. Greatrex (presiding), Mr. J. F. Crump, and Mr. E. Wilkes, *John Horam* (40), landlord of the FORGE INN, Pelsall, was summoned for being drunk on his own premises, on the 12th inst.

Sergeant Findlay deposed to visiting the defendant’s premises and finding *Horam* sitting in a chair in the smoke room. When witness spoke to defendant he got up and staggered towards him, and when accused of being drunk *Horam* replied ‘Don’t say that, sergeant; I have been knocked about a bit today, but I am going to bed.’ Witness then left the house, and on returning about a quarter of an hour later was told that the defendant had gone to bed.

Police-constable Barrett corroborated.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who appeared for the defence, admitted that the defendant was drunk, but had not had the drink on his own premises. The defendant had had a great deal of trouble of late, and having regard to that he asked the Bench not to register a conviction, but to withdraw the case on payment of costs.

Defendant’s wife stated that her husband had not had any drink in their house, and had only been in about eight minutes when the officer called. In cross-examination by Superintendent Salt, witness admitted that her husband had only had the licence transferred to him at the last court day.

The Bench expressed the hope that it would be a caution to defendant, and the case was allowed to be withdrawn on payment of costs (10s 6d).”

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1910

“There was a full Bench of Magistrates present at the Licensing Sessions for the Rushall Division, held on Tuesday, at the Rushall Police Court.....

FORGE INN, Pelsall. With respect to this house, Inspector Salt said that it was an ante-’69 beerhouse. The premises were ‘tied’ for beer, and the licensee was a tenant, subject to three months’ notice. There had been three transfers during the past ten years, and no convictions during the last five years. The house was substantially built and the rooms commodious. In a radius of one mile there were nine fully licensed houses, two beer ‘on,’ and eight beer ‘off.’

Mr. C. Loxton appeared on behalf of the owners of the house, Messrs, Butlers of Wolverhampton, and as another of their houses was being objected to – which he should most strenuously oppose – with regard to the FORGE INN he did not offer any opposition.

Mr. W. L. Lewis: The Magistrates make no bargain.

Mr. Loxton: No, I quite agree.

The Bench referred the house for compensation. The license was renewed provisionally.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/7/1910

“On Friday the principal meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shirehall, Stafford

Licenses refused.....

FORGE INN, Pelsall, ante-1869 beerhouse.”

Lichfield Mercury 6/1/1911

“The annual report of the County Licensing Committee stated that at the principal meeting the committee refused to renew 27 licenses. At the supplemental meetings the committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard, upon oath, evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee considered that the amounts of compensation agreed upon were satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the compensation fund.....

FORGE, Pelsall, beerhouse, ante 1869, £850.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1911

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Rushall Division of Staffordshire were held at Rushall Police Court on Monday.... Superintendent T. Salt read his report.....

The reduction in the numbers has been brought about by means of the Compensation Clauses of the Licensing Act, 1904.....

FORGE Beerhouse (on), Pelsall Wood, having been referred for compensation at the general annual licensing meeting last year, and compensation being paid, the house closed on the 28th ultimo.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/8/1911

“There was a large attendance of delegates at the quarterly meeting of the Walsall District of the Grand Independent Order of

Loyal Caledonian Corks.....

Permission had been granted for the removal of lodge 69 from the FORGE INN to the SWAN, Pelsall.”

FORGE AND FETTLE

312, Pleck Road / Ida Road, (197, Pleck Road (Pleck Lane) / Rolling Mill Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Miss Adams, Wednesbury
Samuel Cornfield [1880]
Mills and Son, Pleck, Walsall
Messrs. Thompson, maltsters, Dudley
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1906)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Union Pub Co. [2001]

LICENSEES

William Cox [1858] – [1866]
Samuel Cornfield [1868] – 1892);
Miss Mary Cornfield (1892 – 1897);
John West (1897 – 1905);
Mrs. Phoebe Ann West (1905 – 1912);
William Allport (1912 – 1928)
William Allport [1932] – 1954);
Robert Preston (1954 – 1956);
Jack Bradford (1956 – 1959);
Harry Sydney Dutton (1959 – 1963);
Stanley Donald Loftus (1963 – 1966);
Herbert Harry Howard (1966 – 1967);
John Herbert Page (1967 – []
Keith Tooley []
Bob Smith [1999]

NOTES

Pleck Lane [1858], [1861]
Pleck Road [1868]
197, Pleck Road [1891], [1896], [1891], [1904], [1908]
312, Pleck Road [1939]

The original building stood on the corner of Pleck Road and Rolling Mill Street.

It was originally the FORGE.

London Gazette 3/7/1860

“In the Matter of the Petition of *William Cox*, now and for upwards of three years and six months last past, residing at the FORGE INN, Pleck-road, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, and previously thereto and for two years and six months or thereabouts of the FORGE INN, Pleck-road, Walsall aforesaid, Retail Brewer and Beer-shop Keeper.

Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 18th day of July instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.”

Walsall Free Press 6/2/1864

“On Wednesday last the body of a new-born female child was found, wrapped in a pillow case, near to the cemetery, and was removed to the FORGE INN, Pleck Lane, where an inquest was held upon it on Thursday afternoon, by the coroner, A. A. Fletcher. From the evidence of Mr. D. S. Moore, surgeon, who made a post mortem examination of the body, it appeared that the child had been still born. The Jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict in accordance therewith.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. Mathews applied on behalf of John Cozens, beerhouse keeper, The Pleck.

Mr. Dale opposed on behalf of Mr. *Cox*, landlord of the FORGE public-house, on the ground that there was no necessity for any additional accommodation, and stated that between Bridgeman Street and The Pleck Church there were only 50 houses, and only one new dwelling house had been erected since last year.

Mr. Oerton said Mr. *Cox*'s house was the filthiest in the place – indeed a memorial had been presented by the coroner, stating that Mr. *Cox*'s house was unfit to hold an inquest in. Application granted.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual Sessions for the renewal of existing licenses, and the consideration of applications for new ones, was held at the Guildhall Assembly Room on Friday, the Magistrates on the bench being J. Brewer, jun., Esq., Mayor, and W. Ward, J. W. Newman, F. B. Orton, S. Stephens, S. Stokes, and J. B. Anderson, Esqs.....

The Bench refused to renew the licenses of.....

and Mr. *Cox*, of the FORGE HAMMER, The Pleck.”

Birmingham Journal 15/9/1866

“Adjourned Licensing Session. At this Session which was held at the Free Library.....

Mr. Duignan applied for the renewal of the license of *William Cox*, of the FORGE HAMMER INN, The Pleck, which was suspended at the Licensing Session. It was granted, Mr. *Cox* being admonished to keep his house in a cleaner state.”

1871 Census

Pleck Road

- [1] *Samuel Cornfield* (36), engineer (colliery), born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Cornfield (29), wife, born Cinder Hill;
- [3] Thomas Cornfield (6), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Cornfield* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Daniel Cornfield (3), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Esther Cornfield (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

“Municipal Election. The Bridge Ward.....

On Monday evening a large and enthusiastic meeting was held at the FORGE INN, Pleck Lane in favour of Mr. Grant's candidature.....”

1881 Census

Pleck Road – FORGE INN

- [1] *Samuel Cornfield* (45), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Cornfield (38), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Thomas Cornfield (17), son, iron worker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Cornfield* (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Daniel Cornfield (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Esther Cornfield (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Samuel Cornfield (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Jane Cornfield (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Hannah Cornfield (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] Elizabeth Cornfield (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [11] Erbert Cornfield (3 months), son, born Walsall;
- [12] George Hunt (34), brewer, born Birmingham:

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“There were 31 applications for dancing, singing and music licenses under the provisions of the new Corporation Act. The Bench heard all the applications and then retired to consider their decisions, which turned out to be in accordance with the principle which was laid down at a former Court, viz, that licenses should not be granted to vaults or public rooms, but should be confined to regular and existing clubs and class meetings in club rooms. Licenses were granted to.....

The FORGE INN, Pleck Road.”

1891 Census

197, Pleck Road – FORGE INN

- [1] *Mary Cornfield* (25), unmarried, born Walsall;
- [2] Daniel Cornfield (23), brother, brewer, born Walsall;
- [3] Ester Cornfield (21), sister, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] Samuel Cornfield (19), brother, ironworker, born Walsall;

- [5] Sarah J. Cornfield (17), sister, born Walsall;
[6] Herbert Cornfield (9), brother, scholar, born Walsall;
[7] Thomas Taylor (25), visitor, ironworker, born Darlaston:

Mary Cornfield – check also ORANGE TREE.

Walsall Advertiser 8/1/1898

“Yesterday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Pearman-Smith applied for permission to make structural alterations of the FORGE INN, The Pleck, so as to enlarge the smoke room. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/7/1898

“Yesterday morning a police officer was called to the FORGE INN, Pleck Road, Walsall, where he found a man named John Bradley, Queen’s Cross, Dudley, who had been taken in and expired suddenly. The man had been working on some buildings near, and feeling unwell, had received his wages with the intention of returning to Dudley. The body was conveyed to the public mortuary.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/8/1898

“The forty-sixth general meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday afternoon at the BLUE PIG, New Street the following were elected members of the society.....
John West, FORGE INN, Pleck Road, Walsall.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 16/1/1901 - Advert

“Wanted, good strong General Servant, age about 23, with good character; good wages given.
Apply, FORGE INN, Pleck, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 17/2/1900

“On Saturday last a meeting of Oddfellows was held at the FORGE INN, Pleck Road, Walsall, the house of Mr. *John West*, to consider the question of opening a Lodge of Oddfellows.....
The Chairman moved that they meet again The resolution having been carried, the meeting was declared closed.”

Walsall Observer 31/3/1900

“On Saturday last a large gathering of Oddfellows took place at Mr. *John West*’s, the FORGE INN, Pleck Road, for the purpose of opening a lodge of the above Order.
.....opened the ‘Loyal John West’ in proper form and order.....”

1901 Census

197, Pleck Road

- [1] *John West* (28), tavern keeper, born Pershore, Worcestershire;
[2] *Phoebe West* (51), wife, born Wick, Worcestershire;
[3] Jennie West (22), adopted, born Walsall;
[4] Beatrice West (20), adopted, born Amblecote;
[5] William West (17), adopted, general labourer, born Amblecote;
[6] Nellie West (19), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The FORGE INN, Pleck road. Mr. *J. West*, the lessee, applied through Mr. Plumtree, instructed by Mr. Jackson, for a provisional license, or in the alternative the removal of his present license to new premises to be erected on land opposite the present house, at the corner of Pleck Road and Rollingmill Street. Mr. Wright (Fowler, Langley, and Wright) opposed on behalf of the owners of the FORGE HAMMER INN, and Mr. Alfred Stanley opposed on behalf of the temperance party, whilst the Rev. W. Felton, vicar of Pleck, also opposed.

Mr. Plumtree said the present premises had a frontage to Pleck Road of 28 feet, and to Rollingmill Street of 79 feet, with an area of 494 square yards. The proposed new premises would have an area of only 404 square yards, a decrease of 90 square yards. The drinking accommodation would be reduced from 86 to 71 square yards, a decrease of 15.

Mr. Hickton (Hickton and Farmer) produced the plans of the proposed new house. In reply to Mr. Wright, witness said the tenant had not a parlour in the present house, and wanted one, which would be provided in the new house. The frontage of the new house to Pleck Road would be 54 feet.

Mr. Stanley said the building looked to be a very nice one, and looked like a mission church. It would perhaps be a working man’s church – they opened Sundays.

Mr. *West* was then called to support counsel’s opening.

Mr. Wright: Do you think you will do more trade in the new premises? – I don’t think so.

Do you think you will do less? – I don’t know. I want better living accommodation; that is all I want.

It is a new parlour you want? – Yes; I am getting into years, and can do with one.

Is it not possible to provide better accommodation in your present premises? – They are very narrow, and there is not sufficient

accommodation to make it convenient.

Mr. Stanley: You belong to the Board of Guardians? – Yes.

Do you know a great many people who go there through drink (laughter)? – I cannot help it; I do not encourage them.

Do you know that drink increases pauperism? You have a great deal of experience. – No.

You were at the CLOCK, in the same street? – Yes.

And you were at the Struggling Man? – No.

The Struggling Traveller? – No.

Then I have got the wrong town? – No; you have got the wrong man (laughter).

You represent the Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery Company? – Yes.

Have you eight tied houses? – I don't know where they are.

I suppose you open at six o'clock on Sunday evenings, and working men will come? – I should be very pleased to see them (laughter).

I suppose they will sing sacred hymns. Won't this be giving a bad egg for a good one?

Mr. Loxton (interrupting): Will the public benefit? – Yes.

The Rev. W. Felton: Do you hope there will be a larger custom come to your new house? – No. I am quite satisfied with the trade I am doing.

Mr. Wheway: (addressing Mr. Felton): You are very much out of place; you had better stay at home.

Mr. Wright addressing the Bench in opposition, submitted that whatever might be said about the area being reduced, or Mr. *West* not wanting more trade, there was no doubt that the new premises from the point of view of the trade would be likely to do more business. The extra accommodation said to be wanted could be provided on the old premises at less cost, and with equal satisfaction to Mr. *West*.

The Mayor: I suppose, Mr. Stanley, you have said all you want to say (laughter).

Mr. Stanley said there were 800,000 paupers to support in the country, and they did not want to increase the number. In nine cases out of ten if it were not for the drink traffic there would be no paupers.

The Rev. W. Felton said he was there as a resident of Pleck Road, and on behalf of the officers of Pleck Church to oppose this application in the interests of well being and the social morality of the Pleck district. It was evident from what had been said that the new building would be more attractive than the present one, and many would be induced to enter it who would not enter the present house. So strongly did he feel that the granting of this transfer would inflict a great injustice to the parish that he had troubled to come all the way from North Wales to oppose it.

Mr. Plumtree, in replying on the arguments against, said that with regard to the suggestions that there would be more drinking, there would not be facilities for this. He submitted that the more decent a house was the better class of customer would use it.

They could not do better than stamp out the low places and get good houses.

The application was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/10/1901

“The Street Committee reported. The following plans have been approved.....

Dudley Brewery Co, rebuilding the FORGE INN, Pleck Road.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/5/1903

“There were two charges against Peter Gateley, 282, Pleck Road, viz, of assaulting *John West*, FORGE INN, Pleck Road, and using obscene language and being disorderly and refusing to quit the premises of the FORGE INN when requested, on May 3rd.

Mr. T. H. Stanley, who appeared for the prosecution, said the defendant was in the FORGE INN on May 3rd, and made use of such bad language that the barmaid had to inform Mr. *West*, and when requested by the latter assaulted him.

Jenny Mason, barmaid, said she refused to serve defendant because of his bad language, and called Mr. *West*'s attention to him, when requested by him to leave defendant kicked him and knocked him down.

Mr. *West* gave similar evidence, and said that Gateley also broke a glass panel in the door.

Defendant, who made no appearance, was fined 40s and costs, or one months' hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/8/1903

“*John West*, 197, Pleck Road, summoned Samuel and Herbert Cornfield, 180, Pleck Road, for assaulting him on July 18. Defendants pleaded guilty.

Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson), appeared to prosecute, said Mr. *West* was sitting outside his house on the day in question, when the two Cornfields went up to him, and, without any provocation whatever struck him several savage blows in the ribs and on the chest. There were a number of witnesses in court who saw the assault, but as the men pleaded guilty he should not call them.

Complainant stated that he was sitting outside his house, the FORGE INN, Pleck Road, when both men came up and struck him several violent blows about the body. When he attempted to get away into the house they pulled him back and struck again. He was afterwards taken to the hospital.

A boy named William Cooper corroborated.

Dr. Trevor Howe, surgeon at the Walsall Hospital, stated that Mr. *West* was taken to the hospital in a state of collapse. The blows must have been violent ones, and had they been a little higher up they would undoubtedly have been dangerous.

A fine £1 and costs, or 21 days, was imposed in each case.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

The telephone of Mr. *John West*, FORGE INN, Pleck Road (for whom Mr. Jackson appeared), was also called into question. It was used in his business as agent for the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries; before several of the large ironworks at the Pleck had the telephone it was used by travellers visiting them; it was used by the police in case of fire; and it had never been used for betting purposes. So attested Mr. *West*. The license was renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/6/1904 - Advert

“For Sale, Grocer’s Van, new last May; cost £46; built by Jackson and Co. Dudley; room wanted; price £26. Apply, *J. West*, FORGE INN, Pleck Road, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/7/1904 - Notice

“Walsall & District Air-Gun League.

Hospital Cup And Medals.

The Presentation of the above will take place on Tuesday next, the 12th inst, at the FORGE INN, Pleck Road, at 8.30pm. All interested in Air-Gun Shooting are invited to attend. The winners are NEWPORT No.1. Runner-up, KING WILLIAM, Bloxwich.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905]

Walsall Advertiser 25/3/1905 - Deaths

“On the 15th inst., at the FORGE INN, Pleck Road, *John West*, aged 54. Interred at Ryecroft Cemetery, March 20, 1905.

Mrs. *West* desires to thank all friend for kind enquiries and sympathy during Mr. *West*’s long illness; also those who sent wreaths, and in other respects paid a tribute to his memory. As it is impossible to acknowledge all letters of sympathy, &c, Mrs. *West* trusts this intimation will suffice.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1908 - Advert

“To Let, Business Premises, 114, Blue Lane West, late out-door license; rent 8s per week.

Apply FORGE INN, Pleck Road.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

“There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....

The Chief Constable objected to the renewal of four other houses on the ground of the peculiar system of trade which they carried on, and those he referred to were; FORGE INN, Pleck Road; FORGE HAMMER, Rolling Mill Street; BOAT INN, Green Lane; and the RISING SUN. Continuing, the Chief Constable stated the landlady or landlord of the houses in question gave out checks to men who then hung about neighbouring works, and did business with the checks on a 10 per cent commission. It appeared that these men got 22s worth of checks for 20s, and they disposed of these checks to men who wanted beer but had no money. The men for a shilling’s worth of checks each paid 1s 3d the next Saturday.

The Bench now ordered that the whole of the licenses mentioned should stand over until the adjourned licensing day.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/3/1909

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

In the case of the FORGE INN, Pleck, the Chief Constable stated that the opposition was in consequence of the check system which obtained there. It was not an illegal system, but it had been abused. Hence the opposition. Mr. Jackson who appeared in support of the renewal said he would give an undertaking that the practice should be given up.

Upon Mrs. *West* giving this undertaking the license was renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/4/1912 - Notice

“Re *Phoebe Ann West* (Deceased).

All Person having any Claims against the Estate of *Phoebe Ann West*, late of the FORGE INN, Pleck Road, Walsall, are requested to send in particulars at once addressed to the Executors of *P. A. West*, FORGE INN, Pleck Road, Walsall.

Thompson & Warmington, Dudley.

Solicitors for the Executors.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/4/1913 - Deaths

“*Allport*. On the 13th inst., *Rose Allport*, FORGE INN, Pleck Road, aged 29 years.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

FORGE INN, Pleck Road, Walsall, 10s 2d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
FORGE INN, Pleck Road. £0 14s 10½d.”

It was closed on 23rd February 1928.

The license was removed to new premises rebuilt on the opposite corner.

1939 Register

312, Pleck Road – FORGE

- [1] *William Allport*, date of birth 8/12/1883, licensee, married, PWC;
- [2] Sarah A. Allport, dob 27/10/1882, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Edna A. (Allport) Eayres, dob 4/10/1916, despatch clerk, single;
- [4] Louisa Allport, dob 14/5/1858, pensioner, widowed:

Walsall Observer 3/8/1940

“Pigeon Racing Topics. The prizes and pools won in the hospital race will be paid out to-night (Saturday) at the FORGE HOTEL, Pleck Road. The amount available for the hospitals is £25 10s 0d., and as it is unlikely that we shall be able to run a race for the Victoria Institution this year it had been decided to allocate £10 10s of this sum to the Institution, and the remaining £15 to the General Hospital.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

FORGE INN, Pleck Road, £5 5s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FORGE INN, Pleck Road. £2 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 13/3/1943 - Advert

“War Charities Act, 1940.

Application is being made to the Council of the Borough of Walsall for Registration under the above Act of the FORGE INN Comforts Fund, the object of which is to send parcels to Customers of the FORGE INN now serving in H.M. Forces, the administration centre being the FORGE INN, 312, Pleck Road, Walsall.

Any objections to the above application should be sent to the above Council within 14 days of this notice.

Dated 11th March, 1943.

W. Upton, Hon, Secretary.

W. Allport, Treasurer.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

There were six summons against the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, Park Brewery, Wolverhampton, in respect of the FORGE INN, Pleck Road; RISING SUN, Green Lane; RED LION, Park Street; BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich Road; BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore; and HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane; and the managers of those houses, *William Allport*, Joseph Thomas Astbury, Thomas Purton Cole, Constance Mary Horton, Cyril Vernon Sleigh (now of Stafford Street), and Arthur Abraham Canning for aiding and abetting.

Mr. Cooper appeared for the brewery company and stated that it would be unfair and unjust if they were made to pay double the penalty imposed on the managers, as in the preceding cases, seeing that they had given specific instructions to all their managers that regulations must be strictly complied with and if they could not get sufficient coal for their purposes they should apply to the local Fuel Overseer for permits for extra supplies.

‘I regard it as somewhat ungenerous on the part of Mr. Cooper to try to throw the blame on the poor managers,’ said Mr. Hodgkinson, who pointed out that all the profits from the houses went to the brewery company and that the coal was not used for their own benefit but for the benefit of the public.

In these cases the brewery company was fined 10s in each case, and the other defendants £1 each except Horton who was ordered to pay £2.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FORGE INN, Pleck Road. £2 12 9d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1945 - Advert

“By Direction of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Bradford. Third Sale of Valuable Freehold Ground Rents.....
Nine Licensed Houses..... FORGE INN, Pleck Road.”

Robert Preston – see also PRINCE and HAMEMAKERS ARMS.

Harry Sydney Dutton – see also TOMMY’s BAR.

It was refurbished c.1997.

It was renamed FORGE AND FETTLE. [1999]

[2009]

It became a restaurant, Jeevan Jyot. [2011]

Closed c.2016.

The council planners decided to turn the ground floor into a shop with flats above, in 2016.

FORGE HAMMER

5, Rolling Mill Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Franks, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall

Michael Hall

Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.

Walter Hughes, auctioneer, Walsall

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Worley [1861] – [1872];

Benjamin Russell [];

John Brookes [];

Michael Hall [];

Mrs. Mary Hall [];

Thomas Hall [1878];

Benjamin Banks [];

Albert Knight [1880] ?

Cecil Blakemore [1881];

Walter Hughes [];

John George Dexter [] – **1887**);

Matthew Brown (**1887 – 1890**);

Thomas Carter (**1890 – 1908**);

William Haywood (**1908 – 1915**);

Joseph Henry Boulton (**1915 – 1929**);

Samuel Davies (**1929 – 1932**);

Harry Green (**1932 – 1946**);

William Walker (**1946 – 1957**);

William George Arm (**1957 – [1966]**)

NOTES

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“There was stabling for 6 horses and a coach house at the rear of the property, the public bar was 28’6 x 16’10 x 8’10 with a Tap Room, Smoke room and Club room.”

John Worley = John Warley

John Worley, beer retailer, Pleck. [1861], [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....

John Worley, Rolling Mill Street, The Pleck.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1864

“Annual Licensing Session.....

Mr. *John Worley*, of the FORGE AND HAMMER beerhouse, Rolling Mill Street, the Pleck, applied through Mr. Matthews for a license, and presented a memorial in his favour, signed, among others, by the proprietors of all the ironworks in the neighbourhood of the applicant’s house. Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

Mr. Matthews, from the office of Mr. Wilkinson, applied on behalf of the following parties.....

John Warley, FORGE HAMMER, Rolling Mills Street Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. Mathews also applied on behalf of John Webster, beerhouse keeper, Wednesbury Road, and Mr. *John Warley*, beerhouse keeper, Rollingmill Street, The Pleck. In both instances the applications were refused.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/12/1869 - Notice

“This is to give Notice, that the Court acting in the prosecution of a Petition for Adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy at Birmingham, on the 3rd day of May, 1869, against *John Worley*, of Rolling Mill Street, the Pleck, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper and Dealer in Tobacco, did, on the 5th day of July, 1869, grant the Discharge of the said *John Worley*, and that such Discharge will be delivered to the Bankrupt unless an Appeal be duly entered against the judgement of the Court, and Notice thereof be given to the Court.

Thomas Brevitt, Solicitor, Darlaston.”

1871 Census

5, Rolling Mill Street

- [1] *John Worley* (56), beerhouse keeper, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Elizabeth Worley (21), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Betsy A. Worley (3 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Alice Harris (59), mother, no calling, born Wales:

John Worley, beer retailer, Rollingmill Street, Pleck. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 6/4/1872

“*John Worley*, beerhouse keeper, Rolling Mill Street, the Pleck, was fined 20s and costs, for having had his house open during prohibited hours on the morning of Sunday, the 24th ult.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/8/1878

“*Thomas Hall*, of the FORGE HAMMER, Rollingmill Street, applied for a license to sell wine on the premises of his beerhouse. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/6/1880 - Advert

“Cannock Brewery Co. Limited require Tenders for Woodwork on the outside FORGE HAMMER INN, The Pleck.....

All the above are situate in the town of Walsall.

Particulars as to class of work may be obtained at, and Tenders received by Cannock Brewery Co. Limited, Cannock.”

1881 Census

5, Rollingmill Street

- [1] *Cecil Blakemore* (59), publican, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Blakemore (32), wife, born Montgomery;
- [3] Lucretia M. Francis (21), unmarried, sister in law, visitor, born Montgomery;
- [4] Hannah Richards (14), domestic servant, born Dawley, Shropshire:

[Dawley is part of Telford.]

The licensee was fined 20s and costs, on 12th January 1883, for Sunday trading.

Matthew Brown – see also ANGLESEY ARMS.

1891 Census

5, Rolling Mill Street – Public House – FORGE HAMMER

- [1] *Thomas Carter* (56), publican, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Eliza Carter* (49), wife, born Myria [Moirá?], Leicestershire;
- [3] *Mary McTighe* (28), general servant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Pitt* (22), general servant, born Oakengates:

Thomas Carter, beer retailer, 5, Rolling Mill Street. [1896], [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 13/8/1898

“The forty-sixth general meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday afternoon at the BLUE PIG, New Street the following were elected members of the society..... *Thomas Carter*, FORGE HAMMER INN, Rollingmill Street.”

Walsall Observer 9/6/1900

“*Thomas Carter*, FORGE HAMMER INN, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and with supplying James Perry with intoxicating liquors when drunk on May 29th; and James Perry of 85, Pleck Lane, was charged with being drunk on licensed premises on May 29th.

Inspector Ballance said he went into the bar of the FORGE HAMMER INN about nine o’clock on the 29th ult, and found Perry sitting at a table with two other men, all three of them having ale before them. His attention was drawn to Perry by his noisiness and from his appearance and behaviour when he went outside about ten minutes later. Witness was sure that he was drunk. Witness drew the attention of Samuel Dangerfield, who was managing the house, to the man, and Dangerfield said that he had not been supplied with drink.

Police-constable Atcherley said that he accompanied Inspector Williams into the inn, and saw Perry, who was drunk, and had got drink before him. Witness saw him staggering down the road about ten minutes later.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, for the defence, said that the landlord and his wife went out early in the evening, and, before they went, *Carter* had already refused to serve Perry, not because he was drunk, but because he was so noisy; and for the same reason *Carter* had refused to serve him for 18 months. *Carter* left his nephew, Samuel Dangerfield, in charge of the house, with instructions to refuse Perry if he came again. The nephew did refuse Perry, who came again, and thought he had left the house; and, as he was very busy, having three rooms to look after, he paid no more attention to the man.

Thomas Carter, landlord of the FORGE HAMMER INN, said that he had kept the house for nearly eleven years, and had never had a single complaint from the police. He had persistently refused to sell drink to Perry, because his noisy ways made him a nuisance in the house.

James Perry said that they did refuse to serve him, but that he got drink at another man’s expense.

Samuel Dangerfield, Elijah Davis, and George O’Neill gave evidence for the defence, and the Magistrates dismissed the case.”

William Haywood = William Hayward

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

“There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall..... The Chief Constable objected to the renewal of four other houses on the ground of the peculiar system of trade which they carried on, and those he referred to were; FORGE INN, Pleck Road; FORGE HAMMER, Rolling Mill Street; BOAT INN, Green Lane; and the RISING SUN. Continuing, the Chief Constable stated the landlady or landlord of the houses in question gave out checks to men who then hung about neighbouring works, and did business with the checks on a 10 per cent commission. It appeared that these men got 22s worth of checks for 20s, and they disposed of these checks to men who wanted beer but had no money. The men for a shilling’s worth of checks each paid 1s 3d the next Saturday. The Bench now ordered that the whole of the licenses mentioned should stand over until the adjourned licensing day.”

1911 Census

5, Rollingmill Street

- [1] *William Haywood* (41), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Fanny Haywood* (40), wife, married 11 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ada Louisa Haywood* (42), relative, unmarried, born Walsall;
- [4] *Lily Weales* (22), servant, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Madge Simmonds* (10), niece, born Walsall;
- [6] *Alfred Simmonds* (11 months), relative, born Walsall:

William Haywood, beer retailer, 5, Rolling Mill Steet. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 12/7/1913

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *W. Haywood*, FORGE HAMMER INN, Rollingmill Street, was unanimously elected member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1915 - Advert

“Wanted, respectable Girl, about 22.

Apply, *Hayward*, FORGE HAMMER INN, Rollingmill Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 4/9/1915

“A presentation took place on Tuesday night at the FORGE HAMMER INN, Rollingmill Street, The Pleck, to Mr. and Mrs. *W. Hayward*, who were formerly the host and hostess of the house. The presentation was promoted by members of the Amalgamated Society of Gas Workers and Municipal and General Workers, and by members of the Workers’ Union, and was in two parts – first, an oak smoker’s cabinet to Mr. *Hayward*, next a lady’s companion (subscribed by the customers of the house) to Mrs. *Hayward*. Mr. C. Blower, who occupied the chair said he had known Mr. and Mrs. *Hayward* since he had been connected with No.3 Branch of the Gasworkers’ Union, and wished to express his thanks for the hospitality they had extended to all who had used that house. It had been the wish of everyone to see a little recognition tendered to them, and this presentation by the Gasworkers’ Union, the Workers’ Union, and the customers had been the outcome of that desire. He hoped Mr. *Hayward* would live long to enjoy a pipe out of the cabinet, which would remind him of days gone by, and that Mrs. *Hayward* would receive the present in the spirit in which it was given. (Applause).

Mr. H. Hands, in making the presentation to Mr. *Hayward*, said he should have liked a member of that branch of the Gasworkers’ Union to make it, but as they had asked him to do so, he willingly agreed, as from what he knew of Mr. *Hayward* he could echo the sentiments which had already been expressed. Not only was this present from No.3 Branch, but a number of the members of the Workers’ Union had contributed to it. Ever since the strike commenced at the Alma, and in the tube trade generally, Mr. *Hayward* had been a great friend to all who used that house. His old friend Mr. Brodie, the secretary of the branch, had often spoken of the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. *Hayward* to all the members belonging to the branch. He hoped the present would last Mr. *Hayward* for many years, so that he could enjoy the pleasure of looking at it and of smoking the pipe of peace and contentment. Mr. *Hayward* in returning thanks, said he has always tried to do his duty to his fellow-beings. That might be a peculiar statement for a publican to make, but all who knew him in his private life knew that he had always striven to be just to everyone, and what he and his wife had done had always been done from a sense of duty and fairness to others.

Councillor J. Thickett then made the presentation to Mrs. *Hayward*, and said he regarded it as the greatest honour to have been invited to do so. When it was mooted to him that a presentation was being engineered, he appreciated the idea from the first, for he felt that however elaborate or costly the present might be, or however generous the expressions of goodwill that might emanate from them towards Mr. and Mrs. *Hayward* that night, they could not be exaggerated. They could not, of course, forget that they were meeting at a time to make those presentations when the war clouds were hanging over them; but it did not detract from their patriotism at all that they were thinking of Mr. and Mrs. *Hayward*; on the contrary, peace had her victories as well as war, and they were there to present the ‘D.S.O.’ to Mr. and Mrs. *Hayward* for what they had done in civilian life. (Applause). He came to know Mr. *Hayward* in a remarkable way. During the Tube Strike, no matter what they were doing – was it storming citadels or marching to Coombe Wood – (laughter) – he heard on all sides Mr. *Haywood* spoken of and praised for his goodness; and when, later on, there was another event at The Pleck – and that was a little municipal election which concerned him – he found one of his most ardent workers was Mr. *Hayward*. Of course, everything was not beer and skittles to Mr. *Hayward*, or any of them, but they all had claims to some of the sunshine of life, and he hoped that Mr. *Hayward* would regard it as sunshine to know that he had gained the esteem and confidence of his fellow-men.

Mr. George Giles, secretary of the Walsall Trades Council, said that as a worker in the industrial world he would like to say a word or two, also, in praise of Mr. *Hayward*. It was not the longest life which was the best, but that which was best employed, and they would find that Mr. *Hayward* was one who understood the men, and he had helped them not only financially, but morally as well. He did so splendidly during the fight, and worked so quietly, conscientiously, and sincerely, that he did more to uplift the men morally than all the churches and chapels in the district, although he (Mr. Giles) did not wish to say anything disrespectful of others who were doing their own work in their own way.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

FORGE HAMMER, Pleck. £1 9s 10d.”

Samuel Davies – see also WHEATSHEAF.

1939 Register

5, Rollingmill Street – FORGE HAMMER ARMS

[1] *Harry Green*, date of birth 20/8/1878, licensee, married;

[2] *Mary A. Green*, dob 26/10/1881, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Gladys (Burford) Pickett*, dob 1/11/1920, domestic help, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

[“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
FORGEHAMMER INN, Rollingmill Street, £5 3s 5d.”](#)

[Walsall Observer 24/12/1942](#)

[“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
FORGEHAMMER INN, Rollingmill Street. £2 5s 0d.”](#)

[Walsall Observer 15/1/1944](#)

[“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
FORGEHAMMER, Rollingmill Street. £6 5s 3d.”](#)

[Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1945 - Advert](#)

[“By Direction of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Bradford. Third Sale of Valuable Freehold Ground Rents.....
Nine Licensed Houses..... FORGE HAMMER INN, Rollingmill Street.”](#)

William Walker – see also ROYAL EXCHANGE.

A full license was granted on 3rd March 1960.

[Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert](#)

[“Attention! all Mild drinkers.
Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....
FORGE HAMMER, Rolling Mill Street, Pleck, Walsall.”](#)

[Sports Argos 9/11/1974](#)

[“The Inn-Quiz trail to find the 1975 champions starts a week on Monday \(November 18\) with a qualifying round of nine matches.
There is a long road to the finals night, but it will be fun all of the way The draw for the qualifying round is.....
FORGE HAMMER, Rolling Mill Street, Walsall v Royal Exchange, Bridgetown, Cannock.”](#)

[2007]

Closed [2009]

Demolished [2012]

FORRESTERS

Bramley Road, Yew Tree Estate, WALSALL

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1993]

Closed

Demolished

FORTUNE OF WAR

Walsall Wood , WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mary Ann Rudge [] – **1870**);
John Marklew (**1870** – []

FOUNTAIN

1, Butt Lane, (Back Lane), (1, Bott Lane), WALSALL

OWNERS

Henry Hines
Messrs. J. and C. Whitehouse, Bridge Street, Walsall
George Whitehouse, 12, Mellish Road, Walsall [1906]
Ind Coope and Allsopp (leased) [1926]
Ind Coope and Allsopp [1930s]
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)

LICENSEES

Henry Hines [1856] – **1890**);
James Birch (**1890** – **1899**);
Frederick Gnosill (**1899** – **1906**);
Stephen Dawson (**1906** – **1920**);
Robert Whittaker Brown (**1920** – **1923**);
John Rogers (**1923** – **1926**);
George William England (**1926** – **1927**);
Arthur Ernest Curtis (**1927** – **1933**);
Thomas Statham (**1933** – **1934**);
Frank Geach Owen (**1934** – **1935**);
Sidney Garland (**1935** – **1936**);
William Henry Wall (**1936** – **1940**);
Mrs. Fanny Wall (**1940**);
Alice Cronin (**1940** – **1967**);

NOTES

1, Bott Lane [1861], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911], [1939]
Bott Lane [1856], [1863], [1875], [1900], [1911], [1914]
Bank Street [1857]
Lime Pits Bank [1860]
Limepit Bank [1865]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was known locally as “Auntie’s”.

Henry Hines = Henry Hinds

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/11/1856

“At the Guildhall, on Wednesday, *Henry Hinds*, beerhouse keeper, of Bott Lane, was fined 20s and costs for keeping his house open for the sale of beer at illegal hours on Saturday night. The defendant had some time previously been fined a similar sum for refusing admission to the police.”

Walsall Free Press 5/9/1857 - Advert

“Valuable Leasehold Property In The Foreign Of Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, By Mr. H. Farrington, at the house of Mr. Allen, NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, Walsall, on Monday the 21st day of September, 1857, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions; all that well-built Licensed Retail Public House, called the FOUNTAIN INN, situate in Bank Street, as above, in the occupation of Mr. *Henry Hinds*, with Two Houses adjoining, in the occupation of George Leadbetter, and one void, the whole of which have been lately erected, regardless of expense; and the Public House fitted with every convenience for carrying on the public business, contains large Tap Room, two Parlours, Bar, large Club Room, three Sleeping Rooms, excellent Cellaring, Brewhouse, Shop, Stable, a large Yard, and Pump of excellent water; producing in the whole £36 per annum, subject to a Ground Rent of £4, and of which aforesaid Lease ninety-six years are yet unexpired.

For further particulars apply to John Potter, Esq, Solicitor; or to the Auctioneer, both of Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 5/2/1860

“J. Tonkinson of Walsall will run E. Bird of Bloxwich 100 yards level, or take two yards start in 250, for £5 or £10 a side, or he will run Casey of Birmingham twice round Aston Cross, for the like sum; or Dewsbury of Walsall can have two yards in 160, for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready at any time at *Henry Hines*, FOUNTAIN INN, Lime Pits Bank, Walsall.”

Henry Hines, beer retailer, Bott Lane. [1861], [1864]

1861 Census

1, Bott Lane

[1] *Henry Hines* (39), fancy steel toys and beerhouse, born Birmingham;

[2] Harriet Hines (37), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Thomas Tate (64), wife's father, tailor, born Aldridge:

Henry Hines, retailer of beer, Bott Lane. [1862]

Walsall Free Press 5/9/1863

“On Monday last, after the police business had been disposed of, the magistrates proceeded to consider applications for the granting of new licenses and the renewal of those already existing....

Mr. Mathews applied on behalf of *Henry Hines*, beerhouse-keeper, Bott Lane, for a license for his house, which was represented to be admirably adapted for the purpose. The application was opposed by Mr. Heath, of the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, who stated that his back premises nearly adjoined those of the applicant. The application was refused.”

Walsall Free Press 6/5/1865 - Advert

“Capital Leasehold Property, in Limepit Bank and Lower Rushall Street, and Building, in Corporation Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Farrington, at the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, Walsall, on Monday, the 29th May, 1865, at half-past Six o'clock in the Evening (subject to conditions) the following property.

Lot 1. All that Leasehold Public House, known as the FOUNTAIN INN, situate in Limepit Bank, Walsall, with Club-room, excellent Cellar, Brewhouse, and Malt-room over, Stables, large enclosed Yard, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, in the occupation of *Henry Hines*, at the annual rent of £20. And also all those two Houses adjoining, being No.2 and 3 in Limepit Bank, with the Brewhouses and Yard belonging thereto, in the occupations of Messrs. Meek and Palmer, at the annual rent of £15 12s. There is a good supply of water.

This lot is held under a lease from the Earl of Bradford, for 99 years from 25th March, 1853, at the annual ground rent of £4.”

Henry Hines, beer retailer, Bott Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

Bott Lane – FOUNTAIN

[1] *Henry Hines* (49), beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;

[2] Harriet Hines (47), wife, born Walsall:

Midland Examiner 23/1/1875

“*Henry Hines*, landlord of the FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, was summoned for having his house open at half-past ten on Sunday morning. Mrs. *Hines* pleaded guilty to the charge under extenuating circumstances. She and her husband had kept the house for 19 years respectably, and this was the first offence.

PC Bethell deposed to seeing a woman coming from the direction of defendant's house with a pint of beer, at half-past ten on Sunday morning. Fined 10s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

“Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

The cases of *Henry Hinds*, the FOUNTAIN beerhouse, Bott Lane were adjourned.”

1881 Census

1, Bott Lane – The FOUNTAIN

[1] *Henry Hines* (59), widower, brewer and beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;

[2] *Mary Ann Walker* (14), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1891 Census

1, Bott Lane – The FOUNTAIN

[1] *James Birch* (56), publican, born West Bromwich;

[2] *Elizabeth Birch* (32), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Flora Birch* (10), daughter, school, born Walsall;

[4] *Lottie Birch* (7), daughter, school, born Walsall;

[5] *John Birch* (5), son, born Walsall;

[6] *Howard Birch* (1), son, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 15/9/1892

“On Saturday Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner), held an inquest at the FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, on the body of Lilly Coley (10), who was killed on Thursday evening, under circumstances already reported, whilst playing with a large iron roller in Messrs. Shannon and Son’s cricket and football field, The Chuckery. Mr. A. H. Lewis (Messrs. Lewis and Son), attended on behalf of the clubs.

The evidence showed that when the roller was set in motion, after the child had got inside, it rolled down a slope, but there seemed to be some doubt as to whether one of the inside weights balancing the handle had struck her, and knocked her between one of the spokes and the shaft of the handle, or whether in her fright she had attempted to get out.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned, coupled with a recommendation that for the future the roller should be left in a place of safety, and not upon an embankment.”

James Birch, beer retailer, 1, Bott Lane. [1896]

Frederick Gnosill = Frederick Gnosill

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1899

“Walsall & District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *Frederick Gnosill*, FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 5/5/1900

“Cricket – Opening of the Season – On the way to the match call at the FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, Walsall, and try the sparkling home brewed ales. Families supplied with small casks. *Fred Gnosill*, proprietor.”

1901 Census

1, Bott Lane – Tavern – FOUNTAIN INN

[1] *Frederick Gnosill* (45), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] *Clara Gnosill* (42), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Minnie Richard* (19), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Frederick Gnosill, beer retailer, 1, Bott Lane. [1904]

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905]

1911 Census

1, Bott Lane

[1] *Stephen Dawson* (44), beer retailer, born Wednesbury;

[2] *Amelia Ann Dawson* (47), wife, married 20 years, born Bilston;

[3] *Norman Stephen Dawson* (13), son, student, born Walsall;

[4] *Vera Irene Dawson* (6), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Amy Dawson* (69), mother, widow, born Essington:

Stephen Dawson – see also RED HOUSE.

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

FOUNTAIN, Bott Lane, Walsall, 6s.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane. £1 0s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 19/10/1918 - Advert

“Wednesday and Thursday Next, 23rd and 24th, October, 1918.

Under instruction from Messrs. W. Butler & Co., Ltd., Springfield Brewery, Wolverhampton, Leonard C. Philpot will Sell by Auction the Brewing Plants and Utensils at the following Licensed House, viz.:

EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.

FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, Walsall.

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, Walsall.

WISEMORE TAVERN, Wisemore, Walsall.

PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, Walsall.

Comprising 11 Steel and Iron Boilers, various sizes from 100 to 250 gallons, 7 large Oak Mash Tuns, 6 Mash Rules, Malt, Shovels, Copper, Lead and Iron Piping, Brass and other taps, Wooden Platforms, 6 large Cooling Vats, 6 Copper Refrigerators (by Potterton and Keyte), 6 Troughs, 2 Copper Sparges, 2 Copper Attemperators, 6 Hop Backs, 50 casks (various sizes from 36 to 120 gallons), 8 Barm Tubs, 6 Large Fermenting Vats, 2 Underbacks, Rotary Pump and Piping, 2 Avery's Weighing Machines (4cwt and 3cwt), Pulley Rope, and Sundry Utensils.

Order Of Sale

Wednesday, October 23rd

EAGLE INN, 10.30 prompt.

FOUNTAIN INN, 12 prompt.

WALSALL ARMS, 1.30 prompt.

Thursday, October 24th

WISEMORE TAVERN, 10.30 prompt.

PHEASANT INN, 12 prompt.

On View, 9 o'clock, Morning of Sale. No catalogues.

Further particulars from the Auction and Valuation Offices, Midland Bank Chambers, The Bridge, Walsall.”

Robert Whittaker Brown – see also WALSALL ARMS.

John Rogers – see also MINERVA.

Plans for sanitary improvements were passed in 1926.

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

“Asking for the renewal of the licenses of the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street; and the WHITE LION, Portland Street, Mr. Frank Cooper stated that both houses were owned by Ansell's or one of their subsidiary companies and if the licenses were renewed he would give an undertaking that within the current licensing year a scheme would be submitted for dealing with the licenses by way of removal of one and the surrender of the other. If that undertaking were fulfilled, the justices would be able to merge two licenses into one, but if the undertaking were not carried out, no opposition would be raised to both licenses being on the ‘objected’ list next year.

The two licenses were renewed on this undertaking, as were the licenses of the PHEASANT, Windmill Street; and the FOUNTAIN, Bott Lane; subject to somewhat similar undertakings.

Mr. Cooper, for the owners attached considerable importance to the PHEASANT and if the VILLAGE went there could be no question about the PHEASANT being necessary. If the justices preferred it, however, the brewery company would deal with the PHEASANT and the FOUNTAIN in the same way as the VILLAGE and the WHITE LION, all being in the same ownership.”

1939 Register

1, Bott Lane – FOUNTAIN INN (6 of 7)

[1] *William H. Wall*, date of birth 24/7/1888, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Fanny Wall*, dob 27/7/1888, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Isobel (Wall) (Mason) Oakley*, dob 15/6/1917, shop assistant, sports outfitter, single;

[4] *Nellie (Wall) (Bott) Perry*, dob 8/3/1922, shop assistant, multiple store, single;

[5] *Joan (Wall) Hardman*, dob 6/3/1924, packer, toy factory, single;

[6] *Amy I. (Wall) Duffy*, dob 17/1/1926, at school, single;

Walsall Observer 13/1/1940 - Deaths

“Mrs. *Wall*, FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, wishes to thank all Relatives, Friends and Customers for sympathy and floral tributes.”
AND

“The license of the FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, was, at Walsall Guildhall yesterday, transferred from the name of the late *William Henry Wall* to his widow, *Fanny Wall*.”

Walsall Observer 10/5/1941

“Well-known for many years as a licensee in Walsall and Birmingham, Mr. John Harry Brown died on Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. *Cronin*, of the FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, with whom he had resided since he retired about eight years ago. He

was in his 79th year, and had been ill for about a month.

Eldest son of John Brown, a well-known Walsall cricketer, who for twelve years headed the town club's batting averages (and who had at times played with or against some of the most famous men of his time, including the Graces, Parr, Minn and Daft), the late Mr. Brown himself, like several of his brothers, took an active part in the game and assisted the town club.

He left the currying trade to take his first licensed house, the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street, and among other Walsall licenses he held were those of the NEW INNS and the CUPS HOTEL, Park Street. He had been at the latter before his retirement and it was while he was there that his wife died eleven years ago. He had been a member of both the Walsall and Birmingham licensed victuallers' societies. He leaves six sons and a daughter. The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery on Thursday."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane. £5 16s 0d."

A full license was granted on 23rd November 1961.

It closed on 3rd January 1967.

FOUNTAIN

14, Long Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

George Boys

Mrs. Benjamin Hand, Redditch (later Wolverhampton)

G. Thomas

William Brotherton

Mrs. Atkins, Albany Road, Wolverhampton

John Lord [1913]

LICENSEES

George Smith [1861] – [1865]

Thomas Boys [1868] – [1880];

Edward Peace [1881] – [1882];

George Ball [];

Charles Perry [1891] – **1893**);

Joseph William Brotherton (**1893 – 1904**);

Benjamin Jefferson (**1904 – 1913**);

George Frederick Sunter (**1913 – 1924**):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

George Smith, beer retailer, Long Street. [1861]

1861 Census

Long Street – Beer Shop

[1] *George Smith* (30), beerhouse keeper, born Selston, Warwickshire;

[2] Elizabeth Smith (27), wife, born Coleshill;

[3] Sarah A. Smith (7), daughter, scholar, born Coleshill;

[4] Emma Smith (4), daughter, scholar, born Coleshill;

[5] Mary A. Smith (3), daughter, scholar, born Sutton [Sutton Coldfield?], Warwickshire;

[6] Phoebe Smith (10 months), daughter, born Walsall;

[7] Henry Smith (18), brother, maltster, born Shustock [Shustoke?], Warwickshire:

George Smith, retailer of beer, 14, Long Street. [1862]
George Smith, beer retailer, 14, Long Street. [1864], [1865]

Thomas Boys, beer retailer, 14 Long Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

14, Long Street

- [1] *Thomas Boys* (52), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Caroline Boys* (50), wife, born Carfeeth [Calf Heath?], Staffordshire;
- [3] *Charles Boys* (23), son, assistant publican, born Walsall;
- [4] *Emma Boys* (18), daughter, imbicile, born Walsall;
- [5] *Henry Boys* (16), son, saddler, born Walsall;
- [6] *John Boys* (15), son, warehouse lad, born Walsall;
- [7] *Ellen Boys* (12), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [8] *Alice Boys* (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *William Boys* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall:

[It was listed in the Licensing Register 1872-1881 as the IRISH HARP.]

1881 Census

14, Long Street

- [1] *Edward Peace* (30), chainmaker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Eliza Peace* (26), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *John Peace* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Harriet Peace* (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Annie Peace* (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Ellen Lalley* (23), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/11/1882

“At the Guildhall yesterday.....

Edward Peace, the FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, was, on the evidence of Detective-sergeant Drury, fined 10s and costs for having his house open at twelve o'clock on Saturday night.”

1891 Census

14, Long Street – FOUNTAIN INN

- [1] *Charles Perry* (55), publican, born Penkridge;
- [2] *Jane E. Perry* (48), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Edward E. Perry* (26), son, stationer, born Walsall;
- [4] *Julia Perry* (21), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *George Perry* (19), son, railway porter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 27/8/1892

“A special sessions for licensing business was held on Wednesday morning at the Guildhall....

Mr. Bill submitted plans of proposed alteration at the FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, and applied for the sanction of the justices. The justices declined to sanction the proposed alterations.”

Joseph William Brotherton = John William Brotherton

Walsall Advertiser 20/4/1895

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held at the house of Mr. Thomas Deakin, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Street.....

New members..... Mr. *Joseph William Brotherton*, FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“Michael Walker (19), caster, 1 court, 1 house, Blue Lane East, was charged with having broken a pane of glass at the FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street.

Joseph Brotherton, landlord, said on Monday night the prisoner came to his house and asked to be served with some beer, but as he had had enough, he was refused. He then commenced to break the windows, but only managed to vent his vengeance on one. Prisoner excused himself by saying he had had too much beer, and did not know what he was doing. He was fined 5s and costs, and 1s 6d for the damage, or in default seven days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1895

“*John Brotherton*, FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, was charged with having sold beer to a policeman on duty, and also having knowingly suffered him to remain on the premises. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

The Chief Constable said he was sorry to have to bring the matter before the Bench, but he was afraid those cases were getting frequent. Policemen went into public-houses and were given drink, and the practice could only end in collusion to the disadvantage of the public.

Inspector Gore proved having found Police-constable Ennis in the FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street. Defendant told him he had supplied the officer with a glass of beer.

Mr. Jackson contended that it was not a serious offence.

The Chief Constable said the victuallers had only to get to know whether constables had permission from their superior officers to have a glass of beer, and they need have no fear of being summoned.

A fine of 10s and costs was imposed.”

Joseph W. Brotherton, beer retailer, 14, Long Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The Black List. The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against Beer Retailers.....

Joseph William Brotherton, FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, October 11th, 1895, supplying liquor to a constable on duty, fined 10s and costs.

The Chief Constable said that *Brotherton* had since removed from his premises, and therefore he withdrew all objection to the renewal of the license of the house.”

[The Chief Constable got this wrong!]

1901 Census

14, Long Street – FOUNTAIN INN

[1] *Joseph W. Brotherton* (48), beerhouse keeper, born Crewe;

[2] Eliza Brotherton (45), wife, born Stoke, Staffordshire;

[3] Samuel Brotherton (42), brother, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Ada Cole (22), niece, domestic servant, born Wolverhampton;

[5] Chris Cole (18), nephew, manufacturer’s clerk, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

John William Brotherton, FOUNTAIN.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

The FOUNTAIN, Long Street. Mr. Wilcocks appeared for the licensee, *Joseph William Brotherton*, who had occupied the house 10 years; and Mr. Cooper (Addison and Cooper) for the lessees, Mr. Lord. The question of the annual value was the difficulty, and Councillor Powell said the property was worth £25 a year without the license. Renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/7/1905

“Mary Perry, 8, Lower Brook Street, was summoned by Charlotte Hampson, 80, Queen Street, for assault on the 8th inst.

Complainant stated that she and another woman went into the FOUNTAIN in Long Street to have a drop of beer, when defendant came in and immediately started pulling her hair out of her head and kicking and striking her, and calling her bad names.

Mrs. Plant, who corroborated, said defendant was very drunk, and had to be taken away by three persons.

Mr. Armstrong, who defended, said the complainant was a woman with a bad character, and had several times been up for assault. On this occasion complainant met defendant and asked her what she meant by giving information to the ‘cruelty man,’ and immediately struck her and knocked her down.

Defendant’s sister deposed to seeing complainant strike her sister to the ground, and when she got up to her, her face was covered with blood.

Case dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1907

“Joseph Day (58), labourer, of no fixed abode, was charged with wilfully damaging a window at the FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, to the extent of 3s, on Sunday.

Ada Lyons, daughter of the landlord, stated that she was serving at the bar on the date named, when prisoner came in and asked for beer. She thought he had had enough, and refused to serve him. He became quarrelsome, but he went out, and the next thing she heard was a crash of glass. On going outside she saw the front window broken, and a woman holding prisoner.

Mrs. Peery gave evidence to seeing the man break the window.

Detective-sergeant Jones gave evidence of arrest. In answer to the charge prisoner said, ‘All I can say is they put me out of the house. I made a put at one of them, and my hand went through the window.’

A fine of 20s and costs was imposed, with the alternative of one months’ hard labour.”

1911 Census

14, Long Street

- [1] *Benjamin Jefferson* (64), publican, FOUNTAIN INN, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Elizabeth Jefferson (65), wife, married 43 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Jefferson (41), son, unmarried, tailor's presser, born Walsall;
- [4] Elsie Beatrice Evans (21), domestic servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1911

“John Durkin, 3, Temple Street, and David Crosby, 25, Peal Street, were summoned for assaulting *Benjamin Jefferson*, Long Street and also with doing wilful damage to the amount of 10s on January 5th.

Prosecutor, who is landlord of the FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, said Crosby was requested to leave his house, when defendants both struck him. While they were being ejected Crosby put his foot through a window, and did other damage.

Durkin: Did I insult you? – Witness: Yes.

Durkin: Thankyou.

Emily Hill, of the ANCHOR INN, spoke as to seeing the window broke, and a stone was produced, it being stated that this was thrown.

Crosby told the Bench that ‘it was a gamble and a squabble – you have to hit somebody or they will hit you. The house was in an uproar. It was half-a-dozen to six.’

There were twenty previous convictions against Crosby, who asked for leniency, saying, ‘It is not what I’ve done, but what I am going to do.’

Durkin was fined 10s and costs, and allowed time to pay, but Crosby was fined 30s and costs, or in default 21 days.”

Benjamin Jefferson, beer retailer, 14, Long Street. [1912]

Benjamin Jefferson – see also WARWICK ARMS.

Walsall Advertiser 21/12/1912

“In connection with the PRINCE BLUCHER Sick and Dividend Society, Stafford Street, a dividend of 8/- per member, two nights and card has been declared. The balance sheet showed receipts £145 15s 2d, and expenditure £71 3s 2d, and a balance was left in hand of £15 8s. The LAMP TAVERN Society, Stafford Street, paid a dividend of 10/-, two nights and a card. While at the Caledonian Corks, FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, the amount was 3/9.”

George Sunter – see also JUNCTION.

Walsall Observer 27/3/1915 - Deaths

“On the 21st inst, after a long illness, Sarah Ann, the beloved wife of *George Frederick Sunter*, of the FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street. ‘*Her end was peace*’.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street. £0 9s 5½d.”

The license was surrendered and the house closed on 29th July 1924, as part of an arrangement for the Removal of License for the TIGER, Long Acre, to new premises, the DERBY ARMS, Raleigh Street.

FOUNTAIN

49, Lower Forster Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Isaac Evans, Perry Barr

T. H. Stanley Esq, solicitor, Walsall

Joseph Clare, Longwood Cottage, Beacon Road, Aldridge

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Enterprise Inns [2007], [2011]

Backyard Brewing Co. [2012], [2017]

LICENSEES

Thomas Sadler [1864] – [1870] ?
George Henry ‘Harry’ Holden [1868] – [1871]
Hyla Holden [1871] – [1872]
James Evans [1873] – 1902);
Jesse Smart (1902 – 1903); manager
John Edward Dade (1903 – 1904);
Harry Kingdom (1904 – 1905);
Frank Merrall (1905 – 1906);
John Mason (1906 – 1917);
Violet Ellen Whyld D’Oyley (1917 – 1918); manager
James Henry Roberts (1918 – 1924);
Eliza Roberts (1924 – 1926);
John Thomas Alcock (1926 – 1940);
James Emmanuel Meeke (1940 – 1955);
Cecil Robert Evans (1955 – [1966]
Glenda Bellingham [1994] – 1998)
Heather Broughton [2010] – 2011);
John Horton (2012 – [2016]

NOTES

Thomas Sadler = Thomas Saddler

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....
Mr. Matthews, from the office of Mr. Wilkinson, applied on behalf of the following parties.....
Thos. Saddler, Lower Forster Street Refused.”

Thomas Sadler and *George Henry Holden* appeared here in the same 1868 and 1870 Directories.

Thomas Sadler, beer retailer and currier, Lower Forster Street. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....
Mr. Mathews next applied on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Saddler*, landlord of the FOUNTAIN beerhouse, Lower Foster Street. Application granted.”

Walsall Free Press 20/6/1868 - Advert

“To Be Sold, (on easy terms), Exchanged or Hired, a first class Tricord Piano; very powerful. Price £10; to be seen at the FOUNTAIN, Lower Forster Street, Walsall. Also a 4½in Cart, nearly new.”

1871 Census

49, Lower Forster Street – FOUNTAIN INN

- [1] *Hyla Holden* (46), currier employing 8 men 1 boy, born Ulverston, Lancashire;
- [2] Ann Holden (45), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Clara Parsons (18), general servant, born Walsall:

1881 Census

49, Lower Foster Street

- [1] *James Evans* (40), chain maker and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Emma Evans (43), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] H. C. Evans (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Agnes Lees (17), domestic srvant, born Blakenall:

1891 Census

49, Lower Forster Street – FOUNTAIN INN

- [1] *James Evans* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Emma Evans (54), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] Henry C. Evans (16), son, glass etcher, born Walsall;
- [4] William G. Evans (16), nephew, bridle cutter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/1/1894

“The Borough Coroner, Mr. T. H. Stanley, held an inquest on Monday evening at the FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Forster Street, on the body of Walter Charles Wilkes, 3 years 9 months, of Upper Forster Street, who died early on Sunday morning from burns. Alfred Wilkes, father of the deceased, living at 7, Upper Forster Street, miller’s traveller, identified the body. He said that deceased was burned on Friday afternoon. He had just returned from a journey, and on going into the house was told the child was on fire. He rushed upstairs and saw his son Alfred Douglas Wilkes with his coat over the child putting out the fire. Witness put his mackintosh over the child, carried him downstairs, and went for a doctor.

A Juryman: Was there anybody in the room with him? – Witness: Yes; a little sister aged five years.

A Juryman: Was there a guard in front of the fire? – Witness: Yes.

Alfred Douglas Wilkes, brother to the deceased, and living with his father, deposed that on Friday as he was putting his clothes on to go to business he heard his sister (Maud) shouting ‘Mother, Walter’s on fire.’ The sounds came from upstairs, so he ran up and his brother met him at the door. He was on fire, and witness took off his jacket, wrapped it round him and rolled him on the floor; in this way he put the flames out and then his father came.

The Coroner spoke very highly of the presence of mind of the lad.

Dr. Bachelor, medical practitioner and assistant to Dr. Oliver stated that he attended the child. He was suffering from burns on the face, head, arms, and about the knees. The extent of the burns were great but not deep. Deceased died early on Sunday morning. The cause of death was shock caused by burns.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Observer 20/10/1900

“On Monday last, a supper given, through the hospitality of the landlord (Mr. *J. Evans*), to some of his private friends and customers, took place at the FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Forster Street, the occasion being to celebrate the 60th birthday of the host.....”

1901 Census

Lower Forster Street – FOUNTAIN INN

- [1] *James Evans* (60), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Emma Evans* (64), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] *Charles Evans* (26), son, harness furniture manufacturer, born Walsall;
- [4] *Edith A. Harrison* (16), general servant, born Aston, Staffordshire:

James Evans was fined 20s and costs, on 3rd April 1901, for adulterating rum.

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1903

“A case of somewhat unusual nature was heard this morning. An Italian named Giuseppe Live, of Newtown Row, was summoned for playing his street piano within hearing of one *Jesse Smart*, after being asked to leave the neighbourhood.

The complainant, who lives at the FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Forster Street, said that on December 22nd defendant played from 3.30 to 3.45 near his house. He sent a boy with some money to defendant, and asked him to go away. He continued playing, however, and complainant went to him himself. The man refused to go away, so complainant called a policeman. Complainant explained that his wife was ill, and the sound of the piano annoyed her.

Live, through an interpreter, denied that he was asked to go away. Fined 5s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1903

“Mr. H. H. Jackson put in a plan for alteration at the FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Forster Street, where it was proposed to take a club room from one part of the building and put it on the other side; also to do away with another room over the doorway. Refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

John Edward Dade, FOUNTAIN.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905]

John Mason – see also LITTLETON ARMS.

1911 Census

49, Lower Forster Street

- [1] *John Mason* (38), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Rachel Mason* (34), wife, married 7 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Winifred Amy Mason* (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Edna May Mason* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *John Horatio Mason* (2), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 27/12/1913

“The annual general meeting of the FOUNTAIN INN (Lower Forster Street) Sick and Dividend Society was held at headquarters on Monday, when a dividend of 12/- per member was declared. It was afterwards decided to convert the club into a death and dividend society.

Votes of thanks were accorded the retiring officers for their services during the past year, and the following were elected to serve for the ensuing twelve months: Chairman, Mr. E. Brookes; secretary, Mr. H. C. Hill; treasurer, Mr. *J. Mason* (licensee of the FOUNTAIN); committee, Messrs. Smith, Mumford, Barratt, Jenkins, Stevens and Birch.”

Violet Ellen Whyld D'Oyly – see also LITTLETON ARMS.

1939 Register

49, Lower Forster Street

[1] *John T. Alcock*, date of birth 3/10/1869, licensee public house, and locksmith, married;

[2] *Sarah A. Alcock*, dob 31/8/1870, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Cyril C. Alcock*, dob 19/10/1898, heavy goods motor driver, food distribution, single;

[4] *Gladys M. Alcock*, dob 26/12/1909, unpaid domestic duties, single:

Walsall Observer 29/6/1940

“The license of the FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Forster Street, was at the Guildhall yesterday transferred to *James Emmanuel Meeke* from *John Thomas Alcock*, who was stated to be very ill.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Forster Street. £0 10s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....

FOUNTAIN, Lower Forster Street, Walsall.”

Glenda Bellingham was married to Robert.

See also VICTORIA, Lower Rushall Street.

It closed in 2011.

It reopened in December 2012.

John Horton – see also PRETTY BRICKS.

He was married to Jackie.

Walsall CAMRA Pub of the Year 2017.

Express & Star 6/8/2023

“As pubs continue to battle the cost of living crisis, the *Express & Star* continues its Love Your Local series which celebrates our local inns. The FOUNTAIN INN, based on 49 Lower Street, Walsall, is a family-run pub where real ale is a hit with the regulars as the family try to bring something different to the pub scene in the town. Scarlett Horton, 36, runs the establishment having taken over from her parents Jackie and *John Horton*, who have taken a step back from day-to-day operations. The family previously ran another pub in Walsall, the PRETTY BRICKS, and so when they took over the FOUNTAIN INN almost 11 years ago, they knew what they were getting into and what it would take to make it a successful business. Scarlett said, ‘We are from the area, local to around here, and so we knew the people and of course the area, so we knew what we were getting into taking over the FOUNTAIN INN. It has been really good since taking over but not without its challenges, but despite that we have stuck to what we know and things are running well. We took the pub on under Backyard Brewery and it became a freehold around four or five years ago, and we have the freehold now. It has really expanded during our time here and is primarily a real ale pub but we are also expanding into craft beer, as we are trying to offer something unique in Walsall. Overall, since we have run the place it has been really good, and thankfully we have built up a really good crowd of regulars.’

Pubs, and the hospitality industry as a whole have been through a rough period in recent years, firstly with the Covid pandemic, and just as businesses were beginning to try recovering from that major setback, the cost of living crisis is now in full flow, with the cost of ingredients, general running costs and bills going through the roof. Pubs are closing or being sold, left right and centre, and many landlords and ladies are simply grateful to still be in business following a torrid period. Scarlett added, ‘We are still relatively busy now but we’re not quite at pre-Covid levels – but we are busy enough, and it’s due to still having our regular crowd. We have had issues with costs going up and bills, so it has been stressful post-Covid, but I think we have sorted a lot of that out now and are coming through it. We are grateful that we are still here and getting through it, and it is about looking forward now.’ Scarlett, like many other people who run pubs, hosts regular events which all contribute to bringing footfall into the pub, and these

have been popular for the FOUNTAIN INN. ‘We put on live music quite regularly, and one of our most popular events is a vinyl night. It is a big thing every month, which a lot of people come in for. We allow everyone to bring in their own vinyl and play a 15-minute set of what they like, and so it varies in terms of the kind of music, but it is a fun, quirky evening and is a hit with our customers. As well as the vinyl night, we host a weekly pizza night, where everything is made in-house, and the sourdough is from a local bakery, and we serve bar snacks throughout the week, which are all locally sourced, which helps the all-round local economy. We have been able to build a really nice relationship with the locals, and I think where we are based, just outside of the town centre, it has become a nice little haven. Things certainly are different post-Covid, and we have adjusted our opening hours since, and we open later in the afternoon instead rather than at lunchtime – but we have our set regulars, our customers are great and we love running the place. It is nice to be recognised for the work that we do too, and have been consistent winners of CAMRA awards. We try to serve a good range of drinks, from local ales to now craft cans and beers, and try to keep away from the main branded beers and lagers, which is what our customers like, and with the variety of drinks on offer, we have a really good set of age range that come into drink here. It keeps things lively, having younger students, as well as elderly drinkers, it is an all-round great place to visit with a wonderful atmosphere and environment, we make people feel comfortable, and all are welcome.’”

[2023]

FOUNTAIN

17, (14), (21), Portland Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Crowther Smith, solicitor, Wolverhampton
J. A. Wells, Birmingham
Thomas Edge
Frederick Smith Ltd., Aston Model Brewery
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired on 9th October 1959)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Isaac Harrison [1848]
Charles Simkiss [1861]
Charles Sanders [1861]
Alfred Sanders [1870] – [1871]
Charles Lees [1872];
John Leatherland [];
Mrs. Jane Leatherland [];
Benjamin Rawlinson [1881]
Jane Rawlinson [] – **1886**;
Joseph Benton (**1886 – 1898**);
Thomas Edge (**1898 – 1917**);
Abraham Anslow (**1917 – 1920**);
Arthur Povey (**1920 – 1925**);
Joseph Facey (**1925 – 1926**);
James Anson (**1926 – 1934**);
William Leonard Taylor (**1934 – 1937**);
Mrs. Florence May (Taylor) Dawson (**1937 – 1963**);
William Henry Chamberlain (**1963**);
James Joseph Feenan (**1963 – 1964**);
Reginald Victor Whilton (**1964**);
Frederick Evans (**1964 – 1965**);
Stanley John Silvester (**1965 – 1966**);
Albert William Lloyd (**1966 – 1967**);
Doris Malvina Hodgkins (**1967** – []
Ken Raybould [] last licensee

NOTES

21, Portland Street [1871]

14, Portland Street [1872], [1881], [1891], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1911], [1912], [1939], [1940]

17, Portland Street

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1848

“At the sitting of the magistrates, the following persons applied for spirit licenses for their respective houses.
Mr. *Isaac Harrison*, FOUNTAIN, Portland Street. Refused.”

1861 Census

Portland Street – FOUNTAIN INN Public House

- [1] *Charles Sanders* (41), publican and brass dresser, born Walsall;
- [2] *Kate Sanders* (43), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Henry Sanders* (21), son, brass dresser, born Walsall;
- [4] *Alfred Sanders* (19), son, brass dresser, born Walsall;
- [5] *George Sanders* (16), son, brass dresser, born Walsall;
- [6] *Edward Sanders* (14), son, caster's boy, born Walsall;
- [7] *Sushannah Sanders* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Clara Sanders* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Elizabeth Clark* (14), niece, domestic servant, born Great Barr;
- [10] *Enoch Clark* (10), nephew, scholar, born Walsall;
- [11] *James Clark* (7), nephew, scholar, born Walsall;
- [12] *Arthur Clark* (12), nephew, brass finisher, born Walsall;
- [13] *John Smith* (16), visitor, buckle filer, born Bilston;
- [14] *William Barker* (46), lodger, agricultural labourer, born Clifton, Derbyshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/1/1869 - Advert

“To be Let, the FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street, Walsall, with stable, shop, two enclosed yards, with gate entrance; suitable for a coal wharf. Coming-in about £50.
Apply on the Premises.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/11/1870

“*Alfred Saunders*, landlord of the FOUNTAIN public-house, Portland Street, for having had his house open during prohibited hours on the 21st inst, was fined 20s and costs.”

1871 Census

21, Portland Street

- [1] *Alfred Sanders* (26), innkeeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Ann Sanders* (25), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Charles Lees* (53), father, timber merchant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary A. Lees* (50), mother, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 27/5/1871 - Advert

“To Be Let, the FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street.
For further particulars apply on the Premises.”

Charles Lees, beer retailer, 14, Portland Street. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 13/9/1872

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Charles Lees*, keeper of the FOUNTAIN beerhouse, Portland Street, appeared before Messrs. J. W. Newman, H. Highway, and J. B. Anderson, charged with having permitted drunkenness on his premises. Police-constable G. Bayley stated that shortly before eleven o'clock on Saturday night he went to defendant's house and found one man lying drunk on the door step, and three drunken women in the passage. There was much confusion in the place, which was full of people. The defendant denied that there was any drunkenness, and the confusion was due to a woman having commenced an attack on a man who had lived with her for some time, but had left her. The Bench held the offence proved, and imposed a fine of £2 and costs, or one month's imprisonment in default; Mr. Newman, at the same time telling him that he had rendered himself liable to a penalty of £10.”

1881 Census

14, Portland Street – The FOUNTAIN

- [1] *Benjamin Rawlinson* (45), retail brewer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Jane Rawlinson* (41), wife, born Scotland;

- [3] Annie Rawlinson (14), daughter, stitcher, born Walsall;
[4] Sarah Rawlinson (75), mother, widow, born Walsall:

1891 Census

14, Portland Street

- [1] *Joseph Benton* (57), publican and boiler maker, born Pelsall;
[2] Jane Benton (58), wife, born Galston Laodge, Co. Galy [*Galloway?*], Scotland;
[3] Samuel Benton (18), son, boiler maker, born Darlaston;
[4] Albert Benton (14), son, boiler maker, born Goscote;
[5] John Bentley (22), boarder, boiler maker, born Bloxwich;
[6] Mary Jones (19), servant, born Brownhills:

Joseph Benton, beer retailer, 14, Portland Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 10/12/1898

“*Abraham Anslow*, FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street, was fined 5s and costs for cruelty to a horse by working it whilst unfit. The animal was suffering from sprained tendons.”

1901 Census

14, Portland Street

- [1] *Thomas Edge* (27), private brewer and innkeeper, born Walsall;
[2] Ruth Edge (24), wife, born Walsall Wood;
[3] Priscilla B. Edge (2), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] *Abraham Anslow* (46), father in law, coal dealer, born Walsall Wood;
[5] Naomi Anslow (43), mother in law, born Walsall Wood;
[6] John Anslow (14), brother in law, coal dealer’s helper, born Walsall Wood;
[7] Priscilla Anslow (20), sister in law, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Advertiser 27/9/1902

“Mr. Bill applied for sanction of alterations at the FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street. The Mayor said that the licensing question was now having the attention of the justices, and they had decided that no alterations would be granted until the licensing sessions in February. The Chief Constable called attention to the fact that in this case the alterations had been commenced without permission of the Bench. Mr. Bill said the alterations made were few, and as soon as he discovered that they were being made he had them stopped.”

Thomas Edge, beer retailer, 14, Portland Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 2/7/1904

“*Thomas Edge*, landlord of the FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street, was summoned for allowing intoxicating liquor to be sold to a boy under the age of 14, Anthony Duffey, in a vessel not properly corked and sealed as required by the Act, on July 9th.

Lizzie Elwell, 22, Ann Street, was also summoned for sending Duffey for the drink.

Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith defended.

Police-constable Stopford deposed to meeting the lad with two bottles containing beer, neither of which were corked, and one of them improperly sealed.

Duffey in cross-examination, said that the constable pulled the label off one of the bottles before he took it back to the inn.

Mrs Elwell admitted sending the boy for the beer.

Both the defendants were fined 20s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/8/1904

“The fifty-second annual general meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *Thomas Edge*, FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

In the case of the FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street, Mr. S. Pearman-Smith applied. He stated that the alteration was only a small one, the building of a second storey over a brewhouse. The room that they proposed to build was for a malt-house.

Mr. Enoch Evans, the architect, explained that it was building one storey over another.

Mr. Loxton objected to the distance not being shown on the plan of the brew-house to the public bar. Subsequently the distance was clearly defined by Mr. Evans and accepted by Mr. Loxton.”

1911 Census

14, Portland Street

- [1] *Thomas Edge* (38), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

- [2] Ruth Edge (36), wife, married 15 years, born Walsall;
- [3] Pricila Edge (12), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [4] Abraham Edge (8), son, school, born Walsall;
- [5] Gertrude Edge (6), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [6] Thomas Edge (3), son, school, born Walsall;
- [7] Annie Anslow (18), general servant, born Walsall Wood:

Thomas Edge, beer retailer and brewer, 14, Portland Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street. The year’s working in connection with the above Sick and Dividend Club has resulted in the members receiving a sharing of 8s 9d, two nights, a card and refreshments, being equivalent to 9s 7d each for paid-up members. At the general meeting, held on Friday of last week, it was stated that the total income was £136 13s and the total expenditure £61 13s 10d. Messrs W. Wilkes and T. Hedge were unanimously elected secretary and treasurer of the club respectively, and Mr. I. Wilson money steward. A discussion afterwards took place as to the advisability of making it a 4d club and this course was agreed to.”

Walsall Observer 2/6/1917 - Deaths

“In loving memory of my dear husband, *Thomas Edge*, of the FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street, who died on May 24th, aged 44.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/10/1925

“*Joseph Facey*, licensee of the FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street, and his wife *Nellie Facey*, were each fined 20s for using indecent language at 1.10am on the 6th instant. Police-sergt. Ballance spoke to hearing the language used during an altercation between the defendants in their bedroom.”

1937 Probate

“*William Leonard Taylor* of the FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street, Walsall, Staffordshire, died 27 September 1937 at Goscote Hospital, Walsall. Administration London 14 October to *Florence May Taylor*, widow. Effects £180.”

Walsall Observer 28/10/1939 - Lost and Found

“Finder of Cameo Pendant, lost Saturday afternoon, in Walsall or Blakenall, return same *Taylor*, FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street.”

1939 Register

14, Portland Street

[1] *Florence M. (Taylor) Dawson*, date of birth 1/6/1902, public house manageress, widowed:

Walsall Observer 16/12/1939

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held at the HAME MAKERS ARMS INN, Blue Lane West, on Thursday.....

Mrs. *F. M. Taylor*, FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street was elected member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street, £0 12s 5d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street. £1 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FOUNTAIN INN, Portland Street. £0 18s 3d.”

Florence May Taylor married a Mr. *Dawson* on 3rd November 1951.

A full license was granted in 1953.

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....
FOUNTAIN, Portland Street, Walsall.”

Stanley John Silvester – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY.

Doris Malvina Hodgkins – see also ROSE AND THISTLE.

[1993]

Closed [2006]

It was destroyed by fire.

FOUR CROSSES

124, (23), (1), (Upper) Green Lane / Leamore Lane, Leamore, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Josiah Elton

Thomas Foster, Stratford on Avon

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1898)

LICENSEES

Jesse Cooper [1828] – [1835]

Adam Harper [1861] – [1862]

Josiah Elton [1865] – 1898);

Edward Joseph Thompson (1898 – 1899);

John Davies (1899 – 1901);

Henry Gallears (1901 – 1904);

John Thomas Ford (1904 – 1905);

William Ford (1905 – 1906);

Mercy Elizabeth Ford (1906 – 1907);

Thomas Lloyd (1907 – 1908);

Emma Lloyd (1908 – 1909);

James Woodall (1909 – 1920);

Elizabeth Woodall (1920 – 1921);

Ernest Harold Wilson (1921 – 1923);

James Sidney Massey (1923 – 1924);

Charles George Edginton (1924 – 1925);

Mrs. Lucy Edginton (1925 – 1933);

Godfrey Tomkins (1933 – 1936);

Frank Henry Whild (1936 – 1939);

Benjamin George Price (1939 – 1946);

Enoch John Wright (1946 – 1958);

Thomas Stephen Willis Jones (1958 – 1965);

James Ball (1965 – 1967);

Frank Frederick Eden (1967 – []

NOTES

23, Green Lane [1871]

1, Green Lane [1881]

124, Green Lane [1891], [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was a coaching house.

It was frequented by miners.

1861 Census

Green Lane – FOUR CROSSES

- [1] *Adam Harper* (38), coal miner, publican, born Stirchley, Shropshire;
- [2] Catherine Harper (32), wife, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [3] Adam Harper (13), son, coal miner, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Harriett Harper (10), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Mary A. Harper (8), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] George Harper (3), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Noah Harper (1), son, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Clement Walford (21), lodger, collier labourer, born Preest, Shropshire:

Adam Harper was the father of Adam Harper of the QUEENS HEAD, Church Street, Bloxwich.

Josiah Elton, beer retailer, Leamore Lane. [1865], [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/10/1866

“Samuel Mason and Edward Sergeant were charged, the former with breaking into the dwelling-house of *Josiah Elton*, beer-house-keeper, Seamore Lane [sic], and stealing therefrom a silver watch, £4 in money, and a handkerchief; and the latter with having aided and abetted his companion in the commission of the crime. Mr. Ebsworth defended Sergeant.

On the afternoon of the preceding Thursday the prisoners were at the prosecutor’s house, with two other men, one of whom had been there with them the preceding day, and the party engaged in a game of cards, and induced the landlord to join them. Mason eventually went out, putting another man to play in his stead, and soon afterwards, Mrs. *Elton*, on going to her bedroom, found him there, standing besides a drawer which she had left unlocked, but which was then open, and in the act of putting her husband’s watch into his pocket. Her screams speedily brought her husband up-stairs, and the intruder thereupon got through the chamber window with all haste, and, having slid down the sloping roof of an outhouse into the yard, made off as fast as possible towards the canal, closely followed by Mr. *Elton*. On reaching the canal he jumped into a boat which stood there, and finding he could not reach the other side by any other means he boldly took to the water, only, however, to find that he had mistaken its depth, and was utterly unable to cope with the difficulties by which he found himself surrounded. Fortunately his pursuer grasped him by the hair of his head – the only part of his person available – and with assistance ultimately rescued him from his perilous position. He was then handed over to Police-constable Reynolds. In his pocket were packets of money and a handkerchief, all of which he had abstracted from the prosecutor’s chest of drawers; but the watch was not recovered. His boots were discovered lying side by side, with a jemmy, behind a tree in Mr. *Elton*’s garden. He had obtained access to the room by removing a pane of glass and an iron bar from the bedroom window. A bunch of skeleton keys was left in the room. The charge against Sergeant was subsequently preferred by the police. Letters from two of his employers were put in giving him an excellent character. Mason pleaded guilty, and stated that his companions had nothing to do with the robbery. Both prisoners were committed for trial at the next Quarter Sessions for the county, bail being refused.”

[At the Quarter Sessions, Mason was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment with hard labour, and three days in each month to be kept in solitary confinement; and Sergeant for nine months, and of that time to be kept six weeks in solitary confinement.]

Josiah Elton, beer retailer, Bloxwich. [1868]

1871 Census

23, Green Lane – FOUR CROSSES

- [1] *Josiah Elton* (51), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Eliza Elton (47), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] George Elton (23), son, boiler maker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Josiah Elton (16), son, shoemaker, born Bloxwich:

Birmingham Daily Post 5/3/1872 - Advert

“To be Sold, cheap, about 100 Yards of 3-inch Cast-iron Socket Pipes.
Apply, Mr. *Elton*’s FOUR CROSSES, Bloxwich.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/3/1872 - Advert

“To be Sold, a 12-ton Weighing Machine, in excellent condition.
Apply, Mr. *Elton*, FOUR CROSSES, Bloxwich.”

1881 Census

1, Green Lane, Bloxwich – FOUR CROSSES

- [1] *Josiah Elton* (61), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Eliza Elton (57), wife, born Lane Head;
- [3] Ellen Foster (13), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Lichfield Mercury 27/1/1888

“At the Walsall Police Court, on Friday, Emma Elton applied, under the Married Women’s Maintenance Act, for an order against her husband, Josiah Elton [licensee’s son], of the FOUR CROSSES INN, Leamore, to compel him to contribute towards the support of herself and her two children. Mr. Duignan represented Mrs. Elton, and Mr. H. H. Jackson the defendant.

The following incidents were brought to light. The couple were married in 1876. In 1881 the husband was charged with an assault, but the case was withdrawn. In 1882 he was fined 20s and costs for an assault. In February, 1883, after having given his wife £15, he went to Australia, leaving her with her two children at her mother’s. While away he sent £5, and in 1886 he returned to England, having made, it was alleged, some £450. Having got possession of the children, he made off to America, and, having been followed about the country from New York to New Orleans, he returned to England, where, by order of the Court of Chancery, the children were restored to their mother, whose friends had spent £250 in the search.

After partial evidence had been taken, a consultation was held, which resulted in the defendant consenting to an order for 6s a week.”

1891 Census

124, Green Lane – FOUR CROSSES INN

[1] *Josiah Elton* (71), widower, retailer of beer, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Hannah Blewitt* (41), daughter, married, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Jane Owen* (20), servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/6/1891

“Josiah Elton, the FOUR CROSSES INN, Leamore, was summoned for neglecting to maintain his wife, Emma, under a separation order made in 1888. Mr. J. N. Cotterell, who appeared for the defence, said the money, 6s per week, was regularly paid until January last, when the defendant left the country, but he had returned ill, and for the present was unable to do anything. The case was adjourned for two months.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1891

“Josiah Elton, jun, the FOUR CROSSES INN, Elmore, was summoned for having neglected to maintain his wife Mr. J. N. Cotterell, for the defence, adduced evidence to show that through a disease of the bone of one of the legs the defendant was unable to carry on his trade, which was that of a hairdresser, and that he was without means. The Bench, however, ordered the amount claimed (£10 10s) to be paid, the alternative being 21 days’ imprisonment.”

Josiah Elton, beer retailer, Leamore. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 22/4/1899

“This was transfer day, and a number of licences were transferred, and temporary authorities were granted.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson made an application in regard of the FOUR CROSSES, Leamore. The house was an old beerhouse, and at the annual licensing meeting and application would be made for the rebuilding of the whole premises. Up to the present no beer machine had been in the house, and every pint of ale had to be fetched from the cellar. He now applied for a beer machine to be put in, and alterations to be made to the brewhouse.

Chief Inspector Gore, on behalf of the police opposed, but the Bench granted the application.”

John Davies = John Davis

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1899

“On Monday, at the Walsall Police Court, Leonard Wilson, of Comwall Street, Leamore, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at the FOUR CROSSES INN, Leamore, on Saturday, the 15th inst; with refusing to quit when requested to do so by the landlord; and with assaulting the landlord, *William Davis* [sic]. Mr. T. H. Stanley (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) was for the prosecution, and Mr. A. Baker defended.

Davis alleged that defendant came to the premises drunk, and when requested to leave he refused to do so. When out in the yard defendant struck him.

Thomas *Davis*, father of complainant, said that he saw defendant in the yard. He was drunk and using the most disgraceful language. Defendant struck complainant several times.

Other witnesses were called, and gave corroborative evidence.

For the defence, it was alleged that complainant was under the influence of drink, and unnecessarily ordered the defendant off the premises, and that complainant also struck first.

The complaint of refusing to quit was dismissed; but for the assault defendant was fined 10s and costs, with the alternative of 14 days.

Alexander Wilson, of Comwall Street – the brother of the defendant of the last case – was then charged with having assaulted the landlord, *Davis*, on the same day. The charge was denied, defendant alleging that he only pulled his brother away. The case was dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Beerhouses.....

John Davies, FOUR CROSSES, Bloxwich, served 14 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views..... On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

John Davis was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

124, Green Lane

[1] *John Davis* (31), publican, born Leamore;

[2] Sarah A. Davis (31), wife, born R___Oth Barr, Lancashire;

[3] Francis E. Davis (1 month), son, born Bilston:

J. Davis and *Harry Gallear* were both listed here in the same 1902 directory.

Henry Gallears = Harry Gallear

Henry Gallears, beer retailer, Leamore. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Henry Gallears, FOUR CROSSES.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/3/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *John T. Ford*, FOUR CROSSES INN, Leamore.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The following is the list of houses in respect of which the licensing justices have called the holders of the licenses to show cause why the licenses should be renewed.....

FOUR CROSSES, Green Lane, Bloxwich.”

Alterations were made in 1905.

Walsall Advertiser 13/3/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... Mr. *James Woodall*, FOUR CROSSES INN, Green Lane, Leamore.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

James Woodall, FOUR CROSSES, Green Lane.....

Mr. S. A. Grundy Newman appeared in the case of the FOUR CROSSES, Green Lane, and called Mr. Tomlins (Wolverhampton), who stated that in his opinion the value of the property, unlicensed, was £16 per annum. He attached considerable value to the property because of the attached land, which would make a good yard for a builder, haulier, &c.....

Renewed, no decision as to value.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

FOUR CROSSES, Leamore. Mr. S. A. Grundy Newman appeared in this case, which was an application for re-building. The magistrates refused the application and an alternative set of plans were then submitted.

Mr. Wood (architect), stated that the proposed alterations consisted of building a new sitting room, new pantry, and new stairs, and turning the old staircase into new scullery, with bathroom over.

The Bench stated that they were not prepared to sanction any alterations, as all the licenses in the district were under their notice.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/2/1911

“The annual general licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Mr. S. H. Newman Grundy mentioned the case of the FOUR CROSSES, Leamore, to which alterations were proposed. He asked to withdraw the application, but said he might come before the Court later on with a scheme for the rebuilding of the premises.”

1911 Census

Leamore – FOUR CROSSES INN

[1] *James Woodall* (39), publican, licensed victualler, born Blakenall;

[2] *Elizabeth Woodall* (38), wife, married 13 years, born Bloxwich:

James Woodall, beer retailer, Green Lane, Leamore. [1912]

James Woodall, beer retailer, Upper Green Lane, Birchills. [1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

FOUR CROSSES, Leamore. £1 0s 11d.”

It was rebuilt in 1924.

Ernest Harold Wilson – see also IRISH HARP.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/11/1930

“Time does not seem to lessen the poignancy of the case of the bereaved dependants of those who were killed in the Norton Canes pit disaster.

The *Birmingham Gazette* and *Evening Despatch* relief fund continues to grow steadily.....

The Subscription List....

Landlady and Customers, FOUR CROSSES, Leamore, near Walsall £1 2s 6d.”

A full license was transferred from the BLUE PIG, New Street in 1932.

1939 Register

Bloxwich – FOUR CROSSES (2 of 4)

[1] *Benjamin G. Price*, date of birth 19/12/1888, licensee, married;

[2] *Catherine Price*, dob 5/10/1898, wife, married;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

FOUR CROSSES INN, Leamore, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/3/1941

“At a meeting at the FOUR CROSSES INN, Green Lane, last week, those who are taking up the land in Leamore Lane recently acquired for allotments, decided to form an association of their own in preference to joining the Bloxwich Society.....”

Walsall Observer 17/6/1941

“Another licensee was summoned on Wednesday for a similar offence [lighting regulations]. Police Constable Dickens stated that at 11.55pm on May 28 he saw a light shining through an open door at the FOUR CROSSES, Green Lane, Leamore, and when he knocked on the door a light was switched on in the bar and for about half-a-minute lit up the road. When the licensee, *Benjamin George Price*, came to the door shortly afterwards he said he thought someone had broken in.

Price, who told the magistrates that he put the light on to have a good look round the premises, was fined 10s.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *B. Price*, FOUR CROSSES, Leamore. £2 19s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FOUR CROSSES, Leamore. £0 18s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FOUR CROSSES, Leamore. £22 13s 6d.”

Benjamin George Price was fined £11 and costs, on 30th September 1946, for permitting his premises to be used for betting and gaming.

[2009]

It became an Indian restaurant and bar. [2010]

It closed in 2010.

It was demolished in 2012.

FOUR CROSSES

1, Green Lane / Mill Road, Shelfield, (Walsall Wood), WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Marsh [1829]

John Weston [1843]

John Bromhall [1849] – [1850]

John Whitehouse [1858]

Henry Whitehouse Jnr. [1860] – [1872]

Peter Aspinall [1891] – **1899**);

Joseph J Bowen (**1899** – [1901] manager

Austin Aspinall (**1903** – **1904**);

John Eydon (**1904** – **1905**);

Charles Dalton (**1905** – **1907**);

James Vawer (**1907** – [1908]

Arthur H Hill [1912]

Colin Stewart [1924]

Ernest Edward Baddock [1932]

Mrs. Gertrude Lilian Baddock [1939] – **1940**)

William Walter Sheffield (**1940** – []

Graham Holt [] – **2005**)

Paul Riley [2017]

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 14/2/1829 - Marriages

“On Wednesday week, at Walsall, (by the Rev. John Barn, A.M.) Mr. George Harrison of Shelfield Lodge, to Mary, daughter of Mr. *John Marsh*, of the FOUR CROSSES, Shelfield.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/6/1830

“A sad and fatal event, and one which was another to the instances of the loss of human life by the incautious use of fire arms, which are unhappily so frequent, had occurred at the Shelfield Lodge, near Walsall, the residence of Mrs. Harrison. A young female named Jane Collier was killed on Tuesday last by a gun-shot wound, under the following circumstances, which we derive from the evidence taken on an inquisition held at the FOUR CROSSES, Shelfield, upon the view of the body, before Henry Smith, Esq, coroner, and a respectable jury. It appears, from the statement of Amelia Mason, that Mrs. Harrison had been for several days on a visit to her daughter in the neighbourhood of Stourbridge; her brother (Mr. Grove), Jane Collier, a dress-maker, who had been at work for her about a week, George Lote, a servant boy about sixteen years of age, the witness, and another female servant being left at home. Between two and three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon the three females were at dinner in the kitchen, when Lote came in and asked for some milk for the dog, which he fetched out of the dairy, and shortly afterwards returned swearing, and said the dog had knocked it out of the milk pan; he then reached down a gun and said he would shoot the dog, asking Jane Collier to go with him to open the door to the outbuilding in which the dog was, but she refused. In three or four minutes after witness

went out of the kitchen into the yard, carrying some dishes, which she intended to take into the brewhouse, when she saw Lote in the fold-yard standing opposite her, with the gun in his hand; he said laughing, 'Ann, I'll shoot you.' Witness told him she would throw the dishes down if he did not take the gun away. On this she turned her head round and observed Jane Collier standing near to the pump, with a cloth and some soap in her hand for the purpose of washing herself; witness then went into the brewhouse, and while there, Lote having come back into the yard, she heard him say, apparently in joke, 'Miss Collier I'll shoot you,' to which she replied, 'George, I'll stand to be shot then' and something else was said by each, but she did not hear distinctly what, and instantly the gun was discharged, Lote at the same time exclaiming, 'O Lord!' Witness immediately came to the brewhouse door and saw the unfortunate girl lying dead upon the pavement; she never spoke, groaned, or stirred, but was killed instantly. Lote ran up the fold-yard towards the lane, and the gun was left reared against the dairy wall. On an alarm being given several women came, and ultimately Mr. Grove with Lote arrived. On witness telling the women how the affair happened, as already stated, Lote declared she was not telling the truth, and also denied the conversation she had related to have passed between him and the deceased, and said that he was going in at the kitchen door with the gun in his hand, when it went off and shot Miss Collier, who was walking behind him. Mr. Henry East Grove in his examination stated, that on Tuesday between one and two o'clock he left the house, taking Lote with him, for the purpose of cutting a little turf at about half a mile distant; when they got about a hundred yards down the lane they met a cow belonging to Mrs. Harrison, which he sent Lote back with to tie up in the cowhouse, and desired him to return as quickly as he could; in about twenty minutes afterwards he came back and said, 'Mr. Grove, I have hurt or shot my hand with a gun,' at the same time holding it out; it bled considerably; he then said that Miss Collier was shot; hesitated at the questions that were put to him respecting the accident, and did not give any satisfactory answer, but seemed frightened and hurt. Witness hastened home, taking Lote with him, and on the way they met a girl who, on being asked if she had heard of Miss Collier being shot, she replied, 'She is shot dead,' on which Lote fell down and exclaimed, 'Oh! Pick me up;' he was, however, left, and in the afternoon was taken into custody. The gun, which witness saw in the fold-yard when he got home, was afterwards removed, and could not be found till Friday morning, the day which an adjournment of the inquest took place, when it was delivered to Mr. Grove by an old female servant of Mrs. Harrison's, and it appears that the mother of the deceased concealed it under a bed. Mr. Thomas Pitt, surgeon, of Walsall, who examined the corpse, described the wound, from the effects of which the death of the girl must have been instantaneous, the contents of the gun having passed through the left eye, which was completely blown out, into the brain. Having made himself acquainted with the manner in which the accident occurred, witness asked Lote, whose hand was injured, how he held the gun when it went off; he replied it was resting on his left arm, his right hand being placed on the lock, and in that position it exploded, and that he stood facing the kitchen door, the deceased being at or near the pump; if, witness said, the prisoner was holding the gun in the position described by him, and it then exploded, the contents would strike the deceased if standing at the time in the situation mentioned, the barrel of the gun being a long one the muzzle would nearly touch the face of the deceased, who was of short stature. Two of the women who went to Mrs. Harrison's on hearing of the accident, were next examined, and to one of them Lote, after denying the expressions which Amelia Mason persisted in were used by himself and Miss Collier immediately before the accident, said the words he used were these, 'Miss Collier, if the gun had been charged I might have shot you,' to which she replied she was not afraid; that he was scraping his shoes to go into the kitchen, having the gun over his left arm, with his right hand upon the lock, when it went off by accident; that he did not know it was charged; that he had reached the gun down for the purpose, as he pretended, of shooting the dog, but his real motive was to frighten the girls. After a recapitulation of the evidence by the Coroner, the Jury returned a verdict to the effect, that the gun, while in the hands of George Lote, was by some means, at present unknown, discharged, whereby Jane Collier was accidentally killed, and a deodand of thirty shillings was fixed upon the gun."

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/3/1843 - Advert

"Pigeon shooting. To be Shot For, on Monday the 20th day of March, 1843, at the house of *John Weston*, FOUR CROSSES, Shelfield, near Walsall, a Fat Pig, 35 score; to be 25 subscribers, at 15s each. The owner and winner to spend £2 each; each subscriber to shoot at 3 pigeons, shot limited to two ounces. Each subscriber to stand 21 yards from the trap, and not to shoot until the bird be upon the wing. The boundary to be 100 yards. The other articles to be governed by the general rules of pigeon shooting."

Henry Whitehouse Jnr. was also a blacksmith. [1860], [1861], [1868], [1870], [1872]
He was the brother of William.

1861 Census

Shelfield – FOUR CROSSES

- [1] *Henry Whitehouse* (46), publican, blacksmith, born Shelfield;
- [2] *Charlott Whitehouse* (42), wife, born Shelfield;
- [3] *Horatio Whitehouse* (20), son, blacksmith, born Shelfield;
- [4] *Eliza Whitehouse* (13), daughter, scholar, born Shelfield;
- [5] *John Whitehouse* (10), son, scholar, born Shelfield;
- [6] *Stephen Whitehouse* (8), son, scholar, born Shelfield;
- [7] *Marty Hussey* (23), house servant, born County Galway, Ireland;
- [8] *Edward Migan* (60), servant, carter, born Pelsall;
- [9] *George Broughill* (17), servant, blacksmith, born Sedgley:

Walsall Free Press 17/5/1862

"Edward Butler was charged at the Rushall petty sessions, on Tuesday, with having on the night of Monday last, been drunk and disorderly, a with having assaulted Joseph Brookhouse, the parish constable. It appeared on the evening in question the defendant

had been at a club meeting at the FOUR CROSSES, Shelfield, and had struck several parties, and on being remonstrated with by the parish constable, he threatened to kill him. As the charge of assault was not pressed by the officer, he was sentenced to pay a fine of 10s and costs – which was considerably increased by the conduct of the defendant, who refused to walk, and consequently had to be brought to the lock-up in a cart – or be imprisoned for fourteen days.”

1871 Census

Shelfield – FOUR CROSSES Public

- [1] *Henry Whitehouse* (55), blacksmith and licensed victualler, born Shelfield;
- [2] *Charlott Whitehouse* (51), wife, born Shelfield;
- [3] *John Whitehouse* (20), son, blacksmith, born Shelfield;
- [4] *Stephen Whitehouse* (18), son, blacksmith, born Shelfield;
- [5] *Esther Peakman* (14), general servant, born Shelfield;
- [6] *Thomas W. Wright* (13), visitor, born Shelfield;
- [7] *Edward Waggin* (75), lodger, labourer, born Pelsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/1/1878

“*Thomas Lowe and Timothy Heeley*, both of Shelfield, were charged with wounding *Job Bullingham*, of the same place. *Mr. Elliott* (of the firm of *Messrs. Duignan and Co.*) appeared for *Heeley*. It was shown that on the 28th ult the parties met at the FOUR CROSSES INN, and a good deal of ‘chaffing’ went on, of which the complainant was the victim. After a time he fetched a potato fork, stating, when asked, that it was ‘for no harm.’ The defendants then endeavoured to take the fork from him, and struck him several times, *Heeley* using a poker. *Heeley* was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment with hard labour, and *Lowe* was fined 10s and costs or one month’s imprisonment in default.”

Walsall Observer 31/1/1885

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Tuesday, before *S. Stokes*, *T. A. Negus*, *E. T. Holden*, and *J. Maylor*, Esqrs, *Harriet Awcote*, a domestic servant in the employ of *Peter Aspinall*, of the FOUR CROSSES INN, was charged with stealing a necklet, a rosary, and other articles, value 2s.

Elizabeth Aspinall, daughter of the above, stated that on the 11th inst, she missed a number of articles, including those mentioned in the charge, and on the 12th they were found in prisoner’s box. Prisoner had been employed in the house as a servant about eight weeks, and during that time her mother had missed several things.

Police-constable *Alldritt* stated that on the 19th inst, from information received, he arrested prisoner at the house of her aunt, *Mrs. Nutting*. He charged her with stealing the goods and requested her to deliver them up from her box. She did so immediately, and in reply to the charge, said the articles had been given to her. The witness identified the articles in his presence, and she was given into custody.

Prisoner said she had not stolen them, but they had been given to her by *Miss Aspinall* for taking letters to the post and doing other things for her about which she did not want her parents to know.

This statement was denied by witness, who stated that the rosary belonged to the church, and she would not have given it away on any account.

Mrs. Nutting, aunt to prisoner, stated the girl had no mother or father, and had lived with her until she went to *Mrs. Aspinall*’s.

Until this charge the aunt said she had not known the girl to be guilty of any such behaviour as that with which she was charged.

Mr. Stokes said there was some little doubt in the case, and prisoner would receive the benefit of it, but he hoped it would act as a warning to her in future.

Prisoner was then discharged.”

Lichfield Mercury 17/10/1890

“*Mr. P. Aspinall*, of the FOUR CROSSES INN, Shelfield, applied for a temporary theatrical license for two nights, for the benefit of a chapel. He had previously been granted a similar application. The Bench acceded to the application.”

1891 Census

Green Lane – FOUR CROSSES

- [1] *Peter Aspinall* (62), publican, born Manchester;
- [2] *Margaret Aspinall* (59), wife, born Manchester;
- [3] *Frederick Aspinall* (24), son, solicitor, born Walsall;
- [4] *Austin Aspinall* (19), son, apprentice, born Walsall;
- [5] *Elizabeth Aspinall* (22), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mary Street* (52), general servant, born Walsall;
- [7] *Anna McGrath* (16), general servant, born Walsall:

Lichfield Mercury 10/7/1891

“*Peter Aspinall*, landlord of the FOUR CROSSES INN, Shelfield, was charged with assaulting *Thomas George Henry*, of Birmingham, barman, 28th June.

Complainant said unfortunately his wife was unable to attend, owing to suffering from influenza, and this was his only witness.

The Clerk informed him that his wife’s evidence was not admissible. The complainant said under these circumstances he would withdraw the case, as the whole evidence would come out in the County Court, he having sued his employer for wages.

The charge was withdrawn.”

Lichfield Mercury 6/4/1894 - Advert

“Wanted, good strong, clean General Servant, for public house; early riser.
FOUR CROSSES INN, Shelfield, near Walsall.”

Lichfield Mercury 29/7/1898

“On Monday at the Rushall Police Court, *Peter Aspinall*, FOUR CROSSES INN, Shelfield, was granted an occasional license to sell at the Catholic sports at Shelfield, on the 22nd of August.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/6/1899

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *Joseph Bowen*, FOUR CROSSES INN, Shelfield, was elected a member of the society as from 1st July, 1899.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/2/1900 - Deaths

“On the 8th inst, *Peter Aspinall*, FOUR CROSSES, Shelfield, aged 70 years.”

Lichfield Mercury 6/4/1900

“A domestic servant named Miriam Green of the FOUR CROSSES INN, Shelfield, was charged with stealing water from a tap belonging to the South Staffordshire Waterworks Co.

Mr. Lowe (Johnson, Barclay and Lowe, Birmingham), who prosecuted, stated that some farm cottages adjoining the house in question were supplied by the Company, but not the public house itself, which was supplied by a pump.

Nathaniel Flowers, employed by the Company, stated in consequence of a report, he on the 16th of March watched the tap in question and saw the defendant fill a jug thereat and go into the house. Mr. Lowe said he had no wish to press the case, but people must understand that they could not be allowed to steal the water.

Defendant pleaded guilty and said she was not aware there was any harm in it. She was ordered to pay the costs, 8s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 8/12/1900

“On Friday evening a complimentary supper at the FOUR CROSSES, Shelfield, was given to Mr. George Price, ME, of Shelfield, who is leaving England to take over the position of manager at one of the collieries for the Assam Mining and Railway Company, of Assam, India.....”

1901 Census

Walsall Wood – FOUR CROSSES INN

[1] *Joseph J. Bowen* (30), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] Florence E. Bowen (27), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Joseph E. Bowen (5), son, born Birmingham;

[4] Tom Bowen (3), son, born Walsall Wood;

[5] Miriam Green (27), domestic servant, born Brownhills:

Lichfield Mercury 14/6/1901

“James Fletcher, of New Road, Shelfield, was summoned for being disorderly and refusing to quit the FOUR CROSSES INN, Shelfield, on the 1st inst, and doing damage to a window to the extent of 2s 6d.

Joseph Bowen, the manager, said the defendant went to the house about 8pm, the worse for beer. After ordering him out, witness put him out. Afterwards the defendant turned back and smashed the window. In the house he used very bad language.

The defendant was fined 5s and costs and ordered to pay 2s 6d damage, altogether £1 4s 6d.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1901

“A contest which aroused considerable interest in Black Country boxing circles was decided on Monday night at Transfield’s Circus, Walsall, when Blondin Hawkins (Walsall) met to Harry Broome (Birmingham) the best of twelve rounds under strictly new rules for £20 a side and a purse of gold, given by Tom Wooley, the prime mover in the event. It will be remembered that Hawkins and Broome fought at a tournament in Walsall some time ago, when Hawkins was given the verdict on points with the left. Jabez White, the 9st 4lb Champion of England, took Broome in hand, whilst Hawkins made his training headquarters the FOUR CROSSES at Shelfield, under Joe Knapp, the veteran George Holden rendering him assistance. Both men were therefore trained up to the hour, and entered the ring as fit as possible. There was a large attendance, and enthusiasm was intense, but feelings were kept under admirable restraint. In the first round Hawkins inflicted a deal of punishment principally with his left. But Broome had an excellent defence. As the round was closing Hawkins fell, appearing to have been thrown, but an appeal for a foul was disregarded. Round 2 again found Hawkins the aggressor, but afterwards Broome improved his position and made some good returns. He was cool and collected, and always on his guard. He had some heavy blows directed at him, but evaded many skilfully. At the sixth round both men appeared to have a lot in hand, and responded readily for the seventh. This round, however, had scarcely gone a minute before Hawkins was beaten. He lay against the ropes and gave up, his collapse seeing to come as much of a surprise to his opponent as to the majority of the audience.”

Lichfield Mercury 10/1/1902

“William Hewitt, The Vigo, Walsall Wood, was charged with refusing to quit the FOUR CROSSES INN, Sheffield, and was fined 5s and 8s 6d costs.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/1/1903

“James Torndry, labourer, Green Lane, Sheffield, was charged with disorderly behaviour. *Joseph Bowen*, landlord of the FOUR CROSSES INN, Sheffield, stated that at half-past eleven on the night of the 29th ult, the defendant behaved in a very disorderly manner outside the house, and accused witness of being a ‘copper’s spy,’ said he’d dance a hornpipe on his chest if he would come outside. Mary Arrowsmith corroborated, and the defendant who had been previously convicted, was fined 10s and 9s costs, or 14 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Member. *C. Dalton*, FOUR CROSSES INN, Sheffield.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1908 - Advert

“T. Boulter & Son, Shire Oak (Near Walsall), Brewers, Maltsters, Spirit & Hop Merchants.

Noted Home-Brewed Ales And Stouts.

Guaranteed Brewed From Pure Malt and Hops Only.

The SHIRE OAK INN, which is within ten minute’s walk of Walsall Tramway terminus at Walsall Wood, has been thoroughly renovated, and an excellent Bowling Green put down.

An Entirely New And Up-To-Date Brewing Plant has been installed, ensuring that our Ales and Stouts are of the finest possible quality.

Our Ales are to obtained at the MINERS ARMS, Rushall.

FOUR CROSSES, Sheffield.

The RESTAURANT, Bridge Street, Walsall (Mr. P. Claridge’s).

THE STORES, Freer Street, Walsall.

The Swan, Stonnall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1921

“The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....

All the licenses would be renewed with the exception of.....

FOUR CROSSES, Sheffield.....

In these cases, alterations were necessary, and the Bench would defer consideration until they had visited the premises and inspected the plans.”

Colin Stewart was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in April 1924.

Walsall Observer 5/7/1924

“A capital programme was given by Captain Dickenson and his party at a benefit concert held at the FOUR CROSSES INN, Sheffield, on Wednesday evening. Councillor E. Birch presided over a large and appreciative audience.”

Lichfield Mercury 14/11/1924

“Rushall Police Court. ‘I have never seen a house in such a bad state,’ said the Chairman, referring to the FOUR CROSSES INN, Sheffield, in respect of which approval of plans for alterations was sought. Mr. Greatrex said he did not wonder at any tenant objecting to live in the house. Rain dripped through the roof in several places, and the premises wanted renovating all through. Mr. Gordon Hawley, who made the application, said it was proposed to remedy all those things. The Chairman said fresh plans would have to be made, as a lot more required doing than was shown on the plans. Progress could be made with some of the alterations, and unless the house was put into proper order the magistrates could not think of renewing the license.”

Gertrude Lilian Baddock = Gertude Lilian Badcock

1939 Register

Green Lane, Sheffield – FOUR CROSSES INN

[1] *Gertrude L. Baddock*, date of birth 7/10/1880, licensee, widowed:

Walsall Observer 22/2/1941

“Arranged by Mr. William Taylor to help the comforts fund for local serviceman, a supper was held in the annexe of the FOUR CROSSES HOTEL, Sheffield, on Thursday week. It was so successful, both socially and financially, that the function is likely to be repeated. Mrs. Taylor, the wife of the promoter, led an enthusiastic band of willing lady helpers in the catering arrangements. Under the chairmanship of Mr. Ernest Sutton, a most enjoyable variety entertainment was afterwards provided by Messrs. Dennis Wright, Miss Doreen Brown, Mrs. Eunice Howells, Mrs. Doris Hodgkiss, Messrs. Larry Ford, Bertie Taylor and Bert Bonser, with

Mr. Arthur Taylor and Miss Howells as accompanists.”

Walsall Observer 12/12/1958

“The call was ‘drinks on the house’ on Monday when the new extensions to the FOUR CROSSES INN, Shelfield, were opened after completion of work which started in April. The new part of the enlarged premises was opened by Mr. Claude Roe. More than 175 years ago, the FOUR CROSSES INN was a forge, and it later became a public house. Over the years it has been completely rebuilt without losing a single day’s trade.

The old bar has been turned into a smoke-room of ultra-modern atmosphere with subdued lighting. The new bar was once a store room, and is reputed to be the spot where the village blacksmith used to shoe horses. That room is now illuminated by strip lighting, and the ring of the smithy’s anvil has been replaced by the noise of a juke box.”

Graham Holt died in 2005.

[2017]

FOUR HORSE SHOES

41, Wellington Street / Bescot View (Rolling Mill Street) (Narrow Lane), (Park Lane), Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Hipwood, COACH AND HORSES, Walsall
Jemima Hipwood [1899]
Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.
William Hopwood, Wednesbury
George Hopwood, Wednesbury
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1898)

LICENSEES

Joseph Parkes [1842] – **1863**)
John Parkes [1864] – [1870]
Job Toon [1871] – [1873];
Mrs. Elizabeth Hickin [1876] – [1879];
Arthur Scattergood [];
John Perry [];
Edward Cooper [];
Kate Douglas [];
John Douglas [] – **1887**);
John Lockley (**1887 – 1888**);
Joseph West (**1888 – 1889**);
Alfred Stockley (**1889 – 1901**);
Jane Harber (**1901 – 1902**);
John William Howley (**1902 – 1903**);
Thomas Heath (**1903 – 1904**);
Isaiah Davies (**1904 – 1905**);
Frederick ‘Fred’ Paddock (**1905 – 1924**);
Job Tyler (**1924 – 1939**);
Harold Maurice Moseley (**1939 – 1940**);
Francis Chilton (**1940**);
Mrs. Frances Norah Chilton (**1940 – 1943**);
Harry Wood (**1943 – 1949**);
Joseph William Wood (**1949 – 1967**);
George Ernest Holmes (**1967 – []**)
Bruce Elwell [1983]

NOTES

Rolling Mill Street [1858]

Park Lane, Pleck [1860]
41, Wellington Street [1901], [1911], [1932], [1940]

HORSE SHOE [1849]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 6/6/1842 - Advert

".....The house of Mr. *Joseph Parkes*, sign of the FOUR HORSE SHOES, Pleck, near Walsall....."

Joseph Parkes was also a blacksmith. [1845]

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/11/1850 - Notice

"All Persons holding Cottages under the Right Honourable, the Earl of Bradford, at the following places within the Manor of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, are requested to Pay their Rents as directed underneath:

Coal Heath, Shelfield, Green Lane, Iron Dish, Walsall Wood, Holly Bank, Shire Oaks, Pepper Alley, Paul's Coppice, Clayhanger, Catshill, Goblin's Pit, and High Heath, will be received at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, on Thursday, the 14th of November at ten o'clock.

Broadstone, Harden, Blakenall Heath, Bloxwich Lane, Little Bloxwich, Fistley, Wallington Heath, Short Heath, and Dead Man's Heath, will be received at the BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, on Friday, the 15th day of November, at ten o'clock.

Fullbrook, Walsall Towns End, Flaxoven, Blue Lane, Birchills Lane, Bloxwich Lane, Birchills, Park Brook, Wednesbury Road, the Pleck, and Bescote, will be received at the HORSE SHOES, at the Pleck, on Saturday, the 16th of November, at ten o'clock.

John Potter, Stewart of Walsall Manor.

Cross Street, Walsall 23rd October, 1850.

N.B. Attendance will be given from ten to three o'clock. No arrears will be allowed to remain outstanding after rent days."

1851 Census

Pleck

[1] *Joseph Parkes* (54), blacksmith, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Mary Parkes* (52), wife, born Staffordshire;

[3] *John Parkes* (24), son, born Staffordshire;

[4] *Mary Parkes* (22), daughter, born Staffordshire;

[5] *Jemima Parkes* (19), daughter, born Staffordshire;

[6] *Ann Maria Parkes* (17), daughter, born Staffordshire;

[7] *Emma Parkes* (11), daughter, born Staffordshire;

[8] *Caroline Woodward* (4), niece, born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/1/1852 - Marriages

"On the 25th ult, at Cannock, by the Rev. T. Blackburne, Mr. John Pagett, provision dealer, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, to Miss *Mary*, second daughter of Mr. *Joseph Parkes*, FOUR HORSE SHOES, Pleck, near Walsall."

1861 Census

Pleck – Public House – FOUR HORSE SHOES

[1] *Joseph Parkes* (64), widower, victualler, born Coseley;

[2] *John Parkes* (34), son, blacksmith employing 1 boy, born Pleck;

[3] *Ann M. Parkes* (27), daughter, born Pleck;

[4] *Emma Parkes* (21), daughter, born Pleck;

[5] *Harriett Loyde* (21), servant, born Sedgley;

[6] *Alfred Clarke* (16), apprentice blacksmith, born Smethwick:

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/7/1863 - Deaths

"On the 22nd instant, very suddenly, Mr. *Joseph Parkes*, of the FOUR HORSE SHOES, Pleck, Walsall, aged 67."

Walsall Free Press 25/7/1863

"Between eight and nine o'clock, on Wednesday morning, *Joseph Parkes*, aged seventy-six, landlord of the FOUR HORSE SHOES public house, Pleck, came downstairs; but feeling very ill, he retired to bed again, and expired in about ten minutes afterwards. Deceased had been ailing for some time before his death; but nothing serious was apprehended to prior to the morning of his decease."

John Parkes was also a shoeing and jobbing smith. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 3/11/1866 - Notice

"Walsall Manorial Cottage Premises.

All Parties holding Cottages at the following places, within the manor of Walsall, in the County of Stafford, are requested to Pay Their Rents as directed underneath.

Coal Heath, Shelfield, Green Lane, Iron Ditch, Walsall Wood, Holly Bank, Shire Oaks, Pepper Alley, Paul's Coppice, Clayhanger,

Catshill, Goblin's Pit, The Vigo, and High Heath, will be received at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, on Thursday, the 8th of November from Eleven till Three o'clock.

Broadstone, Harden, Blakenall, Bloxwich Lane, Little Bloxwich, Fishley, Wallington Heath, Short Heath, and Dead Man's Heath, will be received at the BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, on Friday, the 9th of November, from Eleven till Three o'clock.

Fullbrook, Walsall Town's End, Blue Lane, Birchills Lane, Stafford Street, Birchills, Park Brook, Wednesbury Road, The Pleck, and Bescote, will be received at the HORSE SHOES, at The Pleck, near Walsall, on Saturday, the 10th day of November, from Eleven o'clock till Three o'clock.

John Porter, St. George's Buildings, The Bridge, Walsall, 1st October, 1866."

London Gazette 8/1/1869

"*John Parkes*, of the FOUR HORSE SHOES INN, at the Pleck, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Blacksmith, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 14th of December, 1868, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination, and make application for his Discharge, will be held at the said Court, at the Court-House, Goodall Street, Walsall, on the 30th day of January next, at eleven o'clock, in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said, bankrupt to surrender. Frederick C. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and William Crump Thomas, of Walsall is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy."

1871 Census

Pleck – FOUR HORSE SHOES

- [1] *Job Toon* (50), publican, born Warwick;
- [2] Elizabeth Toon (49), wife, born Warwick;
- [3] John Toon (18), son, hame maker, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary J. Toon (16), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Joseph Toon (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Ellen Toon (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Fanny Toon (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Job Toon was also a carpenter.

Elizabeth Hickin = Elizabeth Hicklin

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

"Adjourned Licensing Session..... The licenses of the undermentioned were renewed with cautions, viz:

Elizabeth Hicken, the FOUR HORSE SHOES INN, the Pleck In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Ryecroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district."

Birmingham Daily Post 22/11/1879

"The following have filed petitions for liquidation in the Walsall County Court.....

Elizabeth Hicklin, FOUR HORSE SHOES INN, the Pleck, Walsall, licensed victualler; liabilities £250; solicitor, Mr. J. E. Sheldon."

1891 Census

41, Wellington Street

- [1] *Alfred Stockley* (29), living on own means, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Mary Stockley (28), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Adelaide Stockley (3), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Alfred J. Stockley (1), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Brookes (17), general servant, born Oldbury;
- [6] Ellen Unitt (15), servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1894

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. Thomas Deakin, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton Street.....

Mr. John Sergeant, beerhouse keeper, of the NORTH WESTERN INN, Duncalf Street, Walsall, and Mr. *Alfred Stockley*, licensed victualler, of the FOUR HORSE SHOES INN, Wellington Street, The Pleck, were unanimously elected to fill vacancies on the committee."

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1895

"Mr. T. H. Stanley (Borough Coroner) held an inquest on Monday at the FOUR HORSE SHOES, Pleck, on the body of Selina Gertrude Hillman, aged seven months, daughter of Albert Joseph and Lizzie Bridgewater Hillman, of 25, Wellington Street, Pleck, who died on Friday afternoon. Dr. H. Shore's external examination gave him the opinion that the child died from convulsions, and a verdict accordingly was returned by the jury."

Walsall Observer 27/1/1900

“Walter Hughes is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, 30th January 1900.....

Lot 2. The Valuable Freehold Full-Licensed Public House, known by the sign of the FOUR HORSE SHOES, occupying an important position, and forming the corner of Wellington Street and Narrow Lane, now in the occupation of Mr. *Alfred Stockley* as a yearly tenant.

The premises comprise four bedrooms, bar, smokeroom, taproom, and kitchen, with two cellars, whilst the out-houses include brewhouse, malt room, carriage house, and stable; together with the adjacent double-fronted, six-roomed Dwelling House, with out-buildings, being No.43, Wellington Street, separately let at 4s 9d a week to Thomas Carter, the whole property containing an area of 675 square yards or thereabout, and having a frontage of 95 feet to Wellington Street and 87 feet to Narrow Lane or thereabout.

This is one of the few remaining Free Public Houses in this part of the Town, which in the last few years has so rapidly extended, over 150 houses having been recently erected in the immediate vicinity, whilst right in front of the House new streets are now being laid out for artisans' dwellings, to most of which this is the nearest Full-Licensed Inn; there is therefore a certainty of this House doing a very large trade. The area and frontages are ample for its being enlarged or re-built, and yet allowing a good drawing-in space for calling vehicles. Possession may be had on the 25th March 1901.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/2/1900

“On Tuesday evening Mr. Walter Hughes of Walsall, held a sale of licensed and other property at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall. A freehold house at The Pleck, Walsall, producing £10 8s a year, realised £90; full licensed public-house, the FOUR HORSE SHOES, at The Pleck, with possession at March 1901, realised £3,375, and a plot of freehold land at the rear, containing 500 square yards realised £100. Nos.110, 112, and 114, Pargeter Street, Walsall, producing £39 a year, leasehold for 99 years at a ground rent of £4 5s, realised £420. Freehold property in Lower North Street, Walsall, comprising Ivy Cottage, and the one storey cottage adjoining, producing £22 15s a year, realised £255, making a total for the evening's sale of £5,040.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/1/1901

“On Tuesday, at the Walsall Police Court, before Messrs. W. H. Brookes, J. Scott, and S. B. Wheway, John Dalton, a member of the Walsall Police Force, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, and refusing to quit the FOUR HORSE SHOES INN, Pleck, when requested by the landlord, *Alfred Stockley*, on January 5th.

Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Licensed Victuallers' Association. He said the case was a somewhat important one, because the defendant was apparently a member of the police force. The circumstances were simple. *Stockley* had kept the FOUR HORSE SHOES for a period of twelve years. On Saturday night, at a few minutes before ten, the defendant came lumbering into his kitchen and demanded drink. The landlord seeing his condition, told him he could not have any, and ordered him out of the house. The landlord served one or two customers, and thought the defendant had left the house. On going into the bar however, he found him lying on the bench, practically doubled up. The landlord again told him to go out of the house, but he mumbled and grumbled, and nothing intelligible could be got out of him. Defendant was dressed in plain clothes, and looked like a navvy or something of that kind. A number of customers tried to persuade the defendant to go out, and after a great deal of difficulty he was persuaded to go. A man named Joseph Ankrett, who was in the house at the time, seeing the defendant was a stranger there, tried to see if he could do anything for him by directing him on the road, but Dalton rather turned round on him and challenged him to a fight. Then apparently the police came up, and Inspector Ballance and other policemen went into the house. They seemed to recognise Dalton, and did not take him into custody. When defendant went into his house the landlord had not the faintest notion he had anything to do with the police. Defendant had a slouched hat, which nearly covered his face, and he was wearing very old dirty clothes, and he was in the landlord's opinion absolutely drunk. He had a holly stick in his pocket and kept repeating, ‘Touch me; you touch me.’ Defendant was in the house for quite thirty minutes and could not be got out. On account of the man not being taken into custody when the police came the landlord went down to the police station and lodged a formal complaint. When the man was got out of the house from information the landlord received he thought he was something to do with the police, and the prosecution thought in justice to the public they should bring the matter before the Court. It had been said that some men were going about the town in disguise, but certainly a licensed victuallers' task was quite difficult enough without being led into traps as it were. And if the defendant did go there for the purpose of trying to trap the landlord it was a very serious thing indeed, and he should ask the Bench to mark their recognisance of the matter and try and prevent people going about in disguise. It was very difficult for a landlord to conduct his business absolutely satisfactorily without having those things to put up with.

Dalton pleaded ‘Not guilty.’

Alfred Stockley (the landlord) said that on Saturday night Dalton came tumbling into the kitchen, slamming the door. He asked to be supplied with half a pint of ale, but witness's opinion was that he had had enough and he refused to serve him, ordering him to leave the house. Defendant left the room shortly afterwards and witness attended to two or three customers, thinking that defendant had left the house. However, on going into the bar he found defendant there. Defendant was lying not two-double but ‘three-double’ on a bench (laughter), and instead of going out defendant took an orange from his pocket and commenced peeling it. He was asked more than half a dozen times to go, but ultimately Mrs. *Stockley* sent for the police. Defendant challenged witness to touch him, and he was almost inclined to do so but he was frightened. He thought defendant was drunk, because they could get neither sense nor reason out of him.

Cross-examined by the Chief Constable: Witness did not hear anyone say that defendant was a police spy, nor did he himself say that he should make Mr. Gardiner account for his conduct. His wife said to him, ‘Don't put your fingers on such a lounger.’ His wife was ill in consequence of the incident. Witness did not hear anyone say to Dalton, as he lay on the palisades outside,

‘I’ll knock the —— stuffing out of you.’ Defendant seemed to be about three times as big as he was now, and he tumbled about. Witness took him by his dress, to have come out of a pig truck, or to be a drover of some kind (laughter). Witness generally had respectable people in his house.

Joseph Ankrett, of Chapman Street, West Bromwich, said he was in the house at the time defendant entered. He took him to be a nice respectable chap, and he thought it was a pity to see him drunk. In the street defendant told witness he was a stranger, and was lost. He directed him to either Walsall, Wednesbury, or Darlaston, upon which defendant replied, ‘Who do you think you are talking to?’ Witness replied that he did not know nor care, but if he was a detective he did not think much of his ability. A policeman came up, and thereupon defendant asked witness for his name.

Mr. Newman (deputy magistrates’ clerk): The officer did not arrest defendant? There was some recognition? – Witness replied that there seemed great affinity between them.

Mr. Jackson: Affinity of the soul.

Witness went on to describe the attitude which defendant assumed in the taproom. He buried his face in his hands, swayed backwards and forwards, and continued calling out, ‘I want some beer; I want some rest’ (laughter). When defendant pulled out an orange to eat he was told by the landlord that his place was not an orange shop. It was further remarked in the house that there had been other suspicious persons loitering about the house, dressed as sweeps and niggers. When Police-constable Cartwright went up defendant seemed to recover himself, but his talk was not very clear.

By Mr. Loxton: Witness though defendant was drunk and not shamming.

Another witness said he took defendant to be someone out of work, who did not care what he did. He went tumbling into the house like some rough beggar.

This was all the evidence for the prosecution, and the defendant was put into the box.

Before he made his statement, the Chief Constable said defendant went to the house on his instructions.

Defendant, who spoke in the Irish brogue, said he had been on the police force five months. He got his instructions how to act about 9pm on the date named from Chief Inspector Ballance, and got to the house about 9.40pm. He remained on the premises about a quarter of an hour his instructions being to remain there until he had seen the inspector. He was told to go in the best possible disguise and in the roughest manner. He was quite sober, but he assumed a staggering gait to avoid suspicion that he was a policeman.

Mr. Loxton (magistrates’ clerk): Is pretending to be drunk the greatest possible disguise for a policeman? – Witness: No, sir; not that; but I had to go as much unlike a policeman as possible.

He went in a stooping posture. He had never been drunk in his life, nor did he sham drunkenness. He considered outside the house which would be the best way for him to act, and decided as he as dressed as a cattle drover he had better ask for a drink. When he got inside the landlord said, ‘What do you want?’ ‘I want a drink, says I,’ said witness. His request was refused, and the landlord added that he had been visited lately by some more rough customers like witness and he should call Mr. Gardiner to account for it. Witness told him to keep cool, and not trouble himself (laughter). Shortly afterwards someone asked him if he was not a detective or a Government inspector, or ‘what the ‘divil are yer.’

In reply to questions, witness said he went to the police office after disguising himself.

By Mr. Jackson: Witness had previously visited a public house, but his disguise was a bit more respectable on that occasion.

Mr. Jackson: Have you a wardrobe of disguises? – I disguise to suit the occasion.

Do you disguise to entrap people?

The Chief Constable here objected to the question.

As regarding his stopping in the house witness said he was eating his orange. He took his time over it, and it lasted for ten minutes. He went there to see if there was any drunkenness or gambling going on. He was not told to pretend drunkenness.

Mr. Wheway inquired if supposing he was pretending drunkenness witness had been supplied with drink would he have reported it? Witness replied ‘Yes.’

Mr. Loxton: Then how can you say that you were not sent there to trap the landlord?

An argument ensued, and Dalton said he had misunderstood the question put by Mr. Wheway. He should not have reported the matter. Witness was, however, closely examined on the point.

Chief-Inspector Ballance deposed to sending Dalton to the public-house. He did not supply him with money for liquor, and he denied that the officer was drunk. He did not instruct him to act drunkenness, but simply told him to disguise himself and see how the house was conducted. Witness would not have accepted a report that Dalton was supplied with drink whilst he was drunk.

Dalton told him that some man had threatened to throw him into the canal.

The magistrates eventually decided to dismiss the case, and deemed it wise not to express any opinion.

Mr. Jackson: I hope it will put a stop to these obnoxious practices.”

1901 Census

41, Wellington Street

[1] Thomas Harber (57), builder and contractor, born Worcester;

[2] *Jane Harber* (50), wife, licensed victualler, born Worcester;

[3] Albert Harber (18), son, carpenter and joiner, born Worcester:

John Howley = John Howely

Walsall Advertiser 17/5/1902

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last Mr. *John Howely*, FOUR HORSE SHOES INN, Wellington Street, was elected a member of the soci-

ety.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....
Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....
Thomas Heath, FOUR HORSE SHOES, Pleck. The complaints as to this house referred to approaches other than from Wellington Street. Mr. Underhill, for the Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery Company, asked for particulars of what the Bench required, and the case was adjourned to next Thursday.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

“There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....
The Chief Constable intimated his desire that the license of the FOUR HORSE SHOES, the Pleck, should stand over, because alterations had been carried into effect which had not been authorised by the magistrates.
Mr. S. A. Newman remarked that he did not know whether he had any locus standi in the matter, seeing that notice of opposition had not been given, and also having regard to the fact that the Chief Constable had not stated any alterations had been made which were in contravention of the statute.
Mr. C. Loxton (clerk) drew attention to the fact that the Chief Constable stated that the alterations had not been sanctioned by the Bench.
Mr. Newman: They are not unlawful alterations.
It was decided that the matter should be deferred until the next licensing day.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/3/1909

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....
Applications were also made for the renewal of the licenses of the FOUR HORSE SHOES, Pleck which had been opposed.....
With reference to the FOUR HORSE SHOES, Pleck, Mr. Newman stated that whatever alterations had been made at the house, whether rightly or wrongly, lawfully or unlawfully, if unsatisfactory to the Bench it should be restored to its former position. He hoped the Bench would accept his apology, and not take such drastic steps as the refusing of license. They did not fly in the face of the justices, and carry out plans which had not been passed, but only in a modified form. Plans of the alterations were handed in. After hearing the explanations, the license was renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....
An application for alterations to the FOUR HORSE SHOES, Pleck, the intention to move a door, was granted.”

1911 Census

41, Wellington Street – FOUR HORSE SHOES

- [1] *Fred Paddock* (52), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Paddock* (49), wife, married 32 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [3] *Alfred Paddock* (22), son, labourer gas works, born Walsall;
- [4] *Clara Paddock* (20), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [5] *Maud Paddock* (16), daughter, leather worker, born Walsall;
- [6] *Nellie Paddock* (11), daughter, born Aldridge;
- [7] *Ada Paddock* (8), daughter, born Aldridge:

Frederick Paddock – see also VOLUNTEER.

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
FOUR HORSE SHOES, Pleck, Walsall, 17s 2d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
FOUR HORSE SHOES, Wellington Street. £11 18s 2d.”

It was rebuilt in 1936.

Job Tyler – see also ROMPING CAT.

1939 Register

Wellington Street – FOUR HORSE SHOES

- [1] *Harold M. Moseley*, date of birth 25/10/1882, publican, married;

[2] Florence M. Moseley, dob 19/11/1882, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] George Hadley, dob 6/6/1860, tram car cleaner, retired, widowed:

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mrs. *Chiltern*, FOUR HORSE SHOES. £5 1s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FOUR HORSE SHOES, Wellington Street. £6 2s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/12/1945

“On Sunday morning the Vicar of St. John’s Church, Pleck (the Rev. D. K. Robertson) had the unusual experience of conducting a short service in the bar of a public house, with a congregation of about a hundred local people. The service was held at the FOUR HORSESHOES, Wellington Street, Pleck, and was arranged for the dedication of a tablet to the memory of the FOUR HORSE-SHOES Comforts Fund, all former residents, who were killed in action during the war.

The tablet is in the form of a large oaken horseshoe surmounted by three smaller horseshoes, and the names of the seven men are inscribed on a small silver plate in the centre. Around the edge are mounted the photographs of the seven men: Pte. G. Trainor (Leicestershire Regiment), Sergeant D. M. Brandrick (Air Gunner RAF), Pte. W. Stone (Shropshire Light Infantry), A. B. H. Beddard (Royal Navy), Pte. W. Stone (Shropshire Light Infantry), Guardsman S. Poole (Inniskilling Dragoon Guards), Pte. C. Slyn (South Staffordshire Regiment). The tablet was made by Mr. A. Glover, who is a member of the committee.

During the last three years the committee have raised the splendid sum of £1,600, which has been distributed in periodical gifts to 117 men whose homes are in the Pleck district. The licensee of the FOUR HORSESHOES is Mr. *H. Wood*, and the chairman of the committee is Mr. I. Palmer, a well-known local sportsman.”

[2007]

It was renamed GABBA’S BAR. [2009], [2010]

Closed [2012], [2017]

FOUR SEASONS

Spring Lane / Birch Lane, High Heath, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Bass Ltd.

LICENSEES

NOTES

Sandwell Evening Mail 6/7/1992

“They’re the pubs that YOU think are the best in the Midlands – and now they’re all in the running for our prestigious Midland Town and Country Pub of the Year.....

The *Evening Mail* has teamed up for the contest with the Midland Counties Brewers’ and Licensed Retailers’ Association, to raise a toast to the very best of our region’s pubs. Now it is up to the judges, who face a huge task choosing the two winners from the enormous entry. They’ll be looking for service and standards of comfort demanded by today’s discerning pub-goer. And they will be awarding marks for another important ingredient of a successful pub – the part it plays as a hub of social life in the community.....

FOUR SEASONS, Pelsall, Walsall.”

It was one of the last 20 finalists in the *Evening Mail* Midland Pub of the Year competition in 1992.

[2005]

Closed

Demolished [2007]

Housing was built on the site.

FOUR WAYS

Reedswood Lane, (57, Birchills Street), (Birchill Road), (Old Birchills), (Upper) 15, Birchills), WALSALL

OWNERS

John Green, locksmith, Old Birchills, Walsall
Thomas Green
George Thomas, BLACK HORSE, Short Acre Street
John Lord, Walsall
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 11th August 1939) [1982]

LICENSEES

Thomas Green [1871] – **1890**);
Henry Holden (**1890 – 1891**);
William Stackhouse (**1891 – 1893**);
Harriet Ann Riley (**1893 – 1896**);
Herbert Tuckley (**1896 – 1901**);
William Edward Cooper (**1901 – 1903**);
Samuel Bird (**1903 – 1905**);
James Henry Walton (**1905 – 1928**);
William Randall (**1928 – 1929**);
Ernest William Price (**1929 – 1942**);
Harold Green (**1942 – 1951**);
Walter Raymond Lynch (**1951 – 1961**);
Robert Watson (**1961 – 1962**);
John Henry Davies (**1962 – [1966]**)

NOTES

Upper Birchills [1872], [1881]
15, Birchills [1932], [1940]
57, Birchills Street
Reedswood Road [1939]
Reedswood Lane [1993]

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

Birchills – FOUR WAYS INN

- [1] *Thomas Green* (31), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Hannah Green* (28), wife, born Sutton Coldfield;
- [3] *Clara Green* (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Jane Green* (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Ann Green* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Thomas Green* (2 months), son, born Walsall:

Thomas Green, beer retailer, Birchill Road. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 19/9/1873

“The committee of the Walsall Cottage Hospital beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following contributions that have been received up to yesterday from the Licensed Victuallers and beersellers.....

Mr. *T. Green*, FOUR WAYS beerhouse, Birchills, 5s.”

1881 Census

Old Birchills – FOUR WAYS INN

- [1] *Thomas Green* (40), locksmith, born Walsall;
- [2] *Hannah Green* (37), wife, born Sutton Coldfield;
- [3] *Jane Green* (17), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Alice Green* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Emily Green* (2 months), daughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1890

“Yesterday, at the Guildhall, *Thomas Green*, the FOUR WAYS INN, the Birchills, was summoned for having sold ale during prohibited hours. Detective-officer Pritchard deposed that at 3.20 on the afternoon of Sunday, the 30th ult, he saw a woman leave the defendant’s house with a jug containing a quart of ale, and on taking her back to the house he found that the defendant was away from home, and that the ale was said to have been supplied by a girl, Mrs. *Green* being upstairs at the time. The defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 40s and costs.”

London Gazette 20/6/1890

“Receiving Orders.....

Green, Thomas. Bentley-lane, Birchills, Walsall, Staffordshire, lately residing at the FOUR WAYS INN, Birchills Green, Walsall. Lockmaker.”

Plans were passed in 1891, but were not allowed by the building surveyor.

A new license was granted on 28th August 1891.

Herbert Tuckley = Herbert Buckley

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall..... Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) applied for permission to re-build and extend the FOUR WAYS INNS, Birchills. The house he said was licensed before the 1869 Act, and it was now proposed to entirely re-build it. There was at present a cottage on the licensed area jutting into the house, and this it was proposed to absorb, though the corner leading into Reeds Wood Lane would be given over to the Corporation. This plot covered 29 yards, and was exactly the same area as the cottage covered. The site of the cottage itself would be thrown into the yard. It was palpable that a house erected thirty-five years ago was now totally inadequate to the requirements of the neighbourhood, and it was proposed to substitute for the existing house a substantial but not ‘flashy’ building. The plans had been approved by the Borough Surveyor, the Chief Constable did not oppose, and there would be no increased area nor any advance in the nature of the license, which, it was proposed, should, so far as the pre-1869 license went, lapse, and they knew the new one issued would be far more under the control of the Bench. Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. J. Addison) said he was not there to make factious opposition to any license, and therefore in the exercise of his own judgement he should withdraw his opposition to the proposed plans. The application would place the house under the control of the Bench, and its granting would make no increase in the number of licensed houses in the district. Mr. Herbert said he was instructed by the Walsall Temperance Federation, the Rev. Wynn-Griffith, and others. The Chief Constable said he should not now oppose the application, and under the proposed conditions the house would be better subject to control.”

It was rebuilt in 1896.

Walsall Advertiser 7/11/1896

“William Hogan, of 14, Birchills Green, had a more drastic way of settling his accounts. Recently he received from a debt collector, named Henry Parker, 105, Railway Street, a County Court summons for a debt. This aroused his anger, and on Sunday evening he saw Parker in the FOUR WAYS, Birchills, and, following him, seized him by the throat and threw him on his back. He fell on some bricks, with the result that his head and ear were cut and he was rendered insensible.

Thus did Mr. J. Armstrong, who represented Parker, explain the circumstance to the Bench, and complainant and Mr. *Buckley*, landlord of the FOUR WAYS, having confirmed his statement in evidence, George Lowe, complainant’s brother-in-law, said that on Sunday evening he heard defendant threaten to murder complainant.

Defendant now meekly remarked that he had nothing to say.

The Clerk (Mr. Loxton): Nothing at all? No doubt it is very vexing to get a County Court summons, especially if a lawyer’s name is not on it (laughter).

The Bench said the assault must be regarded as a very serious one, and defendant must pay 20s and costs, or undergo one month’s hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/5/1898

“Walsall Unity Football Club. The third general meeting in connection with this club will be held on Monday evening at Mr. *Tuckley*’s, FOUR WAYS HOTEL, Birchills, at 8.30 prompt, when all interested are invited to attend.”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

“The Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest at the FOUR WAYS INN, Birchills, in reference to the death of Jim Wood, aged 18 weeks, whose parents reside at 10, Bentley Lane.

John Wood (father of the deceased) gave evidence of identification, and stated that he lived at 10, Bentley Lane, and was a wheelwright. On Wednesday morning he went to work at about six o’clock, leaving deceased all right in bed, his wife being downstairs nursing another child they had, which was ill.

Emily Wood (wife of the last witness) stated that she had been up all night with the other child, and at eight o’clock she went upstairs to deceased. His eyes and mouth were open, and he looked strange. She called the next door neighbour and another person, who said the child was dead.

Dr. P. A. Shore, stated that he examined the child on Wednesday morning, when he was called to the house. Deceased was in bed and quite dead. He was lying on his left side, with his head drawn more than was natural on to the back of his neck. His hands were clenched, and his face was pale, and his knees were drawn up. This indicated convulsions, which caused his death. A verdict of Death by Natural causes was returned.”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

“An inquest was held by the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) on Thursday afternoon, at the FOUR WAYS INN, Birchills, on the body of a child named Sydney Arthur Devey (2), of 118, Old Birchills, who died on Tuesday as the result of drinking hot water from a kettle.

Mary Ann Devey, the wife of Arthur Devey, of 118, Old Birchills, gave evidence of identification of the body of her son, and deposed that on Sunday afternoon last, shortly after two o’clock, they were in the kitchen, the deceased standing by the fire grate, where a kettle of hot water, nearly boiling, was. The lad began to cry, and when they looked at him they saw that he had a blister along his bottom lip. Witness, from that conjectured that he had drunk some water out of the kettle, and she immediately poured some goose-oil down his throat. The next day she took deceased to Dr. P. A. Shore, but he died the following evening. Deceased could reach the kettle, and she knew of nothing else that he could get to.

Emma Williams, of 25, Forge Street, stated that she was at Mrs. Devey’s on Sunday, when she heard the child cry, and on the mother picking him up it was discovered that his lip was blistered. There was no water about, and witness thought it was steam that had caused the scalding.

Dr. P. A. Shore stated that on Monday last the child was brought to his surgery. He examined him thoroughly. The child was in a state of collapse, and his breathing was very short and difficult. There were blisters on the top and bottom lips, and on examining the throat he found it very much congested and swollen. He prescribed for the child, and told the mother to take him home. Next day he heard that the child was dead. In his opinion death was due to suffocation, caused by inflammation of the windpipe, probably due to the inhalation and swallowing of boiling water.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1901 Census

Old Birchills – Tavern – FOUR WAYS INN

- [1] *Herbert Tuckley* (35), beerhouse keeper, born Short Heath;
- [2] Emma Jane Tuckley (28), wife, domestic, born Wednesfield;
- [3] George Chaplin Tuckley (10), son, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Mabel Annie Tuckley (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Herbert Henry Tuckley (6), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Emma Jane Tuckley (2), daughter, born Walsall;

Walsall Advertiser 10/1/1903

“Today was the adjourned transfer day. Transfers of full licenses were granted in the case of....

Mr. J. N. Cotterell renewed his application for the granting of a transfer of the OLD OAK, Upper Hall Lane, from Mark Knight to *Herbert Tuckley*, who had been temporarily in authority for the last few weeks. He said that *Tuckley* had been a license holder upwards of twelve years, during which time no complaint or conviction had been registered against him. In September 1901, he left the FOUR WAYS, Birchills, and became steward of the Birchills Working Men’s Club, at 35s a week. Not liking club work, however, he applied, or intended to apply to be granted the license of a house in Ablewell Street, but was given to understand that he could not hold a license while steward of a club. He therefore gave up his appointment at the club, which he had had absolutely nothing to do with since. In July he was granted a temporary authority in respect of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, but he gave up that house very quickly, through a misunderstanding as to takings. Though a man of some means *Tuckley* had to earn his living, and for that reason he was applying for this transfer.

The Bench intimated that they wished to know *Tuckley*’s connection with the working men’s club.

Who paid him his wages while he was steward? – Applicant: The club.

Mr. Beebee asked how far the house at which the club was held was distant from the FOUR WAYS? – Mr. Cotterell said he did not know, but Dr. Lynch said that the two places were on opposite sides of the road.

Mr. Dean suggested that the club was really an opposition shop.

The next question was as to whose the house was which the club occupied? – The reply was it belonged to Mr. *Tuckley*, who, however, had granted a lease of it to the Butler’s Brewery Co, for 14 years.

Mr. Beebee said the justices were informed that *Tuckley* was well off, and had no necessity to keep a club or anything else.

Mr. Cotterell assured the Bench that his client had to earn his living, having a large family to keep, and further submitted that even if he had been a rich man that would not have been a ground for refusing the transfer.

Replying again applicant said that since his wife had leased the club house in Pargeter Street, he had had nothing to do with the

club, and was in no way interested in the affair, except as regarded the lease.

Mr. Dean: Have you anything to do with another club in Hollyhedge Lane? – Applicant: No, sir.

Has your wife? – No, sir.

To whom does the property on which the club is held belong? – Mr. Maiden.

Is that your brother-in-law? – Yes.

Dr. Lynch: As a matter of fact, is not your wife financing that club? – No, sir.

Mr. Beebee said he did not know whether applicant could answer for his wife. It was not everyone that could (laughter).

Dr. Lynch asked if Butler's had not spent £650 in renovating the club premises? – Applicant did not know.

Mr. Dean said that when the law dealt as it did with licensed houses, they did not want to have people opening clubs, and then turning them over to brewery companies at big rents.

Applicant repeated that he had nothing to do with any club now. He added that he had not been on friendly terms with his brother-in-law for a long time who was concerned with the Hollyhedge Lane club.

The Chief Constable said he had no objection to *Tuckley* as licensee of the OLD OAK.

When the Town Clerk contemplated opposing *Tuckley*'s application for a license, it was while he was steward of the Working Men's Club.

In reply to further questions applicant said the club in Pargeter Street was started in January, and he received notice to leave the FOUR WAYS in March, though he did not actually leave until September.

The justices after a short retirement, decided to grant the transfer."

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

1911 Census

Old Birchills – FOUR WAYS INN

[1] *James Henry Walton* (42), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Alice Hannah Walton* (42), wife, married 23 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[3] *Mary Ann Walton* (18), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] *Annie Walton* (16), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *James Eames Walton* (14), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 14/10/1911

"An interesting match was decided on Monday, two contestants, named Alfred Beebee and Roland Yorke, walking from Walsall to Lichfield and back – a distance of twenty-one miles – for a stake of £10 a-side. The start was made from the FOUR WAYS, Birchills, about 8.30 in the morning, and Beebee, who is considerably the younger man, was eighteen minutes in front at Lichfield, but evidently over-exerted himself, for at Rushall, on the return journey, when he was twenty-two minutes in front, he collapsed. Yorke who is over forty years old, kept a uniform pace throughout, finished at the CURRIERS ARMS, Day Street, in 3hrs 53min."

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

"A dividend of 9/4 has been declared in connection with the FOUR WAYS Sick and Dividend Society, in which there are about 150 members. The society, which celebrates its 21st anniversary next year, has decided to become a Death and Dividend Society."

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

FOUR WAYS, Birchills, Walsall, 1s 6d."

John H. Walton was also a butcher. [1916]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

FOUR WAYS, Birchills. £1 1s 3d."

Bilston & Willenhall Times 14/11/1925

"At Walsall Court on Tuesday, Thomas Cross, 63, Reedswood Lane, was fined 40s, and ordered to pay £4 4s damage, for wilfully breaking five tumblers and a glass panel at the FOUR WAYS INN, Birchills, and assaulting the licensee, *William Randle*. It was stated that Cross was remonstrated for using bad language, and he threw several glasses at *Randle*, one of which went through the glass panel of a window."

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

"More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company's acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

John Lord's houses.....

FOUR WAYS, Birchills.”

1939 Register

Birchills – FOUR WAYS INN

- [1] *Ernest W. Price*, date of birth 3/3/1881, licensee (manager), public house, married;
- [2] Eva M. Price, dob 20/10/1877, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Lilian N. (Price) Williams, dob 31/5/1920, clerk, typist, single, worker at ARP office;
- [4] Edna M. (Wilcox) Cornliffe, dob 13/6/1921, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 17/6/1941

“How a light came to be visible from the rear of the FOUR WAYS INN, Birchills, at 1.55am on May 22nd was explained at Walsall Police Court, when *Harold Green*, the licensee, was summoned for a breach of the regulations. Police War Reserve Beard stated that defendant told him the room from which the light was seen was formerly fitted with permanent black-out, but that had been removed in the interests of fuel economy. No one admitted having been in the room on the night in question, and it was a mystery to him how the light came to be left on. A fine of 10s was imposed in this case.”

Walsall Observer 13/12/1941

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held on Thursday..... The president made sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. *Ernest William Price* of FOUR WAYS INN, Old Birchills, who joined the society in 1940.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions..... FOUR WAYS, Old Birchills. £3 10s 9d.”

A full license was granted on 3rd February 1949.

[1993]

Closed [2006], [2007]

It was converted into a shop. [2009]

FOX

34, (35), Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

J. D. Fletcher, wine merchant, Walsall
Edwin Smith, currier, Stafford Street, Walsall
Smith and Sons, curriers, Walsall
William Butler and Co. Ltd. [c.1900]
Arthur Beebee (leased in 1907)
John Lord (acquired in 1925)
J. H. Smith, Stafford Street, Walsall
Highgate (Walsall) Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

Samuel Wood [1801] – [1813]
Mary Wood [1818]
Jane Bond* [1822]
Jane Labond* [1828] – [1835]
Samuel Stackhouse [1841] – [1842]
William Foxall [1845]
Mrs. Mary Jackson [1845] – [1851]
George Browning [] – 1857);
Thomas Emery (1857 – 1859)

Mrs. Emma Emery [1860] – [1861]
Thomas Glover [1861] – [1865]
David Stokes [1868] – [1870]
John Dace [1871] – 1887);
James Duppa Fletcher (1887 – 1890);
Mrs. Emma Curnock (1890 – 1906);
John William Chapman (1906 – 1907);
George Whitbrook (1907 – 1913);
George Henry Mole (1913);
Henry Chaplin (1913 – 1914);
Thomas Henry Hill (1914 – 1916);
Mary Ann Hill (1916 – 1919);
Thomas Henry Hill (1919 – 1924);
Raymond Edwin Markey (1924 – 1926);
Joseph Page (1926 – 1947);
John Molloy (1947 – 1959);
Lily Taylor (1959 – [1966]

NOTES

34, Stafford Street [1860], [1861], [1862], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1908], [1911], [1932], [1939], [1940]
35, Stafford Street [1861]

It was situated almost opposite Littleton Street West.

It had a beerhouse license.

Samuel Wood was also an awl blade maker.

He was also the collector of King's taxes for the foreign of Walsall.

Samuel Wood, victualler, FOX, also collector of the King's taxes for the Foreign of Walsall. . [1813]

* possibly the same person

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/4/1838

“The Walsall pedestrian picked up two hundred stones one yard apart on Tuesday in three hours and thirty-five minutes, and can be backed against any man in England from £50 to £100. The money is ready at the FOX INN, Stafford Street. Walsall.”

Birmingham Journal 23/1/1847

“An inquest was held at four o'clock on Tuesday afternoon last, at the FOX INN, Stafford Street, Walsall, before William Cotterill, Esq, coroner for the borough, on the body of a child, aged three years, named Mary Jane Reynolds, daughter of Aaron Reynolds, of the Fox Yard, Stafford Street, who was accidentally burnt to death on the 18th instant. The body presented a horrifying appearance, being literally burnt to a cinder. It appeared from the evidence of the mother of the deceased that on the day in question she locked her three children in the house, and whom she had previously put into bed, while she proceeded to take her husband's dinner. On her return she found that two of them had got out of bed, and she was horrified at finding the body of the deceased on the hearth a mouldering heap. A verdict of Accidentally Burned to Death was returned.”

1851 Census

Stafford Street

[1] *Mary Jackson* (52), married, victualler, born Leng [Lyng?], Staffordshire;

[2] *David Maybury* (39), lodger, forgerman, born Wolverley, Worcestershire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/7/1854

“William Small, for fighting at the FOX, Stafford Street, was fined 20s and costs, or be imprisoned for fourteen days.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers' licenses.....

Thos. Emery, Blakenhall. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/10/1859 - Deaths

“On the 11th instant, after a lingering illness, aged 38 years, Mr. *Thomas Emery*, FOX INN, Stafford Street, Walsall, much respected and deeply regretted.”

Thomas Emery was born circa 1821 and died in October 1859.
He had been a coachman at Moxhall Hall, Lichfield.
He was married to Emma.

1861 Census

35, Stafford Street – FOX

- [1] *Thomas Glover* (28), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Glover (29), wife, born Grantham, Lincolnshire;
- [3] Amelia A. Glover (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Elizabeth Glover (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] John Glover (2), son, born Walsall:

Thomas Glover was also a curb chain maker. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Post 15/4/1869 - Advert

“Walsall. FOX INN, Stafford Street, old licensed, in main thoroughfare. Goodwill, Licenses, &c. In-coming under £70.
Apply on the Premises.”

1871 Census

34, Stafford Street

- [1] *John Dace* (35), private compositor, born Walsall;
- [2] Martha W. Dace (34), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Lizzie Jane Dace (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Alice E. Dace (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Charles J. Dace (1), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Caroline Greenway (67), mother in law, widow, born Alrewas, Staffordshire;
- [7] Elizabeth Pritchard (17), general servant, born Bromley, Staffordshire:

1881 Census

34, Stafford Street

- [1] Matthew Dace (79), widower, brushmaker and publican, born Bloxwich;
 - [2] Mary A. Dace (48), daughter, waitress, born Walsall;
 - [3] Jane S. Dace (41), daughter, waitress, born Walsall:
- [What relation, if any, was John Dace? According to the licensing records he should be licensee in 1881.]

Walsall Observer 31/1/1885

“Fanny Birch, Portland Street, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the FOX beerhouse, Stafford Street, on Saturday night.

Acting-sergeant Wright stated that he was called to the house, and in his presence, defendant refused to leave when requested, by the landlady.

Emma Curnock stated that defendant would not leave, and that she had nothing to drink besides ale and ginger beer.

Adjourned for two months, it being defendant’s first offence.”

[Emma Curnock did not hold the license until 1890.]

Darlaston Weekly Times 8/7/1887

“*John Dace*, landlord of the RED LION INN, Church Street, Darlaston, and late of TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall, died rather suddenly on Monday evening. Deceased suffered from heart disease, and some time ago had a fit.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/8/1890

“The annual licensing sessions for Walsall borough were held yesterday.....

Mr. Martin applied for permission to enlarge the FOX INN, Stafford Street, on the ground that the present building did not give sufficient accommodation for the landlady’s family. The Bench declined to permit this.”

1891 Census

34, Stafford Street

- [1] *Emma Curnock* (60), widow, beerhouse manageress, born Malvern;
- [2] Elizabeth J. Curnock (19), daughter, beerhouse assistant, born Walsall;
- [3] Lydia Curnock (19), daughter in law, widow, beerhouse assistant, born Castle Bromwich;
- [4] Mary M. Beason (18), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

1901 Census

34, Stafford Street

- [1] *Emma Curnock* (71), manageress vaults, born Malvern;
- [2] Elizabeth Curnock (38), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;

[3] Ellen Wittingham (22), granddaughter, barmaid, born Brownhills;
[4] Helen Newman (45), domestic servant, born at sea, British Subject:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Emma Curnock, FOX.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day.....

The FOX, Stafford Street. Evidence was given by Inspector Ballance with regard to the number of licensed houses in the vicinity, with their approximate distances from the FOX.

Answering Mr. H. H. Jackson, Mr. Ballance said the tenant, Mrs. *Curnock*, had kept the house for many years without complaint. The licensee, called, and she said she had been at the house for 23 years, and did a good business.

Granted, with an intimation from the Magistrates, however, that the premises were not satisfactory.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The following is the list of houses in respect of which the licensing justices have called the holders of the licenses to show cause why the licenses should be renewed.....

FOX INN, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

1911 Census

34, Stafford Street

- [1] *George Whitbrook* (47), manager, born Lichfield;
- [2] Sarah Jane Whitbrook (43), wife, married 24 years, born Brownhills;
- [3] Beatrice Whitbrook (17), niece, domestic servant, born Brownhills:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/3/1915

“*Thomas Henry Hill*, FOX INN, Stafford Street, was summoned at Walsall yesterday for permitting drunkenness, and Charles Booker, leather currier, Croft Street, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises. Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith defended the licensee, and Mr. Enoch Evans appeared for Booker.

Police-sergeant Lloyd stated that on the afternoon of March 16 he heard singing in the public-house, and found about twenty men and women there. Booker had a drunken appearance, and was singing in a ‘drowsy, under-the-influence-of-drink style.’ When informed that Booker was drunk the landlord told him to leave the house, and he did so. Witness asked him for his name and address, but he refused to give it. In cross-examination, witness said landlord told him that Booker had not been supplied there. Mr. Herbert Smith, a member of a firm of leather curriers – Booker’s employers – was called by the police, but said Booker was sober, and he told the police officer so at the time. Lloyd, however, appeared excited, and said he had been insulted.

The Bench, without calling on the defence, dismissed both summonses. Mr. Evans said in fairness to Booker – who it might be thought had been drinking and neglecting his work – it should be stated that during the war period the man had been working regularly from 6am to 11pm ordinarily, on Saturdays till 8pm, and on Sunday to midday.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/6/1915

“Though full enquiries are being made by his relatives, as to the fate of Private Harry Keel, formerly of Penkrigde Street, nothing definite is to hand. The reports which have been circulated are somewhat of a contradictory nature. A sergeant states in a letter received by Mrs. *Hill*, of the FOX INN, Stafford Street, that Private Keel was wounded in the head during an attack made by the Staffords, but other comrades say in their communications that he has met his death. Formerly employed at the Cyclops, Private Keel was called up on reserve and went on active service with the First Expeditionary Force.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

FOX INN, Stafford Street. £0 14s 6½d.”

Walsall Observer 13/4/1918

“Private *Thomas Henry Hill*, a married man, whose home is at the FOX INN, Stafford Street, is in hospital in France, suffering from wounds in the hand, received on March 19, after a year’s service with the Army Service Corps. He was formerly in the employ of Messrs. J. W. Caparn, Brineton Street.”

Walsall Observer 5/4/1924

“As a result of recent negotiations, the freehold licensed properties belonging to Messrs. Arthur Beebe Ltd, which include the DURHAM OX, Park Street; OLD STILL, Digbeth; THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road; Red Lion, Aldridge; MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street; GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street; the off license, 6, Camden Street; the brewery in Sandwell Street; and the

lease of the FOX INN, Stafford Street, have been sold to the Highgate Brewing Co. Ltd, through Messrs. Fox and Harrison, FAI, of Walsall.”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

In 1925 “the living accommodation was described as very bad with no bathroom. The Public bar was 17’6 x 14’3 x 10’4, snug 14’5 x 11’11 x 10’4, smoke room 18’ x 8’8 x 8’10 and club room 25’6 x 12’ x 9’10 with one bedroom and an unused attic.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst..... the following houses which had been objected to were renewed.... FOX, Stafford Street.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

FOX INN, Stafford Street.’

1939 Register

34, Stafford Street

[1] *Joseph Page*, date of birth 7/2/1873, licensee, beer and spirits, married;

[2] Jane Page, dob 18/1/1881, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Lillian Page, dob 10/2/1914, barmaid general, single;

[4] Nancy (Page) Griffin, dob 14/11/1916, shop assistant, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

FOX INN, Stafford Street, £1 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FOX INN, Stafford Street. £2 11s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FOX INN, Stafford Street. £9 16s 1d.”

Delicensed

Closed

It was demolished in 1984.

FOX AND DOGS

(Lower) Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Edward Burton [1818] – [1830]

NOTES

Rushall Street [1822]
Lower Rushall Street [1828]

FREEMASONS ARMS

Walsall Road, New Town, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1967]

LICENSEES

Mrs. Jane Parker [1896]

B J Hordern [1932]

William Roberts [1940]

NOTES

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1895 - Register of Sales

“Tuesday, February 19. By Messrs. Fox and Harrison. Colliery Contractor’s Plant, Horses Carts, &c. near FREEMASONS ARMS INN, Newtown, Bloxwich, at 11.15.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1898

“Mr. A. B. Smith opened an inquest on Wednesday afternoon, at the FREEMASONS ARMS, Newtown, near Bloxwich, on the body of William Nicholls (64), awl-blade maker, Hobbies End, who was found dead in his house, on Monday, under shocking circumstances.

Mary King, a married daughter of the deceased, said she last saw her father a week ago last Monday, when he seemed rather peculiar in his manner, but she did not attach much importance to this, as he had been strange in his behaviour for some time.

Joseph Hancox, a farmer, Little Bloxwich, said deceased owned a house at Newtown, which yielded 4s 6d a week rent. Witness received the rent, and allowed deceased to live in one of his (witness’s) houses, for which he paid 2s 6d a week rent.

Mr. Evans, a lay reader, stated he had visited the deceased, and found him in an abject state of poverty, and apparently of weak intellect. The house was in a filthy condition, and on one occasion when witness saw deceased he only had a few potatoes to eat. He refused to go into the union.

Police-constable Hill said he was called to the house of deceased, and found the body gnawed by rats on the hand, ear, wrist and head. In his opinion the deceased had died from starvation. The jury found that death had resulted from Starvation, and the enquiry was adjourned for a post mortem examination.

At the adjourned inquest, held yesterday, Dr. Martin, who had made the post mortem examination, attributed death to syncope probably brought on by exhaustion, and want of sufficient food, aided by the cold.

In summing up the Coroner said it was a matter for thankfulness that such persons such as Edward Evans, the lay reader, who had visited the deceased many times, were employed to look after the poor and unfortunate creatures. The society which employed such men was to be commended. It was only to be regretted that he was not successful in persuading the deceased to go into the Workhouse.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

The Coroner further remarked that some sort of representation ought to be made to the Sanitary Authorities of the district with regard to the state of the house in which the deceased had lived. It was a perfect scandal that in these days human beings should be allowed to live in such places. The Coroner reiterated his opinion as to the foolish and ill-advised manner in which the witness Hancox had behaved at the preliminary inquiry, and marked his disapproval of it by disallowing his expenses.

Hancox said he was sorry for what had occurred, but he was mistaken as to what the Coroner wanted him to do.”

Walsall Observer 10/2/1900

“Mr. T. A. Stokes held an inquest, at the FREEMASONS ARMS, Newtown, Bloxwich, on Tuesday, on the body of Jane James, a domestic servant, whose parents live in Company Buildings, Cheslyn Hay, and whose body was found in the canal near the Norton-Cannock Wharf, on Sunday last.

Evidence showed that a workman named William Rogers, employed at the Norton-Cannock Colliery, found a parcel under the bridge on the canal towing path. The parcel was identified by the mother of the deceased, and the canal was dragged, with the result that the body was discovered in the canal opposite the place where the parcel was found.

The deceased had undergone an operation, and had suffered pain since. She returned home, and on February 1st, feeling better, she left to return to her situation at Charlecote House, Sutton Road, Walsall. It is surmised that she came back by the canal that night,

without going to her situation at all, and made away with herself.
The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst Temporarily Insane.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/10/1913

“James Pee (26), miner, of no fixed abode, was charged with using obscene language in Stafford Road, Bloxwich, on October 8th. Elizabeth Corbett (17) of the FREEMASONS ARMS, Newtown, Bloxwich, said that at 6-30 on the evening in question she was in Stafford Road, on the Bloxwich side of Newtown Road, and met prisoner on the footway. He put out his arm as if to put it round her waist, and made use of an obscene expression. The night being dark she ran towards Bloxwich, and made a complaint when she got home.

Police-constable Hadley (county police) said he arrested the prisoner at the girl’s home, to which he had been taken, about forty-five minutes after. He said he was drunk and did not know what he was doing.

Prisoner, who had many previous convictions, and had been in an inebriates’ home, was fined 40/- and costs or one month.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1916 - Advert

“To Let, FREEMASON’S ARMS, Newtown, near Bloxwich. Fully Licensed; low rental.
Apply, William Roberts Entire, Station Brewery, Brownhills.”

FREEMASONS ARMS

24, (58), Park Street, Townend Bank, WALSALL

OWNERS

Samuel Drew, butcher, Park Street

Mrs. S. Drew

Lichfield Brewery Co. [1909], [1924]

LICENSEES

Henry Smith [1834] – [1835]

George Bayley [1870]

George Plant [1871] – [1873];

Mrs. Elizabeth Plant [1881] – **1894**;

William Plant (**1894 – 1909**);

Thomas ‘Tom’ Watson (**1909 – 1916**);

Alfred Williams (**1916**);

James Wheeler (**1916 – 1918**);

John Henry Brotherton (**1918 – 1919**);

Thomas Heeley (**1919 – 1922**);

Alfred Deans (**1922 – 1923**);

William Lea (**1923 – 1933**);

Charles Frederick Godfrey (**1933**);

NOTES

58, Park Street [1871], [1881]

24, Park Street [1891], [1901], [1908], [1911], [1932]

It was originally the SQUARE AND COMPASSES

It was originally an alehouse with no sign.

Henry Smith, retailer of beer, Townend Bank. [1835]

London Gazette 24/6/1870

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation instituted by *George Bayley*, of No.58, Park Street Licensed Victualler, and partner in the firm of Bailey and Roberts, Auctioneers and Appraisers.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above named person has been summoned to be held at

the Union Inn, Union Street, Birmingham on the 5th day of July, 1870.....”

1871 Census

58, Park Street

- [1] *George Plant* (45), licensed victualler, born Lichfield;
- [2] *Elizabeth Plant* (39), wife, born Warwick;
- [3] Thomas Plant (21), son, engineer, born Lichfield;
- [4] *William Plant* (16), son, clerk, born Walsall;
- [5] Rosannah Williams (20), domestic servant, born Buckley, North Wales;
- [6] Kate Ryan (20), domestic servant, born Bilston:

1881 Census

58, Park Street

- [1] *Elizabeth Plant* (49), widow, licensed victualler, born Warwick;
- [2] *William Plant* (26), son, black saddler, born Walsall;
- [3] Henrietta Trusler (22), barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] Harriett Nutt (22), general servant, born Walsall:

1891 Census

24, Park Street – FREEMASONS ARMS

- [1] *Elizabeth Plant* (59), widow, licensed victualler, born Warwick;
- [2] *William Plant* (36), son, saddler, born Walsall;
- [3] Anne Poppleton (22), barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] Ellen Horan (19), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

Transfer of the license of the FREEMASONS ARMS, Park Street, from the executors of the late *Elizabeth Plant* to *William Plant* was confirmed.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1895

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *William Plant* of the FREEMASONS ARMS INN, Park Street, was elected a member of this society.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

“The forty-third annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

We have to report with regret the decease of the following members during the past year, viz.: Mrs. *Elizabeth Plant*, FREE MASONS ARMS INN, Park Street, Walsall; Mr. Thomas Plant, STAND TAVERN, Newport Street; Mr. George Maund, The VAULTS, High Street, Walsall, whose funerals your committee attended, and to whose relatives we have tendered our respectful sympathy.”

1901 Census

24, Park Street

- [1] *William Plant* (46), married, hotel proprietor, born Walsall;
- [2] Rose Moore (40), house keeper, born Cheltenham;
- [3] Fanny F. Dornell (25), barmaid, born Bewdley;
- [4] Alice Reeves (25), barmaid, born Bermuda, West Indies;
- [5] Francis Castle (25), female, domestic servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/5/1901

“Walsall and District Reservists’ Fund.

The Committee wish to acknowledge their indebtedness to the following.....

W. Plant, FREEMASONS ARMS. £1 1s 0d.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... *Thomas Watson*, FREEMASONS ARMS INN, Park Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

“Applications for transfer of license were heard in the Guildhall on Tuesday.....

‘I think I am all right here; there has been no change for twenty-five years,’ said Mr. Jackson, in applying for the transfer of the license of the FREEMASONS ARMS, Park Street, to *Tom Watson* from *William Plant*. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/4/1910

“The Walsall Transfer Sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday morning.....

The Chief Constable drew the attention of the Bench to the repairs which had been carried out at the FREEMASONS ARMS, Park Street, without any notice having been given. The front windows which were formerly about eighteen inches from the ground, had been built up about five feet, and fancy tiles used. A fire place had also been placed in the vaults in place of a stove, and other minor alterations had been made to the premises. He believed the repairs had cost somewhere about £300, and he thought it only right he should bring the matter before the magistrates.

Mr. H. H. Jackson said he appeared on behalf of the brewery company, and expressed regret that the repairs, which had been done to improve the sanitation of the place, should have been carried out without first coming before the Bench. No alterations had been made with regard to the drinking facilities in any shape or form, and for that reason the company did not think that plans had to be submitted, as he (Mr. Jackson) was told that in Lichfield the magistrates were not so strict as in Walsall.

Sir Edward Holden remarked that the Bench liked to be consulted in the case of all alterations.

Mr. Jackson said the reason the alterations were made was because Park Street had improved, and they thought they would like to go with the times.

The Bench retired, and as they were doing so a slight breeze occurred. Answering a question by Dr. Lynch, Mr. Jackson said the alterations did not come under the Licensing Act, whereupon Dr. Lynch warmly remarked, ‘Well, the magistrates have power to make you put it back in the same state.’

After consultation, Sir Edward Holden said the Bench had decided to refer the matter to the annual meeting of the Renewal Authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/10/1910

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday, at the house of Mr. *Thomas Watson*, the FREEMASONS ARMS, Park Street, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 4/2/1911

“The annual general licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

FREEMASONS ARMS. In this case certain alterations had been done without first submitting plans to the Magistrates.

Mr. H. H. Jackson said the alterations were a great improvement and were not for the purpose of increasing the facilities for drinking more liquor. He apologised to the Bench on behalf of the Lichfield Brewery Company for not obtaining their sanction to the alterations. It was entirely an error of judgement on their part. The Bench decided to look over the lapse and grant the renewal.”

1911 Census

24, Park Street

- [1] *Thomas Watson* (36), licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Watson* (30), married 4 years, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Thomas William Watson* (4), born Birmingham;
- [4] *Fred Howard Watson* (1), born Walsall;
- [5] *Lizzie Cravington* (17), domestic servant, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [6] *Emily Williams* (20), barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 10/6/1911

“The story of a man with no feet struggling with a policeman and afterwards throwing a policeman over his head was told when Harry Osborne (39), of no fixed abode, but a native of Kettering, was placed in the dock with having been drunk and disorderly in Park Street, on Friday.

Evidence was given by Police-constable Mason who stated that at 9.20 on Friday night he was called to the FREEMASONS ARMS, Park Street, and there found the prisoner struggling with the landlord in the passage leading to the house. He was drunk and using very bad language.

Witness got him into the street, whereupon prisoner became violent and after breaking the officer’s whistle off the chain, and throwing it away, threw him (the officer) over his head. They struggled for about five minutes, and three other officers then came to his assistance and prisoner was taken to the police station.

Prisoner, who told the Bench he lost his feet through being run over by a train, pleaded guilty to being drunk, but said he did not recollect anything else.

On promising to leave the town or go into the Workhouse prisoner was discharged.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

FREEMASONS ARMS, Park Street, Walsall, 19s 5d.”

Alfred Williams was a retired police inspector.

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

FREEMASONS ARMS, Park Street. £0 19s 6d.”

It was described in 1925 as “having stabling for 4 horses” and “an old property in a good state of repair”. The Public bar was 19’7 x 16’ x 9’4 with a lobby, Smoke room, Snug and a Billiards room “used as a sitting room”, there were five bedrooms.

It closed on 2nd March 1933.

Its full license was transferred to RED HOUSE, Sutton Road.

Walsall Observer 10/10/1942

“Answer To Correspondent.

‘Bon.’ The FREEMASONS ARMS, was closed on March 2, 1933, when the license was transferred to the RED HOUSE, Station Road.”

FREE TRADE

101, Wood Lane, (Wood Road), (The Wood), Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Jabez Fox
Pubmaster
Admiral Taverns

LICENSEES

Joseph Dixon [1858] – [1860]
James Fox [1861] – [1871]
Carey Fox [1873] – [1891]
Jabez Fox [1894] – [1912]
John Holland [1924] – [1942]
Mervyn Stephen Newton [2007]

NOTES

It was situated on the canalside.

A Cruising and Walking Guide to the Birmingham Canal Navigations

“Wood Common was the site of Pelsall Ironworks, and looking across the common now it is difficult to imagine that a hundred years ago there were 2 blast furnaces, 40 puddling furnaces, 7 mills and forges, a gas producing plant, limekilns and locomotive sheds between Pelsall Works Bridge and Pelsall Junction. Beer for the ironworkers was carried in buckets attached to a yoke from the FREE TRADE INN.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Joseph Dixon, licensed victualler, FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall, was fined 15s and costs, for having seven unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/7/1859

“Early on Monday morning an accident occurred at one of Messrs. Bloomer and Davis’s coalpits, at the Bloomer Colliery, Pelsall, which unhappily resulted in the death of a miner, named Edward Perry, aged 55. The deceased was descending the pit when one of the wheels got out of gear, and the chain getting off, he was precipitated to the bottom of the shaft. One of his arms and several ribs were broken, in addition to severe bruises in other parts of the body. Deceased lingered until yesterday (Tuesday) morning, when he expired. An inquest will be held today at the FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall. Considerable blame is attributed to the engineer for not having his machinery in working order.”

1861 Census

Pelsall Wood – FREE TRADE INN

[1] *James Fox* (37), victualler, born Armitage, Staffordshire;

- [2] *Carey Fox* (34), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] George Walter Fox (13), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Jabez Fox* (10), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [5] Hannah Fox (8), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [6] Lucy Fanney Fox (4), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] Ann Deakin (22), house servant, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/8/1862

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions yesterday, Charles Jackson and Samuel Stackhouse were charged, before Messrs. J. E. Bealey and J. Harrison, with having, on the 2nd inst. been drunk and disorderly in the FREE TRADE public house, Pelsall, and also with fighting in the highway in front of the said public house. It appeared the defendants had gone to the FREE TRADE public house, where they had not been long when a row ensued, and on the landlady endeavouring to prevent them fighting, she was struck by Stackhouse. After hearing the evidence, the bench sentenced each to pay a fine of 5s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for seven days.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/9/1863

“Yesterday was the annual licensing day for the Rushall division of the county. The magistrates on the Bench were Messrs. J. E. Bealey, W. Harrison, and D. Bloomer. Before hearing the applications for new licenses and those for the renewal of old ones, the Bench called those publicans whose names were down on the black list.....

James Fox, FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall, who on Friday, the 7th ult, had kept the house open at night for the accommodation of some puddlers, was cautioned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/9/1864

“At the Police Court, on Tuesday, Daniel Fearon was charged with assault and wilful damage. It seemed that the defendant, on the night of Sunday last, broke seven panes of glass at the house of Mr. *Fox*, the FREE TRADE INN, and subsequently struck Police-constables Ellis and Battison, both of whom had been sent for to eject him from the premises. He also tore Battison’s trousers. He was ordered to pay a fine of 10s, with 16s 6d for the injury to the window and garment, and costs, or submit, in default, to one month’s imprisonment with hard labour.”

Walsall Free Press 12/11/1864

“King of Pelsall Again. At the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey, B. Bloomer, and J. Harrison, Esqs, John Snape was charged with having assaulted Eli Ball, his son-in-law. The case was heard on Tuesday, the 25th ult, and, from the evidence then adduced, it appeared that, on the 17th ult, as complainant was moving some goods from his house, the defendant came up and seized him by the hair of his head, and afterwards struck him over the head with a stick. Ball, who was charged upon a cross-summons with having assaulted John Snape, applied to have the case adjourned, as his solicitor, Mr. Jackson, was not in attendance. Both cases were adjourned till Tuesday last; but, on the cases being called, Ball – who, it was stated, had gone abroad – failed to appear, consequently, the case against Snape was dismissed, and that against Ball gone into, when it appeared from the evidence that Snape had gone to distrain for £26, rent due, and found Ball removing his goods, and attempted to prevent him, when Ball struck him several times with a whip-stock, and knocked him down. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced Ball to pay a fine of £2 and 16s 6d costs; or, in default, to be imprisoned for one month.

His Majesty was next charged with having, on the 17th ult, assaulted *James Fox*. It appeared that, on the day in question, the defendant, after his son-in-law, Eli Ball, and he had quarrelled, met complainant and had some words about the dispute between Snape and Ball, in course of which *Fox*, who is married to Ball’s sister, told Snape that he thought he was wrong in doing what he did to Ball. Snape thereupon assaulted *Fox*. After hearing the evidence, the Bench sentenced Snape to pay a fine of 5s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/6/1865

“At the Free Library, John Snape, otherwise the ‘King of Pelsall,’ appeared before Messrs. T. Hazledine (Mayor), S. Cox, and W. Ward, to answer a charge of assault, preferred against him by *James Fox* of Pelsall. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for complainant; and Mr. Dale (for the office of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) for the defendant. On Tuesday in the Whitsun week the complainant and the defendant met at the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, and an acrimonious discussion ensued touching certain actions for the recovery of a harmonium, alleged to have been fraudulently removed by some of Mr. Snape’s relatives from a chapel of which Mr. *Fox* is one of the trustees. The result was that the defendant seized the complainant by the collar, attempted to push him out of the house, and committed the assault complained of. Some amusement was caused by the exhibition by Mr. Dale of a placard, said to have been put out by Mr. *Fox*, announcing that his inn had been refitted and decorated with pictures among the latter of which was one illustrative of an unlawful act perpetrated by a ‘certain king and prince;’ and concluding with the intimation that any person ‘dis-behaving’ himself would be ejected. The magistrates considered the assault proved, and imposed a fine of 20s and costs, with the option of twenty-one days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 17/6/1865

“John Snape was charged with having, on the 6th inst, assaulted *James Fox*, from the evidence that, as he sat with a friend in the OLD STILL, the defendant came in, and addressing himself to the person sitting next to the complainant, said, ‘Take care; you are sitting next to a ‘fox,’ who will bite you if you don’t take care.’ He then seized complainant by the collar, and said, ‘I’ll see if you will bite me.’ He then doubled his fist, and pushing it against complainant’s mouth, said, ‘If you bite me, I’ll knock your teeth down your throat.’ Complainant said, ‘I’ll bite you somewhere else; I don’t bite in public houses.’ Cross-examined by Mr. Dale:

I did not say to Mr. Snape, when he came in, 'I'll bite you.' Mr. Dale here read the following extract from a bill, and asked Mr. *Fox* if the king and the prince referred to was the defendant and his son.

'The New Music Hall, FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall, will re-open on Monday, June 12th, 1865. Mr. *Fox* begs to announce that his grand concert hall will re-open, by request, every evening for a short time. The hall has been decorated at great expense, with a beautiful collection of pictures, among which is to be seen a painting of the 'dishonourable acts of a king and prince,' which act was performed before a large assembly to the utter disgust of every beholder. This magnificent painting represents the pulling down of a shed and occupies a space in the New Concert Hall, FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall. Every one should see this feat of daring royalty!' The bill then went on to say that 'All parties disbehaving themselves in the concert hall would be ejected.'

Complainant, by the advice of his solicitor, Mr. Jackson, declined to answer the question.

Two witnesses were called, who corroborated the complainant's evidence.

The Bench after hearing the evidence sentenced the defendant to a pay a fine of 20s and costs; or in default, to be imprisoned for 21 days."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/10/1865

"John Snape, known as the 'King of Pelsall,' was charged with having, on the 7th inst, assaulted a little girl named Hannah *Fox*, aged 12 years, daughter of *James Fox*, landlord of the FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall; and further, with having, at the same time and place, assaulted the girl's aunt, Mary Boyden. From the evidence, it appeared that on the day in question the defendant drove the sow and pigs belonging to the complainant's father into defendant's field, and then endeavoured to impound them; but as he was driving them out of the field for this purpose, the girl *Fox* drove the pigs home, and thereupon defendant struck her and kicked her. After the pigs were in the sty defendant came to drive them again, and on Mrs. Boyden endeavouring to prevent him he assaulted her. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, ordered defendant to pay a fine of 10s and costs in each case."

AND

"John Stanger, for having on the 2nd inst, been drunk and disorderly, and having refused to leave the FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall, was ordered to pay a fine of 1s and costs."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/9/1870

"Adjourned Licensing Meeting.....

Mr. *Fox*, landlord of the TRADE INN, Pelsall, whose license was suspended, although no conviction had been recorded against him, complained of the conduct of the Bench, and said, as his house had always been well conducted, he thought it very hard that he should have had his license suspended."

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1870

"At the Rushall adjourned licensing session, yesterday, the following licenses, the applications for which had stood over from the previous Tuesday, were granted, the licensees in each case being cautioned.....

James Fox, TRADE INN, Pelsall."

1871 Census

Pelsall Wood – FREE TRADE INN

- [1] *James Fox* (47), licensed victualler, born Armitage, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Carrey Fox* (44), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Jabez Fox* (20), son, blacksmith, born Pelsall;
- [4] Hannah Fox (18), daughter, dress maker, born Pelsall;
- [5] Lucy Fanny Fox (14), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] Harriet Fox (9), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [7] Annie Fox (2 months), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [8] W. B. S. Walplas (?) (24), boarder, wheelwright, born Staffordshire;
- [9] Charles Hill (22), boarder, blacksmith, born Bromyard;
- [10] Joseph Sheppard (37), visitor, vocalist, born Canterbury;
- [11] Louisa Sheppard (35), visitor, vocalist, born Stafford;
- [12] George Sheppard (13), visitor, vocalist, born Canterbury;

Carey Fox = *Carrey Fox* = *Carry Fox*

Walsall Free Press 4/10/1873

"Two publicans, named *Carry Fox*, of the FREE TRADE public house, and John Gilks, of the RAILWAY COLLIERY beerhouse, applied for an extension of time on the nights of Monday and Tuesday next, it being Pelsall wake. The applications were granted."

1881 Census

The Wood – FREE TRADE INN

- [1] *Carey Fox* (54), widow, innkeeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Jabez Fox* (30), son, blacksmith, born Pelsall;
- [3] Harriet Fox (19), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [4] Harriet Russell (17), general servant, born Bloxwich;

1891 Census

The Wood

- [1] *Carey Fox* (64), widow, licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Jabez Fox* (40), son, born Pelsall;
- [3] Mary Ann Morgan (18), general servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1892

“On Monday, an inquest was held at the FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall Wood, relative to the death of Alice Walker (10), whose parents live at Fishley, and who was found drowned some days previously in the Birmingham Canal at Pelsall Wood. Deceased left home on the 7th instant in a sulky mood, owing to her mother having boxed her ears, and she made the remark to a neighbour’s child that she ‘should not come home that night, nor the next.’ Afterwards, she was seen at Pelsall Wood going in the direction of the canal, but nothing could be ascertained as to how she got into the water. It being thought possible, however, that she had slipped whilst trying to reach some empty boats, an Open Verdict was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/7/1894

“Rushall Police Court, Monday, before Mr. Frank James, Dr. Cooke, and Mr. W. H. Brookes.

Jabez Fox, Pelsall, applied for an occasional licence for July 16, on the occasion of the annual fete. Sergt. Riley said they would be quite as well without the extra time, for if the licence was granted it would encourage a lot more drunkenness. Dr. Cooke said though he granted it he would remind them that people had not much money to throw away now-a-days.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/8/1894

“William Woolford (49), employed as brakesman by the Walsall Wood Colliery Company at their New Plant Colliery, was at work on Saturday afternoon removing loaded trucks from coal screens, when he was crushed between a truck and an iron column. The poor fellow’s skull was fractured, and death ensued. An inquest was held at the FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall Wood, before Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) on Tuesday morning, when the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/7/1897

“FREE TRADE Money Club. The annual supper in connection with this old-established money-club was held on Saturday evening at the FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall Wood. About 50 members and friends.....”

Walsall Observer 28/7/1900

“On Monday last the members of Pride Lodge of the Nottingham Order of Oddfellows held their annual dinner. A procession was formed at the lodge house, the FREE TRADE INN, and headed by the Pelsall Victoria Brass Band paraded through the principal parts of Pelsall to the church.....”

1901 Census

The Wood

- [1] *Jabez Fox* (50), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] Gertrude Hawkins (24), general servant, born Pelsall;
- [3] Emma Hanson (21), general servant, born Pelsall:

1911 Census

Pelsall Wood

- [1] *Jabez Fox* (60), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] George Watson (29), nephew, born Pelsall;
- [3] Elizabeth Smith (37), servant, born Little Bloxwich;
- [4] Harriet Watson (19), niece, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 19/7/1913

“Mr. Gerald C. Lewis (County Coroner) held an inquest at the FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall, on Tuesday, concerning the death of Henry Richardson (86), of the Wood, Pelsall. Deceased accidentally fell down in the kitchen on July 6th, and as a result complained of pains in the back. The following day, Dr. Trevor was called in, but deceased died on Sunday morning. The jury found that death was due to shock accelerated by old age.”

Walsall Observer 24/2/1917 - Deaths

“On the 18th instant, at the FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall, *Jabez Fox*, aged 66 years. The relatives wish to thank all friends for kindness and sympathy in their sad bereavement. No cards.”

Walsall Observer 7/6/1917 - Advert

“Estate of *Jabez Fox*, Deceased, Pelsall.

Highly Important sale of Valuable Freehold Public Houses and Premises and the Goodwill of the Business.

Fox & Harrison, FAI (Mathew Fox and Frank Fox Harrison) favoured with instructions from the Executors under the will of the late *Jabez Fox*, will offer for Sale by Public Auction on Wednesday 13th June, 1917, at the FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall Wood, at

6.30 o'clock in the evening subject to conditions to be then read.

Lot 1. The Old-established Well-known, Free, Fully Licensed Freehold Public House and Premises, known as the FREE TRADE INN, situate on the main road at Pelsall Wood, for many years (and until his decease) in the occupation of the owner Mr. *Jabez Fox*, and now his representatives.

The Accommodation comprises vestibule entrance, serving window, bar, tap-room, back smoke-room and parlour; upstairs store-room, commodious club-room, stock-room, four bedrooms and landing, excellent cellarage, two kitchens, large scullery, well-paved yard, two-stall stable with loft over, double pig-stye, two brick-built coal stores, and the necessary private and public conveniences, together with large Garden Ground, situate on the opposite side of the road.

The House, which is well arranged, easy of supervision, and absolutely free from all ties, has for a long period done a large and profitable trade.

Gas and water services are laid on.

Possession can be had on completion of purchase.

The valuable Goodwill of the Old-established Business as a going concern is included in the Sale.

The Purchaser to take at Valuation in the usual way, the whole of the Fixtures, Trade Fittings, together with the consumable Stock-in-trade, Licenses, Rates, etc, on the date fixed for completion.

For further particulars and plan apply to the Auctioneers, 51, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall, or to Messrs. Wilkinson & Co. Solicitors, The Bridge, Walsall."

Walsall Observer 21/7/1917 - Advert

"Estate of *Jabez Fox*, Deceased.

FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall Wood (15 minutes' walk from Pelsall (L&NWR) Station).

Tuesday, 31st July, 1917, at 10.30 prompt.

Fox & Harrison, FAI (Mathew Fox and Frank Fox Harrison) favoured with instructions from the Executors under the will of the late *Jabez Fox*, will Sell by Public Auction, without any reserve, at the place and on the date above named, the whole of the Antique and Modern Household Furniture and Effects, including:

Walnut and Gilt Chimney Glasses, carved Italian Bedsteads (4ft 6in), French Bedstead, Feather Beds, Bed Linen, Painted Chests, Antique Oak Bureau (3ft 3in), Two Antique Ash Arm Chairs, Iron Fireproof Safe, Walnut Bookcase (4ft 3in by 3ft 6in), 10-Stop Harmonium (Alexander & Son, Paris), in perfect condition; Oak Grained Dining Table, Cottage Pianoforte, in Burr-Walnut Case, Trichord (E. F. Allen & Sons); Mahogany Dining Room Suite, 9 pieces; Cottage Pianoforte, sweet toned, in Burr-Walnut Case, Iron Frame (E. F. Allen & Sons, Wolverhampton); Platform Weighing Machine, etc; as described in Catalogues to be obtained from the Offices of the Auctioneers, or from Messrs Wilkinson & Co, Solicitors, The Bridge, Walsall.

On View Two Hours Prior to Sale.

Auctioneers' Offices, 51, Lower Hall Street, Walsall. Telephone 198."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1921

"The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....

All the licenses would be renewed with the exception of.....

FREE TRADE, Pelsall.....

In these cases, alterations were necessary, and the Bench would defer consideration until they had visited the premises and inspected the plans."

Lichfield Mercury 11/12/1925

"Brownhills & District Air-Gun League.....

FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall (away), defeated ROYAL OAK, Pelsall, by 214 points to 212."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

"At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....

Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....

For repairs and alterations of structure.....

FREE TRADE INN, Norton Road."

1939 Register

Wood Road – FREE TRADE INN (6 of 7)

- [1] *John Holland*, date of birth 29/7/1887, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Rosannah Holland*, dob 19/10/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Stanley W. Holland*, dob 29/1/1917, motor lorry driver, H work, single;
- [4] *Richard L. Holland*, dob 27/7/1919, motor lorry driver, H work, single;
- [5] *Dennis Holland*, dob 26/10/1922, lathe hand, single;
- [6] *Reginald Holland*, dob 31/10/1924, lathe hand, single;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall Wood, Pelsall, £4 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund.
Donations *J. Holland*, FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall. £0 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall. £2 14s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 10/1/1964

“The quarter finals, semi-finals and final of the Walsall, Wolverhampton and district sub area competition of the *News of the World* individual darts championship of England and Wales, will be held in Pelsall Social Club, Norton Road, Pelsall, on Thursday next, January 16, all players to be on the mark at 8pm prompt. The eight finalists are.....

Paul Smith (FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall).”

Closed [2007], [2017]

FRIGHTED HORSE

Blue Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Shale [1834] – [1835]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

James Shale, retailer of beer, Blue Lane. [1835]

FULLBROOK TAVERN

West Bromwich Road, Maw Green, WALSALL

OWNERS

Peter Cotterell, surgeon, West Bromwich

Solomon Perry

Cornelius Stanton, Pelsall

Cheshire’s Brewery and Co., Smethwick

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1915)

LICENSEES

Solomon Perry [1866] – 1887);

William Pymm (1887 – 1895);

Andrew Barnes (1895 – 1898);

Timothy Rawlinson (1898 – 1899);

James Stafford (1899 – 1903);

Joseph Stafford (1903 – 1904);
John Thomas Challinor (1904 – 1907);
Horace Arthur Prince (1907 – 1908);
Charles Forbes (1908 – 1909);
Charles William Turner (1909 – 1911);
John Pridge (1911 – 1912);
John Thomas Butler (1912 – 1914);
Frederick James Warralo (1914 – 1915);
Alfred Vernon Evans (1915);
Edward Mason (1915 – []

NOTES

It was originally an unnamed beerhouse.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/7/1866

“*Solomon Perry*, beerhouse keeper, Full Brook was fined 2s 6d and costs for having had his house open during prohibited hours.”

Sporting Life 1/1/1868

“Beesley and Nock. These Wednesbury men also shot a match at Mr. *Perry*’s FULLBROOK TAVERN, near Walsall.....”

1871 Census

Full Brook

- [1] *Solomon Perry* (51), beer seller and farmer of 12 acres, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Mary Perry (53), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Charlotte Perry (15), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [4] Joseph Perry (18), son, labourer, born Wednesbury;
- [5] Hannah Wall (16), visitor, born Darlaston;
- [6] John Ballsey (3), visitor, born Walsall:

Solomon Perry, beer retailer, Fullbrook. [1872]

Solomon Perry was also a farmer (Botany Farm).

He married Mary Robinson at St. Matthews Church, Walsall on 11th September 1836.

1881 Census

Full Brook

- [1] *Solomon Perry* (63), beerhouse keeper, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Mary Perry (62), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Joseph Perry (27), son, labourer, born Wednesbury;
- [4] Richard Beasley (13), grandson, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [5] Charlotte Malpass (3), granddaughter, scholar, born Wednesbury:

Solomon Perry was fined 40s and costs, on 6th August 1886, for keeping open on a Sunday.

William Pymm = William Pym

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

“At the Guildhall yesterday, before Alderman Holden and Mr. W. E. Blyth, several charges against Walsall publicans were heard. In the first *Andrew Barnes*, landlord of the FULLBROOK TAVERN, West Bromwich Road, was charged with having unlawfully supplied drink to a drunken person on August 3rd. Mr. F. Bill appeared for the defendant.

William Fletcher, labourer, 21, Little London, stated that at about 6pm on August 3rd, he saw three young men and a young lady named Fanny Dinsdale, who was drunk, walking towards FULLBROOK TAVERN. At 6.30 he reported the matter to Police-sergeant Ballance. The young men had had beer, but were not drunk. He saw two police officers with the woman shortly afterwards. Fanny Dinsdale, Rowan’s lodging-house, Church Street, who said that she was a married woman, stated that she went in company with James Hayes to the FULLBROOK TAVERN at 6.30am on August 3rd. Hayes called for a pint of ‘fourpenny.’ They afterwards had a walk round Caldmore, and returned to the same house at 11 o’clock, when they had two more pints of fourpenny. Caldmore was visited again, and at 3 o’clock they returned and had another pint. They walked round Caldmore again, and returned to the Tavern at six o’clock. When they returned two young fellows paid for a quart of beer, and she then went to Hayes’s house in Railway Row. She returned to the tavern in about half-an-hour, and had another share of another quart of beer. On the last occasion they had the beer in a shed, where Sergeant Ballance found them. She did not know who served the last quart of beer.

Police-sergeant Ballance deposed to passing through Little London at about 6.40 o’clock, when a man told him that three young men had taken a drunken woman towards the FULLBROOK TAVERN. He visited the house, and made an inspection, but could

not find the people. He told the landlord his business, and was informed that three men and a woman were in the arbour at the back. He found one of the men and the woman drunk. The men were ordered away by the landlord, and he brought the woman to the police station, as he considered her incapable of taking care of herself.

Police-constable Bamber (62) corroborated the officer's evidence.

Mr. Bill maintained that his client was not aware of anyone being in the arbour until a few minutes prior to Police-sergeant Balance's appearance, and he was on his way to see who they were when the officers walked in.

By the Chief Constable: The man Hayes could take double the amount of beer which the woman said they had had during the day. Ada Poole, barmaid, deposed to having served beer to Hayes on two occasions – at 11 and 6 o'clock. At 6.30 in the evening the landlord also supplied him with beer.

James Hayes stated that he was in company with the woman Dinsdale on Saturday, August 3rd.

Mr. Bill (to witness): Were you drunk at 6.30? – No, sir; 'fourpenny' is not very strong (laughter).

John Hadley, Spout Lane, polisher, also said he was one of the company.

Cross-examined by the Chief Constable, witness said as they were coming down Little London Dinsdale was so drunk that she had to be assisted by one of the party, although they left her a short distance from the FULLBROOK House to go to Hayes's mother's house in Hospital Row as best she could.

Luke Jones, another of the party, also gave evidence.

The magistrates retired, and on their return Mr. Blyth said it was a most disgraceful charge, and a serious case, and the defendant would be fined £5 and costs, and also have his license endorsed.

Defendant: I am innocent. – Mr. Holden: Mr. Bill had done everything possible for you."

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

"The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The following is a return of licensees who have been proceeded against during the year ending August 30th, 1895.....

Andrew Barnes, FULLBROOK TAVERN, Fullbrook, for having sold to drunken persons on August 16th, fined £5 and costs and licensed endorsed.

Mr. Taylor [Chief Constable], at the conclusion of the report, said he made arrangements with Mr. Bill, solicitor for the case of the FULLBROOK TAVERN, which was objected by him, to come to the adjourned licensing day. This course was agreed to by the Bench."

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1895

"The adjourned licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The question of the renewal of the license of the FULLBROOK TAVERN was adjourned pending the result of an appeal against a recent decision."

AND

"At the Guildhall yesterday, *Andrew Barnes*, landlord of the FULLBROOK TAVERN, West Bromwich Road, was charged at the conclusion of the licensing sessions, with having sold intoxicating liquor in a shed situated at the back of his tavern which were not included in the area of his license.

The Chief Constable, who prosecuted, produced plans of the tavern, and said on oath that in 1889 the licensed area was then pointed out to him by the then licensee, *Solomon Perry*.

Mr. C. R. E. Plumptree, who defended (instructed by Mr. F. Bill) objected on the ground that any statement made by a tenant would not be evidence of the licensing area against anybody except himself. The objection was upheld.

The Chief Constable continuing, said that in 1889 there was a farmyard, and beyond that a cart shed. Since the defendant had taken over the house he had done away with the farmyard and at least 25 yards from the main premises, had erected a long shed, eight or ten feet wide, and fitted with benches and tables in which he supplied drink. He should prove that when the last tenant went into the house that portion was a field.

Police-constable Wright stated that about eight o'clock on Aug. 18th he visited defendant's house. He called for a pint of beer, and it was supplied to him in the arbour. During 35 minutes he was there he saw nine persons order beer and pay for it in the shed.

By Mr. Plumptree: There were also tables on the grass outside.

William Pym, bricklayer, West Bromwich Road, the licensee of the Tavern before defendant, having given evidence.

Mr. B. Gilbert (assistant overseer) stated that the farmhouse which adjoined the beerhouse and the beerhouse itself were separately rated.

By Mr. Plumptree: There was no separate rating of the garden.

John Clifford, labourer, West Bromwich Road, deposed to laying the place out at the back of the tavern as a garden for Mr. *Pym*.

William Perry, 47, Dale Street, said that at the time Mr. *Pym* occupied the Tavern he rented half the garden, and that was the part in which the shed had now been erected.

Police-inspector Hamilton stated that the arbour was now accessible to the public independently of the public house. It was 25 to 30 yards from the house.

Mr. Plumptree contended that by long usage the garden became part of the licensed premises. The licensing laws gave no exact definition of the word premises. In law, at least, it certainly meant a great deal more than mere house. He contended that it meant not only the house property, but also the garden, and the premises were substantially the same as when the license was granted.

There was no law prohibiting a licensed person improving and enlarging his premises. He would now call *Mary Perry*, wife of *Solomon Perry*, tenant of the FULLBROOK TAVERN, during 25 out of the 33 years it had been licensed, deposed to having sold intoxicating drinks to persons in the garden.

Charlotte Malpas, married daughter of the last witness corroborated.

William Poole said he had been supplied many times with beer in the arbour. The magistrates consulted in private and eventually dismissed the case.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/10/1895

“Walsall Quarter Sessions.

Mr. Disturnal mentioned the case of *Andrew Barnes*, landlord of the FULLBROOK TAVERN, West Bromwich Road v. the Chief Constable (Mr. Chris. Taylor), and certain magistrates, and said that he represented the respondents, while his learned friend, Mr. Alfred Young, had been instructed to appear on behalf of the appellant. The case was an appeal against the decision of the Bench, who had recently fined *Barnes* £5 and costs and endorsed his license for having sold drink to an intoxicated person. Mr. Disturnal said that after agreeing to a certain arrangement with his clients he had submitted at Mr. Young, who had also fallen in with these arrangements. The terms were that the endorsement on the license would be expunged, but that otherwise the conviction should stand. The parties had arranged between themselves as to costs.

The Recorder made the order as requested.”

AND

“At the Walsall Police Court on Monday before the Mayor and a full Bench, Mr. Armstrong (from Mr. F. Bill) applied for the renewal of the license of the FULLBROOK TAVERN to Mr. *Barnes*.

The Town Clerk (Mr. J. R. Cooper) said that in this case the applicant had appealed against a conviction by the Bench who, besides inflicting a fine, had endorsed his license. The appeal came before the Recorder on the previous Saturday, but an arrangement was come to under which the endorsement was to be removed, and a second charge, the hearing of which had been adjourned, withdrawn. Under these circumstances the renewal of the license was not opposed by the Chief Constable. The license was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/11/1896

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last....

Mr. *Andrew Barnes*, FULLBROOK TAVERN was elected a member as from 1st January, 1897.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/3/1897

“Walsall Quarter Sessions

John Heler (39), farmer, on bail, was indicted for having unlawfully wounded Thomas Henry Morgan on the 26th December. Mr. Gerald Lewis (instructed by Messrs. Lewis and Sons) prosecuted, and Mr. Herbert (instructed by Mr. Jackson) defended. Mr. Lewis having opened.

Prosecutor stated that he was returning, with others, from a supper party at the CANAL TAVERN, Bloxwich, when prisoner, who was in front, turned round and asked why he was following him. He denied that he was, and was walking across the street, when prisoner gave him a blow. They struggled together, and subsequently he found he had been stabbed.

By Mr. Herbert: There had been no previous quarrel nor any provocation on either side. He did not know how prisoner received his wounded arm.

William Cattell, miner, Pelsall Lane, Little Bloxwich, who was with Morgan, said that as they struggled on the ground he saw a half-opened knife in prisoner’s hand.

Police-constable Yardley gave evidence as to prisoner’s statement when arrested.

Dr. Nixon said that the prosecutor’s injuries consisted of a wound in the neck, which started at the back on the right side, and extended round the neck towards the left for six inches. He was detained until the 18th January – practically three weeks – and was an out-patient for a further three weeks.

Mr. Herbert said his answer to the charge was that the blood-stained knife said to have been found on prisoner was not his, and that the finding of it in his pocket was a deliberate ‘plant.’

Sarah Fernahough, who said she had been housekeeper to prisoner for four years; John Smith, landlord of the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich; and Enoch Bloor, lamp cleaner, Little Bloxwich, all denied that the blood-stained knife belonged to prisoner, and declared that a similar one produced was the one he always carried.

Dr. McKintosh, assistant to Dr. Wilson, the police surgeon, said he saw prisoner at the police station. He was in a weak state, and suffering from four clean cuts on the hands, varying in length from ½ an inch to 2½ inches, and other injuries. The wound on the left hand was a very serious one indeed.

By Mr. Lewis: Some of the bruises might have been caused by his falling.

William Jones, farmer, Tettenhall, and *Andrew Barnes*, FULLBROOK TAVERN, gave evidence of character, and Mr. Herbert having addressed the jury at some length, and the Recorder having summed up, prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment, with hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1897

“A music and dancing license was granted to Mr. *Barnes*, of the FULLBROOK TAVERN, West Bromwich Road, for Monday and Tuesday next, and a similar license was granted to Mr. Bateman, of the NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck, for Tuesday, the occasion being a benefit concert.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/7/1897

“*Andrew Barnes* of the FULLBROOK TAVERN, was fined 1s and costs on a charge of allowing two horses to stray. It was stated in defence that someone had removed the lock from the gate of the field in which the horses had been put.”

At the adjourned Annual Licensing Meeting held on 28th September 1900 the licensing committee granted a license to premises about to be constructed, in accordance with plans submitted, on the site of the present premises, on condition that the present license to be surrendered. This was confirmed on 2nd November 1910.

Walsall Advertiser 29/9/1900

“Yesterday the adjourned Brewster session for the borough were held at the Guildhall.....

James and Joseph Stafford, FULLBROOK TAVERN, West Bromwich Road, made application through Mr. F. Bill, for the provisional grant of a license to sell all intoxicating liquors, on or off the premises, or for the provisional grant of a license to sell beer, cider, and perry, on and off the premises.

Mr. Whiteley opposed on behalf of the Walsall Temperance Society.

Mr. Bill explained that the FULLBROOK TAVERN premises were very old, and were in want of repair. The road at that point was very narrow, and, it was now proposed to widen the road, the applicant wanted to re-build the tavern further back from the road.

The Chief Constable (Mr. N. R. Gardiner) said he approved of the suggested alterations inasmuch as the present premises were not suited to proper police surveillance, but he opposed the granting of a full license.

The application for re-building was granted with a beer license only.”

1901 Census

FULLBROOK TAVERN

[1] *James Stafford* (49), ale and porter bottler, born New Mills, Derbyshire;

[2] Charlotte A. Stafford (47), wife, born Bradford, Yorkshire;

[3] Frank Stafford (9), son, born Wednesbury;

[4] Joseph Stafford (37), boarder, widower, farmer, born New Mills, Derbyshire;

[5] Emily Watts (17), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 22/8/1903 - Advert

“Highly Important Sale By Auction Of Six Semi-Detached Villa Residences in Westbourne Road, Borneo Street, and Littleton Street, Walsall, as also the Valuable Freehold Public House known as the FULLBROOK TAVERN, and the adjacent Meadow Land, together with Building Sites and Farm House also fronting the West Bromwich Road, Walsall.

Walter Hughes is instructed to offer for Sale by Auction, at his Property Mart, the Bridge, Walsall, on Monday, 14th September, 1903, at Seven o'clock precisely (subject to Conditions to be then read).....

Lot 3 to 10. The Freehold Properties, in the West Bromwich Road, consisting of the well-known FULLBROOK TAVERN, and 5½ acres of adjacent Meadow Land at the rear, as also the Farmhouse and Buildings belonging to the same Estate, and together with the important Freehold Sites lying between the said farmhouse and the FULLBROOK TAVERN, which will be Sold in convenient sized Lots, full details of which will appear in next week's papers.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1903 - Advert

“Highly Important Sale By Auction.....

Lot 1. The Freehold Beer House, well known as the FULLBROOK TAVERN, with Outbuildings, Yards, and Bowling Green, having an extensive frontage to the West Bromwich Road, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Joseph Stafford*.

The accommodation comprises four bedrooms, and Store Room, Bar, Smoke Room, Tap Room, Kitchen, two Cellars, as also the Stabling, and other Outbuildings. There is a fitted Bar in the wood erection on Bowling Green.

The area is about 1 1-3rd acres.

Possession may be had on completion of purchase.

Note. This is a noted Calling House, with ante 1869 License, it does a good trade, and, being easy of access to the large population of Caldmore and Palfrey, with certain prospect of further development of adjacent lands, it must of necessity become one of the best Licensed Houses on the outskirts of the town.

It has an extensive Licensed Area, and in enterprising hands could be made an attractive Catering House.....”

Andrew Barnes was a farmer. [1904]

John Thomas Challinor was married to Annie Louisa.

Walsall Advertiser 14/8/1909

“A man named Albert Moore, a black saddler, 237, West Bromwich Road, was summoned for assaulting Florence Manlove, 121, Weston Street, on August 3rd. Mr. C. H. Bailey appeared for complainant, and Mr. F. Cooper defended.

Mr. Bailey said that Mrs. Manlove was a respectable woman, with four children; and knowing something of Moore, she objected to her husband keeping company with him. On the Tuesday night she went to the FULLBROOK TAVERN for her husband, and the defendant, who was in the public-house, said ‘I have something for you,’ and commenced to threaten to ‘do her in.’ The woman's husband said ‘You won't do anything of the kind,’ but defendant jumped up and violently hit her on the mouth breaking one of her teeth.

Mrs. Manlove gave evidence in support of her solicitor's statement.

Cross-examined, she at first denied that she ever had anything to do with the defendant's wife, but later she admitted that defen-

dant's wife had taken county court proceedings to recover a debt from her. It was not true that since that time she had habitually been in the habit of annoying the defendant and his wife, and shouting after them in the streets, or that when she went into the FULLBROOK TAVERN she called him a thief.

Mr. Cooper said the woman's story as to an alleged assault was a fabrication. She had continually annoyed him and his wife, and she was a violent tempered woman. When she went into the public-house, she not only called him a thief, but tried to tear his collar off his neck, and indeed did tear his tie off. He at once got to the door, and she struck him on the back, and incited her husband to attack him. There were blows consequently struck between the two men, but the woman was not assaulted at all, as would be shown by the evidence of independent witnesses who were in the house.

Defendant having given evidence, Arthur Poole (a blacksmith) and John Baldwin (an edge tool worker) were called in support of his case, and stated that the blows struck were between the two men, and the woman fell down in the course of the scuffle.

The bench dismissed the case, each side to pay its own costs."

John Pridge = John Pudge

1911 Census

FULLBROOK TAVERN

- [1] *John Pudge* (28), married, publican, born Bromyard
- [2] Kitty Pudge (29), wife, married 3 years, born Bromyard;
- [3] Rose Smith (25), sister, born Bromyard;
- [4] Jack Smith (27), brother, born Bromyard:

Walsall Advertiser 29/4/1911

"A case of some length was heard at the Walsall Police Court.....

Wm. Pimm, of Delves Cottages, and George King, of Weston Street, were summoned for being found drunk on licensed premises, the FULLBROOK TAVERN, on the 15th April; and *John Pudge*, the landlord of the Tavern, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on those premises. Mr. J. S. Sharpe (Messrs. Sharpe and Darby) defended.

Police-sergeant Lloyd said that he visited the FULLBROOK TAVERN in company with Police-constable Keay at 10.40 on the evening of the 15th April. He visited the smoke-room, where about twenty persons had assembled. The landlady was playing the piano and a man was standing in the centre of the room singing. Witness and the constable went into the bar, and there were about ten men there, some standing and some sitting down. He saw the defendant King sitting at a table fast asleep with a jug containing beer before him. He called the attention of the landlord to King, and he came from behind the bar, shook him and woke him up. King finished his beer and left the house. Witness watched him out of the house, and he was drunk and staggered up the road. Witness and Police-constable Keay then went into the bar again. He had previously noticed Pimm dozing at a table, and he had some stout before him. He called the attention of the landlord to the man, and Pimm immediately rushed at them, but was stopped. Pimm, who was staggering and drunk, became abusive and used bad language, went into the country district and said, 'I am in the Wednesbury district and you cannot touch me.' He used bad language. Witness told the landlord of the condition of the men and said he would report him. *Pudge* was abusive and asked the two officers for their names and numbers, saying he would report them. In his opinion the landlord was under the influence of drink.

Corroborative evidence was given by Police-constable Keay, who also stated that the defendants, Pimm and King, were drunk. Evidence was then given for the defence. *Pudge* was first called. He said that he was in the bar all the evening. King had only had three half-pints of ale, and Pimm only one bottle of stout to drink, and they were both perfectly sober. There was no disorder in the house. Witness stated that he had been landlord of the house for nine weeks.

King and Pimm also gave evidence denying that they were the worse for drink, and corroborating the last witness as to the amount of liquor they had taken. Both denied that they were asleep, king saying that he usually sat at the table with his head resting on his hand.

Further evidence was given for the defence, no less than ten witnesses being called, and they all corroborated the statement that King and Pimm were both sober at the time and respectable men.

Mr. Sharpe addressed the Bench for the defence, claiming that the evidence was overwhelming that the two men were not drunk. After a retirement of about fifteen minutes, the Chairman said the Bench had found the case a most difficult one. The majority of the Magistrates were of opinion that there was a doubt and gave the defendants the benefit of it, but they hoped the landlord would be careful in future."

Walsall Advertiser 6/7/1912

"Thomas Cattell, Whitehall Road, was summoned by *John Pudge*, FULLBROOK TAVERN, for refusing to quit the FULLBROOK TAVERN when requested on June 24th.

Mr. F. Platt prosecuted, and said that on the date named, about 3pm, defendant went to the FULLBROOK TAVERN. Later, complainant heard him arguing with someone else in the house, and using bad language. Complainant went into the smoke room, and saw defendant strike another man, who fell and cut his head on the table. Complainant asked defendant three times to go out, but he refused, and was later ejected by someone in the house, who was a stranger to complainant. When defendant got to the door, he made use of filthy expressions and threatened complainant.

John Pudge, complainant, gave evidence in support of Mr. Platt's statement and the Bench ordered defendant to pay costs, and bound him over for three months. In defence, Cattell stated that he did not hear complainant ask him to leave, and said it was his first appearance in Court in his life."

Walsall Advertiser 24/8/1912 - Advert

“Friday, August 30, 1912.

Sale At the FULLBROOK TAVERN, West Bromwich Road.

Messrs. Gardiner Ball and Troman will Sell by Auction (without reserve) under instructions from Mrs. *Pudge*, the whole of the Household Furniture, consisting several full-size Iron and Brass-rail Bedsteads, Spring Mattresses, Marble-top Stands, Wardrobes, Duchesse Toilet Tables, Chairs, Mirrors, Night Commode, Pictures, Suite in Damask (seven pieces), Table, mahogany Dining Table, Marble Clock, Bamboo Tables, Whatnots, Fenders, Brasses, Coal Vases, Suite in Saddlebags (seven pieces), lamps, double barrel gun, gramophone and records, zither, sundry Crockery Ware, Large Oil Tank, sundry loose effects and other items; also the Agricultural Implements comprising Mowing Machine (Bamford’s No.5), 10-Furrow Seed Drill (Hornsby), Ridge Plough (Kell), Chaff Machine, Set Chain-harrows, Platform Weighing Machine (Avery); Live Stock And Harness, consisting of Cart Horse (15.2 hands), Bay Cob 14 hands; 6 Store Pigs, about 20 Couples of Fowls, and Ducks, Set of Cart tackle, 2 Sets Harness, and sundry other items.

No Catalogues.

Sale at 11am.

Auctioneer’s Office: 193, High Street, West Bromwich; and at Birmingham and Dudley.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/8/1914

“*Frederick James Worrallo*, of the FULLBROOK TAVERN, was summoned for having kept a dog without a license on August 12th. Defendant said the dog belonged to a man from West Bromwich, who left it with him. Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
FULLBROOK TAVERN, West Bromwich Road. £1 0s 2d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/5/1925

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Monday, before a full Bench.....

The justices also confirmed the removal of the ROEBUCK INN, Upper Rushall Street, to premises about to be erected at the junction of the new ring road and Westbromwich Road. The Hon. Sir Reginald Coventry, who made the application, pointed out that Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers were giving up the ROEBUCK INN without compensation, and were also giving up the FULLBROOK INN in West Bromwich Road, which would enable the road widening to be carried out.”

GAS FITTERS ARMS

Stafford Street / Whitehouse Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Smallwood [1869]

NOTES

Walsall Free Press 18/1/1868 - Advert

“To Be Let, a first-class Beer House, the GAS FITTERS ARMS, situated in Stafford Street, Walsall.
Apply to Mr. E. Neale 24, Digbeth, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/3/1869 - Advert

“Capital Freehold Public House, the GAS FITTERS ARMS, and other Property, in Stafford Street, and Whitehouse Street, Walsall.

Messrs. Farrington and Son are instructed by the trustees of the late Mr. E. Glover, to Offer by Auction, at the OLD STILL INN, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 6th day of March, 1869, at six for seven o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at time of sale.

Lot 1. All that substantially built Freehold old-established Public-House, known as the GAS FITTERS ARMS, most eligibly situated at the corner of Stafford and Whitehouse streets, and occupied by Mr. *Smallwood*. The house contains a capital bar, parlour, taproom fitted with screens, small parlour, capital kitchen, two good cellars with entrance into yard, a capital lodge-room about 20 yards long, three good bedrooms, a malt-room, brewery, yard, good stable for four horses, and gig shed, with pair of gates leading to Whitehouse Street (the whole in a good state of repair), and other out-offices; together with the House adjoining, fronting to

Stafford Street, in the occupation of Mr. Newton, shoemaker, with the brewhouse and workshop over.....”

GATE

Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Edward Allblaster [1818]

GENERAL HILL

Blue Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Humphreys [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

GEORGE

119, (48), High Street / Elmore Row, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Michael Partridge
Fanny Partridge, widow, Bloxwich
Thomas Partridge, book keeper, Bloxwich
Showells Brewery Ltd. [1904]
Ind Coope and Allsopp (leased from 29th June 1935)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)
Punch Taverns [2005]

LICENSEES

Mrs. R Lloyd [1830]
Thomas Partridge [1849] – [1850]
Michael Partridge [1851] – [1857]
Mrs. Fanny Partridge [1858] – [1870]
George Thraves [1871] – [1872];
Thomas Morris [];
Thomas Parker [1880];
John Madden [];

Mrs. Jane Parker [1881] – 1890);
Herbert Tuckley (1890 – 189_);
William Henry Riley (189_ – 1894); [1891], [1892]
Samuel Morris Page (1894 – 1898);
Richard Whittingham Lloyd (1898 – 1900);
Robert Lane (1900 – 1904);
John Dilks (1904 – 1908);
George Heafield (1908 – 1910);
John Thomas Parry (1910 – 1911);
Richard Lane (1911 – 1920);
William Harley Francis (1920 – 1924);
Thomas Jones (1924 – 1930);
William Henry Nicholls (1930 – 1931);
John Walker (1931 – 1952);
Herbert Edward Coleman (1952 – 1955);
Maurice Herbert Tavinor (1955 – 1957);
Charles Peart (1957 – 1966);
Barry John Hadland (1966 – 1967);
Joseph Edwards (1967 – []

NOTES

48, High Street [1871]
119, High Street [1881], [1891], [1908], [1911], [1932], [1939], [1940]

GEORGE HOTEL [1830]
ROYAL GEORGE [1872], [1880]
GEORGE'S BAR [2001], [2005]

[1828]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/7/1849

“Oddfellowship. On Monday the George Miners Loyal Lodge, No.17 (W.U.) held their annual festival at the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich, their much respected house having provided ample provisions on the occasion, including every delicacy the season afforded. The guests did ample justice to the various joints and boiled, underneath the weight of which the tables groaned.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/9/1850 - Deaths

“September 19, aged 70 years, Mr. *Thomas Partridge*, of the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich.”

1851 Census

Bloxwich – GEORGE INN

- [1] *Michael Partridge* (45), victualler and awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Fanny Partridge* (30), wife, born Landewood, Staffordshire;
- [3] Mrs. Causer (66), lodger, born, Armatage, Staffordshire;
- [4] William Carrington (16), lodger, journeyman awl maker, born Bloxwich;
- [5] John Solyeville (36), lodger, brewer of ale, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Eliza Baker (16), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Ann Partridge (68), widow, mother, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/4/1851 - Deaths

“On the 22nd instant, Ann, relict of the late Mr. *Thomas Partridge*, of the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich, aged 67.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/12/1857

“Edward Marshall, miner, Elijah Arrowsmith, miner, and Samuel Wooldridge, smith, the three men charged with the garottte robbery at Bloxwich on Saturday night last, reported in yesterday's Post, were brought up at the Guildhall on that day for examination. Mr. Walker, from Mr. Duignan's office, appeared on behalf of the prisoners. Mr. William Wiggan, an elderly man, of beerified aspect, stated that on Saturday morning last, between six and seven, he saw the prisoner Marshall in the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich, and had some drink with him. He passed the whole of that day in drinking and sleeping and sleeping and drinking, and at about twenty-minutes past ten set out for home. When against the church three men, one of whom was Marshall, came up to him. Marshall choked him by putting his arm round his neck, and one of the other two, neither of whom he recognised, drew about 30s out of the breast pocket of his coat, and made off with it. Police-constable Hughes deposed that a little after ten on the same night he saw the prisoners, Marshall and Wooldridge, together near the GEORGE INN. Marshall spoke to him and asked how he did. He complained of a cold and a sore throat, and Marshall

said that if he came to his house in the morning he would give him something that would cure him. He (Hughes,) saw the two men together sometime afterwards. Mr. Cater asked the Bench to remand the prisoners that he might procure the attendance of a material witness, who declined to come unless summoned. Mr. Walker objected to the detention of Arrowsmith and Wooldridge, and eventually they were discharged, and Marshall remanded for a week, but admitted to bail in one surety of £50.”

Walsall Free Press 19/12/1857

“Edward Marshall, the man remanded from the previous Wednesday on a charge of garrotting and robbing a labourer named Wiggan on the night of Saturday, the 5th instant, at Bloxwich, as again placed at the bar. Mr. Wilkinson appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Walker retained for the defence. The witnesses examined on the previous occasion recapitulated their evidence, the following additional testimony was adduced.

Fanny, wife of *Michael Partridge*, landlord of the GEORGE Public-house, Bloxwich, said Wiggan went to her house about half-past seven o’clock on the morning of the 5th instant. The prisoner was also there. They were drinking together. About ten o’clock in the morning Wiggan went into the stable to lie down, and Marshall went with him. She did not see anything more of Wiggan till late in the evening, when he went and had sixpennyworth of brandy, and being rather intoxicated she asked him if he had all his money right, when he took twenty-five shillings out of his pocket, and after showing it to her returned it to his pocket. She had known the prisoner for seven years, and he had the reputation of being an honest sober man. Marshall was in the house when the money was counted. In reply to Mr. Wilkinson witness stated that she had never said to anybody that she wished the money counted because she had suspicion of Marshall. *Michael Partridge* was next examined and corroborated the evidence given by his wife, in addition to which he said Wiggan had told him that Marshall attempted to pick his pocket while he lay in the stable. Charles Somerfield said he was standing near Mr. Stanley’s shop about ten o’clock on the night in question. The lights in the shop rendered any object quite visible. He saw two men in the road, and one of them threw the other down and then ran away. He followed him and said to him, ‘I know you Neil.’ He thought it was the prisoner by his dress, but could not swear it was the prisoner. Marshall went to him on the following day and asked him if he had told anyone about him robbing a man last night, and he said he had not. He then told him to say nothing about it, and he promised if he was had up he would not say any more about it than he could help. A boy named Lovett deposed that he was passing Mr. Stanley’s shop about ten o’clock on the night in question, and saw a man kneeling upon Wiggan. The prisoner was the man kneeling upon Wiggan. Police-constable Hughes knew the prisoner well, and saw him in company with another man immediately after he heard of the robbery. They were standing near the GEORGE Public-house. *Partridge* had told him that Wiggan was followed out of house by three men, but he declined to mention their names. This closed the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Walker then addressed the Bench on behalf of the prisoner, grounding his defence upon mistaken identity. Witnesses were then called in support of the prisoner’s innocence. Samuel Wooldridge said he was with the prisoner on the night in question. They left the GEORGE Public-house about nine o’clock and went to the BLUE PIG INN, where they remained till near eleven o’clock; and during this time Marshall had not been out of his company. He bore a good character. This witness equivocated so much in giving his evidence, that the Bench did not think there was any reliance to be placed upon it. William Slater, a blacksmith at Bloxwich, was at the BLUE PIG from nine till eleven o’clock on the night in question but he did not recollect seeing Marshall there, although he was in Wooldridge’s company the whole time. The depositions having been read over to the prisoner, the Bench, after a brief consultation expressed their opinion of his guilt, and committed him for trial at the next Quarter Sessions. Another charge was then brought against the prisoner of having, on the 6th of September, committed a similar robbery near the church at Bloxwich, upon man named Henry Clarke, from whom he took 17s 8d. The prosecutor in this case did not appear. Mr. Walker expressed his opinion that this was a case got up to influence the former charge. The investigation occupied the attention of the court for upwards of four hours.”

[At the Staffordshire Lent Assizes (March 1858), Edward Marshall was found guilty and sentenced to nine months’ imprisonment.]

Walsall Free Press 17/4/1858

“About a quarter to seven o’clock, on Saturday evening last, as Samuel Beck, baker, with Mr. John Beck, Stafford Street, was commencing from Bloxwich with a spring cart, the horse when near the KINGS ARMS public-house became unmanageable and galloping off ran over and killed a little boy, nine years old, named John Thomas, son of John Thomas, collier, Bloxwich. On the afternoon of Monday last, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, held an inquest upon the body at the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich, at which Alfred Cox, Henry Cooke, and Henry Challengwath, all of whom witnessed the accident, and from whose evidence it appeared that Beck, who had neither whip nor tick, was doing all he could to check the speed of the horse, which appeared to be restive and unmanageable, and that had deceased not ran in front of the horse the accident would not have occurred. Charles Somerville, medical practitioner, by whom the child had been attended, spoke to the nature of the wounds and the extent of the injury, and stated that when he first saw the child he thought it could not survive. Mr. W. H. Duignan, who watched the proceedings on behalf of Mr. Beck, said the driver of the cart was present, and was prepared to make a statement. Samuel Beck was called, and having been duly cautioned by the coroner, made the following statement: ‘I am in the employ of Mr. Beck, baker, Stafford Street, Walsall. I ran over deceased about a quarter to seven o’clock on Saturday evening. I was at the time driving from Bloxwich to Walsall. When about twenty yards from the KINGS ARMS INN, Bloxwich, the horse whisked his tail over the reins, and after kicking a short while started off at a gallop. I did all I could to check his pace, and succeeded in doing so before coming to the place where the accident occurred. Had the deceased not darted in front of the horse the accident would not have taken place; but he was no sooner out of the groupe than he was under the horse. I was perfectly sober at the time; and the reason I did not stop to attend to the child was that I saw there were plenty of people to attend to it, and I did not think at the time it was so seriously injured; besides, a man named Cooke was using very abusive language to me, and as I was perfectly aware that my address was known should I be required, I thought I was better off not to cause any disturbance by waiting, so I drove off.’

The coroner, having briefly addressed the jury upon the evidence adduced and the law of the case, they retired, and after consulting together for three quarters of an hour, returned a verdict of Accidental Death, but requested the coroner to censure the driver of the cart for his apparent want of feeling in not waiting to see deceased properly attended to. 'It is the opinion of the jury,' said the coroner, 'that you should render the parents of the deceased, who are in very straitened circumstances, some pecuniary relief, but perhaps the foreman will himself express the opinion of the jury on this point.' Mr. Beck (owner of the cart) here stated that he had, on learning the particulars of the case, sent the parents £1 10s. The jury expressed their approval of Mr. Beck's conduct, and the court was dismissed."

1861 Census

High Street – GEORGE INN

[1] *Fanny Partridge* (45), unmarried, victualler, born Cannock;

[2] Betsy Benton (24), niece, barmaid, born Cannock;

[3] Fanny Benton (18), niece, servant, born Cannock;

[4] Harriet Hales (23), domestic servant, born Penkridge;

[5] Joseph Crutchley (39), brother, coal miner, born Cannock:

[Was Fanny really a widow? Her brother's surname is different, and Directories list her as Mrs.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/1/1862

"Jeremiah Crutchley, a respectably dressed man, was summoned for assaulting Daniel Wilkes. The two, with others, were drinking at the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich, on the previous Thursday, and were earnestly engaged in settling the dispute with America. Opinions differed, and personal animosity was kindled by political differences. The defendant was accused of being a Chartist, which he repudiated in a very vehement manner. Blows followed, but no serious damage was done, and the magistrates after a patient hearing, dismissed the case."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/5/1862

"At the Guildhall, Walsall, yesterday, Jeremiah Crutchley was fined 2s 6d and costs, for having on the evening of Wednesday last, assaulted George Cox, in the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 23/11/1867

"A novice will walk Young Waddy of Bloxwich from one up to seven miles, or any other novice of the same place, for £5 or £10 a side, and will be at the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich, this (Saturday) evening, from eight to ten o'clock to make a match."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/4/1869 - Advert

"Lost, at Bloxwich, a Gray Mare Pony, about 16 hands high. Two broken knees.

Whoever return the same to the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich, will be Rewarded."

Fanny Partridge retired to 49, High Street. [1871]

1871 Census

48, High Street

[1] *George Thraves* (57), innkeeper, born Ratcliff, Nottinghamshire;

[2] Fanny Thraves (46), wife, born Edwinstowe, Nottinghamshire;

[3] Mary E. Thraves (15), daughter, born Eccleshall, Staffordshire;

[4] Arthur Thraves (14), son, scholar, born Ratcliff on Trent, Nottinghamshire;

[5] Alice Thraves (11), daughter, scholar, born Edwinstowe, Nottinghamshire;

[6] George W. Thraves (7), son, scholar, born Eccleshall, Staffordshire;

[7] Ernest H. Thraves (4), son, scholar, born Eccleshall, Staffordshire;

[8] Sarah A. Craddock (21), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Thomas Parker was also a stirrup maker. [1880]

1881 Census

119, High Street

[1] *Jane Parker* (41), widow, licensed victualler, born Bilston;

[2] William Parker (7), son, scholar, born Bilston;

[3] Cecilia Parker (6), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;

[4] Rebecca Parker (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] Eliza Parker (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[6] James Hanton (21), barman, born Wednesbury;

[7] Fanny Ball (14), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Evening Star 3/2/1882

"On Wednesday, M. J. Crump (deputy coroner), held an inquest at the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich, upon the body of Phoebe Rosannah Bryan (3), the daughter of Thomas and Rosannah Bryan, of Church Street, Bloxwich.

The evidence showed that on the 26th ultimo, the mother went upstairs, leaving the child in the kitchen. She soon afterwards heard screams and immediately running into the kitchen she found the child's clothes in flames, which she extinguished, and sent for Dr. Somerville and Mr. Palmer, who attended the deceased until her death on the 28th ultimo. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1891 Census

119, High Street

[1] *William H. Riley* (44), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Sarah Riley (38), wife, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;

[3] Harry Riley (12), son, scholar, born Pelsall;

[4] Thomas Riley (9), son, scholar, born Pelsall;

[5] Florence Riley (7), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;

[6] William Riley (1), son, born Pelsall;

[7] Fanny Baugh (15), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;

[8] Eliza Hathersmith (13), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 2/11/1892

"Mr. H. H. Jackson, solicitor, applied for a music license to be granted to *William Riley*, of the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich, the time being from seven till nine o'clock on Mondays and Wednesdays. Mr. Jackson explained that the applicant had a large club room, the use of which he had granted to the Victoria Brass Band for their practices.

The Chief-constable said that the band, until recently possessed an excellent room for their practices off licensed premises. He saw no reason for them going on licensed premises now.

Mr. Jackson intimated that there was a good reason for leaving.

The application was refused. Mr. Lindop remarking that the band might get the use of the Board schools."

Walsall Observer 16/6/1900

"On Sunday morning Sarah Ann Walker (67), widow, who lived with two married daughters at Elmore Green, Bloxwich, was found in a dying state in a coppice known as Dales Wood, Bentley. The statement made at the time was that about half past nine on Sunday morning a man named Daniel Poole was on his land looking after some cattle which had strayed, when he discovered deceased, who was in a shocking plight, her wrists and face being badly bruised, and her clothing saturated with blood. Knowing the woman he called her by name, and she opened her eyes and said she was very ill, and that she had been lying in the wood all night. Assistance was obtained from a cottage near by, but deceased rapidly sank, and died very shortly afterwards.

At the Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, a man named Jabez Pugh (28), a miner, of Field Street, Bloxwich, was charged with causing the death of the deceased.

Inspector Oakden said that about midnight on Sunday he arrested prisoner on suspicion of having caused the woman's death, and told him that he was the last person seen in her company. Prisoner replied, 'Yes.' Witness applied for a week's remand, which was granted.

The inquest was held on Wednesday morning, at the WHITE LION, Short Heath, by the County Coroner (Mr. T. A. Stokes), the accused Jabez Pugh being present, and was represented by Mr. A. J. Glover.

Mary Ann Beddow, 19, Elmore Green, Bloxwich, said that the deceased was her mother, and lived with her. Her mother was the widow of John Walker, farm labourer, of Bloxwich. She last saw her mother alive at 10.45pm on Saturday, when she went out of the house with a small whisky bottle. Witness saw Jabez Pugh on that night at about 10.30pm in the passage to the BULLS HEAD INN, which was a short distance from her house. The prisoner paid for a pint of ale at the BULLS HEAD for witness, her mother, and her niece. He also paid for some drink for witness and her mother at the GEORGE INN. They left him in the GEORGE, and went home, and immediately after they got in her mother went out without saying anything as to where she was going. Prisoner was dressed in uniform when they met him. In consequence of what she was told, she went to a small wood at Bentley on Sunday morning, and found her mother there dead.

Joseph Beddow, husband of the last witness, said that on Saturday last, at twenty-five minutes to eleven, Mrs. Walker went out. Witness heard Pugh call her to go and have a drink. Prisoner's wife was ill, and he (prisoner) asked deceased to visit her, but she refused, and he then asked her to go and have a glass. They started over towards the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN. She did not come back that night, and, when he saw her on Sunday morning in the wood near Bentley, she was just dying. She was bleeding when he saw her.

John Smith, landlord of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, said that about five minutes to eleven, the deceased came to his house. Witness's wife served her with some whisky. She was quite sober at the time, and was alone.

Fanny Hawley, Front Lane, Short Heath, said that on Saturday night, between twenty minutes and a quarter to eleven, she was walking in the direction of Bloxwich Railway Station with a young man, named John Jarvis. Witness saw Mrs. Walker, and a man in uniform with her, going in the direction of Bentley, where deceased was found.

Daniel Poole, Front Lane, Short Heath, said that on Sunday morning he was in his garden about 9am, when he saw something lying in a wood, about 40 yards away. He went down, and found the deceased (Sarah Ann Walker). Witness spoke to her, and she opened her eyes and said, 'I am very bad, Dan'. The wind blew deceased's bonnet aside, and showed him that she had a blackened eye. Witness asked her if she had been quarrelling with her daughter or anybody, and she said, 'No'. Witness then asked her what brought her with a black eye, and she replied, 'I have tumbled down, Dan'. Deceased said that she would like a cup of tea, and witness went to get one. On going back he saw a young woman, named Elizabeth Anson, and told her that Mrs. Walker was lying down and wanted some tea. They went back to the deceased together and tried to lift her up, but she refused to rise. A

man who came up said that he would go to Bloxwich and tell Mrs. Beddow, and witness then went back home, not thinking that deceased was in such a dangerous condition. He saw no marks except the black eye. There was a footpath through the coppice, used by workmen as a short cut. The deceased was lying across the footpath, which was about 200 yards from the turnpike road. In answer to Mr. Glover, witness said that deceased made no complaint about anyone, and he saw no blood anywhere. Deceased was quite sensible when she spoke to him. Witness had never seen deceased drunk, but he knew that she was given to drinking. Hannah Gosling, living at Beechdale Cottage, on the canal side, said that on Sunday morning she went into the coppice at the bottom of her house. Daniel Poole and Elizabeth Anson told her about Sarah Walker being in the coppice, and witness took her a cup of tea, and saw that her eye was discoloured and the bridge of her nose disfigured. Witness asked deceased what brought her there, and she said she did not know. Witness asked if she had been quarrelling with anyone at home, as she frequently did, but she replied that she had not. Witness asked her how long she had been there, and she said she had been there all night. Witness then asked her how she came there, and she said she had been brought there, but she did not know who by. Witness lifted her up, and she died with her head on witness's knee. Witness saw her about ten o'clock, and at 10 minutes to 11 she died. Her clothing and boots were saturated with blood, and her wrist was frightfully blackened.

Police-constable Dodge (256), of the County Police, stationed at Short Heath, said that on Sunday morning, from information he had received, he went down to the coppice at Bentley at 10.55am. The woman was dead when he arrived, and he removed the body to the WHITE LION. He examined the body and found that the face and wrists were discoloured, and her clothes were saturated in blood. The place where she was found was about a mile from where she lived. On information received he went to the coppice again on the morning of the inquest, and found marks of a severe struggle having taken place about 200 yards from where the body was found. He had been given a flask containing some whisky which was found there, and there were marks showing that a man had knelt.

John Smith, of the THATCHED HOUSE, identified the flask as one that the deceased brought to his house on the Saturday night. The officer, continuing, said deceased appeared to have struggled towards the cottage where she once lived, as she was found at a distance of only 50 yards from the cottage while the marks of the struggle were 240 yards away.

Ernest Dodge, son of the last witness, said that he found the flask about 250 yards away from where the woman was found. He found it at about 8.30 on Tuesday night. He also saw signs of a struggle.

Jabez Pugh, collier, in the employment of the Springhill Colliery, Essington, having been duly cautioned, said that on Saturday night he was in uniform. He saw Mrs. Walker about 9.30pm on the Saturday night, when she was in the BULLS HEAD INN. He treated her to a glass of whisky, and had a pint of ale himself. She went out, leaving him drinking with another man. Later on he saw her in the GEORGE, where he had a pint of ale, and she had some more whisky, and, then she went away again. He did not go and call Mrs. Walker out on that night, and he did not ask her to go and have another drink with him. He saw her outside her house, but he did not walk off with her towards the THATCHED HOUSE. He was not walking in the direction of Bentley with her at about a quarter to eleven, and the last occasion on which he saw her was when she was leaning against her door shouting just before eleven. He had not asked Mrs. Walker to attend to his wife, as he had got one woman who was doing that work. There was a route march in the afternoon and there were a lot of the volunteers in uniform about the town. There were also militiamen about. He reached home at 12 o'clock, and between 11 and 12 he was walking about. The BULLS HEAD was about half a mile from his house, and going home he met several people he knew, but spoke to no one. The blood on the white cuff of his tunic was caused by his nose bleeding outside the GEORGE. The shoulder strap which was torn had been unstitched for some time, and the belt hook which was missing had been lost for months. With regard to the dirt on the trousers he had no idea how they got in such a state. There was also blood on his belt, but that got on from his nose at the same time as the other did on the cuff. The torn bayonet frog which was produced was an old one, and the one he wore on Saturday was in his house somewhere. Both himself and Mrs. Walker were sober. When he got home he spoke to no one except his wife. There was not a woman named Allen in the house when he reached home at twelve.

Eliza Allen, Field Street, Bloxwich, said that she was a near neighbour of Pugh's, and had known him for some time. She was in and out of Pugh's house all Saturday night, and the last time she went there was at twenty minutes to two in the morning. Witness left the house at two o'clock, and Pugh had not arrived at that time. Witness was absolutely certain on that point. There was no one in the house except Mrs. Pugh, who locked the door when witness left for the last time.

Dr. J. T. Hartill, MRCS, LRCP, police surgeon, in practice in Willenhall, said that he had made a post mortem examination on the body of the deceased on Tuesday, and found recent bruises and abrasions on both knees. The clothing worn by the woman was saturated with blood, and the external injuries would not account for the saturation. He attributed death to collapse and shock, due to rupture of the liver, injury to the kidneys, and effusion of blood into the peritoneum. He was further of the opinion that these conditions were brought about by violence, and that not long before her death the woman passed some bloody fluid from the right kidney. It seemed to be impossible that three conditions, namely, a rupture of the liver, a bruised kidney, with blood in considerable quantity in the cavity of the abdomen, could be present in combination except as the result of external violence. He would describe the woman as being unhealthy, although possessed of a strongly built frame. It would have needed considerable violence to have caused the symptoms found. A person might live for twenty four hours after the injuries. He thought that the bruises on the face and knees were the result of a fall. The blood on Pugh's tunic &c, might have been caused in the manner stated by him.

Thomas Oakden, inspector of police at Willenhall, said that on Sunday afternoon he saw the body of the deceased and called in Dr. Hartill. About 11.30 that night, witness, assisted by Inspector Marshall, (Walsall Police), arrested prisoner at his own house, from whence he was taken to Bloxwich Police Station. Prisoner, on being told that he was arrested for being the last person who was seen with deceased, answered, 'Yes'. Prisoner seemed quite cool and collected. Witness took possession of prisoner's uniform, the trousers were covered with dirt, the belt hook on the tunic was lost, and the shoulder strap torn partly off. Afterwards he found the damaged bayonet frog between the bed and the mattress. The distance from deceased's house to the wood was about a mile. Inspector Marshall, of the Walsall Police, in charge of the Police Station at Bloxwich, said that he went with the last witness to Pugh's house, and found the belt at the bottom of the steps leading into the cellar.

Sergeant Eaton, sergeant instructor to E Company of Bloxwich Volunteers said that Jabez Pugh was a member of that Corps, and that on Saturday there was a parade. Pugh was present, and was dressed in the clothes produced. Witness dismissed them about 6pm. Witness said that he would have noticed the shoulder strap had it been torn on parade. Witness did not know of anyone who had two frogs, but Pugh might have had two. At 9 o'clock on Saturday night witness thought that there might have been about 30 volunteers in uniform at the BULLS HEAD.

In answer to Mr. Glover, witness said that although there was no close examination he was sure that he would have noticed the tunic if it had been torn. Prisoner had been in the Volunteers for 10 years, and witness for two, so that it was possible to have had two of the frogs without witness knowing.

The Coroner having summed up, the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder by some person or persons unknown.”
[Pugh was found not guilty at Stafford Assizes.]

1901 Census

119, High Street

[1] *Robert Lane* (41), licensed victualler, born Dawley, Shropshire;

[2] *Harriet Lane* (39), wife, born Madeley, Shropshire;

[3] *Martha P. Lane* (20), daughter, born Pelsall;

[4] *Enoch Lane* (15), son, coal miner, born Pelsall;

[5] *William Lane* (13), son, born Pelsall;

[6] *Eliza Lane* (11), daughter, born Pelsall;

[7] *Maggie Lane* (8), daughter, born Pelsall;

[8] *Sidney Lane* (4), son, born Pelsall;

[9] *Eliza Lloyd* (77), mother in law, widow, born Horseley, Shropshire:

Walsall Advertiser 14/1/1905

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... Mr. *John Dilks*, GEORGE HOTEL, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/5/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich.....”

1911 Census

119, High Street

[1] *John Thomas Parry* (49), hotel manager, born Netherton;

[2] *Agnes Parry* (50), wife, married 9 years, hotel manager, born Birmingham;

[3] *Marion Parry* (7), daughter, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/2/1914

“A Bloxwich boy of 15 was charged with stealing 4d and a counterfeit five-shilling piece, the money of *Richard Lane*, licensee of the GEORGE INN, Bloxwich, on the 20th inst. The evidence showed that prosecutor had missed money from the till of the outdoor department for some time, and three pennies and a counterfeit five-shilling piece were marked and placed with two unmarked halfpennies in the drawer. Police-constable Smith, who was concealed in an adjoining room, kept watch through a hole under the latch and saw the lad enter and raise the small window quietly. He then looked round to see if there was anyone in the bar, and, raising himself on to the counter, leaned over and drew out the till. The constable entered and stood behind him, when he got down with three pennies and a halfpenny in his hand. The other halfpenny and the crown he produced from his pocket at the police station. He was put on probation for six months.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
GEORGE INN, Bloxwich. £1 8s 7d.”

Richard Lane – see also BEACON WAY.

Walsall Observer 5/1/1924

“In connection with the ‘Duke of York’ Lodge of the RAOB, a dinner was held on Wednesday evening at the GEORGE INN, High Street, Bloxwich. There was a large gathering of members and friends, presided over by Mr. J. A. Dain.....”

Walsall Observer 2/8/1924

“.....When Mr. Cooper applied for sanction of plans to alterations to the GEORGE INN, High Street, Bloxwich, he said that redecoration and renewals were being carried out and the architect was anxious that various structural alterations should be carried out at the same time. This was why the application was being made at the transfer sessions and not at the annual licensing meeting.

Mr. Phillips said the magistrates had visited the premises and they had anticipated that Mr. Cooper would say that the architect

was very shocked at the state of affairs there. 'We are not at all satisfied with the place', added the presiding magistrate. 'It is filthy dirty and the living accommodation is absolutely unsatisfactory. We cannot grant the application for alterations as they exist now.'

Mr. Cooper said a considerable part of the proposed alterations consisted of improving the living accommodation for the tenant.

Mr. Phillips: The alterations set out in these plans will not satisfy us. We shall expect a further set of plans to be submitted, and if the architect consults the clerk to the justices, who knows our wishes, he will have something to go on.

Mr. Loxton (magistrates' clerk): If you are going to do anything at the house, make a good job of it."

Walsall Observer 20/9/1924

"A violent scene in a public house was described to the magistrates at Walsall Police Court yesterday, when Joseph Lines, 103, Church Street, Bloxwich, was summoned for assaulting Joseph Green, furnaceman, 7, Green Lane, Leamore.

Mr. Frank Cooper, for Green, stated that defendant, who had been adjudged the father of a child of complainant's daughter, met complainant in the TURKS HEAD, Digbeth, on Wednesday evening September 10th and invited him to the GEORGE HOTEL.

While they were there, defendant suddenly turned round and struck complainant two vicious blows on the face, also kicking him when he fell down. Complainant bore out this statement, and in cross-examination by Mr. A. V. Haden, who defended, said the only explanation he could give for the defendant's attitude was that he (complainant) had forbidden him his house. He denied that he was drunk and in a quarrelsome mood.

Defendant was fined 20s."

Walsall Observer 18/10/1924

".....At a session the previous day, the justices also approved plans in respect of the GEORGE HOTEL, Bloxwich."

It was modernised in 1936.

1939 Register

119, High Street – GEORGE INN (2 of 4)

[1] *John Walker*, date of birth 9/4/1904, milling machine operator, married;

[2] *Elizabeth Walker*, dob 24/12/1907, licensed house manageress, married;

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

GEORGE INN, Bloxwich. £1 6s 9d."

[2011]

Closed

It became a shop. [2012]

GEORGE

Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Francis Woolley [1835]

NOTES

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 5/5/1828 - Notice

"Notice is hereby given, that the Assignees of the estate and effects of George Fox, late of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Victualler, who was lately discharged from his Majesty's gaol in and for the county of Stafford, under and the virtue of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the first year of the reign of his present Majesty, entitled 'An Act for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors in England,' will, on Tuesday the third day of June next, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, attend the GEORGE INN, situate in Park Street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, to declare the amount of balance in hand, and make a dividend out of the same among the creditors of the said insolvent, or any of his creditors, object to any debt or debts mentioned in the said schedule,

such objections are at the same time and place to be made.”

GEORGE HOTEL

1, Digbeth / St. Pauls Place, Bridge Place, The Bridge, WALSALL

OWNERS

Francis W. Yates, farmer, Great Barr
Ansell Ltd. (leased)
Walsall Corporation (acquired in 1927 for £20,800)

LICENSEES

Thomas Fletcher (1781 – [1791])
Richard Moore Fletcher [1813] – [1851]
George Moore Fletcher [1851]
Thomas Furnell [1858] – [1873];
George Westbrook [1872] manager
Hugh Vallance [1880] – [1885];
Thomas Eady [1890] – [1891];
Arthur Claridge [] – 189_); [1893]
Henry Burton Berry [1895] (189_ – 1899);
Miss Alice Clifford (1899 – 1906); manager
William John Lee (1906 – 1910);
Max Otto Meinhardt (1910 – 1911);
Hugh Munro Johnston (1911 – 1919);
Harry Hall (1919 – 1922);
Winnie Wordsworth Caroline Headley (1922 – 1933);
Thomas Crawford Gordon (1933 – 1938);
Patrick Frederick William Donohoe (1938 – 1951);
Robert Crabtree (1951 – 1952);
Stanley McEwan (1952 – 1961);
Cyril Edward Mitchell (1961 – 1965);
Terence John Yeadon (1965 – 1966);
William Laidler Edgar (1966 – [])

NOTES

St. Pauls Place [1834]
New Street [1850]
Bridge Place [1851]
1, Digbeth [1858]
The Bridge [1860]

GEORGE INN AND HOTEL [1818]
GEORGE AND COMMERCIAL HOTEL [1864], [1865]

Thomas Fletcher, innholder, Walsall. [1791]

Richard Fletcher, GEORGE HOTEL, Posting House, Travellers Inn and Coach Office, Digbeth. [1813]

[The History and Directory of Walsall by Thomas Pearce 1813](#)

“At the GEORGE INN and Hotel, kept by Mr. *Richard Moore Fletcher*, is a very spacious Assembly Room which was erected in 1793, and is fitted up with three beautiful cut-glass chandeliers, and an orchestra for musicians, and will admit fifty couples to dance without inconvenience.”

Coaching house [1818]
Commercial and posting house [1835], [1841], [1842]

Posting and commercial hotel [1845], [1851]
Commercial and Family Hotel and Posting House. [1845]
Posting house [1828], [1849], [1850]
Family and commercial hotel. [1872], [1896]
Commercial [1904]
First Class Family and Commercial Hotel [1916], [1921]

It was established in 1781 by *Thomas Fletcher*.

It had a spacious Assembly Room erected in 1793, fitted with three beautiful cut glass chandeliers and an orchestra was in attendance and 50 couples could dance “without inconvenience”.

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/9/1795 - Advert

“Coal And Ironstone.

To be Sold to the Highest Bidder, on Friday the 25th of September, at the GEORGE INN, in Walsall, between the hours of Three and Five in the Afternoon; subject to such Conditions as will be then and there produced.

All the Valuable Mines and Veins of Coal and Ironstone, under 24 Acres of Land, situate and being near Prince’s End, in the Parish of Tipton, in the county of Stafford, and now in the occupation of William Baker and his Under-tenants.

These Mines lie extremely well for market, being only Nine Miles from Birmingham, Two from Dudley and Bilston, and Four from Wolverhampton; and near several Iron Foundries.

The Birmingham Canal passes through the Centre of the Land; and the Coal Mine, it is supposed, is upwards of 10 yards thick. For further Particulars apply to Mr. Wilson, Attorney in Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/1/1805 - Advert

“The True Briton, A New Post Coach, From the Shakespeare Hotel, Newcastle-under-Lyme,

Sets off from that place every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday, at one o’clock at Noon, through Stone, Stafford, Walsall, Birmingham, &c. – Returns, and sets off, at the Same Hour, from the Shakespeare every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, through Congleton, Wilmslow, Cheadle, Manchester, and for all parts of the North.

Passengers and Parcels booked at the following places viz. Castle Inn, Birmingham; GEORGE, Walsall; Nag’s Head, Stafford; Shakespeare, Newcastle; Bull’s Head, Congleton; and Star Inn, Manchester.

Performed by C. Fielding & Co.”

Birmingham Chronicle 29/11/1821

“The Duke of Wellington changed horses at the GEORGE INN, Walsall, on his road to Teddesley, and was most enthusiastically greeted by a considerable number of the most respectable inhabitants of that town, who had purposefully assembled. His Grace was addressed by the mayor, who expressed the high gratification which his townspeople felt at the moment in witnessing one who had achieved so splendid a part in the deliverance of Europe, about to become the guest of their much valued Representative; and that day on which his grace travelled, alone prevented them from offering him more signal demonstrations of respect. The Duke, in a suitable reply, politely acknowledged his obligations for the manner in which he had been received.”

A coach to London left from here every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. [1822]

A coach to Liverpool left from here every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. [1822]

Pillars (from Fisherwick Hall) were added to the frontage in 1823.

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/9/1825 - Advert

“Walsall Races.....

Ordinary on Wednesday at the GEORGE HOTEL; on Thursday at the DRAGON; and Ball at the GEORGE HOTEL.

Cocking in the Cock Pit, at the NEW INN, Park Street.

Performances at the Theatre every night as usual.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 1/10/1827 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction (pursuant to a Decree and subsequent Order of the High Court of Chancery made in the cause of Woolley and others versus Gordon Perk and others, with the approbation of William Wingfield, Esq, one of the Masters of the said Court), at the house of *Richard Moore Fletcher*, the GEORGE INN, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on Wednesday next, the 3rd day of October, at twelve o’clock noon. Freehold and Leasehold Tenements and Building land, Commercial Inn, extensive Manufactory, and Premises, situate in the town of Walsall; also upwards of 110 Acres of Accommodation Land, with the Mines and Minerals thereunder, and the Houses and Farm Buildings thereon, near Walsall aforesaid, and in Rushall and Bloxwich; also Houses and Garden Ground at Bescot, and Houses and Building land at Wednesbury, all in the county of Stafford, late the property of Charles Perks, deceased.....”

The Royal Mail coach to Bristol and Bath, through Birmingham, Worcester, Gloucester and Newport, left from here every evening at half past 6. [1828]

The Despatch coach to Chester, through Newport, Turnhill, Whitchurch, Barnhall and Malpas, left from here every day (except

Sunday) at 12. [1828]

The Aurora coach to Liverpool, left from here every morning at 10. [1828]

The Magnet coach to Liverpool, through Stafford, Stone and Newcastle, left from here every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday night at 10. [1828]

The Royal Mail coach to London, through Coventry, Dunchurch, Daventry, Stoney Stratford, Dunstable and St. Albans, left from here every afternoon at 4. [1828]

The Aurora coach to London, through Birmingham, Stratford, Shipstone, Oxford, Henley on Thames, and High Wickham (sic), left from here every morning at 5. [1828]

The Despatch coach to London, on same route as Royal Mail, left from here every evening (except Sunday) at 5. [1828]

The Magnet coach to London, on same route as Royal Mail, left from here every Monday, Wednesday and Friday evening at a quarter to 5. [1828]

The Royal Mail coach to Manchester left from here every morning at 7. [1828]

The Royal Mail coach to Sheffield and Leeds, through Lichfield, Burton, Derby, Alfreton, and Chesterfield, left from here every morning at 6. [1828]

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

“The GEORGE and the STORK were both posting houses. There were 106 coach and posting horses in the stables at the GEORGE and at various times the following coaches passed through daily – the Red Rover, the Railway, the Albion, Crown Prince, Aurora, Magnet, Times Mail, the Gloucester Mail, Tantivy, the Hollyhead, Standard Pearl, Rapid, York House, and the ‘Lazy’ Liverpool; the latter so called because it was a slow heavy coach carrying passengers at a cheap fare, it was often crowded with sailors and Irish pig dealers and known familiarly in Walsall as the ‘Lousy’ Liverpool. These were in addition to the local coaches to Birmingham, Dudley, Wolverhampton and Lichfield.”

It was the scene of rioting at elections in December 1832.

Pigot's Directory of Staffordshire 1842

“.....The inns [of Walsall] are of very superior order; the principal one, the GEORGE HOTEL, in Digbeth, is a truly elegant and commodious building.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/10/1845 - Notice

“South Staffordshire Junction Railway.....

We, the undersigned Landowners, Merchants, Coal and Iron Masters, Manufacturers, Traders, Agriculturists, and other inhabitants do hereby express our opinion that the projected South Staffordshire Junction Railway is the line best calculated to serve the important Mining, Manufacturing, Trading, and Agricultural Interests of the districts and we promise to it our strenuous support.....

R. M. Fletcher, GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall.”

A coach left from here every morning at 10, to Birmingham. [1849]

Richard Moore Fletcher, GEORGE HOTEL, New Street. [1850]

1851 Census

The Bridge

- [1] *Richard Fletcher* (72), unmarried, hotel keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] J. F. Sharrott (49), nephew, unmarried, wine merchant, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah Fletcher (56), sister, born Walsall;
- [4] Helen Fletcher (52), sister, born Walsall;
- [5] Mary Bilsell (48), friend, born Halesowen;
- [6] Caroline ____h (29), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [7] Eliza Davis (24), barmaid, born Worcester;
- [8] Martha Parkes (26), waitress, born Ripley, Derbyshire;
- [9] Ann Allen (22), parlour maid, born Worcestershire;
- [10] Hannah Clayton (73), cook, born Newton, Staffordshire;
- [11] Helen Banner (23), maid, born Stone, Staffordshire;
- [12] James Jones (23), ostler, born Cannock;
- [13] James McGeoch (29), visitor, commercial traveller, born Inch, Scotland;
- [14] James Hentridge (34), visitor, commercial traveller, born Bicester, Oxfordshire;
- [15] William Brown (13), call boy, born Walsall;

Worcester Journal 21/1/1854

“South Staffordshire Election.....

On Tuesday Lord Ingestre addressed the electors at public meetings held at the NEPTUNE, Willenhall; the DUKE OF YORK, Darlaston; the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall; and the DARTMOUTH HOTEL, and Princess Assembly Rooms, Westbromwich.....”

Thomas Furnell = Thomas Farnel

Birmingham Journal 14/1/1860 - Advert

“The Walsall Annual Yeomanry Ball will take place at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, January 17th, 1860.”
Gentlemen’s Tickets, 8s 6d; Ladies’, 6s.”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/8/1860 - Advert

“Hooper for Coroner.

The Committees for conducting Mr. Hooper’s Election sit daily at the following Places.....
Walsall, at the GEORGE HOTEL.....

By order. Hodgson and Allen, G. S. Watson, Agents for Mr. Hooper. 14th August, 1860.”

[This election followed the death of George Hayes Hinchliffe. Edwin Hooper, Deputy Coroner, was elected Coroner.]

Howse’s omnibus left from here to Birmingham, daily except Friday and Sunday. [1861]

John Cox’s omnibus left from here to meet every train at Walsall Station. The fare was 4d to all parts of the town. [1861]

Joseph Sellman, carrier to Cannock, left from here on Tuesdays at 4.30pm. [1861], [1865]

Birmingham Journal 1/3/1862 - Advert

“South Staffordshire Water Works Company.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the next Ordinary Half-Yearly General Meeting of the Shareholders of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company will be held at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 4th day of March next, at One o’clock on the afternoon.

The Transfer Books will be Closed from the 24th day of February inst., until after the said Meeting.

By order, J. Churchill, Secretary, 1, Bridgeman Place, Walsall, February 12th, 1862.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/11/1866

“The Court Leet of the Right Hon. The Earl of Bradford was held on Friday, under the presidency of Messrs. John and George Potter, for the Borough and Foreign of Walsall, at the GEORGE HOTEL.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/11/1866

“On Saturday, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Borough Coroner, held an inquest at the GEORGE HOTEL, on the body of Sarah White, aged five years, the daughter of parents living in Ryecroft. On the 9th inst, the child set fire to her clothes while lighting a piece of paper at the fire, while left alone for a short time, and was severely burnt about the face and upper parts of her body. She was taken to the Cottage Hospital, and on Friday the little sufferer died. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/11/1866

“On Wednesday morning last, a dreadful explosion of gas took place in one of Mr. Sparrow’s pits, at the Fishley Colliery, whereby five of the men working there were more or less injured, and one of them named Thomas Edwards, 22 years of age, whose parents reside in Bilston, and who had only recently come to work at the pit, was so seriously burnt that it was deemed necessary to remove him to the Cottage Hospital, Walsall, to which place he was speedily conveyed; but although every effort was used for his recovery, he, after lingering in great agony, expired on Thursday.

An inquest was opened at the GEORGE HOTEL, on Saturday, before Mr. A. A. Fletcher, coroner. From the evidence of William Roberts, the only witness examined, it appeared that about five o’clock on Wednesday morning Thomas Roberts (the doggy of the pit), Thomas Harper, and the deceased were working together in the pit, when an explosion of sulphur took place at the spot where they were employed. Witness and Samuel Taylor were working about forty or fifty yards away, but they immediately ran towards the spot where the other three men were, and asked if any of them were hurt. They were answered in the negative, and were told not to approach nearer, as there would be another explosion. They accordingly threw themselves on the ground, and there remained while the other three men escaped up the shaft. In about 10 or 15 minutes they also were assisted out of the pit. The first explosion was followed by three others. It was found that Edwards and Roberts were badly burnt, and witness, Harper and Taylor were slightly injured. When the roads were being driven, the pit was very full of sulphur, and lamps were then used by the workmen, but there was no necessity for the use of lamps afterwards, there being a good draught of air through the pit, sufficient, in fact to waste a candle in an hour. Lamps were, however, kept in the pit, and one of these was used by the doggy to examine the pit three times a day. The pit was examined on the night before the explosion by the doggy, who cautioned the men to keep the candles out of the ‘gob,’ or, in other words, to keep them in the air way. Witness believed this had not been done by Harper, who was reported to be very careless about such matters, and hence the explosion. Witness knew nothing about the rules. The enquiry was adjourned until Wednesday, for the attendance of the Government Inspector.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/11/1866

“On Wednesday, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Borough Coroner, resumed an inquiry at the GEORGE HOTEL, touching the death of Thos. Edwards, who lost his life through an explosion of sulphur at the Fishley Colliery of Messrs. Sparrow. The inquiry was attended by Mr. J. P. Baker, Government Inspector, and also by Mr. Blakemore, the ground bailiff of the owners of the colliery. The only witnesses examined were Police-sejeant Martin, and Thomas Harper, one of the deceased’s fellow workmen. Their evidence disclosed few particulars beyond those detailed by William Roberts before the Coroner on Saturday, but it went to confirm the

suspicion that the explosion was due to Harper having placed his candle in the waste, instead of keeping it in the airway. Harper admitted, after many evasions, that it was his candle that fired the sulphur, but he denied that he took it into the waste at all, or that he removed it from the tree near the face of the working, where he placed it when he began to work, about an hour before the explosion. Witness threw himself upon the ground, and buried his face in the sludge, but deceased stood erect, and, being naked to the waist, was severely burned by the flame as it passed them there, and also as it returned. About ten minutes later they heard another explosion, with a noise like the discharge of a cannon, but did not feel its effects. The witness displayed great ignorance of his duties as a miner, and stated that he knew nothing of the rules, and he had never had them explained to him, or a copy given to him, and he did not know it was the duty of the doggy to examine the pit with a lamp before allowing men to commence work. Accordingly the inquiry was adjourned for a fortnight, for the attendance of Roberts, who is still suffering severely from the effects of the explosion.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/12/1866

“Mr. A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, concluded an inquest at the GEORGE HOTEL, on the body of Thomas Edwards. The only additional witness examined was Thomas Roberts, the doggy of the pit. His evidence went to show that the men employed in cogging at Messrs. Sparrow’s colliery had invariably been cautioned not to take naked lights into the waste places of the pit when they went there for materials; but to leave the candles at the face timbers. He concluded, however, that Thomas Harper, a man who was holeing and cogging in the pit at the time of the accident, must have disobeyed this order, and so been the cause of the explosion. He was reminded that Harper had sworn he left his candle at the timbers when he went into the waste, and eventually the witness admitted that a face of the roof, such as occurred just prior to the explosion, would have the effect of driving out the sulphur to the candles at the timbers, and that it was unsafe, owing to the danger of being suffocated, for men to go into the waste without a lamp to test the condition of the air. The inspector and the owner blamed him for having allowed naked lights to be used in or near the waste places, and the jury concurred, and after a brief deliberation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1871 Census

Bridge

- [1] *Thomas Furnell* (54), hotel keeper, born Great Marlow, Buckinghamshire;
- [2] *Jane Furnell* (54), wife, born High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire;
- [3] *Emma J. Furnell* (17), daughter, born Great Marlow, Buckinghamshire;
- [4] *Emela (?) Westbrook* (41), assistant, born Great Marlow, Buckinghamshire;
- [5] *Sarah Daffern* (29), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Elizabeth Guest* (28), barmaid, born Dudley;
- [7] *Ann Vaughan* (38), waitress, born Ireland;
- [8] *Jane Davis* (29), chambermaid, born Oddington, Gloucestershire;
- [9] *Susan Nash* (26), cook, born Wolverhampton;
- [10] *Sarah Knott* (21), kitchen maid, born Aldridge;
- [11] *Frank Poyser* (20), billiard marker, born Nottingham;
- [12] *Thomas Field* (24), ostler, born Castle Froom [Castle Frome], Herefordshire;
- [13] *Richard Jones* (20), cab driver, born Aldridge;

Evening Express 1/2/1881

“This forenoon, while George Rochford, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, was driving a horse and trap over the London and North Western Railway bridge at The Pleck, Walsall, his horse took fright at a passing train, and ran off at a furious rate. The frightened animal had not proceeded far before it came in contact with a horse and gig, the shock throwing out the occupants, Mr. and Mrs. Clayron, injuring them seriously about the face.

The injured persons were at once conveyed to te GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, and information of the collision was subsequently lodged at the police station.”

1881 Census

GEORGE HOTEL

- [1] *Hugh Vallance* (42), hotel keeper, born Scotland;
- [2] *Emma Vallance* (35), wife, born Warwick;
- [3] *Clara Gratrige* (26), general servant, born Lichfield;
- [4] *Mary Cartmele* (22), barmaid, born Walsall;
- [5] *Lucy Sharrod* (25), barmaid, born Walsall;
- [6] *Martha Good* (30), cook, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Louisa Hensley* (23), waitress, born Walsall;
- [8] *Violet Fletcher* (21), waitress, born Walsall;
- [9] *Maria Fletcher* (28), chambermaid, born Walsall;
- [10] *Mary Brevit* (21), kitchen maid, born Walsall;
- [11] *John F. Hill* (33), boots, born Knighton;
- [12] *Richard Kickson* (22), billiard marker, born Birmingham;
- [13] *W. Caldicott* (30), hostler, born Birmingham;
- [14] *Edwin Berridge* (25), post boy, born Walsall;

Evening Express 13/5/1881

“Walsall Town Council. There are at present two vacancies in the representation of the above body, one in Bridge Ward, caused by the elevation of Mr. Smith to the office of alderman, and another in the Foreign Ward, caused by the resignation of Mr. George Thomas. With regard to the former vacancy the names of several gentlemen are already on the table, but the two most prominent before the public are Mr. *George(?) Vallance*, of the GEORGE HOTEL, and Mr. Abbey, grocer, High Street. In the event of Mr. Samuel Russell not coming forward, Mr. *Vallance* will, no doubt, be the popular candidate, and the opposition to his candidature, if any, will be very slight. For the Foreign Ward Mr. William Nevill, of Green Lane, at the request of a large number of influential ratepayers, has consented to stand, and up till the present there does not appear to be any opposition to his candidature. The name of Mr. R. W. Brownhill, who lately resigned his office as alderman for this ward, for reasons already made public, has been mentioned as a probable candidate, but until we have received some more authoritative statement we must decline to give credence to this rumour. The nominations are, we understand, fixed to take place on Monday next.”

AND

“Walsall Town Council. On Thursday Mr. *Hugh Vallance*, of the GEORGE HOTEL, was influentially nominated for a seat in the Town Council as one of the representatives of the Bridge Ward in place of Mr. J. H. Smith, who has been elected an alderman. Mr. *Vallance* formerly kept the COACH AND HORSES HOTEL, in Wolverhampton.”

Evening Express 28/10/1881

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Association. The annual dinner of this association was held at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, on Thursday evening, when upwards of 120 members and friends sat down to a substantial repast, provided by Mr. *Vallance*’s usual first class style.

The chair was occupied by Mr. Hodson (of the firm of Butler and Co, Wolverhampton), and Mr. Fletcher officiated as vice chairman.....”

Evening Star 31/1/1882

“Walsall Caledonian Club. On Monday evening the forty-fifth annual dinner of the above society took place at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, when a large number of members and friends, including gentlemen from Wolverhampton, Dudley, Gornal, and Macclesfield, sat down to an excellent dinner served up by the host (Mr. *Vallance*) in his usual style.....”

Wednesbury Herald 10/6/1882

“On Monday the Under-Sheriff’s assessor (Mr. Griffiths QC), at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, concluded the arbitrations in the claim by the Walsall Wood Colliery against the Midland Railway for damages by reason of the railway compelling the Colliery Company to alter the levels of their siding into the London and North Western Railway, and other matters in connection with their premises at Walsall Wood. Mr. Matthews QC (instructed by Messrs. Duignan and Co, Walsall), appeared for the Colliery Company, and Mr. Marriott QC, MP (instructed by Messrs. Beale, Marigold & Co), for the Railway Company.

The case has been pending for some weeks, and has occupied the assessor for a number of days.

The jury returned a verdict for the Colliery Company of £3,500.”

Walsall Observer 10/1/1885 - Advert

“Dancing. Mr. J. H. Williams begs to announce that his Select Quadrille Class Meets at the GEORGE HOTEL every Thursday Evening. Dancing to Commence at 8. Private Tuition Lessons given every Evening (Thursdays excepted). For terms &c apply to Mr. J. H. Williams, 5, Hatherton Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 21/2/1885

“On Monday evening the annual winter reunion of the members of the Queen Mary Club, familiarly known at ‘The Old Boys’, took place at the GEORGE HOTEL. An excellent dinner was well-served in the assembly room by Mr. and Mrs. *Vallance*.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Mr. Gillespie applied for a singing, music and dancing license for *Thomas Eady*, of the GEORGE HOTEL, for the assembly room and the two adjacent rooms, stating that it was not possible to fix the hours, and asking the Bench to trust Mr. *Eady* to see that there was no abuse of the license....

The Bench retired for about half an hour, and on their return the Magistrates’ Clerk read the decisions.....

Granted. The GEORGE HOTEL, for the assembly room and the two adjacent rooms, for bona fide dancing classes, dinners, and luncheons, on certain conditions to be endorsed on the license.”

1891 Census

The Bridge – GEORGE HOTEL

[1] *Thomas Eady* (35), hotel proprietor, born Lamport, Northamptonshire;

[2] *Marian Eady* (36), wife, born Leicester;

[3] *William E. Munby* (24), visitor, commercial traveller, born Camberwell, Surrey;

[4] *Percy Claridge* (20), visitor, architect, born Coventry;

[5] *Pennie Goddard* (21), servant, lady’s help, born Leicester;

[6] *Clara Grattige* (35), barmaid, born Stafford;

- [7] Ama Jenkinson (35), cook, born Leigh, Staffordshire;
- [8] Annie Shaw (23), kitchen maid, born Stafford;
- [9] Lily Weaver (26), barmaid, born Montgomery;
- [10] Annie Greenwood (18), barmaid, born Forest of Dean;
- [11] Agnes Haddon (26), waitress, born Barby, Northamptonshire;
- [12] Thomas Glover (19), billiard marker, born Birmingham;
- [13] George Brookes (22), groom, born Northampton;
- [14] Julia Mundy (26), waitress, born Oxford;
- [15] Archie Lowe (21), groom, born Wolverhampton;
- [16] Annie Clarke (25), chambermaid, born New Zealand (British subject):

Arthur Claridge was fined £4 and costs, on 19th May 189_, for being open during prohibited hours.

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall were opened on Wednesday at the Guildhall, the Mayor in the chair. . . . Mr. *Claridge*, landlord of the GEORGE HOTEL, The Bridge, respectfully requested the Bench to grant his license, remarking that it was very hard upon him to have the objection hanging over his head till the next licensing day. He had paid the fine imposed upon him and he would remind them it was expressly stated that his license should not be endorsed at the time of conviction.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing session for Walsall borough took place yesterday. . . . The Chief Constable opposed the renewal to *Arthur Claridge* of the license of the GEORGE HOTEL, on the grounds of a conviction for having the premises open during prohibited hours, and that the license was not required. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

“The forty-third annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last. . . . New members. . . . Mr. *Henry Burton Berry*, GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/11/1896

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *H. B. Berry*, GEORGE HOTEL. . . .”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday. . . . At the GEORGE HOTEL. Alterations to premises without plans, other matters for enquiry. Mr. Loxton: Mr. Taylor, the magistrates have directed me to ask you certain questions. Is it in your knowledge that certain alterations have been made at the GEORGE HOTEL? – Mr. Taylor: Yes, I believe there have. Mr. Loxton: No plans have been deposited: – No, I have not seen any. Can you tell the magistrates what differences have been made upon the music, dancing and singing licenses which the GEORGE HOTEL possessed? – I cannot at once. Then the magistrates also want to know if you can report to them during the sitting of this meeting as to the accommodation provided by the GEORGE HOTEL, the STORK, the DRAGON, the PRIORY, NEW INNS, the WOOLPACK, and the QUEENS? The Magistrates then announced their intention to retire to consider their decisions previous to luncheon, but the Chief Constable said he was then in possession of the information asked by the Magistrates with reference to the bedroom accommodation at the hotels. At the GEORGE HOTEL there were nineteen beds for commercials. The two large rooms at that hotel, formerly used for balls, &c, had been converted into eight bedrooms and a bathroom, and no plans had been submitted for the alterations. At the PRIORY there were six bedrooms for accommodation, five at the DRAGON, three at the QUEENS, but there was no bedroom accommodation at the STORK, NEW INNS, and the WOOLPACK Hotels. . . . Mr. Loxton announced that the hotel licenses would be renewed with the exception of the GEORGE the renewal of the GEORGE was adjourned to the adjourned day, and the clerk was directed to serve a notice on the licensee for him to attend to show cause why the license should be renewed, and especially to satisfy the magistrates as to the alterations made in the premises without depositing plans, and without the sanction of the licensing authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/9/1899

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was held yesterday at the Guildhall. . . . The renewal of the license of the GEORGE HOTEL, The Bridge, had been postponed for the production of plans for alterations which had been made, and which had not been authorised by the licensing justices. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) appeared on behalf of Miss *Clifford*, the holder of the license, and of the lessees of the premises; and produced plans showing the premises and alterations. The only alterations which had been made were that an old storeroom had been converted into three bedrooms, and the ballroom into eight bedrooms. There had been no real structural alteration, what had been done was merely the erection of partitions. Mr. Zeller thought he was providing for a public want in arranging the extra bedrooms, and no change had taken place in regard to the drinking portion of the premises. Mr. E. T. Holden: Are there any bedrooms over the stables?”

Mr. Wood, architect, was put into the box, and in reply said there were three bedrooms over the stables.

Mr. Holden: Do you think it wise to have bedrooms over stables? – Mr. Wood: It is not a desirable thing, of course, but the bedrooms were so badly wanted.

Mr. Holden: I thought last year they said they were not (laughter).

Mr. Jackson said that since Mr. Zeller took to the GEORGE HOTEL some 400 or 500 people had stayed there. The bedrooms over the stables would only be used in case of a crush.

Mr. Holden: What water-closet accommodation have you?

Mr. Wood said they had not made any additional accommodation for this part of the premises, but they had a properly equipped bathroom.

Mr. Holden: Is it true that in the bathroom there is a urinal and water-closet? – Mr. Jackson: There are two water closets upstairs, and the bathroom is by itself.

Mr. Holden: I am afraid, Mr. Jackson, you do not know what is in it. – Mr. Jackson: I have the architect here.

Mr. Holden: I asked you whether there was a urinal in and you said 'no.' – Mr. Jackson: I don't think I said that; I beg your pardon.

Witness: When I last saw it there was simply a bath in it, but since a urinal has been put in, not a w.c.

Mr. Holden: Is it right to have a urinal in a bathroom? – Witness: It is a very great convenience.

Mr. Holden: Would you have it in your own house? – Witness: I should not, but it is convenient in an hotel.

Mr. Jackson: I think you will find them in many private houses.

Mr. Holden: I have been in some, and they are an abomination. I question whether the Streets Committee would pass it.

Mr. Jackson: We are quite willing to remove it, it is a very small matter.

The license was renewed.”

Walsall Observer 17/3/1900

“Walsall Burns Club. On Tuesday evening last an adjourned meeting of this newly formed club was held at the GEORGE HOTEL.....”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Miss *Alice Clifford*, manageress of the GEORGE HOTEL, was, amongst others, called upon to reply to questions as to the use of telephones on the licensed premises.

Miss *Clifford*, in reply to Mr. Loxton, said the telephone was used by commercial men and visitors. It was not enclosed, and was necessary for the business of the house. The telephone was not used for betting or other improper purposes. License renewed.”

Closed

It was demolished in 1933.

Rebuilt

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/10/1935

“The new GEORGE HOTEL, built by the Walsall Corporation on the site of the old GEORGE HOTEL, which was one of the famous hostelries of the old coaching days, will be officially opened on Tuesday, Nov. 12, by the Right Hon. the Earl of Dudley, K.G. The hotel has been actually completed and in use some time ago, but the official opening had to be deferred owing to the difficulty of arranging a date which would suit Lord Dudley.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

GEORGE HOTEL, The Bridge. £2 13s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 7/7/1945 - Advert

“Cleaners and Chambermaids required immediately for the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall.

Apply Manageress.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/1/1967 - Advert

“Luncheon & Dinner at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall.

Walsall 23125 for Table Reservations.”

Closed

It was demolished in 1978 as part of a major Tesco development.

GEORGE

Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Thornton [1818]

GEORGE AND DRAGON

3, Wolverhampton Street (3, Wolverhampton Road) (3, Wolverhampton Lane) / Marsh Lane, (Park Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Elisha Jeffries, Sutton Road, Walsall

LICENSEES

Thomas Croxall [1818] – [1822]

Butler [1824]

James Sheldon [1828] – [1830]

Thomas Hutchinson [1832]

Jane Bridgwood [1834]

Thomas Heath [1841] – [1842]

Samuel Stackhouse [1845] – [1851]

John Craddock [] – **1855**;

Mrs. Sarah Craddock (**1855** – [1859])

Samuel Lister [1860] – **1861**;

Thomas Fieldhouse (**1861** – [1865])

Samuel Horton [1868] – [1873];

John Ricketts [1876] – [1880]

John Richards []

NOTES

Park Street [1822], [1828], [1830], [1832], [1842], [1849], [1850], [1862]

3, Wolverhampton Road [1858]

3, Wolverhampton Street [1860], [1862], [1868], [1871]

3, Wolverhampton Lane [1861]

Marsh Lane [1872]

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“At the top of Park Street, in Wolverhampton Street, just before Marsh Street, was the GEORGE AND DRAGON, indicated on the 1812 map of the Boundary of the Borough of Walsall.....”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 26/4/1824 - Advert

“To Publicans And Others.

To be Sold by Auction, on the premises, by Mr. Fairbanks, on Monday, the 3rd day of May, 1824, at six o’clock in the evening, the valuable Licenses, Goodwill, and immediate Possession of that long established and very good accustomed Public House, known by the sign of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Park Street, Walsall, now in exceedingly full business, and occupied by Mr. *Butler*, who is declining business due to indisposition.

The Fixtures, Brewing Vessels, and Stock to be taken at a valuation.

The above is a most desirable situation to any person wishing to be well established in the public business, it having been a good accustomed house for in and out-door trade for a number of years.

Further particulars may be had by applying to the Auctioneer, Field Gate, Walsall, if by letter, post paid.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 9/8/1830 - Advert

“To be Let, and entered upon immediately, that old established house known by the sign of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Park Street, comprising four capital cellars, six lodging rooms, two parlours, tap-room, bar, back kitchen, brewhouse, entire yard, and stable for twelve horses.

This is a desirable situation for a snug business, as the consumption is from ten to twelve bushels of malt annually. The present proprietor is leaving in consequence of other engagements.

Also several respectable public houses to let.

For particulars apply to J. Farrington, Auctioneer, if by letter, post paid.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1832

“Thomas Williams has been committed for trial at the next Walsall sessions, charged with stealing one ham from the house of *Thomas Hutchinson*, the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Park Street, Walsall. On Thursday evening, the 16th instant, Williams, with two other men, went to the house to drink, at which time the ham was hanging in the tap room; after their departure it was missed, and suspicion arose that it had been stolen by some of the party. Williams was traced to another public house, and charged with the robbery, but he stoutly denied any knowledge of it; on the following morning, however, he was seen in the street, by a man named James Bissell, with the ham in his possession, and making towards the Lichfield Road. Bissell gave information to the prosecutor, and Williams was immediately apprehended. He underwent an examination on Tuesday evening, at the Guildhall, and was committed for trial.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/4/1832

“At Walsall Sessions, on Wednesday last, Thomas Williams, charged with stealing one ham, the property of Mr. *Thomas Hutchinson*, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to four months' imprisonment in the house of correction, at Stafford. Williams was recommended to mercy by the prosecutor, and received a good character from two of his former employers, one of whom expressed his willingness again to take him into his service.”

It had assembly rooms. [1834]

Samuel Stackhouse was also a thrashing machiner and drillman. [1845]

1851 Census

Park Street

- [1] *Samuel Stackhouse* (42), victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] Ann Stackhouse (36), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Samuel Stackhouse (11), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Susannah Stackhouse (10), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Thomas Beech (18), house servant, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Thomas Stackhouse (28), house servant, born Bloxwich;
- [7] William Beech (26), house servant, born Cambridge;

Staffordshire Sentinel 21/7/1855

“Staffordshire Summer Assizes.

Wm. Crutchley, 40, breaksman at Wichor Station, and Joseph Mills, 22, engine-driver, were indicted for stealing 150lbs weight of tobacco, the property of John Robinson McClean, the lessee of the South Staffordshire Railway, on 12th of April last, at Lichfield; and *John Craddock*, 42, landlord of the GEORGE AND DRAGON Public House, Walsall, was charged with receiving the same, knowing it to have been stolen. Mr. Huddleston and Mr. Kettle appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Motteram for the prisoners. The chief evidence in this trial, which occupied upwards of three hours, was given by Charles Pratt, late in the employ of the South Staffordshire Railway Company, as a guard in the Goods department, and who admitted being an accomplice in the present and other railway robberies, but who had been discharged from prison on his making a disclosure of the particulars connected with that robbery. It appeared from his evidence, that he and the first-named prisoners took, on the above date, a cask of tobacco from a railway truck on the South Staffordshire Railway, which had been consigned to Mr. Elkington, of Lichfield, by Messrs. Wood and Sons, wholesale tobacconists, at Leeds, and that they conveyed it to the van, where they broke it open at one end, and emptied the tobacco into two sacks, and when about half way between Lichfield and Walsall with the night train, they stopped the engine near Hammerwich Station, and with spades they buried both sacks, containing the tobacco, at the foot of the railway embankment between Burntwood, and the turnpike road leading from Lichfield to Walsall.

The empty cask they broke into pieces, and burnt under the engine. By arrangement, the next day the prisoner *Craddock* went with his cart and fetched the sacks of tobacco away. On the following Monday, they all four met at *Craddock's* house, where they divided equally amongst them £16, the sum, which *Craddock* stated he had realized by the sale of tobacco. Several other witnesses were examined, but their testimony only confirmed Pratt's evidence; with respect to *Craddock*, who was seen that day with his cart near the place spoken of by Pratt. Mr. Scotland rose to address the jury on behalf of the prisoners; but his lordship pointed out the want of confirmatory evidence with respect to Crutchley and Mills; and the jury taking the same view of the matter, at once returned a verdict of acquittal in favour of those prisoners.

Mr. Motteram then made an able speech on behalf of *Craddock*; but the jury, after a careful summing up by the learned judge

found him guilty.

There were several other indictments against the prisoner to which he pleaded guilty. His Lordship deferred sentence until this morning.”

Birmingham Journal 25/7/1855

“*John Craddock*, licensed victualler, Walsall, was brought up for judgement. The Judge remarked that the crime of which the accused had been convicted was a very dangerous one; the evidence showed that he was the occupier of a public house where thieves disposed of plunder which the prisoner turned to his own profit. The prisoner was the author, instrument, and encourager in such cases, and had been convicted on a former occasion. His Lordship then passed a sentence of fourteen years’ transportation.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/9/1855

“At the adjourned licensing meeting on Monday.....

Mr. Wilkinson applied on behalf of Mrs. *Craddock*, the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Marsh Lane. At the last Staffordshire Assizes the applicant’s husband was transported for his participation in the robberies on the South Staffordshire railway. Twelve days previous to licensing day the applicant obtained a transfer of the license, which the Bench refused to renew on the day referred to. Mr. Wilkinson maintained that any objection against her keeping the house should have been urged when the transfer was asked for. He added there had been no complaint against the house since, and that the applicant had been left with seven children to support when she had no means but the public-house. The bench granted the license, but cautioned the applicant as to the future conduct of the house.”

Walsall Free Press 22/8/1857

“*Sarah Craddock*, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON public-house, Wolverhampton Lane, was charged on the information of Police-constable Rabone with allowing drunkenness and disorderly conduct in her house, contrary to the tenor of her license. Mr. Duignan was retained for the defence. The officer stated that a little after twelve o’clock on the previous Monday night he heard a disturbance at the defendant’s house, and looking through the window saw two men in pugilistic attitude. He asked how it was she allowed such conduct on the premises, when she said ‘What could a woman do?’ She asked him to part them. He did so, and got one of them out. A witness was examined who said defendant had sent down the street to try and find a policeman, but had not be able to meet with one. This being the case the Bench thought she had done all she could do under the circumstances, and dismissed the complaint.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... applications for renewal of old licenses, and the granting of new ones.....

In the following cases the applications were suspended for further consideration.....

On the application of the Chief-constable, Thomas Bates, of the PAUL PRY, New Street; *Sarah Craddock*, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Wolverhampton Lane, and William Earp, of the LEATHERN BOTTLE, were added to the list of suspended applications.”

London Gazette 1/4/1859

“Whereas a Petition of *Sarah Craddock*, now and for three years and eight months and upwards last past residing at the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, in Park-street, otherwise the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, and for three years and three months of that time, carrying on the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, there in her own name, for her own benefit, and on her own sole and separate account, her husband *John Craddock*, having been convicted of felony, on the 20th day of July, 1855, and sentenced to transportation beyond the seas for the term of fourteen years, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Sarah Craddock*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Sarah Craddock*, is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 21st of April instant, at ten in the forenoon precisely, for her first examination touching her debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Sarah Craddock*, or that have any of her effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

1861 Census

3, Wolverhampton Lane

- [1] *Samuel Lister* (37), widower, victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Elvia Lister* (5), daughter, scholar, born Portobello;
- [3] *Sarah Craddock* (46), housekeeper, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Mary Craddock* (12), stepdaughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Charles Craddock* (10), stepson, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Daniel Craddock* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Catherine Morris* (17), house servant, born Montgomery, Wales;
- [8] *James Whitehouse* (32), lodger, locksmith, born Walsall;
- [9] *Thomas Barker* (27), lodger, miner, born Wellington, Shropshire:

Birmingham Journal 12/4/1862

“Rare Opportunity. To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Park Street, Walsall, now doing an excellent in and out-door trade. The House consists of Liquor Shop, Parlour, Tap Room, Kitchen, excellent Cellars, seven Bed Rooms, Stabling for six horses, and good Yard. The Fixtures and Stock to be taken to at a fair valuation. The present proprietor is giving up solely on account of other business at a distance. For particulars, apply to H. W. Greader, Auctioneer, Cross Street, Willenhall.”

Walsall Free Press 28/2/1863 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that Old Licensed House, the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Park Street. Stock and Fixtures to be taken at a Valuation, which will not exceed £100, the proprietor having other engagements is the sole cause of his leaving. For particulars apply to John Osbourn, 52, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall, Auctioneer and Appraiser.”

Walsall Free Press 6/8/1870

“*Samuel Horton*, landlord of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Wolverhampton Street, was fined 5s and costs, for having had his house open for the sale of beer at a quarter-past one o’clock on Sunday morning.”

1871 Census

3, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Samuel Horton* (53), publican, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Emma Horton (53), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Emma Baker (12), niece, born Birmingham;
- [4] James Bosworth (30), boarder, umbrella maker, born Leicestershire;
- [5] James Neville (20), collier, born Great Bridge;
- [6] Joseph Lapworth (21), plater, born Walsall;
- [7] Edward Hicks (26), boarder, gardener, born Guildford, Surrey;
- [8] Charles Parker (21), boarder excavator, born ___ley, Derbyshire;
- [9] W. Ingram (37), boarder, labourer, born Walsall;
- [10] Daniel Hodgetts (49), shoemaker, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session. Mr. Glover applied for the renewal of the licences to *John Ricketts*, the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Wolverhampton Lane all the licenses were withheld on the licensing day on behalf of all the other applicants he made explanations with reference to the causes of the suspension of their licenses. The cases of Messrs. *Ricketts* were further adjourned till the 9th of October The Mayor also stated that the Bench intended to take notice of all evidence that might come before them, and use it against the victuallers at the next licensing session.”

Lichfield Mercury 17/9/1880

“The adjourned annual licensing session took place on Friday, at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Gillespie (of the firm of Messrs. Wilkinson and Gillespie), applied for a spirit license on behalf of Mr. Charles Poppleton, of the CROWN AND ANCHOR beerhouse, West Bromwich Road, and at the same time explaining that the application was practically on behalf of *John Ricketts*, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Wolverhampton Street, who had bought the premises, his own house being among those to be removed under the improvement scheme.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1882

“Walsall Town Council. Report of the General Purposes Committee.....

On the motion of Alderman Brewer, seconded by Councillor Kirkpatrick, it was further resolved, on the recommendation of the same committee, ‘That the Council allow the licenses of the five alehouses, viz, the ODD FELLOWS ARMS, the ROYAL GEORGE, the SPREAD EAGLE, the GEORGE AND DRAGON, and the WATERLOO TAVERN, and the beerhouse, the BOAT INN, purchased for the purposes of the Artisans’ Dwelling Scheme, to lapse, it being considered that there is in the neighbourhood an ample number of licensed houses to meet the requirements of the district.’ This was unanimously agreed to.”

GEORGE AND DRAGON

Lichfield Road, (Walsall Wood Road), Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Agnes Janet McLean
Lichfield Brewery Co.

LICENSEES

John Moss [1835] – [1850]

John Yeomans [1858] – [1862]

George Owen [] – 1863;

Samuel Marlow (1863 – []

Mrs. Mary Maria Yeomans [1868] – [1872]

George Gray (1874 – [1887]

John McLean [1890] – [1891]

Mrs. Agnes Janet McLean [1892] – [1912]

Percy Shrives Curtis [1928]

Frederick James Pickering [1932]

Frederick 'Fred' Wood [1939] – [1940]

Frank Reader Birkett (1961 – [1962]

NOTES

GEORGE AND DRAGON HOTEL [1911]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/8/1837 - Advert

“Freehold Property, at Daw End, near Rushall.

To be Sold by Auction, by Farrington and Son (under a deed of assignment), this present Monday the 7th day of August, at the house of Mr. Moss, GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced – all those two Tenements or Dwelling House, with gardens and Pump of water, situate at Daw End, near Rushall.....”

John Moss was also a farmer. [1845], [1849]

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/9/1857

“A Petty Session was held at the Station Inn, Brownhills on Tuesday last.....

After the disposal of the licenses a case was investigated in which the members of a friendly society held at the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Rushall, were complainants and, John Fox defendant. Mr. Duignan, of Walsall, appeared for the complainants; and Mr. W. W. Ward, of Stafford, for the defendant. Fox, who was a member of the society, had been entrusted with a sum of £8 for payment to the persons who should become entitled to it on the death of a member. After having had possession of the money for some time he was informed of the death of a member, to whose widow he was requested to pay it. To this he offered no objection, but on application being made for the money he refused to pay it, and now pleaded that he had not received it.

The magistrates, in addition to ordering the defendant to pay the £8, inflicted upon him a penalty of £2, and in default two months' imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 28/4/1860 - Advert

“A Lecture will be delivered in the GEORGE AND DRAGON Assembly Room, Rushall, on Tuesday evening, May 1st, 1860, by William Whitehouse, Esq, of Aldridge.

Subject: ‘The History of the English Bible.’

Illustrated by the Diagrams of the Working Man's Association, London.

Lecture to commence at half-past Seven o'clock.

Admission 6d and 3d.

The proceeds of the Lecture will be devoted to the Building Fund, for the erection of a Congregational Church, in the Village. A piece of freehold ground has been secured and upwards of £50 subscribed for the purpose.

Further contributions will be thankfully received by Mr. Wm. Strongitharm, Treasurer, Rushall, or Mr. Alfred Stanley, secretary, Walsall.”

John Yeomans = John Yeoman

1861 Census

Lichfield Road – GEORGE AND DRAGON

[1] *John Yeomans* (40), victualler and farmer, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Mary M. Yeomans (38), wife, born Four Crosses;

[3] Lucy Ann Yeomans (8), daughter, born Rushall;

[4] Sarah Perry (16), general servant, born Leacroft, Staffordshire;

[5] Joseph Holmes (38), servant, carter, born Stonnall, Staffordshire;

[6] Robert Elsmor (27), visitor, groom, born Marecoom(?), Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 11/10/1862 - Advert

“Mr. *John Yeomans*, GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Rushall.

Respectfully informs his friends that his Annual Tea Party will take place on Monday, October 13th, 1862.
Tea on the Table at Five o’clock. Tickets 1s each.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/3/1866 - Notice

“County of Stafford. Weights and Measures. District C, or South Staffordshire.

Notice is hereby given, the William Tullett, the Inspector of Weights and Measures for District C, or South Staffordshire Will attend at the under-mentioned times and places for the purpose of comparing all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to him for that purpose, and stamping such of them as shall be found correct. . . .

GEORGE AND DRAGON, at Rushall, on Tuesdays, April 10th, May 8th, and June 5th, 1866, at ten o’clock am. . . .

All persons in the said district, desirous of having their Weights and Measures stamped may bring or send them to any of the above places for adjustment as shall be most convenient; or to the NEW MARKET INN, St. Peter’s Walk, Wolverhampton, on Wednesday or Saturday in every week.

Persons within any local jurisdiction, for which a separate Inspector is appointed, cannot have their Weights and Measures examined or stamped by the Count Inspector.

William Tullett, Inspector of Weights and Measures for the said District, Wolverhampton, March 28th, 1866.”

1871 Census

Lichfield Road – GEORGE AND DRAGON

- [1] *Mary M. Yeomans* (46), widow, licensed victualler, born Four Crosses, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Hannah H. Yeomans* (19), daughter, born Gaily [Gailey?], Staffordshire;
- [3] *Lucy A. H. Yeomans* (12), daughter, born Birchills;
- [4] *Elizabeth Vass* (70), visitor, widow, born Mappen, Warwickshire;
- [5] *Maria Cooper* (16), domestic servant, born Walsall Wood:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/3/1872 - Notice

“County of Stafford. Weights and Measures, District C, or South Staffordshire.

Notice is hereby given, that I shall attend at the undermentioned times and places for the purpose of Comparing and Examining all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to me for that purpose, and Stamping such of them as shall be found correct. . . .

At the GEORGE AND DRAGON, at Rushall, on Tuesday, June 4th, 1872, at ten o’clock am. . . .

All persons residing in the said District desirous of having their Weights and Measures stamped should bring or send them to any of the above places for adjustment, as shall be most convenient, upon the days and at the hours mentioned.

Persons within any local jurisdiction for which a separate Inspector is appointed cannot have their Weights and Measures Examined or Stamped by the County Inspector.

J. George Horder. Inspector of Weights and Measures for District C, or South Staffordshire.

Goldthorn Hill, Wolverhampton, March 16th, 1872.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1879 - Register of Sales

“Wednesday, September 10th – Sale of Off-going Tenant’s Share of Growing Wheat, at the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Rushall, at 4 o’clock.”

1881 Census

Lichfield Road

- [1] *George Gray* (37), licensed victualler, born Henley on Thames;
- [2] *Mary Gray* (37), wife;
- [3] *John H. Gray* (7), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [4] *Arthur Gray* (5), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [5] *Herbert Gray* (4), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [6] *Ronald Gray* (2), son, born Rushall;
- [7] *Louisa Gray* (1), daughter, born Rushall;
- [8] *Mary Doughty* (11), domestic servant, born Wellington, Shropshire:

Walsall Observer 28/3/1885

“On Saturday evening last the dead body of a man was found partly covered by a heap of squitch-grass in Cartbridge Lane, leading from Rushall to Ryecroft, near to the railway line. Upon the arrival of the police the body was still warm. It was found that deceased had a severe wound in the neck, just under the right ear, and from that he bled freely. The inside of the right hand was stained with blood, and in the right-hand pocket of his trousers was a blood-stained pocket knife. The body lay on its back, but partly propped up by the grass – the legs and lower part of the body being covered by the remainder of the heap. Deceased was apparently about 50 years of age, 5ft 7in or 5ft 8in in height, of medium build, with slight brown whiskers, worn longer on the chin than at the sides, and the top lip shaved; dressed in dark cloth jacket, dark vest (patched on the right side with lighter material), moleskin trousers, a calico shirt, a flannel shirt, grey worsted stockings; silk handkerchief, blue with white spots; black cloth cap, with peak of the same material; and strong lace-up boots. Every effort has been made by the police since the discovery of the body to obtain a clue to his identity, but they have been unsuccessful.

The inquest was held on Wednesday morning at the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Rushall, by Mr. E. Hooper, the coroner for

the district, when the following evidence was given.

Thomas Radford, platelayer, deposed that he lived at Cartbridge, and on Friday, the 20th inst, he saw the deceased about nine o'clock in the morning in an occupation road at Cartbridge. The road led to Mr. Sparrow's place at Ryecroft, and deceased was lying on a squitch heap. Witness asked deceased what he was doing there, and deceased said he was resting, as he had been wandering about all night, and had nowhere to go to and no money to spend. Witness asked deceased where he came from, and deceased said he came from Macclesfield. Witness gave deceased threepence, and afterwards went home and got some breakfast for him. The breakfast consisted of bread, bacon, and tea. Deceased ate two or three mouthfuls, and then said that he had had nothing to eat for three days. Deceased also said, 'I once had a good home, but I lost my wife', and he shook his head and sighed. Deceased said he had tried to get work at the recreation ground, but could not get on. Deceased finished his breakfast, and witness left him. About two hours afterwards witness saw him again, and he was then shaking his jacket to shake the dust off, and he then went away. Witness did not see deceased use any knife to cut his breakfast with. On Saturday morning about six witness saw deceased on the heap again. He was then in a sort of sitting position, but witness did not speak to him. Witness did not see him move, and could not say if he was then dead or not. Witness was out at work all day, and on his return home on Saturday night he heard that deceased had been found dead, on the squitch heap, and that blood was on him, and he had been removed by the police. Witness afterwards saw the body at the request of the police, and it was the body the jury had seen, and of the man he had spoken to. When witness saw deceased last he could not say whether deceased was partly under the squitch-heap or not.

Joseph Griffiths, platelayer, deposed that he lived at Pelsall. On Friday morning, about seven o'clock, witness was in the cabin at Radford's Crossing, on the London and North Western Railway. A man named Bullinger told him there was a man lying in the squitch-heap, about 40 yards off. Witness went and looked at the man, but did not speak to him. The man was partly on his side. Witness did not speak to him because Bullinger had just spoken to him, and had covered him with the squitch, the man having requested him to do so. Witness only looked at deceased, not wishing to disturb him. On Saturday morning, about six o'clock, witness was passing along the line with the ganger, and pointed deceased out, for he was then lying on the squitch. Witness had to go on with his work, and could not go to see deceased then, for the platelayers had the lorry out, and a ballast train was expected along about eight o'clock. They could not tell to an hour, or more, when the ballast train would come up. Witness had told his master, the ganger, about the man, and he could not do any more than he did.

Mary Burns, Short Acre, Walsall, deposed that as she was going to work on Saturday morning, she saw deceased lying on the squitch. Deceased partly rose up, and asked witness where he was. She told him that he was in Coal Pool Lane. She then went to her work. On her return from work, about half past five o'clock, she passed within a few feet of the squitch-heap, and she saw deceased lying there. She noticed that his features were pale, and had the appearance of a dead man's features. Witness called a man from the railway line, and he went to deceased and said he believed he was dead, and he would fetch a policeman. Witness could not say how deceased's arms were, as she did not like to look at him very closely.

Thomas Masters, fireman on the London and North Western Railway, deposed that as he went along the line, the previous witness told him that there was a man lying near dead. Witness went and saw deceased, whose legs were covered with the squitch and his body propped up against it. Witness saw no blood about him, and did not go close to him, but fetched Police-constable Murray. Police-constable Murray, stationed at Rushall, deposed that on Saturday, about half past five, the previous witness came to him and said there was a man lying dead in a bye-lane near Cartbridge Farm. Witness went with Marshall to the field, and found deceased lying on a heap of squitch. His hands were stretched out, and were not covered with the squitch. Witness examined the body, and found a cut wound on the right side of his neck. Witness raised the head of the deceased, and then saw a quantity of still wet blood just under him. Witness searched deceased and found the pocket-knife produced in his right-hand pocket. The knife was closed and had dry blood on it. There was also blood on the inside of deceased's right hand. A tobacco-box, a comb, and whistle were also found on deceased; but nothing else of any kind. There were some letters on the right arm of deceased, but witness could not say what letters they were. The body was still warm when witness got to it. Deceased's cap was on his head, and there was no sign anywhere of any scuffle having taken place.

John Wood, MD, Walsall, deposed that he had made a post mortem examination of the body. There was a wound on the right side of the neck an inch below the ear. It was three inches deep, and went forward, and downward. It was half an inch wide, and it severed an important artery. Witness had seen the knife produced and had no doubt that the wound was inflicted with the knife. Witness had heard the evidence of the witnesses, and was of opinion that the wound was self-inflicted. Witness examined the body, but found nothing but the wound to account for death. There was a little matter in the stomach, but no trace of beer or spirits.

Police-sergeant Riley (Rushall) stated that the body was still unidentified. He had made all the inquiries he could, but could not find out anything about the deceased. He had written to Macclesfield, and had received a letter stating 'the man is not known in this borough.' Mr. Rosten, who was the guardian of the poor for the parish, had seen deceased, but did not recognise him as having applied at the Workhouse.

The Coroner said he did not know whether the jury considered that they had sufficient evidence to warrant them in returning their verdict. There was no doubt from the evidence of Dr. Wood, that the man died from the wound in his throat, and it was for the jury to say whether that wound had been self-inflicted in their opinion or by any other person. As nothing was known of the man, they would have great difficulty in finding that he committed suicide – if that was their finding – while in a state of insanity; indeed, there was absolutely nothing to show them what the state of his mind was, but they could express that in their verdict if they thought fit.

The jury, without any hesitation, returned a verdict that deceased Committed Suicide, but there was no evidence to show what was the state of his mind at the time."

[Birmingham Daily Post 19/7/1887](#)

"Bankruptcy Proceedings....."

Re George Gray, GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall, licensed victualler and farmer.

The public examination of this debtor was held at Walsall County Court yesterday before Mr. Registrar Clarke.

The statement of affairs showed liabilities £380 13s 3d, of which £291 3s 9d was expected to rank for dividend; and assets (after making preferential payments to the amount of £89 9s 6d) £1 0s 6d, leaving a deficiency of £291 3s 9d.

The bankrupt was a gentleman's servant until 1874, when he commenced business as a licensed victualler, and small farmer, with a capital of £100. He attributed his failure to bad trade, heavy rental, and loss in farming.

He was allowed to pass."

Lichfield Mercury 19/9/1890

"James Morton, an elderly man residing in Rushall was charged by *John Maclean*, landlord of the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Rushall, with stealing a scythe. Defendant pleaded guilty to the charge but handed in a written character given by his employer.

Prosecutor now stated that he did not wish to press the charge, and by consent of the Bench the case was withdrawn."

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

"The following publicans from Rushall were granted one hour's extension on Monday, October 13th, the occasion being the wakes *John Maclean*."

1891 Census

Lichfield Road – GEORGE AND DRAGON

[1] *John McLean* (46), licensed victualler, born Kirkton, Dumfriesshire;

[2] *Agnes J. McLean* (40), wife, born Northampton;

[3] John R. McLean (15), son, tailor's apprentice, born Northampton;

[4] James McLean (11), son, scholar, born Northampton;

[5] Agnes McLean (7), daughter, scholar, born Northampton;

[6] Thomas McLean (40), brother, born Kirkton, Dumfriesshire:

Agnes McLean = Agnes McClean

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

"Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held on Monday at the Court-house, Rushall.....

Mr. John N. Cotterell (Walsall) applied for an out-door beer license for premises at Rushall in the occupation of George Bakewell, but the license was opposed by the police and Mr. Jackson (Walsall) for Mr. S. Nuttall, of the MINERS ARMS, and Mrs. *McLean*, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON. Refused."

Lichfield Mercury 12/5/1893

".....There were like summonses against Benjamin Walker, of the MINERS ARMS, Daw End, and *Agnes McLean*, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall. The constable who gave evidence in this case admitted that he took part in the gaming, and that he had no corroborative evidence, and Mr. Loxton, who defended, at once took the objection that the uncorroborated evidence of an accomplice was insufficient to warrant a conviction. The objection was allowed and the cases dismissed, Mr. Naylor advising that in future the chief constable should see that corroborative evidence was given in such cases."

Walsall Observer 17/3/1900

"On Tuesday evening last, at the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Rushall, the Lost and Found Lodge of the Bilston, Walsall and Cannock District of Free Gardeners and the Caledonian Corks Lodge No.326, held jointly their second annual dinner....."

1901 Census

Lichfield Road – GEORGE AND DRAGON INN

[1] *Agnes J. McLean* (49), widow, licensed victualler, born Northampton;

[2] Jessie McLean (23), daughter, school teacher, born Northampton;

[3] James McLean (21), son, carpenter, born Northampton;

[4] Agnes McLean (17), daughter, born Northampton;

[5] Harriet E. Brown (19), general servant, born Boney Hay, Staffordshire:

Lichfield Mercury 14/6/1901

"An hours extension was given for the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Rushall, on the 18th inst, the occasion being a Free Gardeners' supper."

Walsall Advertiser 8/5/1909

"An inquest was held at the GEORGE AND DRAGON HOTEL, Rushall, on Thursday morning, by Mr. G. C. Lewis (county coroner), respecting the death of James Hastings (62), chainmaker, of North Street, Ryecroft, who was found lying dead in a field near the Cattle Arch, Rushall.

Adelaide Hastings, widow, stated that her husband left home with the intention of visiting a relative at Shelfield. She waited up for him until one o'clock on Wednesday morning, but as he did not return she thought he was staying over the night with his

friends. Her husband had been unwell for some time, and had been under Dr. Oliver for an affection of the heart. William Henry Alcock, of Ablewell Street, Walsall, spoke to having found the body. He was strolling in the fields with a friend, and upon seeing the form of deceased on the grass, he remarked, 'That man's dead.' He next felt deceased's pulse, afterwards the heart, and then stood by the body while his friend went for the police. Dr. Hawley attributed death to a sudden attack of heart disease, and the jury returned a verdict of Natural Causes."

Bennett's Business Directory 1911-1912

"GEORGE AND DRAGON HOTEL – *A. J. McLean* proprietress. Wines, spirits and cigars of the best."

1911 Census

Rushall – GEORGE AND DRAGON

- [1] *Agnes Janet McLean* (60), widow, licensed victualler, born Northampton;
- [2] James McLean (31), son, carpenter, born Northampton;
- [3] Agnes Jane McLean (27), daughter, assists in business, born Northampton;
- [4] Marian Wilkes (24), domestic servant, born Pleck;

Walsall Advertiser 17/2/1912

"The Rushall Annual Licensing Sessions were held on Monday...."

On behalf of the licensee, Mrs. *McLean*, Mr. Bailey made an application for an extension of time (from 10 till 11) at the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall on February 14th and 26th, the occasions, respectively, being the date of the dinner of the Pelsall District Miners' Association Lodge, and the third annual supper of the Caledonian Corks Lodge 326. The applications were granted till 10.45."

Walsall Advertiser 7/2/1914

"A miner, William Hewitt (60), of no fixed abode, was charged at Rushall Police Court, on Monday, with being drunk and disorderly outside the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall, at 10-20 on Sunday night. Police-constable Reynolds proved the case, and prisoner stated that he had been out of work for five or six months, but had been very steady for a long time. Prisoner, who had previously been convicted on 15 occasions, was ordered to pay the costs (5/-) or seven days."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

"At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday....
Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses....
For repairs and alterations of structure....
GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/5/1928

"A summons against *Percy Shrives Curtis*, the licensee of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Lichfield Road, Rushall, for supplying intoxicants during non-permitted hours, was dismissed."

Lichfield Mercury 17/8/1928

"William Pinson (56), of Bloxwich Road, Leamore, Walsall, was fined 20s at Rushall on Monday for stealing two billiard balls, value 25s, belong to *Percy S. Curtiss*, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON HOTEL, Rushall, on August 4th. He said he had no intention to steal the balls. He put them in his pocket in an absent-minded way when playing with them."

Walsall Observer 18/3/1939

"Rushall Licensing Justices, at their adjourned meeting on Monday....
The justices also announced that the licenses of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall, and the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, consideration of which was adjourned from the General Sessions, would be renewed subject to undertakings which the owners had given to the Bench."

Walsall Observer 11/11/1939

"Difficulties created by the war were the explanation offered by Mr. Gordon Hawley to the Rushall Licensing Justices on Monday when he asked that an application by the Northampton Brewery Company for approval for plans for the rebuilding of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall, should be withdrawn for the time being. Mr. Hawley re

minded the Bench that the Brewery Company had undertaken to submit plans for the almost complete remodelling of the premises before the next annual licensing meeting but the war had presented a number of difficulties. He asked that either the Bench or the applicants should have the right to raise the matter as circumstances permitted. The Justices agreed to this."

1939 Register

Lichfield Road – DRAGON INN

- [1] *Frederick Wood*, date of birth 15/11/1903, public house manager, married;

- [2] Louisa M. Wood, dob 19/3/1906, unpaid domestic duties, married;
[3] Henry E. Noble, dob 13/8/1869, stoker at hosiery factory, incapacitated, married;
[4] Louisa Noble, dob 28/11/1872, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Fred Wood was married to Molly.

Walsall Observer 15/4/1944 - Acknowledgments

“Mrs. Noble and Family, GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall, sincerely thank all kind friends for floral tributes and sympathy: Mr. and Mrs. Smith, RED COW, Heath End, Mrs. Rufford, Mr. Cooper, MINERS ARMS, Mr. and Mrs. Martin and Family, Mrs. Duffy and Nora, and Customers of GEORGE AND DRAGON.”

Closed

Demolished

A Macdonalds was built on the site.

GEORGE STEPHENSON

Stephenson Avenue, WALSALL

OWNERS

Allied Domecq Ltd.

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1998]

[2017]

GLOBE

28, Bridgeman Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Etheridge, Stourbridge [1861]
Edward Newey, buckle maker, Wallows Street, Walsall
Mrs. Newman, widow
Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd. [1903]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

Robert Newman [1858] – [1861]
William Etheridge [1861] – [1870]
John Perry [1871] – [1875];
Thomas Cornfield [];
Mrs. Annie Whittall [1881]
Mrs. Emily Ellen Mold [1891] – [1892]
Mrs. Emily Ellen Bliss [1901]
Aaron Morgan [1903] – [1904]
Arthur Morgan [1904]
Mrs. Emily Ellen Bliss [1912] – 1934);
Raymond Miller (1934 – 1937);

Harold Horsley (1937 – 1938);
John William Dean (1938 – 1956);
Alice Emily Dean (1956 – 1957);
Wilfred Fellows (1957 – 1959);
Herbert Thomas Postle (1959 – 1960):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

28, Bridgeman Street – Public House – GLOBE

- [1] *William Etheridge* (26), victualler, born Stourbridge;
- [2] *Elizabeth Etheridge* (28), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Thomas Etheridge* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ellen Etheridge* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *William Etheridge* (11 months), son, born Doncaster;
- [6] *Thomas Etheridge* (23), brother, iron roller, born Stourbridge;
- [7] *Catherine Sturge* (19), servant, born Wolverhampton:

1871 Census

28, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *John Perry* (39), pully dresser, born Walsall;
- [2] *Prudence Perry* (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *John Perry* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *John Wooliscroft* (13), boarder, pully dresser, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Maria Hickmen* (17), boarder, sticher, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 8/5/1871

“On Saturday afternoon, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Coroner, held an inquest at the GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, on the body of Mary Clarke, aged 4½, the daughter of parents living in the neighbourhood. On Wednesday afternoon, the child went into the yard, and placed her mouth under the tap, which she turned on, and the water rushed out with such force as to suffocate her. She fell to the ground, where her lifeless body was found by her mother a few minutes later. The jury found that the deceased was Accidentally Suffocated.”

The licensee was fined £5 and costs, on 7th October 1874, for Sunday trading.

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

“Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

The cases of *John Perry*, the GLOBE, Bridgman Street were adjourned.”

1881 Census

28, Bridgeman Street – GLOBE INN

- [1] *Ann Whittall* (48), widow, publican, born Wednesfield;
- [2] *Lizzie Whittall* (20), daughter, tobacconist’s assistant, born Walsall;
- [3] *Fred Whittall* (19), son, commercial clerk, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ellen Whittall* (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Minnie Whittall* (14), daughter, milliner, born Walsall;
- [6] *James Whittall* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Emma Whittall* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Sidney Whittall* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Elizabeth Alcock* (77), mother, annuitant, born Bloxwich:

Ann Whittall was the widow of *James Whittall* of the IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street, FITTERS ARMS and THREE CUPS.

Ann Whittall was the niece of *Charles Welch* of the OLD CHURCH AND BELL.

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1883 - Advert

“To Let, an Old-Licensed House; in-coming moderate. Seven year’s lease.
Apply, GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, Walsall.”

1891 Census

28, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *Emily Ellen Mold* (39), widow, publican, born Nailsea, Somersetshire;
- [2] *Vaughan Mold* (15), son, clerk, born Walsall;
- [3] *Lilian Bolwell Mold* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Percy Arthur Mold* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Mabel May Mold* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Lena Bournes* (20), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 2/7/1892

“Joseph Hughes (17), Regent Street, Pleck, was put forward on remand to answer five different charges (1) obtaining by false pretences 2s from *Emily Mold*, (2) obtaining by false pretences 2s from Peter Vickers, (3) obtaining by false pretences 2s from John Reynolds, (4) obtaining by false pretences 2s from John Hennessy, (5) obtaining by false pretences 2s from Thomas Green Cleobury.

Emily Mold, landlady of the GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, said that on the 25th the prisoner came to her house and obtained 2s from her, stating that it was for Mr. Lawson of the Conservative Club. He also said he was working for him in the committee room, and Mr. Lawson had gone to Birmingham without leaving him any money, and he was out of stationary. She gave him the money.

Ada Wadsworth corroborated.

Walter Lawson, secretary to the Walsall Conservative Association, said that he did not know the prisoner. He was not employed by the Association, and he had not authorised the prisoner or anyone else to borrow money on his account.

Detective Smith deposed to the arrest of the prisoner.

Peter Vickers, 48, Goodall Street, deposed that on Saturday last the prisoner came and asked him for 2s for Mr. Lawson, on the same representation as in the previous case.

John Reynolds, barman at the DUN COW, Wolverhampton Street, stated that the prisoner came to the house and asked for Mr. Egan, the landlord. Mr. Egan was out, and the prisoner said that he was employed in the Liberal Committee Rooms. He said Mr. Hughes had gone to Birmingham without leaving him any money, and he wanted 2s for stationary. Witness knew Mr. Hughes was secretary to the Liberal Association, and he gave prisoner the money.

Richard Harry Hughes, hon. sec. Liberal Association, said he did not know prisoner, and he had not authorised him or any other person to borrow money in his name.

Thomas Cleobury, landlord of the NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street, deposed to the prisoner asking him for 2s for Mr. Lawson. He did not lend him the money. He told him to go about his business, as he did not believe him.

John Hennessy, landlord of the BRADFORD ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, deposed to a similar attempt on the part of the prisoner, and his refusing to lend him the money.

The prisoner was returned for trial to the sessions on the several cases.”

[At the Walsall Quarter Session (July 1892), Joseph Hughes was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.]

1901 Census

28, Bridgeman Street – The GLOBE

- [1] *Emily E. Bliss* (49), publican, born Nailsea, Somersetshire;
 - [2] *Lilian B. Mold* (20), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [3] *Arthur P. Mold* (18), son, warehouse clerk (casters), born Walsall;
 - [4] *May Mold* (15), daughter, born Walsall:
- [It seems that Emily Mold married a Mr. Bliss.]

Arthur Morgan, beer retailer, 28, Bridgeman Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1904

“John Benjamin Hawkins, carter (29), 85, Prince Street, was brought up on a charge of stealing a bottle of gin, value 2s 7d from the GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, on Monday.

The evidence given by *Aaron Morgan* (the landlord) was that while in his smoke room looking at a mirror he saw the reflection of the prisoner, who had called for a glass of ale, and who was putting his hand through the out-door window and taking something from the shelf. Witness afterwards missed the gin.

Detective Burrell said he arrested the man Hawkins, who said, ‘I ought never to have anything to drink; it always gets me into trouble. I knew that I’d be found out, so I broke the bottle into pieces at Park Brook.’

Sentenced to two months' imprisonment. The prisoner had previously been convicted.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/5/1905

“At Walsall, on Monday, *Aaron Morgan* (28), licensed victualler, GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, was charged with administering poison to his wife with intent to commit murder.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) stated that on Saturday night, after closing time, prisoner had a quarrel with his wife, who went upstairs to the bedroom. Prisoner followed, and afterwards called to the servant who found her mistress lying on the bed unconscious. She was sent for a bottle of smelling salts, which she fetched from downstairs, but the woman, owing to the stupor she was in, was unable to inhale them. Prisoner therefore, it is stated, in the presence of the girl, poured the liquid ammonia, which had been recently purchased, down his wife's throat. A doctor who was called in found the woman to have been so severely injured that at first he was of the opinion that she would die; while, in the event of recovery, she was likely to wear a silver tube in

her throat all her life. Since then, however, she had very much improved, and might be able to give evidence in a week's time. He accordingly applied for a remand.

Mr. T. H. Stanley, on behalf of the accused, consented to this course, but asked for bail.

The Chief Constable said he must oppose this, as there was a possibility that pneumonia might supervene in which event the woman was unlikely to recover.

A girl named Matilda Scarlett, who, it was stated, fetched the salts, was called, but appeared greatly agitated, and stated that she remembered nothing of what occurred.

The Bench remanded prisoner, and refused bail."

Walsall Advertiser 20/5/1905

"*Aaron Morgan* (28), licensed victualler, of the GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, surrendered to his bail, and was again charged on Monday, at the Guildhall, before Messrs. J. Moseley (presiding), J. F. Crump, J. Clare, and G. Wightman, with attempting to murder his wife, *Ada Mary Morgan*, by administering poison in the shape of spirits of ammonia to her. Mr H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) defended the prisoner, who appeared in the dock clean and smart, but with troubled countenance, indicating that he felt his position very acutely.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson), before calling his witnesses, said that after the evidence it would be for the Bench to say whether there was sufficient evidence for the case to go before a jury, but it might be that they would come to the conclusion that the prisoner did not know the power of the drug, although the evidence showed that he administered it.

Matilda Scarlet, aged 19, domestic servant in the employ of the accused, was the first witness called. She appeared the reverse of brightness intellectually, and was most stubborn. In reply to the Chief Constable (who held in his hand a statement which witness had made to the police on the morning of May 7th and signed) said she did not remember whether there was a row between prisoner and his wife after closing time on May 6th. She got quite hysterical. She did not remember anything whatever. She did not know whether there were any words. She forgot everything.

The Chairman: Were there any words between your master and mistress? – Witness (vacantly): No.

Mr. Loxton: You could not make up a consistent story like you did and then say you do not remember anything. Don't you remember fetching this bottle up (pointing to the smelling bottle on the solicitor's table)? – No.

Did you have any supper? – I don't know.

Witness added that she was always hysterical and her mistress had told her several times she would give her notice, as she put things away and did not remember where she had put them.

Mr. Loxton: O, you remember that. How is it you remember that and nothing else? – No answer.

The Bench decided to put witness back to be called at a later stage of the case.

Ada Mary Morgan, wife of the accused, was next called. She was a bright, sharp looking little woman, with a pale face and pinched cheeks, indicative of the ordeal through which she had passed, and she gave her evidence very clearly and without the slightest hesitation. In reply to the Chief Constable she said that after closing the house on the night of May 6th, she had a word or two with her husband over supper. About midnight she went upstairs to bed. After she had unfastened her bodice, she felt faint and leaned against the bed. She heard her husband say 'What's the matter' when he came into the room, and she said 'Oh nothing, I shall be all right just now.' He then went and called to 'Tilly' to bring the smelling salts out of the bar —

Mr. Loxton: But, Mrs. *Morgan*, I thought you were unconscious on the bed all the time? – Mrs. *Morgan*: I was partly unconscious but I heard him call the girl. I remember the girl coming to the room with the salts. I saw the servant hand him the bottle. I was leaning back against the bed. He pulled the stopper out of the bottle and put the bottle to my nose. It affected my head so much I knocked the bottle away from my nose. I knocked the bottle out of his hand. Part of its contents went into my mouth and part on my underclothing. My tongue and lips were burned.

Mr. Loxton: When you knocked it, what happened? – Witness: Part of the contents went in my mouth, and part on my underclothing. My bodice was open.

She could not say whether any went on the floor. She was not burned anywhere except the mouth and just the lips.

The Chief Constable: Where the bottlemouth went? – Witness: Yes, afterwards I heard him say, 'The missis is very bad, fetch a doctor.'

The Chief: You say that when you fell on the bed you were partly conscious? – Witness: Yes, partly conscious.

The Chief: Did you hear him call for the bank book? – Witness: He asked for the bank book downstairs before we went up.

Do you remember him bringing the children into the room? – Witness: I remember seeing one of the little girls.

Had that child been in bed? – Yes, sir.

For how many hours? – The child was put to bed about 7.30 or eight o'clock.

Replying to Mr. Loxton, Mrs. *Morgan* said she had used the liquid ammonia for seven years, as she was subject to fainting.

Mr. Loxton: What in the strong crude state? – Witness: Yes sir.

In reply to further questions, Mrs. *Morgan* said she did not hear the child cry out. Witness did not remember the servant assisting her husband in reviving her. The salts were renewed about ten days previously.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jackson: She had been married seven years and had two children living and one buried. She had used liquid ammonia of salts for seven years. She did not know it was such dangerous stuff, and had left it about the house within reach of the children. She did not think her husband had any intention to do her any harm. He had always been a good husband to her. The few words they had on the night in question were about the supper – the servant had not put the seasoning in. What differences they had had only been like what married people usually had (laughter). They had never fallen out seriously. She was very fond of her husband. She thoroughly trusted him, and has always done so.

Dr. Deakin said he was called to the house at one o'clock on Sunday morning, and found Mrs. *Morgan* lying on the bed, where a neighbour was supporting her head on her arm. She was very bad and could hardly breathe, her tongue was protruding from her

mouth, and was very much swollen. She had some white scars on the lip. He asked the servant who had given the ammonia to her.

Mr. Jackson (interposing) asked if the husband was present at the time the inquiry was made.

Dr. Deakin said the husband was present, but was drunk, and that consequently he addressed the question to the servant.

Mr. Crump: Do you say he was drunk? – Witness: Oh, yes, he was drunk.

Dr Deakin proceeded to say that the servant informed him that when the bottle was put to the mistress's nose and she could not smell it the husband poured some ammonia down her throat.

The Chief: Did you ask the mistress herself? – Witness: She could not speak, I asked her if it was right what the girl said, and she nodded assent.

Dr. Deakin said he also asked *Morgan* about it, but he was drunk, and could not tell him; he made no answer. He at once administered an emetic. The poison had gone down the throat as far as the larynx. The lips, the inside of the mouth, and tonsils were injured. The mouth was burned all round, except where it was protected by a tooth plate. The woman was practically all right again. It was a volatile poison which passed off quickly.

By Mr. Jackson: The poison did not go beyond the throat. It might have spilled in her mouth as she knocked the bottle away from her nose.

Mr. Jackson: If the woman's mouth was open it would be quite consistent with an accident? – Witness: If it went into the mouth with her mouth open.

Asked whether *Morgan* was very drunk at the time, the doctor said 'Yes, he fell downstairs twice while I was there.'

Mr. Jackson: Then he would not know very much what he was doing? – Witness: No, I don't think he would.

Mr. Crump: If he was so drunk when he was administering this it was very likely he might have this accident.

Dr. Deakin: It is quite possible.

Re-examined by the Chief Constable: There were no marks of the ammonia on the chin, but simply a clear margin on the bottom of the lip. The doctor also said that two teaspoons of ammonia had been known to cause death.

Mr. Loxton (clerk): Can you form any idea how much went into the mouth? Would not a few drops be sufficient to cause all the injury?

Dr. Deakin said it would require more than that, as there had been sufficient to coat the inside of the mouth, the tonsils and the tongue down to the larynx. He should think more than a teaspoonful went into the mouth. He also, in reply to questions, said that the girl *Scarlet* seemed all right when he was at the house, and answered all his questions plainly.

Matilda Scarlet was now recalled, and in answer to the Chief Constable said she remembered nothing about the occurrence.

Mr. Loxton: How long have you been at this place? – Witness (readily): Eight weeks to-day.

Where were you before then? – At a farmhouse at Lichfield.

Why did you leave there? – Because the missus left.

What time of day would you get to the GLOBE INN, when you first came? – About 12 o'clock at noon.

Mr. Loxton: You can remember all these things clearly; why cannot you remember what you told the police about this case? – No answer.

Mr. Moseley (to witness): Up to the present the Bench don't think you have spoken one word of truth. You can remember all the things Mr. Loxton has put to you. Now you answer the Chief Constable.

The Chief: Is that your signature (handing her a written statement)? Don't you know your own writing? – Witness still said she did not know, and couldn't remember having signed it.

The Chief Constable: We shall have to have this woman certified for a lunatic asylum.

Mr. Moseley: The Bench have no hesitation in saying you have been telling a pack of lies. You can stand down.

Mr. Jackson: I am sorry the girl won't make the statement. It is unfortunate for my client.

Chief Constable: It is on this girl's evidence the whole case rests.

The mother of the girl was here called forward, and said that her daughter was often like this, and did not remember things. She had had a shock at one of the places, where someone had a gun and threatened to shoot her.

At this stage it was decided that the Chief Constable should read in open court the statement made and signed by the girl. *Matilda Scarlet* in her written statement said that after closing time on May 6th her master and mistress commenced quarrelling about the supper, and he threatened to strike her, but he did not carry out his threat. Shortly after twelve o'clock the master asked witness to get the bank book, and when returning with the book she heard the mistress scream. She went upstairs, and met her master on the landing. He went into the children's room; she went into her mistress's room, where she found her mistress on the bed. Whilst she was endeavouring to revive her, her master returned to the bedroom, with the two children in their nightdresses. They had been in bed for two hours, and had been woke up. He asked her what she was doing, and said, 'You b—— fool! Go and fetch the smelling bottle.' When she returned she put the bottle to her mistress's nose, but her master snatched it away, saying, 'Give me the b—— bottle; and also put it to her nose, but as the mistress would not smell it he got out of temper, and poured some into her mouth. The mistress at once jumped up, started spitting and throwing her arms about. She could not speak, and her lips began to swell. The master told her to get some water, and also told her to fetch the neighbours, and also asked for a doctor to be fetched.

Mr. Jackson said the statement did not carry the case any further, for it showed that the man sent for a doctor, and did all he could.

Mr. Moseley said the magistrates were unanimous on the point that there was no intent.

Mr. Jackson: There is no case.

Mr. Loxton here referred to the law, and asked if there was not a clause which provided for unlawfully and maliciously administering poison.

Mr. Jackson said that even then, to prove unlawful malicious poisoning there would have to be intent.

The magistrates unanimously dismissed the case, Mr. Moseley observing that no jury would convict on the evidence before them."

1911 Census

28, Bridgeman Street – GLOBE INN

- [1] *Emily Ellen Bliss* (59), married, publican, born Nailsea, Somersetshire;
- [2] Arthur Percy Mold (28), son, warehouse clerk, born Walsall;
- [3] Mabel May Mold (25), daughter, assisting in the business, born Walsall;
- [4] Selena Woodhouse (17), general servant, born Walsall:

Mrs. *Emily Bliss*, beer retailer, 28, Bridgeman Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street. £1 8s 8d.”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“In 1925 the Public bar was 16’ x 11’5” x 9’2” with a Smoke room and outdoor, the property had a full alehouse license.....”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

GLOBE, Bridgeman Street.”

1939 Register

28, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *John W. Dean*, date of birth 30/11/1889, manager, public house, married;
- [2] *Alice Emily (Dean) Gregeen*, dob 5/5/1895, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Ernest Dean, dob 14/12/1923, at school, single:

Walsall Observer 13/7/1940

“At the monthly meeting on Thursday of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....

Mr. *John William Dean*, GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, was elected a member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, £2 17s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street. £2 13s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street. £0 10s 9d.”

J. W. Dean died in 1957.

It closed on 19th May 1960.

GLOBE

336, (358), (356), Darlaston Road, James Bridge, Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

Earl of Bradford
John Clews
Grigg and Brettell Ltd. (acquired on 16th November 1939)
Ansells Ltd. [1954]

LICENSEES

Benjamin Yates [1834] – 1861);
Mrs. Anne Yates (1861 – []
Richard Clews [1868] – 1888);
John Clews (1888 – 1913);
Harry F Clews (1913 – 1916);
William Jones (1916 – 1919);
John Benton (1919 – 1921);
Bertie Roberts Summerton (1921 – 1928);
Joseph Ball (1928 – 1930);
Oliver Holt (1930 – 1933);
John Ray (1933 – 1946);
Wilfred Peake (1946 – 1949);
George Frederick Mountney (1949 – 1950);
Arthur Lawton (1950 – 1952);
George Henry Mole (1952 – 1959);
Frederick Noakes (1959 – 1962);
Cyril Dennis Morris (1962 – 1964);
Malcolm Frederick Jones (1964 – 1965);
Margaret Castrey (1965);
Michael Robert Greenland Currie (1965 – 1966);
Cecil Frederick Chinn (1966 – []

NOTES

James Bridge [1841], [1851], [1861], [1868], [1871], [1904]
356, Darlaston Road [1932], [1939]
336, Darlaston Road [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a skittle alley.

It was Grade II listed.

“Probably early 18th century. Rendered brick with tile roof.....”

1841 Census

James Bridge

- [1] Benjamin Yates (50), brickmaker;
- [2] Ann Yates (45), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Abraham Yates (20), miner, born Staffordshire;
- [4] John Yates (14), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Michael Yates (12), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Louisa Yates (9), born Staffordshire;
- [7] Nancy Yates (6), born Staffordshire;
- [8] Samuel Yates (3), born Staffordshire;
- [9] William Bradley (15), apprentice;
- [10] Thomas Stokes (13):

Benjamin Yates was also a farmer and brickmaker. [1845]

1851 Census

James Bridge

- [1] Benjamin Yates (62), brickmaker, born Cleobury Mortimer;
- [2] Ann Yates (56), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] Michael Yates (20), son, miner, born James Bridge;

- [4] Louisa Yates (18), daughter, born James Bridge;
- [5] Nancy Yates (16), daughter, born James Bridge;
- [6] Henry Edwards (30), lodger, labourer, born Worfield. Shropshire;
- [7] William Whitehouse (9), visitor, born West Browich;
- [8] Edward Whitehouse (7), visitor, born West Browich;
- [9] Thomas S. J ___ (34), lodger, waggoner, born Herefordshire:

1861 Census

James Bridge – Public House

- [1] *Benjamin Yates* (72), brickmaker, born Cleobury, Shropshire;
- [2] Ann Yates (66), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] Benjamin Wilkes (19), grandson, caster, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Mary Cotter__ (25), servant, born Darlaston;
- [5] Louisa Yates (9), granddaughter, born Bentley;
- [6] George Williams (25), visitor, born West Mouton, Somersetshire:

Walsall Free Press 4/1/1862

“Guildhall Police Court. Monday. The GLOBE, at James Bridge, formerly kept by *Benjamin Yates*, deceased on the 29th of December, 1861, was transferred to his widow, *Anne Yates*.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 20/12/1862 - Advert

“Sale At The GLOBE INN, James Bridge, Near Darlaston.

By John Osbourn, upon the Premises as above, on Monday Next, December 22.

All the useful Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, farming Implements, about Ten bags of Wheat, 8-Horse high-pressure Steam Engine, Wood Shed, and other Effects, belonging to the late Mr. *Benjamin Yates*.

Sale to commence at Ten o’clock, under the usual conditions.”

Walsall Free Press 20/12/1862

“On Wednesday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, Esq., coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the GLOBE INN, James Bridge, upon the body of Mary Moore, aged 70. Deceased, who had been in bad health for sometime, was left in her chair by the fire in the GLOBE INN, where she resided, about eleven o’clock on Saturday night, and about eight o’clock the following morning was found in the same position quite dead. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Died from Natural Causes.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/12/1869

“Yesterday Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the GLOBE INN, James Bridge, upon the body of James Brown, aged 70. From the evidence it appeared that deceased was an inmate of the Walsall Union Workhouse, and on Monday last he obtained leave to go to visit his friends at Darlaston, and when near the GLOBE INN, James Bridge, he was observed by Thomas James, butcher, Stafford Street, who was driving along the road, to stagger. James conveyed deceased to the GLOBE INN, and gave him some brandy, but deceased expired.

The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

1871 Census

James Bridge – GLOBE INN

- [1] *Richard Clews* (58), publican, born Wiltshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Clews (56), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *John Clews* (18), son, grocer’s assistant, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Leah Tibbetts (16), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [5] John Shaw (36), lodger, labourer, born Shropshire:

Walsall Observer 24/5/1873

“Jane Hall, a married woman, was charged with refusing to quit the GLOBE INN, James Bridge, on the 10th inst. Mr. Glover appeared for complainant.

Mr. *Richard Clews*, the landlord, said at about 10 on the night in question, several people entered his house and created a great disturbance. The defendant was there and was the worst of the lot, using most foul language. He found it necessary to call in Acting-sergeant M’Garry. Defendant, who did not appear, was fined 10s and costs, or fourteen days.”

1881 Census

Darlaston Road

- [1] *Richard Clews* (68), widower, publican, born Alvechurch, Warwickshire;
- [2] Emma Yandon (34), domestic servant, born Clay Hill, Shropshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 6/6/1882

“Yesterday the borough coroner (Mr. A. A. Fletcher) held an inquest, at the GLOBE INN, James Bridge, on the body of Elijah Perry (21), who on Sunday morning was found in the canal.

The evidence of the deceased's sister showed that since his marriage, on Easter Sunday, he had lived very unhappily with his wife, in consequence of the latter's 'carrying on.' On Whit Monday a quarrel took place, in which his wife announced her intention of leaving him, carrying out her threat by at once leaving the house where he was at the time. Deceased shortly afterwards went out, and was not seen again until his body was found.

A verdict of Found Drowned was returned."

Walsall Observer 28/4/1888 - Deaths

"On the 25th inst, *Richard Clews*, GLOBE INN, James Bridge, Walsall, in the 76th year of his age; deeply regretted by his family and friends."

1891 Census

Darlaston Road – GLOBE INN

[1] *John Clews* (38), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;

[2] Hannah Clews (39), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Harry Clews (14), son, office boy, born Walsall;

[4] Fred Clews (9), son, born Walsall;

[5] Jane Tolley (18), domestic servant, born Brownhills:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/1/1892

"The body of Ann Davis (36), who lived at the back of the GLOBE INN, James Bridge, and had been missing since the 16th inst, was found on Sunday in the canal near to her home."

1901 Census

Darlaston Road – GLOBE INN

[1] *John Clews* (48), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;

[2] Hannah Clews (49), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Fred Clews (19), son, pattern maker, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 9/3/1907 - Notice

"Guardians Election, 1907.

To The Electors of Pleck Ward.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Permit me to thank you for having returned me unopposed as your representative on the Walsall Board of Guardians for the next three years.

This mark of approval of my first term of service on the Board I assure you I appreciate very highly, and it will be my pleasure to continue to take that practical interest, which I hope I have done hitherto, in the interests of the deserving poor, as well as the important financial questions which have from time to time to be dealt with. Believe me.

Yours faithfully, *John Clews*.

GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road, March 8th."

1911 Census

Darlaston Road

[1] *John Clews* (58), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;

[2] Hannah Clews (59), wife, married 35 years, assisting in the business, born Walsall;

[3] Fred Clews (29), son, pattern maker, born Walsall;

[4] Beatrice Martha Jane Kirkham (30), barmaid, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1911

"The Globe Bowling Club, which is held at the GLOBE HOTEL, Darlaston Road, have a fine green, and a fine host, who spares no time and expense in having everything done that is for the comfort and enjoyment of the members. The green was opened on Saturday....."

Walsall Advertiser 19/7/1913

"Board Of Guardians...."

A letter was received from the son of Mr. *John Clews* of the GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road, (a member of the Board) intimating that his father had died the previous day at his residence."

Walsall Advertiser 8/11/1913

"Mr. *John Clews*, of the GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road, Walsall, licensed victualler, a member of the Town Council and of the Board of Guardians, and actively interested in questions affecting the licensing trade, who died on 17th July last, aged 60 years, left estate of the gross value of £3,100 8s 7d, of which £2,706 16s 6d is net personalty. Probate of his will has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Hannah Clews, of the said inn, and his sons, Mr. Harry Clews, of 148, Wallows Lane, Bescot, Walsall, coal dealer, and Mr. Fred Clews, of the GLOBE INN, Walsall."

Walsall Advertiser 22/11/1913

“The members of the Globe Bowling Club turned up in good numbers on Saturday to the GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road, where their annual dinner was held, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.....”

H. F. Clews issued tokens from here “Free House, Highgate & Ansells Ales”.

Walsall Observer 1/8/1914

“The fourth annual flower and vegetable show, held under the auspices of the Darlaston Road and Bescot Allotment Holders’ Mutual Improvement Association, showed in many respects a distinct advance on those of the three previous years, and there seems every reason to anticipate a prosperous future for the society and its summer venture. Formerly, the show was held at the GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road, but this year the organizing committee decided to extend the scope, and secured the use of the Pleck Recreation Ground.....”

Walsall Observer 16/1/1915 - Advert

“Estate of *John Clews*, Deceased.

GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road, Jamesbridge, Walsall (Darlaston Trams set down at the house).

Fox and Harrison F.A.I. are favoured with instructions from the Executors, who are placing the House under management, to Sell by Public Auction, without any reserve, on Wednesday, 27th January, 1915, The Very Substantial Antique and Modern Household Furniture and Appointments, including Cottage Pianoforte, and contents of 3 Living Rooms and 4 Bedrooms, also Rubber-Tyred Phaeton, Rubber-Tyred Gig, Suit 13;2 hands, etc.

On View An Hour Prior To Sale.

Sale at 10.30am.

Auctioneers’ Offices, 51, Lower Hall Street. Telephone 198.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road. £1 9s 1d.”

Bertie R. Summerton = Bertie R. Swinnerton

South Staffordshire Times 15/10/1921

“In applying at Walsall Police Court for the transfer of the license of the GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road, from *John Benton* to *Bertie R. Swinnerton*, Mr. Hodgkinson, solicitor, explained that *Benton* had given three months’ notice, which had expired, but the question of alternative accommodation had been raised. *Benton* however was a manager. Mr. R. A. Tench (Wednesbury), who opposed the application, said that since receiving notice from the brewery company *Benton* had continued as licensee, and had himself tendered three months’ notice, which did not expire until December 10th. Mr. Hodgkinson thereupon remarked that it was purely destructive and blackmailing opposition with the object of getting something out of the brewery company. Mr. Tench replied that if Mr. Hodgkinson would repeat the charge outside the Court he should be given an opportunity of proving it or paying for it. The Bench granted the transfer.”

Evening Despatch 9/3/1939

“Notice of objection had been made by the Justices to 11 licenses, chiefly on the grounds of redundancy.....

Applying for the renewal of the license of the GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road, which was granted subject to the provision of plans for rebuilding, Mr. E. W. Haden stated that the house had been in one family for over a century.”

AND

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

“Representing the owners of the GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road (respecting which there had been notice of objection at the opening of the sessions), Mr. E. W. Haden stated that the house had been in the occupation of the present owners for fifty years and of the *Clews* family for over a century. Negotiations were proceeding, he said, that would enable the owners to submit plans for rebuilding in the course of a few months.

Subject to the undertaking to rebuild, the license was renewed.”

Walsall Observer 18/11/1939

“Plans for the complete rebuilding of the GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road, were submitted by Mr. Gordon Hawley on behalf of the owners. The war, he said, created considerable difficulties in a matter of this kind, but the owners felt that every effort should be made to carry out this scheme, because of an undertaking given at the last adjourned licensing sessions and also because everyone who had seen the present premises must agree that this was work that ought to be done.

Subject to minor modifications, the plans were approved, the Chairman remarking to the architect (Mr. H. W. Shipley), ‘We hope you will be able to get on with the building soon.’ ‘That is the difficulty,’ replied Mr. Shipley. ‘It will be far more difficult to do that than it has been to get permission this morning.’”

1939 Register

356, Darlaston Road – GLOBE INN

[1] *John Ray*, date of birth 18/3/1876, licensee, married;

[2] Lucy Ray, dob 19/3/1879, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road, £2 2s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road. £1 9s 4d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1945 - Advert

“By Direction of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Bradford. Third Sale of Valuable Freehold Ground Rents.....

Nine Licensed Houses..... GLOBE INN, Darlaston Road.”

George Henry Mole was fined £15, on 11th December 1953, for three cases of permitting his premises to be used for betting.

Cyril Dennis Morris – see also WELCOME STRANGER.

[2017]

GLOBE

Mountrath Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Jeremiah Needham [1834] – [1835]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Jeremiah Needham, retailer of beer, Monrath (sic) Street. [1835]

GLOBE

New Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Ferdinand Bedworth [1834] – [1835]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Ferdinand Bedworth, retailer of beer, New Street. [1835]

London Gazette 22/3/1842

“*Ferdinand Bedworth*, late of Dudley-street, Walsall, Staffordshire, out of business, formerly Retail Brewer. In the Gaol of Birmingham.”

London Gazette 25/3/1842

“The following Prisoners, whose Estates and Effects have been vested in the Provisional Assignee by Order of the Court, having filed their Schedules, are ordered to be brought up before the Commissioner on Circuit, to be dealt with according to the Statute, as follows....

Ferdinand Bedworth, formerly of New-street, Walsall, Staffordshire, Retail Brewer and Cow Keeper, and late of Dudley Street, Birmingham, out of business.”

GOATS HEAD

BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Beech [1835]

GOATS HEAD

30, New Hall Street, Windmill, WALSALL

OWNERS

Jane Badger and Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.

George Nicklin, Hatherton Street, Walsall

George Smith

Elizabeth Smith, Bath Road

Thomas Russell Ltd. [1925]

Sarah Ann Butler

William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired on 27th July 1932)

LICENSEES

Charles Holland [1841] – [1850]

Jane Holland [1851]

Henry Holland [1858]

Mrs. Maria Holland [1860] – [1865]

Thomas Badger [1870]

Mrs. Jane Badger [1871] – **1873**);

John Timmins (**1873** – [];

Joseph Bytheway [];

Alexander McArthur [];

John Curnock [];

William Evans [1881];

Miss Phoebe Collumbine [];

William Woolley [];

Samuel Frederick Smith [1888] – 1908);
Elizabeth Smith [1908] ?
S F Smith [1911] ?
Mrs. Sarah Ann Butler (1908 – 1924);
Frederick Morgan (1924 – 1929);
William Hodson (1929 – 1931);
Mrs. Marion Hodson (1931 – 1932);
William Riley (1932 – 1933);
William Gudge (1933 – 1936);
Thomas Henry Cheese (1936 – 1937);
Harold Draisey (1937):

NOTES

It had a brewery attached.

1841 Census

Windmill Newhall Street

- [1] *Charles Holland* (45), spur manufacturer, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Jane Holland* (45), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Charles Holland* (20), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Frances Holland* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Henry Holland* (10), born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Eliza Brees* (20), born Staffordshire;
- [7] *Matthew Fox* (15), apprentice:

Joseph Holland was also a bit, spur and stirrup manufacturer. [1845]

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/10/1847

“On Thursday last, the members of the Walsall Harmonic Society held their annual meeting at Mr. *J. Holland*’s, the GOATS HEAD INN, Windmill, where a most sumptuous dinner was provided by the worthy host, whose endeavour to please gave universal satisfaction; the dinner being of the first order, and the wines excellent. About 40 sat down to dinner. The chair was ably filled by Mr. Vincent Davies, supported by Mr. T. J. Bingham, secretary, and Mr. Holden. After the cloth was drawn, the worthy chairman, in his usual eloquent and pleasing manner, gave the customary loyal toasts; after which Mr. W. Taylor, in an excellent speech, proposed the health of the chairman, which was duly acknowledged, followed by the health of the worthy Secretary, Prosperity to the Association, the Town and Trade of Walsall, the Ladies of Walsall, &c, &c, which were duly acknowledged. During the evening the members were highly entertained with the singing of Messrs. Davies, Bingham, Holden, Birch, Slater, &c, which reflected great credit on them, and contributed much to the enjoyment of the evening. After singing ‘God save the Queen,’ the party separated at a late hour, highly delighted with the day’s entertainment.”

Charles Holland was a spur manufacturer. [1849], [1850]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/5/1850 - Died

“May 16, suddenly, Mr. *Charles Holland*, of the GOATS HEAD, Newhall Street, Walsall, aged 57.”

1851 Census

New Hall Street

- [1] *Jane Holland* (59), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Sarah Hunt* (19), servant, born Willenhall;
- [3] *William H. Hack* (1 month), grandson, born Walsall;
- [4] *John Lloyd* (58), lodger, widower, journeyman saddler, born London:

1861 Census

30, Newhall Street – GOATS HEAD

- [1] *Maria Holland* (35), widow, victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth J. Holland* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [3] *Kate Holland* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Anne M. Holland* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Anne M. Eagles* (64), mother, widow, retired shop keeper, born Walsall;
- [6] *Emma Eagles* (27), visitor, parlour maid, born Walsall;
- [7] *Caroline Beech* (39), visitor, agricultural labourer’s wife, born Walsall;
- [8] *Anne Hatton* (19), house servant, born Wyrley, Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 14/3/1863

“A select party of above forty gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner at the GOATS HEAD, Windmill, at which the chair was occupied by Mr. Benjamin Abnett, and the vice-chair by Mr. John Smith, among other toasts the health of the Prince and Princess of Wales was given and cordially responded to.”

Walsall Free Press 9/9/1865 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the Old Licensed and well-accustomed Public House, the GOATS HEAD, situate on Newhall Street, Windmill, (has been in the family for 25 years) and is now to be Let in consequence of the death of the Proprietress.

For particulars apply to John Osbourn, Auctioneer, &c, 52, Lower Hall Lane.

N.B. The Coming-in will not exceed £200.”

Walsall Free Press 9/3/1867 - Advert

“To Be Disposed Of, the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of that well established Old Licensed Public House, the GOATS HEAD, Newhall Street, Windmill, Walsall.

Apply on the premises, or to Mr. T. W. Coldicott, 60, Lichfield Street.”

Walsall Free Press 6/3/1869 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. John Osbourn, on Thursday, the 18th day of March, 1869 at the GOATS HEAD INN, Newhall Street (Windmill) at six o'clock in the evening subject to conditions.

All that Freehold Messuage or Old-Licensed Public House known as the GOATS HEAD in Newhall Street, Walsall, in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Badger*, at the annual rent of £20.

The house comprises kitchen, bar, tap-room and parlour, good club-room, bed chambers and attics, and large and convenient cellars, and also the brewhouse, stable and loft over, coach-house, piggeries and out-buildings and yard thereto belonging.

The above property is in good repair, in the occupation of an excellent tenant, and being near to large manufactories is a desirable investment.

And also all those Two Freehold Houses, fronting to Newhall Street.....

And also all those Two Freehold Houses, situate at the back of the above (one of which is in front of Highfield Passage) and also the House adjoining, also fronting to Highfield Passage.....

And also the extensive Two Storey Shopping (capable of accommodating from 20 to 30 pair of hands) in the occupation of Mr. Holland, and which may be entered from the Gateway and Yard belonging to the Public House, or a separate road may be made from Highfield Passage.....”

1871 Census

30, Newhall Street – GOATS HEAD

[1] *Jane Badger* (47), widow, victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Louisa Badger* (15), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;

[3] *Kate M'Cormack* (19), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

“Municipal Election. St. George's Ward.....

On Saturday evening a large and respectable meeting of the supporters of Messrs. Cotterell and Evans was held at the GOATS HEAD INN, Newhall Street. Mr. Cotterell, in a lengthened address, defended the policy he had pursued in the Council during the three years he had represented St. George's Ward.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/3/1880

“Last night a meeting of the burgesses of St. George's ward was held, at the GOATS HEAD INN Newhall Street, for the purpose of selecting representatives on the General Committee of the Liberal Association. Councillor R. T. Jupp presided, and briefly opened the proceedings.....”

1881 Census

30, Newhall Street – GOATS HEAD

[1] *William Evans* (34), foreman at buckle works, born Walsall;

[2] *Eliza Evans* (35), wife, born Manchester;

[3] *Frederick Thomas Evans* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Ada Elizabeth Evans* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *William G. Evans* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] *Hetty Evans* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1888

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Samuel Frederick Smith*, the GOATS HEAD INN, Newhall Street, was fined 20s and costs for having opened and kept open his house at 12.15 on the morning of Sunday, the 1st inst.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1888

“At the annual licensing sessions, yesterday.....

The applications for renewal of licenses on the part of twenty persons whose names were on the black list were adjourned till the adjourned licensing day; and the applications of the following were also adjourned, the Chief Constable opposing on the ground of the unsuitability of the premises for licensed houses, bad management, or the house being unnecessary, viz.....

Frederick Smith, the GOATS HEAD.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/1/1889

“Staffordshire Conservative League.

The annual dinner of the ‘Beaconsfield’ Lodge of the above order was held on Wednesday evening last at the GOATS HEAD INN, Newhall Street, when about 45 members partook of an excellent repast served by Host and Hostess *Smith* and staff. Mr. J. Moseley, JP, occupied the chair, and he was supported by Messrs. H. H. Tucker, H. Pickett, J. Shirt.....”

1891 Census

30 Newhall Street – GOATS HEAD

- [1] *Samuel F. Smith* (28), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Smith (27), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] George T. Smith (8), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Ernest Smith (6), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Emily Smith (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Sam F. Smith (1), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Jane Archer (19), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [8] Harriett Stephens (20), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 1/7/1893

“The ninth annual meeting of Lodge No.322 of the Grand Independent Order of Caledonian Corks’ Friendly Sick and Draw Society was held on Wednesday evening at the GOATS HEAD, Newhall Street. Dinner was served in an upper room to over 70 brethren, the catering reflecting credit upon the host, Bro. *S. F. Smith*.....”

Walsall Advertiser 29/4/1894

“The annual dinner of Lodge No.322 of the Grand Independent Order of the Loyal Independent Corks’ Friendly Sick and Dividend Society was held at the GOATS HEAD INN, Newhall Street, on Wednesday evening last. There were upwards of sixty members present, and the repast served by Host *Smith*, was excellent in every respect, and reflected much credit on the caterer. Mr. J. H. Allsop, P.C.C., presided, Mr. Rattenbury, D.C., the vice-chair.....”

1901 Census

30, Newhall Street – GOATS HEAD INN

- [1] *Samuel F. Smith* (38), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Emma Smith (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] George T. Smith (18), son, joiner (wood), born Walsall;
- [4] Ernest Smith (16), son, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [5] Nellie E. Smith (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Emily Smith (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Samuel F. Smith (11), son, born Walsall;
- [8] Herbert Smith (5), son, born Walsall;
- [9] Leonard Smith (2), son, born Walsall;
- [10] Harriet Hancock (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Samuel Frederick Smith was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 11/4/1903

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Samuel Frederick Smith*, GOATS HEAD INN, Newhall Street, Walsall.....”

Samuel Frederick Smith – see also PRINCE OF WALES.

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air Rifle League. [1906]

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....

The following dividends were paid out in connection with the various lodges of the Loyal Caledonian Corks: Lodge 504, BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street, 6s 6d, night and card; 422, SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, 7s, night and card; 322 GOAT INN, Newhall Street, 5s 3d, two nights and card; 325, ALBION HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street, 2s 6d, night and card.”

1911 Census

30, Newhall Street

[1] *Sarah Ann Butler* (57), widow, licensed victualler and brewer, born Coleshill, Warwickshire;

[2] Fred Butler (31), son, carpenter, born Walsall;

[3] Sydney Butler (26), son, railway clerk, born Sedgley;

[4] Howard Butler (22), son, electrical engineer, born Sedgley;

[5] Dora Winfer (14), general servant, born Sedgley:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

GOATS HEAD, Newhall Street, Walsall, 4s 1d.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1915 - Advert

“Lot 4. The Highly Important, Old established and well-known Fully Licensed Home Brewing Free Freehold Public House, known as the GOATS HEAD INN, No.30 Newhall Street, Sandwell Street, Walsall, let to Mrs. *Sarah Ann Butler* (daughter of deceased) at the low rental of £40 per annum, the Tenant being responsible for all internal repairs. The Tenancy is held subject the three months’ notice to quit from any quarter day.

This valuable Inn will be offered free from any trade tie whatever.

It is situated in one of the best and healthiest parts of the Borough, is noted for its excellent Home Brewed Ales, and has always commanded a very large and lucrative Trade, for which the premises are admirably adapted.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

GOATS HEAD, Newhall Street. £0 13s 10½d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/2/1936

“Walsall Licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday.....

Mr. Cooper also applied, on behalf of Messrs. Butler & Co, Wolverhampton, for the removal of the GOATS HEAD, Newall Street to premises to be erected at the junction of Harden Road and Coalpool Lane, the approximate cost of the building, exclusive of land, being £4,700.”

The license removal to the HARDEN was granted on 11th February 1936, and confirmed on 19th May 1936.

The house closed at 2pm on 16th November 1937.

Demolished

GOLDEN EAGLE

268, (269), Green Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Kearney

John Lester [1899]

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1933]

LICENSEES

Thomas Kearney [1871] – [1881];

Elizabeth Kearney [];

Stephen Wilson [];

John Mason [1891] – 1899);

John Lester (1899 – 1900);

Harriet Lowe (1900 – 1902);

Albert Edward Cliffe (1902 – 1913);

Thomas Roberts (1913 – 1917);

Louisa Roberts (1917 – 1919);

Thomas Roberts (1919 – []

Joseph Taylor [] – 1933):

NOTES

269, Green Lane [1871], [1872], [1901], [1911]

268+269, Green Lane [1881]

268, Green Lane [1891], [1904], [1912]

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

1871 Census

269, Green Lane – GOLDEN EAGLE

[1] *Thomas Kearney* (59), shopkeeper and publican, born Galway, Ireland;

[2] *Elizabeth Kearney* (62), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Emma Baker (12), boarder, domestic servant, born London:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1871

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions. This session took place at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

Mr. Glover then applied for the renewal of the licenses of the undermentioned, whose licenses were suspended on licensing day.....

Thomas Kearney, GOLDEN EAGLE beerhouse, Green Lane. Granted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/4/1872

“*Thomas Kearney*, beerhouse keeper, Green Lane, was charged with having sold ale during prohibited hours on the morning of Sunday, the 31st ult, but there being a doubt in the case, he got the benefit of it, and the summons was dismissed.”

1881 Census

268+269, Green Lane

[1] *Thomas Kearney* (65), shopkeeper, born Tipperary, Ireland;

[2] *Elizabeth Kearney* (62), wife, shopkeeper, born Walsall;

[3] Ann Pitt (56), lodger, born Birmingham;

[4] Walter Kenedy (48), lodger, general labourer, born Meath, Ireland;

[5] Fanny Roberts (15), servant, born Walsall:

[Possibly not the first Elizabeth Kearney?]

Birmingham Daily Post 24/1/1884

“Yesterday afternoon a large piece of brickwork, forming a sort of extensive and high parapet along the front of the GOLDEN EAGLE public-house, Green Lane, Walsall, was blown down into the street, causing considerable consternation. Happily, no one was hurt.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/1/1886

“On Saturday, Mr. T. H. Stanley, coroner, held an inquest at the Guildhall, on the body of James Joyce (42), a miner, of Blakenall. At 11 o'clock on the night of the 19th inst, the deceased left the GOLDEN EAGLE INN, Green Lane, with his nephew John Joyce, and went into the house of the latter in Long Acre, where he remained until 1.50 in the morning. When he started for home and no more was seen of him until Friday afternoon, when his body was found in the Birmingham canal at the Brickhill, by Frederick Colsy, a boatman, residing at the Pleck. The enquiry was adjourned for the purpose of a post mortem examination.”

1891 Census

268, Green Lane

[1] *John Mason* (45), brass plater, born Walsall;

[2] Emily Mason (42), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Emily Mason (19), daughter, tailoress, born Walsall;

[4] Arthur Mason (16), son, office clerk, born Walsall;

[5] John Mason (14), son, Smith and Sons newsboy, born Walsall;

[6] Jennie Mason (12), daughter, born Walsall;

[7] Florence Mason (7), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] Lillie Mason (4), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/5/1895

“On Monday last a party numbering about 40 were entertained to dinner at the GOLDEN EAGLE, Green Lane, by Mr. *John Mason* to celebrate the coming of age of his son Arthur. After the cloths were drawn Mr. W. A. J. A. Holden was elected to the chair, and Mr. E. A. Allen the vice-chair. The health of the hero of the evening was proposed by the chairman, who remarked that during the time he had known Mr. *Mason* he had found him to be an honest and straightforward person. The toast was drunk with musical honours, and was briefly responded to by Mr. A. *Mason*. Mr. J. Bradbury gave the Host and Hostess, which was suitably

acknowledged by Mr. *John Mason*. The following contributed to the harmony of the evening: Messrs. Bayley, Bradbury, Bull-ock, Brown, T. and F. Coats, Dilks, Ford, Holmes, Howl, Mason, Noakes, Payton, Taylor, Upton, and Wood. Mr. E. G. Taylor kindly acted as accompanist. After a hearty vote of thanks had been given to the chairman and artistes the company dispersed with the singing of the National Anthem.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/12/1895

“*John Mason*, GOLDEN EAGLE, Green Lane, was summoned for having sold drink to a drunken person, and permitted drunkenness on his licensed premises, on November 30th.

Mr. H. H. Jackson defended, and admitted that drink was sold but the question was whether the man was drunk or not.

Police-constable Shipley said he visited defendant’s house, and noticed that one of the six men in the tap-room was drunk. The landlord argued that he was all right, but told him to leave. The man gave his names as C. H. Collins, Birmingham, but his wife said it was Charles Henry Price, of Short Acre. She led him off home.

Mr. Jackson, in defence, stated that the house had been kept free of complaint for eleven years; and the landlord and other witnesses denied the charge of having permitted drunkenness.

The case was dismissed, as also against Price for having been drunk on the premises.”

John Mason, beer retailer, 268, Green Lane. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The Black List. The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against. Beer Retailers.....

John Mason, GOLDEN EAGLE, Green Lane, December 20th, 1895, permitting drunkenness, dismissed License renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1897

“*John Mason*, landlord of the GOLDEN EAGLE, Green Lane, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 3rd inst, and with supplying liquor to a drunken person. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) was for the defence.

Evidence was given by Samuel Spink, of 2 Court, Short Acre, that about 10 o’clock on the morning of the date mentioned he was at defendant’s house, and was in and out about three times during the day. His wife came to see where he was, but was ordered out, as she had already had enough to drink, although it was only 10 o’clock in the morning. She did not have a sup in the defendant’s house. Next morning he found his wife on the floor at the bottom of the stairs in his own house. On the previous night when he went home, his wife was in Short Acre, and he told her to follow him home as he had to go to work the next morning. He found her lying dead at the bottom of the stairs the next morning.

Mr. Jackson argued that they had nothing to do with what happened next morning. The question was whether drink was supplied to a drunken person.

Replying to the Bench, witness said his wife had been ‘on the drink’ for a month. In answer to Mr. Jackson, witness said he was not drunk.

Edward Langley deposed to seeing Spink and his wife drunk in Short Acre near their own house on the night in question. Spink was not so drunk as his wife.

Recalled, Spink said he had had one glass of beer at another place about dinner time on the day named. The last time he went into defendant’s house was just after eight o’clock, and he had about two pints. He was not drunk when he came out.

Case dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/9/1899

“John Burns, of Burrowes Street, was summoned for wilfully damaging a window, the property of *John Lester*, GOLDEN EAGLE INN, Green Lane, and 5s damage was claimed.

Complainant said the defendant came into his house on Saturday evening the worse for drink. He refused to serve him, and escorted him to the door, but immediately the door was closed, complainant heard the window smash. He at once proceeded outside and saw the defendant there with others. Defendant said he would let him (complainant) see that he could not do what he liked with him, in Green Lane, as he was ‘the cock o’ the North.’

A man named Russon who was in the house at the time, spoke to having heard the window smashed, but like complainant did not actually see the defendant do it.

Defendant denied the offence, but was nevertheless fined 10s and costs, together with the damage, or in default 7 days with hard labour.”

1901 Census

269, Green Lane – GOLDEN EAGLE INN

[1] *Harriett Lowe* (43), widow, publican, born Nuneaton;

[2] Selina Lowe (16), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;

[3] Charles Lowe (13), son, born Walsall;

[4] Thomas Lowe (12), son, born Walsall;

[5] Luke Lowe (8), son, born Walsall;

[6] Leonard Lowe (5), son, born Walsall;

[7] Anne Hands (68), mother, living on own means, born Nuneaton:

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the owners and licensee of the GOLDEN EAGLE, Green Lane, and remarked that the objection of the police to the renewal of the license fell to the ground as the house was licensed prior to 1869. Decision deferred.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1904

“Walsall & District Air-Gun League. Hospital Cup & Medals.

The concluding draw, to be shot on Tuesday next, the 21st inst, at the VINE HOTEL, Lower Hall Lane, is as under:

1. VOLUNTEER or KING WILLIAM v GOLDEN EAGLE.

2. NEWPORT No.1 or CRITERION v CROWN or Leamore.

Final. Winner of No.2 v Winner of No.1.

The first team to have choice of shooting. The first match to commence at 8pm sharp, the second at 8.45, final at 9.45. Individuals to immediately follow.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

“Walsall Air-Gun League.

The first annual meeting of the above was held at the CRITERION, Stafford Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smallwood presided, and there was also present Messrs. Hicken (EAGLE), G. Smith (OLD KINGS ARMS), Powell (TANNERS ARMS), E. James (PLUMBERS ARMS), McDonald (CRITERION), *Cliffe* (GOLDEN EAGLE), Hunt, E. Towe (treasurer), and Mason (secretary).....

The undermentioned clubs with power to add to their number, were elected to the League for the forthcoming season: The WHITE HART (Walhouse Street), TANNERS ARMS, OLD KINGS ARMS, EAGLE, PLUMBERS ARMS, CRITERION, GOLDEN EAGLE, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, OAK, and DUKE OF YORK.

There was no other business of public interest.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/6/1907

“Isaac Haywood, 17, High Street, Bloxwich, sent his wife to plead guilty to a charge of refusing to quit the GOLDEN EAGLE INN, Green Lane. The man would not leave the house when requested by the landlord, and Police-constable R. Wooley had to eject him.

Fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Observer 14/11/1908

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the President, MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, Rushall. Mr. R. Anson, Daw End (president), occupied the chair.....

Mr. *A. E. Cliffe* asked to be allowed to resign his seat on the Executive Committee, as he was unable to attend on the evenings the society met. The resignation was accepted with regret, and he was thanked for his past services. Mr. Alfred Webster, BRITISH OAK INN, John Street, was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

“There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....

In the case of the GOLDEN EAGLE, Mr. C. A. Loxton (clerk) stated that the Bench considered the back entrance to these premises very objectionable, and they suggested that some improvement should be effected.

Mr. *A. E. Cliffe*, landlord, who was represented by Mr. H. H. Jackson, undertook to carry out the necessary improvements.”

1911 Census

269, Green Lane

[1] *Albert Edward Cliffe* (39), beerhouse keeper and brewer, born Rushall;

[2] Gertrude F. Cliffe (37), mother, married 16 years, born Walsall;

[3] Margerette Cliffe (15), daughter, typewriter, born Walsall;

[4] May Rudd (23), servant, born Bloxwich:

Albert E. Cliffe, beer retailer, 268, Green Lane. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1913 - Advert

“*Albert E. Cliffe* (deceased).

GOLDEN EAGLE INN, 268, Green Lane Bloxwich.

Fox & Harrison are favoured with instructions from the Executors under the Will of the late *Albert Edward Cliffe*, beerhouse keeper, to Sell by Public Auction, without any reserve, on the premises of the Inn above named (the business of which they are transferring) on Tuesday, 21 January, 1913, the whole of the valuable Modern Household Furniture, Cottage Pianoforte, in burr walnut case (Sidney Thomas, Walsall), and Effects, being Contents of 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen and Sitting-room, and various outside effects, as detailed in posters to be obtained from the Offices of the Auctioneers.

On view an hour prior to sale.

Sale at 11am.
Auctioneers Offices, 51, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall. Tel. 198.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/3/1913

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall yesterday (Friday) morning.....
Transfers..... The GOLDEN EAGLE, Green Lane, from the Executors of the late *Albert Cliffe* to *Thomas Roberts*. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“Sick and Dividend Societies. The Society at the GOLDEN EAGLE, Green Lane, has 139 members, and at the meeting held on Wednesday a dividend of 7/2 together with two nights and card free, was declared. The total receipts for the year was £109 17s 9d, and the Reserve Fund, which stood in 1912 at £15 1s 8½, has been increased by 4/-.”

Birmingham Daily Gamete 5/8/1914

“A labourer named Harry Potter, aged 32, of 9, Heath Street, Heathtown, was charged at Walsall Police Court yesterday with stealing 10s on Saturday afternoon while he was a customer at the GOLDEN EAGLE INN, Green Lane, Walsall. Roberts, who said he was sorry for what he had done, and had never been before in a police court, was fined 10s and costs or fourteen days.”

Walsall Observer 15/5/1915 - Advert

“Currier’s Vat for sale; brand new.
Apply GOLDEN EAGLE, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
GOLDEN EAGLE, Green Lane. £1 4s 8½d.”

It closed on 25th November 1933, after the Compensation Authority had paid £2,965.

GOLDEN LION

37, Birchills Street, (Birchills Lane), Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Busst, Stafford Street, Walsall
Arthur Beebee Ltd. [1910], [1924]
Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1924) [1939]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

William Heykin [1834] – [1842]
Smallwood [1848]
John Adams [1849] – [1851]
John Dudley [1851]
John Dutton [1853]
William Oakley [1858] – [1871]
Thomas Taylor [] – **1872**);
Samuel White (**1872** – []
William White [1873];
John Russell [1880] – [1881]
Mrs. Harriet Russell [1891] – [1908]
Kate Russell [] – **1909**);
John Albert Hearn (**1909** – []
Elijah Ford [1911] – [1912]
Henry Chaplin [1914] – [1921] manager
Frank Trawford [1925] – **1934**); manager
Stanley Leonard Nicholls (**1934**);
William Noah Mills (**1934** – **1942**);
William Sheldon Hutchinson (**1942** – **1943**);
Ellen Hutchinson (**1943** – **1957**);

Michael Gerald Day (1957 – 1960);
Alfred Gordon White (1960 – 1961);
Wilfred Bevan (1961 – 1964);
William Leonard Cantrill (1964 – [1966])

NOTES

Birchills Lane [1849]
Birchill Street [1860]
37, Birchills Street [1932], [1940]

OLD RED LION [1850]

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/6/1834

“An inquest was held on Monday last, at the GOLDEN LION, Birchills, before Henry Smith Esq, on the body of a boy named Robinson, aged about 12 years, killed under the following circumstances. On Friday afternoon, the boy (in the employ of Mr. Archer, lock maker, at Birchills,) was at work at the bob belonging to the engine kept by Mr. A. for the purpose of polishing locks, curbs, buckles, &c, when it is supposed, thinking that the machine had not sufficient power, he endeavoured to fix a strap on a hook in the wall to increase it, unfortunately his foot slipped and he was thrown on the drum, and thence dashed against the wall; the strap twisted round his neck, and his head literally torn from the body! Verdict Accidental Death, deodand 2s 6d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/4/1848 - Advert

“To Publicans, Coopers, Brokers, and Others.

Valuable Brewing Vessels, Household Furniture, and other effects, comprising capital 10-strike mash tub, square ale vats, round coolers, 100 gallon furnace, ten capital ale casks, pocket of prime hops, malt mill, kitchen screens, store pig, light spring cart, three sides of prime home cured ham, two hams, &c. The household furniture consists of mahogany chests of drawers, excellent eight-day clock in mahogany case, chairs, tables, fenders, fire irons, beds, bedsteads, washstands and ware, toilet glasses, and other useful effects.

Which Will Be Sold By Auction, by R. L. Courtney, on Wednesday next, May 3rd, 1848, belonging to Mr. *Smallwood*, GOLDEN LION INN, Birchills, Walsall.

Sale to commence at ten o'clock a.m.

N.B. The premises are to be Let, with the Licenses, and immediate possession may be had, by applying on the premises, or to the Auctioneer.”

John Adams was also a chain and hame maker. [1849], [1850]

1851 Census

Birchills

[1] *John Adams* (34), victualler, hame and chain maker employing 9 men, born Butts;

[2] *Harriet Adams* (34), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Harriet Smith* (16), general servant, born Lane Head:

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/6/1853 - Advert

“Walsall. Sale At The GOLDEN LION, Birchills.

George Allin will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, June 29, 1853, all the clean and useful Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, quantity of Pit Tools, &c, comprising strong tent bedsteads, fine feather beds, painted washstands and dressing tables, dressing glasses, three sets of mahogany and painted chests of drawers, mahogany hair-seat Windsor and chamber chairs, oak and deal dining, drinking, and other tables, kitchen requisites, eight excellent ale casks, mash tub, coolers, &c; Also, ten excellent oval and ironstone skips, skip wheels, quantity of hammers, blowing tools, tackling chains, dog pikes, &c; five sets of chain pony and thiller tackle, quantity of carpenters tools, wheelbarrow, two chaff engines, and numerous other effects, belonging to Mr. *John Dutton*, who is leaving England.

Sale to commence at eleven o'clock.

Particulars in catalogues; may be had at the Auctioneers Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

William Oakley = William Ackley

Walsall Free Press 21/1/1860

“*William Oakley*, landlord of the GOLDEN LION, old Birchills, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours, on Sunday morning last, namely at a quarter to twelve. Defendant admitted the charge, but stated that Mr. Boys had a boat sunk in the canal, and that some men engaged in getting it up had got very wet, and Mr. Boys requested him (defendant) to fill then a quarter of rum, which – as he considered the men very much in need of it – he filled. Sentenced to pay a fine of 5s and costs.”

1861 Census

37, Birchills Street – GOLDEN LION

- [1] *William Oakley* (56), victualler, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Carey Oakley* (65), wife, born Bentley, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Thomas Taylor* (34), son in law, bricklayer, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Mary Ann Taylor* (35), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Jane Carey Taylor* (10 months), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Hannah Perry* (16), house servant, born Brownhills:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/12/1868

“On Tuesday, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, held an inquest at the GOLDEN LION INN, Birchills, on the body of John Twigg, aged five years, the son of a couple living in Summer Row, Birchills. The child had been ill for some time, but on Friday he got better. During the night of Saturday a relapse took place and convulsions set in. No medical man was sent for, and at about nine o’clock on Sunday morning, after eight hours’ suffering, the child died. The jury found that death had resulted from Natural Causes, accelerated by neglect in not getting medical assistance; and the coroner severely censured the mother for such neglect.”

Walsall Free Press 23/4/1870 - Notice

“Lost on Tuesday Morning last, a Light-brown Bull and Terrier Bitch with Black Muzzle, answers to the name of ‘Lady.’ Whoever has found her and will bring her to the GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street, Walsall, shall be handsomely rewarded. Any one detaining her after this notice will be prosecuted.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/2/1871

“Yesterday afternoon, Mr. A. A. Fletcher held an inquest at the GOLDEN LION public-house, Birchills, on the body of Jacob Twigg, aged 13, son of Joseph Twigg, boatman. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased took his father’s tea to Birchills furnaces on Friday evening, and nothing was seen or heard from him from the time he left the furnaces till Saturday morning, when his body was found in the canal near to Birchills Wharf, which place he would have to pass on his way home from the furnaces. The jury after hearing the evidence of William Parker, who found the body, returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

1871 Census

37, Birchills Street – GOLDEN LION

- [1] *William Oakley* (66), widower, licensed victualler, born Wyrley;
- [2] *Thomas Taylor* (44), widower, son in law, bricklayer, born Essington;
- [3] *Jane Taylor* (10), granddaughter, scholar, born Coal Pool;
- [4] *Matilda Lappage* (20), domestic servant, born Great Bridge:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1872

“Adjourned Licensing Session The undermentioned transfers were effected, viz....
The GOLDEN LION, Birchills, from the executors of *Thomas Taylor* to *Samuel White*.”

1881 Census

37, Birchills Street

- [1] *John Russell* (55), chainmaker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Harriet Russell* (47), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Henry Russell* (19), son, currier, born Walsall;
- [4] *Richard Russell* (16), son, carter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Harriett Russell* (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *William Russell* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Katherine Russell* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Alice Rogers* (17), servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/8/1884

“On Saturday Mr. F. Bill (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the GOLDEN LION, Birchills, on the body of William Eadling (13), son of parents living in Blue Lane West, and who, whilst bathing with his brother George, aged 15, in the canal, on Friday evening, got into difficulties as he was attempting to cross to the opposite bank, and was drowned before help could be given to him. The body was shortly afterwards found by a person named Richard Evans, and one named Henry Everett exerted himself with conspicuous bravery on the lad’s behalf. A verdict of Accidental Death, was returned, and Everett was complimented by the jury.”

1891 Census

37, Birchills Street – GOLDEN LION

- [1] *Harriet Russell* (58), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Richard Russell* (25), son, iron caster, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Russell* (21), son, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Kate Russell* (19), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] William Dewsbury (45), brother in law, chain maker, born Walsall;

[6] Emily Cartwright (19), general servant, born Walsall:

1901 Census

37, Birchills Street

[1] *Harriet Russell* (66), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] William Russell (30), son, hame maker, born Walsall;

[3] Kate Russell (28), daughter, music teacher, born Walsall;

[4] William Denis Guy (56), brother, chainmaker, born Walsall;

[5] Annie Morris (28), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 20/6/1903

“On Wednesday afternoon an inquiry was held before Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner), at the GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street, into the circumstances attending the death of Edward Tuft (34), of 4, Birchills Street.

The deceased was a journeyman engine-fitter, and it was now stated by his wife that during the whole of the nine years they had been married deceased had seemed strange in his manner, and had many times threatened to commit suicide, though as a rule no notice was taken of his language. Medical advice was obtained for him about a year ago, but he would not have anything done for him. With his head on his hands he would sit, apparently in deep thought, for hours, and did not want to speak to anyone. He got up about 9.30 on Sunday morning, and, while having his breakfast, seemed strange, remarking ‘Ah, well! I shall not be here long!’ As he was depressed, witness attempted to induce him to go for a walk, but he did not do so. Deceased went to bed in the afternoon, but could not rest, and would not have a powder which witness wished to send for. The deceased got up next morning at half-past five o’clock, it being his custom to rise early. Three hours afterwards, on witness going downstairs, she found deceased’s coat and boots, and went into the yard. Going to a workshop, in company with Clara Lloyd, a neighbour’s daughter, it was found that though the padlock was off the door was fastened from inside. The door was forced, when deceased was found lying near the side of a half-horse-power gas engine, on his right side, with a shawl round his face, and a sofa pillow under his head. When asked what he was doing there, no reply was received, and it was then seen that life was extinct. Witness and the deceased had always been on the best of terms. It transpired during the inquiry that deceased had about three inches of rubber tube, used for feeding the gas engine, down his throat, the gas being turned on. The gas smelt very badly, and Jabez Lloyd, a youth, turned it off. Death was attributed by Dr. C. S. Oliver, who was called in, to asphyxia, from gas poisoning. Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind was the verdict.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/11/1906 - Advert

“Tuesday, 12th December, at 7pm at the Property Mart on The Bridge.

Highly important sale by auction of the Very Valuable Freehold, Full-Licensed Free Public-House known as the GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street, Walsall, and the adjacent Freehold Foundry, by direction of the Executors of the late Mrs. *Harriet Russell*, as also Freehold House and Factories, Bath Street and Vicarage Street, and long Leasehold Property at corner of Shaw Street and Blue Lane West. Solicitors, Messrs. S. Pearman-Smith and Sons.

Full particulars of the above may be obtained from Walter Hughes, F.A.I., Auctioneer, the Bridge, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home-Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.

Houses.....

GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street, Walsall.”

1911 Census

37, Birchills Street

[1] *Elijah Ford* (44), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Annie Ford (45), wife, married 11 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[3] Frank Alfred Hulse (25), boarder, jeweller’s factor’s clerk, born Walsall;

[4] Ethel Ford (10), daughter, at school, born Walsall;

[5] Edward Ford (9), son, at school, born Walsall;

[6] Charles Wilfred Hulse (22), boarder, warehouseman (buckle), born Walsall;

[7] John Clifford Hulse (16), boarder, cycle pattern maker (lead), born Walsall;

[8] Florence Darby (23), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1912

“Prior to the ordinary business at yesterday’s (Friday) Police Court, the usual Licensing Sessions were held when the Magistrates were the Mayor (Councillor J. Venables, in the chair), and Messrs. R. Thomas, J. Clare, A. D. Cozens, and E. J. Shaw.....

An application was made by Mr. Wilson Smith who appeared on behalf of the licensee of the GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street.

He stated that they wished to put a window out of the passage into the bar, for the purposes of the out-door departments. The tenants found that the entrance to the house being rather narrow, the ordinary passage was continually barred, and they wanted to serve customers for out-door trade out of the passage.

The Magistrates after having retired deferred the question of alterations to the GOLDEN LION to the annual Licensing Meeting.”

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith, in asking plans to be passed in connection with the GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street, explained that the alteration was for the provision of a window, 18 inches square, in a passage running alongside the GOLDEN LION. The object was to enable outdoor trade to be carried on through the window and save anyone who wished to take beer away from entering the licensed premises. A door would be put across the entry exactly at the window to prevent anyone going higher up the entry.

Mr. Blyth: What guarantee have we that the door will be kept closed? – Mr. Pearman-Smith: As far as I can see it is immaterial to the good conduct of the house, whether it is open or closed. At the present time it is open. I think if you grant this application it will be in the cause of temperance.

The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“The general meeting of the GOLDEN LION Sick and Dividend Society was held on Wednesday night, when a dividend of 9/- was declared. The total income for the year had been £73 19s 6d, there being 89 members. The balance in hand at the beginning of the year was £4 8s 9d, and is now £3 4s 4d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street. £1 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 5/4/1924

“As a result of recent negotiations, the freehold licensed properties belonging to Messrs. Arthur Beebee Ltd, which include the DURHAM OX, Park Street; OLD STILL, Digbeth; THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road; Red Lion, Aldridge; MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street; GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street; the off license, 6, Camden Street; the brewery in Sandwell Street; and the lease of the FOX INN, Stafford Street, have been sold to the Highgate Brewing Co. Ltd, through Messrs. Fox and Harrison, FAI, of Walsall.”

Birmingham Mail 26/1/1939

“Darts Teams Title. Fifth Round Draw for Lord Lonsdale Trophy.

The draw for some of the fifth round matches in the county section of *The People* National Darts Teams Championship has now take place. Matches must be played by February 11. The winning team in the county finals will take part in an area final, winners of which will play in the national contest at Earl’s Court, London, on May 27.....

Shropshire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire Section F.

Old White Lion Dart Club, Tamworth v GOLDEN LION, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

GOLDEN LION, Birchills.”

1939 Register

Birchills Street – GOLDEN LION (2 of 3)

[1] *William N. Mills*, date of birth 8/2/1896, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Grace H. Mills*, dob 30/10/1897, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Mills*, GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street. £1 6s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street. £2 10s 2d.”

Walsall Observer 1/1/1944 - Advert

“Lost between GOLDEN LION, Birchills and Lichfield Street, Lady’s Left-hand Fur-backed Glove.

Please return to GOLDEN LION. Reward.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street. £7 3s 7d.”

[2005]

It was renamed LION BAR AND CLUB. [2007]

[2017]

GRANDSTAND

WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

It was built in 1819.

Closed

It was demolished in 1879.

GRAND THEATRE VAULTS

28, Park Street / 34, Station Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Charles Crooke

Elizabeth Crooke

R. Beebee Esq, JP, Walsall

Walsall Theatres Co. Ltd.

Grigg and Brettell Ltd.

LICENSEES

Charles Crooke [1864] – [1881];

Elizabeth Crooke [1881];

William Henry Westwood [1897] – **1918**;

Albert Merrett (?) **(1918)**;

William Joseph Andrews **(1918 – 1937)**;

Samuel Richard Hipkiss **(1937 – 1941)**;

NOTES

It was originally the ALEXANDRA.

The name was changed to GAIETY.

It became the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS. [1900]

It had a six-day license.

Charles Crooke = Charles Crook

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....

Charles Crooke, Station Street and Townsend Bank.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1864

“Annual Licensing Session. Applications for new licenses.....

Mr. Matthews applied for a license for the house at the corner of Station Street and Park Street, occupied and owned by Mr. *Charles Crooke*. The house contains eight bed rooms, a commercial room, 24 feet by 15 feet, and a second room, 15 feet square, also designed for the accommodation of commercial travellers. Three documents were put in, the first signed by twenty-five commercial travellers, who expressed their intention to use the applicant’s house, should the license be granted; the second, signed by a large number of inhabitants of Bilston, where the applicant formerly carried on business as a licensed victualler; and the third, by Superintendent McCrea, the Chief of Police in that town; the last two documents being certificates of character. Refused on the ground that another licensed house is not required in the neighbourhood of the station. Mr. Matthews gave notice of appeal to the County Quarter Sessions.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

Mr. Matthews, from the office of Mr. Wilkinson, applied on behalf of the following parties.....

Charles Crooke, corner of Station Street and Park Street Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. Mathews next applied on behalf of *Charles Crook*, landlord of the beerhouse at the corner of Station Street and Park Street, and referred to the excellent character of the applicant and to the superior manner in which he conducted his house. Application refused.”

Charles Crooke, beer and wine retailer, 28, Park Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

Walsall Free Press 29/8/1868

“Yesterday, the annual meeting for the granting of licenses was held at the Guildhall.

The following were the applicants.....

Charles Crooke, MUSIC HALL, Park Street.”

Walsall Free Press 12/9/1868

“Mr. Wilkinson renewed his application on behalf of Mr. *Crooke*, proprietor of the ALEXANDRA MUSIC HALL, Park Street, for a transfer of a license from the WOODMAN public-house, Wolverhampton Lane, to his house at the corner of Station Street and Park Street.

Mr. *Crooke* having purchased the WOODMAN public-house, which he intends to close.

Mr. Wilkinson was proceeding to address the Bench when the Mayor said, as the Bench were fully aware of the whole of the facts of the case there would be not necessity for him stating the case at any great length.

Mr. Wilkinson said if their worships were satisfied, he would not occupy their time by a single remark.

The Mayor said the Bench had, by a majority, decided to grant the application.

Mr. Newman: Which is simply a transfer.

Mr. Wilkinson: I have already pointed out how the Bench can retain power in their own hands.

Mr. Wilkinson said he felt bound to make some explanation in consequence of a report having got abroad, that one of the magistrates present on Monday, had attended in consequence of a special request from him. He begged to state, most explicitly that the report was entirely without foundation.”

1871 Census

34, Station Street

[1] *Charles Crooke* (45), licensed victualler, born Kilsby, Northamptonshire;

[2] Elizabeth Crooke (50), wife, born Kilsby, Northamptonshire;

[3] Jeffery C. Crooke (16), son, apprentice to bridle cutter, born Rugby;

[4] Charles G. Crooke (14), son, scholar, born Kilsby, Northamptonshire;

[5] William J. Crooke (7), son, scholar, born Bilston;

[6] Harriett Taylor (32), servant, barmaid, born Walsall;

[7] Esther Morgan (18), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 26/7/1873

“Mr. *Chas. Crooke*, the proprietor of the ALEXANDRA CONCERT HALL, applied for a renewal of a theatrical license granted to him three months ago. The Magistrates’ Clerk having explained that a temporary license had been granted to Mr. *Crooke*, the Mayor said the magistrates desired to know from Mr. *Cater* in what manner the house had been conducted. The Chief Superintendent said that, in anticipation of a report from him being required at the close of the temporary period, he had on several occasions visited the house, and from his general observation he had to say that all appeared to him to be conducted very satisfactorily. The justices thereupon granted the renewal until November next.”

1881 Census

34, Station Street

[1] *Charles Crooke* (55), licensed victualler, born Kilsby, Northamptonshire;

[2] *Elizabeth Crooke* (60), wife, born Kilsby, Northamptonshire;

[3] *Frances M. Crooke* (28), daughter, born Kilsby, Northamptonshire;

[4] *Jeffery B. Crooke* (26), son, bridle cutter, born Rugby;

[5] *John S. Crooke* (19), son, pawnbroker, born Matlock, Derbyshire;

[6] *William J. Crooke* (17), son, dentist, born Bilston;

[7] *Martha D. Roberts* (26), barmaid, born Madeley, Shropshire;

[8] *Jane Johnson* (23), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1897

“*William Henry Westwood*, proprietor of the GRAND THEATRE, was summoned for selling intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours on the 6th inst.

Police-constable 33 (Priest) gave evidence, but Mr. H. H. Jackson, for the defence, was able to convince the Bench that the persons found on the premises were personal friends whom Mr. *Westwood* was entertaining, and the case was dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/9/1900

“Yesterday the adjourned Brewster session for the borough were held at the Guildhall....

On the application of Mr. H. H. Jackson the magistrates consented to alterations at the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS, to take into the licensed premises the shop formerly occupied by Mr. *Greenslade* as a tailor. The shop, it was explained, was under the same roof and part of the same building, and it was desired to make arrangements for a gallery bar and to improve the lavatory accommodation.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909 - Advert

“The GRAND THEATRE VAULTS, Park Street, Walsall.

Edgar V. Booth (Late of the STATION HOTEL), Will Be Found At The Above Ancient Rendezvous.

Holder Celebrated Ales, in Fine Condition.

Edgar will be pleased to see old friends and make new ones.

All Noted Brands of Whiskies, Brandies, and Wines.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/1/1910

“*John Goode* (25), labourer, was charged with unlawfully wounding *William Hawkins*, by stabbing him on the head with a knife, on January 14th. The man was brought up on Monday and remanded. The injured man first gave evidence, and stated that at 5.35pm, on the 14th inst, he went into the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS. His brother was there, and soon after prisoner entered with some other men. They called for three half pints, but the landlord refused to serve them. They then commenced to use bad language, and refused to leave, so witness tried to persuade prisoner to leave. As they would not go his brother helped to eject the men, when they went across Park Street towards the PRIORY HOTEL. His brother followed them, and he went after his brother to fetch him away, as they were ‘shoving’ him. Prisoner struck him on the head, but he did not feel the blows, until the blood was running down his face. A little boy said to him, ‘He’s stabbed you Blondin.’ Witness then hit prisoner, and knocked him down, but he did not see a knife in his hand. He sent a young lady for the police and he went to the Hospital, where he had two stitches put in his wound. Cross-examined by Mr. J. F. Addison, witness said that there had been a quarrel between his brother and prisoner for the past seven or eight months.

A boy named *Joseph Turland* (14), 4 house 1 court, Garden Street, stated that on Friday evening between five and six o’clock he was in Park Street, when he saw two men fighting. He saw prisoner rush at *Hawkins*, and strike him on the head with a knife. Prisoner got the knife out of his top right pocket. He heard a man named *Daly* say, ‘Let him have it,’ and then the other men who were there rushed at *Hawkins*, who knocked prisoner down. Witness gave the knife with which *Hawkins* was stabbed to the police.

A boy, named *David Mansell*, 37, Margaret Street, said that he saw *Hawkins* bleeding, but he did not see any blows struck. He picked the knife out of the gutter, and handed it to *Turland*.

Police-constable *Taylor* said that when he arrived on the scene, the two men were in a fighting attitude. When he charged the prisoner, he replied, ‘Not guilty.’

Dr. *Newman*, from the Walsall Hospital, stated that the man *Hawkins* attended the Hospital; he had an incised wound three quarters of an inch long on the head, and it had gone through the scalp for about a quarter of an inch. There was no danger.

Prisoner was committed to the Quarter Session bail being allowed, himself in £10 and two sureties of £5 each.”

[*John Goode* was found not guilty at the Quarter Session in March 1910.]

1911 Census

4, St. Pauls Terrace

- [1] *William Henry Westwood* (60), theatrical manager, born Birmingham;
 - [2] Ellen Westwood (60), wife, married 39 years, born Preston, Lancashire;
 - [3] Rose Westwood (25), daughter, theatrical box office keeper, born Walsall;
 - [4] Alice Maritana Westwood (19), daughter, theatrical money taker, born Walsall;
 - [5] Joyce Taylor (18), visitor, born Aldridge;
 - [6] Hannah Collings (16), servant, born Walsall Wood.
- [Note the address is different to the pub.]

Walsall Observer 5/7/1924 - Advert

“Barmaid Wanted for GRAND THEATRE Smoke Room Bar.
Apply by letter to General Manager, Walsall Theatre Company.
Applicants please state age, experience, and wages required.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/11/1924

“Andrew O’Neil, 21, clerk, Parker Street, Boxwich, was remanded in custody for a week on a charge of inflicting grievous bodily harm upon Frederick Scott, of Reedswood Lane, on the 17th October. The Chief Constable stated that the men quarrelled in the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS, and the prisoner, it was alleged, smashed two drinking glasses on Scott’s head and jaw.”

Birmingham Mail 5/6/1939

“One of the biggest fires which has occurred in Walsall for a number of years, took place last night and in the early hours of today and involved the complete destruction of the Grand Theatre the Corporation fire brigade turned out all available equipment, under the personal command of the Chief Constable. On arrival it was found that the structure, which included a licensed bar on the ground floor, which does not open on Sundays, was already a mass of flame, and it was soon evident that there was little or no hope of saving the building. Efforts were accordingly directed to protecting adjoining business premises, comprising shops and living quarters from which the occupants were evacuated. The task of the brigade proved a most difficult one as the heat was terrific and flames shot up to a great height. So fierce was the glare that it was visible in the sky as far away as Wolverhampton and West Bromwich. . . .

The cause of the fire, which has caused thousands of pounds worth of damage, is at present a mystery. . . .

The Grand Theatre was opened in 1890 by Vesta Tilley, who spent some of the earlier years of her professional career in Walsall, under the direction of the late Mr. *Harry Westwood*. . . .

Walsall Public Works Department staff were engaged all night long clearing debris from Park Street, which is one of the main thoroughfares of the town, and Corporation Transport Department engineers also worked during the early hours repairing damage to the trolley ’bus wires which were brought down by the falling masonry. As a result of these efforts all transport services were in normal working order today.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/8/1939

“Permission to erect temporary premises on the site of the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS, Walsall, which with theatre were destroyed by fire on 4 June, was granted by the Walsall licensing justices yesterday.”

Walsall Observer 17/2/1940 - Notice

“Licensing Acts, 1910 to 1934.

To The Clerk of the Licensing Justices for the County Borough of Walsall.

To the Chief Constable for the said County Borough.

To the Clerk of the Rating Authority for the said County Borough.

To James Groves, the Licensee of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, in the said County Borough.

To Ansell Brewery Ltd, of Park Road, Aston, in the City of Birmingham, the Owners of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, in the said County Borough; and to whom it may concern.

I, Tom Bentley Golby, of 148, Broadway North, in the said Borough of Walsall, Supervisor, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the Adjourned Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Thursday, the 7th day of March, 1940, for the Provisional Grant to me of an Order sanctioning the Removal of the Justices’ License now in force and held by the said James Groves, in pursuance of which the said James Groves holds an Excise License to sell by retail at the licensed premises situate in Portland Street, and known by the sign of the WHITE LION, any intoxicating liquor which may be sold under a Publican’s License for consumption either on or off premises, from such premises to a certain House and premises proposed to be erected upon land which or part of which forms the premises known as the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS at the corner of Park Street and Station Street, in the said County Borough of Walsall, and of which License when removed I desire to be the holder.

And I Hereby Give Notice that Ansell Brewery Company, Ltd, Park Road, Aston, in the city of Birmingham, are the owners of the said premises known at the WHITE LION, Portland Street, aforesaid, and that Grigg and Brettell Ltd, of Holt Street, in the City of Birmingham, are the owners of the said premises at the corner of Park Street and Station Street, Walsall aforesaid.

Given under my hand this 13th day of February, 1940.

Tom Bentley Golby.”

Evening Despatch 7/3/1940

“The magistrates also granted an application for the removal of the license of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, to premises proposed to be erected by Ansells Brewery on the site of the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS, Park Street, which was destroyed by fire last June.”

Walsall Observer 4/5/1940

“Walsall transfer sessions held at the Guildhall on Thursday.....

The justices gave their final sanction for the removal of the seven-days licence of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, to new premises to be built on the site of the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS where there was only a six-day licence.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/2/1941

“‘Apparently Hitler has not driven us to drink yet.’ This comment was made by Mr. T. M. Watson (chief constable) in presenting his report at the annual meeting of the Walsall Licensing Committee on Thursday.....

An application was granted for the renewal of a provisional order for the removal of the license of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, to premises being erected on the site of the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS, Park Street.”

The license was surrendered at 2pm on 1st May 1941.

GRANNIE’S KITCHEN

88, Stafford Street / Whitehouse Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Andrew Holmes, painter, Stafford Street, Walsall

Mrs. Nicklin, NEW INN, John Street, Walsall

W. A. Young

Anthony Beebee

Arthur Beebee [1910]

John Lord

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 11th August 1939)

LICENSEES

John Young [1857] – [1865]

James Osbourn [1868] – [1870]

John Cheatle [1871] – [1872]

Mrs. Ann Cheatle [1872];

Samuel Brown [1873] – [1876];

Andrew Holmes [];

John Stevenson [1881];

Frederick Davenport [];

Charlotte Francis [];

Isaiah Chilton [] – **1887**);

William James Lunn (**1887 – 1888**);

James Cockerton (**1888**);

William King (**1888 – 1889**);

William Alfred Young (**1889 – 1909**);

William Street (**1909 – 1923**);

George Wallis (**1923 – 1925**);

Henry Chaplin (**1925 – 1937**);

Francis Edward Brookling (**1937 – 1938**);

Daniel Simcox (**1938**);

Ernest Thickett (**1938 – 1940**);

Doris Thickett (**1940 – 1945**);

Ernest Thickett (**1945 – 1947**);

Eric Johnson (**1947 – 1963**);

Raymond Blanton (**1963**);

Allen Perry (**1963 – 1965**);

Peter John Meakin (**1965 – 1966**);

James Alexander Johnson (**1966 – 1967**);

Ronnie George Morgan (1967 – [])

NOTES

It was originally the BRICKMAKERS ARMS. [1861], [1863], [1864]

It became the BELL. [1870], [1872], [1874], [1876], [1881], [1901], [1909], [1911], [1940]

It had a beer, cider, wine and refreshment license.

Birmingham Journal 14/3/1857

“At the Guildhall, on Monday, Thomas Stanway was charged with stealing several sacks, the property of *John Young*, innkeeper, Stafford Street. One of the sacks had been sold to John Smith, marine store dealer, having been identified, the prisoner who elected to be tried summarily, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to seven days’ imprisonment.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers’ licenses.....

John Young, Stafford Street, Walsall. Refused.”

John Young, beerhouse, 88, Stafford Street. [1858]

John Young, beer retailer, 88, Stafford Street. [1861], [1864], [1865]

1861 Census

88, Stafford Street – BRICKMAKERS ARMS

[1] *John Young* (38), beer seller, born Walsall;

[2] Ann Young (38), wife, born Bilston;

[3] Eliza Roger (14), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

John Young, retailer of beer, 88, Stafford Street. [1862]

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/11/1863

“At a meeting of the miners of Walsall and neighbourhood, held at the BRICKMAKERS ARMS, Stafford Street (Mr. *Young*’s) it was unanimously resolved to join the national association at present holding a conference at Leeds.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/12/1864

“On Tuesday evening, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest upon the body of Thomas Low, aged 35, labourer, who resided at the BRICKMAKERS ARMS, Stafford Street, and who came to his death under the following peculiar circumstances. On the 10th instant the deceased was assisting Mr. George, butcher, to kill a pig, when suddenly the animal kicked the knife out of the butchers’ hand, and caused it to strike the deceased on the arm, which was severely wounded. The deceased was attended by Mr. Whymper, surgeon, and his assistant, and also by Mr. Day and Mr. Davis, surgeons; but mortification having set in, he expired on Saturday last. The jury after hearing the evidence returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

One of the jury, named Richard Hall, was given in charge by the Coroner, for contempt of court, he having spoken rudely to the Coroner, who said he had been asleep during the investigation, but he was liberated at the termination of proceedings.”

James Osbourn, beer retailer, 88 Stafford Street. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

88, Stafford Street

[1] *John Cheatle* (43), innkeeper, born Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire;

[2] *Ann Cheatle* (42), wife, born Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire;

[3] Anne Cheatle (19), daughter, born Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire;

[4] Emily Cheatle (15), daughter, born Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire;

[5] Richard Knight Cheatle (13), son, scholar, born Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire;

[6] Ada Cheatle (11), daughter, scholar, born Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire;

[7] Harry Cheatle (8), son, scholar, born Woodville, Leicestershire:

John Cheatle, beer retailer, 88, Stafford Street. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/8/1873

“The annual licensing sessions took place at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Samuel Brown, 88, Stafford Street, applied for a wine license, and the application was granted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/10/1874

“Sitting in Wolverhampton County Court, yesterday, the Judge (Mr. A. Martenau) had brought up before him a cross action involving an important point, which had been remitted by consent from the Walsall Adjudication. Mr. *Samuel Brown*, of the BELL INN, Stafford Street, Walsall, was sued by Mr. Josiah Lloyd, car proprietor, of Willenhall, for £50, as damages alleged to have been caused through the negligent driving of the defendant’s servant; and *Brown* brought a cross action for £8. Mr. Ebsworth was for the plaintiff; and Mr. Young (instructed by Mr. Glover of Walsall) appeared for *Brown*.

The evidence was to the effect that on the 25th of August, one of the Walsall race days, Mr. *Brown* gratuitously lent his horse and trap to a collier, named John Taylor, who, being on strike, wanted to earn money by driving visitors to and from the course. As Taylor was going along Wolverhampton Lane towards Walsall, and passing a cart near the middle of the road, a wagonette with four horses, belonging to Mr. Lloyd, and driven by a boy, ran into *Brown*’s trap. The collision injured Mr. *Brown*’s horse, smashed the trap, and rendered Taylor insensible by inflicting injuries which necessitated his removal to, and detention in the Cottage Hospital for a fortnight. The wagonette was damaged, and one of the horses, said to be worth £50, was so hurt that it died in a few days. It was to recover the loss thus occasioned that Lloyd brought his action, alleging that Taylor was to blame for the accident. Mr. Ebsworth maintained that *Brown* was liable, the relationship between him and Taylor being that of principal and agent. His Honour: I should be astonished if I had lent a man a horse out of charity, and he did damage, and I was held responsible. Mr. Ebsworth disclaimed having advanced that proposition, admitting that if such were so he could not further argue with reason. He put it to the Judge whether if a drunken man was put in charge of a horse and committed serious damage, the owner would not be liable.

His Honour replied that there was an excellent chock upon such a course, for the damage done to the property of the lender would be irrecoverable. Answering another instance cited by Mr. Ebsworth, his Honour was of opinion that a man entrusted to deliver a letter was a servant according to law.

The legal representatives here deliberated, and communicated the result to his Honour, who then said that the first action would be nonsuited, and the other would be withdrawn on payment of costs; and this because Taylor, the latter not being recognised as either servant or agent of *Brown*, was not responsible for Taylor’s actions.

Mr. Glover intimated that he acquiesced in this arrangement solely because of the loss sustained by Mr. Lloyd.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/5/1875

“On the evening of the 7th inst, at the BELL INN, Stafford Street, the members of the Retail Brewers’ Association presented their late hon. sec., Mr. Neville, with fine portrait of himself, executed in oils by Mr. Brown of the Bridge, and enclosed in a handsome gilt frame. The presentation was made by Mr. R. W. Gillespie (in the absence of Mr. W. Coath), and it was suitably acknowledged by Mr. Neville.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/5/1876

“William Brown, for refusing to leave the house of *Samuel Brown*, the BELL INN, Stafford Street, was fined 20s and costs, or 21 days’ imprisonment in default.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/6/1879 - Advert

“A Good Stable and Shop To Let.
Apply, BELL INN, 88, Stafford Street.”

1881 Census

88, Stafford Street – BELL INN

- [1] *John Stevenson* (29), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Emily Stevenson* (37), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Alice Maud Stevenson* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Bertha Stevenson* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *John Stevenson* (2), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Louisa Wise* (15), general servant, born Pelsall:

1891 Census

88, Stafford Street

- [1] *William Young* (38), retail brewer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Hannah P. Young* (33), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ada A. Young* (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Alfred Young* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Florence G. Young* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *George Holden* (57), father, widower, living on own means, born Walsall;
- [7] *Emily Swinburne* (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“Friendly Sick and Dividend Society. The opening annual supper in connection with this society was held at the BELL INN, Stafford Street, on Monday evening, when about sixty members sat down to an excellent supper, the catering for which had been placed in the hands of the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Young*). After supper the usual toasts for the Queen and the Society were given, and songs were afterwards ably rendered by Messrs. Onions, Price, Higgins, Young, and others. Before the party broke up a toast for the host and hostess was given with musical honours and was ably responded to by Mr. *Young*. The members dispersed

about 10.30, having spent a very enjoyable evening.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/5/1894

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held at the BELL INN, Stafford Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 14/11/1896

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last....

Mr. *William Young*, BELL INN, Stafford Street, was elected a member of the Executive Committee.”

1901 Census

88, Stafford Street – BELL INN TAVERN

- [1] *William A. Young* (47), brewer, born Stafford;
- [2] *Hannah E. Young* (43), wife, born Stafford;
- [3] *Alfred Young* (19), son, carpenter, born Stafford;
- [4] *Florence Young* (15), daughter, born Stafford;
- [5] *Beatrice M. Young* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Florence Darby* (18), domestic servant, born Walsall:

William Young, beer retailer, 88, Stafford Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 22/6/1907

“James Hope, 34, Rowland Street, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, the BELL INN, Stafford Street, on the 11th inst.

Police-constable Smith (51) stated that at 9.32pm on the date named he heard a quarrel in the BELL INN, and on proceeding there saw defendant being ejected by the landlord’s son. Defendant was holding a door with both hands, and when he let go he fell down.

Fredk. *Young*, the landlord’s son, stated that he refused to serve the defendant because he was drunk, and when ejecting him he fell on the floor, sustaining a black eye.

The defendant stated that it was the officer who caused the black eye. It was the first time he had been in the hands of the police. He denied being drunk, and the same night went to the police station, and reported the officer for throwing him out.

A fine of 5s and costs was imposed.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/10/1908

“On the evidence of Police-constable Ashby, William George Pigg, of 37, Whitehouse Street was ordered to pay the costs for leaving his handcart outside the BELL INN, Stafford Street, from 8.30 to 8.50 on the 17th ult.

Defendant emphatically denied the offence.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“Master *Willie Street*, the brilliant fourteen year-old Walsall violinist, has added another to his list of distinctions. He has won another year’s free studentship under Mr. Max Mossell, of the Midland Institute, Birmingham. This is more than an ordinary distinction, as it is only students with exceptional talent that are admitted to this tutelage. During the past season, Mr. Mossell has been engaged in the musical subjugation of the Dutch East Indies, Burmah, China, and Japan, but his place was taken by Miss Muriel Warwood, who, according the music critics of high standing, is one of the most accomplished living violinists. *Willie Street* is a credit to her powers of inculcation, as well as to his father, Mr. *William Street*, of the BELL INN, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home-Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.

Houses.....

The BELL, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

1911 Census

88, Stafford Street – BELL INN

- [1] *William Street* (46), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Charlotte Street* (46), wife, married 24 years, assisting in the business, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Street* (17), son, music student, born Brownhills;
- [4] *Ada May Street* (21), daughter, assisting in the business, born Walsall:

William Street, beer retailer, 88, Stafford Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 10/1/1914 - Advert

“W. A. *Street*, who has gained 5 years’ Free Scholarships under Max Mossell, the great Violinist, and Miss Wadeley, LRAM, has

vacancies for a few more pupils. Terms on application. 88, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
The BELL, Stafford Street. £1 2s 7d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst..... the following were adjourned for plans of alterations to be submitted.....
BELL INN, Stafford Street.”

1939 Register

88, Stafford Street

[1] *Ernest Thickett*, date of birth 25/8/1907, public house manager, married;

[2] *Doris Thickett*, dob 25/11/1908, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[5] *Christina A. (Thickett) Marlow*, dob 25/12/1934, at school, single:

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

John Lord’s houses.....

BELL, Stafford Street.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
BELL INN, Stafford Street. £2 17s 6d.”

A full license was granted on 2nd February 1950.

Name changed to GRANNIE’S KITCHEN. [1993]

Closed [2003], [2014]

Demolished [2015]

Check GAS FITTERS ARMS.

GREAT BRITAIN

120, Regent Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

D Shelley [1857]

David Webster [1857] – [1862]

NOTES

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 25/1/1857

“George Baylis of Walsall will take one yard start in 100 of Rueben Craddock of Anden, from £5 or £10 a side. Money ready any night next week at Mr. *D. Shelley*’s, the GREAT BRITAIN, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/4/1857

“G. Bayliss of Walsall will run J. Jones 80 yards for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready any time next week, at *D. Webster*’s. GREAT BRITAIN, Regent Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

Annual licensing day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers' licenses.....
David Webster, Regent Street, Walsall. Refused."

David Webster, retailer of beer, Regent Street. [1862]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/7/1862

"H. Willis of Wolverhampton and C. Fowler of Walsall. Immediately after the above race these men will get to their mark, to run a quarter of a mile, round the grounds, for £5 a side. The final deposit for the above has been made to the final stakeholder, Mr. *Webster*, GREAT BRITAIN INN, Regent Street, Walsall."

Birmingham Daily Post 25/6/1866 - Advert

"To Be Let, a Beerhouse and Fixtures; Tap Room, Bar, and large Kitchen, Parlour, Club Room, three Chambers, and Cellarage. Coming in from £7 to £10. Leaving on account of _____ of employment.
Apply, GREAT BRITAIN, Regent Street, Walsall."

Walsall Free Press 17/4/1869 - Advert

"To Be Let, the OLD WHEAT SHEAF INN, Birmingham Street, the GREAT BRITAIN INN, Regent Street, Burrowes Street.
Apply to Farrington and Son, Auctioneers &c, Walsall."

1871 Census

120, Regent Street – GREAT BRITAIN Public House
Unoccupied.

GREEN DRAGON

293, Green Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

Timothy Smith, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton
Manchester Brewery Co. [1901]
Samuel Allsopp and Sons [1909]
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
Frank Myatt Ltd. [1912], [1938]

LICENSEES

James Yates [1841] – [1842]
Samuel Tonks [1845] – [1862]
Mrs. Louisa Hartland [1864] – [1865]
William Fisher [1868] – [1870]
Timothy Leary and Son [1872] – [1873]
John James Leary [1872];
Edward Leary [];
Philip Perry [1881] – **1900**);
John William Howley (**1900 – 1901**);
Thomas Molineaux (**1901 – 1903**);
Joseph Loynes (**1903 – 1910**);
William Cooper (**1910 – 1913**);
John Thomas (**1913**); manager
Frederick 'Fred' Davies (**1913 – 1914**);
John Ignatius Cunningham (**1914 – 1916**);
William Joseph Owen (**1916**);
Thomas Hammond Townsend (**1916 – 1918**);
Thomas Clark (**1918 – 1920**);
Rupert Raybould (**1920 – 1922**);
Sidney Dyde (**1922 – 1932**);
William Mulloy (**1932**);
Phoebe Ann Mulloy (**1932 – 1933**);

Harry Salt (1933 – 1934);
Charles Henry Hadley (1934 – 1935);
Frank Cowlshaw (1935 – 1936);
Joseph Seagar (1936 – 1937);
Albert Edwards (1937 – 1939):

NOTES

[1816]

DRAGON [1841], [1842], [1845], [1849], [1850], [1858]

Samuel Tonks was also a bridle cutter. [1845], [1849], [1850]

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/6/1855

“On Saturday last, an inquest was held at the GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, on the body of William Smith, aged thirty. The deceased was a miner, and worked in a stone pit at the Green Farm Colliery, Darlaston, for William Aston. About mid-day on Friday, while following his usual employment, a large quantity of stone, about four hundred weight, fell from the roof of the pit on to his head, crushing him in a most shocking manner, and from the effects of his injuries he died in a few minutes. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/3/1856

“An inquest was held by A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, on Monday afternoon, at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Green Lane, on the body of Thomas Ordish, aged 30, lately employed in a coal mine called Green Lanes Colliery, the property of T. and C. Highway, Esqs. It appeared that on Friday last, between twelve and one o’clock, the deceased and a man named Errington were propping up some part of the roof of the pit; and while deceased was driving a plug – whether from the vibration thus produced is not known – a mass of coal weighing from five to six cwt., fell upon him, and he died directly. Several persons bore testimony to the general safety of the mine, the only part considered dangerous being the one they were ‘timbering’ when the melancholy affair occurred. A verdict of Accidental Death was recorded. The deceased has left a wife enceinte, but no children.”

Walsall Free Press 24/7/1858

“Ancient Order Of Foresters. The third anniversary of Court Philanthropic, No.2763, of this ancient order, was celebrated on Monday last, on which occasion the members and their friends, to the number of forty, dined together at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Green Lane. Ample justice having been done to the repast, which was served up in a style highly creditable to Mr. *Tonks*, the cloth was removed.....”

1861 Census

293, Green Lane

- [1] *Samuel Tonks* (52), victualler and bridle cutter employing 1 man and 1 boy, born Walsall;
- [2] Rhoda Tonks (48), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Henry Tonks (29), son, brewer, born Walsall;
- [4] Eliza Tonks (17), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] John Tonks (15), son, currier’s (?), born Walsall;
- [6] William Tonks (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Mary Tonks (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 1/6/1861

“Michael O’Neil v. Michael Hagley. Defendant was charged with assaulting complainant, in Blue Lane East, on Tuesday night week. Complainant said he was in the GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane, having some beer, when defendant came in and asked him to lend him a shilling. He declined doing so, and went out. Defendant followed him, and again asked him to lend him some money. He again declined doing so, when defendant at once attacked him, knocked him down, and kicked him. Complainant called a witness, but he did not see assault committed. For the defence a witness named John Murphy was called. He took the book readily, and went through the formula of the oath. He was asked by the Bench if he knew the nature of an oath. He replied that he did. He was then asked if he knew what book that was. He said he knew it very well – it was a swearing book. Beyond that he knew nothing of the nature or contents of the ‘swearing book.’ His evidence, was of course, not acceptable. Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Samuel and *Rhoda Tonks* – see RAILWAY.

Walsall Free Press 19/3/1864

“*Louisa Hartland*, landlady of the GREEN DRAGON, Wolverhampton Lane, was charged with having had her house open at five minutes past four o’clock on Sunday afternoon; but as she proved that the parties who had been supplied with ale at the time in question had come from Bilston, the charge was dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/6/1864

“At the Guildhall, on Monday, before Messrs. S. Cox (Mayor) and J. Shannon, four men, named Thomas and John Haley, John Costello, and Michael Conroy, were charged under the Wine Licenses Act, with being disorderly in the GREEN DRAGON public house, Green Lane, on Monday night. It was shown that about seven o'clock on the night named Police-constable Kates was called into the house by Mr. *Hartland*, to quell a disturbance, and he found the four defendants breaking the cups and glasses, and overturning the chairs and tables, and also brutally ill-treating a man who was in the house. The man was rescued from their hands, and went away, subsequently a great crowd of persons assembled, and the constable was placed in some peril. The defendants were each fined 10s and costs, or in default fourteen days' hard labour.”

Walsall Free Press 8/7/1865

“Mrs. *Hartland*, landlady of the GREEN DRAGON, was charged with having had her house open, at half-past six o'clock on the morning last, for the sale of beer. The charge having been proved by Police-constables Lees and Tatton, the defendant was sentenced to pay a fine of 5s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 11/11/1865

“*Louisa Hartland*, landlady of the GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane, who had been previously convicted, was fined 2s 6d and costs for having had her house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours, on Sunday morning last.”

Walsall Free Press 18/1/1868 - Advert

“To Be Let, with immediate possession, that excellent Old Licensed Public house, the GREEN DRAGON, situated in Green Lane, Walsall.

Apply W. Horobin, Auctioneer, 7, Wolverhampton Street.”

T. Leary and Son, 292-293 Green Lane, grocers and victuallers.

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/5/1873

“On Tuesday Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Green Lane, on the body of Patrick Maloney (5½), son of parents living in Blue Lane. On Friday afternoon he was missed, and after a time one of his play-fellows said he had fallen into a pool in Shaw's Leasowe while sliding down the embankment. Drags were procured, and after a search of about an hour and a half Supt. Mason found the child's body in the water.
Verdict Accidental Death.”

1881 Census

Green Lane – GREEN DRAGON INN

- [1] *Philip Perry* (27), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Mary Pendrill Perry (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Bernard Perry (2), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary Perry (1 month), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Eliza Ball (19), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Henry Jenkins (21), barman, born Coventry:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses *Philip Perry*, the GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane, who had given notice of their intention to apply, did not appear.”

1891 Census

293, Green Lane – GREEN DRAGON INN

- [1] *Philip Perry* (37), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Mary P. Perry (43), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Bernard Perry (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary B. Perry (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Iznelda (?) Perry (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Catherine Perry (2 months), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1892

“On Tuesday, the borough coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquiry at the GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane, on the body of Frederick Cook (5), whose parents live at 4-house, 11-court, Green Lane. The child was well until the previous Saturday, when he complained of pains in the stomach, and was given medicine which had been obtained from a chemist, after taking which he appeared relieved. Next morning, however, he became sick, and grew worse during the day, dying suddenly in the afternoon. A neighbour, who was present at the time of death, stated that it was a case of convulsions; and a verdict to this effect was accordingly returned.”

Philip Perry – see also WOODMAN, Blue Lane West.

John William Howley = John William Hawley

1901 Census

293, Green Lane

- [1] *John Howley* (28), licensed victualler's manager, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Naomi Howley (24), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Maria Howley (1), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Mary Howley (56), mother, widow, retired dressmaker, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] James Garrigher (25), barman, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] Louisa Kirkham (17), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 3/8/1901

“Maria Booker, back of 297, Green Lane, was summoned for damaging a window pane belonging to *John William Hawley*, of the GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane, doing damage to the amount of £1 14s. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) prosecuted. On Friday morning, the 26th July, defendant went into the GREEN DRAGON, and a short time after she was supplied with some rum she smashed one of the front windows.

Ada Hollingshead, of Blue Lane, stated that she saw defendant smash prosecutor's window with a brick. Witness said she thought defendant was drunk, for defendant came up to her and threatened to smash her window if she said anything about it.

Defendant said that she did not know whether she broke the window or not. She was supplied with a lot of drink in the prosecutor's house and then forcibly ejected.

Fined 10s and costs and ordered to pay the damage, or 21 days in default.

Defendant: I shall have to do the 21 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/10/1901

“Mr. T. H. Stanley (Stanley and Jackson) made application for the temporary transfer of the license of the GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane, from *John William Howley* to *Thomas Molineux*. The agreement under which *Molineux* was to hold the license was produced, and Alderman Holden said he did not feel prepared to consent to the transfer under the conditions of the agreement. The man was subject to 14 days' notice, and a man could not be responsible for the good conduct of his house if he was subject to so short a notice.

The Bench retired for consultation in private, and, on returning, Alderman Holden announced that they would grant the temporary authority, but they were strongly of opinion that the responsible person should be the tenant, and not a mere servant for one or two weeks. The Bench thought there ought to be a better class of people as managers of public houses.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1902

“Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of the above society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *Thomas Molyneux*, GREEN DRAGON INN, Green Lane.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/8/1905

“Ellen Fisher, married woman, 6, Tiger Yard, was charged with assaulting Kate Leonard, 1 court, Blue Lane, on the preceding Tuesday; and there was a cross-summons charging Leonard with assaulting Fisher. Both women have frequently been before the court. It seemed they met in the GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane, on the evening of the date named, and each said the other used filthy language. Leonard alleged Fisher assaulted her with a hat pin, and used very bad language; Fisher said Leonard struck her behind the ear, causing a wound which bled profusely, and she produced a collar besmeared with blood and also a cloth saturated in blood. She also alleged that it was Leonard who used the filthy language, and challenged her to fight because she knew that she (Fisher) was bound over to keep the peace; and Leonard also pulled her blouse off in the street to fight.

Several witnesses were called, but Alderman Clare said the Bench did not know which side to believe. There were some lies being told somewhere. Both summons were dismissed, each side to pay 3s costs.”

1911 Census

Green Lane – GREEN DRAGON

- [1] *William Cooper* (43), publican, born Nuneaton;
- [2] Mary Cooper (37), wife, married 16 years, born Parkgate, Yorkshire;
- [3] Archibald Cooper (11), son, school, born Parkgate, Yorkshire;
- [4] Dorothy Cooper (13), daughter, school, born Parkgate, Yorkshire;
- [5] Annie Raybold (24), servant, born Brierley Hill:

Frederick Davies = Frederick Davis

Walsall Observer 25/7/1914

“Ernest Lawrence, greengrocer, of 217, Green Lane, was summoned by William Dowlan, of 225 Green Lane, for assault on July 20th. Mr. F. A. Platt, defended.

Complainant said that on July 20th, at 11.30pm, he saw a row going on near defendant's house. Some of the gipsy class were

setting about a man who they accused of spying upon them about thrashing horses. Defendant, whom complainant had never previously seen, came up to him and said, 'Here is one of them.' He then knocked complainant down, kicked him, and scratched his face.

Answering Mr. Platt, complainant said it was not true that he had suggested that he and Lawrence should each put 3s 6d down, and they should fight it out.

William Bird and Mrs. Sidwell corroborated complainant's story.

In reply to Mr. Platt, Bird admitted that he challenged Lawrence to fight.

Lawrence said a man came into his yard, refused to leave, and jostled him.

Fred Davis, landlord of the GREEN DRAGON, in Green Lane, gave evidence as to statements made by Dowlan, and the case was dismissed."

Walsall Observer 15/9/1917

"At the Police Court yesterday, before the Mayor (Mr. S. M. Slater) and Mr. A. D. Cozens, Patrick Feeley (47), labourer, Bull's Head Lodging House, Green Lane, was charged with stealing a bottle of whisky, value 6s, belonging to Frank Myatt, brewer, on the 2nd inst.

A motor driver named William Littleford, of Heath Town, who was in charge of a vehicle belonging to prosecutor, spoke of visiting the GREEN DRAGON INN, Green Lane, and to missing the bottle of whisky off the vehicle. A girl, named Alice Brown, of 19½, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, saw prisoner take the whisky, and also said he shook his fist at her.

Detective Bell arrested prisoner, who admitted that he broke the bottle and drank the whisky.

In defence prisoner said he was drunk.

The Mayor: Before you did it or after? – Prisoner: Before.

It was stated by Chief Inspector Ballance that there were over sixty convictions against the man, who had been convicted all over the country for theft, but was a Walsall man.

Prisoner was sentenced to the maximum term of three months' imprisonment."

[Bull's Head Lodging House is the de-licensed BULL'S HEAD, Green Lane.]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane. £1 3s 3d."

Rupert Raybould – see also ALMA.

Harry Salt – see also SPURMAKERS ARMS.

Joseph Seagar – see also THREE CUPS, STAG, Bloxwich, and SPOTTED COW, Bloxwich.

It closed at 2pm on 4th May 1939, and the license was transferred to the COTTAGE, Harden.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/5/1939

"The special removal of the license of the GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane, Walsall, to premises erected in Harden Road, Walsall, was approved yesterday by Walsall Licensing Justices.

It was explained that demolition notices in respect of the GREEN DRAGON were served in June last owing to a scheme for the widening of Green Lane. The owners had now erected a modern house in Harden Road."

GREEN MAN

5, Dudley Street / Upper Hall Lane, (Vicarage Place), WALSALL

OWNERS

William Henry Farmer, Dudley Street, Walsall

Leary's Brewery, Pleck, Walsall

Manchester Brewery Co. [1906]

Samuel Allsopp and Sons Ltd.

Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Farrington [1818] – [1822]

John Farrington [1826]
 Miles Farrington [1828]
 George Farrington [1828] – [1830]
 John Farrington [1835]
 Edward Parker [1841] – [1850]
 Francis Priscilla Clements [1851]
 Joseph Archer [1855] – **1866**;
 Thomas Russell (**1866** – []
 Robert Crow [1868] – [1873];
 Mrs. Sarah Jane Crow [];
 William Elliott [pre 1879];
 Patrick Edward Donnelly [];
 Arnold Lewis [1881];
 John Mabyn [];
 John Donnellan [] – **1888**;
 George Pearson (**1888** – **1892**);
 William Horton (**1892** – **1893**);
 Herbert Tuckley (**1893** – **1894**);
 George Pearson (**1894**);
 Denis Gordon (**1894** – **1898**);
 William Lawrence (**1898** – **1899**);
 William Farrington (**1899** – **1900**);
 Patrick Lyon (**1900** – **1903**);
 Eliza Powell (**1903** – **1906**);
 William Wright (**1906** – **1909**);
 Frank Midwinter (**1909** – **1910**);
 George William Walter Hey (**1910** – **1911**);
 Albert Victor Murdock (**1911** – **1913**);
 George Turpin (**1913** – **1914**);
 William Swann (**1914** – **1917**);
 Catherine Winifred Swann (**1917** – **1918**);
 James Anson (**1918** – **1926**);
 Frederick Albert Hadley (**1926** – **1931**);
 George James Briscall (**1931** – **1934**);
 James Platt (**1934** – **1936**);
 William Platt (**1936** – **1940**);
 Dora Platt (**1940** – **1943**);
 Lilian Bennett (**1943**);
 Nellie Marian Turner (**1943** – **1946**);
 Charles Mason (**1946** – **1952**);
 Harold Francis Drummond (**1952** – **1953**);
 Charles William Cass (**1953** – **1958**);
 Denis Ash (**1958** – **1959**);
 Alfred Charles Gardener (**1959** – **1960**);
 George Edward Morris (**1960** – **1962**);
 Harry Dobson (**1962**);
 Mabel Brown (**1962** – **1963**);
 Stanley Herbert Kirk (**1963**);
 George Albert Hudson (**1963** – **1964**);
 Albert Westwood (**1964** – **1965**);
 Malcolm Leslie Corbett (**1965** – **1966**);
 Frank Austin (**1966** – []

NOTES

ORIGINAL GREEN MAN [1828], [1832]

OLD GREEN MAN [1861], [1866], [1872], [1906], [1907], [1909], [1911], [1912], [1918], [1941], [1942], [1944]

OLDE GREEN MAN [1940]

[‘The History and Directory of Walsall’ by Thomas Pearce 1813](#)

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Additional Friendly Societies, known by the name of Gift Societies.....

A Gift, or permanent fund, held at GREEN MAN, Dudley Street.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 18/12/1826 - Advert

"*John Farrington* respectfully solicits the support of the inhabitants of Walsall and its neighbourhood as an Auctioneer and Appraiser, and pledges himself for the most unremitting attention and punctuality to all business with which he may be favoured. GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, Walsall. December 16, 1826."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 5/1/1829 - Advert

"To Maltsters And Brewers.

Wanted, a steady active Man who understands Malting and Brewing.

Constant employment may be met with by enquiring at the GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/12/1830

"The subscribers of the Walsall Harmonic Society held their annual meeting on Friday, the 2nd inst. at Mr. *Farrington's*, GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, when Mr. John Heeley, Esq., was chosen president, and Richard Jesson, jun., Esq., vice-president, for the ensuing year. An excellent dinner was provided on the occasion, and a numerous and respectable party spent the evening with the utmost glee and hilarity. The vocal performances of Messrs. Pearsall and Simmonds of Birmingham, assisted by Mr. Stone of Walsall, elicited much applause."

Excise office. [1834], [1845]

It had a bowling green. [1834]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/1/1838

"To Brewers And Hostlers.

Wanted immediately, a steady Man as Brewer and Hostler. One who understands malting would be preferred.

Apply at the GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street. Walsall."

Baptists worshipped here in 1845.

Edward Parker was also a maltster. [1845]

He was described as a maltster, horticultural architect and landscape gardener. [1849], [1850]

Birmingham Journal 5/5/1849

"Exhibition Of The Walsall Floral And Horticultural Society. The first exhibition of this society this season took place on Wednesday, at the Blue Coat School Room, and in a commodious marquee erected adjoining the GEORGE HOTEL. The specimens shewn were decidedly superior to those exhibited in previous years, notwithstanding the late unfavourable season. In the afternoon, the subscribers and judges, competitors, &c dined together at the GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street, Mr. Richard Jesson in the chair, the vice being ably filled by Mr Charles Eyland, treasurer of the society. The usual loyal toasts were drunk, after which 'Success to the Walsall Horticultural Society,' 'The Chairman. The Treasurer, and Secretary.' 'The Judges,' 'The Amateur Florists,' &c, &c, each of which were suitably responded to, and after spending a pleasant evening the company broke up at an early hour."

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/11/1855

"John Jaques, a man of colour, was indicted for obtaining on the 29th September, six pounds of sugar, and a pound of tea, by false pretences, from Mr. Robert Keyte, grocer. The prisoner went to the shop of the prosecutor, and representing that he was sent by Mrs. *Archer*, of the GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, where he was employed, obtained the articles above named, which he was found afterwards trying to dispose of in a lodging house. He was, it appeared, tipsy at the time, and Mrs. *Archer* having given him an excellent character, and stated that she would again employ him, he was acquitted and discharged with a caution."

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/12/1856

"Charge Of Uttering Forged Bank of England Notes.

At the Guildhall a young man named Edwin Keyte, brother to Daniel Keyte, who keeps the PIGEON beerhouse in Bullock's Row, was charged with the above offence. Mr. *Joseph Archer*, the landlord of the GREEN MAN, prosecutor, deposed that about half-past seven on the Saturday night a man, who is not in custody, went to his house and asked for five pipes, six papers of tobacco, and six quarts of ale. He said the ale was for the workmen of Mr. Murray, cabinet maker, Digbeth, and that it was foot-ale, or what is paid for by a man newly employed. In payment he presented a note, purporting to be a £5 Bank of England note. He left, taking the change, but the prosecutor feeling doubts as to the genuineness of the note, sent William Horton, locksmith, who was sitting in the kitchen, to follow the man and see where he took the ale to. Horton saw him pass up Dudley Street, where he was joined by the prisoner, to whom, on meeting a policeman, he handed the bottle. They proceeded at a rapid pace to the PIGEON, kept by the brother of the prisoner, when the latter put the bottle in the yard through some broken palings, and witness saw Daniel Keyte, the landlord, bring it from inside the yard into the house. Joseph Keyte, another brother saw the witness looking and nodded to Daniel, who then concealed the bottle. The witness stated that considerable effort was employed to prevent him seeing anything that occurred, and ultimately seven men, including the man who had fetched that ale and Daniel Keyte, left the house together, going along the Birmingham Road, the witness returning to inform Mr. *Archer* what he had observed.

Mr. Blackburn, cashier of the Walsall branch of the Birmingham Bank, proved that the note produced was a forgery, as well as two others which were in court. A forged note, bearing the same number as one of these, had recently been offered to him. The signature to £5 Bank of England notes was now lithographed, which, of course, rendered it more easy of imitation.

Mr. Cater, superintendent of police, applied for a remand for a week, which was granted, though opposed by Mr. Wilkinson on the part of the prisoner. Bail, however, in £20 each, two securities, was accepted.

Joseph Keyte, a younger brother of the prisoner, was then placed at the bar, on the charge of passing a forged note of a similar description to Mrs. Ellen Cooper, of Digbeth, butcher, on the same night.

Mr. Cater said he was prepared to complete this case; but Mr. Wilkinson, who said he was retained for the prisoner, said the latter had only been taken into custody that morning, and had had no time to prepare his defence.

The prisoner was remanded till Wednesday, remaining in custody meanwhile.”

AND

“Charge Of Uttering Forged Bank of England Note.

On Wednesday, before W. Thomas (Mayor), J. Shannon, W. Ward, and C. Greatrex, Esqrs., Joseph Keyte, remanded from Monday on this charge, was again brought up. Mrs. Ellen Cooper, butcher, of New Street, deposed that on Saturday night a man went to her shop and purchased some steak, tendering a £5 note, purporting to be a Bank of England note, in payment. After he left she discovered the note to be a forged one, and gave information to the police, which at once led them to conclude that the prisoner was the man. On being asked, however, if she could identify him, she looked at him, said he was very much like him, but thought the man was taller, and began to weep, saying she would not like to go against any man’s child. Her daughter was called, but she went further, and said she was pretty certain the prisoner was not the man, and accordingly Keyte was discharged.

The Mayor said the magistrates were unanimously of the opinion that the case had been tampered with.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 20/12/1856

“Edwin Keyte, a young man remanded from the previous Monday, on the charge of being concerned with passing a forged £5 Bank of England note to Mr. *Joseph Archer*, the GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, on the night of the 6th inst., surrendered to his bail on Monday last. The Superintendent of Police said that he had been unable to obtain any additional evidence to that given on the former occasion, and the Bench, not deeming that sufficiently conclusive, discharged the accused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/5/1857

“George Reynolds, remanded last week, on the charge of passing a forged Bank of England note for £5 to Mr. William Bond [sic], publican, in Paddock Lane, in payment for ale, was charged with passing another forged note of the same bank and same amount on the night of 6th December last, at the OLD GREEN MAN, George Street, kept by Mr. *Archer*. Some suspicions were entertained as to the truth of his story, and he was followed and seen, on meeting with Edward Keyte, brother of the landlord of the PIGEON beerhouse, to hand the ale to him. Keyte was afterwards apprehended on it being found that the note was bad, but was discharged for want of evidence. The present prisoner was apprehended at the PIGEON beerhouse, on the 16th April, as previously stated, after being missing from the neighbourhood since December. Several witnesses positively identified him as the man who passed the forged note, the note itself having been marked on being found to be bad shortly after its receipt. The prisoner was remanded for a week to await communication with the authorities of the Bank of England.”

[At the Staffordshire Summer Assizes - George Reynolds was sentenced to 10 years’ penal servitude.]

AND

“Edward Keyte was brought up by sergeant Dackus, on the charge of being concerned with George Reynolds in passing a forged Bank of England note at the GREEN MAN, on the 6th December last; but it appearing that there was no further evidence against the prisoner than that adduced in December, that he took the bottle of ale which Reynolds had given the note in payment for from the prisoner, he was discharged.”

Walsall Free Press 16/3/1861

“Sarah Bradbury v. Cook and his wife.

The parties reside at the GREEN MAN, Dudley Street. Complainant stated that her charge against the defendants was for threatening her life. On Tuesday night she was asleep in bed, when Mr. and Mrs. Cook came to her bed-room door, and uttered the most horrible threats against her life, and abused her in language she would not like to repeat. She called a person in court as a witness, but he did not seem to know much of the matter. Mr. Cook denied the charge altogether. The Bench dismissed the case.”

1861 Census

5, Dudley Street

- [1] *Joseph Archer* (59), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Archer (48), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah Needham (17), house servant, born Ireland;
- [4] Susannah Nelson (59), lodger, widow, tailor, born Chippenham, Wiltshire;
- [5] John Ryan (28), lodger, boot maker, born London;
- [6] Lucy Ryan (28), lodger, silk winder, born Coventry;
- [7] Edward Ryan (2), lodger, born Walsall;
- [8] Mary I. Ryan (6 months), lodger, born Nottingham;
- [9] John Lee (49), lodger, tailor, born Rutland;
- [10] William Bradbury (23), lodger, fruiterer, born Birmingham;
- [11] Ellen Hill (37), lodger, cork cutter, born Dudley;

- [12] John Rawson (21), lodger, tailor, born Chichester, Sussex;
[13] Luke Dutton (35), lodger, travelling draper, born Ireland;
[14] Emma Dutton (28), lodger, travelling draper, born Leicester:

Walsall Free Press 18/6/1864

“John Galway was charged with having wilfully broken a pane of glass, value £2 15s, the property of Mr. *Archer*, GREEN MAN, Dudley Street. It appeared that, on Sunday afternoon, the defendant, who lodges at the above public house, requested to be supplied with ale, on being refused, he went into the street and threw stones at the window, and damaged it to the amount stated. The defendant when apprehended, had three stones in his pocket, and, on his way to the station offered to pay for the damage done. The Bench after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant to pay £2 10s for the damage done, and a fine of 20s and costs; or, in default, to be imprisoned for two months with hard labour.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/2/1865

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. F. B. Oerton and H. Brace, Patrick Nugent, Thomas Brannon, and Bridget, his wife, were charged with having been concerned in a highway robbery, with violence, from the person of Thomas Henry Higgenson, for whom Mr. Glover appeared. On Monday night the prosecutor was at the GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street, where he met the male prisoners. On leaving the inn he went to Brannon’s house, and there paid for a quart of ale. After drinking a small quantity he was about to leave the house, when the inmates endeavoured to prevent him. He got away from them, however, and had reached the end of a passage leading into the street, when Nugent and another man met him, and took away his watch, a pencil case, and two knives. They then threw him into the gutter, and brutally ill-treated him until he became unconscious. Subsequently one of the knives was found on a beam in Brannon’s house, and Mrs. Brannon was found dealing with the pencil case. The prisoners were committed for trial at the ensuing Borough Quarter Sessions.

[Patrick Nugent, Thomas Brannon, and Bridget Brannon were found not guilty at the Staffordshire Sessions in March 1865.]

Joseph Archer – see also DOG AND PARTRIDGE.

He issued tokens from here.

Walsall Free Press 30/6/1866 - Advert

“Preliminary announcement. Mr. *Thomas Russell* begs to announce that he has engaged the celebrated Champion Quoit Player ‘M’Gregor,’ to Play A Match, which will come off upon the Quoit and Bowling Green adjoining the GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, and of which particulars will appear in a future.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/8/1866 - Advert

“To be Disposed Of, the Licenses and Possession of the excellent Old-Licensed Inn, known as the OLD GREEN MAN, situated in the best part of Dudley Street, and junction with the late improvements of George Street and Hall Lane, in the occupation of Mrs. *Russell*, who is leaving solely on account of having personally attended to her trade.

The House has been much improved, having a handsome Liquor Shop to the Front, with Entrance to Hall Lane, two Parlours, Tap Room, Cooking Kitchen, nine capital Parlours, excellent Cellars, and excellent supply of water for Brewing purposes, entire Yard, extensive Porter Stores, capital Lodge Room, Stabling for fifty Horses, Bowling Green, Quoit Ground, and other Appurtenances thereto.

The rent is low, and, with Premises which are let off, reduces the rent of the House to a nominal rent.

Fixtures, &c, to be taken to in the usual way.

Apply to H. Farrington, 1, St George’s Buildings, Walsall.”

Robert Crow = Robert Crown = Robert Crowe

Walsall Free Press 29/5/1869

“*Robert Crow*, landlord of the GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, was charged with having on Sunday last, had his house open during prohibited hours, namely, ten minutes past twelve midnight.

Police-constable Blewer said he saw a woman going into defendant’s house by the side door in Hall Lane, and come out by the front door in Dudley Street. He went to the woman and laid hold of the jug, and on his doing so she up-set the contents of it over his hands. He then went to Mrs. *Crow* and asked why she had supplied the woman with drink, and she replied ‘No one has been here for ale tonight.’

Witness was cross-examined at some length by Mr. Dale, who appeared for the defendant, and who contended that the evidence as to the keeping open was not conclusive. The Bench, however, considered that it was proved, and they sentenced defendant to pay a fine of 1s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 19/11/1870 - Advert

“Wanted, a strong active Servant Girl, one from the country preferred; age from 20 to 25. Apply, Mr. *R. Crow*’s, GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street.”

1871 Census

5, Dudley Street

- [1] *Robert Crow* (40), licensed victualler, born Little Brickhill, Berkshire;
- [2] *Sarah J. Crow* (35), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Hannah Hughes* (66), mother, born Sedgley;
- [4] *William Dawes* (17), domestic servant, born Africa;
- [5] *Leah Waring* (22), domestic servant, born Long Compton, Warwickshire;
- [6] *George Brown* (45), boarder, musician, born Hull;
- [7] *Mary Brown* (29), lodger, musician, born Ale Walton, Northamptonshire;
- [8] *Frederick Brown* (15), lodger, musician, born Ale Walton, Northamptonshire;
- [9] *Thomas O'Neill* (28), lodger, hawkker, born Wolverhampton;
- [10] *Maria O'Neill* (30), lodger, born Manchester;
- [11] *John Warrington* (29), lodger, provision dealer, born Shoreditch. Middlesex;
- [12] *Charles Jones* (27), lodger, musician, born Bath:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/7/1871 - Advert

“Walsall. To be Let, that old-established House known as the GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street. Beds and Let-offs more than pay the rent.
Apply on Premises.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/3/1872

“John Cope, a man against whom several convictions were on record was convicted of having, on Tuesday, stolen a meat jack, value 8s, the property of *Robert Crowe*, of the GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street, and was sentenced to four months' imprisonment.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/10/1874 - Died

“On the 19th inst, after a long illness, aged 43, *Robert Crow*, GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street, Walsall; deeply regretted. Friends will please accept this intimation.”

Sarah Jane Crow, widow, married *William Elliott*.

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/3/1876

“Thomas Mincher, a young man, was indicted for setting fire to three mattresses, in the dwelling house of *Sarah Jane Crow*, on the 2nd January last, and with attempting to set fire to the house. The Hon. F. Parker was for the prosecution, and Mr. Darlington for the defence.

Prosecutrix, who has recently changed her name to *Elliott*, said she kept the GREEN MAN in Dudley Street, Walsall. The prisoner had been in her employ as a servant, for about five months. At half-past eleven on the night of 1st January last, he, being then perfectly sober, took a candle, and went up-stairs to bed. She remained in the bar until about 1.30am, when she noticed a smell of fire and smoke. She said to Mr. *Elliott*, ‘the house must be on fire,’ and with that she went upstairs, and discovered that the prisoner had set fire to three mattresses, which were then smouldering. She called to Mr. *Elliott*, who went upstairs, and helped her extinguish the fire. The prisoner was found sitting on the end of one of the mattresses.

Mr. *Elliott* deposed to asking the prisoner what he had set fire to the mattresses for, and said the prisoner made on reply. Witness then exclaimed, ‘Good God! Is there any more fire in the house?’ He said, ‘No; it is only in this room.’ A police officer was then sent for, and prisoner said, ‘I will go to bed now.’ He did so. When the officer came, he charged the prisoner with setting fire to the mattresses. Prisoner replied, ‘That if he did it wilfully, he was willing to pay for it.’ He also expressed his sorrow for what he had done.

For the defence, it was contended that the affair was a pure accident, caused by the prisoner smoking and drinking in his bedroom. The jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty, and the prisoner was acquitted.”

William Elliott – see also WAGGON AND HORSES, Wolverhampton.

1881 Census

5, Dudley Street

- [1] *Arnold Lewis* (26), licensed victualler, born Newport, Monmouthshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Lewis* (24), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Elizabeth Lewis* (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Jane Martin* (16), general servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/4/1890

“Yesterday, Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street, Walsall, on the body of *Edward Reay* (37), bridle-cutter, whose death from an overdose of laudanum has already been reported in the *Daily Post*.

The evidence that the deceased was a soldier, serving in India for thirteen years prior to February, 1889, when he returned to his wife, who had been maintaining herself by keeping a grocer's shop in Dudley Street, her husband not having sent her any money for several years. For a time after his return he worked at his trade in Birmingham, but that ceased five or six months ago, and after he led an ideal life, though his wife would have been glad of his assistance in the business, and drank immoderately. After his bouts of drinking he often pressed his wife to get him laudanum to induce sleep, saying he had been accustomed to use it while

abroad; and last Thursday, as a substitute, she got him a sleeping draught from a chemist's, but that only made her husband ill, and he then blamed her for not having given him laudanum, as he requested. To furnish means to gratify his depraved appetite, he last week took on different days a cake from the shop, his wife's boots, and a small clock, the latter being removed on Saturday. On the afternoon of that day, his wife, thinking that he was drinking, and fearing that if his wishes were not complied with he would disturb the business when he returned at night, sent his mother for a pennyworth of laudanum; and when he came and asked for half a pint of beer and some laudanum in it, she promised that he should have both when he was in bed. He then went upstairs, and she helped him to bed, and put four drops of laudanum into the beer; but he insisted having the entire pennyworth, and, in reply to his wife's remark that it was a very heavy dose, said he had often taken more whilst abroad and it would not hurt him. She then gave it to him, and when she went to bed an hour later he was sleeping comfortably. She awoke at five o'clock, and on noticing that his forehead seemed damp she called a neighbour named Corbett, who came and said her husband was only in heavy sleep, but to reassure her he said he would not go to bed again, but would be in readiness to fetch a doctor if she would desire one. She then endeavoured to arouse her husband by rubbing him, and by giving him first ginger beer, and afterwards strong coffee; and while she was putting some of the latter into his mouth, she noticed a change come over him like a shudder, and, at once she ran down and asked Mr. Corbett to go for Dr. Wood. When that gentleman arrived soon after death had taken place. He subsequently made a post mortem examination by the instructions of the coroner, and attributed death to poisoning by a narcotic, probably laudanum. If the pennyworth of laudanum (a drachm) was of the usual strength it would, he said, contain four grains of opium, which would be sufficient to cause death. A great deal depended upon whether a person had been accustomed to take it or had not for some time. A man enfeebled by intemperance, like the deceased, would be much more likely to fall a victim to it than a healthy man.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Poisoning, and exonerated that wife from all blame."

1891 Census

5, Dudley Street – Public House

[1] *George Pearson* (29), licensed victualler, born Macclesfield;

[2] *Ellen Pearson* (27), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *George Pearson* (3), son, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *James Connolly* (20), servant, born Ireland;

[5] *Samuel Pearson* (1), son, born Walsall;

[6] *Ellen Gregory* (19), general servant, born Bloxwich;

[7] *Mary Butwell* (14), general servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 16/6/1894

"In the County Court, on Wednesday, before Judge Giffith, *Herbert Tuckley*, licensed victualler, the GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, Walsall, sued *Isaiah Davies*, baker and confectioner, High Street, Walsall, for the recovery of a collie dog, or £5 5s as damages. Mr. J. N. Cotterell appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. H. B. Jackson for the defendant. Mr. Cotterell in opening the case, said that Mr. *Tuckley* wanted a collie pup, and on the information of a friend he went to see a one that was born on November 18, 1893. The purchase was completed on January 2, 1894, and the dog taken home and remained with plaintiff until April 16. On that day *Sidney James*, in Mr. *Tuckley's* employment, took the dog with him to the shop of Mr. *Holloway*, chemist, High Street, and while there the defendant, *Davies*, came and carried it off, and he had retained it since, refusing to permit Mr. *Tuckley* or anyone else to see it. He (Mr. Cotterell) would put into the box the man who sold the pup, and he also would produce the mother of the pup. Doubtless since April 16 the pup had been living on the fat of the land and had learned to like Mr. *Davies* better than the plaintiff (laughter). Mr. *Davies* had lost a dog and contended that this one was his, but Mr. *Tuckley* held that there was a difference of some months in age.

Mr. *Tuckley* was then called and deposed to the purchase of the dog from *Richard Crumpton*, Walsall.

Mr. Cotterell: I have the mother of the pup.

Mr. Jackson: So have I, sir (laughter).

The Judge: Are they the same mothers?

Mr. Jackson: I say mine is the mother.

The dog taken by Mr. *Davies* was produced and identified by Mr. *Tuckley* as his. He gave 5s for it, and was offered £1 for it when it was nine weeks old.

Mrs. *Tuckley* was called and identified the dog 'by its eyes.' *Crumpton* produced the mother of the pup he had sold to Mr. *Tuckley*. For the defence Mr. Jackson said defendant believed the dog was one he lost in September or October last. There was no doubt each party claimed the dog in the bona fide belief in the justice of the claim.

Mr. and Mrs. *Davies* were called, and deposed that the dog was the one they had lost last autumn. After hearing parties Judge Giffith said defendant had no right to take the dog from the peaceful possession of the plaintiff. If he believed the dog to be his he should have taken legal proceedings for its recovery. There was consequently wrongful possession, and he gave the verdict for the plaintiff for £5 5s damages and costs, or the return of the dog."

Birmingham Daily Post 11/8/1894

"*George Pearson*, the GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises, and with supplying a drunken person. The evidence of Detectives *Harper* and *Williams* was that just before closing time on Saturday night they found a man named *David Evans* and a woman named *Ellen Gilmour* in the 'snug' in a drunken condition, the man having a jug of ale by his side. The defence was that the man and woman had been refused drink, and that the landlord, his wife and assistant were under the impression that they had left the house. The magistrates came to the conclusion that the evidence did

not warrant a conviction, and they dismissed that case, at the same time stating that the police had done quite right in bringing the matter to court. Gilmore and Evans were put on their good behaviour for a month.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/9/1896

“*Dennis Gordon*, landlord of the GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street, was summoned for having supplied drink to drunken person on the 12th inst.

Police-sergeant Ballance said that he saw a man leave the defendant’s house in a drunken condition, carrying a bottle of ale. Police-constables Shipley, Barlow and Dicken considered the man was drunk when brought to the police office, but Mr. Jackson called several witnesses, including D. Hubbard, who stated that the man was not drunk, and the case was dismissed.”

Patrick Lyon = Patrick Lyons

1901 Census

5, Dudley Street

[1] *Patrick Lyon* (32), unmarried, licensed victualler’s manager, born Ireland;

[2] Samuel Clark (18), barman, born West Bromwich;

[3] Harriet Davis (28), domestic servant, born Wyrley, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 18/4/1903

“Thomas Burke, 42, labourer, 58, Moncrief Street, was charged with stealing a knife worth a shilling, the property of *Patrick Lyons*, of the GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, on the 14th inst.

Prosecutor identified the knife produced as his property. He said that on the previous day it was taken from his dining room to the kitchen by a servant, to be cleaned, from something said to him, however, he asked his servant to examine the knives, and she reported that one was missing. The prisoner had been in his house drinking, but had eventually been ordered out. He came back again, and witness sent for the police, acting on the information he had received.

Joseph Winston deposed that the prisoner asked him to sell the knife produced for threepence, but he refused and advised the man to take it to where he had had it from. The prisoner said he should not do, and he went away with the knife.

Police-constable Burdett said he was called to the GREEN MAN by prosecutor, who said he had been told that prisoner had one of his knives in his possession. Prisoner immediately replied ‘Yes, here it is,’ and pulled it out of his pocket. When charged with stealing it, prisoner said ‘No man saw me steal it; fetch the man who saw me steal it.’

Prisoner asked the constable if, when he was charged with stealing the knife, he did not say that the man Winston had given him the knife to sell?

Burdett replied that that was so.

Prisoner: Didn’t he say then that he would do all he could to put me away? – Burdett: Yes.

The Chief Constable immediately sharply told Burdett that he ought to have said so in his own evidence; not kept it back for cross-examination. When he had evidence to give, he must give it fully.

The Mayor said the Bench had decided to dismiss the case, and at the same time wished him to say that it was not satisfied with the way the constable had given his evidence. When a constable gave evidence he ought to give it verbatim, and not suppress any part of it, perhaps to get a case. The Bench had been pleased to see the Chief Constable remind Burdett of what his duty was.”

Eliza Powell = Elizabeth Powell

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson next applied on behalf of the Manchester Brewery Company, for the approval of plans for alteration of the OLD GREEN MAN, Dudley Street. He said it was proposed to cut off the angle of the building at the corner of Upper Hall Lane and Dudley Street and make an entrance there, and take away a bay window which projected on to the footpath, and also the stepping. There was a little increase in the size of the scullery, for domestic purposes.

Mr. Farmer produced the plans.....

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had adjourned all the plans, and proposed to visit the houses next Wednesday. They would be glad if the architects would accompany them.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1906

“Yesterday the adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall.....

Several applications for the approval of plans for alterations, had been deferred from the annual licensing meeting for the magistrates to visit the premises. The Bench decided as under.....

OLD GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, approved.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/9/1907

“*William Wright*, OLD GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, was summoned for using the smoke room at the OLD GREEN MAN for

public music without a license between 1st and 9th August.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who defended, said he had communicated with the owners pointing out that the licensee had nothing to do with putting the instrument in the house. It was a very beautiful instrument – a pianola – and he thought it would educate the customers as it played grand opera and other high class music. It was not necessary to discuss whether it was public music or not as the point would not be contested, though views differed very much as to what was public music. The Brewery Company had written a letter stating that they sent on the instrument quite innocently, not thinking there would be any objection to it, as they had these instruments broadcast in their own district, and if it was objected to they would have it removed from the house. Under these circumstances he asked for the case to be withdrawn.

The Chief Constable said he would be willing accede to that on payment of the costs.

Mr. Jackson: I only wish I had the instrument in my house it would be a great acquisition to any house.

The case was dismissed on payment of costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/10/1907

“Henry Croft (42), a labourer, of no fixed abode, was charged with stealing a bicycle, value 40s, the property of William *Wright*, GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street, on the 14th inst.

Police-constable Marsden (42) deposed to seeing prisoner wheeling a bicycle at the Pleck in the direction of Darlaston, in a very awkward manner, so he stopped him and asked him questions about it. Prisoner said it was his own bicycle, and had honestly worked for it; and that he had given £7 10s for it, and had bought it at Coventry. The officer told him he was not satisfied with the explanation, and arrested him, and while officers were making enquiries as to his movements, prisoner admitted that he had stolen it from the GREEN MAN, Dudley Street. He charged him with the theft, and he replied ‘Yes.’

William *Wright*, son of the landlord of the GREEN MAN, said that the bicycle produced was his property, and he last saw it safe at 5.30 the previous afternoon, in a passage in the house.

Prisoner was not unknown in police courts, having two convictions for stealing and other convictions against him, and the Bench sentenced him to two months’ hard labour.

The officer was recalled to the witness box and Mr. Russell said the Bench wished to congratulate him upon the way he had dealt with the case. It was rather clever on his part to stop a man who was walking awkwardly with a bicycle, with the result that he detected a robbery, and they congratulated him upon the common sense he had used throughout the case.

Police-constable Marsden: Thank you, sir.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1908

“John Green (41), rag and bone gatherer, pleaded guilty to having stole two rugs, value 10s, the property of Elizabeth *Wright*, GREEN MAN INN, Dudley Street. Prisoner also pleaded guilty to having been twice previously convicted of larceny at petty sessions.

Asked what he had to say in defence prisoner said that he could get no work, and stole the rugs to get locked up.

The Recorder: That is not consistent with the fact that you stole the things and did not give yourself up until you had sold them. In sentencing the prisoner, the Recorder said he was sorry to see a man who had worn the Queen’s uniform in the Navy, standing in the dock. He saw he left the service by deserting it twenty-three years ago, and it was four years afterwards that he commenced a career of criminality. It was not serious crime he committed on any occasion, and the heaviest sentence that had been passed upon him was three months’ hard labour. He (Mr. Owen) felt that unless prisoner had a longer term of imprisonment there was very little chance of winning him from drink and petty larcenies. Prisoner would be sentenced to six months’ imprisonment, and he hoped in future he would keep his hands from picking and stealing.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

“Applications for transfer of license were heard in the Guildhall on Tuesday.....

Frank Midwinter sought a transfer from *William Wright* in respect of the OLD GREEN MAN, Dudley Street. There had been three transfers since 1900.

The Chief Constable said Mr. *Midwinter* was a respectable man who had held licenses in a number of houses.

The Chairman said Mr. *Midwinter* would have to be careful ‘up there,’ he would have to ‘keep his eyes on them’ laughter. Granted.”

1911 Census

5, Dudley Street – OLD GREEN MAN

[1] *George W. W. Hey* (43), publican, born Dodworth;

[2] *Clara Hey* (44), wife, married 13 years, assisting husband, born Barnsley;

[3] *Eunice Matilda Foster* (21), domestic servant, born Warwick:

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1912

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the President, Mr. Richard Anson, MANOR ARMS, Daw End, Rushall.....

New member..... Mr. *A. V. Murdoch*, OLD GREEN MAN, Dudley Street.”

1939 Register

5, Dudley Street

[1] *William Platt*, date of birth 27/3/1913, manager, licensed house, married;

[2] *Dora (Platt) Clinton*, dob 14/3/1913, unpaid domestic duties, married;
[5] *Thomas Kent*, dob 17/5/1910, general labourer, married:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
OLD GREEN MAN, Dudley Street. £1 2s 10½d.”

Walsall Observer 29/11/1941

“The destruction caused by a man who ran amok in a public house was described to the Walsall Magistrates yesterday week, when Joseph Hodgetts (28), labourer, of 27, Bath Street, was charged with damaging two mirrors and 18 drinking glasses at the OLD GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, thereby doing damage to the extent of £12. Hodgetts admitted the offence. There were thirty-five previous convictions against him, including three years’ penal servitude. His downfall was said to be due to drink and association with women. He was fined 50s with £12 costs. He said he would accept the prison alternative of two months, but was given 21 days in which to pay.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mrs. *Pratt*, the OLD GREEN MAN, Vicarage Place. £0 19s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

OLD GREEN MAN, Dudley Street. £1 0s 6d.”

George Edward Morris – see also HOPE AND ANCHOR, PRESIDENT LINCOLN, STARTING GATE, SIR CHARLES NAPIER, and CROWN AND CUSHION.

Stanley Herbert Kirk – see also COTTAGE.

Closed

Delicensed

GREEN MAN

38, George Street / Upper Hall Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. M. Farmer (widow), Dudley Street, Walsall

George Brown, New Street, Walsall

William Cozens

Mary Ann Cousins

John Rogers, Windmill Tavern, Walsall [1915]

Samuel I. Holmes, Walsall

Sara Holmes

Sydney John Holmes

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Miles Errington [1818] – **1832**);

Hannah Errington (**1832** – [1835]

John Baker [1842]

George Baker [1845]

John Baker [1849] – [1850]

Thomas Richards [1851] – [1861]

Joseph Beebee [1862] – [1865]

Samuel Thornhill [1868] – [1873];

William Cousins [1879] – **1886**);

Mrs. Mary Ann Cousins (1886 – 1904);
Arthur Cousins (1904 – 1905);
Elijah Powell [1905] manager?
Sidney Cousins (1905 – 1914);
William Swann (1914 – 1915);
John Rowley (1915 – 1920);
Sydney John ‘Syd’ Holmes (1920 – 1949);
Frederick Lineton (1949 – 1950);
Albert Ernest Thomas (1950 – 1954);
Arthur Edward Snell (1954 – 1957);
Gerald William Green (1957 – 1959);
Elsie Olive Paxton (1959 – 1960):

NOTES

ORIGINAL GREEN MAN [1832], [1849], [1850], [1857], [1858], [1859], [1861], [1865], [1872], [1879], [1915]
OLD GREEN MAN [1860], [1911], [1932], [1944]
ORIGINAL OLD GREEN MAN [1939]
OLDE GREEN MAN [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/2/1832 - Deaths

“On the 11th instant, in the 58th year of his age, Mr. *Miles Errington*, ORIGINAL GREEN MAN, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/8/1838 - Deaths

“On the 30th Ult, at Walsall, Hannah, widow of the late Mr. *Miles Errington*, victualler, of Dudley Street, in the town, aged 68.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 30/1/1842

“George Holden, of Walsall, will fight any 8½st man in Staffordshire, for from £5 to £20 a side. He can be seen at the GREEN MAN, George Street, Walsall, any Monday between seven and ten.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 20/2/1842

“James Holden, of Walsall, will run Thomas Wesley, of The Birchel’s, one mile for £5 or £10. If this is not acceptable, Holden will run any other man in Walsall. His money is ready at the GREEN MAN, George Street, Walsall.”

1851 Census

George Street

- [1] *Thomas Richards* (33), innkeeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Maria Richards* (32), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Thomas Richards* (6 months), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ann Richards* (19), niece, visitor, born Blakenall;
- [5] *Sarah Allen* (23), infant’s maid, born Wootton, Bedfordshire;
- [6] *John Richardson* (25), lodger, railway clerk, born Belfast:

London Gazette 8/7/1853

“Whereas a Petition of *Thomas Richards*, late of the GREEN MAN INN, George-street, Walsall, Staffordshire, Innkeeper, then, now, and since the twenty-first day of April last, occasionally lodging at the GREEN MAN INN aforesaid, and at Blackenall, near Bloxwich, Staffordshire, out of business, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Thomas Richards*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Thomas Richards* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 22nd day of July instant, at half past nine o’clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Thomas Richards*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. *Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke*, Clerk of the said Court, at his office, at Mountrath-street, in Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Birmingham Journal 27/10/1855

“On Wednesday last a young girl named *Theresa Betts* appeared before the magistrates to support a complaint against a youth named *Samuel Powell*, for using obscene language. Mr. *Wilkinson* was engaged for the defence. The girl said she was at a quadrille party, at the GREEN MAN, George Street, on Monday evening, when the defendant began throwing out his insults at her; she left to return home, and when in the yard he used obscene language through the window, and spat at her. By Mr. *Wilkinson*: ‘I am not sixteen years of age; I am not in service, but live with my parents. There is music every Monday

and Tuesday night at the GREEN MAN; there are generally more than thirty young women and a larger number of young men there. There is drinking there; we pay three-pence if we stand up to dance, but nothing is demanded at the door. My parents are not aware of my going there. The defendant had courted me, but we broke it off some time since.'

Mr. Wilkinson observed that he had put these questions to let the Bench see what sort of place it was. The Mayor remarked that in such a nest no end of mischief was done. Mr. Wilkinson then contended there was no charge against his client, as the language was stated to have been used from the window and not in the street; and cited a case heard in that Court some months ago where a summons was discharged because a party was proved to be standing on his door sill when he used obscene language. The Mayor said the complaint was dismissed; if the complainant chose to frequent such places she must put up with insults, and if she continued to do so she would some day regret it. It was a sink of iniquity, and he requested Mr. Darwall, the clerk, to look into the law, and see if the matter did not come within the cognisance of the police."

Walsall Free Press 7/2/1857 - Advert

"Victoria Legal Burial Society, Liverpool.

Wanted, Respectable Agents, in the Town of Walsall, Bilston and surrounding Districts.

Applications to be made immediately to Mr. *Thomas Richards*, ORIGINAL GREEN MAN, George Street, Walsall.
George Howe, Secretary."

Walsall Free Press 17/12/1859 - Advert

"ORIGINAL GREEN MAN INN, George Street, Walsall.

Mr. and Mrs. *Thomas Richards*, beg to inform the Ladies and Gentlemen of Walsall, and its vicinity, that their Annual Ball and Card Party, will take place on Monday the 26th day of December Instant, when the company of any Lady or Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Supper on Table at Seven o'clock.

Gentlemen's Tickets 2s. Ladies' Tickets 1s 6d each."

1861 Census

38, George Street

[1] *Thomas Richards* (42), widower, licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] William Thomas Richards (10), son, born Walsall;

[3] Samuel Richards (6), son, born Walsall;

[4] Elenor Augusta Richards (3), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Anne Richards (26), niece, housekeeper, born Bloxwich;

[6] Bedeliah McDorman (20), servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 17/8/1861

"Martin Collins was charged with assaulting Mr. Henderson on Saturday last. Mr. Ebsworth opened the case with a speech of some length, in which there was a good deal about 'Picts and Celts,' and charged Collins with an assault under 4 sec. 14 Vic. The nature of his speech may be collected from the following evidence. Edward Henderson deposed that he was in the GREEN MAN, George Street, about ten o'clock on Saturday night. He had been there on business to the landlord. Mr. McCracken was with him. Collins and another Irishman were present. Mr. A. McCrimen came in and some conversation ensued relative to the Irish and Gallic languages. McCrimen and Collins got from words to blows, and fought till the latter was beaten. Witness and McCracken did not interfere. Police were called for and witness prepared to retire. As he was going out he was met by the defendant and received from him a violent blow on the side of the face with some sharp instrument, which cut his head and knocked him senseless. He had given Collins no offence whatever during the evening.

Mr. Glover cross-examined the witness: There was no one in the passage when he was struck. The dispute might have originated by McCrimen asking Murphy (the Irishman who was with Collins) to pronounce the English word duck in Irish. He told Collins when he was disputing with McCrimen to sit down and be quiet. Did not say to Bridgett McDermott, the servant at the GREEN DRAGON, in reply to her observation that they ought not to have beaten Collins in that way - 'Don't say who struck or who did not.' Could swear to that.

Mr. *Richards* the landlord of the GREEN MAN was sworn. He was in bed when the row began, and when he came down Collins complained of having been ill-used by the Scotchman. Shortly afterwards a large body of Irishmen rushed into the house, and (at the same time) as Henderson was going through the passage, some one struck him on the side of the head with what appeared to be a tube. Witness could not see who struck.

Cross-examined by Mr. Glover: Knew Collins for about eight or nine months, and always found him to be a quiet respectable man. The rush of Irishmen took place at the moment Collins' hand was raised to strike the blow. He could not tell who struck the blow. Collins had nothing in his hand, and 'if the blow received by the complainant was inflicted by an instrument or weapon it could not have been struck by Collins.'

Mr. Strickland, assistant to Mr. Day was sworn. He had attended Mr. Henderson, and found the wound on the side of his head was an incised wound done by a sharp instrument. It was an inch long and went to the bone.

Mr. Glover made an able, but brief speech for the defence. He contended that all the evidence went to show, in the most convincing manner, that Collins had not struck the complainant the blow which had cut his head. He called Bridgett McDermott who displayed some awkwardness upon being sworn, which she explained by saying she was never before in a court of justice. On Saturday night after the first row she told Mr. Henderson it was shame that to have used Collins in that way. Henderson replied 'Don't say who struck, or did not strike.' Just as he said that a lot of people rushed in, and Henderson was felled to the ground by

a blow. His head fell on her foot, but it was not Collins who struck the blow as he was with Mr. *Richards* at the time. A long and uproarious cross-examination ensued between Mr. Ebsworth and this witness, which was strongly suggestive of the Old Bailey practice of former and less polished days.

Thomas Murphy deposed that he saw the blow struck which knocked complainant down. Collins was not the man who struck the blow. It was a dark complexioned man. The dispute with the Scotchmen arose about the right pronunciation of the Irish or Gallic word for duck. Cross-examined: The man who struck the complainant was taller than Collins, had black hair, wore (he thought) a cloth jacket and was (he believed) an Irishman. He could not tell who the man was. He had something in his hand but witness could not tell whether it was a poker or a stick.

Mrs. Jane Darlington (a respectable looking English woman) deposed to the row originating in a discussion as to the pronunciation of the Irish for duck. One of the Scotchmen struck Collins across the nose (Collins exhibited a badly bruised eye in court.) Henderson and three other Scotchmen then fell upon Collins and beat him. This concluded the case, Mr. Glover remarking that the evidence as to the innocence of Collins was overwhelming. Some discussion ensued as to whether Mr. *Richards* had used the exact words – ‘If the blow received by complainant was inflicted by an instrument or weapon it could not have been struck by Collins.’ The words had been put to Mr. *Richards* in the form of a question by Mr. Glover – ‘If the blow &c, could it have been struck by Collins?’ – And the answer given by Mr. *Richards*, was certainly ‘No.’ It was at last decided that Mr. *Richards* should be re-called, and he then said that if a piece of tube or such an instrument as a knife had been in Collins’ hand when he was about to strike complainant, he (*Richards*) must have seen it – an assertion equivalent to the former. After a long deliberation the Bench expressed its conviction of the guilt of Collins, and fined him 2s and costs, or one month’s imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861 - Advert

“Sale at the ORIGINAL GREEN MAN, corner of George Street, Walsall.

Geo. Bayley will Sell By Auction, on Tuesday Next, September 3rd, 1861, the entire Brewing Plant, Household Furniture, and other effects, on the above premises, under a bill of sale.

Catalogues of particulars may be had on application.

Sale to Commence at eleven o’clock punctually. The usual conditions will be observed.

Auctioneer’s Residence, 4, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

London Gazette 4/10/1861

“*Thomas Richards*, late of No.2, Peal-street, Walsall, Staffordshire, in no business or occupation, previously thereto of the ORIGINAL GREEN MAN INN, George-street, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, formerly of the same place and business, and also Parcels Agent to the Great Western Railway Company.”

Samuel Thornhill, beer retailer, 38, George Street. [1868]

1871 Census

38, George Street

[1] *Samuel Thornhill* (37), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Maria Thornhill* (31), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Edgar Thornhill* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Harry Thornhill* (1), son, born Walsall;

[5] *Lizzie Cartridge* (18), general servant, born Walsall:

William Cousins = William Cozens

Walsall Advertiser 4/1/1879 - Advert

“*William Cousins*, Auctioneer, Valuer, &c, the ORIGINAL GREEN MAN, George Street, Walsall.

Cash to any amount immediately advanced on Household Furniture, farming Stock, &c, for positive sale.”

[This advert appears regularly throughout 1879 and into 1880.]

1881 Census

38, George Street

[1] *William Cousins* (42), licensed victualler, born Huntingdon, Huntingdonshire;

[2] *Mary Ann Cousins* (37), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Alice Ada Cousins* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *John William Cousins* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *Rose Cousins* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] *Arthur Cousins* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] *Jenny Cousins* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] *Sidney Cousins* (2), son, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1883

“Yesterday Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the GREEN MAN INN, George Street, on the body of Elizabeth Bednall, aged sixty. The evidence bore out the statement published in yesterday’s *Post*, and showed, in addition, that after the man James had fallen against her and knocked her into the kitchen he crawled upstairs again and got into bed, too drunk to know that anything

had happened. Her relatives, however, at once sent for surgeons, and everything possible was done for her. Verdict Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

38, George Street – GREEN MAN INN

- [1] *Mary A. Cousins* (46), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Alice A. Cousins* (23), daughter, mother’s help, born Walsall;
- [3] *Rose Cousins* (20), daughter, mother’s help, born Walsall;
- [4] *Arthur Cousins* (17), son, saddle tree maker, born Walsall;
- [5] *Jennie Cousins* (15), daughter, day school teacher, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sidney Cousins* (12), son, errand boy, born Walsall;
- [7] *Ernest Cousins* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Albert V. Cousins* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;

1901 Census

38, George Street – GREEN MAN

- [1] *Mary A. Cousins* (57), innkeeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Alice Ada Gee* (33), daughter, widow, born Walsall;
- [3] *John W. Cousins* (31), son, cashier, born Walsall;
- [4] *Arthur Cousins* (27), son, riveter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Jennie Cousins* (25), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sidney Cousins* (22), son, bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Ernest Cousins* (19), son, saddler’s ironmonger, born Walsall;
- [8] *Albert V. Cousins* (17), son, tailor, born Walsall;
- [9] *Vera Mary Gee* (7), granddaughter, born Walsall;

Walsall Advertiser 10/6/1905

“A labourer named William Caulfield (26) no fixed abode, was charged with stealing a bottle containing sweets, value 1s, the property of John Price, George Street, on the 8th inst.

Martha Price, wife of complainant stated that on Thursday night about 10.15, on looking on the counter, she missed a bottle of sweets, and gave information to the police.

Lawrence Ford stated that he lived at Herbert Salt’s, fishmonger, 60, George Street. Prisoner came into the house shortly after ten on Thursday, and wanted to sell a bottle of sweets he had for 7d. He (witness) then went out of the shop to Price’s to buy some cigarettes, when the prisoner shouted to him, ‘Don’t say anything.’

Elijah Powell, landlord of the GREEN MAN INN, George Street stated that about 10.20 on Thursday night the defendant came into the house carrying a bottle of sweets. He commenced to hand the sweets round to the customers, and said that he was going to start to sell them in the market, and then offered to sell the bottle for 6d. He asked witness to buy the sweets for 5d, and then commenced to empty the sweets on the table. He (witness) then said ‘Don’t waste them. I’ll give you 5d for them; but where have you had them from?’ He then bought them, and shortly afterwards the police came and arrested the prisoner.

Police-constable Fisher stated that he arrested the prisoner at the GREEN MAN, and when charged he replied, ‘I didn’t steal them. What have I got to say I’ll say in the morning.’

Defendant said he met a man as he was going through Freer’s yard, who offered him the sweets for 6d, but he had only got 5d, so he eventually gave him 4d for them. Fined 5s and costs, or ten days.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/3/1911

“The Walsall Magistrates had before them on Tuesday, a young man named Frank Cullum (22), polisher, of 12, Richmond Street, who was charged with stealing two postal orders value 36s and a cheque, the property of Elijah Stanley, on February 28.

Mr. Stanley, who is 81 years of age, and lives at 64, Caldmore Road, stated that he was auxiliary secretary to the London Missionary Society. On the evening of February 28th he enclosed in an envelope, addressed to the London Missionary Society, a postal order for 21s and one for 15s, and a crossed cheque for £5 10s 9d. The postal orders were blank. It happened to be a stormy night, and he went to the door to see if he could see anyone who would post the letter for him. A young man passed by and witness asked him if he would post the letter. He consented, and witness gave him the letter. Next day he was informed by Mrs. *Cousins* that the postal orders had been sold in a public house for 25s. Witness paid Mrs. *Cousins* that amount, but had since been repaid. *Sidney Cousins*, licensee of the OLD GREEN MAN, George Street, said that prisoner came into his house on February 28 and was served with refreshment. Subsequently witness found him reading some poetry to three other men in the bar. The poetry had evidently been written by Mr. Stanley, and there was an envelope lying on the counter addressed to Mr. Stanley. Afterwards he saw prisoner with two postal orders in his hand which he asked witness to cash. He wanted 30s for them, but being suspicious he refused and asked prisoner where he had got them from. Prisoner said an old gentleman had given him a letter to post and he had taken them from that. Witness treated this as a joke at first, but eventually gave the prisoner 25s for the orders. Becoming more suspicious, the next day he went to Mr. Stanley’s house and returned him the orders. On March 11th prisoner came into his house again, but witness did not say anything to him about the affair. He did not give information to the police because he wished to keep the boy out of trouble. In reply to the Chief Constable witness admitted that when the police called upon him he said he did not know the prisoner or his friends, but that was not correct.

The Clerk (Mr. C. A. Loxton): You have acted very foolishly and if you had been charged with receiving this money it would

have been very awkward for you.

Recalled, Mr. Stanley explained that the reason his name happened to be on the envelope was that he had used an old envelope to put the money in.

Detective-sergeant Burrell deposed to arresting the prisoner. When charged he said, 'Yes, I had then. I cashed the postal orders and burned the cheque.' He added that he was the worse for beer at the time.

The prisoner, who was charged in 1908 with attempting to commit suicide had nothing to say. His mother told the Magistrates that drink and bad companions were responsible for his position. He was in the habit of going to the OLD GREEN MAN, and came home like a madman on the night of the theft.

Prisoner was sentenced to one months' hard labour.

The Magistrates called the landlord of the OLD GREEN MAN before them and told him that the case would be reported to the Licensing Justices as they did not consider his conduct at all satisfactory."

1911 Census

38, George Street

[1] *Sidney Cousins* (33), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Mary Beatrice Cousins* (31), wife, married 3 years, born Walsall;

[3] *Philip Sidney Cousins* (9 months), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Lillian Mary Cousins* (2), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1915

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday) at the Guildhall.

Temporary authorities were granted to.

John Rowley, ORIGINAL GREEN MAN, George Street."

Birmingham Daily Post 12/6/1915 - Advert

"Sale Of Two Valuable Freehold Public-Houses.

Fox & Harrison, F.A.I., are favoured with instructions from Mr. John Rogers (who is retiring) to Offer for Sale by Public Auction, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, June 29, 1915, at Seven o'clock in the Evening.

Lot 1. That Valuable Old-established Freehold, Full-Licensed Free Public-House, known as the ORIGINAL GREEN MAN, George Street (No.38), at the junction of Dudley Street and Upper Hall Lane, Walsall.

It is under the management of Mr. *John Rowley* for Mr. John Rogers, the Owner.

The Premises internally and externally, are in an excellent state of repair.

This well-known inn is situated in a densely-populated and manufacturing district, and fronts the main thoroughfare from Caldmore to the centre of the town, from which it is within one minute's walk.

There is an additional entrance from Dudley Street and Gateway entrance from George Street.

It will be offered Entirely Free from any Trading Tie whatever, and Possession can be had on Completion of Purchase.

The Valuable Goodwill of the Old-Established Business as a Going Concern is Included in the Sale."

[The other public-house in this auction is the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street.]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.

GREEN MAN, George Street. £0 16s 0d."

Walsall Observer 7/1/1939 - Personal

"Mr. and Mrs. *Syd Holmes*, the GREEN MAN INN, George Street (Free House), wish to make it known that they are not in any way connected with recent police court proceedings, and that their house had been personally conducted by them for nearly 20 years."

1939 Register

38, George Street – ORIGINAL OLD GREEN MAN

[1] *Sydney J. Holmes*, date of birth 15/12/1890, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Florence Holmes*, dob 6/6/1890, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Elizabeth A. (Holmes) Ingram*, dob 3/6/1927, at school, single:

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.

OLD GREEN MAN, George Street. £1 17s 1d."

Arthur Edward Snell – see also GREEN ROCK TAVERN and LORD RAGLAN.

Gerald William Green – see also WHITE LION.

It closed on 2nd March 1960, and the license was transferred to the KNAVE OF HEARTS, Bloxwich.

GREEN ROCK TAVERN

Green Rock Lane, Blakenall, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Humphries (1938 – 1940);
Albert Edwards (1940);
Bertram Albert Stone (1940 – 1943);
William Pratty (1943 – 1944);
Charles Peart (1944 – 1950);
Frank Wilson (1950 – 1954);
William Sydney Parkes (1954 – 1955);
Marshall Grahame Heeley (1955 – 1957);
Arthur Edward Snell (1957 – 1958);
James Frank Paxton (1958 – 1959);
Harry Dobson (1959 – 1960);
Job Coleman (1960 – 1964);
John Walker (1964 – 1965);
Caleb Davies (1965 – [1966])
Harbajan Singh Kang [2007]

NOTES

It was built on the site of Rock House.

It opened on 6th May 1938.

The license was transferred from the WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street, Walsall.

Walsall Observer 14/10/1939 - Advert

“Wanted, Pianist for Friday and Saturday evenings, 8 till 10; also Bar General; good references and trustworthy. Apply, Manager, GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Green Rock Road, Blakenall, Bloxwich.”

1939 Register

Green Rock Lane – GREEN ROCK TAVERN

- [1] *George Humphries*, date of birth 24/3/1896, licensee, (manager), married;
- [2] *Annie M. Humphries*, dob 9/5/1895, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Queenie E. (Humphries) Heath*, dob 20/6/1919, packer, electric fittings, single;
- [4] *Kathleen (Humphries) Hancox*, dob 7/10/1923, electrical machinist, single;
- [5] *Reginald T. Humphries*, dob 6/11/1926, at school, single;

Walsall Observer 13/7/1940

“At the monthly meeting on Thursday of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....

Mr. *Albert Evans* (?), GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Green Rock Road, Blakenall, was elected a member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 27/7/1940

“At Walsall Guildhall, on Wednesday..... the license of the GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Blakenall, was transferred to Mr. *Stone* from *Albert Edwards*, who was stated to be giving up the licensed trade in order to take up munitions work.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Stone*, GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Blakenall. £0 17s 1d.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

Mr. Gordon Hawley appeared for the Holt Brewery Co. Ltd., Birmingham, and the licensees of the COTTAGE INN, Harden Road; RED LION, Blue Lane; CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street; PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street; and GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Blakenall – John Cockbill, Howard Freeman, Sidney Canner, May Middleton (now of 39, Caledon Street), and *Bertram Albert Stone* (now of 80, Hollemeadow Avenue). Mr. Hawley said the purchase of coal at these houses had always been left to the licensees, and the brewery company would have no reason to be suspicious that the permitted amounts were being exceeded. Moreover, as far as the licensees were concerned, in all the cases except one the coal was delivered without being specifically ordered, and the trouble would have been avoided if the merchants had refused to deliver without the requisite permits, which the licensees could have obtained if they had applied for them.

Stone was fined £2, the other licensees £1 each, and the brewery company 10s in each case.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/11/1943

“Police observation during several visits to a Walsall public-house led to John Francis Thomas, aged 57, of 9, Ford Street, Walsall, being fined £20 at Walsall yesterday for using licensed premises for the purpose of betting.

War reserve Constable Sparke said on one occasion when he went into the GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Thomas asked him if he were ‘a special.’ He replied: ‘No,’ and Thomas said: ‘Someone in here last week said you were. You put the breeze up us all. You see I do a bit of ‘taking’ in here.’

Two summonses under the Licensing Act against the licensee, *William Pratty*, aged 55, were dismissed.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Green Rock Lane, Blakenall. £0 11s 6d.”

Frank Wilson – see also WHITE LION.

Marshall Grahame Heeley – see also PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

Arthur Edward Snell – see also GREEN MAN, and LORD RAGLAN.

James Frank Paxton – see also BRADFORD ARMS.

Caleb Davies was fined £20 and £4 13s 0d costs, and £6 6s 0d advocates fees, on 15th June 1966, for four cases of allowing his premises to be used for betting.

Express & Star 3/1/2020

“A pub which has become a magnet for vandals could be transformed into 30 homes after plans were backed. Owners of Bloxwich’s GREEN ROCK TAVERN want to create 30 homes at the site, which will include social housing. The outline plans include building 10 three-bedroom houses, 12 one-bed flats and eight two-bed flats at the site. It comes after owners of the Green Rock Road business were forced to shut early in an attempt to curb anti-social behaviour.

A design and access statement read, ‘Over the past few years it has lost a certain amount of trade due to anti-social behaviour. The current owners have liaised and cooperated with the local police in trying to deal with the anti-social behaviour and as a result close early most evenings including the weekends, the result of which has been a loss of trade to what is now an unsustainable level. Whilst the loss of the public house could be seen as a loss of a local facility, the local police would support the application and consider it to be the removal of a trouble spot. There are and have been several housing and flat developments in the area of a similar size to the one proposed, all of which are fully occupied with a demand for more housing and flat developments. It is anticipated that properties would be available to either rent or purchase, or possible be made part of a shared ownership scheme with the developers. Whilst the site is currently used as a public house it has previously been granted outline planning permission for residential use.’

The scheme has been recommended for approval but councillors on Walsall Council’s planning committee will have the final say. If the outline planning permission is given, finer details will have to be approved in a reserved matters application at a later date.”

[2020]

GREYHOUND

New Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Parker [1861]

GREYHOUND

55, Upper Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Matthews [1858]
W. Matthews, solicitor, Stafford
George Somers
Atkinsons Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Woollett [1801] – **1837)**
John Clay [1834]
Joseph Woollett [1835]
William Wood [1841] – [1842]
Henry Harrison [1845]
Henry Amphlet [1849] – [1850]
John Elmer [1850] – [1851]
George Johnson [1851]
William Keyte [1856] – [1858]
John Johnson [1858] – [1861]
Joseph Gregory [1860] – [1861]
Daniel Partridge [1862] – [1872]
Titus Grove [1872] – **1873);**
George Somers (**1873** – [1896];
Thomas Edkins (**189_** – **1897);**
John Magaurson (**1897** – **1899);**
Michael Francis Roach (**1899** – **1900);**
Samuel Simkin (**1900);**
William Henry Haycock (**1900** – **1901);**

NOTES

Rushall Street [1822]

It was formerly the BULLS HEAD.

It was situated at the bottom of Bulls Head Yard.

It was known locally as “Walton’s” in the 18th century.

The town council met here.

The local hunt assembled here.

It was a staging house for coaches.

Excise office [1801]

Edward Woollett = Edward Woollatt

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/8/1830

“The Lodge of Oddfellows, No.10, held at the BULLS HEAD INN, Rushall Street, Walsall, celebrated their anniversary on Monday last; a numerous company assembled, including several gentlemen of the town. The dinner was excellently served up, and on the removal of the cloth ‘the King’ was given from the chair, and the national anthem sung. Many of the gentlemen of the Walsall Harmonic Society were present, and the songs and glees were executed in a superior manner.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/2/1832 - Deaths

“On the 18th instant, after a few days’ illness, Mary, the wife of Mr. *Edward Woollatt*, of the BULLS HEAD INN, Walsall, aged 70.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/2/1837 - Deaths

“Feb 19, at the age of 91, John Ridden, of the Pleck, near Walsall. The deceased was a member of the Lodge of Oddfellows, held at the BULLS HEAD INN, Rushall Street, and he been receiving pay from the funds of that society upwards of 30 years. It appears from the books that he has had upwards of £780.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/10/1837 - Deaths

“On the 25th ult, aged 78, Mr. *Edward Woollatt*, upwards of forty years landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.”

1841 Census

Rushall Street

- [1] *William Wood* (50), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Ellen Wood (45), wife;
- [3] John Wood (20), shoemaker, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Thomas Wood (20), brickmaker, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Ellen Wood (10), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Henry Wood (10), born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/9/1841

“The general annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday. The magistrates present were John Whitgreave, Esq, R. James, Esq, C. F. Cotterill Esq, and C. Greatrex, Esq. Several applications were made for new licenses, but only two were granted, one to John Boys, at the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, and the other to a person named Amos, at Bloxwich. The licenses of two old houses were withdrawn for misconduct, namely the BULLS HEAD, in Rushall Street, and the NELSON AND PEAL, Peal Street.”

Henry Harrison was also a stock, hat and gaiter buckle maker. [1845]

Henry Amphlet = Henry Amplett

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/12/1850

“*John Elmer*, of the BULLS HEAD, Rushall Street, was fined 5s and costs for suffering drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house on Saturday night last. The defendant said as soon as he saw the men who were quarrelling were drunk, he endeavoured to get them out of the house. The police said the house had been better conducted lately, but being a bad neighbourhood it was very difficult to keep a quiet and respectable house.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/8/1852 - Advert

“Walsall. The BULLS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street.

By George Allin. To Be Disposed of By Private Treaty, the Licenses, Goodwill, and Immediate Possession of the above Old Licensed Inn, now doing a good ready money trade.

The Fixtures, Furniture, Brewing Utensils, Stock-in-Trade, &c, to be taken at a valuation.

The above house is situated near the Market-place, and the best part of Upper Rushall Street.

For particulars, and to treat, apply to Geo. Allin, Auctioneer, &c, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day for the renewal of old licenses and considering the application for new ones, there was a full attendance of magistrates.....

William Keyte, of the BULLS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street all of whom had been convicted during the past year, were admonished, and informed that unless a reform in the management took place, their licenses would be inevitably withheld.”

Walsall Free Press 8/8/1857

“*William Keyte*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, Rushall Street, on the complaint of Police-constable Crombie, was fined 1s

and costs for allowing his dog to be at large on Saturday night.”

Walsall Free Press 5/12/1857

“*John Johnson*, the keeper of a public house in Upper Rushall Street, was charged with refusing to admit the police to his dwelling, but as the case was not satisfactorily proved, the summons was dismissed.”

J. Johnson, beer retailer, Upper Rushall Street. [1858]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“At the licensing meeting on Monday last The Bench expressed their determination of depriving every licensed house that was badly conducted of its license. The license of *William Keyte*, of the BULLS HEAD, was withdrawn.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“*William Keyte*, who had been convicted last week of harbouring prostitutes, now pleaded guilty to a similar offence and was sentenced to pay a fine of 40s and costs. The Magistrates also intimated their intention of depriving him of his license.”

AND

“Brewster Sessions..... The application of *William Keyte*, of the BULLS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street, who had been twice convicted of harbouring disorderly prostitutes – once on the 25th instant, when he was fined 40s and costs, and again this morning, when he was deprived of his license, was refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1858

“There was a full Bench of Magistrates at the adjourned Licensing Court, which was held in the Guildhall yesterday, for the purpose of considering those cases of licensed victuallers whose licenses were suspended at the former Court.....

In the case of Mr. *William Keyte*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD public-house, whose license was withdrawn last week, Mr. Duignan, solicitor, appeared in his behalf. The learned gentleman said that on the morning of last Court day his client had been charged with keeping a disorderly house, and had been convicted of the same offence the previous week, and fined for it. On the second occasion, namely, last Monday, he pleaded guilty to the charge, after some demur; but if the Bench had heard his statement they might have come to a different conclusion when his application for license was considered. The Bench not only convicted and fined his client, but took away his license [there is now a long discussion on points of law] Mr. Duignan considered that his client was not altogether responsible for unfortunate women seeking refreshment in his house. Within a period of 300 years, in the very borough of Walsall, brothels were licensed, and the license money paid to the king.

Mr. Oerton: This is in 1858 – a time of moral progress.

Mr. Duignan stated that he wanted for his client merely an opportunity of properly defending his case, and to have a further hearing.

The Mayor: He answered the charge against him, pleaded guilty, and his license was, therefore, very properly withdrawn.....

Mr. Barnett, sen., solicitor, next rose, and stated that having anticipated the result of the application, he had now to make an application to the Bench. It was that the license for the BULLS HEAD might be conferred upon its landlord, Mr. Edward Matthews, instead of the present tenant. It had been a source of extreme regret to Mr. Matthews to find that the house had been used for improper purposes (as alleged) by his tenant, Mr. *Keyte*. The tenant had been expostulated with again and again as to the management of the house; and Mr. Matthews had recently expended £50 in order to give it an improved appearance, and then cultivate a superior order of customers. Under these circumstances, Mr. Matthews wished the license for himself, and would hold it in his own hands until he got a respectable tenant, who would be subject to the choice and approval of both the Bench and landlord. Besides, the present tenant (*Keyte*) had signed a written statement to relinquish the house in a month. It was only necessary, therefore, to have the license transferred from tenant to landlord. After some consideration of the case, a majority of the Bench decided to refuse the application.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/7/1859

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.

Joseph Gregory, 22, blacksmith, was charged with having stolen a horse, the property of John Llewellyn, at Bloxwich. Mr. Breynton was retained for the prosecution.

Police-constable Jonathan Crowler, of Shrewsbury, deposed that on the 8th of June he saw the prisoner at Shrewsbury, and questioned him with reference to a horse which he had sold to Robert Etherell. He took the prisoner to the station-house, when he said that he had sold the horse for his father, who lived near Shiffnal. He had £3 14s in his pocket. Witness left the station, having been requested to take the prisoner to Shiffnal to ascertain if his story were correct. When they reached Wellington station, the prisoner struck him (witness) and ran away, but was apprehended at Bloxwich, on the 9th June. The prosecutor, a miner, deposed to having had a horse stolen from his field at Bloxwich early on the morning 7th June, and Robert Etherell, butcher, Shrewsbury, stated that he purchased the animal on the evening of the same day. The defence was that on the morning in question the prisoner met a tall man near Bentley with the horse, and was requested to sell it for him. The prisoner, on being found guilty, was sentenced to six months’ hard labour.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....

Joseph Gregory, Upper Rushall Street. Refused. This application was for the renewal of the license to the BULLS HEAD, which was withdrawn at the annual licensing day in 1858, in consequence of the manner in which it was conducted by the late occupant.

After a few observations from Mr. H. Barnett, jun, who appeared for *Gregory*, Mr. Oerton said he felt bound, from the facts that had come to his knowledge, to make a few remarks relative to this application. In the first place, since the victualler's license had been withdrawn, crime and disorder, which had been so prevalent in Upper Rushall Street, had considerably decreased, and he quoted some statistics which bore out his observations; in the next place *Gregory* had been convicted of horse stealing at Stafford in June last year; so as a magistrate he (Mr. Oerton) could not consent to *Gregory* being entrusted with a victualler's license. This appeared to be the unanimous opinion of the Bench."

1861 Census

55, Uper Rushall Street

[1] *John Johnson* (39), publican, born Longton, Staffordshire;

[2] Bridget Johnson (30), wife, born Knutsford, Cheshire;

[3] Emily Johnson (15), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] John Johnson (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Mary Pullan (?) (18), servant, born Ireland;

[6] Francis Simpson (20), apprentice, born Walsall;

[7] John Fisher (19), visitor, born Birmingham;

[8] Thomas Fisher (20), visitor, born Birmingham:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/10/1861

"At the County Court, *John Johnson*, beerhouse keeper, Rushall-street, applied under an insolvency petition to pass his first hearing. Mr. Ebsworth supported, and Mr. Glover opposed. The ground of opposition was simply a technical one. In cross-examination, Mr. Glover elicited from the insolvent that he had at his beershop sold tobacco; and upon this the learned advocate contended that as the insolvent had only described himself as a beerseller, and had not mentioned that he was also a dealer in tobacco, the description was not correct; that it was insufficient; and that the petition ought to be dismissed. Mr. Ebsworth ridiculed this objection, and although Mr. Glover's objection was not regarded as good by several of the bar present, his Honour was disposed to rule that it must be fatal to the petition. An arrangement was, however, come to with the opposing creditor, and the first hearing was passed."

Daniel Partridge, retailer of beer, 55, Upper Rushall Street. [1862]

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

"The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....

Daniel Partridge, GREYHOUND INN, Upper Rushall Street."

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1864

"Annual Licensing Session.....

Mr. Lewis (Duignan Lewis and Lewis) applied for a license on behalf of Mr. *Daniel Partridge*, for the GREYHOUND INN (formerly known as the BULLS HEAD), in Upper Rushall Street. The house was formerly licensed, but, owing to the misconduct of a late tenant, the license was lost. In support of the application a memorial was handed in, signed by a large number of the applicant's neighbours, including the licensed victuallers. Refused by a majority of the Bench."

Daniel Partridge, beer retailer, 55, Upper Rushall Street. [1865]

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/9/1870

"John Ryan, a labourer, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and assaulting Acting-sergeant Lakin. At a little before midnight on Saturday Acting-sergeant Carter was called into the BULLS HEAD INN, Rushall Street, to eject the prisoner, who was drunk and creating a disturbance there. The prisoner at once threw himself upon the floor and seized between his teeth one of the fingers of Acting-sergeant Lakin, who entered the house at the time. He contrived to pull the officer with him, and was assisted by a young man and young woman assaulting him, the result being Lakin pretty freely used his handcuffs which he had in his hand when seized, and the prisoner got severely cut about the head. In consequence of these injuries he was discharged, the Mayor at the same time stating that the magistrates did not blame the police."

1871 Census

55, Rushall Street

[1] *Daniel Partridge* (50), widower, publican, born Walsall;

[2] William Adcock (42), boarder, shoemaker, born Walsall;

[3] Lizzie Roberts (15), visitor, born Walsall;

[4] Mary Rush (27), general servant, born Lane End:

Titus Grove = Titus Groves

George Somers = George Summers

Walsall Free Press 6/12/1873

“The license of the GREYHOUND public-house, Upper Rushall Street, was on the application of Mr. Glover, transferred temporarily from *Titus Grove* to *George Summers*, of Oldbury.”

1881 Census

55, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *George Somers* (59), publican, born County Dublin;
- [2] *Jane Somers* (54), wife, born County Dublin;
- [3] *John Somers* (22), son, carpenter, born County Dublin;
- [4] *Jane Somers* (21), daughter, barmaid, born County Dublin;
- [5] *James Somers* (14), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [6] *Mary Bessent* (18), domestic servant, born Manton, Wiltshire;
- [7] *Catherine Cochlin* (28), visitor, dressmaker, born County Dublin:

London Gazette 22/4/1881

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *George Somers*, of the GREYHOUND INN, No.55, Upper Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at No.21, Church-street, Oldbury, in the county of Worcester, on the 7th day of May, 1881, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

Dated this 20th day of April, 1881.

Samuel H. Forrest, 21, Church-street, Oldbury, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 14/5/1881

“A meeting of Creditors of *George Somers*, of the GREYHOUND INN, No. 55, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall, late of Oldbury, Licensed Victualler, was held on Saturday, at the offices of Mr. S. H. Forrest, solicitor, 31, Church Street. The statement of affairs showed liabilities £417 9s 3d, and total assets £35 5s 0d. After some discussion it was resolved to accept a composition of 1s 4d in the £, secured and payable by three equal instalments, at Two, Four and Six months.”

1891 Census

55, Upper Rushall Street – BULLS HEAD INN

- [1] *George Somers* (67), born Ireland;
- [2] *Jane Somers* (64), wife, born Ireland;
- [3] *Jesse Somers* (14), grandson, born Walsall;
- [4] *Charles Somers* (8), grandson, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Agness Ross* (24), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 22/1/1898 - Advert

“To Licensed Victuallers And Others.

Unreserved Sale Of Two Good Brewing Plants Situate At The VAULTS, High Street, and The GREYHOUND, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.

Messrs. Watkins, Powell & Wood are instructed by Messrs. Atkinsons Ltd., to Sell by Auction, absolutely without reserve, on Wednesday, February 2nd, 1898, Two Capital Brewing Plants, one of which is situated at the VAULTS, 37, High Street, Walsall, and comprises 160-gallon Copper Boiler with underwork, 60-gallon Iron Boiler, 18-bushel Oval Mash-tub, several good Coolers, Moreton's patent Refrigerator, Vats, Wort Spouts, Sieves, Tubs, Hop Press, Lead Piping, Fermenting Vessels, 120 and 100-gallon and other Casks, &c, &c.

The Sale of the above will commence at 11 o'clock, and at its conclusion the plant situate at the GREYHOUND, Upper Rushall Street, will be sold. This plant comprises large Copper Boiler, nearly-new Steel Boiler, large Mash-tub, Fermenting Vats, Copper Refrigerator, Cooling Vats, Lead-piping, Casks, and other useful trade effects.

Auctioneer's Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Samuel Simkin = Samuel Simpkins

Walsall Observer 31/3/1900

“Annie Devine, Bulls Head Yard, was charged with assaulting *Samuel Simpkins*, landlord of the GREYHOUND INN, Rushall Street on the 8th of March. Mr. H. H. Jackson prosecuted.

Samuel Simpkins said that prisoner came into his house on the night of the 8th of March. She created a disturbance, and when witness ordered her out she set upon him, and after tearing off his collar and tie, she threw several jugs and a water decanter at him, but he was not injured by the assault.

The defence was that prisoner was drunk and did not know what she was doing.

Fined 5s and costs or 7 days.”

William Henry Haycock was fined 20s and costs, on 10th April 1901, for permitting drunkenness.

1901 Census

55, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *William H. Haycock* (35), public house manager, born Brereton, Staffordshire;
- [2] Annie Haycock (35), wife, born Brereton, Staffordshire;
- [3] Frederick W. Haycock (13), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Mabel Haycock (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Louie Haycock (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary Ann Bull (50), visitor, born Walsall;
- [7] Ada Bull (15), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Black List..... The Chief Constable objected to the renewal of the license of the GREYHOUND INN, Upper Rushall Street, on the ground that on the 10th April the licensee (*William Henry Haycock*) was convicted and fined 20s and costs for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises; that *Haycock* was not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license; that the license was not required by the neighbourhood; and that the licensed premises were not conducted in a proper manner.

Mr. Hazell appeared for the owners of the house, and for *Haycock*. Whilst admitting the conviction, he remarked that there were very exceptional circumstances connected with it. At the time, the licensee’s wife was very ill, and not expected to live, and those circumstances might have caused some relaxation in the vigilance with which the house had been conducted hitherto. The complaint was the only one ever made by the police or anyone else against the conduct of the house, which was not in a very high-class neighbourhood, and which was a house very difficult to conduct in a satisfactory manner. The licensee had a good character; he was for twelve years a member of the Walsall Police Force, and for three years he had been the holder of a full license – one year at the GREYHOUND, and two years at another house – and only on one occasion had there been any complaint against him, under the circumstances he trusted the magistrates would not consider the case serious.

The Chief Constable stated that he intended to urge his objection in this case; and the Bench intimated that they would first hear the evidence of the police.

Chief Inspector Ballance was called, and he stated that there were seven public house in Rushall Street – the GREYHOUND, the ROEBUCK, ROYAL EXCHANGE, HARE AND HOUNDS, the STORES, NAGS HEAD, and the STORES kept by Mrs. Morris. The people who frequented the GREYHOUND were of a very low class – Bridget Durkin, the Fahys, Mark Ryan, Mary Ryan, Ellen Gilmore, Mary Fahy, Mary Ann Connolly, John Wakelam, and others of the same class.

Mr. Loxton: What do you mean by the same class? – Witness: People that are very low class, always coming to the police court for drunkenness. Some of them are now in gaol.

In answer to further queries by the Chief Constable, Inspector Ballance said that he had visited the GREYHOUND frequently during the last 12 months, and he had cautioned him about being under the influence of drink on one occasion. Several times he had visited the house he had seen customers noisy and half drunk, and the landlord on many occasions called for the police to eject disorderly customers. The landlord had proceeded against some of them within the last few months. A short time ago a communication was addressed to the Watch Committee by the inhabitants of Rushall Street drawing attention to disorderly conduct in Rushall Street, and the police had had special instructions to look after that street. He did not consider that the GREYHOUND would be able to support itself if the disorderly element left it. He did not know of any respectable people who went there. There had been many convictions for drunkenness in Rushall Street during the last twelve months, and many of the people proceeded against were customers of the GREYHOUND,

In reply to Mr. Hazell, witness said that he visited Rushall Street six or seven times a week. There was not half the population in the street there was ten or twelve years ago, and a number of courts having been shut up. It was not now a country neighbourhood, and there were some works in the vicinity, but he didn’t know Mr. Leckie’s men used the GREYHOUND. He knew that *Haycock* had been in the police force twelve years, and that there was no conviction against him except that one mentioned. There were customers at the GREYHOUND they would not have at any other house. On the occasion that he had seen the landlord under the influence of drink he did not think fit to proceed against him because he thought he might go to the doctor and the doctor would say he was not drunk (laughter).

Mr. Hazell: Where do you draw the line of drunkenness? – Witness: Well, he was about three parts (laughter).

Responding to further interrogatories by Mr. Hazell, witness said that the GREYHOUND seemed to be doing a fair amount of business. His objection to the house was not that it was in a low neighbourhood, but some of the people who frequented the house never worked and they managed to get drunk somehow (laughter).

The Mayor: Do you wish the Bench to understand that this house is materially worse than any other house in the same street? – Witness: Yes, sir. There is more disorderly conduct at that house than at any other house in Rushall Street.

Detective-sergeant Jones said that he had served in the police force 8½ years. He knew the GREYHOUND INN well, and in his opinion it was not needed to meet the requirements of the locality. He did not know of any other house in the town where so many disreputable characters frequented. He had frequently gone to the GREYHOUND INN, but not so much to detect drunkenness as to arrest criminals on warrant, knowing that the men he wanted frequented the house. From January 1st. up to August 1st there had been 22 cases of drunkenness from Upper and Lower Rushall Street, and out of that there had been 21 convictions. In his opinion the drunkenness in these particular streets resulted from the excessive number of public-houses in them.

In answer to Mr. Hazell, Sergeant Jones said he should think the people who frequented the GREYHOUND were people who would call for ‘fourpenny’ (laughter), but he did not know that the landlord had been ordered not to supply ‘fourpenny’ in the house at all. The people of that neighbourhood, excepting tradesman, were low class, but of course they had a right to have re-

freshment.

The Mayor said that he had been requested to ask the witness whether he had not made a mistake, and said that the people who lived in that neighbourhood were low class. – Witness: No, sir; I said excepting tradesmen.

Alderman Holden: A member of the School Board resides in the street you know. – Witness: He is a tradesman.

Detective-constable Burrell was called, and he stated that in his opinion the GREYHOUND was the worst conducted house in Rushall Street.

Mr. Hazell said he would suggest that the evidence given by the police did not apply to the GREYHOUND more than any other in the neighbourhood. With regard to the conviction he did not think it was so serious as to justify the Bench in taking the license away, and as to the landlord not being a proper person to hold a license he did not think they could have a better man. During the time he had kept the house the conduct of it had improved immensely.

Haycock gave evidence, and he stated that he had cleared his house of all bad customers.

In answer to the Chief Constable, *Haycock* stated that the average receipts were about £10 per week.

Eliza Mills, of 56, Upper Rushall Street, stated that she kept a greengrocer's shop next door to the GREYHOUND INN. She had lived in Rushall Street all her life, and in her opinion the conduct of the GREYHOUND INN during the last few months had been better than at any other time. The house was certainly conducted as well as any other in Rushall Street.

Joseph Bolshaw, grocer, of Pleck Road, said that he visited the GREYHOUND once a week for orders. He thought the house was conducted very well indeed for the neighbourhood.

The Bench refused to renew the license, the recognisances in case of appeal £50.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/10/1901

“The general Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County begin at Stafford on Tuesday.....

There is already a heavy list of appeals, the following having been entered for hearing.....

Atkinson's Brewery Limited v Justices of the Borough of Walsall, against refusal to renew the license of the GREYHOUND INN, Walsall.”

It closed in 1901.

Closed

Demolished

GRINDERS ARMS

Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Wright [1851]

NOTES

1851 Census

Pleck

- [1] *William Wright* (30), grinder, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Sarah Wright* (26), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *John Wright* (6), son, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *Sarah Wright* (5), daughter, born Darlston;
- [5] *Louisa Wright* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Jane Wright* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Emma (?) Wright* (5 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] *Joseph Heap* (19), apprentice, born Walsall;
- [9] *Benjamin Wright* (21), lodger, grinder, born West Bromwich;
- [10] *Mary Perkins* (19), servant, born Walsall;

HALF MOON

Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Johnson

LICENSEES

George Johnson [1845] – [1856]

NOTES

George Johnson was also a coal merchant. [1845]

1851 Census

Pleck

- [1] *George Johnson* (32), victualler, birthplace unknown;
- [2] Elizabeth Johnson (32), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Elizabeth Trimer (14), servant, born Darlaston;
- [4] Thomas Lowe (18), apprentice, born Inkly [Hinckley?];
- [5] Ann Elizabeth Rosser (19), servant, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [6] Ellen Page (33), visitor, born Bilston;
- [7] Sarah Ann Page (8), visitor, born Tipton;
- [8] Ellen Page (3), visitor, born West Bromwich:

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day for the renewal of old licenses and considering the application for new ones, there was a full attendance of magistrates All the old licenses were renewed excepting those of.....

George Johnson, of the HALF MOON, The Pleck, which was refused in consequence of complaints from the clergy, gentry, and other inhabitants, of the disorderly conduct of the house.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 20/9/1856

“Monday being the adjourned licensing day.....

Mr. Barnett applied on behalf of James Baggott, the HALF MOON, the Pleck, for a renewal of his license, which had been refused on licensing day.

The Mayor: If Mr. John Johnson (owner of the house) is prepared with a respectable person as tenant, we are prepared to transfer the license; but we entirely repudiate Baggott. The license was then granted to Mr. *Johnson* on the condition that he should take immediate possession of the house, and keep it until he was provided with a respectable tenant.”

HAMEMAKERS ARMS

87, (85), (84), (84-85), Blue Lane West / Shaw Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Whittingham

John Morgan (acquired in 1876)

John Adams, hame maker, Blue Lane, Walsall

Chesters Brewery Co., Manchester

North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909) [1997]

LICENSEES

John Adams [1851] – **1866**;

John Dace (**1866** – [1870])

Reece [1869]

William Molineux [1872] – [1873];
James Whittingham [];
John Morgan [1880] – 1881);
Enos Perrins (1881 - [1885];
Francis Adams [] – 189_);
William Cranwell [1891] – [1892] (1890 – 189_);
John Maddox (189_ – 1895);
Mrs. Catherine Elwell (1895 – 1898);
Alfred Barnes (1898);
Denis Gordon (1898);
Alfred Barnes (1898 – 1899);
Frank Roberts (1899 – 1909);
Thomas Young (1909 – 1911);
William Parker (1911 – 1914);
James Boaz Astley (1914 – 1923);
Mrs. Mary Astley (1923 – 1934);
William Edward Tonkinson (1934 – 1939);
Arthur Patrick ‘Pat’ Hopkins (1939 – 1940);
Thomas Joseph Oakley (1940 – 1941);
Hannah Bradley (1941 – 1942);
Arthur Abraham Canning (1942 – 1946); manager
Leonard John ‘Len’ Hunt (1946 – 1948);
Robert ‘Bob’ Preston (1948 – 1954);
John Thomas ‘Jack’ Smith (1954 – 1962);
John Clarence Somerfield (1962 – 1963);
Eric Francis Child (1963 – [1977]
Peter Fry [1987] – [1994] manager

NOTES

84, Blue Lane West [1870]

85, Blue Lane West [1858], [1861], [1862], [1864], [1865], [1872], [1891], [1892], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1932], [1939], [1940]

87, Blue Lane West [1993]

It was formerly the BAKERS ARMS. [1860]

[Birmingham Weekly Mercury 5/4/1964](#)

“In many parts of Britain the local factory has its complement in the local public house....

Local history can be read in many places through the sign at the local hostelry, but few towns flaunt their basic industry on their inn signs more fully than Walsall. Saddlery it is, so you might expect a SADDLERS ARMS, but several other parts of the trade occur in the SPUR MAKERS ARMS, the HAME MAKERS ARMS and the recently demolished BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/5/1852

“John Adams, of the HAME MAKERS ARMS, was fined 1s and costs, for having his house open at half-past twelve on Saturday night last.”

John Adams was also a manufacturer of hames and chains, polisher for lime, and steam mills, hay, straw, chaff and corn dealer. [1858]

He was also a cart horse dealer. [1861]

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/11/1860

“John Adams, of the HAMEMAKERS ARMS INN, Blue Lane, was charged with allowing disorderly conduct in his house, but the case was not clearly proved.”

1861 Census

85, Blue Lane

[1] John Adams (46), publican, cart hame maker employing 6 men, born Walsall;

[2] Harriett Adams (45), wife, born Walsall;

[3] George Blake (60), boarder, locksmith, born Walsall;

[4] Edwin Andrews (20), boarder, general labourer, born Walsall;

[5] Sarah Ann Mellows (13), house servant, born Walsall:

John Adams was also a hame maker. [1864]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 1/1/1869

“James Brown, Railway Street, Blue Lane, was charged with having, on the 10th December, passed a base florin to Mrs. *Reece*, landlady of the HAMEMAKERS ARMS. It appeared the prisoner about four o’clock on the day in question, sent his youngest daughter, a girl about five years of age, to Mrs. *Reece*’s house for a pint of beer and gave her a florin to pay for it. In a few minutes afterwards he went to Mrs. *Reece*’s house and called for a pint of beer and gave another florin to Mrs. *Reece*. After drinking the beer and receiving the change he left, and shortly after his departure his eldest daughter, a girl about eight years old, came for another pint of beer and tendered a third florin. This aroused the suspicion of Mrs. *Reece*, who tested the three florins and found they were all counterfeit coins, and had been cast in the same mould, and bore the date ‘1868.’ The Bench after hearing the evidence, remanded the prisoner until the authorities at the Mint could be communicated with.”

[At the Walsall Borough Quarter Sessions (January 1869), James Brown was sentenced to four months’ imprisonment.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/4/1869

“On Monday Mr. A. A. Fetcher, coroner, held an inquest at the HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane, on the body of Frank Henry Jones, aged 4, who died on Saturday, from the effects of injuries he sustained on the 1st inst, owing to a cart on which he was playing near his mother’s house falling over upon him. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

The licensee was fined 10s and costs, on 16th April 1877, for permitting drunkenness.

1881 Census

84+85, Blue Lane West – HAME MAKERS ARMS

[1] *John Morgan* (30), licensed victualler, born Hereford;

[2] *Ellen Morgan* (36), wife, born Isle of Man:

Evening Express 14/12/1881

“A blind man, named Robert Littlewood (44), Blue Lane, was charged with stealing a goose, valued 1s, the property of *Enos Perrins*, landlord of the HAMEMAKERS ARMS.

It appeared that on Monday last his prosecutor left four geese in a stable adjoining the house, and subsequently the prisoner, who played the piano in *Perrins*’s house, was found in the SWAN public house with one of the geese in his possession.

The prisoner, who expressed sincere regret for what he had done, was sentenced to three days’ imprisonment in the borough gaol.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/12/1885

“A petition was filed in the Walsall Bankruptcy Court, yesterday, on behalf of *Enos Perrins*, the HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane West, Walsall, licensed victualler and hamemaker, and the public examination was fixed for the 14th January. Mr. R. Smith, Short Heath, is the solicitor acting in the matter.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses.....

The following applied in person *William Cranwell*, HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane West. Refused.”

1891 Census

85, Blue Lane West – HAME MAKERS ARMS

[1] *William Cranwell* (47), public house manager, born Cork, Ireland;

[2] *Kate Cranwell* (34), wife, born Shibreen, Ireland;

[3] *William Cranwell* (14), son, clerk, born Dymchurch, Kent;

[4] *Catherine Cranwell* (13), daughter, scholar, born Shibreen, Ireland;

[5] *John E. Cranwell* (10), son, scholar, born Hastings;

[6] *Mary Cranwell* (4), daughter, scholar, born Stourbridge;

[7] *Mary Gavin* (18), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 8/6/1895

“Mrs. *Jane Elwell* applied for the transfer of the license of the HAMEMAKERS ARMS, from *John Maddocks* to herself. The Chief Constable opposed the transfer on the ground that temporary authority had been three times given to her, but that she neglected to serve the notices for the proper transfer. The application was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1895

“It will be advisable for publicans, who wish to effect a transfer of their licenses, to take warning by the decision of the magistrates in the case of Mrs. *Elwell*, who last week applied for a transfer of the license of the HAMEMAKERS ARMS from *John Maddocks* to herself, but owing to having neglected to serve notices for the proper transfer her application was refused.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, on behalf of the owner of the public-house, again referred to the matter, and asked the Bench to grant a temporary authority, remarking he believed Mrs. *Elwell* had been sufficiently punished by the closure of the house for a week.

In reply to the magistrates the Chief Constable said he would leave the matter entirely in the hands of the Bench. The Chairman observed that their decision last week had been given for the purpose of teaching a lesson to the publicans generally. Mrs. *Elwell's* application would now be granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Alfred Barnes, HAMEMAKERS ARMS, served 12 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

1901 Census

85, Blue Lane West

[1] *Frank Roberts* (29), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Florence Roberts* (26), wife, born Moxley;

[3] *Girty Hayward* (19), domestic servant, born Bradley, Staffordshire:

Frank Roberts – see also DUSTY MILLER.

Indenture dated 28/10/1909

“All those two (formerly three) messuages or dwelling houses one of which is used as a public-house known as The HAMEMAKERS ARMS with the yard gateway brewery-house privy and outbuildings thereto respectively belonging situate in or near a lane called Blue Lane West in Walsall aforesaid erected and built on the site of two former messuages.....”

1911 Census

85, Blue Lane West

[1] *William Parker* (32), manager of public business, born Walsall;

[2] *Florence Annie Parker* (30), wife, married 3 years, manageress of public business, born Deepfields;

[3] *Beatrice Ellen Parker* (3), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] *William Sydney Parker* (9 months), son, born Walsall;

[5] *John Edward Murray* (15), nephew, errand boy (for) cycle dealer, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 3/8/1912

“George Ediss, 33, Dalkeith Street, and John Durkin, 3, Temple Street, were summoned for assaulting *William Parker*, landlord of the HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, and for also damaging certain goods and wearing apparel to the value of 15/-.

Mr. Frank Cooper appeared for the complainant, and said that on June 29th, at about 9.40pm, the two defendants and a man named William Ediss, went into the HAMEMAKERS ARMS and were supplied with beer. Durkin began to sing, and when the landlord asked him to stop he ‘squared’ to complainant and attempted to strike him. *Parker* backed away, but received a blow from Ediss.

He was knocked over a stool, his mouth was cut and pandemonium reigned.

Defendants pleaded guilty to assault, but denied wilful damage.

Evidence in support of Mr. Cooper’s statement having been given by the landlord, a man named Frederick Harrison and Police-constable Kelly, Mr. Cooper intimated that he would not proceed with the second charge.

Ediss was fined 5s and costs, or seven days, and Durkin was ordered to pay 10s and costs, or 14 days.”

James Astley = James Ashley

Walsall Advertiser 30/1/1915

“Simeon Pitt, of Green Lane, Old Birchills, was summoned by *James Ashley*, of the HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane West, who claimed £1 16s damages alleged to have been caused by neglect of work. Complainant said defendant, who was a boat steerer, threw up his job at a minutes’ notice on January 11th. The horse was, as a result, kept in a stable a week. Defendant was ordered to pay 30s.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/10/1915

“Joseph Brown, of 15, Birch Street, was summoned for being such a distance from his horse and cart in Blue Lane, as not to have control of the same, and for driving a horse and cart in Blue Lane without a light on October 8th.

Police-constable Ballance said that at 7-40pm on the day in question, he saw a horse and cart standing outside the HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane, with no one in charge, and also with no light attached. After waiting twenty minutes, he went and fetched the defendant out of the public-house. When spoken to the defendant became very abusive. A fine of 10s was imposed.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
HAME MAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane. £0 5s 6d.”

Demolished

It was rebuilt in 1937.

Walsall Observer 26/8/1939 - Advert

“Bar General, or one to learn.

Pat. Hopkins, HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane West, Walsall.”

1939 Register

85, Blue Lane West

[1] *Arthur P. Hopkins*, date of birth 9/7/1892, publican, manager, married;

[2] *Frances Hopkins*, dob 14/4/1892, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane West, £3 5s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane West. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 14/8/1943

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society held on Thursday....

Mr. *Arthur Canning*, of the HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane West, was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

There were six summons against the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, Park Brewery, Wolverhampton, in respect of the FORGE INN, Pleck Road; RISING SUN, Green Lane; RED LION, Park Street; BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich Road; BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore; and HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane; and the managers of those houses, William Allport, Joseph Thomas Astbury, Thomas Purton Cole, Constance Mary Horton, Cyril Vernon Sleigh (now of Stafford Street), and *Arthur Abraham Canning* for aiding and abetting.

Mr. Cooper appeared for the brewery company and stated that it would be unfair and unjust if they were made to pay double the penalty imposed on the managers, as in the preceding cases, seeing that they had given specific instructions to all their managers that regulations must be strictly complied with and if they could not get sufficient coal for their purposes they should apply to the local Fuel Overseer for permits for extra supplies.

‘I regard it as somewhat ungenerous on the part of Mr. Cooper to try to throw the blame on the poor managers,’ said Mr. Hodgkinson, who pointed out that all the profits from the houses went to the brewery company and that the coal was not used for their own benefit but for the benefit of the public.

In these cases the brewery company was fined 10s in each case, and the other defendants £1 each except Horton who was ordered to pay £2.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane West. £1 11s 6d.”

Leonard John Hunt was married to Edna (Vi).

See also RAILWAY, Bilston.

Black Country Bugle Annual 1989

“Back in the 1950s the present day lounge consisted of separate Blue and Brown Rooms, and in the latter waiter service was available by operating a bell-pull.”

Peter Fry was born in Birchills Street, Walsall.

He was an ex-restaurant manager.

It had a dominoes team. [1989]

Sandwell Evening Mail 23/7/1994

“Down Your Local. HAMEMAKERS, Walsall.

With a name like the HAMEMAKERS the pub could not have closer links with Walsall’s traditional industry. The town has long been renowned as a centre for the manufacture of equestrian commodities, including saddles, stirrups, spurs, bridle – and hames. A hame is one of the two curved brass bars around the collar of a draught horse and such collars were made in Walsall once upon a time. There is little doubt that some of the earliest customers of the pub were workers in the hamemaking and associated trades. Despite the gradual demise of the town’s leather industries and the fact that the old HAMEMAKERS ARMS vanished, to be replaced by a new version over 50 years ago, this popular pub remains a traditional local.

Landlord *Peter Fry* is a rover who returned to his roots. He moved here seven years ago but it seems as though he’s been at the pub most of his life, which isn’t surprising as he was born less than 100 yards away in Birchills Street and he has fond memories of the HAMEMAKERS. ‘I clearly remember the pub as a child and it had always been my ambition to run the HAMEMAKERS since I entered the pub trade,’ he says. ‘Unfortunately, you rarely get the opportunity to run the pub of your choice so it was obviously wonderful when the chance arose,’ adds *Peter*, aged 45. His parents lived nearby until recently and his dad, Jackie Fry, should be familiar to all old boxing fans who following the fight game during the 30s. He used to be a regular at the HAMEMAKERS and Peter makes a point of giving a warm welcome to old ring craftsmen.

Peter is a popular boss who is just as happy playing darts in the bar, chatting to businessmen and magistrates in the lounge or planning the next day’s menu. He and wife Veronica recently opened a 30-seater restaurant in the upstairs room of the pub. It has become so popular that it is best to book well in advance for a table. ‘I leave the cooking to Veronica,’ says *Peter*. ‘What she can’t do in the kitchen isn’t worth talking about.’

Unlike many public houses these days, anyone found using foul language at HAMEMAKERS is not welcome and is likely to find themselves out on the street. ‘I simply do not tolerate bad language,’ explains *Peter*. ‘Apart from anything, it would be totally inappropriate at a pub with such a mixed clientele.’

There are discos, barbecues and singers on Sunday evenings. Another popular event staged regularly at the pub is the Friday night trivia quiz and, with the frequent outings from the pub, organised by the social committee, there are few blanks on the HAMEMAKERS calendar.....”

Express and Star 24/11/1997 - Advert

“Bar, lounge and function room; good food potential.”

[1999]

Closed

Demolished [2004]

The site became part of a shopping complex.

HANSOM CAB

WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

HARDEN INN

Coalpool Lane / Harden Road, Coalpool, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Harold Draisey (1937 – 1938);
Leonard Charles Lampitt (1938 – 1945);
Albert James Morrall (1945 – 1955);
George Thomas Rathbone (1955);
William Gerald Wright (1955 – 1957);
Leslie Ketley (1957 – 1959);
Wilfred Thomas Pinches (1959 – 1962);
Dennis Gray (1962 – 1963);
Griffith Allan Steer (1963 – 1967);
Robert McMath (1967 – []

NOTES

It opened at 6pm on 16th November 1937.
The license was transferred from the GOATS HEAD, Newhall Street.

Harold Draisey – see also GOATS HEAD.

1939 Register

Coalpool Lane – HARDEN Public House

- [1] *Leonard C. Lampitt*, date of birth 20/5/1903, foreman, non-ferrous rolling mill (retired), married;
- [2] *Jesse G. Lampitt*, dob 16/11/1902, manageress public house, married;
- [3] *David L. Lampitt*, dob 26/8/1925, at school, single;
- [4] *Sheila J. (Lampitt) Biddle*, dob 15/12/1927, at school, single;
- [5] *Lorna (D.) (Hoare) Osbourne*, dob 28/10/1916, barmaid, single:

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Lampitt*, the HARDEN, Coalpool. £0 17s 1d.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

W. Butler and Co. Ltd., Springfield Brewery, were summoned in respect of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road; KING GEORGE V, Wallows Lane, DILKE ARMS, Aldridge; The HARDEN, Harden Road; and VINE INN, Lower Hall Street; and the managers, Thomas Henry Atkins, Kenneth Dawes, Harry Harvey, *Leonard Charles Lampitt*, and Edwin George White, for aiding and abetting. Mr. Cooper said this brewery company also had given specific instructions to their managers, and Mr. Hodgkinson emphasised that the managers’ offences were purely of a technical character and that if they had applied for permits for extra supplies they would have got them.

Dawes and Hawkes were fined £2 each, the other managers £1 each, and the brewery 10s in each case.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

HARDEN, Coalpool. £0 14s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 7/10/1944 - Advert

“Bar General, one willing to learn would suit.
The HARDEN, Coalpool.”

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....

HARDEN, Coalpool Lane, Walsall.”

Dennis Gray – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY, and CAMBRIDGE.

[1989]

Closed [2006]

It was damaged in an arson attack in December 2006.

Demolished [2009]
Housing was built on the site.

HARE AND HOUNDS

68, Upper Rushall Street, (High Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Earl of Bradford
Peck and Kerrison (leased)
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Peter Cooper [1801]
Mrs. Cooper [1813]
Joseph Cooper [1818] – [1822]
Richard Lynex [1828] – [1851]
Henry Lynex [1858] – [1865]
Richard Lynex [1862] ?
William Shutt [1868] – [1870]
Henry Blakham [1869]
Thomas Vigrass [1872] – **1873**;
Henry James Lynex (**1873** – [1876];
William Griffiths [];
Thomas Arrowsmith [1881];
Samuel Willetts [];
Frank Blakemore [];
John Haines [] – **1887**);
John Hurlstone (**1887** – **1890**);
Thomas Bates (**1890** – **1898**);
Ernest Earp (**1898** – **1899**);
John Collins (**1899** – **1901**);
Charles Lammas (**1901** – **1903**);
George Alexander (**1903** – **1904**);
Winifred Alexander (**1904**);

NOTES

Rushall Street [1822]
High Street [1858]
68, Upper Rushall Street [1862], [1868]

Richard Lynex = Richard Lynes

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/5/1838 - Deaths

“On 20th instant, aged 41, Catherine, wife of *Richard Lynex*, of the HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/3/1841

“On Thursday last a party of about sixty Conservative gentlemen met at the house of Mr. *Richard Lynex*, the HARE AND HOUNDS, Rushall Street, Walsall, where a most excellent dinner was provided, in commemoration of the late triumph of Conservatism in that borough. After the cloth was drawn, H. C. Windle, Esq., was called to the chair, and H. Box, Esq. filled the vice-chair. The usual loyal and constitutional toasts were given by the chairman, and warmly responded to by the company. Hilarity and good humour reigned throughout the day, and the party separated at a seasonable hour, fully satisfied with the provision made at so short a notice for their comfort and enjoyment.”

Henry Lynex = Henry Lynes

Walsall Free Press 15/12/1860 - Advert

“To Be Sold Cheap, a complete Lodge Regalia, in first-rate condition.
Apply *H. Lynex*, HARE AND HOUNDS, Rushall Street.”

1861 Census

68, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *Henry Lynex* (54), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Maria Lynex (61), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Henry Lynex (28), son, merchant's clerk, born Walsall;
- [4] Ann Slaney (17), servant, born Lichfield:

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/1/1862

“Patrick Griffin was charged with having on Tuesday night assaulted *Henry Lynex*. The complainant keeps the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Rushall Street, and on the night in question the prisoner was there behaving in a disorderly manner. When Mr. *Lynex* expostulated with him he knocked him down. Fined 5s and costs, or seven days' imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton's, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1836, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o'clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *Lynex*, HARE AND HOUNDS.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/1/1864

“Yesterday, Martin Finneran was brought up on remand at the Guildhall, charged with stealing a bottle of brandy, the property of Mr. *Henry Lynex*, of the HARE AND HOUNDS, Lower Rushall Street. It will be remembered that on Monday, when the prisoner was placed in the dock, some person in the body of the Court announced that the case was settled, whereupon Mr. Cater having shown that such arrangements were very frequent, the Bench directed that Mr. *Lynex* should be summoned to attend. Yesterday he appeared, and asked to be allowed to withdraw the charge, stating that he had known the prisoner for some time as an honest but somewhat thrifless man, and if he really stole the brandy, which witness was personally unable to assert, he must have done it while under the influence of drink. After a remark from the Mayor to the effect that the station house seemed to have been used merely as a 'sponging house,' to get the value of the brandy, the withdrawal was allowed, and the prisoner was discharged.”

Walsall Free Press 16/12/1865 - Adverts

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that old-licensed, well-accustomed Inn, the HARE AND HOUNDS, situate at the top of Rushall Street, and fronting the Market-place. Has been in one family for upwards of forty years; and the proprietor is now leaving in consequence of other engagements.

For particulars, apply to John Osbourn, Auctioneer and Appraiser, 52, Lower Hall Street, Walsall.”

AND

“The Old And Well-Established Yearly Society, (Capital £100), Held at Mr. *H. Lynex*'s, HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall, will for a short time admit Men in good health up to Forty Years of Age.

Entrance Fee, 2s 6d; Contributions, 1s 2d per fortnight. Benefits: Sick Pay, 8s per week; on the Death of a Member, £10; Member's Wife, £4 (not deducted from the £10 payable at the death of a member). Every information will be given at the HARE AND HOUNDS, or at No.22, New Street.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1868

“*William Shutt*, landlord of the HARE AND HOUNDS, who failed to appear, was charged by Police-sergeant Childs with having had his house open during prohibited hours on Sunday afternoon last.

From the officer's evidence, it appeared that he went to the house at half-past three, and met a woman coming out with a small bottle of rum. On seeing him she went back into the house.

Mrs. *Shutt* said that she had given the woman the rum.

Fined 20s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 10/4/1869

“*Henry Blakham*, landlord of the HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street, pleaded guilty to having, at twenty minutes to five o'clock on Sunday afternoon last, had his house open for the sale of beer, and was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session. Mr. Glover applied for the renewal of the licences to *Henry Lynex*, the HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street, all the licenses were withheld on the licensing day on behalf of all the other applicants he

made explanations with reference to the causes of the suspension of their licenses. The cases of Messrs. *Lynex* were further adjourned till the 9th of October The Mayor also stated that the Bench intended to take notice of all evidence that might come before them, and use it against the victuallers at the next licensing session.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/10/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Meeting. The suspended licenses of William Allen, the RODNEY, Park Street; Samuel Horton, the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane; and *Henry Lynex*, the HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street, were renewed.”

Thomas Arrowsmith = Thomas Harrowsmith

1881 Census

68, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *Thomas Harrowsmith* (38), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Ann Harrowsmith (37), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Harrowsmith (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] William Harrowsmith (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Alice Harrowsmith (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Harriet Harrowsmith (73), mother, widow, born Walsall;
- [7] Kate O'Brien (17), general servant, born Walsall:

London Gazette 17/2/1882

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Thomas Arrowsmith*, of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Upper Rushall-street, and also of Field-gate, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Victualler, Haulier, and Lock Maker.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at my offices, the Bridge, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on the 2nd day of March, 1882, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

Dated this 14th day of February, 1882.

C. A. Loxton, the Bridge, Walsall, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Evening Star 3/3/1882

“A meeting of creditors of *Thomas Arrowsmith*, of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Upper Rushall Street, and of F _____, Walsall, licensed victualler and lock maker, was held on Thursday, at the offices of Mr. C. A. Loxton, when Mr. G. D. Laing presided.

A statement was presented showing liabilities of £739 7s 9d, assets £100, and it was resolved to accept a composition of 2s 6d in the pound, secured, payable in two equal installments of _____ four months.

Mr. J. Belcher, auctioneer, was appointed trustee, and Mr. Loxton with the registration of the resolutions.”

1891 Census

68, Upper Rushall Street – HARE AND HOUNDS

- [1] *Thomas Bates* (34), licensed victualler and bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Jane Bates (35), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William S. Bates (9), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] George T. Bates (5), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Lionel Bates (3), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Ernest Bates (9 months), son, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 7/12/1895

“Richard Parsons, of the JOLLY BACCHUS INN, New Street, was charged with having been drunk on his licensed premises on Thursday week.

Police-sergeant Ballance stated that about 9.55pm on Tuesday, November 26th, he saw the defendant leave the HARE AND HOUNDS public-house in a drunken condition, and stagger up the Church Hill towards home. Witness subsequently visited his public-house and found him there.

In reply to Mr. Jackson, who defended Parsons, he denied that he had followed defendant home.

Police-constable Horton, corroborated, but at the conclusion of his evidence the Bench decided not to continue the case, and ordered the costs only to be paid.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/5/1899

“Messrs. Watkins, Powell, and Wood sold the following properties, which were offered by auction at the Property Sale Room, Bridge Street, Walsall, on Monday and Tuesday evenings.....

The full-licensed public house known as the HARE AND HOUNDS, together with the double-fronted shop and dwelling house, being numbered 66 and 67, in Upper Rushall Street, Walsall. The property, which is freehold, changed hands at a satisfactory price. Mr. G. G. Potter was the acting solicitor.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/11/1899

“Henry McGuinness (64), no fixed abode, was summoned for refusing to quit the HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street, on Nov. 16th, and with breaking nine panes of glass, the property of *John Collins*, the landlord, doing damage to the amount of 11s 3d. The evidence was to the effect that the defendant went to the HARE AND HOUNDS INN whilst drunk and disorderly, and when ejected he smashed the windows with a stick. Fined 10s and costs for refusing to quit, or 10 days in default; and seven days in default of paying the damages, 11s 3d and costs.”

1901 Census

68, Upper Rushall Street

[1] *John Collins* (36), tinsmith and public house manager, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Margaret E. Collins (36), wife, born Newcastle upon Tyne;

[3] John Collins (11), son, born Liverpool;

[4] Anne E. Collins (9), daughter, born Barl (?), Lancashire;

[5] Thomas D. Collins (7), son, born Wolverhampton;

[6] Margaret E. Collins (6), daughter, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

George Alexander, HARE AND HOUNDS.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

‘The Best House in Rushall Street.’ So said Mr. Jackson, of the HARE AND HOUNDS, to which objection had been taken by the Bench, though he added there was no complaint or objection by the police. Deferred.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/6/1904

“Transfer Day.

The following transfers were also granted....

HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street, from *Winifred Alexander*, executrix of *George Alexander* (deceased), to *Winifred Alexander*.”

It closed in 1904.

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The following is the list of houses in respect of which the licensing justices have called the holders of the licenses to show cause why the licenses should be renewed.....

HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/4/1905

“At the Stafford Quarter Sessions on Wednesday, before Lord Hatherton, *Winifred Alexander* and Messrs. Butler and Co. appealed against the refusal of the Walsall borough justices to renew the license of the HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street. Mr. Plumptre appeared for the appellants, and Mr. Disturnal for the respondents. The licensing justices refused to renew the license on the ground that the premises were structurally deficient and unsuitable.

After a long hearing the Court dismissed the appeal with costs.”

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle’s references in last week’s Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remembers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKE-SPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

HATHERTON ARMS

63, Reeves Street / Nursery Road, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Bloxwich Brewery Co. Ltd.
Charles Rowley, Broad Lane, Walsall
Messrs. Thompson, Burton on Trent [1904]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Bentley [1880]
George Bentley [1881] – [1884];
Henry Mellors [] – 1889);
Jabez Steele (1889 – 1924);
Frederick Victor Yates (1924 – 1932);
Horace Rednall Painter (1932 – 1956);
Eleanor May (Painter) Ferguson (1956 – 1964);
Horace Price (1964 – 1966);
Edward Charles Mayo (1966 – []
Ivan Athersmith [2006]
Paul Scott [2009]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It was known locally as ‘The Painters’.

1881 Census

63, Reeves Street – HATHERTON ARMS

- [1] *George Bentley* (42), house painter, born Princes End;
- [2] Albert Bentley (18), son, house painter, born Bilston;
- [3] Frank Bentley (16), son, house painter, born Bilston;
- [4] Joseph Bentley (14), son, house painter, born Bilston;
- [5] Thomas Bentley (11), son, scholar, born Bilston;
- [6] George Bentley (9), son, scholar, born Bilston;
- [7] Emma Bentley (7), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;
- [8] Lewis Bentley (5), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Fred Bentley (2), son, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Harry Bentley (4 months), son, born Bloxwich;
- [11] Emma Bentley (37), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [12] Anne Lees (17), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

[Birmingham Daily Post 14/8/1884](#)

“At the Guildhall, Walsall, yesterday, *George Bentley*, HATHERTON ARMS INN, Bloxwich, was summoned, at the instance of the Excise authorities, for entering in his book that two bushels of malt was the quantity used in a certain brewing, the quantity really being three bushels.

Mr. W. H. Bennett, supervisor of the Walsall district, appeared in support of the charge, and said this was not the first complaint that had been made against the defendant, but in the previous case the officer omitted to take a sample of the wort, and in consequence the defendant was simply warned.

Daniel O’Brien, excise officer, proved the case, and the defendant was fined £5 and costs.”

[Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890](#)

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Mr. F. Bill, on behalf of *Jabez Steele*, of the HATHERTON ARMS, Bloxwich, applied for a license for music and singing on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday evenings. Refused.”

1891 Census

63, Reeve Street – HATHERTON ARMS

- [1] *Jabez Steele* (39), publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Emma Jane Steele (34), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] Thomas Scale (60), father in law, widower, coal miner, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Thomas Scale (22), brother in law, coal miner, born Staffordshire;
- [5] John Scale (20), brother in law, coal miner, born Staffordshire;

[6] Sarah Scale (17), sister in law, born Staffordshire;
[7] William Grice (35), boarder, coal miner, born Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1892

“On Saturday night, at about five minutes past nine, some of the contents of a front bedroom at the HATHERTON ARMS INN, Reeves Street, Bloxwich, were found to be on fire, and, after some delay, information was despatched to Walsall police-station, the information not arriving there till twenty minutes to ten. The Chief Constable promptly attended with some members of the brigade and the reel, but the fire had by that time been extinguished. Bed-clothes, clothing, and other things in some quantities were destroyed. The origin of the fire is unknown.”

Jabez Steele, beer retailer, Reeve Street. [1896], [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 23/6/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... *Jabez Steel*, HATHERTON ARMS, Reeve Street, Bloxwich.”

1901 Census

63, Reeve Street – HATHERTON ARMS

[1] *Jabez Steele* (48), public house manager, born Bloxwich;

[2] Emma J. Steele (42), wife, born Coseley:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Jabez Steel, HATHERTON ARMS.”

1911 Census

63, Reeves Street

[1] *Jabez Steele* (59), innkeeper, born Bloxwich;

[2] Emma Jane Steele (50), wife, married 31 years, assisting in business, born Sedgley:

Jabez Steele, beer retailer, 63, Reeves Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

HATHERTON ARMS, Bloxwich. £1 8s 4½d.”

Plans for alterations were approved in 1928.

1939 Register

Reeves Street – HATHERTON ARMS

[1] *Horace R. Painter*, date of birth 31/7/1896, colliery mechanic, at present licensee, married;

[2] *Eleanor M. (Painter) Ferguson*, dob 30/1/1899, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 13/9/1941

“Mr. and Mrs. *Painter*, HATHERTON ARMS, Reeves Street, Bloxwich wish to thank all Relatives, Friends, Customers, the Rev. C. J. Barry, of All Saints’ Church, Bloxwich, for their kindness and letters of condolence in their sad and sudden loss of their only son who died for his country; also for the floral wreath and flowers placed on Bloxwich Cenotaph.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

HATHERTON ARMS, Reeves Street, Bloxwich. £1 5s 6d.”

A full license was granted on 8th February 1951.

Coventry Evening Telegraph 5/11/1955

“Our Darts Corner.....

In the final of the Midland Team Championship, at Birmingham, Maudslay Hotel, Coventry, lost by the odd game in nine against HATHERTON ARMS, Bloxwich....

Maudsley won through to the final by a 6-3 victory against the RAILWAY INN, Lye.....
HATHERTON ARMS beat SWAN INN (Cradley Heath) by 5-4.”

[2017]

HATHERTON ARMS

82, (80), Lichfield Street, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Downing, maltster, Smethwick
Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.
Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

Joseph Holmes [1849] – [1865]
William Mainwood [1868] – [1873];
Thomas Lawley [1881];
Charles Medlam [1885] – **1893**);
Charles Thompson Marsh (**1893 – 1902**);
Mrs. Ada Mary Miller (**1902 – 1910**);
Adam Ward (**1910 – 1930**);
Albert Henry Johnson (**1930 – 1936**);
Stanley Welbourne Bryant (**1936 – 1938**);
George Edward Payne (**1938 – 1943**);
Edward Henry Sallory (**1943 – 1945**);
Ernest Hancox (**1945 – 1956**);
Joseph Clark (**1956 – 1960**);
John Thomas Jarvis (**1960 – [1966]**)
Tom Reaney []
Collette Levy (**2009 – []**)

NOTES

It was situated opposite to Mellish Road.

82, Lichfield Street [1860], [1861], [1862], [1868], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1891], [1896], [1911], [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940]

80, Lichfield Street [1864], [1865]

HATHERTON ARMS HOTEL [1913]

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/9/1855

“On Thursday, an inquest was held at the HATHERTON ARMS, Rushall, on the body of a man unknown, found by some boatmen in the canal on the previous day. There was a bruise on the back of the head, and the body was in an advanced state of decomposition. The jury returned a verdict of Found Dead.”

Walsall Free Press 5/2/1859 - Advert

“Valuable Leasehold Old-Licensed Inn, the HATHERTON ARMS, and Adjoining Houses, Top of Lichfield Street, in the Parish of Rushall.

To be Sold by Auction, by H. Farrington, at the NEW INN, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of February instant, at six for seven o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced, all that old-established Public House, known as the HATHERTON ARMS, pleasantly situated at the top of Lichfield Street, in the occupation of Mr. *Josh. Holmes*.

The house contains bar, tap room, parlour, club room, three chambers, brewhouse and cellars, stables, good enclosed yard, and pump of excellent water.

Also, the House adjoining And also, the genteel Residence adjoining.....

The above Property contains 1,020 square yards, is leasehold for a term of ninety-nine years, eighteen years of which are expired at Lady-day last, at the very moderate ground rent of £6 5s per annum.”

1861 Census

82, Lichfield Street

[1] Elizabeth *Holmes* (15), publican's daughter, born Rushall;

[2] Elizabeth *Holmes* (23), niece, born Walsall;

[3] James *Holmes* (7), nephew, scholar, born Rushall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/4/1864

“An inquest was held before Mr. Hooper, coroner, on Monday, on the body of William *Holmes*, a man 63 years of age, who had been found drowned in the Hatherton Lake, on the east side of Lichfield Street. It appeared that on Thursday evening the deceased, who resided with his brother, the landlord of the HATHERTON ARMS public house, retired to rest, apparently in good spirits, about half-past nine o'clock, with his son, a boy about eleven years old, whom he told to make haste and go to sleep. The boy awoke before daybreak, and found that the deceased had left the room, but did not make any alarm. The deceased did not return, however, and a search having been instituted his body was found in the Hatherton Lake about four o'clock in the afternoon. His hat and stick were lying on the bank. The deceased, who was formerly a farmer, had lost his sight in 1851, in consequence of a severe beating which he then received from some burglars, who were afterwards sentenced to twenty-one years' imprisonment for the offence. Inspector Price expressed an opinion that the deceased's mind had been affected ever since he received the injuries alluded to. The jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 15/7/1865 - Advert

“Grand Gala. Walsall Cottage Hospital, Monday, 31st of July, 1865.

Important To Victuallers, Temperance Hotel And Refreshment House Keepers, Confectioners, And Others.

Mr. H. Farrington has been instructed by the Committee of the Cottage Hospital, to Let by Auction, at the HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street, at Seven pm, on Monday next, 17th instant, Sites, on the Gala Grounds for Two Victuallers' and Two Refreshment Tents (subject to conditions to be specified at the time of letting).

Last year there were upwards of six thousand people upon the Gala Grounds, which were only Five Acres in extent. As the Grounds will this year be upwards of 23 Acres, the Sports will be more extensive and varied; and as arrangements are being made for Special Trains, from several neighbouring towns, it may naturally be expected that the attendance will be much larger than last year.

Parties wishing to have sites for Photographic and Shooting Galleries, Fruit and other Stalls, to apply to Mr. John Booth, The Square.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/6/1870

“Thomas Bomber, miner, Shire Oaks Hill, was charged with having, on the night of Tuesday, the 7th inst, stolen from the person of James Mullens, a purse containing 3s. It appeared the prosecutor, who had been drinking, had gone to sleep on the step of the HATHERTON ARMS public-house, Lichfield Street, and was aroused by the defendant and some others knocking him about. Afterwards he discovered his purse was gone, and complained to a policeman, who saw the defendant go into the yard behind the HATHERTON ARMS and throw something away. The officer searched the defendant, but found nothing on him. He then searched the yard, and found the purse, but there was no money in it. The Bench considered the evidence was not sufficient to support the charge, and therefore dismissed the case.”

Walsall Free Press 9/7/1870

“Serious Affray with Garden Robbers. About one o'clock on Sunday morning, as Police-constable Chill, of the County Constabulary, was going his rounds, he saw four men in a garden in Teddesley Street, and on going to ascertain what they were doing, they set about him, knocked him down, and kicked him. On recovering from the effects of this ill treatment, the officer procured the assistance of the landlord of the HATHERTON ARMS and went in pursuit of the men, whom they found in Mellish Road. A regular melee ensued, and ultimately two were captured, and conveyed to Rushall Police Station, where it was found that one of the prisoners, named Patrick Wincer, who resides in Green Lane, was so severely injured as to require surgical aid. Dr. Maclachlan was sent for, and he directed that the man should be removed to the Cottage Hospital, Walsall, which was accordingly done. The prisoner was removed back to the Police Station on Wednesday.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/7/1870

“Patrick Winter, miner, was charged with stealing lettuce from a garden at Ryecroft, belonging to Geo. Callindor, on the 3rd instant, and with assaulting on the same morning Police-constable Chell and Mr. *W. Mainwood*, of the HATHERTON ARMS INN, Lichfield Street, Rushall. The particulars of the case were given in last week's *Advertiser*. In addition, it transpired in the course of the case that the constable for several days after the assault spat blood and was unfit for duty, and that Mr. *Mainwood* had ever since had to pay someone to do his work. The prisoner was sentenced to six months' imprisonment – three for the assault on the constable, two for the assault on Mr. *Mainwood*, and one for the felony.”

1871 Census

82, Lichfield Street – HATHERTON ARMS

[1] *William Mainwood* (41), licensed victualler, born Wardington, Oxfordshire;

[2] Selina Mainwood (41), wife, born Eydon, Northamptonshire;

[3] Emma J. Mainwood (5), daughter, scholar, born Rushall:

Walsall Free Press 15/7/1871

“Michael Conroy was charged at the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Beasley and J. Harrison, Esqs, with having, on the 3rd of July, 1870, assaulted Police-constable Chill, from whose evidence it appeared that on the morning of the day in question the officer saw some men stealing vegetables from a garden near to the railway at Ryecroft and apprehended one of them, but through the interference of the prisoner and some others the party he apprehended escaped. The officer went pursuit, and having obtained the assistance of *William Mainwood*, landlord of the HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street, attempted to apprehend some of the men in the Mellish Road, when the prisoner and other men who were with him commenced throwing stones at the officer and Mr. *Mainwood*, both of whom were severely injured, and the men escaped. The evidence of the officer was corroborated by Mr. *Mainwood*, who identified the prisoner as the man who cut him with a stone. Sentenced to three months’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

The licensee was fined £1 and costs, on 22nd December 1876, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1880 - Advert

“Sale At The HATHERTON ARMS, in Lichfield Street, By Messrs. Farrington and Son.

To Be Sold By Auction (by order of the Trustees).

On Thursday Next, the 4th day of March 1880. The capital Fittings of the Liquor Shop, including excellent Mahogany-top Counter, fitted with Beer and Spirit Fountain and Shelves, Stock-In-Trade, Household Furniture, fine-toned Pianoforte, capital Brewing Utensils, and other effects, upon the above premises.

Particulars in catalogues, to be had at the Office of the Auctioneers, Walsall; or Mr. F. M. Burton, Solicitor, Union Passage, Birmingham.”

1881 Census

82, Lichfield Road

[1] *Thomas Lawley* (36), licensed victualler, born Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire;

[2] Sarah H. Lawley (38), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] Leonard S. Lawley (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Elizabeth Lawley (12), daughter, scholar, born Kidderminster;

[5] Hellen Lawley (9), daughter, scholar, born Kidderminster;

[6] Elizabeth Ware (26), general servant, born Castleford, Yorkshire:

Lichfield Mercury 19/12/1884

“On Thursday week, Mr. Hooper, coroner, held an inquest at the HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street, on the body of John Brawn (45), limemaster, North View, Mellish Road, Rushall, whose death was caused from injuries received through a trap accident.

Samuel Brawn, farmer, Lichfield, identified the body, and deposed that at about five o’clock on Friday evening he saw the deceased, his brother – who was then in his usual good health and perfectly sober – drive away in his gig from the Old Crown Hotel, Lichfield, the animal he drove being a horse cob, which he had had for three years, and which his father had driven for some time before. Witness shortly afterwards drove along the same road himself, and on reaching his gateway was told by some people who were there that his brother had been thrown from his gig, and was at the SPRING COTTAGE INN. He went there, and in the parlour found his brother, who said he did not think he was much hurt, and with his assistance walked to his (witness’s) gig, and was driven home by him. On the way he said that as he was leaving Lichfield some wagoners or market gardeners drove past him at a furious pace and shaved his wheel, and that afterwards – between Lichfield and Muckley Corner – a man named Martin, who had annoyed him and others in the same way on previous occasions, raced past him, the two vehicles very nearly coming into collision. Being over-cautious and desirous of avoiding an accident he walked the horse until past Martin’s horse and afterwards kept to a rate of six or seven miles an hour, with his wheel in the channel, until he reached Shelfield. There his wheel caught against the end of a pipe which had been laid in the channel to carry water under the margin of the footway into Mr. Beddows grounds. He himself and his horse were startled, but his horse at first had stopped in obedience to his call, and then dashed off at a rapid pace. He was tossed out of the gig, his leg getting entangled in the wheel, and locking it, and finding as he was being dragged along that his head was striking the ground he by a desperate effort grasped the spokes, and cried out loudly. He believed he was dragged as far as Mr. John Taylor’s, and witness on examining the road the next morning found that his clothes had swept up the mud for a distance of 250 or 300 yards. On reaching home, witness sent for a doctor (Mr. G. A. Phillips), but Mr. Tertius Taylor having preceded him, Mr. Phillips was in attendance before he returned. On Monday Mr. Phillips mentioned that the case was a serious one, and telegraphed for a physician (Dr. Bartlett), who came to Walsall, but death took place the same evening. Deceased’s horse with the gig ran on after the accident, to the Midland Railway Bridge in Rushall Road, and there ran into a baker’s cart.

Corroborative evidence was given by Rosannah White and William Swann, both of Lichfield, as to the help rendered after the accident; and it was mentioned by jurors that the pipe was 6in or 3in above the level of the kerbing.

The Coroner mentioned Mr. Phillips had certified that death was from severe injuries to the knee and joint.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death; and the Coroner, at their request, undertook to communicate with the Brownhills Local Board, asking for the removal of the pipe, which was commended as highly dangerous. They also considered that Mr.

Martin should be communicated with, and Sergt. Arnold promised to arrange that their wishes in this respect should be carried out. A letter in reference to this inquest appears in another column.”

AND

“To the Editor of the Mercury.

Sir.

Will you allow me, through your columns, to deny the statement made about myself at an inquest on Mr. John Brawn, of Rushall, who died from the effect of a trap accident at Shelfield. I was driving home from Lichfield market on Friday the 5th inst, at an ordinary pace, and passed Mr. Brawn at Pipe Hill, saying ‘Good night’ to him. I turned in at the gate of my house as he passed by, and again said ‘Good night,’ to which he responded. This was all that passed between us, and I knew nothing of the accident to Mr. Brawn, which happened about three and a half miles from my house, until I saw a report of the inquest in the papers.

Kindly insert this in your next issue and oblige.

Your faithfully, Chas. Martin.

Muckley Corner, near Lichfield.”

Walsall Observer 31/1/1885

“On Tuesday evening a dinner and presentation in connection with No.1 Lodge of the Loyal Caledonian Corks Sick and Dividend Society, took place at the house of Mr. *Charles Medlam*, the HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street. There was a large attendance, being about double the number of persons present as had been expected, and there is every credit due to Host *Medlam* for the manner in which he catered by placing an excellent dinner on the table for so numerous a company.

After dinner, Mr. C. Cooke, of Birmingham, and a member of the Executive of the Grand United Order, was called upon to preside.....”

1891 Census

82, Lichfield Street – HATHERTON ARMS HOTEL

[1] *Charles Medlam* (60), licensed victualler, born Handsworth, Staffordshire;

[2] Elizabeth Medlam (60), wife, born Harborne, Staffordshire;

[3] Alfred Medlam (24), son, assistant to victualler, born Birmingham;

[4] Florence Medlam (21), daughter, born Birmingham;

[5] Ada Medlam (18), daughter, born Birmingham;

[6] Sarah Jane Jarvis (19), servant, born Shropshire:

Walsall Advertiser 5/8/1893

“The Caledonian Corks. For some time past Lodge 200 have had in contemplation for presenting Bro. J. H. Allsop, late Chief Captain of the above Order, and past Captain of this Lodge, with a testimonial in recognition of his services to the Lodge and Order. This scheme was consummated last Tuesday evening, at the Lodge House, the HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street, by a smoking concert, and the presentation of a handsome liquor stand to Bro. Allsop.....”

Charles Marsh = Charles March

Walsall Observer 20/1/1900

“On Wednesday evening the coachmen and gardeners of Mellish Road and district, together with a few friends, met together at the HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street, to celebrate the first annual dinner, when about 37 sat down to a repast which was well served, and which gave satisfaction, reflecting great credit on the host (Mr. *Charles Marsh*).....”

Walsall Observer 24/3/1900

“The Caledonian Corks. There was a large muster of the above Order at the Lodge of No.200, HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street.....”

Charles T. Marsh was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in August 1900.

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1901

“Edward Carroll (35), labourer, of 32 Ball’s Hill, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly in Lichfield Street, on February 4th, and with damaging the uniform of Police-constable Robinson, doing injury to the amount of 1s.

Police-constable Robinson had to arrest the prisoner in consequence of his disorderly conduct outside the HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street. He was very violent, and witness had to obtain assistance and had to handcuff him. Prisoner continued to be very violent and tore witness’s uniform.

Charles Thomas Marsh, the landlord of the HATHERTON ARMS, stated that the prisoner came into his house drunk, and witness had to eject him.

There was a long record against prisoner, but the magistrates decided to give him another chance. He was ordered to come up for judgement in eight weeks.”

1901 Census

82, Lichfield Street

- [1] *Charles T. Marsh* (32), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Rose Marsh* (33), wife, born Islington, London;
- [3] *Ivy L. Marsh* (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Hilda R. Marsh* (4 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Martha Smith* (16), general servant, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] *Elizabeth Hensor* (15), general servant, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Advertiser 11/5/1901

“On Tuesday morning a fire which caused considerable damage occurred at the HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street, kept by Mr. *C. T. Marsh*. About four o’clock in the morning the fire was discovered by the servant girl. She woke to find the door of her bedroom, together with her dresses which hung upon it ablaze. She aroused the members of the family, and the Fire Brigade were summoned, the brigade attending, under the command of Chief Inspector Ballance, with the small steamer. The clubroom and kitchen were in flames, and the brigade successfully directed their efforts to prevent the fire spreading to other portions of the premises. A horse in the stable under the basement of the clubroom was only removed a few minutes before the roof fell in, and a piano which had been hired for a smoking concert was entirely destroyed. It is supposed that the fire originated through soot in the chimney having taken fire.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....
Walford (Wilkinson, Mills, and Walford) applied for the sanction of the Bench to plans to reconstruct the HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street; but as the requisite notices had not been served the application was refused.”

1911 Census

82, Lichfield Street

- [1] *Adam Ward* (42), commission agent, born Tundergarth, Dumfriesshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Ward* (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Mabel Ward* (15), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [4] *Jessie Agnes Ward* (14), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [5] *George A. Ward* (9), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Jeffrey Ward* (2), son, born Walsall;
- [7] *Clara Carter* (25), domestic servant, born Brownhills;
- [8] *Gertrude Huskison* (22), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/11/1911

“The fifty-ninth annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....
New members..... Mr. *Adam Ward*, HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street, Walsall, £1 4s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street. £1 17s 5½d.”

Lichfield Mercury 29/5/1925 - Advert

“Strong Smart general, about 20, to assist in bar; reference required.
HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street.”

1939 Register

82, Lichfield Street

- [1] *George E. Payne*, date of birth 9/1/1895, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Bertha W. Payne*, dob 1/7/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Stanley G. Payne, dob 16/11/1924, fancy leather worker, single:

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
HATHERTON ARMS, Lichfield Street. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 7/10/1944 - Advert

“Bar-General, live in or our; also Night Help Wanted.
HATHERTON ARMS, 82, Lichfield Street.”

Joseph Clark – see also LEATHERN BOTTLE, Bloxwich.

Tom Reaney was married to Carole.

[2010]

Closed [2012]

It was converted into housing. [2017]

HAYMAKERS ARMS

BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Evening Express 4/5/1881

“An inquest was held at the HAYMAKERS ARMS, Bloxwich, this (Wednesday) forenoon, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, touching the death of Edward Briscoe, bit filer, aged 62 years, who lately resided at 41, Birchills, and who committed suicide by cutting his throat the previous day.

It will be remembered from the brief report of the occurrence which appeared in one issue of yesterday that the deceased and his stepdaughter were sitting alone in the kitchen of deceased’s house, when, without the least warning, he inflicted a serious wound on his stepdaughter’s neck with a knife, and in all probability would have taken her life had not her sister, who was in the front room, come to her assistance. The woman left the house, and the deceased subsequently went into the front room and cut his own throat, from the effects of which he died. Mr. Joseph Evans was foreman of the jury, before whom the following evidence was given.

Emily Briscoe, Birchills Street, daughter of the deceased, deposed that he had always been a strong healthy man up till within the last two years. Twelve months ago when Dr. Garrett attended to him he was very low, and among other complaints he suffered very much from his head. Dr. Garrett then told the family to be very careful with the deceased, as he was in a low way, and he believed he would commit suicide if he were not strictly watched. Since that time the deceased had been very strange in his conversation. Deceased threatened to take their lives, but no medical advice was obtained since Dr. Garrett saw him twelve months ago. The deceased would not go to a doctor.

The Coroner: It was your duty to call in a doctor if he showed any symptoms of being dangerous to himself or others.

Witness, continuing, said that Dr. Garrett, so far as she knew, gave no instructions as to what to do if the deceased showed any signs of insanity. Dr. Garrett did not say that in that case he must be kept in confinement. The deceased never offered to do anything serious; he only talked about it. If the deceased had shown signs of doing anything dangerous to himself or others witness would have sent for a policeman. Witness never thought that the deceased would do anything, and if he threatened them one minute he was as kind as possible the next. Yesterday morning the deceased was very quiet, and as good as could be, though he seemed very strange since Sunday last. On Monday night the deceased refused to undress, and she got up about six o’clock the following morning. The deceased appeared all right that day up to the hour when the affair took place, when a desire seemed to come upon him all at once to attack her sister. About one o’clock the deceased asked witness to get him his razor, as he wanted to shave himself. Witness after giving the deceased his razor, went into the front room, and she was not long there before she heard the cry ‘Oh,’ and on going out she found that the deceased had inflicted a wound on the back of her sister’s neck. Witness pushed the deceased away from her sister, and when she asked him what he had done to her sister the deceased replied he was cutting her throat, that was all. Witness and her sister then left the deceased alone in the house, and when the policeman arrived a short time

afterwards they found him lying on the floor in the front room with his throat cut, and quite dead. There was no one in the house except the deceased when he cut his throat.

In answer to the Coroner, witness said that the deceased had not had constant work for 12 months past, and the family were not in very comfortable circumstances.

The Coroner, in summing up, said he had no further evidence to offer. It was a great misfortune that greater care was not taken of the poor man. It was a great pity that Dr. Garrett's warning was not attended to, the family apparently not being aware to take any steps beyond what they could do themselves. There was no doubt from the evidence they had just heard, that the deceased committed suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity.

A juror thought before they came to any conclusion they ought to have the evidence of the policeman who saw the deceased after he cut his throat.

Detective-sergeant Thomas Salt was accordingly called, and deposed that the last witness came to him about a quarter to one o'clock on Tuesday and asked him to go to the house, as her father was attempting to cut his daughter's head off. When witness got to the house he saw the deceased's stepdaughter with her neck cut, and having ordered her to be sent to the Hospital he went inside the house and found the deceased lying on the sofa, with Dr. Palmer attending to him. The deceased had a severe wound on the side of his neck, from which blood was flowing profusely. The deceased was not dead; but he died in about ten minutes afterwards. Witness did not know how the wound was inflicted. He went into the front room, and found a large quantity of blood on the floor, and in the firegrate he found the razor (produced), the blade of which was covered with blood.

The jury returned a verdict of Temporary Insanity."

HEN AND CHICKENS

17, Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Padgett [1811]

Mary Padgett [1818] – [1822]

Thomas Taylor [1828] – [1830]

Charles Arrowsmith [1831]

George Cook [1834] – [1845]

George Johnson [1849] – [1861]

George Worrall [1881]

NOTES

Rushall Street [1822]

Mary Padgett = Mary Padgat

Edward Lester, a carrier to Wolverhampton and Lichfield, left from here every Wednesday and Saturday. [1822]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/1/1831 - Deaths

"On the 23rd inst, after a lingering illness, in his seventy-first year, Mr. William Arrowsmith, of Northwood Street, formerly metal dealer, of this town; and on the day following, Hannah, his daughter-in-law, and wife of Mr. *Charles Arrowsmith*, of the HEN AND CHICKENS, Rushall Street, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/7/1831

"Walsall Sessions took place on Wednesday last, before N. G. Clarke, Esq, Recorder, John Heeley, Esq, Mayor, James Adams, Esq, and Samuel Sharratt, Esq, Magistrates. William Hunt and William Chester were charged, on the oath of John Smith and Samuel Mason, jun, with stealing from the person of the said John Smith, in the borough of Walsall, a silver watch, value 17s, on the 19th of April last. It appeared in evidence that prosecutor called at the HEN AND CHICKENS, Lower Rushall Street, at a late hour on the night mentioned, where he found the prisoners (whom he particularly noticed) and two other persons in company with them. The prosecutor remained in the house about half an hour, during which time one of the prisoners asked him to sing; this he declined to do. The prisoners, with the other two left the house before Smith, and on the latter reaching the junction of the streets, near the BRADFORD ARMS, he was accosted by Hunt, with the words, 'Now d—n you, keeper, we'll pay you off.' Hunt immediately commenced striking him in the face, and Chester came up apparently with the intention of fighting also, but he drew the watch from prosecutor's pocket and made off, exclaiming, 'I've drawn the fob – come along Bill.' On the 27th of April Hunt

was apprehended in Birmingham, and on his examination before the magistrates of Walsall he confessed to the fact charged in the indictment, and stated that he had left the watch at the shop of Mr. White, in Church Street, Birmingham for repair; on enquiry, the watch was found at Mr. W.'s shop, and on being produced in Court at the trial, was sworn by the prosecutor as the one of which he had been robbed. Chester (apprehended in Birmingham on the 4th of May) was ingeniously defended and received a good character, but the evidence was too strong to admit either being of any avail. The Recorder summed up with much impartiality and perspicuity, after which the jury returned a verdict of guilty against both the prisoners, who were immediately sentenced to transportation for fourteen years, the Recorder observing that had they been indicted before a tribunal at Stafford, their lives would have been affected."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 29/8/1831 - Advert

"To be Sold, the Good-will, Licenses, Brewing Utensils, with immediate Possession of that old established Public House, the HEN AND CHICKENS, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.
Apply to Mr. J. Farrington, Auctioneer, Walsall; or to J. Best, Upholsterer, Bedstead, and Mattress-maker, 31, Great Hampton Street, Birmingham."

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/9/1833 - Deaths

"On Saturday last, Mr. *Charles Arrowsmith*, late of the HEN AND CHICKENS, Lower Rushall Street, aged 35."

George Cook = George Cooke

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/1/1853

"On Sunday evening last *George Johnson*, landlord of the HEN AND CHICKENS public-house, Lower Rushall Street, was attempting to expel from his house a professed pugilist, named Henry Baylis, alias the 'Dragon,' and Rachel Dainty, a woman of ill-repute, when a contest ensued, during which the woman held *Johnson*, whilst her companion beat him and bit his nose. The assault was proved before the magistrates on Wednesday last, when Baylis was fined £2 and Dainty 5s and expenses. *Johnson's* face was frightfully lacerated."

Birmingham Daily Post 5/9/1859

"On Friday last, about ten o'clock, a young man named Charles Jones, aged 20 years, in the service of Mr. *Johnson*, at the HEN AND CHICKENS, Lower Rushall Street, attempted to commit suicide by hanging himself. The poor fellow was found in one of the stables belonging to Mr. *Johnson*, lying on his face with a halter fastened round his neck. He was then in an insensible condition, but restoratives were applied and consciousness soon returned. He was watched the whole of the night, and was afterwards taken to the police station, where he now lies, and will be brought before the Magistrates this morning."

1861 Census

Uninhabited

1881 Census

17, Lower Rushall Street – HEN AND CHICKENS

- [1] *George Worrall* (43), innkeeper, born Oldbury, Shropshire;
- [2] Jane Worrall (33), wife, born Welshpool;
- [3] George Grey (11), nephew, scholar, born Lanfair, North Wales;
- [4] Arthur Smith (50), lodger, colliery engineer, born Walsall:

Check PEACOCK.

HOGS HEAD

9-19, Leicester Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Laurel Pub Co. [2008]

LICENSEES

NOTES

[2002]

[2007]

It closed in 2008. [2017]

HOPE AND ANCHOR

246a, (246), (244), Wednesbury Road, (Pleck Road) / Oxford Street, Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

Henry Moseley, buckle maker, CaldmoreRoad, Walsall [1872]
Showells Brewery Co. Ltd. [1898], [1908]
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased from 29th June 1935)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 6th May 1960)

LICENSEES

John Edge [1846] – [1862]
Thomas Edge [1864] – [1872]
William Harper [1872] – [1873];
William Ray [];
Mrs. Louisa Ray [1880] – [1881];
John Cartmale Lester [] – **1889**;
Arthur Grose (**1889 – 1896**);
John Thomas Hawkins (**1896 – 1908**);
John Dilks (**1908 – 1913**);
Thomas ‘Tom’ Lander (**1913 – 1921**);
Francis Joseph Ellis (**1921 – 1923**);
Frederick Gumbley (**1923 – 1926**);
John Mackenzie (**1926 – 1927**);
Thomas Gore (**1927 – 1946**);
Harold Cooper (**1946 – 1961**);
Harry Dobson (**1961 – 1962**);
George Edward Morris (**1962**);
Philip Brian Cross (**1962 – 1963**);
Pauline Olive Sylvia McAllister (**1963**);
Leslie Cyril Oliver (**1963 – 1964**);
Derrick Graham Burston (**1964**);
William Adshead (**1964 – 1967**);
Edwin Arthur Kerr (**1967** – [])

NOTES

Oxford Street, Pleck [1860], [1865]
244, Wednesbury Road [1891], [1901]
246, Wednesbury Road [1896]
246a, Wednesbury Road [1904], [1908], [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940]

HOPE AND ANCHOR HOTEL [1900], [1911]

John Edge = John Hedge

The Era 15/2/1846

“The half-mile handicap foot steeple chase, at Mr. *John Edge*’s, the HOPE AND ANCHOR, at the Pleck Village, is to take place tomorrow (Monday), and will be an ‘out-and-out affair’. The following are the entries: Benjamin Badcock, the Birmingham Lurcher; William Allsop of Birmingham (to receive 15 yards start); Henry Heywood of Bilson (30 yards); John Rhodes of Gospel Oak (30 yards); John Taylor of West Bromwich (30 yards); Benjamin James of Walsall (35 yards); Samuel Burns of Darlaston (40 yards); George Taylor of the Potteries (40 yards); Thomas Clarke of Walsall (40 yards); the Leamington Cheroot (40 yards); *John Edge*’s Novice (50 yards); and the Wednesbury Unknown (50 yards). The ground is to be shown to the runners at eleven o’clock

in the morning, and the race to come off at two o'clock precisely. There will also be a second race, and a quarter of a mile flat race."

[The result: 1st Benjamin James; 2nd Samuel Burns; 3rd The Leamington Cheroot.]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/10/1847

"Samuel Burns of Darlaston informs Thomas Jones of Bloxwich that, not being satisfied with his late defeat, he will run him again 140 yards, for £25 or £50 a side, and toss for choice of ground, or run him 160 yards, and give him the choice of ground as before. To run in one month. The match can be made tomorrow (Monday) night, at the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck near Walsall, between 7 and 9 o'clock, or a letter directed to Burns, KING'S HILL TAVERN, will be attended to. The editor of *Bell's Life* to be stakeholder."

Birmingham Journal 1/11/1856

"On Thursday afternoon, an inquest was held before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, at the house of Mr. *John Edge*, the HOPE AND ANCHOR, the Pleck, on the body of a young man named Samuel Belcher, who was killed on the previous Tuesday by the accidental explosion of a cannon. Deceased was in the employ of Messrs. Russell and Knowles, gas tube makers, at Wednesbury. On Wednesday last one member of the firm, Mr. Francis Henry Russell, came of age, and the workmen determined on having an entertainment to celebrate the event. By permission of their employers, they obtained three cannons of Mr. Russell, of Church Hill, Wednesbury, with which to fire a feu de joi, and also one from another person in the town. On Tuesday evening last, the friends of Mr. Russell assembled for the purpose of enjoyment at the house of a relative, at the Pleck, and several of the workmen, including deceased, went over with their cannons to fire a salute in the neighbourhood. About nine o'clock, having previously called at the HOPE AND ANCHOR, these men proceeded to carry out their design. One of them endeavoured to fire a cannon by means of a light attached to a long stick, but without effect. Deceased then took a lighted candle and placed it near the touch hole, causing an instantaneous explosion. Several pieces of the cannon struck deceased in his face and upon his head, and penetrated completely through his skull, carrying away a portion of the brain. His right arm was also broken, and he died immediately. The only witness examined by the Coroner was John Knowles, one of the deceased's employers, who stated that previous to the cannon being used, he had examined them all separately, and considered them perfectly safe, especially that which occasioned deceased's death, which had been used about three months before at a merry making at Wednesbury. He believed it had been manufactured full twenty years ago. He did not think the blame was attributable to any person, but that the explosion was entirely accidental. The Jury returned a verdict of Deceased died from the Accidental Explosion of a Cannon."

Walsall Free Press 17/4/1858

"As an old man, named Joseph Peat, who resides at the Pleck, was proceeding to his work on Monday morning last, he dropped down dead. At ten o'clock the following morning an inquest was held at Mr. *Hedge's* public house, the HOPE AND ANCHOR, upon the body, when the jury after hearing the evidence returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

1861 Census

Wednesbury Road – HOPE AND ANCHOR Public House

- [1] *John Edge* (69), victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Hannah Edge (70), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Ellen Edge (16), granddaughter, born Birchills;
- [4] Hannah Baker (12), granddaughter, born Pleck;
- [5] Mary Reaston (?) (15), domestic servant, born Ireland:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/4/1863

"Yesterday afternoon an adjourned inquest was held at the house of Mr. *John Edge*, HOPE AND ANCHOR, 1, Pleck, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, on the body of a male infant, found in the Meadow Brooks, near New Mills, on Tuesday morning last, by two persons, named John Fox and Frederick Stanley. The enquiry had been adjourned from Wednesday, for the purpose of giving time for a post mortem examination, and yesterday, Mr. D. Moore, surgeon, attended, and, after detailing the results of the examination, gave it was his opinion that the child, which was in every respect healthy and fully developed, was born alive, but that life only continued for a short period (probably less than a minute), and was then terminated by violent means, probably by pressure on the mouth to cause suffocation, or by loss of blood from the umbilical cord, which had been forcibly torn off close to the body. The Jury, after a short consultation, returned the open verdict of Found Dead."

Thomas Edge was also a bit maker. [1864]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 17/2/1866

"R. Poxton of Wednesbury and J. Meek of the Pleck near, Walsall, have signed articles to run five score yards, for £10 a side, at the above grounds on March 5. Mr. *T. Edge*, HOPE AND ANCHOR INN, Pleck, final-stakeholder and referee, who has £2 10s a side in his hand, to be made £5 a side this (Saturday) evening, and the final deposit of £5 a side on March 3."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/8/1866

"*Thomas Edge*, landlord of the HOPE AND ANCHOR public-house, the Pleck, was charged with having permitted gambling. That there had been card playing was clearly established; but as there was some doubt as to whether or not it was with the defendant's knowledge, the case was dismissed."

1871 Census

Wednesbury Road

- [1] *Thomas Edge* (53), cutler and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Edge (49), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] James Edge (22), son, cutler, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary A. Edge (20), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Susannah Edge (15), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Sarah Edge (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Hannah Edge (80), mother, widow, born Walsall:

Thomas Edge was described as a brush bit maker. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 27/1/1872 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. William E. Davies, on Tuesday Next, January 30, upon the Premises, the HOPE AND ANCHOR, at the Pleck aforesaid, at Six o’clock in the evening punctually, subject to conditions then to be produced, in one lot. All that eligibly situated Old Licensed Public-House and Premises, the HOPE AND ANCHOR, aforesaid, at the junction of the Wednesbury Road with Oxford Street, at the Pleck near Walsall, having Tap Room, Bar, Parlour, Kitchen, Club Room (27ft long), three Cellars, two Bed Rooms; Brewhouse, with Maltroom over, two Workshops, Stabling, Piggeries, and all the usual Conveniences, in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Edge*; together with the Six desirable well-letting Messuages adjoining, in the several occupations of Holroyd, Gibbons, Dunmore, Parker, Haddock, and Chambers, the whole estimated to produce an annual rental of £78 6s. For further particulars apply to Messrs. Cotterell and Oerton, Solicitors, Bridge Street, Walsall; J. Heath Stubbs, Esq, Solicitor, 21, Waterloo Street, Birmingham; or to the Auctioneer, Mr. William Edward Davies, Surveyor, Valuer, and Estate Agent, Horseley Heath, Tipton, and 107, Newhall Street, Birmingham.”

AND

“The Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of the HOPE AND ANCHOR INN, at the Pleck, near Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, By Mr. William E. Davies, upon the Premises as above, on Tuesday Next, January 30 (immediately after the sale of Property), under conditions then to be read. The Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of that well-accustomed Tavern, the HOPE AND ANCHOR INN, at the Pleck, near Walsall, in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Edge*. Valuation under £40; rent under £25.

Satisfactory reasons given for leaving.

For further particulars apply to J. Heath Stubbs, Esq, Solicitor, 21, Waterloo Street, Birmingham; or to the Auctioneer, Mr. William Edward Davies, Surveyor, Valuer, and Estate Agent, Horseley Heath, Tipton, and 107, Newhall Street, Birmingham.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/7/1872

“*William Harper*, innkeeper, HOPE AND ANCHOR, the Pleck, was charged with having allowed gambling on his premises. Mr. Glover appeared for the defence. The principal witness was Agnes Drewry, wife of Wm. Drewry, a bricklayer, who borrowed 20s upon his watch from the landlord, and lost 15s of the money at dominoes. Mrs. Drewry, in her visits to the house to get her husband home, also saw card playing going on. After she had reported the matter to the police the watch was returned to her. In consideration of the defendant being new to the business, and this being his first offence, he was merely fined 20s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

“Municipal Election. The Bridge Ward.....

The excitement in this ward seems rather to increase than diminish. On Friday a very enthusiastic meeting of Mr. Grant’s supporters was held at the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck, at which Mr. Grant explained his views upon municipal matters. The meeting pledged itself to support Mr. Grant’s candidature.....”

William Ray was married to *Louisa*.

1881 Census

Darlaston Road – HOPE AND ANCHOR

- [1] *Louisa Ray* (53), widow, licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Joseph Wilkes (28), son in law, brewer, born Tipton;
- [3] Emmila Wilkes (28), son in law’s wife, born Wednesbury;
- [4] Violetta Ray (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Samuel W. Byze (57), boarder, locksmith, born Walsall:

Arthur Grose = Arthur Grice

1891 Census

244, Wednesbury Road – HOPE AND ANCHOR

- [1] *Arthur Grice* (37), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] Harriet Laura Grice (29), wife, born Nailsea, Somersetshire;
- [3] Blance Ada Eglington (21), sister, barmaid, born Nailsea, Somersetshire;

[4] Thomas Edward Eglington (21), brother, hairdresser, born Walsall;

[5] Mary Ann Curtis (19), domestic servant, born Wednesfield:

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall.....

Mr. J. W. Pearman-Smith applied for the sanction of the Bench to alterations in the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck. He explained the nature of the proposed alterations, which he said comprised the taking in of the 12 yards covered by two rooms of an adjoining cottage, though this he thought, would be set off by the abandoning of 10 yards of land at the corner of Oxford Street and Wednesbury Road. The situation was an exceedingly important one, marking as it did the junction of the Wednesbury and Darlaston roads; and the improving character of the neighbourhood was evidenced by the fact that within the last six months no fewer than 30 shops had been erected in the immediate vicinity and all were tenanted as soon as completed. In the adjoining streets quite 500 houses of very respectable character had recently been erected, and the fact that two football grounds were about to be opened would constitute such a house a most desirable public convenience. The entrances to the house would not be increased. In answer to the Chief Constable, Mr. Smith said that it was certainly proposed to erect a nine foot wall between the public-house yard and the yard adjoining. Approved on the understanding that the nine feet wall suggested would be erected.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/1/1898

“The Widening of George Street. The following plans had been approved by the Streets Committee.....

Messrs. Showells Brewery Co. Limited, HOPE AND ANCHOR, Wednesbury Road, Pleck.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/7/1899

“The Walsall No.1 and 2 Branches of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants took their annual picnic on Sunday. Leaving the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck, they travelled in brakes via Church Bridge and Gailey to Brewood, and on arriving at their destination made the Lion Hotel, kept by Mr. A. Medlam, formerly of YE OLDE WOOLPACK HOTEL, Walsall, their quarters. A splendid tea was served, and after the good things provided had been done ample justice to, a walk was taken round the village. Subsequently, at the hotel, a beautifully framed emblem was presented to the host on behalf of the branches, the gift being suitably acknowledged by Mr. Medlam. The journey home was made through Wolverhampton, and Walsall was reached about 10.30pm, the party having spent an enjoyable time.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

John Hawkins, HOPE AND ANCHOR, served 65 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under.....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Demolished

Rebuilt

Walsall Observer 17/3/1900

“On Thursday evening last week, a most successful smoking concert was held in the large room at the HOPE AND ANCHOR HOTEL, Pleck, for the purpose of giving a send-off to Mr. Isaac Baker, of the L. and N. W. Permanent Way Department, who has been called to rejoin his regiment (2nd Worcestershire), for service at the front. Mr. G. Austin was elected to the chair, and he at once commenced the business of the evening by giving the usual loyal toasts.....”

Walsall Observer 27/10/1900

“On Monday afternoon Mr. T. H. Stanley (the borough coroner) held an inquest at the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck, on the body of Ann Cartlidge (43), of 124, Wallows Lane, Pleck, who was found hanged in her bedroom on Sunday morning.

Albert Cartlidge, husband of the deceased, gave evidence of identification, and stated that he was an engine driver on the Midland Railway. His wife was in Burntwood Asylum for about two months, and came out at the end of February. Since then she had been much better. On Saturday mid-day he left home shortly before one o'clock, and she then seemed all right, asking as he went out if he would be late. Witness answered that he would not be later than he could help. He returned about twenty minutes after twelve, and on opening the kitchen door he found his wife hanging by a rope suspended by a beam. She might have reached to put the rope up by getting on to the sink or the mangle. She might also have fetched a pair of steps from the coal-house to reach it by. The cord she was hanging by was the clothes line, the noose being made by the hook on the end. Being unable to lift her down he cut the cord, and found that she was dead and quite cold. Dr. Sydenham, who had been attending her was afterwards fetched.

Gertrude Wootton, a niece of the deceased, stated that she lived at 124, Wallows Lane, with deceased. On Saturday night deceased was reading a newspaper to witness, and seemed quite well at the time, having been a great deal better for the last three weeks or a month. Witness saw her safely to bed at a quarter after ten. She heard nothing more until she was awakened by Mr. Cartlidge at

the door. She went downstairs, but did not see deceased until she was carried into the sitting room.

Dr. Sydenham stated that he had attended the deceased for nervous trouble. He saw her on the 15th inst, when she had improved considerably. On Sunday morning he was called in, and found that she was dead. He made an outward examination, and found the mark of a rope round her neck, her face was pale, with the lips and ears blue. There was a mark under the right ear that corresponded to the hoop at the end of the rope. Death was due to suffocation.

A verdict of Suicide during Temporary Insanity was returned.

The Coroner and jury deeply sympathized with Mr. Cartlidge in his trouble.”

1901 Census

244, Wednesbury Road

- [1] *John T. Hawkins* (36), manager (hotel), born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Harriet E. Hawkins* (35), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *John T. Hawkins* (12), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Gerty Hawkins* (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Richard Hawkins* (3), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Richard Hawkins* (27), brother, bootmaker, born Moxley, deaf and dumb;
- [7] *Polly Lavander* (15), general servant, born Wednesbury;
- [8] *William C. Jones* (20), servant, barman, born Crewe, Cheshire;
- [9] *Robert Clark* (20), servant, barman, born Douglas, IOM:

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1905

“Mr. George Bird, of Hilary Street, died very suddenly last night week, in his 70th year. He had been conversing with a friend on the footway near the HOPE AND ANCHOR HOTEL at about 8.30, when he was seen to suddenly fall to the ground, and on examination it was found that he had expired. For some time he had suffered from heart disease and syncope was certified as the cause of death. Mr. Bird was the owner and for many years the occupier of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich, up to the time he retired from business, and in addition, for a considerable time he carried on business as a butcher and cattle dealer. He leaves a widow and three daughters and two sons. The interment took place at Bloxwich Cemetery on Tuesday.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/8/1908

“Josiah Smith, 26, Chapel Street, and William Hewlett, 23, Chapel Street, were summoned for being found drunk on licensed premises, the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck, on the 1st ult. Police-constable Wooley (57) saw prisoners enter the house at 10.45pm and on following them in found the landlord had refused to serve them and was ordering them out. The Chief Constable said he understood the prisoners were a great nuisance to publicans in Pleck. Smith had served twelve months for manslaughter and had other convictions. Hewlett has also been before the court. Prisoners were fined 10s and costs each.”

1911 Census

Wednesbury Road, Pleck

- [1] *John Dilks* (50), licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Eliza Dilks* (48), wife, married 31 years, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Horace Dilks* (23), son, miner, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Sally Dilks* (20), daughter, barmaid, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Minnie Dilks* (14), daughter, servant, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] *Frank Dilks* (8), son, school, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Edward Bond* (20), servant, barman, born Compton;
- [8] *Ambrose Dilks* (16), son, edge tool maker, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Advertiser 28/6/1913

“The annual meeting of the Walsall Football Club was held on Monday evening at the headquarters, HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck. The President (Mr. R. A. Coope MP) presided over a good attendance.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/11/1913

“An application for the transfer of the license of the HOPE AND ANCHOR HOTEL, Pleck, from *John Dilks* to *Thomas Lander* was granted at the Police Court on Tuesday.

Applicant stated the he was going to act as a colliery manager. His attendance at the annual licensing sessions was therefore excused.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/9/1914

“In granting the application of Mr. *Lander*, the HOPE AND ANCHOR HOTEL, Pleck, for an occasional license for the Walsall Football Club for today's match with Willenhall Pickwick, Dr. G. A. Phillips, the Chairman of Magistrates at the Guildhall yesterday (Friday) morning, said that the bench had no wish to interfere with any legitimate sport, but they thought that at a time like the present a great deal of notice had been called to drunkenness in the town, especially due to treating young fellows who had joined the ranks, and they wanted to put that down as much as possible. At a time when money was wanted and there was so much distress, these fellows were being treated by their friends.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck, Walsall, 12s.”

Walsall Observer 24/3/1917 - Advert

“National Service. To All Men between 18 and 61 years of age.
If You Believe. That this war is not being run for your personal advantage; or That your ease and comfort are not of more importance than the winning of the War; or That the cause of Freedom is worthy of some sacrifice on your part, as well as on the part of men on the field. Then Enrol To-Day.
Public Meetings Will be held as follows, at Eight o’clock.
Monday, March 26th – WHITE LION, Little London. Chairman – Councillor Enoch Evans.
Tuesday, March 27th – HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck Road. Chairman – Councillor Joseph Thickett.
Wednesday, March 28th – Tantarra Street Schools. Chairman – Dr. F. Sydenham.
Thursday, March 29th – Mass Meeting In Town Hall.
Speakers – Sir S. A. Cooper, Bart, MP (Assistant Director of Enrolment), Mr. Barnett Kenyon, MP, Chesterfield Division, Mr. F. T. Cozens (Sub Commissioner of National Service). Chairman – His Worship the Mayor.
Musical Programme arranged by Councillor E. H. Ingram, and Organ Recital by Mr. T. W. North.
Questions are invited at each meeting. Come and ask. Everyone should Enrol.
Make the Voluntary System a Success This Time.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck. £3 6s 10d.”

Frederick Gumbley – see also SWAN WITH TWO NECKS.

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“The 1925 Survey indicated a stable with a loft and a public urinal opening onto Oxford Street, the Public Bar was 34’ by 13’3” by 11’ with three Smoke Rooms and a Billiard and Concert Room on the second floor.”

Birmingham Mail 26/1/1939

“Darts Teams Title. Fifth Round Draw for Lord Lonsdale Trophy.
The draw for some of the fifth round matches in the county section of *The People* National Darts Teams Championship has now take place. Matches must be played by February 11. The winning team in the county finals will take part in an area final, winners of which will play in the national contest at Earl’s Court, London, on May 27.....
Shropshire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire Section F.
HOPE AND ANCHOR HOTEL, Pleck, Walsall v Evereds Athletic and Social Club A, Smethwick.”

1939 Register

246a, Wednesbury Road

- [1] *Thomas Gore*, date of birth 9/2/1879, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Sarah J. Gore*, dob 16/9/1876, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Ethel (Tittley) (Brzozowski)*, dob 1/3/1921, bar general, single;
- [4] *Clara W. Cattel*, dob 26/3/1921, bar general, single;
- [5] *Charles Smith*, dob 6/6/1907, tile worker, married;
- [6] *Evelyn Smith*, dob 17/2/1911, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 5/10/1940

“Mr. *John ‘Jock’ Mackenzie*, of Wednesbury Road, a popular member of the Walsall football team twenty years ago, died with tragic suddenness yesterday morning. He had been on Home Guard duty at the gas works during the night, and appeared to be quite all right when he left his post about 6am. He walked home and entered the living room, but then apparently collapsed. Mrs. *Mackenzie*, who was in bed, heard a noise and called out but received no reply, and on coming downstairs she found her husband lying dead on the floor.

A native of Douglas, Lanarkshire, Mr. *Mackenzie*, who was aged 55, joined the Walsall Football Club in 1920, having previously played for Heart of Midlothian, Carlisle United, and Norwich City.
In the last war he served in Egypt with the R.G.A. When football was resumed he returned to Norwich and afterwards was signed by Walsall for what was to prove their last season in the Birmingham League. He was a sound fullback, and played many good games that season, but he was, of course, getting past his best and his career came to an end the following season, when he made only a few appearances for Walsall in the northern section of the Third Division.
On relinquishing the game. Mr. *Mackenzie* became a licensed victualler, and held in turn the licenses of the NEW STATION, Park Street, the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck, and the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street. Then, about eight years ago, he joined the staff at the gas works, where he became very popular with his fellow employees and continued his sporting activities

as a member of the bowling club. He is survived by Mrs. *Mackenzie* and one son (now serving with the Forces), with whom deep sympathy will be expressed in the bereavement which has so suddenly befallen them.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
HOPE AND ANCHOR, Wednesbury Road, Pleck. £8 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

HOPE & ANCHOR, Wednesbury Road. £1 16s 10d.”

Walsall Observer 7/7/1945

“The Pleck and District Darts league is headed by the FORGE INN ‘A’ who have won all their seven matches. The next three positions are filled by the NEWPORT ARMS, HOPE AND ANCHOR ‘A’ and ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, with 12 points each, then come the DUKE OF WELLINGTON and ROYAL OAK, Pleck. Highest score and highest finish, 146, J. Bullock, HOPE AND ANCHOR ‘B’; highest start, 140, S. Hogan, WINDMILL TAVERN.”

Harold Cooper married Nancy Thomas.

See also PRETTY BRICKS.

Harry Dobson – see also SPREAD EAGLE.

George Edwarsd Morris – see also GREEN MAN, PRESIDENT LINCOLN, STARTING GATE, SIR CHARLES NAPIER, and CROWN AND CUSHION.

Philip Brian Cross – see also STARTING GATE.

Pauline Olive Sylvia McAllister – see also SIR CHARLES NAPIER.

It was refurbished internally in 1983.

[1983]

Closed

It was renamed RAFFLES. [1999]

[2007]

It was closed and converted into a restaurant, called Village Spice. [2010]

HORSE AND JOCKEY

84, Bloxwich Road / Leckie Road, (Stafford Road), WALSALL

OWNERS

John Holmes, The Stores, Stafford Street, Walsall

Andrew Holmes

William George Williams

John Williams

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1920]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1982], [1984]

LICENSEES

George Chappell [1841] – [1842]

Thomas Tomkins [1849] – [1850]

William Plant [1851]

Francis Baynton (1856 – []
Henry Poyner [1858]
Francis Poyner [] – 1858);
George Shaw (1858 – []
Simeon Vaughan [1860] – [1861]
Mrs. Hannah Vann [1861] – [1873];
John Holmes [];
Simeon Nicholls [1876] – 1887);
John Williams (1887 – 1924);
William Lane [1891] – [1912] manager?
Annie Williams (1924 – 1929);
William Wilcox (1929 – 1933);
Thomas Henry Atkins (1933 – 1950);
Fred Willis (1950 – 1957);
William Thomas Ernest Gray (1957 – 1958);
Anthony Cyril Curtis (1958 – 1959);
Henry George Edward Mason (1959 – 1960);
Harold George Flewins (1960 – 1962);
Dennis Gray (1962);
George Henry Teale (1962 – 1964);
Evan Thomas Evans (1964 – 1965);
Thomas Arthur Coney (1965 – 1966);
Stanley John Silvester (1966);
Frederick John Wall (1966 – []
James Harold Gardiner [c.1980]

NOTES

Stafford Road [1849], [1858], [1862], [1881]

[1813]

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/7/1856

“On Thursday evening, a respectable and numerous party partook of an excellent dinner at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road, Walsall, which was recently taken by Mr. *Francis Baynton*, of the SHAKESPEARE INN, High Street. Mr. J. Smith, of Dudley presided; and Mr. H. Farrington, auctioneer, occupied the vice-chair. The dinner gave very good promise of the entertainment Mr. *Baynton* would afford to his patrons, and a very pleasant evening was spent.”

Birmingham Journal 7/2/1857

“About six o’clock on Saturday evening a fatal accident occurred to a butty collier named Isaac Thornton, aged fifty years, an inhabitant of Bloxwich, near the HORSE AND JOCKEY public house. Deceased’s wife had been to the office of his employer, Mr. Harrison, of Brownhills, to obtain money wherewith to pay his workmen their wages, and met her husband at the WATER-LOO TAVERN, in Marsh Lane. They afterwards visited other public houses, and were proceeding homewards when they went into the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road. Deceased called for something to drink, but did not partake, and soon after he and his wife quitted the house. They had proceeded only a few yards when deceased’s foot accidentally slipped, and he fell from the causeway into the road. A butcher, named William Goodwin, was driving a heavily laden cart towards Bloxwich, and being unable, in consequence of the extreme darkness, to see far before him, he drove over deceased, injuring him very severely. In perceiving what had happened he stopped his cart, and conveyed Thornton back to the HORSE AND JOCKEY. He then went for a surgeon, but before such assistance could be obtained life was extinct. An inquest was subsequently held on the body before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Coroner, when a verdict was returned of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Free Press 31/10/1857

“To Be Sold by Auction, By H. Farrington, at the house of Mr. *Poyner*, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Bloxwich Road, on Monday, the 2nd day of November, 1857.....

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/1/1858

“An attempt at robbery of a most daring character was perpetrated at the house of Mr. *Henry Poyner*, the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Bloxwich Road, on Tuesday night. The landlord having closed his house earlier than usual, went to bed about nine o’clock. The rest of the household having retired also at the same time, about half an hour afterwards *Poyner* was suddenly aroused by a noise in his bed room, when he started up and discovered a man at the bottom of his bed, endeavouring to light a lantern. He made an alarm, when the burglar immediately leapt through the room window, a distance of 12 feet from the ground. After his departure, the landlord found his watch had been removed from its ordinary locality and placed at the bottom of the bed. There is no doubt the burglar was surprised to find the chamber occupied by anybody but himself at so early an hour in the

evening. A ladder was afterwards discovered lying under the window.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/1/1858 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that old-established House, the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Bloxwich Road, Walsall, situated in the midst of mines and ironworks, now doing an excellent business. The proprietor is obligated to leave on account of other engagements.

For particulars apply on premises.”

Walsall Free Press 27/3/1858 - Advert

“Peremptory Sale at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road, Walsall.

By H. Farrington, of all the useful Household Furniture, and excellent 4-pull beer machine, liquor fountain, bagatelle board, tables, benches, excellent copper furnace (about 160 gallons), four ale vats and piping, mash tubs, twenty-six excellent ale casks, about 450 gallons of prime fresh ale, porter, and bitter beer, Kent hops, and a variety of other effects, the property of Mr. *Poyner*, who is leaving the above Inn, and will be sold by Auction, without reserve, on Wednesday Next, 31st day of March, 1858. Sale to commence at half-past ten, subject to the usual conditions.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/1/1860

“To be shot, at the house of Mr. *S. Vaughan*, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Bloxwich Road, two miles from Walsall, Staffordshire, on Monday, Jan 9, a superior dog trap, value £15, by 30 members at 10s each; the putter up to spend £3 and the winner £2. To shoot at 3 or 5 birds each; guns $\frac{3}{4}$ in bore, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz shot, 21 yards rise; double gun 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz shot, 19 yard rise, 60 yards boundary. The best blue rocks provided by Mr. Badhams for this occasion. Shooting to commence at one o'clock, dinner after. Sweepstakes afterwards.”

Walsall Free Press 9/6/1860

“Phoebe Bullock, charged with having, on Saturday last, stolen eight towels, the property of her master, *Simeon Vaughan*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY public house, Bloxwich Road, was discharged, as the prosecutor failed to appear.”

1861 Census

Bloxwich Road – HORSE AND JOCKEY

- [1] *Hannah Vann* (53), victualler, born Gornall;
- [2] William Vann (24), son, forgerman, born Lanesfield;
- [3] Catherine Vann (22), daughter, born Lanesfield;
- [4] Sarah Vann (20), daughter, born Lanesfield;
- [5] James Vann (18), son, forgerman, born Lanesfield;
- [6] Benjamin Vann (13), son, born Lanesfield:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/12/1865

“On Sunday night, a fowl pen, belonging to Mrs. *Vann*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Bloxwich Road, was broken into, and eight fowls stolen therefrom.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/8/1869 - Notice

“Stolen or Strayed, from a Field opposite the HORSE AND JOCKEY Public-house, Bloxwich Road, Walsall, on Thursday night or Friday morning last, July 29th or 30th, a Black Mare, about 14 hands high, has four white feet and a star on forehead, also a collar mark on left shoulder, and walks rather lame. Any person giving such information as shall lead to the recovery of the same, shall be well rewarded; anyone found detaining her after this notice will be prosecuted.

Information to be given to Mr. Isaiah Embray, Coal Drawer, corner of James Street, Ryecroft.”

1871 Census

Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Hannah Vann* (65), widow, innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Catherine Vann (30), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Vann (28), daughter, born Sedgley:

Midland Counties Evening Express 22/2/1875

“On Saturday night, John Corbett, alias ‘Hampton Jack’, a miner living in Vicarage Terrace, was killed under mysterious circumstances. It would seem that shortly before eleven o'clock, he left the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Bloxwich Road, where he had been drinking, to his lodgings, close by, to his supper. After the meal, he again left the house, and the landlord and landlady, Mr. and Mrs. Davis, being in bed, asked a fellow lodger, named Freeth, not to ‘make’ (or fasten) the door, as he should not be away five minutes. In less than that time, according to one account, or from ten to fifteen minutes, according to another, he rushed back into the house bleeding freely from a wound on the left side of the neck, and crying out ‘Oh, landlady, oh landlady, I am stabbed’. Mrs. Davis, who had been confined only about a week, at once jumped out of bed, hurried on some of her clothes, and ran downstairs, by which time the deceased had gone to the door of the next house, and returned into his own. Mrs. Davis supplied him with some rag, which he applied to the wound, and in answer to her repeated enquiries as to who had ‘done it’, he murmured something about ‘by the HORSE AND JOCKEY’. He also said, with some difficulty, ‘Send for a doctor – I am

dying'; but before anything could be done to give effect to his wish, he gave a couple of gasps and expired, from loss of blood, which had been pouring from the wound in his neck all the time so copiously to have completely covered the floor of the room. The borough police were at once informed of the tragic occurrence, which naturally caused intense and painful excitement in the neighbourhood; and Acting-sergeant Salt and Detective-sergeant Drury immediately repaired to the spot, being soon afterwards followed by Chief Superintendent Cater. Nothing could be discovered, however, to indicate who gave the unfortunate deceased the death wound; or under what circumstances it had been inflicted. Traces of a scuffle were found close to the footpath on the side of the road farthest from the bye-road in which the Vicarage Terrace is situate, and a few yards further up the road, towards Bloxwich; but the residents on the other side of the road had heard no altercation or unusual noise. That this was the spot where the deceased was stabbed is, however, pretty certain, for, in addition to the traces of a scuffle, there was much blood on the ground there. Marks of blood were also traceable from this spot along the road to Pratt's Bridge, some considerable distance farther on, towards Bloxwich, which would seem to show that Corbett's assailant must have received some severe injury. If so, it may have been accidentally self-inflicted in using an edged weapon against the deceased himself, who is reported to have been given to interference with others; but it may have been caused by a third person, the deceased merely interfering in a quarrel not his own, and getting more of the proverbial ill-fortune of those who 'in quarrels interpose'. Whatever is the solution of this feature of the case, however, there is little doubt that where the scuffle took place there the deceased was stabbed. The wound, which, as already stated, is on the left side of the neck, is about an inch in length, cutting into the jugular vein, and having a downward direction. The deceased is believed to have been about 37 years of age, and to have come from Tipton, and it is stated that, at the time of this occurrence, he is sober. The spot where it is presumed he was stabbed was just within the municipal borough; but the dwelling where the body now lies is just within the parish of Rushall. Consequently, the enquiry will be held by the county coroner, Mr. Hooper. Sergeant Arnold and Police-constable Williams, of the county police, have joined the borough police in the search for the supposed assassin, but, up to last night, their efforts had not been attended with success."

AND

"At the Walsall petty sessions, this morning, John Stokes, boiler maker, of Goscote, was brought up before the Mayor and S. Stephens Esq, charged, on his own confession, with having stabbed John Corbett, miner, near the HORSE AND JOCKEY, on Stafford Road, on Saturday night.

The Chief Superintendent said that prisoner was charged 'on his voluntary confession, and surrendering himself to the police, that on the 20th February, he did cut and wound a man, unknown to him, near to the HORSE AND JOCKEY, on the Bloxwich road' Prisoner was then remanded."

Midland Counties Evening Express 2/3/1875

"Yesterday afternoon, the adjourned inquest upon the body of John Corbett, alias Bridgewater, was held in the Mission Room, Ryecroft, kindly lent for the purpose by the Rev. F. G. Liddlecote, vicar of Rushall. The Coroner in addressing the jury, said You are aware that this inquest was adjourned for the purpose of obtaining the medical and other evidence since their last meeting, as most of them were probably aware, a man had given himself up and he proposed, with the sanction of the gentleman who appeared for the accused – if it was agreeable to the jury – to read over to each witness the deposition taken before the magistrates, and then any of the jury or the gentleman who appeared for the accused might put any question they thought proper. By adopting this course the proceedings would be very much shortened. This course having been agreed to, the various witnesses had been called and their depositions read over, and sworn to as correct.

The Coroner then briefly summed up, and reminded the jury that it was their duty to find how and by what means the deceased came to his death.

Some of the jury having expressed a wish to hear the accused, John Stokes was called, and having been duly cautioned, said: I was going from Walsall to Goscote. As I was going past the HORSE AND JOCKEY four men attacked me. I did not know whether they were drunk or acting it. They came up and pushed against me. I said, 'What are you doing that for, mate? Drop that.' I was going a little further, when one of them said, 'What do you say?' and they rushed at me, and I ran away about a hundred yards towards Walsall, when they caught me, and three of them knocked me down, and either took or knocked my billycock off. I ran away, and they called out, 'Stop the —— and we will give him something.' I took out my knife, and said, 'If you stop me, I will give you this.' The man rushed at me, and I struck him with the knife. We had a struggle and I ran away.

The jury then retired, and after a consultation of about half an hour, returned a verdict of Homicide by Misadventure – namely, that the deceased died from the effects of a wound inflicted by John Stokes, and that the said John Stokes inflicted the wound in self defence."

1881 Census

94, Stafford Road – HORSE AND JOCKEY

- [1] Simeon Nicholls (43), licensed victualler, born Princes End;
- [2] Sarah Nicholls (37), wife, born Liverpool;
- [3] Ada Nicholls (15), daughter, barmaid, born Princes End;
- [4] Bertha Nicholls (14), daughter, teacher, born Princes End;
- [5] Ida Nicholls (12), daughter, scholar, born Princes End;
- [6] James Nicholls (10), son, scholar, born Princes End;
- [7] Lydia Nicholls (9), daughter, scholar, born Castle Bromwich;
- [8] Martha Nicholls (8), daughter, scholar, born Castle Bromwich;
- [9] Alice Nicholls (6), daughter, scholar, born Castle Bromwich;
- [10] Florence Nicholls (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [11] Simeon Nicholls (7 weeks), son, born Walsall;

[12] Sarah Jones (27), domestic servant, born Tipton;

[13] Rebecca Round (13), nurse, born Bilston:

London Gazette 23/10/1883

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Simeon Nicholls*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Bloxwich-road, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the office of Messrs. Wilkinson, Gillespie, and Wilkinson, Solicitors, 63, Bridge-street, Walsall aforesaid, on the 6th day of November, 1883, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 20th day of October, 1883.

Wilkinson, Gillespie, and Wilkinson, 63, Bridge-street, Walsall, Solicitors for the said Debtor.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/11/1886

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Simeon Nicholls*, the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road, was on the evidence of Police-constables Skidmore and Cross, convicted with having his house open for the sale of liquors on the 7th inst, at half-past four in the afternoon, and was fined 10s and costs.

William Taylor and Robert Horsley, two men who were in the house, were fined 5s and costs each.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/3/1887

“Bankruptcy Proceedings.

Re *Simeon Nicholls*, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Bloxwich Road, Walsall.

At the Walsall Bankruptcy Court, yesterday – before Mr. Deputy Registrar F. R. Clarke – this debtor appeared for his public examination, Mr. E. Evans attending on his behalf.

The statement of affairs showed liabilities £227 5s 7d, £132 4s 5d of which was expected to rank for dividend, and assets £81 18s 10d (after deducting preferential payments to the amount of £95 1s 2d), leaving a deficiency of £50 5s 7d. The bankrupt commenced business in 1870, at the Coach and Horses, Castle Bromwich, with a capital of £100, in partnership with his brother James, who withdrew in the same year, leaving £200 in the concern. Of that £50 had been repaid to him, and the other part had not been claimed. In December 1875, the bankrupt took the HORSE AND JOCKEY, and in April of the following year he gave up the Coach and Horses, afterwards keeping on the HORSE AND JOCKEY only. The landlord had distrained for £81 5s rent due, but the effects were not expected to realise that sum. For two years the bankrupt had been endeavouring to get rid of the business, but had not been able to find a customer for it. He gave bad trade, heavy rental, and large family as the causes of his failure.

The examination was adjourned till the 23rd inst to close.”

Walsall Observer 24/9/1887

“Walsall Licensing Sessions

The adjourned annual licensing meeting was held yesterday, at the Sessions Court.

Applications which had been adjourned owing to the tenants having been convicted during the past year.

The following were granted.

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road.”

1891 Census

84, Bloxwich Road – HORSE AND JOCKEY

[1] *William Lane* (39), licensed victualler, born Ettingshall;

[2] *Harriet S. Lane* (41), wife, born Wednesfield;

[3] *Mary Jane Lane* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Sarah Lane* (11), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[5] *Mary Lane* (75), mother in law, widow, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1898

“Application was made by Mr. F. Bill, on behalf of John Kane, beerhouse keeper, 135, Bloxwich Road, for sanction to the removal of a license from Church Hill to 135, Bloxwich Road, or, in the alternative, to sell beer, cider, and perry to be consumed off the premises at Bloxwich Road. Mr. W. H. Duignan opposed on behalf of *John Williams*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY. A beer-off license on the new site was granted in place of the old license.”

Wednesbury Herald 16/12/1911

“*William Lane*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Bloxwich Road, Walsall, was charged with drunkenness.

Police-constable Grindley said that at 7.30 on Sunday night he saw three men carrying the defendant off the tram lines on to a piece of waste ground in the Walsall Road, Kings Hill. Witness went to them, and found that the defendant was drunk. They afterwards carried defendant to the Darlaston Police Station, where he was locked up.

Replying to the Bench, witness said the defendant was in danger of being run over at the time.

Mr. Powell (presiding magistrate) said they were surprised to find defendant, who held a license, in such a helpless condition.

Defendant (interrupting): I was helpless.

Mr. Powell: You will be fined 10s and costs, with the alternative of fourteen days. We certainly feel that it is a case that should be dealt with, when you ought to help people in order rather than set a bad example.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich, £1 7s 5d.”

Walsall Observer 27/1/1917 - Notice

“Walsall War Agricultural Committee.

A Public Meeting under the joint auspices of the North Walsall Allotments Society and the Walsall War Agricultural Committee, on Saturday, 27th January, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY HOTEL, Bloxwich Road, at 7.30.

Chairman: Alfred Ashwell, Esq, supported by members of the town Council and of the War Agricultural Committee.”

William Wilcox = William Wilson

Demolished

Rebuilt

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

W. Butler and Co. Ltd., Springfield Brewery, were summoned in respect of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road; KING GEORGE V, Wallows Lane, DILKE ARMS, Aldridge; The HARDEN, Harden Road; and VINE INN, Lower Hall Street; and the managers, *Thomas Henry Atkins*, Kenneth Dawes, Harry Harvey, Leonard Charles Lampitt, and Edwin George White, for aiding and abetting. Mr. Cooper said this brewery company also had given specific instructions to their managers, and Mr. Hodgkinson emphasised that the managers’ offences were purely of a technical character and that if they had applied for permits for extra supplies they would have got them.

Dawes and Hawkes were fined £2 each, the other managers £1 each, and the brewery 10s in each case.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

HORSE & JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road. £2 6s 8d.”

Henry George Edward Mason – see also LORD RAGLAN, and HORSE AND JOCKEY.

Dennis Gray – see also NEWPORT ARMS.

Stanley John Silvester – see also FOUNTAIN.

London Gazette 17/4/1980

“*Gardiner, James Harold*, Tool Setter formerly residing, and carrying on business as a Tenant Publican at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road Date fixed for Hearing 25th June 1980.....”

[1984]

[2017]

HORSE AND JOCKEY

76, (75), Green Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Ashley

Ferdinand Eglington, Park Street, Walsall

Mrs. F. Eglington, 56, Lichfield Street, Walsall

Edward Egan, DUN COW, Walsall [1909]

LICENSEES

Edward Ashley [1858] – [1861]
Phineas Giles Clarke [1862] – **1866**)
Joseph Letts [1868] – [1881];
Thomas Bowcutt [];
John Darby [1885] – **1891**);
Thomas Connor (**1891 – 1892**);
John McGarry (**1892 – 1897**);
John McGarry (**1897 – 1899**);
Job Lytton (**1899**);
William Gough (**1899 – 1901**);
John ‘Jack’ Taggart (**1901 – 1905**);
Edward Egan (**1905 – 1906**);
John Littler (**1906 – [1909]**)

NOTES

76, Green Lane [1861], [1871], [1891], [1901]
75, Green Lane [1881]

It was originally the BREWERS ARMS [1861]

It had a beerhouse license.

E. Ashley, beerhouse, 76, Green Lane. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 9/6/1860

“*Edward Ashley*, beerhouse keeper, Green Lane, was charged by police-constable Seys with having had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours, on the morning of Monday last. The officer said, while on duty he saw three men go to defendant’s door, at twenty minutes to three on the morning in question, and knock at the door, which was opened to them, and on their being admitted the door was shut, and they were let out the back door. At five minutes to three he saw the same three men who each time had a large stone jar with them, go into the house a second time. At ten minutes past three he visited the house, and finding the door fast he got over the wall at the back, and opened the door to his brother officer, police-constable Barnes, who accompanied him into the house, where they found the men sitting in the kitchen, and the landlord in the cellar. Seys asked him to account for the men being in the house, whereupon he said they had got over the wall. Mr. Ebsworth addressed the Bench on behalf of the defendant, whom he said had been up all that morning brewing, and not for the purpose of selling beer. As no beer was seen by the police when they visited, the case was dismissed.”

1861 Census

76, Green Lane – BREWERS ARMS
[1] *Edward Ashley* (30), publican, born Birmingham;
[2] *Mary Ashley* (26), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Harry Ashley* (5), son, born Walsall;
[4] *Charles Ashley* (3), son, born Walsall;
[5] *Jane Falkner* (16), general servant, born Walsall:

Phineas J. Clarke, retailer of beer, 76, Green Lane. [1862]

P. G. Clarke, beer retailer, 76, Green Lane. [1865]

It later became known as the CRICKET BALL. [1866]

Birmingham Journal 19/5/1866 - Advert

“A Capita Beerhouse at Walsall.
To be Disposed of, The CRICKET BALL TAVERN, in a good situation, and doing a good trade. Coming-in about £110. Rent £18.
Apply to T. Carter, 8, Union Street, Birmingham.”

London Gazette 17/7/1866

“*Phineas Giles Clarke*, for ten weeks last past lodging at the house of Luke Fletcher, in the parish of Linton, in the county of

Derby, out of business, and for four years immediately previously residing and carrying on business at the CRICKET BALL, Green-lane, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Retail Brewer, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 19th day of June, 1866, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination, and make application for his Discharge, will he held at the said Court, at Goodall Street, Walsall, on the 28th day of July instant, at ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Frederick Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Messrs. Powell and Son, of Birmingham, are the Solicitors acting in the bankruptcy.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/11/1866

“At the County Court, on Saturday, A. M. Skinner, Esq, Judge, presiding, the following bankruptcy cases were dealt with..... *Phineas Clarke*, Publican, Walsall. This bankrupt failing to appear, his final examination was adjourned sine die.....”

Walsall Free Press 16/2/1867

“In re *Phineas Giles Clark*, formerly landlord of the CRICKET BALL beerhouse, Green Lane. The bankrupt’s petition was supported by Mr. Dale, and Mr. Mathews appeared for the assignees; but, as he had offered no opposition, the bankrupt passed his final examination.”

Joseph Letts, beer retailer, 76, Green Lane. [1868], [1870], [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/7/1868

“*Joseph Letts*, beerhouse keeper, Green Lane, was fined 2s 6d and costs, for keeping his house open during prohibited hours.”

1871 Census

76, Green Lane – HORSE AND JOCKEY

- [1] *Joseph Letts* (30), baker, born Alrewas;
- [2] Ann Letts (31), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah A. Letts (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Emma Letts (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Benjamin Letts (1), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Harriet Talbie (?) (14), domestic servant, born Brownhills:

Walsall Free Press 29/4/1873 - Advert

“Wanted, a Servant Girl, aged 15 to 16; one from the country preferred. Apply, Mr. *Letts*, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane.”

1881 Census

75, Green Lane – HORSE AND JOCKEY

- [1] *Joseph Letts* (41), baker, born Alrewas;
- [2] Ann Letts (41), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Emma Letts (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Benjamin Letts (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Harry Letts (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Letts (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] William Letts (3), son, born Walsall;
- [8] Joseph Letts (5 months), son, born Walsall;
- [9] Annie Hill (19), general servant, born Walsall:

Joseph Letts – see also BIRCHILLS TAVERN.

Midland Counties Evening Express 21/4/1884

“Daniel Loyden, Green Lane, was charged with having assaulted Sarah Durkin, Short Acre; and she and Jane Joyce, Green Lane, Mary Higgins, Long Acre, Anne Moreton, otherwise Lyons; and Sarah Durkin, Short Acre, were charged with being drunk and disorderly.

The evidence was to the effect that shortly before eleven o'clock on Tuesday night a quarrel began between some of the parties in the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, and an adjournment to the street having taken place, Loyden beat and kicked Sarah Durkin most brutally. Sergeant Wright arrived at the scene and parted them, and whilst he was so engaged, Moreton and Higgins began to fight on one side of the road, and Durkin and Joyce on the other.

Loyden, against whom there were 13 previous convictions, was sentenced to two months imprisonment with hard labour, and Joyce against whom there were 4, Higgins against whom there was one, Moreton against whom there were 28, and Durkin against whom there were 12 convictions, were fined 20s and costs each.”

Walsall Observer 23/5/1885

“A New Cork Lodge. On Tuesday evening last a new lodge of this order, being No.322, was opened at Bro. *J. Darby*’s, the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane.

The ceremony was performed by Bro. J. H. Allsop, Dudley Street, and 14 members were initiated. Bro. Hanley, captain of the lodge, briefly addressed those present on the opening of the lodge and its provision of success.”

John Darby, was fined 40s and costs and his license was endorsed, on 27th July 1888, for opening on Sunday.

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1888

“A the annual licensing sessions, yesterday.....

The applications for renewal of licenses on the part of twenty persons whose names were on the black list were adjourned till the adjourned licensing day; and the applications of the following were also adjourned, the Chief Constable opposing on the ground of the unsuitability of the premises for licensed houses, bad management, or the house being unnecessary, viz *John Darby*, the HORSE AND JOCKEY.”

1891 Census

76, Green Lane

- [1] *Thomas Connor* (32), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ellen Connor* (27), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ellen Connor* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Connor* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Thomas Connor* (2), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Cecily Connor* (3 months), daughter, born Walsall:

John McGarry = John Magarry = John McGarvey

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The Chief-constable then gave formal notice that he intended to oppose the renewal of the following licenses.....

The HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane, kept by *John McGarvey*, for the same reason [the licensee was not the real owner and occupier].”

Walsall Observer 1/10/1892

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday.....

Mr. Gillespie applied for the renewal of the license of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane, kept by *John McGarry*.

The Chief-constable said his objection in this case was raised in order to ensure that the holder of the license should be a bona-fide tenant, and not a manager. He was now perfectly satisfied on this point and did not press his opposition Renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1893

“A meeting of the Watch Committee followed that of the Town Council.....

Chief Constables Report. Gentlemen, In accordance with the instructions issued by you at the last monthly meeting, I beg to report with respect to the numbers of ex-police officers on the pension fund as follows.....

Ex-sergeant *McGarry*, who was pensioned at £54 12s per annum, is now the keeper of a beerhouse in this town known as the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane. He claimed his pensions under the Police Act 1880 having completed upwards of 26 years service.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/5/1894

“Conservative League Jottings.....

“Pratt Lodge. A meeting of this lodge was held at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, on Thursday night, Bro. Adkins, W.M., presiding. After routine business Mr. W. P. Banks delivered an interesting address on the ‘Policy of Government.’ The address was listened to with great attention, and a hearty vote of thanks accorded to Mr. Banks, on the motion of Bro. Millington. Bros. Brookes and Frankham (Sydney George Lodge) also made a few remarks. It is proposed that the next and future meetings be held at the WHITE LION, Birchills. Next meeting Monday, May 21st.”

John McGarry, beer retailer, 76, Green Lane. [1896]

Walsall Observer 12/5/1900

“Bridget Durkin, of Hollyhedge Lane, and Mary Gough, of Green Lane, were charged with being disorderly and refusing to quit (1) the HORSE AND JOCKEY, kept by *William Gough*, and (2) the VINE INN, kept by Martin Sweeney.

Mr. Wright (Messrs. Fowler, Langley, and Wright, Wolverhampton) appeared to prosecute, and the facts of the case were that on May 5th the women went into the VINE INN, Blue Lane, where they had 3 half pints of ale and 3 bottles of ginger beer. They were in for some time, and began to quarrel with another woman, and commenced setting about her. When the landlord interfered they refused to leave, and Durkin was scooping jugs and glasses off the tables and throwing them into the fireplace. Eventually they were ejected by Police-constable Reddick (45) [His station number?], who agreed that the women were not drunk.

The women then went to the HORSE AND JOCKEY, where they again made a disturbance.

Evidence having been given, they were each fined 5s and costs, or 10 days.”

Walsall Observer 15/9/1900

“Mary Gough, Green Lane, was summoned for being disorderly on licensed premises and with refusing to quit the HORSE AND JOCKEY. *William Gough*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, said that last Saturday, at about 9.20 o’clock, the defendant came into his house, and he told her to go out because she had too much to drink before. She refused to go, and used foul language, and he had to send for the police.

Police-constable Reddick (45) [His station number?] said that he was called to the HORSE AND JOCKEY, and found the defendant there quarrelling and bleeding from the nose. Witness ejected her.

Defendant pleaded guilty, and said that a man struck her and made her nose bleed, and after that she was naturally a bit disorderly. The magistrates dismissed the case.”

1901 Census

76, Green Lane

[1] *William Gough* (62), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] Elizabeth Gough (71), wife, born Lane Head:

William Gough – see also BRITISH OAK, John Street and LORD RAGLAN.

John Taggart, beer retailer, 76, Green Lane. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

John Taggart, HORSE AND JOCKEY.....

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane. The reason for calling upon ‘*Jack*’ *Taggart*, as he is popularly known – a former prominent member of Walsall Football Club and an Irish International Association player – as host of the above house, was that the visiting magistrates found that painting, papering, &c, required to be done, and on behalf of the licensee Mr. Jackson undertook that what was required should be done before the adjourned licensing meeting.

On these conditions the license was renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

On behalf of the owner (Mr. *Egan*) of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane, Mr. J. F. Addison (Addison and Cooper) applied for leave for alterations which he said were somewhat extensive, but simple. At present on the ground floor were three rooms, a bar, a tap room with a passage between, and a smoke room at the back, as well as a sitting room. It was proposed to transpose the smoke room and the sitting room, so that the sitting room might communicate with the kitchen. Also to make such alteration so that the landlord could have proper supervision over the whole of the drinking area on the ground floor. The landlord intended to make it a home brewed house and erect a brewery in the yard, and he would take down a portion of a cottage in the yard to make an approach to the brewery. There would be actually a decrease of 15ft or 16ft in the drinking area. The object was to increase the means of supervision, and in every way improve the character of the house.

Mr. Hickton submitted the plans.

The Chief Constable said he saw no objection.

Mr. J. Moseley: Are you satisfied that this is a real resident tenant? – Chief Constable: I have made inquiry about that. There is no doubt about it.

In answer to Mr. Loxton, the Chief Constable said there was a home brewed house opposite the GOLDEN EAGLE.

After the Bench had adjourned to consider these applications, Mr. Loxton asked with regard to the HORSE AND JOCKEY whether the occupier was the real resident holder and occupier. The Chief Constable said he was.....

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had adjourned all the plans, and proposed to visit the houses next Wednesday. They would be glad if the architects would accompany them.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1906

“Yesterday the adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall.....

Several applications for the approval of plans for alterations, had been deferred from the annual licensing meeting for the magistrates to visit the premises. The Bench decided as under.....

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane, disapproved.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 3rd February 1909.

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1909

“The Licensing Act, 1904. Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, 1909, at 11 o’clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

The HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane, Beerhouse. Licensee, *John Littler*.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The principal meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, when eight beer-houses and one ale-house, the licenses of which had been referred by the licensing justices, were dealt with, and in each instance the houses were referred for compensation, which means in due course the houses will close.....

In the case of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, in Green Lane, Mr. Jackson appeared for the owners, the trustees of *Edward Egan* – Rev. Father Delaney and Martin Egan – and also for the tenant (*John Littler*).

After the evidence of Inspector Ballance given at a previous court had been affirmed, Mr. Jackson said he could only point out to them that the only person interested in the property was Miss *Egan*, who received the house as a gift from her late father as part of her share under his will, and to her the renewal of the license was serious matter, inasmuch as she was now in receipt of rather more than £50 from it in the shape of rent, etc. As to the tenant, his weekly takings were about £18 or £19, so that he was doing a good trade, and, under the circumstances, if the bench did decide to take the license away, the compensation would be considerable.....

The Bench having heard each case separately retired to consider their decision. In returning, the Mayor intimated that the renewals authority report would be adopted, and all the houses referred for compensation.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1909

“A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall, on Thursday, Sir Edward T. Holden presiding over a full Bench of Magistrates.....

Other cases concerned the SARACENS HEAD, Stafford Street (Mr. H. H. Jackson appearing for Messrs. Trueman, Buxton, Hanbury and Co, the owners, and for the tenant, Mr. E. Egan), and the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane (in which Mr. H. H. Jackson represented the trustees of the late *Edward Egan*, the owners, and the tenant.....

The Magistrates decided to hold a further private sitting to go into the question of figures with the solicitors.

The decisions will be announced at a later date.”

It closed.

[1911]?

HORSE AND JOCKEY

Lichfield Road, (146, Walsall Road), Shelfield, Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

City Brewery Company Ltd, Lichfield [1903], [1913]

LICENSEES

John Stokes [1813] – 1829)

Sarah Stokes []

John Cooper [1841] – 1849)

Ann Cooper [1857] – [1858]

Charles Taylor [1860] – 1872);

William Graves Clark (1872 – []

John Barnes Deakin [1891] – [1896]

Mrs. Cornforth [1896]

Benjamin Astbury [1896] – [1897]

Thomas Allen [1897] – 1911);

Joseph Gill (1911 – 1913);

Samuel Perry (1913 – []

Joseph Blakemore [1915] – [1940]

NOTES

Walsall Road [1891]
146, Walsall Road
Lichfield Road [1901]

OLD HORSE AND JOCKEY [1902]

John Stokes, victualler, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood. [1813]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 5/7/1824 - Advert

“To be Sold by private Contract, all those two Freehold Pieces of Land (upon which is a good Mine of Clay, of excellent quality), called the Rush Benches, containing by admeasurement 6a 3r or thereabouts, in the occupation of Mr. John Stokes, as yearly tenant, situate in Woodridden Lane, in the parish of Aldridge, contiguous to the Essington and Wyrley Canal. Mr. *John Stokes*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, near the said premises, will shew the Land; and for further particulars apply at the office of Mr. Hawkes, Solicitor, Cannon Street, Birmingham, or to Mr. William Bullock, West Bromwich.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 13/7/1829 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Meadow Land.

To be Sold by Auction, by J. Taylor, at the sign of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, on Monday, July 27, 1829, at four o'clock in the afternoon, all that Freehold Meadow, with the land-tax redeemed, called Ford Brook Meadow, adjoining the said Brook, leading from Shelfield to Pelsall, in the parish of Bloxwich, in the Foreign of Walsall, and county of Stafford, containing three Acres, be the same more or less.

This meadow may be floated at any time, being very near the Brook. The adjoining land having an excellent Mine of Coal, there is no doubt of a Mine being under the said meadow.

Mr. *John Stokes*, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, will appoint a person to shew the land, and for further particulars apply to Mr. J. Taylor, Auctioneer, Peel Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/9/1829 - Deaths

“On the 25th ult, Mr. *John Stokes*, farmer and publican, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, aged 63.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 21/3/1836 - Advert

“Sale Of Farming Stock And Furniture, at Walsall Wood, in the Foreign of Walsall, and County of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction, by John Taylor, on the premises of the late *Sarah Stokes*, Farmer and Publican, at the sign of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, on the Lichfield road side, three miles from Walsall on Monday the 28th day of March inst, two excellent waggon mares, 7 years old, and excellent hay mare, 5 years old, 18 hands high, steady in harness, a promising bay filly, rising 3 years, a young cow and calf, two cows near calving, four barren do in good condition, five porket pigs, and excellent two year old bull, waggon, two carts, ploughs, harrows, four winnowing machines, a variety of other implements, and a lot of potatoes.

The Furniture consists of bedsteads and hangings, with excellent feather beds, blankets and coverlets, and a variety of useful articles, and a large quantity of pewter.

The sale to commence at ten in the morning.

Printed particulars are in circulation, and may be had of the Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/6/1836 - Married

“On Wednesday last, at Aldridge, Mr. John Cooper, maltster, of Walsall, to Ann, youngest daughter of the late Mr. *John Stokes*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/1/1841 - Advert

“To Be let, and may be entered upon at lady-day next, a Small Farm, of 33 Acres of Land, with House, Barn, and suitable Out-buildings, in the parish of Aldridge, in the county of Stafford, contiguous to the Brick and Tile Works of Messrs. Brawn's at Walsall Wood.

The Proprietor has laid out recently a considerable sum in under-drainage, hedging, ditching, &c, it is in a most complete state of repair for occupation.

There is a good Mine of Clay and Sand upon the Estate, and a Brick-kiln might be opened to great advantage, a Canal running near it.

Apply on the premises; at Mr. *Cooper's*, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood; at Mr. Barnett's Anchor Inn, Aldridge; or Mr. F. Cooper, Factor, Wolverhampton, the proprietor.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/7/1849 - Deaths

“On Saturday last, Mr. *John Cooper*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood (formerly of Digbeth, Walsall), aged 56. A few weeks ago the deceased had the misfortune to fracture his thigh by a fall, which terminated fatally as above.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/11/1850 - Notice

“All Persons holding Cottages under the Right Honourable, the Earl of Bradford, at the following places within the Manor of

Walsall, in the county of Stafford, are requested to Pay their Rents as directed underneath:

Coal Heath, Shelfield, Green Lane, Iron Dish, Walsall Wood, Holly Bank, Shire Oaks, Pepper Alley, Paul's Coppice, Clayhanger, Catshill, Goblin's Pit, and High Heath, will be received at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, on Thursday, the 14th of November at ten o'clock.

Broadstone, Harden, Blakenall Heath, Bloxwich Lane, Little Bloxwich, Fistley, Wallington Heath, Short Heath, and Dead Man's Heath, will be received at the BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, on Friday, the 15th day of November, at ten o'clock.

Fullbrook, Walsall Towns End, Flaxoven, Blue Lane, Birchills Lane, Bloxwich Lane, Birchills, Park Brook, Wednesbury Road, the Pleck, and Bescote, will be received at the HORSE SHOES, at the Pleck, on Saturday, the 16th of November, at ten o'clock.

John Potter, Stewart of Walsall Manor.

Cross Street, Walsall 23rd October, 1850.

N.B. Attendance will be given from ten to three o'clock. No arrears will be allowed to remain outstanding after rent days."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/1/1857

"Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.

John Mellard, aged 27, miner, was indicted for stealing one horsecloth, the property of *Ann Cooper*, at Walsall. The prosecutrix Mrs. *Cooper*, is landlady of the HORSE AND JOCKEY public house, Walsall Wood. On the 31st of August last, a horsecloth marked '*A. Cooper, W.W.*' was missed from her stable. On the 16th of December, police constable William Price, acting on information received, went to prisoner's house at Walsall Wood Common (about a mile from Mrs. *Cooper's*), and upon a bed therein found the horsecloth in question. The prisoner's wife made an attempt to conceal it from him by rolling it in blankets on the bed and putting the bundle behind her. Price took possession of the cloth and asked her where they had had it from? The wife replied that she had found it near the spring in a neighbouring lane, and this statement was confirmed by her husband. Under the bed the officer discovered three of six straps which were attached to the cloth at the time of its being taken from Mrs. *Cooper's*. The prisoner was found guilty of receiving the cloth knowing it to have been stolen, and having been twice previously convicted of felony, he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour."

Walsall Free Press 10/9/1859 - Advert

"Sale At The OLD HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood.

George Bayley, had received instructions from Miss Sarah Taylor, who is discontinuing the Trade and leaving the Farm, to offer for sale on Monday, September 26th, 1859, the whole of the Live and Dead Farming Stock, Implements of Husbandry, Brewing Utensils, Fixtures and Household Furniture, on the premises as above.

Catalogues will appear."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/7/1860

"At the Petty Session, on Tuesday, before J. E. Bealey, Esq, and Rev. H. Chevasse, John Wenlock, shoemaker, Walsall Wood, was charged with passing counterfeit coin. In company with two females he visited the MINERS ARMS on the previous day, and in payment for three-penny worth of rum tendered a florin, which was at once seen to be counterfeit, was marked, and returned to him, and he paid for the spirits with a sixpence. Police-inspector Price was advised of the circumstances, and shortly afterwards, warning having been given in the direction that Wenlock took, the latter went into the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, asked for a pint of ale, tendering another counterfeit florin in payment, when Price apprehended him, finding in his possession coppers and small change. He was very violent. The women decamped. The magistrates remanded the prisoner to admit consent of the Mint authorities to the prosecution being obtained."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/1/1861 - Notice

"County Of Stafford. Weights And Measures. District C. or South Staffordshire.

Notice is Hereby Given that William Tullett, the Inspector of Weights and Measures.....

Will attend at the undermentioned Times and Places for the purpose of Comparing and Examining all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to him for that purpose, and Stamping such of them as shall be found correct, viz.....

At the HORSE AND JOCKEY, at Walsall Wood, on Tuesdays, January 15th, February 12th, and March 12th, at ten o'clock am.....

All persons residing in the said District, desirous of having their Weights and Measures Stamped, may bring or send them to any of the above places for adjustment, as shall be convenient; or to No.29, King-street, Wolverhampton, on any other than the days above appointed....."

1861 Census

Walsall Wood – HORSE AND JOCKEY

[1] *Charles Taylor* (42), inn keeper and farmer of 40 acres, born Rushall;

[2] *Mary Ann Taylor* (46), wife, born Longdon, Staffordshire;

[3] *Harriet Vigrass* (18), house servant, born Longdon, Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/10/1863

"A young woman who gave her name as *Mary Ann Smith*, of King's Norton, on Thursday, was charged before the Mayor and Mr. Thorneloe with stealing a shilling, five pawn tickets, a comb, a thimble, and other articles, value 30s, belong to the wife of *Henry Howard* a labourer, from a lodging house, kept by Mrs. *Derry*, in Greenhill. Prisoner had slept in another bed in the same room as *Howard* and his wife on Sunday night, and on Monday morning the articles were missing from Mrs. *Howard's* pocket, and the prisoner had left the house. A pursuit took place, *Smith* was traced to several public-houses on the Walsall Road, and was ulti-

mately found at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, and given into the custody of the police-constable Harley, with some stolen articles in her possession. Prisoner was sent to Stafford gaol for 21 days with hard labour.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 18/6/1864 - Advert

“For Sale, a Chestnut Welsh Pony, 13½ hands high, sound and quiet; a Roan Welsh Pony, 13½ hands high, sound and quiet. The above are four years old. Also a Black Gelding, well-bred and fast, 14 hands high, well used to harness. May be seen on Monday, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Lichfield Road, three minutes' walk from Wylde Green, Station.”

Walsall Free Press 12/11/1864

“Rushall Petty Sessions..... *Charles Taylor*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, was charged, by Police-constable Astbury, with having, on Sunday, the 30th of October, had his house open at eleven o'clock for the sale of drink. Astbury said that when he visited the house he found seven men with a quart jug with ale in it, and he saw the girl with a pint jug with drink in it. Police-constable Hill having corroborated Astbury's evidence, the defendant was fined £1 and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“On Tuesday last, the annual licensing day for the district.....

Charles Taylor, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Shelfield, who had been once convicted of having had his house open for the sale of liquors during prohibited hours, was cautioned.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1868

“Rushall, Tuesday. Adjourned Licensing Meeting.

Mr. Glover applied on behalf of Mr. S. Harrison, the HAWTHORNE TREE free beerhouse, Walsall Wood, for a spirit license. Mr. Dale (from the office of Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) opposed the application, on behalf of Mr. T. Jackson, the RED LION INN, and it was refused.

Of the holders of existing licenses, Alfred Stokes, RAILWAY INN, Pelsall; Thomas Jackson, RED LION INN, Walsall Wood; and James Parkes, Daw End, were cautioned.

The licenses of James Yates, the THREE HORSE SHOES, Rushall, was suspended, and the case of *Charles Taylor*, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, was adjourned.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/8/1869

“Samuel Webster, miner was fined 1s and costs for having been drunk and disorderly, and refused, when requested, to leave the HORSE AND JOCKEY public-house, Walsall Wood. It appeared the defendant had gone into the house in a state of intoxication, and went into the club room where a meeting was being held, and refused to leave when requested.”

1871 Census

Walsall Wood – HORSE AND JOCKEY

[1] *Charles Taylor* (51), farmer of 39 acres and publican, born Rushall;

[2] Mary Taylor (56), wife, born London;

[3] Joseph Gaskin (35), farm servant, born Shirley;

[4] Sarah A. Whittaker (15), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/11/1875

“Yesterday (Friday), Mr. Hooper, coroner, opened an inquiry at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, on the bodies of Charles Tusklow, 37, and Joseph Yates, 25, two sinkers who were killed in a new shaft at the Aldridge Colliery Company's Colliery, at Walsall Wood, on Tuesday, three other men named James Percival, Henry Cater, and Richard Amos being injured at the same time. In the absence of the Government Inspector, the Coroner merely had the bodies identified and then adjourned the inquiry for a fortnight. Mr. F. D. North was present on behalf of the Company. Although no evidence was taken it may be as well to state that the shaft in which the men were at work is 385 yards deep, and at the moment of the accident the two deceased, who were descending, were in a bowk about 25 yards from the bottom, a loaded tub which was being drawn up, being a like distance from the surface. Suddenly the handle of the tub broke, and the tub and its contents crashed down the shaft, falling full upon the hapless pair, and so crushing them that one of them (Yates) was killed on the spot, and Tusklow died soon afterwards. The four men who were at the bottom, warned by the noise of the descending tub, sprang to the sides of the shaft, and stood there, being to a slight extent sheltered, owing to the fact that the brickwork had not been carried quite down to where they stood, and that there was consequently a slight recess made under it. By a little less than a miracle, however, they escaped with their lives, and one of them, a man named Thomas Betteridge without any hurt whatever. The other three men were injured about the legs, but not seriously, by the contents of the tub flying about on reaching the bottom. Yesterday they were going on favourably.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/11/1876

“On Saturday, Mr. Hooper, coroner, held an inquest at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, on the body of Frederick Hardman, aged 22, a labourer, who, on the previous Thursday, while at work at the brickyard of Mr. Joberns, was drawn into the machinery, and was so badly injured that he died within a few minutes. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1891 Census

Walsall Road – HORSE AND JOCKEY

[1] *John Barnes Deakin* (58), farmer and publican, born Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire;

[2] *Annie Deakin* (55), wife, born Leigh, Staffordshire;

[3] *Thomas W. Potts* (16), grandson, farm servant, born Cannock;

[4] *Ellen M. A. Deakin* (2), granddaughter, born Cannock;

[5] *Sarah Williams* (17), domestic servant, born Old Hill:

Benjamin Astbury = Benjamin Astberry

Lichfield Mercury 17/7/1896

“At the Rushall Police Court on Monday.....

William Carter, Occupation Road, was summoned being disorderly at and refusing to quit the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, on June 27th. Mr. Enoch Evans, solicitor appeared in support of the defendant.

Mrs. *Astbury*, the landlady, gave evidence that she refused to supply defendant, who would not leave until a policeman was sent for. Captain Brooks said there was a black list against defendant, who would be fined 2s 6d and 13s 6d costs or ten days.”

AND

“William Pinches and William Yardley, miners, Lichfield Road, were summoned for assaulting *Benjamin Astbury*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, on the 17th ult. Mr. Enoch Evans, solicitor, prosecuted.

Evidence was given that Pinches struck another customer and was ordered to leave. He struggled with the complainant, who tried to eject him, and Yardley took the landlord by the arms and held him, whereupon Pinches bunted his head into the landlord’s stomach causing him to fall on his back. As he lay on the floor the same defendant kicked him in the mouth.

Pinches now pleaded that he was fighting for his life while Yardley urged that he was trying to act as peacemaker.

Pinches was fined 12s 6d or ten days, and Yardley 11s or seven days.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/7/1896

“Twas indeed a promise bordering on the impossible made at the Court by William Carter, of Occupation Road. He was summoned for having been drunk and disorderly on and refusing to quit the premises of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood, on the 27th ult. Mr. E. Evans (Walsall) prosecuted. After the evidence of Mrs. *Astbury* as to the conduct of defendant, the magistrates informed him of the black list, which they said, was gradually growing. ‘Well it might,’ said Carter ‘on frivolous charges such as these. I was only in the house a few minutes.’ Then in a pleading attitude and with a promise he himself must have felt would be quickly broken he asked the Bench to forgive him, promising that he would keep out of them (the public-houses) all. Fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Lichfield Mercury 24/7/1896

“Bankruptcy. Re *Benjamin Asbury*, Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood, formerly of the LEATHERN BOTTLE, Church Hill, Walsall, licensed victualler; the ROUGH HILLS TAVERN, Wolverhampton, beerhouse keeper; and other places.

The public examination of this debtor took place at the Walsall Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday, before Mr. Registrar Clarke; Mr. E. Evans appearing on the bankrupt’s behalf.

The statement of affairs showed liabilities to the amount of £235 9s 6d, and a deficiency of £222 9s 6d. The bankrupt was an iron-worker until 1883, when he became a licensed victualler at the LEATHERN BOTTLE INN, and remained there until 1887, when he removed to the ROUGH HILL TAVERN, but returned to the other inn in 1891. He gave that up in September last, and afterwards filed his petition. In October he married Mrs. *Cornforth*, a widow, who in May took to the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood, on her own account, her husband going to live with her there. He attributed his failure to the illness of his first wife and bad trade.

The examination was adjourned until the 10th August.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/6/1897

“The Bench granted an application by Mr. *Astberry*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood to sell in the rear of his premises from 2 to 10 on Jubilee day, the occasion being a Foresters’ fête.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/7/1897

“*Thomas Allen*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood, was charged at Rushall on Monday with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 9th July. Mr. J. S. Sharpe, of West Bromwich prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. H. H. Jackson, of Walsall defended.

Mr. Sharpe said the evidence was simple, and he thought, conclusive, that there had been an offence against the Licensing Act. On the day in question Police-constable Trusswell was passing the HORSE AND JOCKEY at about four in the afternoon, and looking through the door he saw a man named Samuel Smith sitting in the house. Nothing called for any remark at that time. The constable was going past the house the same evening at 6.55 nearly three hours after. He then saw the same man there, and his attention was called to him as he was drunk. The constable came out for the purpose of getting another officer to see him. As he came out the landlady said to the man, ‘Now, Sammy, you’ll have to go.’ The man came out, made quite an exhibition of himself, was very disorderly, and wanted to fight. He had to be taken home, and three officers would speak as to the condition of the man – he was undoubtedly drunk. The landlady, when spoken to, said she did not fill the man anything; she thought he had had enough when he came, but he had had drink given to him. There was no answer in law. He did not care for the purpose of that summons whether the man had drink supplied to him or given to him there, so long as he was drunk and the landlady or anyone in charge of the house knew he was drunk. The landlady also remarked to the officer, ‘Is this the only house where they get drunk in the

neighbourhood.'

Police-constable Trusswell corroborated this statement. He said the man Smith was nearly deaf and dumb, and was known as 'Dummy.' It was the peculiar noise he was making that attracted his attention at 6.55pm.

Police-constables Milner and Wood also gave evidence as to Smith's condition outside the house.

Thomas Allen, defendant, said he had previously kept the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, in Duncalfe Street, Walsall. On the day in question Smith left the house quietly and in a perfectly sober condition. He was asked to leave because it was a rule in Walsall Wood not to allow men with blackened faces to remain after seven o'clock on ordinary evenings, and five o'clock on Saturday. At or before that time they had to go home and wash.

Other evidence for the defence was also given.

The Bench imposed a fine of 20s and 15s costs.

Dr. Cooke said he hoped it would be a warning to licensed victuallers generally. He had no doubt there was a great deal of drunkenness going on, particularly in that neighbourhood.

Mr. Sharpe applied for the prosecuting solicitor's fees, and these were allowed."

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

"The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood....."

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1898

"*Thomas Allen*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, applied to the Rushall Bench on Monday for sanction of an occasional license to sell intoxicants in a shed at the back of the HORSE AND JOCKEY on the occasion of the Free Gardeners' Sports on Monday next."

Lichfield Mercury 30/6/1899

"Friendly Societies' Sports at Walsall Wood. The second annual sports took place on the HORSE AND JOCKEY Grounds, Walsall Wood, on Monday afternoon last.....

There was also two Duck-hunting Races, the ducks being given by Councillor Bates, of the RED LION INN, Walsall Wood."

Lichfield Mercury 28/7/1899

"The Bench granted a temporary authority to *Thomas Allen*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood, to sell in the grounds near his house on the occasion of some sports to be held there on the 29th inst."

Sports and Sporting events were regularly held in the field adjacent to the public-house, for some years.

1901 Census

Lichfield Road

[1] *Thomas Allen* (38), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Mary Allen* (34), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Louisa Berington* (22), cook, born Norton Canes;

[4] *Sarah Mosedale* (11), housemaid, born Derby:

Lichfield Mercury 14/6/1901

"*Thomas Allen* of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood, applied for and was granted occasional licenses to sell in a field adjoining his house, on June 24th and July 1st, on the occasion of some sports."

Lichfield Mercury 19/6/1903

"Brownhill Urban Council.....

The Clerk said that, as directed, he had called the attention of the City Brewery Company, Limited, Lichfield, to the serious nuisance which was caused by water being pumped from the cellar of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood, and requesting that steps should be taken to remedy the matter, and the District Council would hold the Company responsible for the nuisance. The Managing Director of the Brewery Company replied that as the District Council prohibited them from using the sewer, the Directors did not see how they could make the arrangements suggested by the Surveyor. On receipt of this reply, said the Clerk, he wrote to Mr. Challenor, who said he had explained to the Brewery Company the impossibility of making a connection with the main sewer, as the cellar floor was lower than the sewer. The best way was to lay an iron pipe across the road and connect it with the storm-water drain, but the best way of all would be to concrete the floor and sides of the sewer, so as to prevent the water from getting in. Replying to these proposals, the Brewery Company said that unless the water could be turned into the main drain they would be unwilling to do anything.

The Surveyor said the drain was only about 3 feet deep there.

After some discussion, the Clerk was directed to write to the City Brewery and threaten an injunction unless the nuisance was abated."

Lichfield Mercury 15/7/1904

“At Rushall Police Court, Joseph Witton, who described himself as a hairdresser, and was said to have come from Birmingham, was charged with stealing a brooch and a bracelet, value 15s, belonging to *Thomas Allen*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood, on the 29th ult. Whilst some sports were taking place at an athletic ground at the inn, prisoner gained access to the private apartment and ransacked a bedroom. The landlord having occasion to go upstairs, found him crouching by the bed-side. He then pleaded he had missed his way, but eventually produced the articles in question from his pocket. When handed over to the police he remarked he had found them something to do.

Prisoner was committed to the Assizes.”

[At the Stafford Assizes, in July 1904, Joseph Witton was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.]

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1910

“There was a full Bench of Magistrates present at the Licensing Sessions for the Rushall Division, held on Tuesday, at the Rushall Police Court.....

With regard to the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, the Chairman said it had been reported to the Magistrates that there had been a good bit of sport – they might call it sport – carried on: rabbit coursing and pigeon shooting. He thought it was desirable that the landlord should minimise it as much as possible. They were not going to take the license away, but the practice brought people together who were undesirable, and should be discontinued.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, on behalf of Mr. *T. Allen*, licensee of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, explained that during the year considerable curtailment had been made with regard to the sports carried on at the house as a result of the intimation from the Magistrates last year. What few sports had been held had been carried on in a particular manner. He appeared to watch the interest of a number of licensees in the district, who were members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Association, and upon their behalf he expressed pleasure upon the nature of the report which had been presented.

Captain Brookes said it was a suggestion he had been asked to make, and which they hoped would be carried out.

Mr. F. J. Shaw: Coursing is still carried out at the HORSE AND JOCKEY.

Mr. Jackson said there had been no pigeon shooting, but a little coursing had been carried on.

In answer to Mr. Shaw, the landlord said there had only been eight or ten meetings, as against about forty the previous year.

Mr. Shaw said he thought it was understood coursing should cease altogether.

Mr. Jackson said the sport had decreased, and would continue to decrease. It was difficult to do away with it altogether.

Mr. Brookes: You see, we are decreasing the number of these houses: it might very seriously influence the Bench.

Mr. Shaw said it was known to the Magistrates that it was the resort of some of the worst characters of the Black Country. He had seen them himself, and if the landlord was wise he would discontinue it.”

1911 Census

Walsall Wood – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN

[1] *Joseph Gill* (44), licensed victualler and colliery foreman below ground, born Burntwood, Staffordshire;

[2] Alice Gill (44), wife, married 26 years, born Penkridge, Staffordshire;

[3] Myra Jane Gill (16), daughter, assisting in business, born Pelsall;

[4] Joseph Booth Gill (13), son, school, born Pelsall;

[5] Gertie May Gill (9), daughter, school, born Walsall Wood;

[6] William Booth Gill (28), son, timber drawer coal mine, born Bridgtown, Staffordshire;

[7] Elina Gill (28), daughter in law, born Walsall;

[8] Nancey Yardley (21), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 27/5/1911

“Charges were heard at a special police court for the Rushall Division on Tuesday, against three men as a result of the sports day at Walsall Wood on the previous day.

Richard Radford and Frank Warrilow, both labourers of Walsall, were arrested at Shelfield for alleged drunkenness, and were also charged with stealing glasses, the property of *Joseph Gill*, the licensee of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood; and John Melvin, labourer, Walsall, was charged with drunkenness at Shelfield.

Police-constable Patrick said he arrested the three prisoners at Shelfield. They were drunk. Radford and Warrilow were in possession of a drinking glass, which the landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY identified as his property.

Melvin was fined 5s and costs, and the other two prisoners were remanded until Monday.”

[Richard Radford and Frank Warrilow were fined 5s and costs each and placed on their good behaviour for three months.]

Lichfield Mercury 14/3/1913

The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Rushall Division took place on Monday, when Sir E. T. Holden presided over a full Bench.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for the renewal of the license of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood, on behalf of the City Brewery Co. (Lichfield), and said notice of objection had been served because the present tenant, *Joseph Gill*, had been convicted of permitting drunkenness. The circumstances, however, were that *Gill*, who had been employed at the Aldridge Colliery for twenty years, had been at work all day, and had gone to bed. Consequently he had failed to exercise adequate supervision. As he had paid something like £315 to go into the public-house, he had decided to devote his whole time to it, and give up other employ-

ment. The record of the public-house, apart from this one conviction, was a splendid one. The Bench decided to renew the license.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/4/1913

“An application was made to the Rushall magistrates on Monday, by Mr. H. H. Jackson for the temporary transfer of a license of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, from Mr. *Joseph Gill* to Mr. *Samuel Perry*. Mr. Jackson stated that Mr. *Perry* had kept a licensed house in Chasetown for a period of twenty-two years. The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/10/1915

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....
New Member..... Mr. *Joseph Blakemore*, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1921

“The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....
All the licenses would be renewed with the exception of.....
HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood.....
In these cases, alterations were necessary, and the Bench would defer consideration until they had visited the premises and inspected the plans.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/2/1935 - Advert

“For Sale. Sports pavilion in Sections, 29ft long, 9ft wide.
HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Observer 7/1/1939

“Don’t try and tell the bench that you did not know that raffling was illegal,’ taunted Mr. Frank Cooper when one of the two young men, summoned for being concerned with the sale and distribution of raffle tickets, said he did not think they were doing any harm. Defendants were Joseph Morrison, 50, Ogley Road, Brownhills, and Joseph James, The Caravan, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood.
Police-constable Beswick said that he was in a Walsall shop on the evening of December 7, when a man, whom he now knew to be Morrison, entered and asked the lady of the shop if she would like a threepenny ticket for a raffle for a carpet. She made no reply and the man left the shop. Witness made inquiries and informed Police-constable Morrey of what he had discovered. Police-constable Morrey said that he interviewed both defendants on December 11 and James said, ‘We did not know it was wrong; we shan’t do it again. We had not made arrangements for the draw, but the carpet we intended to raffle was valued at 50s.’ Morrison agreed with this and produced a book of cloak room tickets of which eleven were missing.
It was Morrison who told the Bench that he did not think that they were doing any harm. James had nothing to say. Each was fined 25s, with 15s costs.”

1939 Register

Lichfield Road – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN

- [1] *Joseph Blakemore*, date of birth 2/3/1884, licensed holder, married;
- [2] *Eliza Blakemore*, dob 1/8/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Vivian C. Blakemore*, dob 17/8/1914, builder’s carpenter, single;
- [4] *Dennis R. Blakemore*, dob 18/11/1921, carpenter, single;
- [6] *Eliza Casey*, dob 2/8/1861, unpaid domestic duties, widowed:

Walsall Observer 23/12/1939

“The annual share-out in connection with the Women’s section of the Lichfield Road Working Men’s Death and Dividend Society, took place on Monday evening, when 186 members each received 15s. Officers elected included Mrs. J. Cowley, secretary; Mrs. A. Cross, treasurer; Mr. Kandle, auditor. On Tuesday evening the annual share-out of the ‘Live and Let Live’ Sick and Accident Society, held at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, took place, 180 members each receiving 10s and a voucher value 7d. Officers elected were: Mr. W. Hughes, secretary; Mr. *J. Blakemore*, treasurer.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood. £1 0s 0d.”

It was demolished.

It was rebuilt behind the original pub.

It opened as the POACHERS POCKET. [2005]

It was renamed HORSE AND JOCKEY. [2007]

Express & Star 22/3/2021

“Pubs group Marston’s has issued a list of pubs set to reopen in the Black Country on April 12th. In the Express & Star circulation area this takes in 93. Due to coronavirus restrictions they will only be able to accommodate customers in outdoor areas including beer gardens and seated areas. To accompany table service, Marston’s has introduced an online ordering system called ‘Marston’s Tap’. The online platform is available across the majority of Marston’s pubs for guests to use. Bookings are being accepted and guests can reserve a table via each pub’s website. Wolverhampton-based Marston’s has an estate of around 1,400 pubs across the UK and not all in England are able to reopen in April due to not having an outdoor space.....
HORSE AND JOCKEY TAVERNERS, Walsall Road.”

Express & Star 24/11/2023

“Supermarket giant Aldi has submitted proposals to take over a pub and create a new store in the area. If approved by Walsall Council, the ROYAL EXCHANGE on Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood, would be demolished to make way for the new supermarket along with 109 parking spaces. It would also see the demolition of a warehouse used for the distribution of eggs and cheese and three houses as part of the development. The company said it would ‘meet the needs’ of the local area and provide up to 50 new jobs in the process. If it did go ahead, the new store would be just yards from a new Lidl, who won approval from planners in March this year to take over the HORSE AND JOCKEY pub site on the adjoining Walsall Road.....”

[2023]

IMPERIAL

Darwall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

J. D. Wetherspoon

LICENSEES

Karen Leach [1998] manager

Andrew Byers [2009] manager

NOTES

It was originally the Agricultural Hall.

It became the Imperial Cinema.

It later became a bingo hall. [1963]

It opened as a Wetherspoon’s pub in 1997.

Wetherspoon News March 1998

“Customers enjoying a drink or meal at the IMPERIAL in Walsall might be forgiven for thinking they’ve turned up on the set of Jurassic Park or The Land That Time Forgot. For the pub is home to numerous model dinosaurs and reptiles, like the one keeping an eye on manageress *Karen Leach*.

The IMPERIAL, which takes its name from the cinema that once stood on the site, was originally a public meeting hall. The models recall those that appeared on film at the Imperial, as well as the dinosaurs and reptiles which were discussed during debates on the Origin of the Species in the 19th century at the hall.

Karen, who used to run the MOON UNDER WATER in Wolverhampton, said, ‘The dinosaurs have certainly made an impression, especially the Diplodocus, which is 40 foot long and 30 foot high. The IMPERIAL is a well-known building in Walsall and people in the town are pleased that it is once again in use.’”

It closed in March 2016.

Express and Star 17/3/2016

“The IMPERIAL in Darwall Street, which was opened by the Wetherspoon chain in 1997, will serve customers one last time on Saturday evening and then cease trading immediately. The nearby former county court, which was also bought by Wetherspoon and turned into ST. MATTHEWS HALL, will remain open. None of the 40 staff will lose their jobs with all being transferred to other Wetherspoon’s pubs.

Wetherspoon spokesman Eddie Gershon said, ‘We can confirm that the IMPERIAL in Walsall is to close on Sunday with Saturday being its last day of trading. We understand the pub’s loyal customers will be annoyed and disappointed with the news but Wetherspoon has taken a commercial decision to close the pub.’”

Express & Star 4/4/2017

“The IMPERIAL, which had been an iconic presence in Walsall town centre, was closed in August and put on the market for almost £100,000 a year. JD Wetherspoon closed the site despite having a lease on the Darwall Street drinking hole until 2047. The historic building dates back to the 1860s and was rebuilt and reopened in 1887 as St. George’s Hall.”

Express & Star 4/8/2022

“Communities across Walsall have been forced to endure the depressing sight of once-thriving boozers calling time for good for a number of years. Factors such as high beer taxes, supermarkets selling cheaper alcohol and changing habits are among reasons cited why so many pubs are forced to close permanently. For those buildings not brought back into use as pubs, bars or restaurants, developers have seized the opportunity to re-imagine them as housing schemes which will change the landscape of the streets they sit in. Here are a few old pubs which are set to be converted into apartments or houses.....

The IMPERIAL, Darwall Street, Walsall, an iconic 19th century venue last stood as a Wetherspoon pub – complete with huge model dinosaurs – until it closed in 2016. Prior to that, the building was enjoyed as a picture house, theatre and a bingo hall amongst a number of different uses. It has stood empty for more than five years and, last year, Lodge Housing Ltd put forward an application to turn it into 21 new apartments. But the Cinema Theatre Association, Theatres Trust and regional branch of the Victorian Society have objected to the proposal and are urging the plans to be rejected.”

IRISH HARP

27, (37), Long Street / Short Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Young [1880]
Joseph Haynes
City Brewery (Lichfield) Co. Ltd. [1903], [1904]

LICENSEES

Joseph Taylor [1860] – [1867]
George Smith [1867] – [1873];
John Young [1880];
Joseph Haynes [1881] – **1889**);
John Cole (**1889**);
Joseph Haynes (**1889 – 1890**);
Thomas Henry Iliffe (**1890 – []**);
Francis John ‘Frank’ Morgan [1894] – **1900**);
Albert William Broster (**1900 – 1903**);
Josiah Burgess (**1903 – 1906**);
John Edward Moseley (**1906 – 1915**);
Ernest Wilton [1914] ?
William Jarvis (**1915 – 1919**);
Emma Ferris (**1919 – 1923**);
Ernest Harold Wilson (**1923 – 1931**);
David Davis (**1931 – 1935**);
Ernest Jackson (**1935 – 1961**);
Hilda Victoria Jackson (**1961 – 1962**);
Edward George Freeman (**1962 – 1964**);
George Ernest Holmes (**1964 – 1965**);
Frank James Bates (**1965 – [1966]**)

NOTES

37, Long Street [1864], [1865]
27, Long Street [1868], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1881], [1891], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1932], [1939],

[1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses. . . .
Joseph Taylor, Long Street. Granted.”

Walsall Free Press 6/10/1860 - Advert

“Notice!! A Sick Society will commence on Monday, September 17th, 1860, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Taylor*, sign of the IRISH HARP, Long Street, Walsall; known by the name of ‘A Gift.’

Payments 1s 2d per month. Allowance in sickness 6s per week. At death £5.

Any person wishing to become a Member will much oblige by apply as above.”

Walsall Free Press 30/11/1861

“*Joseph Taylor*, landlord of the IRISH HARP, Long Street, was summoned for having his house open at an improper hour. Defendant did not appear, and Mr. Brookes stated he had called upon him and requested him to apologise to the bench for his absence, as he was obliged to go to Manchester. He had also asserted that the persons found in his house were his friends, and they were obliged to be up in consequence of illness in his family. Acting-sergeant Darlington (Pleck) deposed that he entered defendant’s house at twenty minutes past two o’clock, on Sunday morning and found three men there, and some liquors on the table. Shortly afterwards the men went away. A fine of 2s 6d and costs, was inflicted.”

Birmingham Journal 27/6/1863

“On Wednesday morning an inquest was held at the IRISH HARP INN, Long Street, on the body of Emma Holland, the child who met with her death on Monday afternoon by being knocked down by a passing engine at Bodley’s Crossing. The evidence went to show that Mrs. Holland had her five children with her at the time of the accident, two of them in a perambulator and the others on foot; that she had taken the latter over the line, and was returning for the others, when the pointsman and gatekeeper, who had up to that time been engaged in his box, called out to her that an engine was approaching. She and a female who was with her, attempted to re-cross the line to the children whom she had left on the other side, but finding that it would be dangerous to do so, they contented themselves with making signs to them to remain where they were. The deceased, however, seemed to have got frightened, and started towards her mother, when she was struck by the engine and knocked down between the rails, but the wheels did not pass over her. From the effects of the injuries she received she died in about ten minutes afterwards. It was proved in evidence that the engine driver sounded his whistle twice when approaching the crossing, and no blame seemed to attach to any of the officers of the company. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Joseph Taylor was also a bit maker. [1864]

Walsall Free Press 25/6/1864 - Advert

“Notice! Notice!! Notice!!!

The Good Samaritan Society will Commence on Monday, July 18th, at Mr. *J. Taylor*’s, the IRISH HARP, Long Street, Walsall, the Contributions will be 1s 2d per fortnight; the Pay Out in Sickness, 10s per Week; and at the Death of a Member, £10.

Any Friend wishing to join, will oblige by attending as above, at Seven o’clock p.m.

N.B. Miners and Engineers will be admitted Members.”

[This advert was repeated for several months.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/8/1865 - Advert

“Found, near Wednesbury Tollgate, on Friday last, a Milch Cow. The owner can have her again by applying to Mr. *Taylor*, IRISH HARP, Long Street, Walsall.

If not claimed within 14 days, she will be sold to pay expenses.

Walsall, August 22nd, 1865.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865 - Advert

“No.2 Permanent Money Society Commenced On Tuesday, August 1st, 1865, at the IRISH HARP, Long Street, Walsall.

Rates of payments: 1s 3d per week for £5; 2s 3d per week for £10; 3s 3d per week for £15; 4s 3d per week for £20.

Joseph Taylor, Trustee.”

[This advert was repeated for many months.]

Walsall Free Press 23/2/1867 - Notice

“Notice Of Removal.

Mr. *J. Taylor*, begs to inform the members of the No.2 Permanent Money Society (now held at the IRISH HARP, Long Street,) and the public generally, that the above Society will be held at the BELLEVUE HOTEL, Moat Street, Walsall, on or after Tuesday, March 5th, 1867.”

Joseph Taylor – see also BELLE VUE.

Walsall Free Press 6/4/1867 - Notice

“Royal Permanent Money Society, IRISH HARP, Long Street, Walsall.
Monday Evenings, from Eight till half-past Nine.
£5 – 1s 3d; £10 – 2s 3d; £15 – 3s 3d; £20 – 4s 3d.
G. Smith, Treasurer.”

[This advert was repeated for several months.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/10/1867

“On Monday Mr. A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, held an inquest at the IRISH HARP INN, Long Lane, touching the death of Thomas Williams, a shunter employed at the railway station, whose back was broken on the preceding Saturday, either by his falling between the trucks of a train, or his being crushed by the trucks and one of the door posts. Death ensued within a few minutes after the accident. Deceased had only been married a fortnight. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Walsall Free Press 5/3/1870 - Notice

“Royal Permanent Money Society, IRISH HARP, Long Street, Walsall.
The Committee begs to inform the Working Class that they are able to Advance Money any Monday Evening on Good Security.
For information apply to the Secretary, or to *G. Smith*, Treasurer.”

[This advert was repeated for several months.]

1871 Census

27, Long Street

- [1] *George Smith* (42), publican, born Chestock, Warwickshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Smith (38), wife, born Coleshill;
- [3] Sarah Ann Smith (17), daughter, born Coleshill;
- [4] Emma Smith (15), daughter, born Coleshill;
- [5] Mary Ann Smith (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Phoebe Jane Smith (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Samuel Smith (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Ellen Smith (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Martha Smith (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] Clara Smith (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [11] George Smith (1 month), son, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/8/1878

“On Tuesday afternoon, William Bayley, aged 49, of 6, Short Street, died suddenly at the IRISH HARP INN, Long Street, whither he had gone to have his tea.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/4/1880 - Advert

“A capital House To Let, or Sold, with garden and Workshop attached. Rent £20.
Apply IRISH HARP, Long Street.”

1881 Census

27, Long Street

- [1] *Joseph Haynes* (44), beerhouse keeper, born Darlaston;
- [2] Ester Haynes (42), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Clara Haynes (18), daughter, born Darlaston;
- [4] Emily Haynes (15), daughter, born Darlaston;
- [5] Percy Haynes (4), son, born Burntwood;
- [6] Maria Green (15), servant, born Burntwood:

Lichfield Mercury 8/6/1888

“*Joseph Haynes*, the IRISH HARP, Long Street, was summoned for having seven unstamped measures in his possession. Police-constable Reeves stated he warned defendant in September last to have his measures stamped. The Bench fined the defendant 20s and costs, and ordered the measures to be forfeited.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/5/1890 - Advert

“Notice To Builders, Contractors And Others.
Alfred Simms begs to inform them that he is in a position to accommodate them with Horses and Carts for the Removal of Material, &c.
Stables – The IRISH HARP, Long Street.
Private Address – No.2 Persehouse Street, Walsall.”
[This advert was repeated for several months.]

1891 Census

27, Long Street

- [1] *Joseph Haynes* (55), publican, born Darlaston;
 - [2] *Esther Haynes* (52), wife, born Birchills;
 - [3] *Roland P. Haynes* (14), son, scholar, born Burntwood, Staffordshire:
- [This was not due as he was already gone?]

Walsall Advertiser 10/3/1894

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. Frank Morgan, IRISH HARP was elected a member of the committee in place of *Mr. J. E. Hennessy* who had resigned.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/11/1895

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday at the house of *Mr. Frank J. Morgan*, IRISH HARP INN, Long Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 14/4/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the DRAGON HOTEL, High Street.....

New Members... *Mr. A. W. Broster*, IRISH HARP INN, Long Street.”

1901 Census

27, Long Street – IRISH HARP INN

- [1] *Albert W. Broster* (33), publican, born Hereford;
- [2] *Emily Broster* (33), wife, born Hereford;
- [3] *Gertie Broster* (11), daughter, born Hereford;
- [4] *Willie H. Broster* (4), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Maud Broster* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Harriet Broster* (56), mother, widow, born Withington, Herefordshire;
- [7] *Rose Broster* (27), sister, barmaid, born Stratford on Avon:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/3/1903

“*Albert William Broster*, landlord of the IRISH HARP INN, was charged with causing the death of *Thomas Smith*, Green Lane, on the 12th inst. *Mr. Addison* defended. The evidence that was given at the inquest last week was repeated, and was that on the 12th inst, the prisoner and deceased were in the OAK INN and were ‘haggling’ about a pony. Afterwards the prisoner caught the deceased by the wrist, and they went out into the yard, where they wrestled together and the deceased was thrown heavily on the bricks. He went to work the next day, but on the 14th he was seized with fits, and his arm swelled so that he was ordered to the hospital, where he died on the 17th inst, from acute blood-poisoning. The medical evidence was that there were some scratches on the deceased’s elbow, but the arm was in such a very dirty and greasy state and it was impossible to tell how the scratches were caused.

The bench, after a short consultation, dismissed the charge, but the accused still stands committed on the Coroner’s warrant.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1903

“*Mr. S. S. Grundy Newman* submitted a plan for alteration for making a better means of access to the smoke-room at the IRISH HARP, Long Street, the way at present being through the out-door department. Granted.”

Walsall Observer 16/1/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of *Mr. Josiah Burgess*, IRISH HARP, Long Street.....”

Josiah Burgess was from the STATION HOTEL, Pelsall.

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Josiah Burgess, IRISH HARP.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

Mr. Plumptree (instructed by Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) was for the owners of the IRISH HARP, Long Street, the Lichfield Brewery Company, and the tenant *Mr. J. Burgess*. The police had been instructed by the magistrates to make a report. Chief Inspector Ballance, in reply to *Mr. Loxton*, said the house was a very good one and the yard well enclosed. He did not agree with

the report of the visiting magistrates that supervision was impossible. Decision deferred.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1906

“The monthly meeting of the meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday, at the house of Mr. Edwin James, RED LION INN, Navigation Street, Walsall.....
It was decided to hold the next monthly meeting of the Executive Committee at the house of Mr. *Josiah Burgess*, the IRISH HARP INN, Long Street, on Thursday, March 8th.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/4/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....
New Members..... Mr. *John Edward Moseley*, IRISH HARP INN, Long Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/11/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....
New members..... Mr. *John E. Moseley*, IRISH HARP INN, Long Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/3/1907

“A smoking concert was held at the IRISH HARP HOTEL, Long Street, on Saturday last, for the benefit of Wm. Boulter, who has been unable to work for the last eighteen months. Councillor C. C. Walker acted as chairman. A letter of apology was read from Alderman Dean regretting his inability to attend. The Chairman, in a few remarks, said he was sorry that the Mayor was unable to be present, and he was proud to see a man like Mr. Dean in the high position he now holds, and he was sure nothing would have pleased the Mayor more than to have been amongst them that evening. The vice-chairman was Mr. John Boff. The programme included contributions from the following: Master Hardwick, Miss Walker, Messrs. I. Lord, J. Taylor, B. Newton, Len. Hall, F. Smith, Mat. Brown, and the Blakenall Heath Prize Quartet. Pianists, Messrs. Jennings and H. L. Chester. The proprietor, Mr. *J. E. Moseley*, moved a vote of thanks to the chairman for his presence. Mr. Sam Smith seconded.”

1911 Census

27, Long Street

- [1] *John Edward Moseley* (39), licensed victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] Edith Ellen Moseley (37), wife, married 15 years, born Bilston;
- [3] Edith Ellen Moseley (14), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Dorothy Irene Moseley (9), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Ernest Lovatt (29), servant, born Uttoxeter?;

Walsall Advertiser 27/12/1913

“The circumstances attending the death of George Thornhill (47), who lodged at 14, Upper Walhouse Street, and whose body was recovered from Park Lime Pits on Thursday morning of last week, was enquired into by Mr G. C. Lewis (County Coroner), at Rushall Police Court on Saturday.

George Thornhill, of the IRISH HARP, Long street, stated the deceased was his father, and he last saw him alive on the previous Saturday night. Witness had lost his mother twelve months ago, and his father had been worried for nearly a year through sickness. This had worried him very much, but witness had never heard him threaten to take his life.

Alfred Warwood said that he was a fellow-lodger with the deceased. They slept together, and when witness awoke at 5.30 on Tuesday morning he found Thornhill had disappeared. The deceased had complained of feeling ill on Monday, and he told witness he thought he had done wrong in coming off the ‘box.’ Witness added that he was very anxious to get back to work, and he worried over it very much.

Mark Booker, of 14, Upper Walhouse Street, gave evidence to the effect that deceased had lodged with him since June of this year. About 11 o’clock on Thursday morning he was taking a walk round Park Lime Pits when he observed two jackets lying on the bank near the water’s edge. He identified these as belonging to Thornhill, and he informed the police, who shortly afterwards recovered his body. Witness added that he had never heard the man threaten to take his life.

Inspector Needham: Why did you go round that way for a walk? – Booker: That is my usual walk.

Didn’t you tell me you expected to find him that way? – No, I never told you.

Did you not tell them at home you were going looking for him? – No.

Police-constable Reynolds deposed to recovering the body after dragging for an hour and a half. He added that there were no injuries or marks on the body.

The Coroner, in summing up, observed that people whose intention was to drown themselves invariably placed part of their clothes with a hat on top, on the bank. Why, goodness only knew. The deceased was undoubtedly worried very much through having lost his wife, and not being able to get work. He advised the jury not to say a man was insane because he drowned himself. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that Thornhill drowned himself, but there was not sufficient evidence to show the state of mind at the time.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/5/1914

“IRISH HARP Harmonic Club. The annual dinner in connection with this club took place at head-quarters, the IRISH HARP,

Long Street, when 60 members and friend sat down to an excellent repast, supplied by the host (Mr. *J. E. Moseley*).....”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
IRISH HARP, Long Street. £0 13s 3d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/8/1925

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 13th inst at the house of Mr. Samuel Birch, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention.....
Mr. *Ernest Harold Wilson*, IRISH HARP INN, Long Street, elected member of the society.”

Ernest Harold Wilson – see also FOUR CROSSES.

1939 Register

27, Long Street

[1] *Ernest Jackson*, date of birth 26/10/1889, manager, full license house, married, ARP Service;

[2] *Hilda V. Jackson*, dob 2/11/1887, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

IRISH HARP INN, Long Street, £4 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

IRISH HARP, Long Street (Second donation). £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Jackson*, the IRISH HARP, Long Street. £0 12s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

IRISH HARP INN, Long Street. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

IRISH HARP INN, Long Street. £2 2s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 25/11/1944 - Notice

“Walsall Roller Canary Club.

New Headquarters: IRISH HARP HOTEL, Long Street, Walsall.

Host: *E. Jackson*, Esq.

Next Meeting, Sunday, December 3rd at 12 noon. Business: Annual Show.

All Fanciers Invited.

H. Mason - Secretary.”

George Ernest Holmes – see also BELL, Bloxwich, and FOUR HORSESHOES.

IVY HOUSE

Stafford Road, Newtown, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Highgate Brewery

Mitchells and Butlers (acquired in 1939)

Union Pub Co. [2004]

LICENSEES

Edward Byatt Somerfield [1900]

Mrs. Alice Perry [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

Bells life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/9/1846

“Fight between Mathew Beeby and Thomas Darby, for £10 a side.

The little mill between Mathew Beeby and Thomas Darby, two Walsall novices, for £10 a side, came off on Monday last, at the IVY HOUSE INN, near Bloxwich. Neither of the men, we understand, has appeared in a public ring before, but are well known in the Walsall locality for their frequent fistic broils, in which Darby had frequently displayed a fair show of science. Beeby being much larger made, and longer in the reach than Darby, was fully expected to come off triumphant, but the result proved that his younger and shorter antagonist was too strong and ‘downy’ for him. Beeby was seconded by Bill Sykes and Jack Holden (George Holden’s brother), and Darby was attended by Frazer Brown and Will Birch. The betting was even. The fight occupied 22 rounds. The battle was on the whole was a very good one, and lasted 48min. Darby, who is only nineteen years of age, and about five feet five inches in height, is certainly a good man for Beeby, although less in stature, and might, with care, turn out to advantage. Beeby towards the last did not like the work, or he might have punished his opponent severely several times while off his guard. He was very weak, having been thrown frequently with much force. The money was given up to Darby the same night at the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Windmill Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

IVY HOUSE, Newtown, Bloxwich.”

1939 Register

Stafford Road

[1] Alice Perry, date of birth 25/2/1878, beerhouse keeper, widowed;

[2] Albert E. Motterham, dob 5/7/1869, currier, leather dresser, single:

IVY HOUSE

41, (25), Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. R. Haynes

William Beech, 45, Stafford Street, Walsall

Mrs. Beech

Charles Bromhall, Lichfield

LICENSEES

William Beech [1858]

James Whittall [] – 1861)

William Cornelius Whittall [1862] – [1865]

Samuel White [1868] – [1870]

John Busst Jnr. [1871] – [1872];

Sampson Betteley [];

David Bird [];

Josiah Elton [1881] – [1882];

Kate Vann [] – 1897);
Gregory Harrison (1897 – 1907);

NOTES

41, Stafford Street [1861], [1871], [1891], [1901]
25, Stafford Street [1881]

It had a beerhouse license.

William Beech, beerhouse keeper, 41, Stafford Street. [1858]

1861 Census

41, Stafford Street – IVY HOUSE

- [1] *James Whittall* (27), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Ann Whittall (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Clara A. Whittall (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Lizzie Whittall (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Whittall (17), general servant, born Walsall;
- [6] Clara Whittall (19), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 30/11/1861

“Mr. *Whittall*, formerly keeper of the IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street, applied that the license of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, should be transferred from William Reed, to him. The police gave the applicant a good character, and the transfer was granted.”

Walsall Free Press 4/1/1862

“Guildhall Police Court. Monday. The license of the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, was transferred from William Read to *James Whittall*. Some months ago a temporary permission to manage the FITTERS ARMS was granted by the magistrates to Mr. *Whittall*, and the transfer was formally made out on the present occasion. Mr. *Whittall* kept a beerhouse in Stafford Street for more than two years, and was well spoken of by the police.”

James Whittall – see also FITTERS ARMS and THREE CUPS.

James Whittall and *William Cornelius Whittall* were brothers.

Walsall Free Press 5/4/1862

“*William Cornelius Whittall*, landlord of the IVY HOUSE beerhouse, Stafford Street, was charged with having his house open after hours, on Monday last, for the sale of beer. From the evidence of Sergeant Mason it appeared that, about twenty minutes past twelve, he visited defendant’s house, and knocked, on his doing so some one inside asked who was there, and on his saying it was the police the party inside told him to wait; in about three or four minutes afterwards the landlord opened the door, and this officer in company with No.8, searched the house, but found no one in the house. On going into the yard they found one man in the privy, one in a corner, and a third walking up the garden. The landlord on being questioned admitted the men had been drinking in his house up to eleven o’clock. The Mayor said the case was a very suspicious one; but as there was a doubt they would dismiss the case.”

William Whittall, beer retailer and plater, 41, Stafford Street. [1864], [1865]

Samuel White, beer retailer, 41, Stafford Street. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

41, Stafford Street

- [1] *John Busst* (26), black saddler, born Walsall;
- [2] Diannah Busst (22), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah Ann Busst (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Alice Horne (12), general servant, born Walsall:

John Busst, beer retailer, 41, Stafford Street. [1872]
See also CROWN, Lower Hall Lane.

1881 Census

25, Stafford Street

- [1] *Josiah Elton* (26), hairdresser, born Bloxwich;

[2] Emma Elton (28), wife, born Walsall:

Evening Star 31/5/1882

“*Josiah Elton*, keeper of the IVY HOUSE beerhouse, Stafford Street, was charged with assaulting his wife Emma, on Friday night. Mr. C. W. Williams (Messrs. Duignan and Co) appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Loxton for the defendant. The evidence showed that the parties had been on bad terms for some months, and had already been before the Bench under similar circumstances similar to these. On Friday night after they had retired to their bedroom the defendant quarrelled with his wife and struck her, the cause of the dispute being that she had been out that evening and that she had bought certain drugs of which he did not approve.
Fined 20s and costs or 14 days imprisonment.”

1891 Census

41, Stafford Street

[1] *Gregory Harrison* (40), widower, publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Gregory Harrison* (14), son, bit polisher, born Walsall;

[3] *Sarah Ann Harrison* (17), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;

[4] *Maud Harrison* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *Gertrude Harrison* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

[According to the licensing registers GH did not acquire the license until 18th November 1897.]

Gregory Harrison, beer retailer, 41, Stafford Street. [1896], [1904]

Gregory Harrison was fined £5 and costs, on 4th January 1898, for permitting drunkenness.
See also VINE.

1901 Census

41, Stafford Street

[1] *Gregory Harrison* (50), widower, publican, born Runcorn, Cheshire;

[2] *Gertrude Harrison* (20), daughter, publican's assistant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....
Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....
Gregory Harrison, IVY HOUSE.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Thursday.....

Mr. *Harrison*, of the IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street (for whom Mr. Jackson appeared), had objections on account of the condition of his house.

The case was put off to the adjourned licensing day, notices of objection to be served.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/9/1904

“On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. T. Howard Stanley (Borough Coroner) held an inquest at the ENGINE INN, Walsall, relative to the death of *Gertrude Harrison*, aged 23 years, single woman, lately residing at the IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street, who died on the previous Thursday.

It transpired that all arrangements had been made for the funeral when it was stopped for an inquiry to be held.

Sarah Ann Scott, wife of *Frederick Scott*, 61, Hospital Street, said the body was that of her sister. Her sister had been attending to the business of the IVY HOUSE (which was a beerhouse), owing to her father, *Gregory Harrison*, the licensee, having been ill in bed for eight months. Her sister had been in the worst of health for two years, and on the advice of Dr. Hawley, who said she was suffering from inward piles, witness took her to the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, where she was treated. She paid five visits to the hospital and on September 1st witness made her take to her bed, and sent for Dr. P. A. Shore, who showed witness something, and witness did not believe him. She had never seen her sister in company with any young man, though her sister had joked, and said she had a young man, and intended to stick to him, as he was about the only young man she liked.

In reply to the coroner, witness said she did not know a woman named *Mary Middlebrook*.

Gregory Harrison, licensee of the IVY HOUSE, said he was not aware of any cause for his daughter's illness, witness directed that Dr. Shore should be called in because she was taken so much worse. He never saw her with a young man in his life, and had no idea of the condition the doctor suggested she was in.

Alice Jones, a married lady, also living in Stafford Street, said she had been on friendly terms with *Miss Harrison*. Witness asked her if she had a young man but she shrugged her shoulders and bounced off into the house, and made no answer. She said that if anything of the sort indicated happened she should poison herself.

Dr. P. A. Shore stated the condition in which he found the young woman. There was absolute proof of miscarriage, and he spoke to her about it. She was asked by him if she had been having medicine or drugs, or whether any instrument had been used,

and she said she had used herbs, but beyond that he could not get her to say nothing. The doctor then described the result of a post-mortem-examination. He found extensive inflammation, and he also found an injury and two patches of ulceration. Replying to the Coroner, witness said that the injury which would be caused by the passage of an instrument or foreign body was inflicted before death. Death was due to blood-poisoning brought about by miscarriage. The post-mortem results showed that there had been a child.

Answering a juryman, Dr. Shore said it was possible the injuries might have been self-inflicted, but highly improbable. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Blood-poisoning, the result of an illegal operation. They also thanked the doctor for the way he gave his evidence, and expressed their sympathy with the relatives of the deceased.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

So also [referred to the Compensation Authority] was that as to the IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street, in the same area. Mr. Jackson represented the occupier, Geoffrey [?] *Harrison*, and pointed out that he had held the license 19 years without complaint; that he was subject to chronic rheumatism; but was just able to earn a living, with the aid of his daughter, whereas if he lost the license, being unable to work, there was nothing for him but the Workhouse.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The UNION INN, Bath Street, the IVY HOUSE, and the BARREL, Stafford Street, were referred to the Compensation Authority.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/5/1907

“The meeting of the Walsall Confirming Authority under the Licensing Act was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday. The houses recommended to the Compensation Authority were the UNION INN, Bath Street (for which Mr. Foster appeared), and the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street, the MINERS ARMS, High Street, and the IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street, for all of which Mr. Jackson appeared. The advocates objected to the reference in each case, but the magistrates confirmed the whole of the recommendations of the Licensing Authority.”

The license was extinguished.

JOLLY BACCHUS

11, New Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Elizabeth Greatrex, Lichfield Street, Walsall
Thomas Bates, victualler, Peel Street, Walsall
Edward Rose, pawnbroker
South Staffordshire Brewery Co. Ltd.
J. W. Brookes [1892], [1906]

LICENSEES

Samuel Barnett [1834]
William Cook [1841] – 1858);
John Mills (1858 – []
Thomas James [1860] – [1861]
Mrs. Ellen James [1871] – [1875];
Josiah Wedge [1880] – [1881];
Samuel Lynes [];
Arthur Bates [] – [1882];
Charles Tomkinson [1887] – 1890);
James Francis Aspinall (1890 – 1893);
Frank Dyoss (1893 – 1894);
Richard Parsons (1894 – 1895);
Edward Townsend [1895] ?
Benjamin Archibald Green (1895 – 1902);
James Scott (1902 – 1906);

NOTES

The stage coach from Birmingham stopped here.

William Cook = William Cooke

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/7/1842 - Deaths

“On the 4th instant, at Walsall, Mr. *Samuel Barnett*, sen., formerly landlord of the JOLLY BACCHUS, New Street, in that borough, aged 64.”

Birmingham Journal 11/7/1846

“In inquest was held on Thursday afternoon last, at the JOLLY BACCHUS INN, New Street, Walsall, before William Cotterill, esq, Coroner, and a highly respected Jury, touching the death of a man named William Lovatt, of New Street, who was found suspended from a bar of the cellar window of his own house on the morning of Wednesday, the 8th instant. From the evidence of Mrs. Lovatt, wife of the unfortunate deceased, it appears that he rose about a quarter to five on the morning in question, for the purpose, she supposed, of going to his work, but on her going into the cellar about half an hour afterwards, she was horror-stricken at beholding him suspended as above described. She immediately cut him down, and sent for a surgeon (Dr. Burton) who was most promptly in attendance, but the unfortunate man had ceased to exist. It appears that the deceased had been for some days previous to his committing the fatal act in a very desponding state. He was 61 years of age, and has left no family. The Jury returned a verdict that the deceased Committed Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity.”

1851 Census

New Street

- [1] *William Cook* (60), victualer, born Ireland;
- [2] *Mary Cook* (55), wife, born Calfheath, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Sarah Roberts* (80), mother in law, widow, born Calfheath, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Lucy Perry* (23), niece, born Walsall;
- [5] *Thomas Rollison* (19), house servant:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/2/1857 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the first-rate Old Licensed Public-House, the JOLLY BACCHUS, situate in New Street, Walsall, now doing a first-rate respectable business. The present proprietor, having realised a handsome independency, is retiring from business. The stock (which is low) and fixtures to be taken at a valuation, and the coming in will be about £200.

For particulars apply to John Osbourn, auctioneer, Dudley Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/8/1860

“The landlord of the JOLLY BACCHUS, New Street, *Thomas James*, was summoned before the sitting Magistrates, yesterday, for an assault on one Thomas Tonkinson, on Monday evening last. Complainant said, on the night in question, he was playing at cards in the defendant’s house, when after spending his money he asked for ‘credit,’ which defendant refused to give. Complainant then became violent and struck the landlord, who administered to defendant in return a severe blow in the eye. The Magistrates considered complainant had provoked the assault by his irritating language, and having given the first blow, they should dismiss the case.”

1861 Census

New Street

- [1] *Thomas James* (48), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ellen James* (32), wife, born Bednall, Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 6/6/1863

“John Tinegram was charged with assaulting Ann Jones. Complainant said she went into the JOLLY BACCHUS public house, New Street, on Wednesday last, and defendant called her foul names, and flung the contents of a glass in her face. Witnesses proved the facts, and defendant had to pay a fine of 1s and costs for his folly.”

1871 Census

11, New Street – JOLLY BACCHUS

- [1] *Ellen James* (42), widow, innkeeper, born Bednall, Staffordshire;
- [2] *William T. James* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [3] *Alice Dean* (13), niece, domestic servant, born Burntwood;
- [4] *Ann Williams* (17), niece, errand girl, born Hednesford:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

“Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....”

Ellen James, the JOLLY BACCHUS, New Street, was cautioned.”

The licensee was fined 40s and costs, on 12th June 1878, for Sunday trading.

Lichfield Mercury 17/9/1880

“The adjourned annual licensing session took place of Friday, at the Guildhall.....

Josiah Wedge, the JOLLY BACCHUS, New Street, whose license was withheld at the annual meeting, received it on promising that he would not again let any part of the premises for an exhibition of sparring such as had recently taken place there.”

1881 Census

11, New Street – JOLLY BACCHUS

- [1] *Josiah Wedge* (35), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Priscilla Wedge (35), wife, born South Wales;
- [3] Ann Middleton (22), general servant, born Little Haywood:
[Little Haywood is about 5 miles E of Stafford.]

Arthur Bates was fined 20s and costs, on 8th December 1882, for Sunday trading.

Lichfield Mercury 14/10/1887

“On Monday, at the Guildhall, *Charles Tomkinson*, keeper of the JOLLY BACCHUS INN, New Street, was on the evidence of Police-constable Wilks, fined 20s and costs, for having, at mid-day on the 30th ult, supplied liquor to a drunken man; and W(illiam) Bird, 173, Sandwell Street, hamemaker, the man in question, was fined 2s 6d and costs for being found in a drunken state on the premises.”

1891 Census

11, New Street – JOLLY BACCHUS

- [1] *James F. Aspinall* (31), carriage hame forger, born Walsall;
- [2] Anne Aspinall (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Winifred Aspinall (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Benjamin Aspinall (5 months), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Eliza Sly (19), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [6] William Riley (39), visitor, chain maker, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

There were two applications on the list in the name of *James Aspinall*, of the JOLLY BACCHUS, New Street, by which he sought the removal of a license he at present holds at the JOLLY BACCHUS from that place to a new building to be constructed at the corner of Arundel Street and Cambridge Street.

Mr. Bill appeared in support of the application, which was opposed by Mr. Cotterell, on behalf of Mr. Stanley [the Gospel Temperance Union], and by the Chief-constable.

Mr. Bill having addressed the court and examined the applicant, The Mayor said that the magistrates were unanimous in refusing the application especially after hearing the last case [CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Road].”

Walsall Observer 1/10/1892

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday.....

Mr. Bill also applied on behalf of *James Francis Aspinall* for the removal of a license from the JOLLY BACCHUS, New Street, to land situate at the corner of Arundel Street and Cambridge Street, Palfrey, or premises to be erected at the corner of Windsor Street and Cambridge Street; in the alternative he applied for a provisional grant of a license to the last-named premises

Mr. J. N. Cotterell opposed for Mr. John Ricketts of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Road; Mr. Gillespie, for Mr. Joseph Knight; and Mr. Checkley for Messrs. A. Stanley and J. Bunting.

Mr. Bill also made similar applications on behalf of J. W. Brooks, who, he explained, was the owner of the JOLLY BACCHUS, and of the land at Palfrey to which it was proposed to remove the license. Similar applications, he stated, were made at the annual licensing sessions, when Mr. Brooks intimated that he was willing to have the license removed from the JOLLY BACCHUS, in order that the number of licenses existing might not be increased. He was now prepared to sacrifice another license also, that of the THREE TUNS, Lower Rushall Street, so that the number of licenses in the town would actually be reduced. Mr. Bill laid great stress on the great growth of the Caldmore and Palfrey neighbourhoods, and the need of additional licensed accommodation. The applicants were sworn, and admitted in cross-examination that none of the residents in the locality supported the application. Subsequently Mr. Bill asked to be allowed to refer to the case, and said that Mr. Brooks was prepared to sacrifice not only the two full licenses named, but the license of an out-door as well.

Mr. Gillespie said this proved Mr. Brooks recognised he had no chance without throwing in this makeweight Refused.”

Frank Dyoss = Frank Dyars

Walsall Advertiser 30/11/1895

“The Chairman said the bench were pleased to hear that *Edward Townsend*, of the JOLLY BACCHUS, New Street, who was summoned for a similar offence [Sunday trading], had promised to close in future, and therefore the case would be withdrawn.”

Richard Parsons = Richard Parson

Walsall Advertiser 7/12/1895

“*Richard Parsons*, of the JOLLY BACCHUS INN, New Street, was charged with having been drunk on his licensed premises on Thursday week.

Police-sergeant Ballance stated that about 9.55pm on Tuesday, November 26th, he saw the defendant leave the HARE AND HOUNDS public-house in a drunken condition, and stagger up the Church Hill towards home. Witness subsequently visited his public-house and found him there.

In reply to Mr. Jackson, who defended *Parsons*, he denied that he had followed defendant home.

Police-constable Horton, corroborated, but at the conclusion of his evidence the Bench decided not to continue the case, and ordered the costs only to be paid.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against. Licensed Victuallers.....

Richard Parson, JOLLY BACCHUS, New Street, December 6th, 1895, drunk on his licensed premises, to pay costs.”

1901 Census

11, New Street

[1] *Benjamin A. Green* (44), beer retailer, born Walsall;

[2] Elizabeth Green (45), wife, born Longdon, Staffordshire;

[3] Mary J. Hickenbottom (13), domestic servant, born Cannock:

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day.....

JOLLY BACCHUS. For the renewal of this license it was submitted by Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman that the house was a very old one and conducted in a manner even above the average. The landlord had made it a point not only to supply his customers with drink but also with food. It was the only house as far as he knew in the town where Bass’s ale could be obtained on draught, and he thought that was a recommendation in itself.

Mr. J. W. Brooks (owner) gave evidence, and testimonials from the Revs. S. M. Jones and H. J. Johnson as to the manner in which business was carried on were read. Renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/12/1904

“A puddler named John Hall (50), Gorton’s yard, was brought up on custody charged with stealing an overcoat, value 6s, the property of Ann Maria Westley, on November 26th.

Amy Turk said she carried on the business of a second-hand clothes dealer for her mother in Hall Lane. On Saturday she had a stall in the market, and at about a quarter to eight she missed an overcoat which she had seen safe an hour before. She at once reported her loss to the police, and subsequently identified the coat at the police station. Earlier in the evening prisoner had been examining some of the clothes at the stall.

Police-constable Thomas deposed to stopping prisoner on the Church Hill with the coat over his arm. He said that he had bought it in the market for his brother, and after obtaining his name and address he let him go. Subsequently after hearing that a coat had been stolen, he arrested the prisoner in the JOLLY BACCHUS, New Street, the coat being found at his home.

Hall was sent to prison for 21 days.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 1st February 1906.

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Chief Constable had given notice of objection to the renewal of the following seven licenses; William Henry Lowe, ACORN, alehouse, Lower Rushall Street; *James Scott*, JOLLY BACCHUS, alehouse, New Street; George James Sambrook, KING WILLIAM, alehouse, Little Bloxwich; William Wright, OLD OAK, beerhouse, Upper Hall Lane; William Alfred Burton, STORES, beerhouse, Ablewell Street; George Carrington, STORES, beerhouse, Upper Rushall Street; John James Lawrence, STORES, beerhouse, High Street.

Mr. Loxton said these objections were by direction of the Bench, and he had also served notices on behalf of the magistrates, simply to comply with the section of the Act of Parliament, and without forming any opinion or prejudging cases. The justices directed him to state for the convenience of the advocates that the objections were mainly on the grounds of not required which would necessitate their being referred to the Compensatory Authority. But if during the hearing of the cases the grounds should be

such as to justify the refusal of renewal on grounds without compensation, the advocate would be required to direct his attention to such grounds.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said he came there on the understanding that it was the intention to refer those licenses to the Compensatory Authority to report on.

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had inspected a number of houses with a view to whether they should report to the Compensatory Authority. It might be that some houses were structurally unfit, and in such case they would refuse the license, and they would have to go the quarter sessions.....

The cases of the ACORN INN, JOLLY BACCHUS INN, and KING WILLIAM came on next for hearing. In cross-examination in respect of the JOLLY BACCHUS INN, Chief Inspector Ballance said that during the last seventeen or eighteen years at least thirteen houses had been closed in and about the neighbourhood in which this house was situated. The population had decreased in the locality, and houses pulled down, and Hill Street was practically empty. Mr. Newman who appeared for the owner of the JOLLY BACCHUS, Mr. Brookes, argued that this was the last house, from its management and history, its condition and situation that should be referred to the compensation authority. He laid emphasis on the fact that the magistrates attempted unsuccessfully to abolish the 'long pull,' but Mr. Brookes, who was the brewer, in deference to their worships, did abolish the 'long pull' at this particular house, although he lost money by it. It was not a tied house, and Bass in bottle and on draught could be obtained there.....

The JOLLY BACCHUS, KING WILLIAM; STORES, Upper Rushall Street; STORES, High Street, were referred to the compensation authority.”

It closed on 23rd February 1906.

It became a lodging house.

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle’s references in last week’s Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remembers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKESPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

JOLLY COLLIER

George Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Sarah Darlington [1857]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/10/1857

“The quarter sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall, on Thursday.....

Charles Harrison and Joseph Smith were charged with uttering two counterfeit half-crowns to *Sarah Darlington*, of the JOLLY COLLIER beerhouse, George Street, one on the 5th and the other on the 7th September last. Harrison was found guilty and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment; Smith was acquitted.”

JOLLY COLLIER

Lichfield Road / Coppice Side, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

NOTES

It was situated near JOLLY COLLIER Bridge on the Wyrley and Essington Canal.

[1981]

JOLLY COLLIER

Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Timothy Smith [1835]

JOLLY GARDENERS

(Lower) Rushall Street, (Dudley Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Unitt [1818]

Joseph Holden [1822] – [1830]

NOTES

Dudley Street [1822], [1829]

JOLLY GARDENER [1818]

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/11/1829

“A man who states his name to be Joseph Cox, and that he comes from Solihull, in Warwickshire, was on Friday, 12th inst, apprehended in Walsall, on the charge of stealing a brown paper parcel containing a small quantity of rottenstone, from the shop of Mr. Yates, druggist in the borough. The prisoner had been into several shops on some trifling excuse, which caused a suspicion that his intentions were not good, and he was watched into the shop of Mr. Yates, no person being at the time therein; on coming out he was followed by a neighbour to the sign of the JOLLY GARDENERS, in Dudley Street, where he was taken into custody, and a woman in his company had the parcel in question in her possession, but she was not then apprehended. It is expected that other charges will be preferred against the prisoner.”

JUNCTION

94, (93), Bridgeman Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Boys, Pleck Road, Walsall
Thomas Russell, brewers, Wolverhampton [1881]
William Marsden (until 1906)
Frank Bullock (acquired 1906 for £200)
Thomas Russell Ltd., Great Western Brewery, Wolverhampton [1925]
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired 1932)

LICENSEES

John Boys* [1841] – [1842]
John Boys Jnr.* [1845] – [1858]
F James [1858]
John Boys Jnr.* [1860] – [1865]
Thomas Boys [1868] – [1870]
Henry Kittridge [1872]
Herbert Preston [1872];
Samuel Poulton [1873];
Benjamin Astbury [];
Samuel Hutchinson [1881] – **1889**);
Enoch Marston (**1889 – 1902**);
Annie Marston (**1902**);
William Marston (**1902 – 1906**);
Frank Bullock (**1906 – 1923**);
George Frederick Sunter (**1923 – 1925**);
Herbert George Swindells (**1925 – 1930**);
Benjamin Brookes (**1930 – 1935**);
Bernard Joseph Hordense (?) (**1935 – 1936**):

NOTES

93, Bridgeman Street [1862], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1891]
94, Bridgeman Street [1896], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1932]
94+93, Bridgeman Street [1901]

JUNCTION TAVERN [1841], [1842]

* possibly the same person

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/9/1841

“The general annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday. The magistrates present were John Whitgreave, Esq, R. James, Esq, C. F. Cotterill Esq, and C. Greatrex, Esq. Several applications were made for new licenses, but only two were granted, one to *John Boys*, at the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, and the other to a person named Amos, at Bloxwich.”

John Boys Jnr. was also a wheelwright. [1845]

John Boys junior was a contractor of the Birmingham Canal. [1850]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/10/1853 - Advert

“I Hereby give notice that William Paine has no authority to Receive Any Money On My Account from this date.
John Boys, jun., Bridgeman Street. Walsall. Ocotober 12, 1853.”

Walsall Free Press 19/12/1857

“Two men named Richards and Harper were charged upon the sheet with having misconducted themselves by using indecent language in a railway carriage on the previous Monday. The offence was proved by Mr. *John Boys*, of Bridgeman Street, and supported on behalf of the Railway Company by Mr. Neele, the company’s principal agent. Both prisoners were mulcted in a penalty of 40s and costs, and in default one month’s imprisonment each.”

John Boys junior, contractor for the South Staffordshire Water Works, Walsall and Lichfield Reservoirs, in 1858.

Walsall Free Press 30/10/1858

“Opening Of The South Staffordshire Waterworks.

The inauguration of those works took place on Tuesday last; but so far as Walsall was concerned, the ceremonies were of a very tame description, and consisted of the Directors and their friends, among whom were Lord Ward, Lord Hatherton, the Bishop of the diocese, the Mayor of the borough, and a number of gentlemen residing in or connected with the locality, walking in procession from the Railway Station round the Reservoir and back to the station, from which they took their departure by special train for Lichfield, where the grand inaugural services took place. Much disappointment was experienced by the assembled multitude, who had congregated on the margin of the Reservoir here, expecting to witness some kind of ceremony, such as turning on the water by some of the noblemen present; but the procession – in front of which was carried, by white smocked navvies, four of the poorest – to say the least – apologies for flags we have ever seen – scarcely ever halted till it got back to the main road. Such was the belief that there would be some kind of ceremony, that many of the spectators lingered on the margins of the Reservoir after the procession had begun to descend, expecting they would speedily return and finish what it was thought they had just commenced.

A grand inaugural fete was got up by Mr. *John Boys*, jun., contractor for the work, and landlord of the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, on a piece of vacant ground behind his residence. Immediately after the inspection of the Reservoir by the Directors, a number of balloons ascended from the pleasure ground, whither the Directors repaired on their way from the Reservoir to the Railway Station, and inspected the preparations made by Mr. *Boys* for the accommodation and entertainment of the workmen and others connected with the works, and who were admitted at a nominal charge. After the blessing had been pronounced by the Bishop of Lichfield, the navvies who had been engaged in the excavation and other works sat down to a substantial repast. After dinner the company were entertained with a variety of amusements, and in the evening there was grand display of fireworks, which were equal, if not superior, to anything of the kind witnessed in this locality for some time past. The whole affair was wound up by a ball, at which dancing was kept up till late. The arrangements of the fete were under the superintendence of Mr. *Nichols*, Director of the first Aston Hall, Dudley Castle, and other popular fetes; and we have heard upon good authority that another Fete upon a more extensive scale will come off on the evening of Friday next.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/11/1858 - Advert

“Opening Of The South Staffordshire Water Works.

Mr. *John Boys*, Contractor, has great pleasure (in compliance with the numerously expressed requests of several of the most influential and respectable Residents in the town and neighbourhood) in announcing a Grand Gala and Pyrotechnic Fete, upon the spacious Grounds adjoining to and at the back of the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, Walsall.

This day, (Friday,) November the 5th, Being the anniversary of the Battle of Inkerman, which event it had now happily been customary to celebrate on this day by all desirous of obliterating and eradicating useless National and Sectarian prejudices which the annual recurrence of the Gun Powder Plot was wont to generate, foster and uphold.....

Birmingham Daily Post 30/3/1859

“An inquest was held before Mr. *Fletcher*, on Monday afternoon, at the JUNCTION INN, Walsall, on the body of *John Hayward*, who was found on Friday night dead in the canal, near Bridgeman Street. The circumstances as already stated in the *Daily Post* having been given in evidence, the Jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

John Boys was also a timber merchant. [1860], [1861], [1864], [1865]

1861 Census

Bridgeman Street – JUNCTION INN

- [1] *John Boys* (49), timber merchant and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Isabella Boys* (50), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Thomas Boys* (25), son, engineer, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Boys* (23), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *William Boys* (21), son, clerk to his father, born Walsall;
- [6] *Jane Boys* (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Henry Boys* (15), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Isabella Boys* (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] *Arthur S. Boys* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] *Emma Boys* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [11] *John Atkins* (30), general labourer, birthplace not known;
- [12] *Youth(?) James* (54), servant, labourer, born Sutton, Warwickshire:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/9/1863

“On Sunday afternoon, as two boys, named *James Henry Jest*, aged six years, and *Henry Cowley*, aged four years, were playing by the side of the canal near to the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, *Jest* dropped an apple into the canal, and in his endeavour to recover it fell in and was drowned. The body was recovered about six o’clock the same evening, and was conveyed to the residence of his father, *James Jest*, shoemaker, Bridgeman Street, where an inquest will be held upon it this day (Tuesday).”

Walsall Free Press 8/7/1865

“Yesterday afternoon, *A. A. Fletcher*, Esq, the borough coroner, held an inquest at the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, upon

the body of John Hayes, aged 19, striker, who, between eight and nine o'clock yesterday morning, was drowned while bathing in the canal. Deceased was seen by some boys, who, on perceiving him sink, gave the alarm, and the body was recovered by a man, named Bird; but as three-quarters of an hour had elapsed before the body was recovered, life was quite extinct. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned."

Walsall Free Press 29/7/1865

"*John Boys*, JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, was charged with having had his house open during prohibited hours on the 16th inst. Mrs. *Boys* admitted the charge, and said she and her husband had gone from home and left two little girls in charge of the house, who supplied one of their workmen with a pint of porter. The Bench ordered the defendant to pay a fine of 1s and costs."

Thomas Boys was also a contractor and timber merchant. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

93, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *John Boys* (60), timber merchant, born Walsall;
- [2] *Isabella Boys* (60), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Thomas Boys* (35), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Isabella Boys* (22), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Emma Boys* (17), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Martha Boys* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Mary Salt* (15), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [8] *Arthur Neal* (19), boarder, waggoner, born Whittington, Staffordshire;
- [9] *Edward Evans* (30), boarder, waggoner, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 26/7/1873

"On Thursday last A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, upon the body of Joseph Frederick Deakin, aged 13 years, whose mother and stepfather reside in Day Street. From the evidence it appeared that on Tuesday afternoon deceased, while bathing in the canal near Bridgeman Street, was seized with cramp, and called for assistance, but before he could be reached he sank, and an hour and a half elapsed before the body was recovered. The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned."

1881 Census

Bridgeman Street – JUNCTION INN

- [1] *Samuel Hutchinson* (50), licensed victualler, born Whittick, Leicestershire;
- [2] *Mary Hutchinson* (47), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Samuel Mallett* (8), nephew, scholar, born Bolsover, Derbyshire;
- [4] *Mary Jane Mallett* (16), niece, domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1888

"*Samuel Hutchinson*, the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, was fined 5s and costs, for keeping his house open during prohibited hours on the 3rd inst."

1891 Census

93, Bridgeman Street – JUNCTION INN

- [1] *Enoch Marston* (52), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Ann Marston* (53), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *William Marston* (17), son, tailor, born Walsall;
- [4] *Annie Marston* (13), daughter, tailoress, born Walsall;
- [5] *Kate Marston* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Jenny Morris* (26), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *George Morris* (28), son in law, currier, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1893

"A meeting will be held on Monday evening at the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, to take steps to form a branch of that part of Pleck Ward. Conservatives wishful to join the League should make a point of attending this meeting."

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1897

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *Enoch Marston*, JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street....."

Walsall Advertiser 30/3/1901

"A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week at the house of Mr. *Enoch Marston*, JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street....."

1901 Census

94+93, Bridgeman Street

- [1] *Enoch Marston* (62), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ann Marston (64), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Annie Marston (24), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Kate Marston (21), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Willie Morris (8), grandson, born Walsall:

Enoch Marston was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]
He issued tokens from here.

London Gazette 4/7/1902

“Re *Enoch Marston*.

Notice is hereby given, that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands against the estate of *Enoch Marston*, late of the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford (who died on the 27th day of April, 1902, and whose will was proved in the Principal Probate Registry of His Majesty's High Court of Justice, on the 11th day of June, 1902, by Jennie Morris and Albert Minors, the executors as therein named), are required to send particulars, in writing, of their claims and demands to us, the undersigned, the Solicitors to the said executors, on or before the 11th day of August, 1902, after which date the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have had notice; and that they will not be liable for the assets, or any part thereof, so distributed, to any person or persons of whose claim or demand they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 5th day of July, 1902.

Stanley and Jackson, 35, Bridge Street, Walsall, Solicitors to the Executors.”

William Marston = William Marsden

Walsall Advertiser 11/10/1902

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *Wm. Marston*, JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905

“The 53rd annual general meeting of the members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *William Marston*, JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1910

“Two Pleck Boys, aged 13 and 11, were charged with stealing or receiving a bicycle, value £2 15s, the property of Arthur Adams, Tantarra Street, on Sunday. Prosecutor deposed to missing the bicycle from an opening in Digbeth where had had left it for a few minutes. When he saw it again the bell had been removed. *Frank Bullock*, landlord of the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, deposed to seeing one of the lads ride quickly into his yard and leave the bicycle there. The lad was caught and given into custody, and he then admitted that together with the other boy he stole the machine. Chief Inspector Ballance said there were other charges against the boy who rode the bicycle, and it was the fourth he had stolen. The Magistrates ordered him to be sent to an industrial school until he is 16, the other boy being put on his good behaviour for twelve months.”

1911 Census

Bridgeman Street – JUNCTION INN

- [1] *Frank Bullock* (35), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Annie Bullock (32), wife, married 8 years, born Walsall;
- [3] Annie Bullock (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Frank Bullock (4), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Arthur Edes (24), barman, born Wednesbury;
- [6] Harriet Emery (34), servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 27/12/1913

“The annual meeting in connection with the JUNCTION INN Sick and Dividend Society, Bridgeman Street, was held on Monday, Mr. A. Middlebrook (Chairman) presiding.

A dividend of 12/- and two nights on card was declared, and a balance of £4 10s 2d was carried forward to next year. The membership numbered 54.”

Walsall Observer 16/12/1916

“The fund raised at the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, to provide smokes, &c, for soldiers and sailors has amounted to the highly satisfactory total of £46 10s. Of this £25 10s was spent in purchasing 17,000 cigarettes; while 80 Christmas cards and postal orders for 5s each absorbed the balance of £21.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street. £1 1s 0d.”

George Frederick Sunter was fined 20s and costs, on 25th April 1925, for aiding and abetting Frederick Victor Brown to consume intoxicating liquor other than during permitted hours.
See also FOUNTAIN, Long Street.

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“The JUNCTION had a full alehouse license and there was stabling for 6 horses ‘an old property in good repair except the attics and stables.’ The Bar was 25’8” x 11’5” x 8’7” a large and small Smoke Room, outdoor and Club room on the second floor, a sizeable property with 3 bedrooms and 4 attics.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/7/1927

“At Walsall Adjourned Licensing Sessions on Tuesday, an application was made by *Herbert G. Swindells*, landlord of the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, for a music and singing license for wireless in the smokeroom, from 7 to 10pm every week-day. Mr. S. B. Wheway, chairman, said that wireless and other matters were receiving the attention of the authorities. A meeting had been held in Birmingham, and another would be held in October probably with a view of getting uniformity in the Midland area. The application would, therefore, be adjourned until after the meeting.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/2/1936

“Walsall Licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday.....
The removal of the license of the JUNCTION INN, Bridgman Street to the COACHMAKERS ARMS, Bridgman Street, was sanctioned. Mr. F. Cooper, who made the application, said the net result would be that one licensed house would be closed without compensation being paid.”

It closed on 19th May 1936.

The license was transferred to the new COACHMAKERS ARMS.

JUSTICE STORES

Victor Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Annie Holmes [] – **1911**);
William Price (**1911** – []

KING ARTHUR

Liskeard Road, Park Hall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Courage Ltd.
Kam Chohan [2023]

LICENSEES

Nigel Cumberbatch [1991] – **2015**) 27 years

NOTES

A provisional license was granted in 1968.
It was confirmed in 1970.

Sandwell Evening Mail 30/9/1991

“A charity soccer match between stars from the past at Walsall’s Bescot Stadium raised about £2,500. The clash between former Walsall players and the KING ARTHUR All-stars ended 3-3 yesterday. *Nigel Cumberbatch*, licensee of the KING ARTHUR pub, Park Hall, Walsall, who organized and played in the match, said the cash would go to the Three Crowns Special School at Walsall.”

Express & Star 16/3/2023

“The owner of a pub in Walsall has donated £500 to charity after being gifted a signed football shirt by the mayor. The piece of kit features the signatures of the 2022/2023 West Bromwich Albion team. And it was gifted to the KING ARTHUR SPORTS BAR AND GRILL by The Mayor of Walsall, Councillor Rose Martin, with the owner deciding to donate the sum to her chosen charities as a thank you. The councillor, who previously served for the Paddock ward where the pub is located, said, ‘The KING ARTHUR is a very good local pub and is very popular with the residents and the West Bromwich Albion fans. It is very much at the heart of the community – I used to be a councillor there for many years so it was a natural place to put the shirt. I would like to thank the owner for his kind contribution towards Walsall charities.’

The donated sum will provide support for several charities, including Well Wishers which supports the work of Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, Community First Responders who attend emergency calls in the area and the Walsall Community Network who support the wellbeing of residents. Kam Chohan, who is the owner of the Liskeard Road venue, added, ‘It’s a community pub, we have been there for about seven years now, all the locals use it for watching sporting events including West Bromwich Albion – it’s a nice, pleasant crowd. We’ve got other shirts there, I have one of Ronaldo and Messi that we bought at an action and this one will go right next to another Albion one. It’s an Albion pub, although we do get a lot of Aston Villa supporters as well, but the Albion fans will appreciate it. Mayor Rose does a lot of charity work and she is a regular at the pub, we are going to host a dinner evening with the mayor so we do tie-in work with her if we can, so whatever we can do to help we would love to do that and support charities in the community anyway we can.’”

[2023]

KING EDWARD

7, (7a), (7½), (6), (5), Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Benjamin Urwick, St. Pauls Close, Walsall and Henry Howard Fletcher, Hagley Road, Edgbaston

James Duppa Fletcher

James and Cyril Fletcher

H. Fletcher and Sons, Ablewell Street, Walsall [1899]

Arthur William Greatrex

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1915]

Twist’s Brewery Ltd. (acquired on 8th June 1936)

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 1st October 1959)

LICENSEES

Howard Fletcher and Son [1872];

Joseph Clarke [1881] (?)

James Duppa Fletcher [] – 1890);

Mrs. Martha Mills (1890 – 1900);

Edward Reginald Barrett (1900 – 1902);

James D Fletcher (1902 – []

John William Cox (1902 – 1909); manager

Mrs. Letitia Cox (1909 – 1912);

Archibald James Bromwich (1912 – 1915);

George Garratly (1915 – 1916);

Edith Eleanor Garratly (1916 – 1918);

George Garratly (1918 – 1923);

Thomas Samuel Smith (1923);
Frank Henry Godsell (1923 – 1924);
George John Watson (1924 – 1925);
Henry Curson (1925 – 1927);
Charles Joseph Tyler (1927 – 1928);
Ethel Eliza ‘Dot’ Stevens (1928 – 1930);
Leonard George Hastings (1930);
Thomas Osborne Ayre (1930 – 1936);
Thomas Beecham Broome (1936);
William James Waldron (1936 – 1937);
John Alfred Roberts (1937 – 1938);
Thomas Alfred Malpass (1938 – 1939);
Bernard John Ruddell (1939 – 1949);
Howard Edward Jackson (1949 – 1950);
Norman Nichols (1950 – 1951);
Frank Thomas Lacey (1951 – 1952);
William Samuel Richards (1952 – 1953);
William Chilton (1953 – 1954);
William Walter Hems (1954 – 1955);
Leonard Delves (1955 – 1956);
George Whitehouse (1956);
James Daniel Galbreath (1956 – 1958);
John Henry Davies (1958);
Norman Frederick Eley (1958 – 1960);
Samuel Roberts (1960);
Reginald Thomas Paget (1960 – 1961);
Raymond Richard Malthouse (1961 – 1963):

NOTES

6, Ablewell Street [1881]
7½, Ablewell Street [1903]
7, Ablewell Street [1901], [1939], [1940]
7a, Ablewell Street [1904], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1932]

It was formerly an unnamed alehouse.

1881 Census

6, Ablewell Street – Wine and Spirit Vaults
[1] *Joseph Clarke* (45), Wine Cellarman, born Claverley, Shropshire;
[2] Catherine Clarke (44), manages Vaults, born Wednesbury;
[3] Sarah Clarke (15), daughter, assists in Vaults, born Walsall;
[4] Joseph Clarke (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] John Clarke (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] Arthur Clarke (2), son, born Walsall;
[7] Howard Clarke (10 months), son, born Walsall;
[8] Georgina Brown (18), general servant, born Worcestershire:

1891 Census

5, Ablewell Street
[1] *Martha Mills* (61), widow, manageress of public house, born Walsall;
[2] Mary Jane Moss (33), niece, born Walsall;
[3] John Moss (40), husband of niece, moulder, born Walsall;
[4] Harry Moss (3), son, born Walsall;
[5] John A. Bowater (18), nephew, butcher, born Walsall;
[6] Mary Newman (24), servant, born Staffordshire:

Mrs. *Martha Mills*, wine and spirit vaults, 6, Ablewell Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Mr. W. Walford (Messrs. Wilkinson, Mills, and Walford) made application on behalf of *Martha Mills* to remove a license from 6, Ablewell Street, to premises about to be erected at 7½ Ablewell Street.

The Chief Constable had no objection to the suggestion, but Mr. T. Harrison Evans opposed on behalf of the trustees and leaders of the Wesley Church, Ablewell Street, and Mr. C. A. Rutheroe for Mr. Stanley and the Temperance Federation.

Mr. Walford said that Messrs. Fletcher, the owners, had found it necessary to rebuild. They had been advised by their architect that the present buildings were not safe, in fact they had already had to stay them up. While they were rebuilding they wished to remove the license to the next house, which was really to give better living accommodation to the occupier of the present public-house. They would spend something like £1,000. He presented the plans of the suggested alterations, and said that whereas in the old public-house they had three entrances in Ablewell Street, they only now asked for one. The increase in area was in the living part of the house. As regarded the opposition, it was simply by Mr. Harrison Evans on behalf of the chapel in Ablewell Street; but the schools were nearer than the chapel, and they were 27 yards away. It would make practically no difference whatever to the chapel if the license was moved from the present building.

Mr. Fletcher gave evidence; and John S. Jarvis proved the measurements of the plans to be correct.

Mr. Evans, in opposing, said that the house to which it was proposed to transfer the license adjoined the schools, and they could easily tell how objectionable it would be to those attending the school and chapel to smell the fumes of ale and beer (laughter). He could not remember a single instance of a similar application having been granted in that Court; and he further remarked that the leaders and trustees of the church were most desirous that the application should not be granted, and they believed it would not be for the moral progress of either the children or the members of the society if the application was granted.

Mr. Rutheroe said that, although it seemed somewhat ungracious to oppose an application of that kind, he would suggest that, in view of a reduction in the number of licensed houses being an imperative necessity, as stated by the Licensing Commission, that the magistrates would not see their way to grant any increase in facilities for further drinking accommodation. Under such circumstances he thought it a very fair time for the magistrates to say, we will reduce that number by one, by refusing the application now before us; and it would save the proprietors from spending £1,000.

Mr. Walford pointed out that they were not asking for a new license, and that if the license was refused it would not reduce the number by one. The license in this case had already been granted, and they were simply asking to remove the license to new premises.

Application granted.”

[The Final Order was granted on 14th November 1900.]

Martha Mills – see also WATERING TROUGH.

1901 Census

7, Ablewell Street

[1] *Edward R. Barrett* (47), widower, licensed victualler, born Plymouth;

[2] *Beatrice Barrett* (20), daughter, born Plymouth;

[3] *Benjamin Barrett* (72), father, widower, born Liskeard, Cornwall;

[4] *Annie Biggins* (56), housekeeper, born Gloucester:

Walsall Advertiser 27/4/1901

“The Allegro Musical Society.

The closing meeting for this season was held on Thursday evening at the KING EDWARD, Ablewell Street. There was a splendid gathering of members and friends under the genial presidency of Mr. W. Somerfield. The following programme was capitally rendered: Pianoforte solo, ‘The Norwegian Bridal Procession,’ Mr. V. Mold; ‘Yes, let me like a soldier fall,’ Mr. Parkes; ‘The Flight of Ages,’ Mr. Leeming; song, ‘A Soldiers Song,’ Mr. J. Pearsall; banjo solo, ‘Gaiety Schottische,’ Mr. Dines; song, ‘Ailsa Mine,’ (encored), Mr. J. Lister; cornet solo, ‘Watch on the Rhine,’ (encored), Mr. W. Robinson; song, ‘The Windmill,’ Mr. J. Pearsall; song, ‘Alice, where art thou,’ Mr. Ellis; flute solo, Mr. F. Smith; song, ‘Maid of Matabar,’ Mr. J. Lister; song, ‘Come into the garden Maud,’ Mr. Aldridge; ‘The King,’ solo by Mr. F. Lester.”

[This society held regular meetings here for several years.]

Walsall Advertiser 15/2/1902

“Mr. Walford (Wilkinson, Mills, and Walford) applied for a temporary authority in respect of the KING EDWARD INN, Ablewell Street, from *Edward R. Barrett* to *James D. Fletcher*. There was no objection and this was granted.”

The KING EDWARD was built in 1903.

Walsall Advertiser 29/9/1906

“There was a coming of age celebration on Friday at the KING EDWARD, Ablewell Street, in honour of Mr. A. Mason, when some fifty employees of Messrs. A. Russell and Co, Bedford Works, were present. Mr. J. Ashwell occupied the chair, and proposed the toast of the evening, also that of the firm of Messrs. Russell and Co; and Mr. Mason senior made an able speech on behalf of his son. A most enjoyable programme of music was contributed by Mr. Aldridge and Messrs. R. Maddox, A. Mason, J. Ashwell, Bayliss, W. Aldridge, Wolverson, Grant, G. Lowbridge, G. Riley, Jemmy, &c.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/5/1909

“The transfer sessions were held.....

KING EDWARD, Ablewell Street, from *Letitia Cox* (administratrix of *John William Cox*) to *Letitia Cox*.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/7/1909

“Walsall Terriers Social Club.

An enjoyable evening was spent at the head quarters of the above club, the KING EDWARD, Ablewell Street, on Wednesday evening, the occasion being a special visit of Mr. Arthur Cotton and his troupe of pierrots, who provided the following excellent programme: Pianoforte solo, Mr. Morris; song, ‘L.S.D.,’ Mr. Tom Watkiss, and ‘Reliability’; song, ‘German Girl,’ and ‘Fatherland,’ Mr. Harry Mann; comic song, ‘I shall sleep well, to-night,’ ‘The 11.69 Express,’ and ‘No, no, no,’ Mr. Arthur Cotton. The Chairman (Colour-Sergeant F. S. Rigby), in proposing a vote of thanks to the artistes, said how pleased he was to be present, and remarked that he hoped this would not be the last occasion the members of this club would have an opportunity of hearing the same artistes again. Mr. Cotton briefly responded on behalf of the artistes, and the singing of ‘The King,’ by Sergeant Aldridge brought the evening to a close.”

1911 Census

Ablewell Street – KING EDWARD

[1] *Letitia Cox* (57), widow, manageress, public house, born Birmingham;

[2] Florina Jones (19), domestic servant, born Walsall;

[3] Alice Ross (28), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1912

“Prior to the ordinary business at yesterday’s (Friday) Police Court, the usual Licensing Sessions were held when the Magistrates were the Mayor (Councillor J. Venables, in the chair), and Messrs. R. Thomas, J. Clare, A. D. Cozens, and E. J. Shaw.

With reference to plans submitted for alterations, Mr. Hodgkinson, who appeared on behalf of the licensee of the KING EDWARD, Ablewell Street, said it had been decided to take out a wall in the passage and so continue the passage into the club room. This room was at present used as a billiard room, but as it was only 18ft long there was not sufficient room for a game to be properly played.

The Magistrates after having retired sanctioned the alterations to the KING EDWARD.”

George Garratly = George Garratley

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

EDWARD VII, Ablewell Street, Walsall, 7s 9d.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/10/1915

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Member..... Mr. *George Garratley*, KING EDWARD INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

KING EDWARD, Ablewell Street. £1 10s 9½d.”

Ethel Eliza Stevens = Ethel Eliza Stephens

The Era 19/7/1929

“Theatrical Employers’ Registration Act, 1925.

Notice Is Hereby Given that *Ethel Eliza Craggs*, residing at the KING EDWARD HOTEL, Ablewell Street, Walsall, and carrying on business under the name of *Dot Stephens*, intends to apply to the Walsall Borough Council for registration under the above Act. Dated June 26, 1929.”

1939 Register

7, Ablewell Street

[1] *Bernard J. Ruddell*, date of birth 26/8/1889, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Beatrice E. Ruddell*, dob 6/9/1889, helps in business, married;

[3] *Edgar Stanistreet*, dob 2/5/1902, painter, single;

[4] *John Stanistreet*, dob 19/2/1905, barman and cellarman, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

KING EDWARD INN, Ablewell Street, £5 2s 8d.”

Walsall Observer 12/4/1941 - Advert

“Malt for Strength & Energy. Hops for The Appetite. Yeast for The Blood.
Twists The Best Beer for You.
You can Drink and Enjoy Twists Ale at any the of the following Licensed Houses.....
KING EDWARD, Ablewell Street.....
And All The Best Clubs.
Proprietary Whiskies, Foreign Wines and Spirits, High-Class British Sherries and Ports.
Head Office & Brewery, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Ruddell*, KING EDWARD, Ablewell Street. £2 5s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
KING EDWARD, Ablewell Street. £1 8s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 16/9/1944 - Advert

“Walsall Harmonic and Social Society, BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street.
The Committee are contemplating Re-Opening The Society Shortly.
As the room at Headquarters is not available at present owing to repairs and re-decorating, the Annual General Meeting will be held at the KING EDWARD INN, Ablewell Street, Wednesday, September 27th. at 8-0 pm.
Members are requested to attend.
Geo. Kirby, Secretary.”

Norman Frederick Eley – see also NEW INN, Park Street.

It closed on 29th January 1963.

It was demolished in 1964.
A petrol station was built on the site.

KING EDWARD VII

38, (34), High Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Chesters Brewery Co. Ltd, Manchester [1890]
North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd. [1907]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)

LICENSEES

Samuel Faulconbridge [1861] – **1870**);
Robert Beardmore (**1870** – []
Alfred Beardmore [1871] – [1872]
Benjamin Hawkins [1881];
Rebecca Atkins [] – **1887**);
David Baylis (**1887** – **1889**);
Joseph Woollatt (**1889** – **1894**); manager
Alexander Dalky Rogers (**1894** – **1895**);
William Joseph Russell (**1895** – **1896**);
William Swift (**1896** – **1898**);
Charles Bunyan (**1898**);
Alfred Barnes (**1898** – []
William E Dutton [1904] – **1908**);
Charles Bunyan (**1908** – []
William Henry Starkey [1908] – **1911**);

Daniel Dalton (1911 – 1912);
Davis Walker (1912 – []
John Henry Brotherton [1916]
Charles Dickinson [1921]
John Rogers [1929] – 1930);
James Platt (1930 – 1933);
George Gerald Stanfield (1933 – 1939):

NOTES

34, High Street [1861], [1871], [1881], [1891]
38, High Street [1911]

It started life as WINE VAULTS.

1861 Census

34, High Street
[1] *Samuel Faulconbridge* (39), victualler, born Birmingham;
[2] *Maria Faulconbridge* (47), wife, born Birmingham;
[3] *Ann Maria Faulconbridge* (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[4] *Fanny Johnson* (20), house servant, born Birmingham:

It was listed as the LETTERS in an 1862 directory.

S. Faulconbridge, spirit vaults, 34, High Street. [1865]
Samuel Faulconbridge, wine and spirit vaults, 34, High Street. [1868]

Is name was changed to COLLOSEUM.

Walsall Free Press 20/8/1870

“James Daft was charged with having on Wednesday morning, stolen a small bottle of gin, the property of *Alfred Beardmore*, licensed victualler, High Street. Charlotte Salt, barmaid said she had occasion to leave the bar for a few minutes, and on her return she missed two bottles, and called Mr. *Beardmore*, who charged the prisoner with stealing the two bottles. Prisoner returned one of the bottles to witness, and the other was found under the bench, where he had been sitting. Sergeant Ogden was sent for, and took the prisoner, who was the worse for drink, into custody, when he admitted the charge. Mr. *Beardmore* corroborated the Barmaid’s evidence, but recommended the prisoner to mercy. The Bench, after hearing the case and taking into consideration the recommendation of the prosecutor, sentenced the prisoner to six days’ imprisonment.”

1871 Census

34, High Street
[1] *Alfred Beardmore* (30), publican, born Wednesbury;
[2] *Sarah Ann Beardmore* (38), wife, born Wednesbury;
[3] *Sarah Ann Beardmore* (13), daughter, scholar, born Wednesbury;
[4] *Joseph Beardmore* (5), son, scholar, born Solihull;
[5] *Selina Beardmore* (2), daughter, born Sheffield;
[6] *Florence Beardmore* (6 months), daughter, born Walsall;
[7] *Emily Vales* (23), visitor, grocer’s daughter, born Bilston;
[8] *Mary Welch* (18), general servant, born Willenhall;
[9] *Sarah Ann Stokes* (22), nurse girl, born Wyrley;
[10] *Louisa G. Warring* (6), visitor, born Wednesbury:

Alfred Beardmore, wine and spirit vaults, 34, High Street. [1872]

1881 Census

34, High Street
[1] *Benjamin Hawkins* (39), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
[2] *Henrietta Hawkins* (40), wife, born Reading, Berkshire;
[3] *Anne Hawkins* (17), daughter, born Reading, Berkshire;
[4] *Sarah Ann Foster* (20), general servant, born Brownhills;
[5] *John Loyden* (26), boarder, clerk, born Walsall;
[6] *William Churchill* (35), lodger, negro comedian, born Wednesbury;
[7] *William Bate* (17), lodger, negro comedian, born Wednesbury:

Its name was changed to PEOPLE'S MUSIC HALL.

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1888

“At the annual licensing sessions, yesterday.....

The applications for renewal of licenses on the part of twenty persons whose names were on the black list were adjourned till the adjourned licensing day; and the applications of the following were also adjourned, the Chief Constable opposing on the ground of the unsuitability of the premises for licensed houses, bad management, or the house being unnecessary, viz *David Bayliss*, the PEOPLE'S MUSIC HALL, High Street.”

Joseph Woollatt was fined £5 and costs, on 1st April 1889, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1889

“The adjourned licensing day, which was held at the Guildhall, on Monday, had been looked forward to with considerable interest on account of the large number of objections to the renewal of licenses made by the Chief Constable. All the houses objected to, something like 162, had been visited by the Magistrates, and in the vast majority of cases the structural alterations required by the Chief Constable had been made, hence the objections were withdrawn. Others persisted in, however, with the result that the bench refused to renew the licenses of five houses, these being, the SHAKESPEARE, Peel Street; the UNION, Ryecroft; the BARLEY MOW, Church Hill; the PEOPLE'S MUSIC HALL, High Street; and the CROSS KEYS, Blue Lane. There is a very angry feeling on the part of the publicans at this result, and notice of appeal has been given in each case. As the matter will be brought for decision before the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, I will refrain from commenting on it.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. A. Whitehouse applied for a license for music, singing, and dancing on behalf of *Joseph Woollatt*, the manager of the PEOPLE'S MUSIC HALL, High Street, belonging to Chester's Brewery Company. He adopted the general argument of Mr. H. Young in the first case, and said the owners paid £1,644 on entering into the property. Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Mr. A. Whitehouse, on behalf of *Joseph Woollatt*, the PEOPLE'S MUSIC HALL, High Street, reminded the Bench that the case was adjourned for the purpose of considering any proposed structural alterations; and he submitted three alternative plans. The concert hall, according to the plan that was favoured, would be 60ft long by 20ft wide, and 20ft high to the wall plate.....

The Bench retired for about half an hour, and on their return the Magistrates' Clerk read the decisions.....

Granted. The PEOPLE'S MUSIC HALL, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays, from 7.30 till 10.30, the justices reserving further consideration as to the six days' license till alterations shown on No.5 plan were carried out.”

1891 Census

34, High Street – PEOPLES MUSIC HALL

[1] *Joseph Woollatt* (33), public house manager, born Scotland;

[2] Sarah Woollatt (33), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Hannah Wellings (14), boarder, born Walsall;

[4] Thomas Wellings (62), boarder, widower, puddler, born Walsall:

It became the TIVOLI MUSIC HALL. [1899], [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Jackson applied for sanction for the alteration of the TIVOLI, High Street, owned by the North Worcester Brewery Co, and called Mr. H. E. Farmer, architect (Hickton and Farmer) to prove the plans. Mr. Farmer said there would be no increased facilities, and the alterations were a re-arrangement of the rooms by making three into two.

The Chief Constable said the house was originally built for a music hall, and the proposed alterations would make it into a proper public house. Application granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1907

“Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for sanction to change the sign of the TIVOLI MUSIC HALL, High Street. When it was a music hall the named TIVOLI was all right, said Mr. Jackson, but now it had no music hall connected with it the owners wanted to call it KING EDWARD THE SEVENTH.

Alderman Holden asked if there was not another house in the town of the same name.

Mr. Jackson: There's the KING EDWARD; we are the first KING EDWARD THE SEVENTH (laughter).

The Mayor (after deliberating with the Bench): You can call it what you like (laughter).”

Walsall Advertiser 8/1/1908

“The TIVOLI PALACE. On Wednesday, at the Guildhall, a temporary transfer of the above house (late the PEOPLE'S MUSIC

HALL) was granted to Mr. *Charles Bunyan*, the clever goalkeeper of Walsall Football Club, from Mr. *W. E. Dutton*.”

KING EDWARD VII [1908]

Walsall Advertiser 23/5/1908

“Henry Boyce, marine store dealer, 80, Lower Rushall Street, was summoned for (1) assaulting Samuel Freeth, (2) using obscene language, both on the 12th inst, and (3) for being drunk on the licensed premises of the KING EDWARD VII INN, High Street, and for refusing to quit, on the 13th inst. All the cases were proved, and defendant was sentenced to two months’ hard labour for the assault, fined 40s and costs or 10 days for the obscene language, and fined £5 and costs or one month on the third charge.”

Indenture dated 28/10/1909

“All Those messuage hereditaments and premises situate and Numbered 34 High Street Walsall in the County of Stafford used as a public-house formerly called The PEOPLE’S CONCERT HALL afterwards The TIVOLI but now called KING EDWARD VII. Together with the appurtenances thereto belonging. And Together with the use and enjoyment of a road or way at all times on foot or with horses or carriages from High Street aforesaid to the back of the said hereditaments and premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/3/1911

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday morning.

An application was made by Mr. H. H. Jackson to reduce the licensed area of the KING EDWARD VII, High Street by cutting off from the house a music hall at the rear, and converting it into a lodging-house, subject to approval of the authorities. An up-to-date sanitary lodging-house, he said, would be an advantage to the town. There would be no connection whatever with the licensed premises, and he pointed out that if the house went on the compensation list the reduction of the licensed area would reduce the compensation.

The Bench subsequently visited the premises, and on returning announced that the application would be refused.”

1911 Census

38, High Street

[1] *Daniel Dalton* (33), licensed victualler, born Hallend, Warwickshire;

[2] *Clara Hannah Dalton* (33), wife, married 14 years, assisting in the business, born Measham, Leicestershire;

[3] *Gladys May Dalton* (13), daughter, school, born Fazeley, Staffordshire;

[4] *William Ezra Dalton* (9), son, school, born Mount Pleasant, nr. Tamworth, Warwickshire:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

KING EDWARD VII, High Street, Walsall, 7s 6d.”

James Platt was fined £5, on 14th November 1930, for selling intoxicating liquor other than during permitted hours.

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

“Both the NEW INN, a Wednesbury Road beerhouse; and the KING EDWARD VII were also in the list opposed at the annual sessions, but Mr. Cooper now applied for the removal of the KING EDWARD license to the NEW INN.

The NEW INN, said Mr. Cooper, was very definitely in an area where a full license was required and if the application were granted the net result would be one beer ‘on’ beer license fewer in the borough. The brewery company did not pretend that the present NEW INN premises were suitable for a full license, but they undertook to submit to the next transfer sessions a scheme to rebuild the house. The plans also provided for a modern house in every respect and would do away with the present awkward corner of Milton Street and Wednesbury Road.

Evidence that there was a demand for wines and spirits by customers of the NEW INN was given by the licensee, Albert Leonard Coley; and by Alfred Pomlett, motor garage proprietor, 6, Milton Street.

The application was opposed by Robert Arnold Hildick, managing director of Whithalls Wines Ltd, who reminded the justices that at the opening sessions on February 9 they refused his company’s application for a wines and spirits off-license for their Wednesbury Road premises, after the Chief Constable and others had opposed on the ground that the district was already adequately served. ‘Although it would be permissible,’ he said, ‘for my company to have a spirits license on the premises, we are prepared to accept your worships’ opinion that the district is adequately served.’

After enumerating licensed premises in the neighbourhood of the Wednesbury Road, Mr. Hildick added: ‘And if we have any fastidious drinkers still not satisfied, it is considerably less than half a mile to the GEORGE HOTEL.’

Mr. Ledbury (justice): Have we any fastidious drinkers in Walsall? – Mr. Hildick: Well, we have sly drinkers.

Subject to the submission of plans for rebuilding the NEW INN, the justices granted the application and they renewed both licenses pending completion of the removal.”

It closed at 2pm on 4th May 1939.

The license was transferred to NEW INN, Wednesbury Road, on 4th May 1939.

The building later became an office for Walsall CID.

It was demolished.

KING GEORGE V

Wallows Lane, Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Courage Ltd. (acquired in July 1980)
Black Country Traditional Inns [2006]
[Admiral Taverns](#)

LICENSEES

Kenneth Dawes (1937 – 1950);
Leslie Jackson Guest (1950 – 1956);
George Thomas Rathbone (1956 – 1962);
Cyril Bertram Davey (1962 – 1963);
Charles Frederick Faulkner (1963 – 1964);
Donald Geoffrey Birch (1964 – [1966]
Frank Robinson [1970s]
Nigel Barker []
Debbie Humphries [] – 2009)
[Raman Singh \[\] – 2021\)](#)

NOTES

It opened at 6pm on 8th May 1937.
The license was transferred from the NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street.

[1939 Register](#)

[Wallows Lane – KING GEORGE V HOTEL](#)

- [1] [Kenneth Dawes](#), date of birth 30/12/1900, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] [Julia Nina Dawes](#), dob 31/8/1908, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] [Brenda A. Cakel](#), dob 7/12/1909, barmaid, married;
- [5] [Violet \(Wilson\) Nicklin](#), dob 19/7/1912, bar general, single;
- [6] [Herbert Knott](#), dob 5/12/1914, steel foundry painter and crane driver, single:

Kenneth Dawes – see also TIGER.

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

W. Butler and Co. Ltd., Springfield Brewery, were summoned in respect of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road; KING GEORGE V, Wallows Lane, DILKE ARMS, Aldridge; The HARDEN, Harden Road; and VINE INN, Lower Hall Street; and the managers, Thomas Henry Atkins, *Kenneth Dawes*, Harry Harvey, Leonard Charles Lampitt, and Edwin George White, for aiding and abetting. Mr. Cooper said this brewery company also had given specific instructions to their managers, and Mr. Hodgkinson emphasised that the managers’ offences were purely of a technical character and that if they had applied for permits for extra supplies they would have got them.

Dawes and *Hawkes* were fined £2 each, the other managers £1 each, and the brewery 10s in each case.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

KING GEORGE V, Wallows Lane. £1 16s 9d
KING GEORGE V (Darts Club), Wallows Lane. £28 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 5/5/1945 - Births

“On May, 2, 1945, at Bescot Nursing Home, to Mr. and Mrs. *K. Dawes*, of KING GEORGE V, Wallows Lane – the precious gift of a daughter.”

George Thomas Rathbone – see also NEWPORT ARMS.

Debbie Humphries – see also BLACK COUNTRY ARMS.

Express & Star 8/3/2021

“A Walsall hotel and pub could lose its licence over alleged Covid breaches – and complaints of trouble and anti-social behaviour. West Midlands Police have called for a review of the licence of KING GEORGE V, in Wallows Lane, following a string of reported incidents at the premises. These include fighting outside the premises, the venue operating outside of permitted hours through lock-ins and neighbours being disturbed by noise from customers leaving in the early hours of the morning. Pub bosses are also accused of committing Covid regulation breaches on a number of occasions during 2020 such as poor social distancing, a lack of face masks and a failure to abide by table service only rules. Police and Walsall Council licensing officers said they spoke with designated premises supervisor *Raman Singh* and Admiral Taverns, which owns the pub, a number of times to address issues. One of the incidents involved a Christmas Eve gathering where police found two members of staff and six customers – from five different households – in the bar breaching Covid rules. Mr. *Singh* was hit with a fixed penalty notice. Chief Superintendent Andy Parsons, of Walsall Police, said they had no confidence in the management of the pub and are calling for the licence to be revoked at a licensing sub-committee hearing on Monday (March 15). He said, ‘The grounds for this review repeated failures of the DPS to work within the confines of the premises licence, the boundaries of statutory nuisance together with his mismanagement of procedures throughout the Covid pandemic. This has been through the premises not following the regulation, which is a criminal offence, but also breaching the extensive guidance designed to help premises operate in a Covid secure manner. This has happened to a level that it is placing an increased risk of infection to the staff, customers attending, officers that need to enforce and the wider community. West Midlands Police can see this has only been done for the purpose of profit and financial gain at a time when other premises, both locally and nationally, have been abiding by the rules in spite of the financial hardship this has caused them.’ The police’s licence review has been backed by Walsall Council’s environmental health and community protection teams.”

Express & Star 16/3/2021

“A Walsall pub which became a hotbed of trouble and left nearby residents ‘living in fear’ has lost its licence despite the ‘difficult’ former boss being kicked out. Between October 2019 and December last year, KING GEORGE V in Wallows Lane was the scene of a raft incidents including a car ramming the front of the property, ‘horrific’ brawls in the street and drinking after hours. A series of breaches of Covid regulations were also committed, a meeting of Walsall Council’s licensing committee heard. Neil Barnes, of pub owners Admiral Taverns, said they had chosen not to renew tenancy agreements with former designated premises supervisor (DPS) *Raman Singh* and had taken sole possession of the pub with a view to sell it. West Midlands Police, who originally called for the licence to be revoked, said they were happy for it to continue now Mr. *Singh* was no longer in the picture. But committee members felt the company should have acted sooner and chose to revoke the licence. Walsall Police’s licensing officer Jennifer Mellor said they had originally tried to work with Mr. *Singh* to address issues and give him a chance but to no avail. Police data showed there had been 19 incidents of disorder between October 2019 and January 2020. Further reports of anti-social behaviour were received between March and December, before a prohibition notice was served on the venue.....”

Express & Star 21/3/2023

“Plans to create flats in place of a Walsall pub which was closed after it became a hotbed of trouble and Covid breaches have failed. Dharam 13 Properties had wanted to convert the old KING GEORGE V HOTEL in Wallows Lane into 11 apartments as hopes of keeping and maintaining it as a pub were deemed unviable. But planning officers at Walsall Council rejected the plan for a number of reasons, including a lack of information provided on the potential impact the development would have on the building. Officers also said the proposal failed to provide a satisfactory standard of amenity for future occupiers, planned extensions would have a detrimental impact on the character of the building as well as concerns over crime and anti-social behaviour.....”

KINGS ARMS

154, (36), High Street, (Little Bloxwich), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Messrs. Leary

Richard Thomas. Coalmaster, Bloxwich [1872]
Manchester Brewery Co. Ltd.
Bloxwich Brewery Co. Ltd. [1906]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Benjamin Bickley [1783]
Bickley [1808]
William Bickley [1813]
T Totty [1818]
William Totty [1828] – [1838]
Richard Thomas [1841] – **1861**;
Richard Sherratt (**1861** – [1862])
John Purdy [1864] – [1866]
Timothy Leary [1868] – [1870]
Timothy Leary & Sons [1872]
Timothy Leary [1872];
John Donnelly [];
Arthur Fallon [];
Thomas Power [];
Joseph Linforth [1881] ?
Alfred Leary [1881] – **1890**;
Thomas Cunningham (**1890** – **1895**);
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Cunningham (**1895** – **1898**);
John Walsh (**1898** – **1904**);
Frederick Charles Taylor (**1904** – **1906**);
David Waterfield (**1906** – **1907**);
George Robert Homeshaw (**1907** – **1913**);
George Edward Johnson (**1913** – **1918**);
Nellie Johnson (**1918** – **1924**);
Francis Thomas Acton (**1924** – [1966])

NOTES

36, High Street [1871]
154, High Street [1901], [1932], [1939], [1940]

OLD KINGS ARMS [1805], [1838], [1849], [1850], [1852], [1858], [1860], [1861], [1868], [1872], [1881]
OLD KINGS HEAD [1870]
KINGS ARMS HOTEL [1924], [1929], [1940]

The Amicable Friendly Society was founded here in 1778.

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/12/1799 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Henshaw, on Monday, the 23rd day of December, instant, at the House of Mr. Robthan, the KINGS ARMS INN, Bloxwich, in the County of Stafford, at Three o’Clock in the Afternoon.

All those Eight (now in Seven) Messuages or Dwelling Houses, with several Shops, Outbuildings, Gardens, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate, and being together, in Bloxwich, aforesaid, now in the occupation of Mr. Wm. Welch and others.

Further particulars will be given in next week’s paper, and in the mean time may be known by application to Mr. Bennett, Attorney, Great Saredon, near Wolverhampton.”

William Bickley, victualler, KINGS ARMS, Little Bloxwich. [1813]

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/5/1805 - Advert

“To be Peremptorily Sold by Auction, By Mr. Henshaw, at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, near Walsall, in the County of Stafford, on Monday, the 17th day of June next, between the hours of three and five in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will then be produced, and all together or in such Lots as shall be then agreed upon:

All those seven Messuages or Dwelling-houses.....”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 8/8/1808 - Advert

“Whimsey Engine, &c.

To be Sold by auction, by F. and J. Pool, on the Friday the 12th day of August 1808, at Mr. *Bickley*'s, the Sign of the KINGS ARMS, at Bloxwich at Four o'Clock in the Afternoon.

11 Plain Pipes, 9 Feet Long, 9 inches Diameter.

1 ditto, 6 Feet Long, ditto.

1 Bucket Door Piece, 9 Feet Long.

1 Working Barrel, 9 Feet Long, 8½ Inches Diameter.

1 Clack Door Piece, 6 Feet Long.

1 Shaft Hole Pipe, 9 Feet Long.

About 28 Yards of Iron Rods, 1¼ Inch Diameter, with Hoop Joints.

Two Wood Rods with Iron Joints.

Also a Whimsey Boiler and several other Articles.

N.B. The Whole of the Pipes are very good, and were cast at Coalbrook Dale. The Property lies in a Field near the lower End of Essington Wood.

Further information may be had by applying to Mr. Wilcox, at Essington Wood Colliery.”

William Totty = William Tottie

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1829

“Sessions for the Borough and Foreign of Walsall.....

Charles Robotham, was indicted for stealing, on the 9th of December last, three fowls, the property of *William Tottey*, of the KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, and Samuel Harvey, for receiving the same knowing them to have been stolen. Both prisoners were found guilty, and each sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment and hard labour.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 9/7/1838 - Advert

“KINGS ARMS INN, Bloxwich, near Walsall.

To be disposed of, the Licenses, Good-will, and immediate Possession of that old-established Inn, known by the sign of the KINGS ARMS, situated by the great roadside leading from Walsall to Stafford, and near to Bloxwich Chapel, with capital cellaring, large club-room, capital stable, entire yard, and every suitable out-office, with a large Garden behind the same, well planted with choice fruit and other trees, also a six-quarter malthouse adjoining the same.

The above Inn has been carried on with great success by Mr. *W. Totty* and his family for the last twenty years, who is leaving in consequence of other engagements.

The Stock, Fixtures, &c, to be taken to at a fair valuation.

The above is an opportunity which seldom offers as a permanent business.

For particulars apply to Mr. *Totty* on the Premises, or to Farrington and Son, Appraisers and General Agents, Walsall (if by letter, post paid).”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/3/1842

“Staffordshire Lent Assizes. Nisi Prius Court, Tuesday. (Before Mr. Justice Patterson.)

The Queen v. John Wray.

This was an indictment in which the defendant was charged with other persons with taking away a voter named Joseph Beech, in order to prevent his voting at the Walsall election in February, 1841.

From the evidence of the prosecutor, it appeared he went into the KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, on the night before the Walsall election, which took place on the 2nd of February, 1841; that some persons gave him some brandy, and ale, which tasted sweet, and that Wray and another person afterwards took him by force in a chaise to Lichfield, where he was kept until the election was over on the next day. After some consultation the jury returned a verdict of guilty.

On Thursday the defendant was sentenced to a months' imprisonment.”

Richard Thomas was also a maltster and farmer. [1849], [1850]

He was also a maltster. [1851]

1851 Census

KINGS ARMS

[1] *Richard Thomas* (40), maltster and innkeeper, born Alrewas, Staffordshire;

[2] Ann Thomas (41), wife, born Lyston, Leicestershire;

[3] Frederick Thomas (15), son, scholar at home, born Alrewas, Staffordshire;

[4] Mary Ann Thomas (11), daughter, scholar at home, born Bloxwich;

[5] Richard Thomas (8), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[6] Henry Thomas (6), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[7] Charles Thomas (6), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[8] Edgar Thomas (2), son, born Bloxwich;

[9] Alfred Thomas (9 months), son, born Bloxwich;

[10] Jane Sharrat (29), house servant and waiter, born Withington, Staffordshire;

[11] Henry Hacker (19), house servant, born Alrewas, Staffordshire;

[12] Rosina Baker (14), house servant, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/8/1852

“On Friday last the electors of Bloxwich, following the example of their neighbours at Walsall, invited Mr. Marshall to a public dinner previous to his return to London. The dinner took place at the OLD KINGS ARMS INN, Bloxwich, when upwards of 40 of the supporters of Mr. Marshall assembled to do honour to their respected guest.....

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1857 - Advert

“Freehold Houses, Malthouse, And Building Land At Bloxwich, Near Walsall, in the county of Stafford.

Mr. Joseph Dawes will Sell by Auction, on Friday, the 11th day of September, 1857, at six o'clock in the evening, at the KINGS ARMS INN.....”

Walsall Free Press 9/4/1859

“George Bagley was charged with having on the evening of Monday last, assaulted Sergeant Simpson and PC Smith, in the execution of their duty. It appeared that on the evening in question, the officer Smith went to the OLD KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, to quell a disturbance, and was assaulted by the prisoner. Sergeant Simpson, who came to his assistance, was also assaulted and kicked by the prisoner, who was then seized and conveyed to the lockup. The prisoner was fined 40s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for one month.”

Walsall Free Press 3/9/1859

“The Bench proceeded to the applications for the renewal of old, and the granting of new licenses.....

Mr. Duignan supported an application on behalf of Mr. *Richard Thomas*, landlord of the KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, for a license for a house in the course of completion, near to the Railway Station. The Mayor intimated that the application was refused on the ground that the house was not completed.

Mr. Newman wished it to be understood that he did not concur in the opinion expressed by the Mayor, and he (Mr. Newman) was of opinion that the license should be granted.

The Mayor considered the observation of Mr. Newman quite uncalled for. He (the Mayor) did not say the Bench were unanimous in the opinion, but he might state it was the opinion of eight of the magistrates present, that the license should not be granted.

Mr. Oerton said it had always been the rule that the opinion of a majority of the Bench should be held decisive in such cases.

Mr. Duignan here addressed the Bench on behalf of his client, Mr. *Thomas*, whose application had been refused. He said from the remarks of his worship the Mayor, he understood the objection to his client's application was the fact that the house, for which the license was sought, being now in an unfinished state. With that understanding he would request that the consideration of the case should be allowed to stand over till the adjourned licensing day, which must be held next month, by which time the house would be finished.

The Mayor: Though that was one, it was not the only ground of objection. – Mr. Duignan: Such being the case, I bow to the decision of the Bench.”

Birmingham Journal 24/12/1859 - Advert

“900 Yards of Freehold Land, Public House, Dwelling Houses, &c, at Blakenall, in the Foreign of Walsall.

To Be Sold by Auction, by John Osbourn, on Friday, January 6, 1860, at Six o'clock in the evening at the house of Mr. *Richard Thomas*, the KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich. All that messuage now used as a Beerhouse, but erected for and intended to be used as a Public House, in the occupation of Joseph Beech, situated at the junction of Blakenall Street and Forster Street, in a thriving and rapidly improving district.

Also the Four Dwelling Houses adjoining, situate in Forster Street, in the several occupations of Walters, Fletcher, Ruskin, and one void. The whole estimated to produce an annual rental of £46 13s 3d.

Also the Five Dwelling Houses and the Out-buildings adjoining the above, situate on Blakenall Street, now in the course of erection, three of which Dwelling Houses are nearly complete.

There is a Well of excellent water attached, and some available vacant Land at the back.

The whole (including the site of the buildings) contains an area of 900 square yards.

The above offers a tempting opportunity to Builders and others desiring a profitable investment.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. Duignan and Ebsworth, Solicitors; or to the Auctioneer, all of Walsall.”

Richard Thomas was also a farmer, maltster, coal and ironstone master, and brickmaker. [1860]

Walsall Free Press 17/3/1860

“John Hurley was charged by Sergeant Martin with having been drunk and disorderly, at Bloxwich, on Sunday afternoon. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to pay a fine of £1 and 6s 6d costs, or be imprisoned for fourteen days. From the evidence of Sergeant Martin and Mr. *Thomas*, landlord of the KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, it appeared that the defendant and six others went to Mr. *Thomas*'s house shortly after three o'clock on Sunday afternoon, in a state of intoxication, and on being refused, they became very unruly, whereupon Mr. *Thomas* went into the street to call a policeman, and on returning the men met him in the passage and turned him out of his own house.”

Richard Thomas was described as a coal and brick master and farmer. [1861]

Birmingham Daily Post 21/8/1862 - Advert

“To Parties Requiring An Old-Established, Respectable Inn, (held by the last Tenant upwards of Twenty years).

The KINGS ARMS INN, Bloxwich.

To be let, and immediate possession may be had. The present Proprietor having entered into other engagements, he is compelled to give it up. It is situated exactly opposite the Church, and is well known to all to be the best inn in the place.

To view and for terms, which are moderate, apply on the Premises, or to R. L. Courtney, Auctioneer, High Street, West Bromwich.”

Walsall Free Press 22/9/1866

“Ancient Order Of Foresters, (Walsall District).

Court Richard Cour-De-Lion, No.4941, a Branch of the above Order had been opened at the House of Mr. *John Purdy*, KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich. Any Person wishing to become a member may obtain every information at the Court House.”

Edinburgh Gazette 24/3/1868

“Bankrupts. *John Purdy*, of the ANCHOR INN, Bridgman Street, and formerly of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, both in Walsall, Stafford, licensed victualler and commission agent.”

Walsall Free Press 16/4/1870

“John Smith was summoned for threatening to murder John Donally, on Tuesday last.

Complainant is in the employ of Mr. *O’Leary*, landlord of the KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich. Defendant came in and was endeavouring to search a person’s pocket who was there, when complainant remonstrated and defendant used bad language and threatened to murder him. Bound over to keep the peace for six months – himself in £10 and one surety in £5.”

1871 Census

36, High Street – KINGS ARMS

[1] *John Donnelly* (25), unmarried, person in charge, barman, domestic servant, born Ireland;

[2] Sarah Farlner (?) (22), housekeeper, born Wilenhall:

Midland Examiner 22/5/1875

“William Mayner was charged by Joseph Leary, of Wolverhampton, with having wilfully damaged some glass at Bloxwich. It was shown that on Friday night the defendant went into the KINGS ARMS INN, Bloxwich. He was drunk and requested to leave the house, which he did. He again entered the house, and on being ejected broke four panes of glass with his hand. The panes were valued at 9d each. Fined 2s 6d, 2s 6d, and the costs; or in default of payment, 14, days’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

1881 Census

High Street – OLD KINGS ARMS

[1] *Joseph Linforth* (27), manager spirit vaults, born America;

[2] Anne Linforth (25), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] Mary Linforth (1), daughter, born Wednesfield:

Thomas Cunningham married *Mary Elizabeth Baker*, daughter of James Baker – see QUEENS HEAD, Commonside, Pensnett, Brierley Hill.

1891 Census

High Street – KINGS ARMS INN

[1] *Thomas Cunningham* (58), licensed victualler, born Ireland;

[2] *Mary Elizabeth Cunningham* (49), wife, born Kingswinford;

[3] James Patrick Cunningham (18), son, tailor’s apprentice, born Wolverhampton;

[4] John Ignatius Cunningham (17), son, assisting, born Wolverhampton;

[5] Mary Elizabeth Cunningham (15), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;

[6] Margareta Cunningham (11), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;

[7] Sarah Cicily Cunningham (9), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;

[8] Ellen Cunningham (8), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[9] William Bernard Cunningham (4), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[10] Mary Jones (20), general servant, born Kingswinford;

[11] Alice Baughin (18), visitor, born Kingswinford;

[12] Selina Golden (18), visitor, born Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

John Walsh, KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, served 94 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children

served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views..... On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

“The Angling Club. The annual dinner of this club took place on Thursday, the 28th ult, at the KINGS ARMS.....”

Walsall Observer 14/7/1900

“A Social Gathering of a few friends of the Host was held at the KINGS ARMS on Tuesday, and after full justice had been done to the good things provided, Mr. Edward Walker was invited to the chair, and Mr. Stanley to the vice chair, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.....”

1901 Census

154, High Street

[1] *John Walsh* (28), licensed victualler, born Bilston;

[2] Florence Walsh (29), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Mary B. Walsh (4), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] Monica Walsh (3), daughter, born Willenhall;

[5] Cisila Walsh (1), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[6] Margaret Walsh (20), sister, barmaid, born Willenhall;

[7] Maria Myhall (13), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) applied on behalf of the Bloxwich Brewery Company for the approval of plans for the alteration of the KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich. The present licensed area was 2,450 square yards, and it was proposed to cut off about 400 square yards, and give up the land to the Corporation to widen the street. That would be a great public improvement, but based their application on its merits rather than on that. There would be a new smoke room, an alteration to the out-door department, and a new club-room less than the old one. The main benefit would be for the convenience of the landlord and public.

Mr. H. H. Farmer (Hickton and Farmer) put in the plans.

The Chief Constable said the effect of the alterations would be to make the place more compact. There would be some increase in the drinking area, but a reduction in the licensed area.....

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had adjourned all the plans, and proposed to visit the houses next Wednesday. They would be glad if the architects would accompany them.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1906

“Yesterday the adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall.....

Several applications for the approval of plans for alterations, had been deferred from the annual licensing meeting for the magistrates to visit the premises. The Bench decided as under.....

KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, approved.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/5/1907

“I am very sorry,” said William Wilkes, a respectable looking young collier, of 122, Stafford Road, Bloxwich, in reply to a charge of being drunk on licensed premises. On April 22nd Inspector Marshall was called to the KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, where he found the landlord struggling with defendant, who was drunk and would not leave the house. Fined 5s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Members..... *G. R. Homeshaw*, KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/3/1909

“On Thursday evening last, at the KINGS ARMS, Hotel, Bloxwich, Mr. A. C. Fraser, FAI, (Watkins, Powell, and Wood), conducted a very successful sale of the property of the late Mr. William Somerfield. There was a large and representative company present, and great interest was evinced in the sale. The property consists of a freehold house, known as Bellfield House, Stafford Road, Bloxwich, with the land adjoining, the whole containing an area of about 8,300 square yards, and being assessed for poor’s rates at £35. The first bid was one of £600, but spontaneous competition soon raised this to £1,250 at which satisfactory price the property was sold. Mr. Enoch Evans, of Bridge Street, Walsall, was the solicitor acting for the vendors.”

1911 Census

KINGS ARMS HOTEL

- [1] *George Robert Homeshaw* (36), licensed victualler, born Hatherton, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Dora Homeshaw* (31), wife, married 9 years, born Cannock, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Herbert Homeshaw* (8), son, born Cannock, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Ernest James Homeshaw* (1), son, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Julia Thornsby* (25), servant, born Dudley:

Walsall Advertiser 20/5/1911

“Bowling. The KINGS ARMS club, Bloxwich, opened their green on Thursday afternoon, but there was no formal ceremony, the members having friendly games among themselves. The green is certainly in grand condition and gives evidence of much work having been bestowed upon it. In all, the club has arranged three home and away matches – Caldmore Conservatives, Paddock and North Walsall. The first match is with the Caldmore Club, at home, on June 10th. The membership now stands at 60, which shows the club is much appreciated.”

Walsall Observer 13/5/1916

“At the Borough Police Court, on Wednesday, before Messrs. W. Millerchip, A. Jagger, and E. C. Windle, another batch of offences against the Lighting Order appeared.....

In the case of *George E. Johnson*, KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich, evidence was given by Police-constable Gibbs that a beam of light was showing from the house sufficient for him to read his notebook.

Cross-examined by Mr. H. H. Jackson, who defended, witness said in his opinion the beam came from an incandescent light.

Mr. Jackson urged that there were forty windows in the house, and everything had been done to carry out the Order. In the previous instance a candle through the side of the blind, and it was only there for a few minutes. Fined 20s.”

Walsall Observer 29/11/1924

“A quarter of a century’s successful working was celebrated at the annual dinner of the Bloxwich Tradesmen’s Association, held at the KINGS ARMS HOTEL, Bloxwich, on Thursday evening. There was a company of about 50 members and their friends, who did full justice to the enjoyable repast provided, and proved keenly appreciative of the high class musical programme, interspersed with toasts, which followed.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/3/1929

“Bloxwich Musical Society. This society had the last concert of the season at the KINGS ARMS HOTEL, Bloxwich, on Monday evening. Mr. Garnett Orton presided, and Mr. H. Davis, organist of Rushall Church, was the accompanist. The artistes were Messrs. Norman Archer (tenor), C. J. Earing (bass), J. Powell (baritone), J. Garbett (tenor), and J. Robinson (tenor), and J. Robinson (comedian).”

Walsall Observer 22/4/1933

“At a meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held at the KINGS ARMS INN, High Street, Bloxwich, on Thursday week, Councillor Alfred Medlam presided over a very large attendance and Mr. Harry Langley was in the vice-chair. It was agreed that the question as to licensees following additional occupations should be considered at the next meeting.....”

1939 Register

154, High Street – KINGS ARMS

- [1] *Francis T. Acton*, date of birth 21/7/1885, manager (hotel), married;
- [2] *Edith M. Acton*, dob 11/11/1886, manageress (hotel), married;
- [3] *Ernest F. Acton*, dob 26/3/1907, motor mechanic, single;
- [4] *Evelyn M. (Acton) Rowbotham*, dob 21/3/1911, typist, single:

Walsall Observer 16/11/1940

“Lighting Orders. *Francis Thomas Acton*, licensee of the KINGS ARMS HOTEL, Bloxwich, where two yard lights were accidentally put on from an inside switch board on the night of October 9. Fined 20s.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich. £6 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich. £7 7s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....
KINGS ARMS, High Street, Bloxwich.”

It closed in 1984.

KINGS HEAD

Ingram Road, (Walker Road), (79, (113), Blakenall), Blakenall Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Thomas Emery, bit maker, Blakenall. [1860]
Lichfield Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired on 7th January 1930)
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased from 23rd January 1936)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)

LICENSEES

Sarah Horton [1841] – [1842]
Simeon Robotham [1851] – [1861]
Robert Badkin* [1863]
Robert Rathin* [1864]
Robert Batkin* [] – **1865**);
Richard Tomlinson (**1865** – []
George Ross [1868] – []
Thomas Ross [1870] – [1871]
George Ross [] – **1873**);
Thomas Ross (**1873** – [];
Benjamin George Evans [1876] – [1877];
Henry Corser [];
Job Daniels [1881]
C Mansfield [1902] ?
William Wooldridge [1891] – **1930**);
Charles Henry Harper (**1930** – **1943**);
Lilian Harper (**1943** – **1944**);
John Henry Perkins (**1944** – **1951**);
Matilda Perkins (**1951** – **1961**);
Gerald William Green (**1961** – **1964**);
Ruby Webster (**1964** – [1966]

NOTES

Blakenhall, Bloxwich [1864], [1868]
79, Blakenall [1881]
79, Blakenall Common [1891]
Blakenall Heath [1912], [1940]
KINGS ARMS [1851]
KINGS HEAD [1861], [1864], [1870], [1912], [1940]
Walker Road [1939]

Simeon Robotham = Simeon Rowbatham

* possibly the same person

Walsall Free Press 20/6/1863

“*Robert Badkin*, publican, Blakenall, pleaded guilty to having had his house open for the sale of liquor at twenty minutes to five, on the afternoon of Sunday, the 7th inst. As it appeared the house had been opened by the defendant’s brother, who had been left in charge, and who had opened the house under the mistaken impression that four o’clock was the hour for opening, the defendant was only fined 1s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/2/1870

“John Rowley, was fined 10s and costs, with the option of 14 days’ imprisonment for having refused to quit the house of Mr. T. Ross, Blakenall, on the previous Monday night.”

Thomas Ross was also a stirrup maker. [1871]

1871 Census

113, Blakenall – KINGS HEAD

- [1] *Thomas Ross* (48), stirrup maker, born Pelsall;
- [2] Ann Ross (45), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Elizabeth Ross (9), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Agnes Ross (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] George Ross (4) son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] John Sherwood (30), visitor, stone mason, born Darlaston;
- [7] Mary Sherwood (20), visitor, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/11/1876

“*Benjamin George Evans*, of the KINGS HEAD INN, Blakenall, was summoned at the instance of the police, for having permitted drunkenness on his premises on the previous Sunday. Mr. Chidley (from the offices of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) appeared for the defendant.

The principal witness against the defendant was Lucy Oates, wife of an engine-tender, who deposed that she went to the defendant’s house on the afternoon of the day named just before closing time, and there found her husband and five other men, all of whom were ‘beastly drunk.’ She told the defendant that it was a shame to supply people with drink while in such a state, and immediately afterwards the defendant’s wife took another quart of beer into the room to the men. This statement was corroborated by a lad who was with Mrs. Oates at the time. For the defence, witnesses were called, who denied that the men were drunk. A fine of £5 and costs was imposed, the license not to be endorsed. Mr. Chidley gave notice of appeal.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/2/1877

“*Benjamin George Evans*, of the KINGS HEAD public-house, Blakenall, appealed against a decision of the borough justices, convicting him of having, on Sunday afternoon, the 19th of November, permitted drunkenness. Mr. Underhill (instructed by Mr. Cartwright, jun.) appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Plumtre (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Gillespie) for the respondents. At the close of the case which occupied between two and three hours, the Deputy Recorder said that beyond doubt the magistrates were right in convicting the appellant of the offence; and although he should have been as well of better pleased if the penalty had been less than £5; yet when he remembered that the offence was committed on a Sunday he did not feel disposed to alter the conviction, which would therefore be sustained with costs. Order accordingly.”

1881 Census

79, Blakenall – KINGS HEAD

- [1] *Job Daniels* (47), coal miner, born British Market, Shropshire;
- [2] Emily Daniels (53), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Job Daniels (16), son, saddler, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Job Edwards (5), grandson, born Bloxwich;
- [5] William Stetton (55), visitor, miner, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Sarah Ann ____ (14), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

1891 Census

79, Blakenall Common – KINGS HEAD

- [1] *William Wooldridge* (33), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Althea Wooldridge (26), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Althea Wooldridge (3), daughter, born Blakenall;
- [4] Olive Wooldridge (1), daughter, born Blakenall;
- [5] Susannah Smith (19), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Observer 20/1/1900

“On Saturday evening last, January 13th, the players and members of the Blakenall Villa Football Club were entertained to dinner at the headquarters, KINGS HEAD INN, Blakenall Heath, by the host Mr. *William Wooldridge*. A splendid repast was catered for, to which all did justice. After the cloth was withdrawn Mr. P. Wootton was voted to the chair.....”

William Wooldridge was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

Blakenall Heath – KINGS HEAD

- [1] *William Wooldridge* (42), widower, licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Althea Wooldridge* (13), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Olive Wooldridge* (11), daughter, born Blakenall;
- [4] *Gladys Wooldridge* (8), daughter, born Blakenall;
- [5] *Gertrude Wootton* (30), relative, housemaid, born Birchills, Walsall:

1911 Census

Blakenall – KINGS HEAD INN

- [1] *William Wooldridge* (52), licensed victualler, widower, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Laura Wooldridge* (20), daughter, housekeeper, born Blakenall;
- [3] *Gladys Wooldridge* (18), daughter, barmaid, born Blakenall;
- [4] *Edna Anne Wooldridge* (14), daughter, dress maker's apprentice, born Blakenall:

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1911

“Phoenix Football Club.

The chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks be accorded Mr. *Wooldridge*, of the KINGS HEAD, Blakenall for the use of the ground last season. He was sure they would all agree with him that it was one of the best grounds they had ever had, and it was kept in a first-rate condition, while they were always treated with the utmost hospitality by Mr. *Wooldridge*, whose kindness they much appreciated. He would also like to thank Mr. And Mrs. Powell, the host and hostess of the VINE, for their kindness.....”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
KINGS HEAD, Blakenall. £0 8s 2d.”

Demolished

It was rebuilt in 1929.

Lichfield Mercury 21/2/1936

“Pelsall defeated Walsall Rising Sun at the KINGS HEAD ground Blakenall, on Saturday, by three goals to one, and thus qualified to meet Bloxwich Social in the final of the Bloxwich Combination Inter League Shield.”

Walsall Observer 16/9/1939

“Yesterday, twelve further prosecutions for alleged lighting offences were taken.....

‘The missus had been trying to buy some blinds,’ said *Charles Harper* (40), licensee of the KINGS HEAD, Blakenall Heath. He admitted that light could be seen from two windows on the night of September 9, but disagreed with the constable’s evidence that it could be seen from any point on Blakenall Heath. Some attempt, it was stated, had been made at screening. A fine of 10s was imposed.”

1939 Register

Walker Road – KINGS HEAD (2 of 5)

- [1] *Charles Harper*, date of birth 9/11/1890, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Lily Harper*, dob 7/1/1897, unpaid domestic duties, married;

1944 Probate

“*Charles Henry Harper*, of the KINGS HEAD INN, Blakenall, Walsall, Staffordshire, died 25 September 1943. Administration (limited) Birmingham 18 May to *Lilian Harper*, widow, and *Harriett Stallard* (wife of *William Stallard*). Effects £1,312 2s.”

[2017]

KINGS HEAD

Blakenall Green, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Emery [1859] – [1862]

NOTES

Walsall Free Press 3/9/1859

“The bench proceeded to the applications for the renewal of old, and the granting of new licenses.....

“Mr. Duignan made an unsuccessful application on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Emery*, beerhouse keeper, of Blakenall. The Bench, however, complimented Mr. *Emery* on the condition in which they found his house, and stated that if the locality became more populous, he would stand a good chance of obtaining a license.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....
Thomas Emery, Blakenhall. Refused.”

Thomas Emery was also a bridle bit maker. [1860], [1861]

Walsall Free Press 18/5/1861

“Thomas Emery, Philip Emery, and William Nicholls, were charged by the police with being drunk and disorderly, at Blakenall, on the night of May 11th. Mr. Mathews (from the office of Mr. S. Wilkinson) appeared for the police, and Mr. Ebsworth for the defendant William Nichols. Police-constable Beebee (No.13) deposed that he was on duty near the KINGS HEAD, Blakenall Green, on Saturday night. About twelve o’clock he heard a noise and entered the KINGS HEAD, where he found the defendants about to fight, and laying down money on the event of the contest. He was requested to interfere by the people of the house, and ordered defendants out. Nicholls committed a very indecent act before doing so. Outside there was a row between him and defendants, and he was obliged to use a stick he had in his hand.

Cross-examined: He was obliged to strike Nicholls across the back, or he believed he would have been murdered. He was summoned by Nicholls for that assault. Harriet Brown, barmaid of the KINGS HEAD, deposed to the drunken and disorderly condition of defendant, and hinted at the indecent conduct of Nicholls. A conversation here ensued between the learned gentlemen and the Bench, relative to the advisability of hearing the evidence of two other summonses, arising out of the same circumstances, at once, and disposing of them altogether. It was decided, however, that the present case should be heard separately. Mr. Ebsworth, after an explanatory speech, called Abraham Wilkinson, waiter of the KINGS HEAD, who swore that Nicholls was not drunk, and that the officer went into the house and had some ale there. He afterwards came in again and ordered the three defendants out. They went out, and witness with them. Nicholls then made the remark that he would report Beebee to the ‘super,’ and Beebee then came up and pushed him violently for having said so. A dispute then arose, and Beebee knocked Nicholls down with a stick. In cross-examination, this witness denied that Nicholls had done anything indecent, or acted insulting towards the officer, except in asking him how his ‘grandmother’ was.

Both the Emerys questioned the witness, with a view to showing that they were not drunk. The Bench was of opinion that the testimony of either the barmaid, or the police-officer, was more that worthy of credence than that of Wilkinson, and fined each of the defendants in the sum of 2s 6d and costs.”

[The Bench dismissed the summons of Nicholls against Police-constable Beebee.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/6/1861

“*Thomas Emery*, beerhouse keeper, Blakenall, was charged with having kept his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours. Police-constable Beeby stated that the house was open till half-past eleven o’clock on the night of the 10th inst. The defendant had been previously convicted for a similar offence. Fined 10s and cost.”

[This is NOT the same as the one at Blakenall Heath.]

KING WILLIAM

17, Fishley Lane, (8, (6), (1), Little Bloxwich), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Mrs. Martha Harrison, Field House, Bloxwich
Thomas Saunders, grocer, High Street, Bloxwich

LICENSEES

James Franklin [1849] – [1865]

John Hancox [1868] – 1890;

Joseph Hancox (1890 – 1901);

George James Sambrook (1901 – 1906);

George William Sambrooke [1904] ?

NOTES

8, Little Bloxwich [1861]
6, Little Bloxwich [1871]
1, Little Bloxwich [1881]
Fishley Lane

KING WILLIAM THE 4TH [1851]

It was a coaching inn.

1851 Census

Little Bloxwich – KING WILLIAM THE 4th

- [1] *James Franklin* (48), victualler, born Cradley, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Emma Franklin* (50), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Sarah Franklin* (18), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Emma Teece* (11), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/1/1858

“On Tuesday evening an inquest was held before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Borough Coroner, at the KING WILLIAM, Little Bloxwich, on the body of Martin Gibbons, aged 74, a pensioner. It appeared that the deceased went to Walsall on the 6th to draw his pension, accompanied by his son and some other person. Between 3 and 4 o’clock in the afternoon, the party being on their return home, came up with a waggon belonging to Mr. Freeth, containing lime, which was proceeding in the same direction. In spite of the opposition of the waggoner, the party placed the old man, who was blind, upon the shaft of the vehicle. Before, however, he had been there more than a few minutes, the hind horse became restive, and raised the shaft. The deceased called out that he was hurt, and was taken to the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, and from thence removed in a car to his own residence. It was not until several days afterwards that medical assistance was called in, and it was then discovered that several of his ribs were broken. He died on Saturday.

The jury found that the deceased had been killed by riding on a waggon.”

1861 Census

8, Little Bloxwich

- [1] *James Franklin* (59), victualler, born Cradely [Cradley?], Worcestershire;
- [2] *Emma Franklin* (60), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Henry Davis* (18), grandson, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *James Davis* (6), grandson, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Betsey Smith* (14), servant, home duties, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Thomas Stokes* (20), servant, agricultural labourer, born Bloxwich:

John Hancox was also a shopkeeper. [1868], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

6, Little Bloxwich – Public House

- [1] *John Hancox* (51), licensed victualler, born Essington;
- [2] *Catherine Hancox* (46), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Mary Ann Hancox* (19), daughter, domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Joseph Hancox* (16), son, fireman, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Emma Hancox* (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Eliza Ann Hancox* (5), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Richard Hancox* (8 months), son, born Bloxwich:

1881 Census

1, Little Bloxwich – KING WILLIAM

- [1] *John Hancox* (61), licensed victualler, born Essington;
- [2] *Catherine Hancox* (57), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Emma Hancox* (18), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Richard Hancox* (10), son, scholar, born Little Bloxwich:

Lichfield Mercury 25/11/1887

“On Monday night *Eliza Hancox* (21), died at the house of her parents, the KING WILLIAM INN, Little Bloxwich, from the effects of injuries to the head caused by a fall downstairs on the 28th ult. She appeared to be going favourably, under the care of Dr.

Somerville and his assistant (Mr. Jones), until Sunday, when she became worse, and gradually sank until the time of her death.”

1891 Census

Little Bloxwich – KING WILLIAM INN

- [1] *Joseph Hancox* (35), widower, publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Esther Hancox* (20), daughter, housekeeper, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Florence Hancox* (18), daughter, servant, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *John Hancox* (10), son, born Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 14/5/1891

“At the Walsall Guildhall yesterday, *Joseph Hancox*, the KING WILLIAM INN, Bloxwich, and *Richard Hancox*, his brother, New Town, were summoned for having assaulted *Arthur Cartwright*, the BELL INN, Bloxwich, and *Cartwright* and *Joseph Beech jun*, also of the BELL INN, were summoned for having assaulted *Joseph Hancox*. Mr. Cotterell appeared for *Cartwright* and *Beech*, and Mr. H. H. Jackson for the other parties.

Cartwright’s case was to the effect that he reached home at eleven o’clock on the night of the 5th inst, and went into the stable to put up his horse. His wife came and began to push him about, which was a very common thing with her, and the elder *Hancox* entered and also assaulted him, the younger one coming in later and behaving in like manner. *Joseph Hancox* forced his way into the house, but was put out by the complainant’s father-in-law, Mr. *Beech*, sen, the keeper of the house; and subsequently complainant found his wife and *Hancox* together, first in the stable, and afterwards some distance along the road. He was then assaulted again by his wife, a very powerful woman, holding him so that he could not strike back. She did not return to his home that night.

The case on the other side was that the brothers *Hancox* were driving past the BELL INN, when they heard Mrs. *Cartwright* screaming, and on the elder one going in to find out what was the matter he saw her on the floor, and her husband holding her down. He released her, and was assaulted by her husband, and also by her brother, *Joseph Beech*, who struck him on the head with a poker or bar of iron.

The magistrates, without hearing all the witnesses in court, dismissed the summonses against *Cartwright* and *Beech*, and fined the other two – *Joseph Hancox* 40s and costs, or twenty-one days’ imprisonment; and *Richard Hancox* 5s and costs, or ten days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/9/1894

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Sep 13 at the house of Mr. *George Maund*, the VAULTS, High Street.

Mr. *Joseph Hancox*, KING WILLIAM INN, Little Bloxwich, was elected a member of the committee.”

Lichfield Mercury 29/11/1895 - Advert

“Wanted, Cowman (Single), to live in; able to Hedge and Thatch. Character required. Apply, *Hancox*, KING WILLIAM INN, Little Bloxwich.”

Joseph Hancox was also a shopkeeper. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.

6th August, *Joseph Hancox*, KING WILLIAM, Little Bloxwich, fined 20s and costs for selling after the expiration of an occasional license.

Objection to renewal.

With regard to the KING WILLIAM, Little Bloxwich, Mr *Jackson*, who supported the application for renewal, said the offence was for selling after the expiration of the license on a field, and not on the ordinary licensed premises. He emphasised that point, and hoped the Bench would observe the distinction. Opposition withdrawn.”

1901 Census

17, Fishley Lane – KING WILLIAM INN

- [1] *George J. Sambrook* (32), public house manager, born Great Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Agnes Sambrook* (21), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Sambrook* (29), brother, barman, born Great Wyrley:

Walsall Advertiser 30/3/1901

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.

New Members. *George Sambrook*, KING WILLIAM INN, Little Bloxwich.”

George William Sambrooke was also a shopkeeper. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable inter-

est. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

George James Sambrook, KING WILLIAM.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day.....

ROYAL OAK INN, Goscote; BARLEY MOW INN, NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich; and KING WILLIAM INN, Little Bloxwich, were renewed, with an intimation from the Magistrates that they considered the licenses in both districts were in excess of the requirements.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1904

“Walsall & District Air-Gun League. Hospital Cup & Medals.

The concluding draw, to be shot on Tuesday next, the 21st inst, at the VINE HOTEL, Lower Hall Lane, is as under:

1. VOLUNTEER or KING WILLIAM v GOLDEN EAGLE.

2. NEWPORT No.1 or CRITERION v CROWN or Leamore.

Final. Winner of No.2 v Winner of No.1.

The first team to have choice of shooting. The first match to commence at 8pm sharp, the second at 8.45, final at 9.45. Individuals to immediately follow.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/7/1904 - Notice

“Walsall & District Air-Gun League.

Hospital Cup And Medals.

The Presentation of the above will take place on Tuesday next, the 12th inst, at the FORGE INN, Pleck Road, at 8.30pm. All interested in Air-Gun Shooting are invited to attend. The winners are NEWPORT No.1. Runner-up, KING WILLIAM, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/1/1906

“At Walsall Guildhall on Tuesday, a miner named George Law, of 4, Bellfield Row, was charged with stealing by a trick 2s 6d, the money of George Herbert Jones, of 20, West Street, Leamore.

Prosecutor stated that he was crossing some fields when he met defendant who asked him to change a half-crown. He gave him the change not knowing it was a bad one. The following day he went into the KING WILLIAM where he was told he had a bad half-crown in his possession. In answer to questions prosecutor said he didn't know the defendant's name at the time but knew him by sight. He afterwards informed Inspector Marshall with whom he went to defendant's house.

Mr. *Sambrook*, licensee of the KING WILLIAM, gave evidence to the effect that defendant came to his house on the date named and asked for a pint of ale, for which he handed in a half a sovereign, and he gave him 9s 9d change. The following day defendant came again to his house and said that he (witness) had given him a bad half-crown among his change. He asked him why he did not bring it back before, and defendant said he had not found out till then.

Thomas Ward, of Pelsall Wood, said he was in company with defendant when he asked prosecutor to change the half-crown.

Asked why he (defendant) wanted it changed, witness said that it was because it was a bad one.

Defendant said that when he met the prosecutor they were just going to have a game of cards, and he wanted 2s 6d changing. He had two half-crowns in his pocket at the time and did not know until he got home that he had given the prosecutor the bad one.

He had meant to mention it to Inspector Marshall but had not have time.

Fined 20s and costs or 14 days.”

It closed on 1st February 1906.

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Chief Constable had given notice of objection to the renewal of the following seven licenses; William Henry Lowe, ACORN, alehouse, Lower Rushall Street; James Scott, JOLLY BACCHUS, alehouse, New Street; *George James Sambrook*, KING WILLIAM, alehouse, Little Bloxwich; William Wright, OLD OAK, beerhouse, Upper Hall Lane; William Alfred Burton, STORES, beerhouse, Ablewell Street; George Carrington, STORES, beerhouse, Upper Rushall Street; John James Lawrence, STORES, beerhouse, High Street.

Mr. Loxton said these objections were by direction of the Bench, and he had also served notices on behalf of the magistrates, simply to comply with the section of the Act of Parliament, and without forming any opinion or prejudging cases. The justices directed him to state for the convenience of the advocates that the objections were mainly on the grounds of not required which would necessitate their being referred to the Compensatory Authority. But if during the hearing of the cases the grounds should be such as to justify the refusal of renewal on grounds without compensation, the advocate would be required to direct his attention to such grounds.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said he came there on the understanding that it was the intention to refer those licenses to the Compensatory

Authority to report on.

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had inspected a number of houses with a view to whether they should report to the Compensatory Authority. It might be that some houses were structurally unfit, and in such case they would refuse the license, and they would have to go the quarter sessions.....

With regard to the KING WILLIAM, of Little Bloxwich, it was stated that the trade was a passing trade to and from the collieries. Mr. H. H. Jackson said that the house was an ancient one, and a landmark in the neighbourhood, and was required to supply the wants of the neighbourhood.....

The JOLLY BACCHUS, KING WILLIAM; STORES, Upper Rushall Street; STORES, High Street, were referred to the compensation authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/5/1906

“On Tuesday before a full Bench, comprised of Messrs. W. H. Brooks (presiding), G. Gull, J. Moseley, A. D. Cozens, R. Thomas, S. B. Wheway, H. D. Clark, P. Bull, J. Clare, and (Dr.) J. Lynch, Mr. F. Bill (solicitor) appeared in support of the report made by the Licensing Committee in respect of the four following houses: KING WILLIAM, Little Bloxwich; OLD OAK, Hall Lane; STORES, Ablewell Street; and STORES, High Street.

Mr. Bill in explaining the mode of procedure, said that if the Licensing Committee thought a license should be dealt with on certain grounds they could deal with it, and could refuse the license, but if they considered that it should be dealt with in respect of grounds other than those particular grounds, the matter must be brought before a full bench of Magistrates to deal with. The grounds of the report in these cases were that the licenses were not required by the needs of the district. This was one of the grounds the Licensing Committee could not deal with, and they must send the licenses so reported to a full bench of magistrates, who could renew or refuse the license. In case the latter course was taken then the question of compensation arose. He was instructed that these four houses had been inspected by the magistrates, so that their condition and the neighbourhood must be within their own knowledge. Mr. Bill then proceeded to call evidence.....

KING WILLIAM. Inspector Marshall stated that the house was a very old one, and in a dilapidated condition. There were five rooms on the ground floor and a clubroom, which was entered by the back yard. There were four other licensed houses within a radius of 470 yards of this house, and in his opinion this was the house that could be best dispensed with.

In examination by Mr. H. H. Jackson (who appeared for the owner, Mr. T. Sanders, of High Street, and the licensee, Mr. *G. J. Sambrook*), the inspector said he thought the house the most unsuitable because it had not the accommodation that the other houses had, but admitted that it was the nearest house to the collieries, and the trade was chiefly done by colliers who passed the house. Mr. Jackson, in reply, stated that the house was rented at £38 gross and £25 net, and did a good trade. If they found that it should be referred to the Compensation Authority he hoped they would deal with it in such a manner that they should not have to go the Inland Revenue Authority.

The landlord stated that the rent was £40 per year. He had been a tenant for 6 years. He paid £120 altogether on going in, including stock, fixtures, and everything. His average takings at one time were £15 per week, but during the last 12 months they had only been £12 to £14 weekly. He paid to the brewery company a sum of over £1,300 during the last three years.

In answer to Mr. Moseley, the landlord stated that the rent of his house included four acres of land.....

After a private deliberation, the chairman (Mr. W. H. Brooks) said the Bench had unanimously confirmed the resolution of the Licensing Committee that the four houses were unnecessary, and the licenses would be refused.”

KNAVE OF HEARTS

Lichfield Road / Millfield Avenue, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Grigg and Brettell Ltd.
Holt, Plant and Deakin [1995]
Punch Taverns

LICENSEES

Leo Alphonsus Culkin (1960);
William Raymond 'Bill' Bonham (1960 – 1961);
Samuel Ralph Ashforth (1961 – 1965);
Gordon Richard Harknett (1965);
Leonard Jones (1965 – [1966])

NOTES

It opened on 3rd March 1960.

The full license was transferred from the ORIGINAL GREEN MAN, George Street, Walsall.

William Raymond Bonham was married to Betty.

He was the father-in-law of Edward Levy of the NAGS HEAD (BEACON WAY), Little Bloxwich.

See also THREE MEN IN A BOAT.

It opened as a HPD pub in 1991.

Sandwell Evening Mail 1/11/1991 - Advert

“Early Evening Pint Savers. Holts Bitter 99p per pint. Holts Entire 105p per pint.

Special offer prices for the month of November only.

Available Mon-Sat evenings 5.30-8pm.

Only from these Holts pubs KNAVE OF HEARTS, Lichfield Road, Bloxwich, Walsall.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 6/7/1992

“They’re the pubs that YOU think are the best in the Midlands – and now they’re all in the running for our prestigious Midland Town and Country Pub of the Year.....

The *Evening Mail* has teamed up for the contest with the Midland Counties Brewers’ and Licensed Retailers’ Association, to raise a toast to the very best of our region’s pubs. Now it is up to the judges, who face a huge task choosing the two winners from the enormous entry. They’ll be looking for service and standards of comfort demanded by today’s discerning pub-goer. And they will be awarding marks for another important ingredient of a successful pub – the part it plays as a hub of social life in the community.....

KNAVE OF HEARTS, Bloxwich, Walsall.”

It closed in 2009.

Express and Star 20/8/2010

“.....It was given a £1 million transformation turning it into a 2,500 sq. ft. Co-op store.....”

LADY DIANA

80-82, Park Road, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Kenny Wallace and Stuart Day

LICENSEES

Audrey Day (2011 – [2012] manager

NOTES

It was originally a wine bar.

It reopened as the CAROUSEL in the 1990s.

[2009]

Closed [2010], [2011]

It reopened after a refurbishment as LADY DIANA on 18th November 2011.

Audrey Day was married to Stuart.

[2017]

LAMB

Newhall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Butler []

LAMB

17, South Street, Caldmore, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Eliza Busst
George Boulter, Shire Oak Brewery, Stonnall
Stephen Brown [1896]
Frederick Brown
Joshua Bloomer
Ernest Ramsey
John Joule and Sons Ltd., Stone [1931]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

David Busst [1869] – [1872]
Mrs. Eliza Busst [1872] – [1881];
Stephen Brown [1891] – **1898**);
Frederick Brown (**1898 – 1908**);
Harriet Brown (**1908 – 1911**);
Sidney Brown (**1911 – 1912**);
James Jones Turner (**1912 – 1919**);
Edward Hughes (**1919 – 1920**);
Stephen Leonard Harrison (**1920 – 1921**);
John Albutt (**1921 – 1922**);
Ernest Ramsey (**1922 – 1923**);
John Gordon Piper (**1923 – 1926**);
Charles Walter Logan (**1926 – 1927**);
Edward Evans (**1927 – 1928**);
Robert Eric Miller (**1928 – 1945**);
Cyril James Turner (**1945 – 1946**);
Vincent William Fletcher (**1946 – 1952**);
Dennis Raymond Partridge (**1952 – 1956**);
Walter Samuel Rollin (**1956 – 1957**);
Mary Alice (Rollin) Mason (**1957 – 1967**);
Marjorie Shelley (**1967 – []**)

NOTES

It was an ante 1869 house.

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday applications for new licenses for the sale of spirits.....

Mr. Gillespie applied, on behalf of Mr. *David Busst*, landlord of the LAMB beerhouse, South Street. Mr. Gillespie, after setting

forth the qualification of his client and the capabilities of the premises, showed that, in the locality in which his client's house is situated, a public house was much wanted.

The Mayor announced that the Bench had decided not to grant any new licenses this year."

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1870

"Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

There were eight applicants for new spirit licenses.....

David Busst, the LAMB INN, South Street.....

The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and after having been absent about half an hour they returned, and announced that they had decided to refuse all the applications, though they had come to this decision with much regret in some instances."

1871 Census

17, South Street – LAMB TAVERN

[1] *David Busst* (51), bit maker, born Walsall;

[2] *Eliza Busst* (50), wife, born Measham, Derbyshire;

[3] Sarah Nash (19), domestic servant, born Darlaston:

Walsall Free Press 2/12/1871

"On Tuesday afternoon last A. A. Fletcher, Esq., coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the LAMB INN, South Street, upon the body of Phoebe Davis, aged 13, who died under circumstances detailed in the following evidence.

Edwin Derby, bundler and stock taker, said the deceased had lived at his house in the capacity of domestic servant for five or six months. She appeared to be a very healthy girl, and never had any sickness till about eight o'clock on Monday morning. She then complained of a pain in her head and sickness and went outdoors and leaned her head against the window sill. Witness took her into the house and placed her upon a chair. At her request witness placed her upon a sofa, and shortly afterwards sent for Dr. Maclachlan. Deceased was perfectly sensible to the last, and did not struggle much, but foamed at the mouth and nostrils. When Dr. Maclachlan arrived deceased was dead, and that gentleman told witness he could not tell the cause of death merely by seeing the deceased. Deceased had not partaken of any food when she was taken ill. In reply to the foreman of the jury, witness said deceased spent Sunday with her friends. Nothing was given to deceased and nothing done for her, beyond placing a vinegar cloth upon her forehead. Emma Davis, wife of Edward Davis, said the deceased was her daughter and was thirteen years and six months old. The deceased had had only two illnesses since her birth. On one occasion she had inflammation of the lungs, and once she was sick. She was not subject to fits. When she had a cold she would complain of her head, but that was very seldom. Witness had a nephew who died of heart disease, but none of her own family had never shown any symptoms of being afflicted with it. Deceased spent Sunday with witness, and ate a little pork for dinner; she also partook of a little tea. Deceased left home for Walsall at 5-20pm, and was then quite well. The coroner said it was evident that there had been nothing done to deceased to cause her death, which he had no hesitation of saying was the result of an epileptic attack. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

David Busst, beer retailer, 17 Smith Street. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/8/1873

"The annual licensing sessions took place at the Guildhall yesterday applicants for old licences.....

Eliza Busst, the LAMB, South Street refused, the property not being of sufficient annual value."

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1874

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall took place yesterday, at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Gillespie (of the firm Messrs. Wilkinson and Gillespie) applied for a victualling license for *Eliza Busst*, beerhouse keeper, South Street. He said the applicant's house was situated in the centre of a large and rapidly increasing district, to which no additional accommodation had been granted for many years, and had been kept for eight years by the applicant's husband and herself without the slightest complaint. Further, the premises were very commodious. Refused."

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

"Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

Mr. Gillespie (of the firm of Messrs. Wilkinson and Gillespie) applied for a victualling licence for *Eliza Busst*, beerhouse keeper, South Street.....

The magistrates retired, and on their return into court stated that the licensing justices would visit the houses of *Eliza Busst* and would give their decision at the Adjourned Licensing Session."

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1877

"The annual licensing session for the borough of Walsall took place yesterday, at the Guildhall.....

The applicant's for full licenses..... *Eliza Busst*, the LAMB beerhouse, Smith Street, supported by Mr. Gillespie. Refused."

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/8/1878

"The annual licensing session for the borough was held yesterday.....

Eliza Busst, of the LAMB INN, South Street, applied for a victuallers' license for her beerhouse. Mr. Gillespie appeared for the

applicant, and there was no opposition. Refused.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/9/1880

“The usual licensing session took place at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Friday.....

Eliza Busst, the LAMB INN, South Street, applied for a victualler’s license, Mr. Gillespie appearing on her behalf, and reminding the Bench that the applicant and her late husband had made a similar application year after year for many years, and that no new license had been granted for a house in the district in which she lived, although it had increased greatly Adjourned.”

Lichfield Mercury 17/9/1880

“The adjourned annual licensing session took place on Friday, at the Guildhall.....

The adjourned application of *Eliza Busst*, of the LAMB beerhouse, was further adjourned.”

A wine license was granted pre 1881.

1881 Census

17, South Street

[1] *Eliza Busst* (60), widow, publican, born Measham, Derbyshire;

[2] Emma Wright (19), niece, assistant, born Walsall;

[3] Ann Howe (72), sister, widow, born Ticknall, Derbyshire:

1891 Census

South Street – LAMB INN

[1] *Stephen Brown* (61), widower, publican, born Walsall;

[2] Arthur Brown (27), son, brass caster, born Walsall;

[3] Stephen Brown (24), son, brass caster, born Walsall;

[4] Albert Brown (17), son, bridle cutter, born Walsall;

[5] Kate Rawley (19), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Stephen Brown, the LAMB INN, South Street, beerhouse keeper, applied for a license to sell all intoxicating spirits to be consumed on or off the premises.

Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared in support of the application, which was opposed by Mr. F. Bill, on behalf of the proprietor of the NEW INN, and by Mr. Checkley on behalf of Mr. Alfred Stanley, of the Gospel Temperance Union, and the Chief-constable.

Mr. Jackson represented that the premises were most suitable for a full license, and that the applicant was a most proper person to hold it, having conducted a beerhouse in a most respectable manner for many years. In 1869 the justices considered that a beer license was required at this place, and the district had increased to such an extent that there could be no doubt that a full license was now required.

The applicant was sworn and substantiated Mr. Jackson’s statement.

In reply to Mr. Brewer he said that he had only three bedrooms, and if anyone asked for a bed he could not give it. He had only stalls for two horses.

Mr. Loxton: Then you only have drinking accommodation? – Applicant: That is all.

At this point the Mayor interposed with the announcement that the Bench had unanimously decided that the application should not be granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1895

“The adjourned licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Mr. Vachell, Birmingham, instructed by Mr. Enoch Evans, Walsall, applied on behalf of *Stephen Brown* beerhouse keeper, of the LAMB INN, South Street, for a full victuallers’ license. *Brown*, Mr. Vachell said, had had his license renewed on several occasions, and the house was admirably adapted for a full license. On the question of requirements of the neighbourhood, he was instructed that it was practically a new district. The applicant was himself the owner of the house nine years ago, and at that time he could stand at the door, and look over waving fields of corn. It was now, however, urban in the extreme, and building land was sought after eagerly.

The application was opposed by the Chief Constable and Mr. Addison, the latter on behalf of several gentlemen residing in the neighbourhood.

Mr. Vachell said he liked a little opposition, as it showed the genuineness of the application.

Neither the landlord nor any of his witnesses attended, and the Bench therefore refused the application. Immediately the decision had been announced Mr. *Brown* appeared in court, but the Bench refused to re-open the case.”

Stephen Brown, beer retailer, 17, South Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Lawrence (instructed by Mr. Enoch Evans) applied on behalf of *Stephen Brown*, of the LAMB INN, South Street, for a full

license for that house. Mr. Herbert opposed on behalf of the Temperance Federation, and also Mr. John Powis and Mr. John Page, who live in South Street.

Mr. Lawrence explained that much of the substance of Mr. Cotterell's remarks would apply in this case also. Mr. *Brown* had been the owner and occupier of these premises for ten years and his character would bear every investigation. During the past few years the population of the neighbourhoods had vastly increased, and Mr. *Brown*'s house was in every way suited for a full license. Mr. *Brown* gave evidence in support of the application and the Chief Constable explained that the WHITE HART was 460 yards away, the KINGS ARMS 550 yards away, and the SIR CHARLES NAPIER 735 yards away.

Mr. Joseph Amphlett, 58, South Street; Mr. Benjamin Astbury, 59, South Street; Mr. William Thacker, 3, Milton Street; Mr. J. Harding, 63, South Street; Mr. Job Hanning, 5, Milton Street; Mr. Edward Gibbons, 57, South Street, spoke of the necessity for the license.

Mr. Herbert submitted that everything which had been said in favour of the application might with equal truth be said of every beerhouse. The only argument was that the house would, with the full license, be 'more handy,' and he did not think that that reason would appeal to their worships. Application refused."

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

"Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Stephen Brown applied through Mr. Disturnal for a full license for the LAMB INN, South Street, and in support of the application pointed out the rapid growth of population in the neighbourhood in which the house in question is situate. It was stated by Mr. Owen, architect, that since 1885 there had been 470 houses erected in the vicinity.

Benjamin Astbury, of South Street was called in support of the application. In reply to Mr. Taylor witness said he did not keep spirits in the house. Then ensued the following amusing dialogue:

Mr. Taylor: You gave evidence last year? – Yes.

You had an old lady living in the house then? – Yes.

And she suffered from spasms? – Yes (much laughter).

You don't keep spirits in the house now? – It don't do to keep too much spirits in the house, or perhaps there would be too many spasms (loud laughter).

Mr. J. F. Addison opposed the application, which was refused."

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1898 - Notice

"*Stephen Brown*, Deceased.

Notice Is Hereby Given that all Persons having any Claims or Demands upon or against the Estate of *Stephen Brown*, late to the LAMB INN, South Street, Walsall, Beerhouse Keeper, deceased, are hereby required to forthwith send in particulars thereof in writing to me, the undersigned.

Enoch Evans, Bank Buildings, 20, Bridge Street, Walsall, Solicitor for the Administrator."

Stephen Brown – see also ALMA.

Walsall Advertiser 23/4/1898

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members. Mr *Frederick Brown*, LAMB INN, South Street, Walsall."

1901 Census

17, South Street

[1] *Frederick Brown* (39), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] *Harriett Brown* (40), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Sidney Brown* (14), son, born Walsall;

[4] Charles Brown (11), son, born Walsall;

[5] Hannah Homer (38), sister in law, born Walsall;

[6] Winifred Stanton (18), general servant, born Brownhills:

Frederick Brown, beer retailer, 17, South Street. [1904]

Walsall Observer 14/11/1908

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the President, MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, Rushall. Mr. R. Anson, Daw End (president), occupied the chair.....

The President referred to the deaths of two members – Mr. F. Brown, South Street, and Mr. Harmar Taylor, Pelsall – and motions were unanimously adopted, respectfully tendering sympathy and condolence to Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Taylor and their families in their bereavement.

Funeral donation of £6 was voted to be paid to the representatives of Mr. F. Brown, who joined the society on 21st April, 1898, and £3 10s to Mr. Harmar Taylor's representatives. He joined 18th February, 1904."

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....
LAMB INN, South Street. The general annual meeting of the sick and dividend society in connection with this house was held on Thursday evening. Mr. A. Homer (secretary) presented the report and balance sheet, and said that during the summer months they had much sickness, whereas it should have been their lightest period. The receipts were £33 16s 5d, and sick pay absorbed £14 5s 10d. After further payments a balance was shown of £13 16s 10d, which provided a dividend of 6s 7d per member.”

1911 Census

17, South Street – LAMB INN

- [1] *Harriet Brown* (50), widow, innkeeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Sidney Brown* (24), son, at home, born Walsall;
- [3] Charles Frederick Brown (21), son, fancy leather worker, born Walsall;
- [4] Maude Harrison (23), general servant, born Brownhills:

Walsall Advertiser 4/11/1911 - Deaths

“On the 30th October, at the LAMB INN, South Street, *Harriet*, widow of the late *Fredk. Brown*, in her 52nd year. Interred at Rye-croft cemetery, November 2nd.

Messrs. *Sidney* and Charles *Brown* thank their many friends for the kind expression of sympathy”

Walsall Advertiser 23/12/1911

“At the STORK HOTEL on Monday evening Mr. Matt. F. Harrison, F.A.I. (Messrs Fox and Harrison) sold by auction two freehold beerhouses and freehold property.....

The first lot was a freehold (free) beerhouse known as the LAMB INN, South Street, with modern up-to-date brewery. Bidding commenced at £1,000 and after spirited competition rose to £2,750, at which price the hammer fell.”

Sidney Brown, beer retailer, 17, South Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 20/1/1912 - Advert

“LAMB INN, South Street, Walsall.

Fox & Harrison, Mr. Harrison F.A.I. having Sold by Auction the Freehold (with possession) of the Property, will Sell by Public Auction, without any reserve, on the Premises of the above Inn, on Thursday, 8th February, 1912, in consequence of the possession having to be given up to the purchaser on the day following, the Whole of the Valuable Antique and Modern Household Furniture and Appointments.

On View from 9 o'clock on Morning of sale.

Sale at 10.30 am.

Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the place of sale or at the Offices of the Auctioneers.

Auctioneer's Offices, 51, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall. Tel. 198.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1912

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Members..... *James Jones Turner*, LAMB INN, South Street.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/8/1913 - Advert

“Wanted, good strong General; one used to public business preferred.

Apply, *Turner*, LAMB INN, South Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

LAMB, South Street, Walsall, 4s.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

LAMB INN, South Street. £1 6s 3d.”

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

“A 1925 survey described it as having an old brewery plant and a pig sty in the yard, the Public Bar was 10'6” x 15'2” x 9'4” with a Tap Room, Smoke Room and Club Room.”

Edward Evans – see also VICTORIA.

1939 Register

17, South Street – Public House (2 of 4)

- [1] *Robert E. Miller*, date of birth 11/7/1896, licensee, married;

[2] Dorothy Miller, dob 20/9/1896, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

LAMB INN, South Street, £5 3s 8d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

LAMB, South Street. £2 15s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

LAMB INN, South Street. £5 5s 0d.”

A full license was granted on 7th March 1957.

Closed

It became a private dwelling.

LAMB AND LARK

Pool Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Hill [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license. [1834]

LAMP TAVERN

34, (32), High Street, (61, Walsall Road), (Bloxwich Road), Short Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

T. Foster Esq.

Mary Reeves, widow, Bloxwich

Mrs. Emma Goodall, Pinfold, Bloxwich

Bloxwich Brewery [1907]

Mrs. Marshall [1914]

Thomas Goodall [1925]

William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased from 26th January 1914) [1925]

Holdens Brewery Ltd. (acquired in 1994)

LICENSEES

James Smith [1828] – [1830]

Joseph Cartwright [1849] – [1851]
Joseph Fisher [1871] – [1883];
Hannah Taylor [];
James Garner [];
Alice Ann Garner [] – 1887);
James Bruce (1887 – 1888);
Elijah Stackhouse (1888 – 1889);
Arthur Read (1889);
William James Wain (1889 – 1890);
William Booker (1890 – 1895);
Frank Dewsbury (1895 – 1896);
Thomas Goodall (1896 – 1907);
Matthew George Brown (1907 – 1913);
Levi Wilkes (1913 – 1914);
William Walkerdine (1914 – 1915);
Henry Goodall (1915 – 1925); manager
Charles Russell (1925 – 1941);
Thomas William Bethel (1941 – 1948); manager
Arthur Lang (1948 – 1957);
Maurice Cox (1957 – [1966])

NOTES

Bloxwich Road
61, Walsall Road [1871]
32, High Street [1881], [1896], [1901], [1911], [1912], [1940]
34, High Street

It had a beerhouse license.

It was originally part of a farm.

1851 Census

Short Heath

- [1] *Joseph Cartwright* (67), retail brewer, born Haywood, Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Cartwright (65), wife, born Essington, Staffordshire;
- [3] Ellen Cartwright (23), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Mary Cartwright (3 months), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Archasadalla Poice (12), house servant, born Lane Green:

1871 Census

61, Walsall Road – LAMP TAVERN – beer trade

- [1] *Joseph Fisher* (34), blacksmith and beerhouse keeper, born Lane Head, Staffordshire;
- [2] Hannah Fisher (33), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] William Fisher (15), son, butcher, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Ann Fisher (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Joseph Fisher (5), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Sarah Clark (16), domestic servant, born Dudley:

Joseph Fisher, beer retailer and smith, Walsall Road. [1872]

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1879 - Notice

“S. Stackhouse, the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, wishes to state that the Robbery from the Person, reported in the daily papers this week, did not take place upon his premises, but at the LAMP TAVERN, Bloxwich.”

1881 Census

32, High Street – LAMP TAVERN

- [1] *Joseph Fisher* (44), blacksmith, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Hannah Fisher (46), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Anne Fisher (17), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Joseph Fisher (15), son, scholar, born Bloxwich:

Lichfield Mercury 2/9/1881

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough took place at the Guildhall, on Friday.....
Mr. Loxton (instructed by the Licensed Victuallers’ Association) opposed every one of the subsequent applications.....
Joseph Fisher, the LAMP TAVERN, High Street, Bloxwich, to sell wine on the premises (supported by Mr. Brookes). Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/10/1883 - Advert

“Housekeeper Wanted, accustomed to Public-house; not more than 40.
Joseph Fisher, LAMP TAVERN, Bloxwich.”

Elijah Stackhouse was granted a temporary license on 26th September 1888, which was confirmed 21st November 1888.
He was fined 20s and costs, on 12th October 1888, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 16/11/1895

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday.....
Mr. *Frank Dewsbury*, LAMP TAVERN, High Street, Bloxwich was elected member of the society.”

William Booker, beer retailer, 32, High Street, Bloxwich. [1896]

Walsall Observer 17/3/1900

“On Monday evening last a supper was held at the LAMP TAVERN, the house of Mr. *T. Goodall*, when a goodly number did ample justice to the good things provided. The same was in connection with the Sick and Dividend Society, recently opened, of which Mr. T. Cockayne is secretary.....”

Walsall Observer 4/8/1900

“On Tuesday night last a supper was held at the LAMP TAVERN, Bloxwich Road, kept by *Thomas Goodall*, in connection with a money club held at that house. Over forty members enjoyed a good meal, which was nicely prepared by the hostess.....”

1901 Census

32, High Street – LAMP TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Goodall* (42), public house keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Emma Goodall* (38), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Henry Goodall* (20), son, coal miner, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Jane Goodall* (18), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *James Goodall* (16), public house barman, born Bloxwich:

Thomas Goodall, beer retailer, 32, High Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Members. *Mathew Brown*, LAMP TAVERN, High Street, Bloxwich.”

1911 Census

32, High Street

- [1] *Matthew George Brown* (33), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ada Brown* (32), wife, married 13 years, publican, born Walsall;
- [3] *Matthew George Brown* (13), son, school, born Walsall;
- [4] *Sidney Allen Brown* (11), son, school, born Walsall;
- [5] *Frank Horace Brown* (10), son, school, born Walsall;
- [6] *Edith May Brown* (8), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [7] *Elsie May Brown* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] *Clifford Malcolm Brown* (2), son, born Walsall;
- [9] *Benard Brown* (2 months), son, born Walsall;
- [10] *James Tonks* (26), boarder, coal miner, hewer, born Walsall:

Matthew George Brown, beer retailer, 32, High Street, Bloxwich. [1912]

He was fined £25 and costs, on 2nd April 1913, for running a betting house.

Walsall Advertiser 3/4/1913

“The story of a police raid on a Bloxwich public house and a big haul of football betting coupons, as well as money and betting slips for horse racing, was related at the Walsall Police Court on Wednesday morning, when *George Brown*, landlord of the LAMP TAVERN, High Street, Bloxwich, was summoned for using his premises for the purposes of betting on the 8th and 15th of March.....

Mr. Clark said the Bench considered the case a bad one. The maximum fine was £100, and they considered *Brown* was being let off very lightly in being fined £25 and costs or a month.”

Walsall Observer 7/2/1914

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday morning.....
In the case of the LAMP TAVERN, Bloxwich, which has been objected to by the Chief Constable owing to a conviction against the previous licensee, Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the owner, Mrs. Marshall, and the lessees, the Bloxwich Brewing Company. Mr. Jackson formerly applied for the renewal of the license.
The Chief Constable stated that in April last the then tenant was fined £25 and costs for keeping a gaming house. He had permitted people to resort to the house in connection with football betting, which took the place of horse-race betting during the winter months and in which an extensive business was done throughout the country. The tenant was got out of the house immediately after the conviction. The present tenant was a respectable man, and he (the Chief Constable) had no fault to find with the house since he had been in.
Mr. Jackson said that the man who was convicted had been tenant of the house for five years and during that period there had not been the slightest complaint prior to the case in question. The present tenant had been in for nearly twelve months, and he had conducted the house in every way satisfactory to the police. The lessees (the Bloxwich Brewery Co.) had done their best to get good tenants, but no one could tell what a man would do. To have the license taken away would be very hard on the company and the owner.
The application was adjourned.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/2/1914

“At the adjourned Licensing Sessions at the Guildhall yesterday.....
The Bench decided not to renew the license of the LAMP TAVERN, Bloxwich, objected to on the ground of a conviction for betting. The applications in both cases were made by Mr. H. H. Jackson.”

Walsall Observer 5/2/1916

“The general annual licensing sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday morning.....
Application for billiards license were made by *Henry Goodall*, beerhouse keeper, of the LAMP TAVERN, Bloxwich.....
The Chief Constable pointed out that both the houses in question belonged to the same firm.
It was stated that in each case it was intended that a bagatelle table should be provided for customers, but it was necessary to have a billiard license.
The magistrates retired to consider these applications, and on their return Mr. Phillips announced that they had decided to grant licenses in both cases, but on condition that the houses were kept open for the full licensed hours, and that temperance refreshments should be provided. It was purely an experiment, and the justices wished to see how it worked.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
LAMP TAVERN, Bloxwich. £0 12s 8½d.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/10/1930

“Yesterday’s contributions to the relief fund organised by the *Birmingham Gazette* and *Evening Despatch* for the 14 victims of the Norton Canes colliery disaster were from many and varied sources.....
Licensed victuallers and their customers and social clubs continue to give splendid assistance, as today’s list shows.....
Customers and Host, LAMP TAVERN, Bloxwich, per A. Longdon and E. Kane, £1 1s 0d.”

1939 Register

High Street – LAMP TAVERN

- [1] *Charles Russell*, date of birth 20/6/1874, licensed victualler, widowed;
- [2] *Samuel Timmins*, dob 13/10/1902, steel tube examiner, married;
- [3] *Violet W. Timmins*, dob 3/2/1902, paid housekeeper, married;
- [4] *Fanny Boot*, dob 5/1/1901, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [5] *Margaret B. (Boot) Woodward*, dob 30/11/1929, at school, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
LAMP TAVERN, High Street, Bloxwich, £7 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
LAMP TAVERN, High Street, Bloxwich. £5 10s 6d.”

An application for the Ordinary Removal of the full license from the MINERVA, Paddock Lane, Walsall, was granted on 6th February 1958, and was confirmed on 17th April 1958.

[2017]

LAMP

193, Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Samuel Stackhouse
George Edward Elliott
James Bird, The Butts Inn, Walsall
Emma Bird
J. E. Hennessy
Samuel Holmes
Horace Holmes
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 14th October 1937)

LICENSEES

George Forester [1835]
Sommerfield [1840]
William Middlemore [1841] – [1842]
John Griffiths [1845]
Mrs. Ann Archer [];
Nicholas Roper [1849] – [1851]
Samuel Stackhouse [1855] – [1879];
George Edward Elliott [];
Thomas Fidoe [1881];
James Bird [];
Henry Thomas Drake [] – **1886**);
John Holland (**1886 – 1893**);
John Thomas (**1893 – 1896**);
Francis John ‘Frank’ Moore (**1896 – 1897**);
George Hackerness (**1897 – 1898**);
Joseph White (**1898 – 1900**);
John Edward Hennessy (**1900 – 1904**);
Robert Underwood [1904] ?
Ernest Arthur Hennessy (**1904**);
Thomas Joyce (**1904 – 1906**);
Samuel Holmes (**1906 – 1924**);
Horace Henry Holmes (**1924 – 1939**);
Harry Sydney Dutton (**1939 – 1940**);
Dorothy Violet Dutton (**1940 – 1941**);
William Lawrence (**1941 – 1953**);
Mrs. Emily Lawrence (**1953 – 1957**);
Arnold Dennis Hughes (**1957 – 1958**);
Sidney George Haycock (**1958**);
William Edward Simmonds (**1958 – 1960**);
Frank Harold Bryan (**1960 – 1961**);
Thomas George Buckley (**1961 – 1963**);

NOTES

It was known locally as “Sammy Holmes’s”

LAMP TAVERN [1861], [1872], [1881], [1882], [1891], [1900], [1908], [1932], [1940]
LAMB [1862] a misspelling

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 18/3/1833 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property, in Stafford Street, Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by J. Farrington, at the LAMP TAVERN, in Stafford Street, on Tuesday the 26th day of March, 1833, at four o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions, all that substantially well-built House, with excellent Shopping for 20 pairs of hands, with Outbuildings, Yard, excellent garden, containing about 500 square yards, situate in and fronting Stafford Street, and late in the occupation of Mr. Isaac Newton.

For particulars apply at the office of the Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/5/1835 - Deaths

“On the 22nd ult. aged 2 years, Edwin, only son of Mr. *George Forester*, of the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/12/1839 - Advert

“LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, Walsall.

To be Let, and entered upon immediately, the above named Inn, in a populous neighbourhood, and now in good business.

For further particulars apply (if by letter, post paid) to Messrs. Farrington and Son, Auctioneers, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Gazette 4/1/1840 - Advert

“LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, Walsall.

To be disposed of, the Goodwill, Licenses, and Possession of the above public-house, with excellent bar, tap-room, two parlours, good lodge-room, excellent sleeping rooms; with good yard, brewhouse, and shopping over; stable, and capital garden at the back; the whole in the occupation of Mr. *Sommerfield*.

The above is a desirable opportunity to persons about entering the public business, as the premises are well situated by the Turnpike road, and in a very populous and increasing neighbourhood. The coming in about £200.

For further particulars, apply to Farrington and Son, Appraisers and General Agents, High Street, Walsall.”

John Griffiths was also a harness and general plater and brass founder. [1845]

Ann Archer married *Nicholas Roper* in the 4th quarter of 1845.

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/5/1847

“Oddfellows. On Monday last, the members of three of the lodges in Walsall and Cannock district, walked in procession from the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, Walsall, to the parish church, each lodge preceded by an excellent band of music and a banner, with suitable inscriptions. A sermon was preached on the occasion by the Rev. J. H. Sharwood, MA, vicar. After the service the members (in number about 300, with decorations and insignia pertaining to the order) returned to the LAMP TAVERN, where a dinner was provided; but the house not being sufficiently capacious for such a numerous company, a part continued their course to Bloxwich, and dined there.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/7/1849

“On Monday last, the members of the United Britons Loyal Lodge, No.1, of the Walsall Free and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, to the number of 150, assembled at the house of host *Roper*, LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, Walsall, and partook of a sumptuous and substantial dinner, provided with much liberty by the worthy host and hostess.....”

Nicholas Roper was also a saddler. [1849], [1850]

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/8/1850

“The Good Samaritan Lodge, No.43, of the Wolverhampton Reformed Order of Odd Women, held their annual festival on Monday last, at the house of Mr. *Nicholas Roper*, LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street. A most excellent and substantial dinner was provided, of which eighty partook. F. H. Wymper, Esq, surgeon, occupied the chair. On the cloth being removed, the usual toasts were given and duly acknowledged, after which most of the members engaged in singing and dancing. The receipts for the year were stated by Mr. E. Ebb, the secretary, to be £76 7s; expenses, £61 17s 7d, leaving a balance of £14 6s 7d.”

1851 Census

Stafford Street

- [1] *Nicholas Roper* (27), saddler and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ann Roper* (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Emma Archer* (17), daughter, barmaid at home, born Walsall;
- [4] *Charles Archer* (13), son, at home, born Walsall;
- [5] *Edward Archer* (9), son, at school, born Walsall;
- [6] *Albert Archer* (7), son, at school, born Walsall;
- [7] *Ann Roper* (4), daughter, at school, born Walsall;
- [8] *Mary Brumall* (18), servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/3/1855 - Advert

“To Be Sold, a second-hand five-horse power portable Steam-Engine, with combined Thrashing Machine for thrashing, bolting, or loose tilling, with straw shaker and blower, to winnow first time, &c., &c.

Apply to Mr. *S. Stackhouse*, LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, Walsall.
The Thrashing Machine is nearly new.”

Walsall Free Press 31/10/1857

“*Samuel Stackhouse*, of the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, appeared to a summons charging him with a brutal attack upon a young man named Philip Weaver. Mr. Wilkinson appeared for the defendant.

The complainant’s statement was as follows. That on Monday night he was doing business in the town, and in consequence of a person whom he wanted to see being out, he remained late, and was walking up Green Lane about twelve o’clock where he met a friend, when they went to Mr. Tonks’s public-house and had something to drink. They left there when the house was about to close, and adjourned to Mr. *Stackhouse*’s, whom they asked to fill them some drink. He refused to do so, when a few words ensued and the defendant came upon him like a Sepoy, kicked him unmercifully, and dragged him into the street by the hair of his head.

Edward Cooper corroborated the evidence of the last witness and said he had been sadly ill-used himself. When he got into the street after the affray, he heard his friend groaning, went up to him, and said, ‘My eye! What do you think of this?’ Mr. Wilkinson on cross-examination elicited that they were not sober, and would not leave when requested to do so. The case was dismissed.”

Samuel Stackhouse was also a machinist and farmer. [1861]

He was described as a thrashing machine owner.

Walsall Free Press 16/2/1861 - Notice

“A Sick Society will commence on Tuesday, February 26, 1861, at the house of Mr. *S. Stackhouse*, sign of the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, Walsall, known by the name of the Gift.

Payments 1s 2d per month. Allowance in sickness 6s per week, at death £5.

Any person wishing to become a member will much oblige by applying as above.”

1861 Census

193, Stafford Street – LAMP TAVERN Public House

- [1] *Samuel Stackhouse* (51), victualler, machinist, and farmer of 23 acres 1 labourer, born Pelsall;
- [2] Ann Stackhouse (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Susanna Stackhouse (20), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] John Stackhouse (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Richard Stackhouse (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] William Stackhouse (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Julia Stackhouse (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Alice Stackhouse (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] Maria Cooper (22), general servant, born Aldridge;
- [10] William Peatchey (39), lodger, farmer’s servant, born Cambridge:

Birmingham Daily Post 3/2/1871

“Yesterday afternoon, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Borough Coroner, held an inquest at the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, on the body of David Hyde, a carter, aged 47. The deceased had been in the employ of Mr. S. Russell, Freer Street, and on Wednesday afternoon he complained of being unwell. A surgeon was sent for, and Mr. Harrison’s assistant attended, but Hyde expired in the course of a few minutes. Verdict: Death from Natural Causes.”

1871 Census

193, Stafford Street

- [1] *Samuel Stackhouse* (62), victualler and farmer, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Ann Stackhouse (50), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Susannah Stackhouse (30), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Richard Stackhouse (17), son, born Walsall;
- [5] William Stackhouse (16), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Julia Stackhouse (14), daughter, pupil teacher, born Walsall;
- [7] Emily Stackhouse (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Harriet Vigross (26), domestic servant, born Brereton, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1879 - Notice

“*S. Stackhouse*, the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, wishes to state that the Robbery from the Person, reported in the daily papers this week, did not take place upon his premises, but at the LAMP TAVERN, Bloxwich.”

1881 Census

193, Stafford Street – LAMP TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Fidoe* (44), victualler’s manager, born Newnham (?);
- [2] Sarah Fidoe (44), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] William Fidoe (14), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;

- [4] Anne Fidoe (10), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;
[5] Florence Fidoe (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] Betsy Fidoe (19), niece, barmaid, born West Bromwich:

Evening Star 20/3/1882

“This morning a mass meeting of ironworkers of the Walsall district, with delegates also from all parts of the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire took place at the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, for the purpose of considering the wages question and the scheme of the Employers’ Liability Assurance Corporation (Limited). Mr. Gibbs, district agent, attending to explain the latter.....”

Evening Star 1/4/1882

“On Thursday, the borough coroner (Mr. A. A. Fletcher) held an inquest at the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, Walsall, upon the body of Phoebe Morrall, aged 6 weeks, the daughter of Charles and Mary Morrall, of 15, Chapel Street. From the evidence it appears that that the child had been prematurely born, and since its birth had been unable to take sufficient nourishment to sustain life, and it died on the 28th ult.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Walsall Observer 7/3/1885

“On Monday afternoon an inquest was held, at the LAMP TAVERN, by Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) on the body of William Sutton, aged nine weeks, whose parents reside in Day Street. The evidence showed that the deceased had been a healthy child until Sunday, when it was suddenly seized with a fit and died.

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

Birmingham Daily Post 4/2/1890

“At the Guildhall yesterday, *John Holland*, keeper of the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, was summoned for having had his house open during prohibited hours on the night of Saturday, January 25. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the defence.

The evidence of Police-constables Curtis and Marsden was to the effect that at eleven o’clock on the night named several persons left the defendant’s house, one of them being a man named Cleobury. At twenty-five minutes past eleven they saw Cleobury come out again, and having in his possession half a pint of rum, which he said he had just bought.

The defence was that Cleobury was courting one of the defendant’s daughters, and that he left the house with the rum at eleven o’clock, but returned a few minute later and stood talking with the defendant at the door. He asked defendant to drink, and handed him the rum, which was just being handed back when the constables came up, the defendant having refused to drink. The Bench dismissed that case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of *John Holland*, of the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, for a music, singing, and dancing license on Tuesday and Saturday evenings. Refused.”

1891 Census

193, Stafford Street – LAMP TAVERN

- [1] *John Holland* (51), publican and painter, born Pelsall;
[2] Emma Holland (45), wife, employed in public house, born Rushall;
[3] Emma Holland (20), daughter, dress maker, born Wednesbury;
[4] Lucy Holland (15), daughter, assistant at home, born Wednesbury;
[5] Lillian Holland (13), daughter, assistant at home, born Rushall;
[6] John Holland (10), son, scholar, born Rushall:

Emma *Holland* died in 1899.

John Holland died in 1904.

John Holland – see also JOLLY COLLIER, Brades, Oldbury.

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1897

“Public singing and music licenses were granted as follows.....

Frank J. Moore, LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street (every other Tuesday for Free Gardeners Lodge).”

Walsall Advertiser 22/7/1899

“It is with regret that we have to record the death of an old and esteemed Walsall townsman in the person of Alderman *Nicholas Roper*, which took place at his residence, Morningside, Lichfield Road, on Monday afternoon, at the age of 75. The deceased gentleman had enjoyed tolerably good health all his life, but a short time ago the weight of years began to tell heavily upon him, and he expired practically from old age after having been confined to his house for over a fortnight. Alderman *Roper* was practically a self-made man, and with his death there passes away one who has witnessed the growth and progress of the ancient borough from a time when things were very different from those existing today. When a lad Mr. *Roper* was apprenticed as a saddler to a

Mr. Huddleston, in Pool Street. He was twice married, his first wife being Mrs. *Archer*, who then kept the LAMP TAVERN in Stafford Street. By her he had his only child, Annie, who died some years ago. Mr. *Roper* subsequently removed to the WHITE HORSE in Park Street, where he resided many years, during which time he developed a considerable business as a maltster, his malting premises being in Hatherton Street, in a block of buildings now used as a saddlery works. After the death of his first wife Mr. *Roper* married Miss Day, of Barr Beacon, who also preceded him, and some five years ago he married Mrs. Beebee, the widow of the former proprietor of the STORK HOTEL, who had taken up her residence in Scarborough, she survives him. Alderman *Roper* was an ardent Liberal, and years ago took an active part in political matters. He was first elected a member of the Town Council as far back as 1866, and he was created alderman in 1890, being the returning officer for Pleck Ward. He has given very close attention to the works of the Corporation for a great many years, especially in connection with the Streets Committee; although as far as public meetings were concerned he was always of a retiring disposition, and displayed no special ambition for prominence. He had been retired from business for several years, and was generally respected in the town by people of all sections and parties.

The funeral took place at Rushall Churchyard.....”

Walsall Advertiser 20/1/1900

“In the Divorce Division, on Monday, Mr. Justice Barnes had before him the petition of *John Thomas* for a divorce by reason of the alleged misconduct of his wife with the co-respondent Mr. Bradley.

The petitioner deposed that he was a working brewer with his mother, who carried on the business of a licensed victualler. She kept the ALBION INN, Walsall. On the 3rd October, 1894, he married the respondent at Walsall, and afterwards lived with her at the LAMP TAVERN INN, Walsall. Differences arose between them, and they separated under a deed. After a time they lived together, but in 1895, after the birth of a child, there was another separation owing to differences between them, and he made her an allowance. In the summer of 1897 he heard that his wife had gone to live with Mr. Bradley, and she had lived with him since that time.

Charles Parker Roberts, clerk to petitioner’s solicitor, proved serving the divorce papers on the respondent and co-respondent, when they were living together at Ivy Cottage, New Street, Walsall.

A decree nisi with costs was granted.”

Walsall Observer 5/5/1900

“Free Gardeners Lodge. ‘Poor Man’s Friend’ of this Order, held a meeting last Monday evening, at the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, where presentations were made to Councillor Shore and Mr. E. Howell, of emblems of the Order. There was a large number present.....”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air Rifle League. [1906]

Walsall Advertiser 27/10/1906

“Just before six o’clock on Saturday night, Henry Jacob Jones (50), Lodging House, Rushall Street, went into the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, in a drunken condition, hawking beads. The landlord, *Samuel Holmes* (an old Walsall footballer), requested him to go, but as he refused, he was perforce to carry him out. He detained him until Police-constable Robinson (23) came on the scene. The officer had received several complaints about prisoner hawking, and when persons refused to buy his articles he made use of bad language towards them. He had no certificate authorising him to hawk.

Prisoner now denied using bad language.

The Chief Constable stated that prisoner had 20 previous convictions, dating from 1877.

He was sentenced to two months’ hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“A fallen-looking woman named Annie Smith (36), no fixed abode, was charged with wilfully damaging a plate glass window at the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, to the extent of £4 on the 22nd ult.

Sidney John *Holmes*, son of the prosecutor, stated that on the previous Friday at 9.45pm he was in the bar, when prisoner entered the house, and began to beg from customers. His mother told accused it was not allowed, and when she was ejected she made use of obscene language. He followed her out and she tried to force an entrance into the house again by another door. He stopped her, whereupon she picked up a brick and hurled it at the window. He then detained her until the arrival of a constable.

Mrs. *Holmes* said she ordered prisoner to go three times, and she refused, and had to be put out. She damaged the window to the extent of £4.

Police-constable Ashby said he noticed a crowd of people near the LAMP TAVERN and on proceeding there he found the first witness holding prisoner. On his arrival she was given into his custody and in answer to the charge she said, ‘I went in to beg for a copper and they started using me rough so I broke the window.’

The Chief Constable said the prisoner was there about a year ago under an assumed name. On that occasion she fainted in the dock and was allowed to go.

She was now sentenced to two months’ imprisonment.

On hearing the sentence prisoner became hysterical and had to be removed from the court.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/7/1908

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week....”

New Members..... *Samuel Holmes*, LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street.”

1911 Census

193, Stafford Street

- [1] *Samuel Holmes* (42), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Ann Holmes (42), wife, married 21 years, assisting in business, born Much Wenlock, Shropshire;
- [3] Sydney John Holmes (20), son, manufacturer’s clerk, born Walsall;
- [4] Samuel Edwin Holmes (18), son, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [5] Horace Henry Holmes (15), son, manufacturer’s clerk, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Holdcroft (26), domestic servant, born Rushall:

Samuel Holmes – see also PHEASANT.

Walsall Advertiser 21/12/1912

“In connection with the PRINCE BLUCHER Sick and Dividend Society, Stafford Street, a dividend of 8/- per member, two nights and card has been declared. The balance sheet showed receipts £145 15s 2d, and expenditure £71 3s 2d, and a balance was left in hand of £15 8s. The LAMP TAVERN Society, Stafford Street, paid a dividend of 10/-, two nights and a card. While at the Caledonian Corks, FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, the amount was 3/9.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street. At the Female Thrift Society in connection with the above hotel, the secretary (Mr. W. Wilkes) presented a balance sheet which showed an income of £391 2s 3d, while the expenditure and dividend amounted to £368 1s 6d, leaving a balance of to be carried forward next year. The sharing amounted to 14s 3d and first night on card, making a total of 14s 11d. The membership of the society is 490.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, Walsall, 9s 2½d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street. £1 2s 4d.”

Samuel Holmes had the Windmill Brewery in Bath Street.
It ceased brewing around 1937.

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“[1925] an old property in good repair with a Public bar, Smoke room, Club room with two bedrooms and three attics.....”

Walsall Observer 26/8/1939 - Advert

“Charwoman Wanted.
LAMP, Stafford Street.”

1939 Register

193, Stafford Street (2 of 4)

- [1] *Harry S. Dutton*, date of birth 15/2/1909, publican, manager, married;
- [2] *Dorothy V. Dutton*, dob 11/11/1912, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 4/4/1940 - Notice

“Journeyman Butchers’ Association.
All Meat Trade Workers are Invited to Attend the Walsall Branch Meeting, on Wednesday Next, 10th April, 1940, at the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street. Time 7-30.
Agenda: Business of great importance.”

Walsall Observer 5/4/1941

“Convicted at Walsall Police Court yesterday of an assault on Mrs. *Dorothy Dutton*, who is acting licensee of the LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street, during the time that her husband is serving with the RAF, Howard Mansell, 80, Beeches Road, Leamore, was sent to prison for 21 days.
Appearing for the prosecution, Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson said the women who carried on licenses while her husbands were in the Forces must be protected.
The allegation was that having refused to leave when requested by a barman after closing time, and Mrs. *Dutton* spoke to him, Mansell, after abuse, punched her in the eyes. Customers then ejected him.
Mrs. *Dutton*, whose eye still shows traces of the injury, said that Mansell was not drunk but obstreperous.

Mansell who pleaded that the blow was accidental, had several previous convictions.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Lawrence*, LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street. £1 1s 10d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
LAMP TAVERN, Stafford Street. £2 0s 4d.”

A team from here competed in the Shropshire, Staffordshire and Derby division of The People National Darts Teams Championship of England and Wales in 1952/3.

William Lawrence died in 1953.

Black Country Bugle 24/8/2000

‘Black Country Lads Who Trained At The Lamp’

“.....a quartet of local lads who served their fistic apprenticeship during the 1940s and early 1950s Chris Jenkins, Freddie Roatley, Teddy Blackham and Percy Bright The Old LAMP Gym was run by former Wednesbury heavyweight Fred Allen who held a BBC managers license, and Sid Roatley (Freddie’s father) who was similarly qualified.”

It closed on 7th April 1963.

LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS

Day Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Aaron Nicholls [1857]

NOTES

Walsall Free Press 25/7/1857

“Aaron Nicholls, LEATHER CUTTER’S ARMS, Day Street, was also fined five shillings and costs for the same offence [open after closing time].”

LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS

36, (34), Duncalfe Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Archer and Henry Perkins, exors of the late Elizabeth Darby, New Street.
London and North Western Railway Co.
Mrs. E. Darby, Foster Street, Walsall
Edward Towe (acquired in 1894)
William Walkerdine
Edward Robotham, Church Street, Bloxwich

LICENSEES

Omer Stokes [1840] – [1846]

David Darby [1849] – [1872];
Mrs. Ellen Darby [];
Henry Nicholls [1881] – 1885);
John Prosser (1885 – 1888);
Joseph Lester (1888 – 1889);
Thomas Allen (1889 – 1894);
Frank Shaw (1894 – 1895);
Edward Towe (1895 – 1908);
Matthew Ernest Wilkes (1908 – 1915);
John Thomas Allcock (1915 – 1919);
Edward Towe (1919 – 1921);
William Walkerdine (1921 – 1923);
John Henry Walkerdine (1923 – 1924);
Thomas Ernest Blut (1924 – 1925);

NOTES

34, Duncalfe Street
36, Duncalfe Street [1861], [1871], [1901]

LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS [1840], [1841], [1846], [1851], [1871], [1891]
BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS [1872], [1918]

It had a beerhouse license.

London Gazette 10/11/1840

“*Omer Stokes*, late of Wisemore, Walsall, Staffordshire, Bridle Cutter, at the same time keeping the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, at Wisemore aforesaid, Licenced Retailer of Beer and Tobacco.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/9/1841

“At the Guildhall, on Wednesday, William Hampton, of the WHITE LION, Little London, and *Omer Stokes*, of the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalf Street, were each convicted in the mitigated penalty of £50 with forfeiture of brewing vessels, for using grains of paradise in the preparation of their beer. It was intimated to the defendants that they were at liberty of memorialize the bora of excise in London to obtain a further mitigation of the fine.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/10/1845

“George Holden of Walsall wishes to inform Massey of Manchester that he will make the match with him at 8st 7lb, for £25 a side, and fight in three months, as Holden’s bail will not expire till then. Holden’s money is ready at the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, or the RED LION, Abbeville [sic] Street, Walsall; or he will take reasonable expenses to go to Manchester to make the match.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/1/1846

“George Holden of Walsall is still open to fight Bob Smith of Stafford at 8st 8lb, for £25 or £50 a side. His money is ready at the LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/2/1846

“On Monday evening last George Holden of Walsall and Robert Smith of Stafford entered into articles at Mr. *Omer Stokes*’s, the LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS, Wisemoor, at the latter place, to fight on Monday, the 30th of March, for £100. £10 a side were placed in Mr. Stokes’s hands, and the remaining deposits are to be made as follows: Feb 23, £10 a side, at Mr. William Heath’s, the Prince Albert, Friars Street, Stafford; March 2, £10 a side at Wm. Ridding’s, the SPORTSMAN, Bloxwich Road, Walsall; March 9, £10 a side, at Wm. Winkles’s, the Castle, Hospital Street, Birmingham; and March 16, £10 a side, at Thomas Osbourne’s, the RING OF BELLS, Big Hill, Walsall. Neither man is to exceed 8st 9lb by eleven o’clock on the morning of fighting.”

[The ring was set up at various locations, but they were moved on. The fight took place two days later than planned and Holden won after 84 rounds.]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 3/5/1846

“A match was made on Thursday last, at Mr. Howl’s, Brockhall, Darlaston, between Henry Martin, of that place, and Jack Holden (brother to George) of Walsall, to fight for £10 a side, on Wednesday, the 3rd of June, at 7st 13lb. 10s a side were posted, and they are to make it up £2 10s a side on Monday week at *Omer Stokes*’s, the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Walsall, and sign articles.”

David Darby = David Danby = David Darley

David Darby, beer retailer and bridle cutter, Duncalfe Street. [1849]

1851 Census

Duncalf Street

- [1] *David Darley* (34), bridlecutter, born Walsall;
- [2] *Eleanor Darley* (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ann Darley* (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Jane Darley* (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Elizabeth Darley* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Edward Darley* (3), son, born Walsall;
- [7] *Ellen Darley* (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] *Infant Darley* (7 days), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] *Charlotte Partridge* (14), servant, born Walsall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 9/11/1851

“T. Darby of Walsall will fight T. Middleton, of Birmingham, for £25 a side, weight 8st 3lb, half way between home and home, or Alf Walker, of London, at the same weight and for the same amount. The match can be made at *David Darby*’s LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS, Wisemore, Walsall.”

David Darby, beerhouse, 36, Duncalf Street. [1858]

David Darby, beer retailer, Duncalf Street. [1861]

1861 Census

36, Duncalf Street

- [1] *David Darby* (44), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Eleanor Darby* (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ann Darby* (17), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Jane Darby* (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Elizabeth Darby* (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Edward Darby* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Ellen Darby* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Harriet Darby* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *David Darby* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall:

D. Darby, beer retailer, 36, Duncalfe Street. [1864], [1865]

David Darby, beer retailer, 34, Duncalfe Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

36, Duncalf Street – LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS

- [1] *David Darby* (54), licensed brewer, born Lichfield;
- [2] *Eleanor Darby* (46), wife, born Lichfield;
- [3] *Annie Shore* (26), daughter, stitcher, born Lichfield;
- [4] *Jane Darby* (24), daughter, stitcher, born Lichfield;
- [5] *Elizabeth Darby* (23), daughter, dress maker, born Lichfield;
- [6] *Edward Darby* (22), son, plater, born Lichfield;
- [7] *Ellen Darby* (20), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] *David Darby* (17), son, brush maker, born Walsall;
- [9] *Arthur Brough* (2), grandson, born Walsall:

Harry Nicholls = *Henry Nicholls*

1881 Census

36, Duncalfe Street

- [1] *Harry Nicholls* (32), beer seller (publican), born Walsall;
- [2] *Hannah Nicholls* (25), wife, born Leek;
- [3] *William Nicholls* (4), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Mary Nicholls* (2), daughter, born Tilstock, Shropshire;
- [5] *Harru Nicholls* (3 months), son, born Walsall:
[Tilstock is about 3 miles S of Whitchurch.]

Birmingham Daily Post 24/6/1890

“At Walsall Guildhall yesterday – before Messrs. S. Russell (Mayor), J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, B. Beebee, and E. Bliss – the adjourned application for the temporary transfer of the license of the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalfe Street, from *Thomas Allen* to *William Garbett* was heard. Mr. Plumtre (instructed by Mr. A. Whitehouse) appeared to support the application, on behalf

of Messrs. Showell and Sons; Mr. Gillespie, for the owner of the freehold; Mr. R. Smith, for the out-going tenant, *Allen*; and Mr. Duignan, for the Chief Constable, who opposed the application.

Mr. Plumtre, in opening the case, said the application was made under Section 1, cap 44, of the 5th and 6th Vic., for the purpose of transferring the license of the house from *Thomas Allen*, who was recently committed for trial at the County Quarter Sessions, on a charge of stealing ducks, to one William Garbett. On the previous Monday, Mr. Whitehouse called witnesses as to Garbett's character, and called Garbett himself, but not a single question was put to any of them as to the character of the latter. *Allen*, too was only cross-examined as to his own character. If that course was followed that day he should have to submit that the question of *Allen's* character was quite immaterial, the real point being Garbett's character. Then it came out that the house was licensed before the year 1869, and that being so, the license could not be refused, except on one of the four grounds set forth in the Wine and Beer Act of 1869.

Upon that the Chief Constable for the first time intimated that he should oppose on all four grounds specified in the Act; but certainly one, if not two of those grounds had no application under the circumstances. He should, therefore, rest content with proving the character of Mr. Garbett. He called several witnesses for this purpose, and the applicant himself, who stated that he had been in the employ of only two firms in fourteen years. He was to be a weekly tenant of the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, at 16s per week rent, and he was to deposit £30 with Messrs. Showell as security, and to have his beer from that firm. He was to pay nothing to *Allen* for going in, and the trade fixtures – tables, benches, beer-machines, &c. – were to remain the property of Messrs. Showell.

Thomas Allen said he went into the house in September 1889, and now was willing for the license to be transferred to Garbett. When his recent trouble happened he had seven days' notice to leave, and for the last week the house had been closed. This completed Mr Plumtre's case so far.

Mr. Duignan submitted that upon this the application must fall, inasmuch as a license to keep a beerhouse could only be granted to a person who was the real resident holder and occupier of the dwelling-house when he applied to be licensed. Garbett was not the real resident holder and occupier of the house, which had been shut up since the previous Monday, and it was perfectly clear that a man who was not entitled to hold a license could not have one granted to him. The aim of the Legislature was that the tenant should be a man of substance, a responsible person having a stake in the business, and in society; but here Messrs. Showell attempted to evade the law by letting a furnished house, and there was an agreement to let the premises on a weekly tenancy, the tenant being likely to be removed, in fact, without any notice at all. Could it not be said that such a tenant was the real holder and occupier of the house within the meaning of the Act?

Mr. Plumtre, in reply, argued that Garbett was the real resident holder and occupier within the meaning of the Act, because there was an agreement signed by which he became the tenant, and the keys were in the hands of Messrs. Showell's representative waiting for him.

Mr. Gillespie added that the section upon which Mr. Duignan relied referred only to the granting of licenses, and not to cases of temporary transfer like that before the court.

Some discussion followed on this point, and the magistrates retired. They were absent for about twenty minutes, and on their return, the Mayor said they had decided to hear the whole of the case before coming to a decision.

Mr. Duignan next took the objection that the application should be refused because the house was of a disorderly character, adding, also, that such small premises, licensed in the first instance many years ago, would certainly not be licensed in the present day. He said that in the last two or three years repeated complaints had been made to the owners and occupiers of the house of the disorderly way in which it was carried on, and that in 1888 and again in 1889, the Chief Constable lodged an objection to the renewal of the license, which objection was withdrawn only on Messrs. Showell putting another person in, and promising that there should be no further cause of complaint.

He called Inspector Gore, Detective-officer Pritchard, Police-sergeant Marshall, Detective-sergeant Cliffe, and Detective-officer Smith to speak to their having seen disorderly characters and convicted thieves in the house at different times.

The Chief Constable spoke as to the action which he took upon these reports, and said there was not, in his opinion, a sufficient number of residents in the locality to enable the keeper of the house to do a legitimate trade with profit to himself.

Mr. Plumtre, in replying on the whole case, said in construing the Act it was not enough to show that there had on one occasion or more been persons of bad character in the house. Such persons were entitled to refreshment so long as they behaved properly in the house; and the word 'frequenting' must be understood as frequenting for an object – going to the house for the purpose of using it for a nefarious trade. But where was the evidence of any such frequenting? To show that he called Thomas Wilson, screwer, 196, Queen Street – a young man of twenty one, who said he spent three or four nights a week in the house – and *Thomas Allen*. The latter said he had had but one complaint from the police. They had spoken to him about a rapping match which was going on in a house opposite, and about the character of the people in his house. He replied that he had nothing to do with the match, and if the police could point out any drunken people in the house he would turn them out.

The Bench deliberated in private for twenty-five minutes, and on their return the Mayor said that they refused to transfer the license, on the ground that the house was of a disorderly character, frequented by thieves and persons of bad character."

Birmingham Daily Post 25/9/1890

"The adjourned licensing session was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Mr. Willcock appeared for the renewal of the license of the LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS, Duncalf Street, and Mr. Elliott opposed for the Chief Constable, on the grounds that the house had been conducted in a disorderly manner, and that it had been frequented by convicted thieves and persons of a disorderly character. In this case there was considerable contention as to the admissibility of statements as to conviction. In the end the license was renewed."

36, Duncalf Street – LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS

[1] *Thomas Allen* (27), beer retailer, born Walsall;

[2] *Polly Allen* (24), wife, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/1/1894

“At the County Court, yesterday, Daniel Darby, saddle-tree maker, Duncalf Street, sued George Thomas, saddler, 20, Portland Street, and *Thomas Allen*, keeper of the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalf Street, for the sum of £5, deposited with the former to abide the result of a bet, and by him handed to the latter. Mr. J. N. Cotterell appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. H. H. Jackson for the defendants.

From the plaintiff’s evidence it seemed that one day he was sat the LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS, when the landlord returned from witnessing a boxing match in Wolverhampton, and a conversation arose about a match in Walsall twenty years ago between ‘Mouse’ Wilkins and a man named Hawkins. The plaintiff said the match was awarded by the referee against ‘Mouse’ on the ground that he had bitten Hawkins, and *Allen* declared that nothing of the sort took place; the result being that a bet of £5 was made, and plaintiff handed his money to Thomas. The latter handed the money to *Allen*, and all efforts to get it back, or to get the point of the dispute had failed, the answer to the parties being that they had got the money and meant to keep it. Plaintiff was quite sure about the point, because the match took place in his father’s kitchen, his father being the referee, and he himself being present.

Mr. Cotterell said it was a swindle, and his Honour said that might be, but it was one in which plaintiff acquiesced, and he did not see how the man was to get his money back again. He (the judge) could not in a court of law decide the right or wrong of the wager.

His Honour eventually non-suited the plaintiff, but without costs.”

Thomas Allen – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood.

Plans for alterations were approved on 3rd December 1894.

Walsall Advertiser 8/12/1894

“Monday was a day specially appointed by the Bough Justices for the transfer of public-house licenses, &c. The Mayor (Councillor Noake) and Mr. G. Gill constituted the Bench.....

Mr. A. Baker submitted for approval plans of alterations to be made at the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalf Street.

Mr. Loxton said that the decision of the Bench on these plans would not prejudice in any way the action of the Licensing Committee when the question of renewal came before them, and on this understanding the Bench approved the plans.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

Edward Towe, of the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalf Street, applied for a wine license. Mr. J. N. Cotterell appeared for the applicant, and Mr. Jesse Herbert objected on behalf of the Temperance party. The Chief Constable also objected.

Mr. Cotterell said Mr. *Towe* had purchased the house some ten months ago, and was the freeholder as well as the occupier. It would doubtless be still fresh in the minds of the magistrates that the house previous to his client taking to it was in very bad repute. He believed there had been some rat pits and shedding at the rear, where pugilists and some low fellows had collected, causing the locality to be not of the best order. Everything of that description had been entirely done away with, the shedding and pits were no longer to be seen, and altogether his client had undoubtedly been a benefit to the neighbourhood. Mr. *Towe* had, in addition, spent some £350 on improvements in the house alone, and not for the extension of facilities for drinking. One reason for making the application was the constant demand for wines. There was not a public house with a wine license in the locality, and the workmen from Parkes, Chesterfields and other works came to his house and often wished to be supplied with that beverage. It was not applied for on mercenary grounds, for he did not suppose there would be much difference in the takings if the application were granted.

In reply to Mr. Herbert, Mr. *Towe* said the house was one of the old licensed houses previous to 1869. The Chief Constable asked Mr. *Towe* if he was aware of the fact that in the event of the application being granted he would forfeit certain privileges which he now held, being an old-licensed house, and was answered in the negative. That was his (Mr. Taylor’s) objection.

Mr. Herbert did not see the need for the application. The present license had satisfied the needs of the neighbourhood for many years. Mr. Cotterell had remarked that the demand was great, and yet he had also added that it would not bring in anything a week. He hardly understood that.

The Bench refused the application.”

Edward Towe, beer retailer, 36, Duncalf Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1898

“Walsall & District Minor Football League. A special meeting of the league took place on Monday evening at the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Wismore, nearly all the clubs comprising the league being represented. The chief business of the evening was to elect players for the benefit match of the League, to be played on the Co-operative Ground, Wolverhampton Road on Saturday next, February 19th.....”

1901 Census

36, Duncalf Street

- [1] *Edward Towe* (48), publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary Ann Towe* (47), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Edward Towe* (25), son, table cutler, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Lydia Towe* (20), daughter, milliner, born Leamore;
- [5] *Howard Towe* (18), son, table cutler, born Leamore;
- [6] *Alice Towe* (15), daughter, born Leamore;
- [7] *Florence Towe* (12), daughter, born Leamore:

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

“Walsall Air-Gun League.

The first annual meeting of the above was held at the CRITERION, Stafford Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smallwood presided, and there was also present Messrs. Hicken (EAGLE), G. Smith (OLD KINGS ARMS), Powell (TANNERS ARMS), E. James (PLUMBERS ARMS), McDonald (CRITERION), Cliffe (GOLDEN EAGLE), Hunt, E. Towe (treasurer), and Mason (secretary).....

The undermentioned clubs with power to add to their number, were elected to the League for the forthcoming season: The WHITE HART (Walhouse Street), TANNERS ARMS, OLD KINGS ARMS, EAGLE, PLUMBERS ARMS, CRITERION, GOLDEN EAGLE, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, OAK, and DUKE OF YORK.

There was no other business of public interest.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Members. *Edward Towe*, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalfe Street.”

Matthew E. Wilkes, beer retailer, 36, Duncalfe Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 3/7/1915 - Advert

“Thursday next, July 8th, 1915.

LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalfe Street, Walsall.

Mr. Arthur R. Wooton is instructed by Mr. *E. Wilkes* (who is leaving) to Sell by Auction, on the above date, the whole of his useful Household Furniture and Effects comprising Two Dining Room Suites, Mahogany Dining Table, Telescope Dining Table, walnut Overmantles, excellent mahogany framed Couch, Mahogany framed Easy and other Chairs, Barometer, Inlaid Walnut Whatnot, Excellent iron-frame Cottage Pianoforte in Walnut case by Steinhart, Brass-rail Bedsteads, Feather Bed, Bolster and Pillows, Mahogany Toilet Glasses, Chest of Five Drawers, Dressing Table, and Washstand, Night Chair, Carpets, Hearth Rugs, Ornaments, Timepieces, Fire Brasses, Dinner and Tea ware, wringing machine, Chaff Cutter and numerous other effects. No catalogues. Porters not admitted.

On view Morning of Sale. Sale at 12 o’clock.

Auctioneer’s Offices, Darwall Street, (opposite GPO) Walsall, and Bloxwich.”

Walsall Observer 18/9/1915

“*Alice Cash* (42), married woman, 32, Duncalfe Street, was charged with being drunk on licensed premises, the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalfe Street, on Monday.

Police-constable Wilkins stated that at 7.30 the previous night he was called to the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, where he saw the defendant in the tap-room holding a jug in both hands. She was drunk, and when he asked her to leave she refused, and he brought her to the station.

The licensee said the woman was hanging about the place for five hours, and he could do no good with her.

The Chief Constable: How long have you been at the house? – Nine weeks.

And you don’t know you should get them out in five minutes, and not five hours.

The landlord explained that the woman kept coming and going, but he would not serve her.

Mr. Wheway: Were you served in the house at all? – Yes, sir. I was served three times.

The woman added that her son was on the *Amphion* when it was sunk, and another was in the 1st South Staffords. It was driving her mad thinking about them.

The prisoner’s husband said he had had no trouble with her until just recently. She gets very excited and was subject to fits.

Mr. Wheway: That is a very good reason why she should keep away from public houses.

A fine of 5s was imposed.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalfe Street. £0 15s 5½d.”

Thomas Ernest Blud – see also CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst, the justices referred the following houses for compensation.....
LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalfe Street.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority.
Compensation was paid on 24th October 1925.
It closed on 31st October 1925.
Demolished.

LEATHERN BOTTLE

Cresswell Crescent / Margam Terrace, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
SEP Properties [2010]

LICENSEES

Herbert Thomas Postle (1959);
John Thomas Jarvis (1959 – 1960);
Joseph Clark (1960 – 1961);
Fred Preston (1961 – 1964);
John Plimmer (1964 – [1966]
Christopher Boffin []

NOTES

A Final Removal Order was granted in April 1959, for the transfer of the license of the OLD STILL, Digbeth, Walsall, to here.
It was opened on 2nd April 1959.

Herbert Thomas Postle – see also OLD STILL, and GLOBE.

John Thomas Jarvis – see also HATHERTON ARMS.

Joseph Clark – see also HATHERTON ARMS.

Fred Preston – see also BULLS HEAD, and BAKERS ARMS.

It was closed by the police in 2010.

Express & Star 20/8/2010

“A trouble-hit Black Country pub where drugs and an illegal pitbull dog were found has been saved, it emerged today.
The site of the LEATHERN BOTTLE, Cresswell Crescent, Bloxwich, was earmarked for shops and two-storey maisonettes. But Walsall Council officers rejected plans after the developer failed to demonstrate why the pub should be lost to the community. Class A drugs were found in December and a warrant served under the Dangerous Dogs Act in September. The pitbull was seized and later destroyed.

The 1970s pub belongs to SEP Properties Limited, and under plans they wanted it bulldozed to make way for new homes and shops. It had been planned for the buildings to be three-storeys high with the applicants stating the pub is currently disused and reached the end of its ‘useful life’.

Walsall Council confirmed today the planning application had been refused by officers under delegated powers. Today the decision was welcomed by the Walsall branch Campaign for Real Ale, which said too many pubs were being sold onto developers. Keith Watkins, pub preservation officer for CAMRA, said: ‘It is good news and a step to support the community pub. Each community should have a pub and I would like to see it revived now. It is a concern the amount of pubs that are being lost.’.....”

Express & Star 1/6/2012

“A new pub, shop and residential complex, which will create up to 10 new jobs in Bloxwich, has been passed by planning chiefs. The trouble-hit former LEATHERN BOTTLE pub will be pulled down to make way for a new three-storey L-shaped building in Cresswell Crescent.

Walsall Council's planning committee approved the ambitious scheme at a meeting last night. The former pub, which was hit with problems in 2009, will be replaced with a new pub, retail space and nine flats. There were two police raids and Class A drugs were recovered at the building three years ago.

Speaking in favour of the plans last night, Bloxwich Councillor Fred Westley said: 'There are a number of derelict properties in all our areas. Almost anything which improves the area, I would be in favour of.' He said the pub had been hit by anti-social behaviour and residents had campaigned to get it demolished."

Express & Star 10/2/2017

"A former Bloxwich pub licensee discovered with an illegal pitbull as police seized cannabis has been hit with a bill for more than £3,000. *Christopher Boffin* was found with the fighting breed dog after officers visited the LEATHERN BOTTLE pub in Cresswell Crescent on an unrelated matter last September. There they found cannabis being cultivated and the illegal animal in a kennel.

The 31-year-old, of Heather Road, Dudley Fields, Bloxwich, originally pleaded not guilty to an offence of possessing a fighting dog. He was due to face trial at Walsall Magistrates Court today, but altered his plea on the basis he did not know it was a pitbull. Magistrates ordered the destruction of the dog, fined *Boffin* £400 and ordered he pay kennel costs of £2,218 and £620 court costs. Mr Van French, prosecuting, said officers went to the pub in their investigation about a non-stop traffic accident. He added: 'During their inquiries they noticed a very bright light coming from the doorway of one of the rooms. It was used for the cultivation of cannabis. While continuing the drugs element they discovered the dog.'

Boffin was also given a community order for the cannabis offence at a previous hearing. The LEATHERN BOTTLE is currently shut for matters unrelated to today's court case."

Closed [2012]

It was demolished in 2015.

LEATHERN BOTTLE

29, Hill Street / Temple Street, (Church Hill), (Church Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

William Brown, BLUE PIG, New Street, Walsall

Mrs. Emma Brown [1925]

John Lord [1933]

LICENSEES

Joseph Bould [1818] – [1830]

James Bould [1834]

Joseph Bould [1835] – **1836**)

John Adkins [1839]

Aaron Nicklin [1841] – [1842]

Joseph Butler [1845]

Thomas Derry [1849] – [1851]

Thomas Wood [1854]

William Earp [1856] – [1872]

Mrs. Lydia Earp [1873];

William Parker [1876];

Ann Parker [1880] ?

Mrs. Lydia Parker [1881];

Benjamin Harley [1882];

William Slater [1883] – [1884];

Benjamin Asbury [] – **1888**);

Harry Nicklin (**1888**);

John William Elkin (**1888 – 1890**);

Richard Slater (**1890**);

John Priest (**1890 – 1891**);

George Towers (**1891 – 1892**);

Benjamin Asbury (**1892 – 1895**);

John Annakin (**1895 – 1907**);

Mrs. Paulina Annakin (1907 – 1915);
William Annakin (1915 – 1916);
Florence Ann Annakin (1916 – 1919);
William John Annakin (1919 – 1933);
Job Rees Griffiths (1933 – 1934);
William Sheldon Hutchinson (1934 – 1939):

NOTES

Church Street [1818], [1822], [1828], [1829], [1834], [1835], [1837], [1845], [1849], [1850]
Temple Street [1856]
29, Hill Street [1865], [1868], [1871], [1881], [1901], [1911], [1932]
Church Hill [1866], [1872]

LEATHER BOTTLE [1829], [1849], [1850], [1854], [1856], [1858], [1861], [1866], [1868], [1912], [1932]
BOTTLE [1862]

It had a beerhouse license.

It had its own brewery.

Joseph Bould = Joseph Bold = Joseph Bole

[Staffordshire Advertiser 21/3/1829](#)

“On Monday morning last, about five o’clock, a fire was discovered on the premises of Mr. *Joseph Bould*, of the LEATHER BOTTLE public house, Church Street, Walsall, which appeared to threaten serious consequences, but by the timely arrival of the engines, and the active exertions of the neighbours, it was happily got under without much damage. The fire was occasioned by some sparks, issuing from the brewhouse chimney, communicating to the out-houses.”

James Bould was also a maltster. [1834]

[Staffordshire Advertiser 7/5/1836 - Died](#)

“On Wednesday last, *Joseph Bould*, maltster and publican, of Church Street, Walsall, aged 50.”

[Staffordshire Advertiser 30/9/1837 - Deaths](#)

“On Saturday in his 20th year, Thomas, eldest son of the late Mr. *Joseph Bould*, of the LEATHER BOTTLE, Church Street, Walsall.”

[Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 25/2/1839 - Advert](#)

“To be let, and may be entered upon immediately, that old and good substantial Public House the sign of the LEATHER BOTTLE, with good Stables and back premises, all entire.

For further particulars apply *John Adkins*, LEATHER BOTTLE, Church Street, Walsall.”

[Staffordshire Advertiser 16/3/1850 - Advert](#)

“Freehold Premises In Walsall.

Mr. John Osbourn will Sell by auction, at Mr. R. Westwood’s, the OLD QUEEN’S HEAD, Church Street, Walsall, on Monday, the 25th day of March, 1850, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced.

Lot 1. All that old-established Public House, known by the name of the LEATHER BOTTLE, situate in Church Street, in the possession of *Thomas Derry*, with an excellent malthouse, recently built, capable of wetting eight quarters, Brewhouse, Stable, and two Shops, a Pump, well supplied with water, a spacious Yard, and other Appurtenances thereto belonging. Also, three other Dwelling-Houses, adjoining the said premises, one of which the said houses fronts Church Street, and the other two front Temple Street, and are in the several occupations of William Preston, John Pearson, and Widow Biddle.....”

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/9/1854](#)

“Elizabeth Mear was on Wednesday committed for stealing a jacket, the property of Mr. *Thomas Wood*, of the LEATHER BOTTLE, Church Street.”

[Staffordshire Advertiser 17/2/1855 - Advert](#)

“The LEATHER BOTTLE, Church Street, Walsall.

Messrs. Allen and Flanagan are instructed to dispose of by Private Treaty, in consequence of the ill health of the proprietor, the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possessions of the above old-established well accustomed Inn, now doing a good and improving in and out-door business; a portion of the Household Furniture, together with the Fixtures and Stock-In-Trade, to be taken to at a fair valuation. Coming-in about £100. There is an excellent malthouse attached to the premises, which may be let off.

For particulars and to treat, apply to the Auctioneers, Walsall and Wednesbury.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/1/1856

“Housebreaking appears to be on the increase in Walsall. On Friday evening the house of Mr. *Earp*, the LEATHER BOTTLE, Temple Street, was entered by a back window, and an old-fashioned silver watch, bearing the name of ‘Thomas Holmes, Cheadle, maker’ and ‘No.2,594’, £9 in gold and silver, and some trifling articles were stolen. On the same night the slaughter-house of Mr. Albert Denham, butcher, Green Lane, was entered by means of pick-locks, and 160 pounds of beef carried off; and three bushels of flour were stolen from the bakehouse of Mr. Joseph Poole, Long Acre.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day for the renewal of old licenses and considering the application for new ones, there was a full attendance of magistrates.....

William Earp, the LEATHER BOTTLE, Hill Street all of whom had been convicted during the past year, were admonished, and informed that unless a reform in the management took place, their licenses would be inevitably withheld.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/1/1857

“At the Guildhall, on Wednesday, *William Earp*, landlord of the LEATHER BOTTLE public-house Hill Street, was charged with threatening Police-constable Smith. Smith was sent to defendant’s house on the previous Friday night, the police having been informed that *Earp* was abusing his wife. He found Mrs. *Earp* in the passage, and she said her husband’s conduct was so violent that she could not live with him. The officer expostulated with the defendant, who treated him with contempt, and after telling him to leave the house, picked up the poker and threatened to knock out his brains, when Smith left. The defendant did not appear, and the magistrates ordered him to enter into his own recognizances to keep the peace for twelve months.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... applications for renewal of old licenses, and the granting of new ones.....

In the following cases the applications were suspended for further consideration.....

On the application of the Chief-constable, Thomas Bates, of the PAUL PRY, New Street; Sarah Craddock, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Wolverhampton Lane, and *William Earp*, of the LEATHER BOTTLE, were added to the list of suspended applications.”

Walsall Free Press 29/8/1863

“Three Irishmen, named respectively Welsh, Brown, and Hickin, were charged with assaulting Mr. Lakin, a victualler residing at Walsall Wood, on the evening of Thursday. The complainant said the prisoners had obtained some drink from him on credit, they having been employed to reap in the neighbourhood. They left him without paying for the drink, and when he accidentally met them in Digbeth on the night in question, he said to them, ‘Halloa! You are the gentleman I wanted to see.’ Welch then struck him, and the others aided and abetted Welch, and in doing so they all struck him, where upon he ran into the OLD STILL, and was followed by the prisoners. Mr. Job Wilkes, landlord of the OLD STILL, and Edward Lord, corroborated complainant’s evidence. Mr. Isaac Webb, stone mason, said he saw Welch beating complainant, from whose nose blood was flowing. Welch struck witness on the arm with a pair of tongs. All the prisoners were engaged in creating riot. Welch was sent to prison for six weeks, Hickin one month, and Brown two weeks, each to undergo hard labour. Welch was further charged with having, on the same afternoon, wilfully and maliciously broken a table, the property of Mr. *Earp*, landlord of the LEATHER BOTTLE, Hill Street. Prisoner and his companions had been drinking at that house, in consequence of the landlady refusing to supply them with drink on credit, he kicked the table to pieces; damage 4s. Fined in the amount of damages and costs, or to be imprisoned for fourteen days, to commence at the expiration of his former sentence.”

Walsall Free Press 9/9/1865

“The Adjourned Licensing day.....

The following persons, whose license had been suspended, were cautioned and had their licenses renewed....

Mr. *Earp*, LEATHER BOTTLE, Hill Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/7/1866

“The Midsummer Quarter Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

George Braidley (32), carter, Birmingham, was indicted for having passed off two counterfeit florins to *Lydia Earp*, LEATHER BOTTLE INN, Church Hill, on the 23rd of May. Guilty. Sentenced to three months’ imprisonment.”

1871 Census

29, Hill Street

[1] *William Earp* (46), publican, born Sutton, Warwickshire;

[2] *Lydia Earp* (48), wife, born Niton, born Leicestershire;

[3] Diana Earp (25), niece, dressmaker, born Walsall;

[4] Rebecca Handley (28), visitor, born Warwick;

[5] Elizabeth Slater (29), visitor, sewing machinist, born Handsworth;

[6] William Stone (45), boarder, plater, born Walsall;

[7] Wilmot Dunn (35), boarder, Labour Telegraph Company, born Crewe;

- [8] Edwin Hemms (25), boarder, Labour Telegraph Company, born Birmingham;
[9] John Matthews (24), boarder, carpenter, born Montgomery, Montgomeryshire:

Mrs. *Lydia Earp* married *William Parker*.

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/10/1876

“*William Parker* of the LEATHERN BOTTLE, Church Street, was fined 1s and costs for having in his possession a quart measure not of proper capacity.”

1881 Census

29, Hill Street

- [1] *Lydia Parker* (59), widow, licensed victualler, born Worcester;
[2] *Kate Parker* (21), daughter, born Walsall;
[3] *Hannah Parker* (20), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] *Caroline Spink* (50), visitor, born Walsall;
[5] *Eliza Hopkins* (43), visitor, born Walsall;
[6] *Richard Smith* (37), visitor, silver plater (electric), born Walsall:

Evening Star 1/2/1882

“*Michael Fay*, of Church Street, and *Thomas Davis*, of Temple Street, were charged with being in a stable at the LEATHERN BOTTLE beerhouse at 1.30 in the morning of the 1st of February. The evidence showed that the wife of *Benjamin Harley*, the keeper of the house, heard someone in the yard, and her husband went and found the prisoners in the stable. They had no light, and blew out one which he had. He detained them after a struggle and had them locked up.

The prisoners said they were there for a pigeon-pen which belonged to them, but which the complainant would not give them although they had asked him for it in the presence of a police officer. They called a witness who proved that the pen was theirs, and the officer who was with them when they asked the complainant for the pen.

The Mayor [*J. Newman*] informed them that they should have taken other steps to recover their property, but as there was some doubt in the case they would have the benefit of the doubt, and be discharged.”

William Slater was fined £2 and costs, on 25th June 1883, for permitting gaming.
He was fined 10s and costs, on 17th December 1884, for allowing drinking on Sunday.

1891 Census

29, Hill Street – LEATHER BOTTLE INN

- [1] *John Priest* (29), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
[2] *Sarah E. Priest* (30), wife, born Lichfield;
[3] *Ernest J. Priest* (10 months), son, born Bloxwich;
[4] *Thomas Allerton* (8), visitor, scholar, born Gravesend:

Benjamin Asbury's first wife, *Jane*, died in the 1st quarter of 1893.

Lichfield Mercury 24/7/1896

“Bankruptcy. Re *Benjamin Asbury*, Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood, formerly of the LEATHERN BOTTLE, Church Hill, Walsall, licensed victualler; the ROUGH HILLS TAVERN, Wolverhampton, beerhouse keeper; and other places.

The public examination of this debtor took place at the Walsall Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday, before Mr. Registrar Clarke; Mr. E. Evans appearing on the bankrupt's behalf.

The statement of affairs showed liabilities to the amount of £235 9s 6d, and a deficiency of £222 9s 6d. The bankrupt was an iron-worker until 1883, when he became a licensed victualler at the LEATHERN BOTTLE INN, and remained there until 1887, when he removed to the ROUGH HILL TAVERN, but returned to the other inn in 1891. He gave that up in September last, and afterwards filed his petition. In October he married Mrs. Cornforth, a widow, who in May took to the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Walsall Wood, on her own account, her husband going to live with her there. He attributed his failure to the illness of his first wife and bad trade.

The examination was adjourned until the 10th August.”

1901 Census

29, Hill Street

- [1] *John Annakin* (42), currier and beer retailer, born Walsall;
[2] *Paulina Annakin* (50), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Elsie Annakin* (17), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] *Ada Annakin* (16), daughter, draper's assistant, born Walsall;
[5] *Ann F. Annakin* (10), daughter, born Walsall;
[6] *William J. Annakin* (8), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 21/9/1901

“*Paulina Annakin*, landlady of the LEATHERN BOTTLE, Church Hill, charged Mary Flood, of 2, Corton’s Court, with having assaulted her on Monday last, a further charge being preferred against the defendant of having been drunk and disorderly the following day, and breaking panes at the LEATHERN BOTTLE, which it would cost 5s to replace.

Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the prosecutrix, and stated that Flood went to the LEATHERN BOTTLE on Monday and struck Mrs. *Annakin* severely on the face and nose immediately. The next day she had gone there again, repeated the assault and smashed a quantity of glass.

Complainant and her husband gave corroborative evidence, and Police-constable Hawkes deposed to having been fetched to the scene of the assault whilst the row was on.

Mr. Holden in passing sentence remarked that the defendant had appeared in that court 47 times, and that everything seemed to have been done to make her better. She would now have to go to Stafford for one month, with hard labour.”

It advertised ‘Home brewed ales’. [1911]

1911 Census

29, Hill Street

[1] *Paulina Annakin* (60), widow, publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Elsie Annakin* (27), daughter, barmaid assisting in the business, born Walsall;

[3] *Annie Annakin* (21), daughter, sewing machinist, tailoring, born Walsall;

[4] *William Annakin* (18), son, brewer, born Walsall;

[5] *Jena Walters* (15), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 20/2/1915

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last week.....

Votes of condolence were passed with the family of the late Mrs. *Paulina Annakin* (Hill Street), who joined the society on the decease of her husband on January 10, 1907 The sum of £5 10s was voted as funeral donation to the relatives of the late Mrs. *Annakin*.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1915

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday) at the Guildhall.....

The following transfers were granted.....

LEATHERN BOTTLE, Hill Street, from *Paulina Annakin*, deceased, to *William Annakin*.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 26/5/1915 - Advert

“To Let, September 29th next, the Full-Licensed Public- House, the LEATHERN BOTTLE, Church Hill, Walsall; trade utensils and brewing plant belongs to present tenant.

Apply, Executors W. Brown, 59, New Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

LEATHERN BOTTLE, Hill Street. £3 7s 4½d.”

1926 – It had a self-contained yard, one water closet, without flushing apparatus, a urinal, brewing plant and a malt room.

Walsall Observer 11/2/1939

“The annual licensing day, held at the GUILDHALL, on Thursday.....

Another removal authorised was that of the full license of the LEATHERN BOTTLE, Church Hill, to the BRIDGE INN, Wolverhampton Road – hitherto only a beerhouse.

The BRIDGE INN, said Mr. Cooper, had been completely remodelled, and was in a populous neighbourhood, where for many years there had been a definite demand for a full license.”

It closed on 4th May 1939.

The license was transferred to the BRIDGE, Wolverhampton Road.

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle’s references in last week’s Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remembers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKE-SPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

LEG OF MUTTON

New Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Westley [1834] – [1835]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Benjamin Westley, retailer of beer, New Street. [1835]

LEOPARD

King Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mrs. Mary Nicholls [] – **1857**);

Thomas Nicholls (**1857** – []

NOTES

Walsall Free Press 7/2/1857

“Transfers of Licenses.....

LEOPARD, King Street, from the executors of Mrs. *Mary Nicholls* to her son, Mr. *Thomas Nicholls*.”

LEOPARD

196, Stafford Street / Portland Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Matthew Overton, Denmark Road, Walsall

Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Smith [1871] – [1872];

Robert Anslow [];

Edward Egan [1880] – **189_**); [1891]

Martin Egan (**189_** – **1896**); [1892]

Susan Egan [] – **1896**);

Joseph Gibbs (**1896** – **1899**);

Martin Egan (**1899** – **1909**):

NOTES

It was located at a confectioner's shop.

It was listed as LEOPOLD in an 1892 Directory.

It had a beer, cider and wine license, and a refreshment house license.

1871 Census

196, Stafford Street

- [1] *William Smith* (41), confectioner employing 2 men and 1 apprentice, born Coleshill;
- [2] *Elizabeth Smith* (37), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Albert Thomas Smith* (6), son, born Aston, Warwickshire;
- [4] *Elizabeth Ann Smith* (4), daughter, born Aston, Warwickshire;
- [5] *Harry Smith* (2), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Louisa Thompson* (18), visitor, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Elizabeth Wootton* (18), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Samuel Thomas Willits* (16), confectioner's apprentice, born Wolverhampton;
- [9] *Daniel Woodman* (33), journeyman, confectioner's assistant, born Linton, Bedfordshire;
- [10] *Abraham Timmins* (21), journeyman, confectioner's assistant, born Tipton:

1881 Census

196, Stafford Street

- [1] *Edward Egan* (36), beer and cider retailer, born Galway, Ireland;
- [2] *Mary Egan* (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Martha Egan* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Egan* (66), mother, widow, born Galway, Ireland;
- [5] *Johanna Brewer* (10), visitor, scholar, born Walsall:

1891 Census

196, Stafford Street

- [1] *Edward Egan* (48), publican, born Ireland;
- [2] *Mary Egan* (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Frank Mullins* (18), servant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Salt* (33), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

"The annual Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The Chief-constable then gave formal notice that he intended to oppose the renewal of the following licenses.....

The LEOPARD INN, Stafford Street, kept by *Martin Egan*, the reason being that the licensee was not the real owner and occupier."

Walsall Observer 1/10/1892

"The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday.....

Mr. Gillespie further applied for the renewal of the license of the LEOPARD INN, Stafford Street, kept by *Martin Egan*. He said it was a similar case to the last [that the holder of the license should be a bona-fide tenant, and not a manager], and he produced a signed agreement of tenancy Renewed."

Express and Star 1/1/1900

"At the Walsall Police Court today (Monday) *Edward Carroll* (33), of Bells Hill, labourer. Was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the LEOPARD INN, Stafford Street, and wilfully damaging a pane of glass value 15s, on the 21st ult, belonging to *Martin Egan* fined 20s and costs or 21 days for refusing to quit, and 10s and costs or 21 days for wilful damage."

1901 Census

196, Stafford Street

- [1] *Martin Egan* (23), single, wine and spirit retailer, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 31/1/1903

"*Peter King* (17), boatman, of 9, Rosebury Street, Birmingham, was charged with maliciously breaking a plate glass window at the LEOPARD INN, Stafford Street, on January 23rd.

Martin Egan, landlord of the LEOPARD INN, deposed that on Friday midday he heard one of his front windows broken, and went outside. Prisoner was there in custody of the police.

Police-constable Robinson spoke to seeing prisoner take up a brick, and throw it through the window of the LEOPARD INN. Prisoner had a very bad record at Birmingham, and was committed to gaol for two months' hard labour."

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 3rd February 1909.

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1909

"The Licensing Act, 1904. Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, 1909, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

The LEOPARD, Stafford Street, Beerhouse. Licensee, *Martin Egan*."

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

"The principal meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, when eight beer-houses and one ale-house, the licenses of which had been referred by the licensing justices, were dealt with, and in each instance the houses were referred for compensation, which means in due course the houses will close.....

The LEOPARD, Stafford Street. Messrs. Butler and Company are the owners, and *Martin Egan*, tenant, under agreement, at an annual rent of £30 10s.

Mr. Jackson, who represented the parties, said *Egan* had held the license for ten years and it had been in the family for over twenty years, his father, uncle, and grandfather having held the license in turn. During the past three years the house had been doing 198½ barrels a year, so that the house was a good one, and having regard to the family associations with the house the tenant naturally did not want to leave it, whereas the owners would be sorry to lose the house.....

The Bench having heard each case separately retired to consider their decision. In returning, the Mayor intimated that the renewals authority report would be adopted, and all the houses referred for compensation."

Closed

It was delicensed.

It was demolished in 1910.

LETTERS

BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Arms [1850] – [1862]

LETTERS

Church Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Dutton [1818]

LION AND LAMB

1, Eldon Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Manchester Brewery Co.
Arthur Beebee Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Horton [1880]
Herbert Hawley [1891]
George Edward Lawton [1899]
Hannah Sly [] – 1903);
Alfred Power (1903 – 1904);
George Edwin Wentworth (1904 – []
G Lawton [1911]
Walter Blunn [] – 1911);
Thomas Perkins [1911] did not happen
David Hollyhead (1911 – 1912);
James Anson (1912 – []

NOTES

LION AND THE LAMB [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.
[Probably outdoor.]

1891 Census

1, Eldon Street

- [1] *Herbert H. Hawley* (31), brewer's agent, born Barmston, Southampton;
- [2] Sarah Hawley (25), wife, born Barford, Oxfordshire;
- [3] Alfred Hawley (3), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Mabel Hawley (7) daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Hannah Burnett (14), servant, born Little Porton, Staffordshire;
- [6] Frances Thacker (14), servant, born Little Porton, Staffordshire;
- [7] Sydney Hawley (4 months), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

"The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Mr. R. Willcock applied for *George Edward Lawton*, to sell wines and spirits at the LION AND LAMB, Eldon Street, to be consumed off the premises.

Application adjourned until the adjourned day."

Walsall Advertiser 30/9/1899

"The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

On the application of Mr. Willcock, a license was granted to sell spirits and wine to be consumed off the premises to *George E. Lawton*, beer seller, the LION AND LAMB, Eldon Street."

Alfred Power, beer retailer and grocer, 1, Eldon Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 4/6/1904

"A transfer of the license of the LION AND LAMB, Eldon Street, off beer license, was granted from *Alfred Power* to *George Edwin Wentworth*, the magistrates reserving the right to consider a renewal at the next Brewster Sessions."

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1905 - Advert

"A. Beebee's Noted Home Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell St., Walsall.

Houses.....

LION AND LAMB, Eldon Street, Walsall."

1911 Census

1, Eldon Street

[1] *Walter Blunn* (46), sawyer and off license holder, born Stoke, Worcestershire;

[2] Margaret Blunn (47), wife, married 20 years, born Bromsgrove, Worcestershire:

David Hollyhead = David Hollhead

David Hollhead, beer retailer, 1, Eldon Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1912

“Mr. W. Bayliss presided at the adjourned Licensing session on Tuesday.....

There was a further application for the transfer of the license of the LION AND LAMB, Eldon Street, an off beerhouse, from *David Hollyhead* to *James Anson*.

No solicitor appeared in the case, and the Magistrates’ Clerk, after perusing the agreement said to *Anson*: Do you know you have undertaken to increase the business of the shop?

Anson: Yes, sir.

Mr. Loxton: The Magistrates won’t approve that clause of the agreement. They say so at once.....

The Magistrates retired and on their return into Court the Chairman said: the whole of the licenses are granted subject to the amendments being made.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

LION AND LAMB, Eldon Street. £0 1s 2d.”

The license was surrendered.

It closed on 1st March 1933.

Walsall Observer 27/5/1933

“Messrs. Fox and Harrison, FAI, report the following recent private treaty transactions: Six leasehold houses, 10 to 20, Sandwell Street; the dis-licensed premises, LION AND LAMB, Eldon Street and workshops adjoining; two freehold houses in Wednesbury Road; six freehold houses in Dora Street; and a freehold property in Ablewell Street; the total purchase price being upwards of £3,500.”

LITTLE SWAN

8, (Lower) North Street, Ryecroft, WALSALL

OWNERS

J. C. Smith Esq., solicitor, Wolverhampton

William Utting

LICENSEES

James Baker [1858] – [1873]

Elizabeth Baker [1872];

Thomas Sykes [];

Samuel Smith [];

Henry Lewis [];

James Purvis [];

William Utting [];

Charles White [1884] – **1888**);

Moses Lawton (**1888** – **1889**);

John Clarke (**1889** – **1891**):

NOTES

8, Lower North Street [1861]

North Street [1868]

8, North Street [1871]

James Baker = Joseph Baker

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859

“A Special Petty Sessions was held at Brownhills on Friday last, before C. Forster, Esq, MP, and the Rev. G. H. Fisher, when the following persons were fined for having in their possession unjust weights and measures, on the information laid by Mr. Inspector Tullett, Inspector for the South Staffordshire district.....

Jos. Baker, LITTLE SWAN, Ryecroft, 14s and costs, for unjust measures.”

1861 Census

8, Lower North Street

[1] *James Baker* (51), bit maker and victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Elizabeth Baker* (50), wife, born Barton under Needwood, Staffordshire;

[3] Thomas Smith (19), son, tailor, born Barton under Needwood, Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 7/3/1868

“On Wednesday afternoon, E. Hooper, Esq, coroner for the district, held an inquest at the LITTLE SWAN, North Street, Ryecroft, upon the body of Alice Calander, aged eleven weeks, daughter of Thomas Calander.

From the evidence it appeared deceased had been left in bed on Sunday morning by her parents, and when left apparently in good health. The parents heard a child crying, but thinking it was the child next door, paid no attention, but about half-past nine, when the mother went upstairs, she found the deceased quite dead. Mr. S. Moore was sent for, but before he arrived life was quite extinct. As the child had evidently died in a fit, the jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

County Express 5/11/1870

“On Monday morning considerable excitement was caused by a report that Mr. William Newman, son of Mr. J. W. Newman, one of the borough justices, and captain of the first company Walsall Rifle Volunteers, had been found dead upon the Lichfield branch of the South Staffordshire Railway. Unfortunately the report prove to be too true. As is usual in such cases various and conflicting statements were currently circulated. It was at first supposed that he had been murdered and afterwards placed upon the line..... The facts, so far as they have been ascertained are as follows. On Thursday deceased left his lodgings, and did not again return. On Friday night he slept at the STORK HOTEL, and, on Saturday morning, he went to the DRAGON HOTEL, where he partook of some coffee, and remained till nearly one o'clock. During his stay he wrote several letters. About seven o'clock in the evening he visited the GEORGE HOTEL, and afterwards the BRITISH OAK, Lichfield Street; from thence he proceeded to his club, in Ablewell Street, where he had a glass of brandy. He requested Mrs. Marsh, the housekeeper at the club, to take charge of his watch, a set of studs, and a letter. He left the club about ten o'clock, and nothing further was heard of him till six o'clock on Monday morning when Thomas Derbyshire, the engine-driver of one of the Midland trains coming from Burton to Walsall, discovered the body lying upon the down line.....Police-constable Chill, assisted by Mr. Marlow, pointsman, and Mr. Radford, platelayer, conveyed the body of the deceased to the LITTLE SWAN public-house, kept by Mr. *Baker*, where the body was examined by Mr. David Moore, surgeon, who found that in addition to a contused wound on the forehead there was extensive fracture of the back part of the skull.....

Deceased, who was a partner in the firm of Chawner and Newman, saddlers' ironmongers, &c, was highly respected. The melancholy catastrophe has cast a gloom over the town, and excited considerable sympathy for the bereaved. Deceased was in the prime of life.

The inquest was held on Monday before Mr. E. Hooper, coroner. From a letter which the deceased had left at his club there was no doubt that he had committed suicide by laying himself across the line till an engine passed over him. The evidence showed that he had been very unsettled recently, and the jury returned a verdict to the effect that, while in a state of unsound mind, he had been killed by a train passing over him.”

1871 Census

8, North Street

[1] *James Baker* (61), public house keeper, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Elizabeth Baker* (59), wife, born Barton, Staffordshire;

[3] Mary Ann Roberts (11), general servant, born Walsall:

Charles White was fined 2s 6d and costs, on 17th September 1884, for allowing Sunday drinking.

Moses Lawton – see also CROSS KEYS, and QUEENS HEAD.

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1890

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions. The business from the annual licensing session last week took place at the Guildhall yesterday.... Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. Gillespie) applied for the removal of the LITTLE SWAN INN, North Street, to other premises at the corner of North Street and Butts Road, or otherwise for a conditional license. The Chief Constable opposed, as did Mr. Cotterell, for the owners and occupiers of licensed premises in the locality, and for Mr. J. W. Harrington, the owner of a large works in the neighbourhood. Mr. Herbert said that plans drawn by Mr. S. Loxton showed that so far from being a gin palace the building would be more of the character of a respectable private house. The Chief Constable took the ground that the value of the

license would be materially enhanced if it were allowed to be removed to the new premises, and asked Mr. S. Loxton if he did not think that in the event of the compensation clauses becoming law, and the license not being required, considerably more would be asked to do away with it than to do away with the old one. Mr. Loxton said he really could not give an opinion. Mr. Herbert subsequently said that the client, Mr. Utting, would resign the license of the WARWICK ARMS, a neighbouring house if the Bench would grant this application. The Chief Constable said that under those circumstances he would withdraw his opposition. The Bench after a long deliberation in private.....

Sanctioned the plans for the removal of LITTLE SWAN, subject to some minor alterations and to the licenses of the present licensed house and of the WARWICK ARMS being given up.”

The license was not renewed in 1891, on the granting of a license to the DUSTY MILLER.

LITTLETON ARMS

40, (89), (90), Littleton Street East / Hatherton Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Richard Shutt [1858]
Thomas Inston, builder, Chester Road, Sutton Coldfield
William O. E. Utting [1881]
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased) [1904]
Highgate Brewery Ltd. (leased)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired 1939)
Enterprise Inns [2003]

LICENSEES

Richard Shutt [1853] – [1857]
Stephen Tippett [1858] – **1867**)
Robert Green [1868] – **1869**);
Samuel Gale (**1869** – [1875];
Thomas Inston Jnr. [];
William O E Utting [1881] – **1898**);
Sarah Ann Maund (**1898** – **1900**);
Priscilla Oakley (**1900**);
William Marston (**1900**);
Frederick Charles Williams (**1900** – **1902**);
Alfred Medlam (**1902** – **1903**);
John Woodward (**1903** – **1904**);
Thomas Young (**1904** – **1906**);
Robert Andrew Mackay (**1906** – **1909**);
Harry Saunders (**1909** – **1910**);
George Ernest James (**1910** – **1912**);
Edward James Beddows (**1912** – **1914**);
Edwin Foden D'Oyly (**1914** – [];
Violet Foden Wylde D'Oyly [] – **1917**);
John Mason (**1917** – **1919**);
William Jones (**1919**);
Albert William Hudson (**1919** – **1922**);
Samuel Tongue (**1922** – **1936**);
John Joseph Wardle (**1936** – **1943**);
John Blakeley (**1943** – **1957**);
George Eric Brough (**1957** – **1960**);
George Ostcliffe (**1960** – **1962**);
John William Perry (**1962** – **1964**);
John Harold Flavell (**1964**);
David George Howe (**1964** – **1965**);
Dennis Stokes Chapman (**1965** – **1966**);
Reginald Edward Stephens (**1966** – **1967**);
James O'Neill (**1967** – []

Paul Fletcher [1994]

Mick Gull [2004] – 2006):

NOTES

89, Littleton Street [1871]

Hatherton Street [1872], [1881]

90, Littleton Street East [1891]

89, Littleton Street East

40, Littleton Street East [1993]

HATHERTON ARMS [1858], [1864]

It was a home brew pub.

It had a brewery adjoining the pub.

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/9/1853

“At the adjourned annual licensing meeting on Wednesday last, eight of the sixteen persons who applied for victuallers’ licenses on the Wednesday previously renewed their applications, and with success.....

Richard Shutt, Hatherton Street.”

Walsall Free Press 20/6/1857

“Ellen Flood, a woman of rather respectable exterior, was charged with putting off a base half-crown to Mr. *Richard Shutt*, of the LITTLETON ARMS, Hatherton Street. On the previous Thursday afternoon the prisoner went to the house of the prosecutor, and calling for half-a-pint of ale tendered the base coin in question. He discovered it to be counterfeit, but should not have taken her into custody, but that he was informed by a person in the house that she had been previously guilty of such delinquencies. This person was not in attendance to prove any former offence, and as the law requires that there should be two or more attempts to commit such fraud by the same person within ten days, the prisoner was remanded to Wednesday for the production of Mr. *Shutt*’s informant.”

Birmingham Journal 21/10/1857 - Died

“On the 19th inst, at Walsall, after a long and painful illness, Mary, wife of Mr. *Richard Shutt*, victualler, aged 45 years.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/4/1858

“Pursuant to the Act for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors in England to be heard at the Shire hall, Stafford, on Wednesday, the 5th day of May next at ten o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Richard Shutt the elder (sued as *Richard Shutt*), formerly of High Street, Walsall, Staffordshire, and afterwards of Hatherton Street, Walsall, aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Covered Harness Furniture Manufacturer; then of Hatherton Street, Walsall, aforesaid Covered Harness Furniture Manufacturer; a prisoner for debt in the gaol of Stafford, in the county of Stafford. Duignan and Ebsworth, Walsall, Attorneys for the Insolvent.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1858

“Re *Richard Shutt*, Walsall. Mr. Ebsworth supported the petition, and Mr. Passman opposed on behalf of two creditors. Debts, £1,977; assets, £28. Grounds of opposition, reckless expenditure and contracting debts without a reasonable probability or expectation of paying them. His Honour, after hearing the evidence, sustained the grounds of objection taken by Mr. Passman, and, at the suit of the opposing creditors, remanded the insolvent for six months from the date of the vesting order.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/5/1858

“An inaccuracy crept into the report of ‘re *Richard Shutt*, Walsall’, insolvent debtor, who was examined at Stafford County Court, last week. His debts were stated at £1,977, and his assets at £28; but the former included a mortgage debt, which is secured upon property in Hatherton Street, Walsall, to the full value. The assets, including the property, will be near £1,400.”

London Gazette 15/6/1858

“Whereas a Petition of *Richard Shutt* the elder, formerly of High-street, Walsall, in Staffordshire, and afterwards of Hatherton-street, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, and Covered Harness Furniture Manufacturer, and then and now of Hatherton-street, Walsall aforesaid, Covered Harness Furniture Manufacturer, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Richard Shutt* the elder, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Richard Shutt* the elder is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 29th day of July next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Richard Shutt* the elder, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederic Furmann Clarke, Registrar of the said Court, at his office,

in Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the aid insolvent.”

Richard Shutt – see also BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF.

Stephen Tippett = Stephen Teppett = Stephen Tibbetts

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/6/1858 - Advert

“Valuable Public-House and Property on Hatherton Street and Littleton Street, Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction by John Osbourn, at the LITTLETON ARMS, Hatherton Street, Walsall, on Wednesday, June 9th, 1858, at six o'clock pm precisely, by direction of the Mortgagee, the well-built Public-House, called the LITTLETON ARMS, with the premises thereto belonging, fronting to Littleton Street and Hatherton Street, Walsall, now in the occupation of Mr. *Stephen Tippett*, at the annual rent of £32.

The House contains entrance hall, large bar, parlour 36 feet by 16, taproom 16 feet by 15 feet 5in, a large kitchen, five sleeping rooms, a maltroom, brewhouse, large wine and ale cellars, with excellent and extensive shopping, stable, piggeries, large yard, walled garden, pump of water, and soft water cistern.

Also four substantially-built Dwelling-Houses, adjoining and fronting Hatherton Street, with good brewhouse, shopping, and soft water cisterns at the back, in the occupations of John Parkes, *Richard Shutt*, John Pepper, and Henry Shutt, and producing at low rents £41 12s a year.

The property is leasehold for 99 years, from 5th March, 1852, at a ground rent of £5, and contains a frontage of 35 yards to Hatherton Street, 40 yards to Littleton Street, and in the whole 1,200 square yards.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer; or to Duignan and Ebsworth, Solicitors, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... The following parties were then called over, and as they came for their licenses, were duly cautioned individually.....

Stephen Tippett, of the HATHERTON ARMS, Hatherton Street, who, on the 9th of June, had also been fined 5s and costs for selling drink on a Sunday during prohibited hours.”

1861 Census

Hatherton Street

- [1] *Stephen Tippett* (31), victualler, born Southpith _____;
- [2] Mary Tippett (30), wife, born Leamington;
- [3] Mary Jane Tippett (4), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] Elizabeth Tippett (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] William Tippett (1), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary Ann Masterton (14), servant, born Leamington;
- [7] Ann Rebecca Cloxton (30), servant, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Post 9/2/1864

“Yesterday at the Petty Sessions, a man named Haynes was fined 2s 6d and costs for having assaulted Henry Eden at the house of Mr. *Tibbetts*, the HATHERTON ARMS, Hatherton Street, on the night of Saturday. It appeared that the two men quarrelled, and in the course of a fight which ensued the complainant's ankle was dislocated.”

Birmingham Journal 13/4/1867 - Deaths

“On the 4th inst., aged 37 years, Mr. *S. Tippett*, of the LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton Street, Walsall, deeply lamented.”

Walsall Free Press 29/1/1870

“County Court. *Gale v. Powell*.

In this case, the plaintiff, *Samuel Gale*, landlord of the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE and LITTLETON ARMS public-houses, Walsall, sought to recover from the defendant Edwin Powell, currier, Walsall, the sum of £5 for injuries resulting from an assault committed by defendant upon complainant. Mr. Young (instructed by Mr. Crump) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Dale (from the office of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis, and Lewis) for the defendant.

Mr. Young applied to have the plaint amended, and the damages increased from £5 to £15. The grounds for the application being that the injuries had turned out more serious than they were thought to be at the time the summons was taken out.

Mr. Dale objected on the ground that if the application were granted, his client would be deprived of a statutory right to have a jury. His Honour adjourned the case till the 23rd of February – the question of costs being reserved.”

1871 Census

89, Littleton Street – LITTLETON ARMS

- [1] *Samuel Gale* (28), currier and victualler, born South Horton, Dorsetshire;
- [2] Ann Gale (39), wife, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 19/4/1873

“Caroline Sankey was charged with having, on Thursday last, assaulted *Samuel Gale*, landlord of the LITTLETON ARMS. Mr.

Glover appeared for the complainant. From the evidence of the complainant it appeared that on the day in question defendant sent a little girl to complainant and requested to have her husband turned out, and afterwards she came and made use of abusing language, and then broke a pane of glass, valued 3s 6d. She also threw a stone and cut complainant's head. In this case there was a cross-summons. Defendant's son said that *Gale* struck his mother twice and knocked her down. The case against *Gale* was discharged, and Mrs. Sankey was fined 5s and costs."

Midland Examiner 4/9/1875

"*Samuel Gale*, licensed victualler, of Littleton Street, Walsall, was charged on a warrant with having threatened to take the life of Joseph Perry, in the employ of Mr. Crapper. Mr. Crump defended.

Complainant stated that on Thursday morning last the defendant threatened to knock his b—— brains out with a hammer which he held in his hand. Witness was at work at the time, and was afraid he would do him some bodily harm. The defendant then asked witness to fight with him, and he (defendant) would twist his (witness) neck out.

George Morris deposed to having heard the defendant threaten to twist the complainant's neck.

Mr. Crump addressed the Bench at length for the defence, contending that the evidence adduced did not tend to show that the complainant was really afraid the defendant would carry out his threat into execution. It was, so he was instructed, a case which was concocted for the purpose of punishing defendant as the result of a family quarrel.

The defendant was bound over in his own recognizances of £10 to keep the peace for six months; and one surety of £10."

Samuel Gale – see also CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

1881 Census

Hatherton Street – LITTLETON ARMS

- [1] *William Utting* (34), licensed victualler, born Fakenham, Norfolk;
- [2] *Emily Utting* (33), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Utting* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Emily Utting* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Florence Utting* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mary Ann Utting* (2), daughter, born Walsall:

1891 Census

90, Littleton Street East – LITTLETON ARMS

- [1] *William Utting* (44), brewer and victualler, born Fakenham, Norfolk;
 - [2] *Emily Utting* (43), wife, born Walsall;
 - [3] *Emily Utting* (17), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [4] *Florence Utting* (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [Florence was described as a son in this Census.]

William Utting was described as a wine and spirit merchant and ale and porter brewer. [1892], [1896]

See also TEDDESLEY ARMS.

Walsall Advertiser 22/9/1894

"A.O.F. Walsall District Grand Court. On Wednesday evening there was an important meeting in connection with the local Forestry at the LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton Street, the headquarters of Court Lord Hatherton. The several courts comprising the Walsall district have formed themselves into a Grand Court for the friendly discussion of matter appertaining to Forestry, and for occasional concerts and entertainments....."

William Marston – see also DOLPHIN.

Frederick Charles Williams was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in November 1900.

1901 Census

Littleton Street East – LITTLETON ARMS

- [1] *Frederick C. Williams* (29), licensed victualler, born Cheltenham;
- [2] *Henrietta Williams* (26), wife, born Natal, Cape Colony, South Africa;
- [3] *Frederick Williams* (3), son, born Natal, Cape Colony, South Africa;
- [4] *Alice M. White* (21), barmaid, born Walsall:

Alfred Medlam – see also DOLPHIN, George Street, and WHITE HORSE.

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

"Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople's Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton Street (Ceiling Collection, per Mr. *Medlam*). £3 0s 11d."

Walsall Advertiser 13/8/1903

“A meeting of the Watch Committee followed that of the Council meeting, the Mayor presiding.
During the same period there were four calls of fire, viz.
8th July, LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton Street East.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/12/1904

“The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Walsall Florist Society was held on Monday last at the LITTLETON ARMS HOTEL, Littleton Street.”

George Ernest James – see also DUSTY MILLER, and WHITE HORSE.

1911 Census

Littleton Street East – LITTLETON ARMS

- [1] *George Ernest James* (35), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Forence James (34), wife, married 14 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [3] Florence Mary James (10), daughter, born London;
- [4] Irene Elizabeth James (8), daughter, born London;
- [5] Ethel Doris James (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Edith Alice James (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] Edna May James (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] Eliza Emily Westfield (24), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [9] Eliza Haywood (49), widow, domestic servant, born Hanley, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 23/9/1911

“At the general meeting of the Harriers Club it was unanimously agreed that the headquarters of the club should be removed from the WHITE HART, Caldmore, to the LITTLETON ARMS, Hatherton Street, of which Mr. *George James* is the host. Mr. *James* has been connected with several branches of sport a good many years. He is vice-president of the Walsall Football Club, and takes a big interest in cycling and shooting, and it is thought from all points of view that the club have done the right at last in coming back to the district where it made its name. The only thing wanting to make the club what it had been in past years is a little support from the sporting public of the town. The following officials were elected for the coming season: Captain, H. Blower; vice-captain, H. Lawton; treasurer, S. Dyde; hon. secretary, G. L. Lamb. The opening run will take place on September 30th and all novices will be heartily welcomed.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/10/1911

“Walsall Harriers. The opening run of the above club took place on Saturday, from the LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton Street, and a record pack turned out, as expected. A start was not made till 4 o'clock, owing to several members being late.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/4/1912

“We are requested to state that the Walsall Imperial Cycling Club have changed their headquarters from the WINDMILL TAV-ERN to the LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton Street. Their first run of the season is on Sunday next, when they will visit Lichfield, and if the weather is permitting an enjoyable time is expected. The Thursday team of the Imperial Cycling Club will pay a visit to the Horns of Queslet on Thursday next.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“The members of the LITTLETON ARMS Sick and Dividend Club held their annual general meeting at headquarters, in Hatherton Street on Thursday evening, when it was announced that the sharing this year would be 6s 3d per member. This is ninepence less than last year. The membership decreased, being 22 as against 36 last year. The total income amounted to £21 17s 3d, and expenditure £14 4s leaving a balance to carry forward to next year of £7 17s 3d. It was decided that the club should be reconstructed and adopt the name of the LITTLETON ARMS Death and Dividend Society, the officers of which will be elected at a later meeting.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/10/1916

“The death has taken place at Fakenham, Norfolk, of Mr. *William O. E. Utting*, who for many years lived in Walsall, and formerly resided at the LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton Street, Walsall. He had a passion for collecting genuine old grandfather clocks, and possessed no fewer than 200 of them at the time of his death.”

John Mason – see also FOUNTAIN.

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.
LITTLETON ARMS, Hatherton Street. £0 6s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 7/9/1918 - Advert

“Preliminary.

Fox & Harrison, F.A.I., are favoured with instruction to offer for Sale by auction, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, 15th October, 1918 (unless previously disposed of privately), the undermentioned Four Licensed Houses.

The Full Licensed House, LITTLETON ARMS INN, Corner of Hatherton Street, and Littleton Street, Walsall.

The Full Licensed House, DUSTY MILLER INN, Corner of Butts Road (and facing down Hatherton Street, Walsall).

The Full Licensed House, TEDDESLEY ARMS INN, Corner of Warwick Street and Teddesley Street, Walsall.

The Ante '69 Beerhouse, Old Wilkin Inn, Corner of Wilkin Road and Hednesford Road, Norton Canes, Brownhills.

Full particulars will be announced later.

Auctioneers Offices, 51, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall. Telephone 198.”

Walsall Observer 5/4/1924

“W. O. E. Utting, Deceased. For Sale by Private Treaty, the well-known, fully licensed, Public houses, the LITTLETON ARMS (leasehold), Littleton Street; the TEDDESLEY ARMS (leasehold), Teddesley Street; the DUSTY MILLER (freehold), Butts Road, Walsall; and the freehold beerhouse Old Wilkin, Hednesford Road, Brownhills.

Apply: The Owners, namely W.O.E. Utting's Trustees, 117, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/12/1924

“An unusual story was told at Walsall County Court, on Thursday, in a case in which the Highgate Brewery Co., Walsall, sued William Utting, electrical engineer, Lower Forster Street, for £5 damages, and also applied for an injunction to restrain the man from trespassing on the company's property.

Defendant did not appear, and was not represented, but it was stated that he had written to the Registrar intimating although he denied liability, he had paid the amount claimed into court.

Mr. A. J. Long (instructed by Mr. C. L. Hodkinson), who appeared for plaintiffs, said the allegation against Utting was that he had wrongfully entered on one of the company's houses, the LITTLETON ARMS, Hatherton Street, and had painted out the word 'Highgate' from the sign 'Highgate Ales and Stout.'

Replying to Judge Tebbs, counsel said he did not know what defendant's object was in doing this. His only conclusion was that he was one of the lessors of the property of the brewery company. The incident occurred on October 28, and on November 5 Utting painted out similar words on the front of the TEDDESLEY ARMS INN, Littleton [sic] Street, which was also one of plaintiff's houses.

Samuel Tongue, manager of the LITTLETON ARMS, spoke to seeing Utting climb a ladder and paint out the word 'Highgate.'

Judge Tebbs: Why didn't you – but I suppose you could not. I was going to ask you why you did not pull the ladder down (laughter).

Joseph Osbourne, manager of the TEDDESLEY ARMS, said at his house the word 'Highgate' was painted out by a workman, whilst Utting and his sister looked on. He did not know why it was done.

Counsel: It is a long story. It arises from an order made by Justice Russell seven years ago.

Judgement was eventually given for the amount claimed with costs and the injunction sought was granted.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company's acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton Street.”

1939 Register

Littleton Street East – LITTLETON ARMS

[1] *John J. Wardle*, date of birth 24/6/1904, public house manager, married;

[2] *Fanny Wardle*, dob 21/6/1902, housekeeper, unpaid, married;

[4] *Ruth (Babbs) Burns*, dob 31/6/1911, barmaid, single;

[5] *Percival Burns*, dob 22/5/1910, press tool setter, single:

John Joseph Wardle – see also BELLE VUE.

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton Street. £3 2s 0d.”

J. Blakely died in 1957.

Dennis Stokes Chapman – see also NEW FULLBROOK.

[Sandwell Evening Mail 6/8/1994](#)

“Down Your Local. LITTLETON ARMS, Walsall.

The regulars at this popular street corner local are getting in a right old froth, and it's no wonder. Their beloved watering hole is under threat of demolition from a road modernisation scheme and the customers are working up a thirst for a ding-dong battle to save it The pub is on the route of Walsall's much-vaunted new Ring Road and unless the local authority has a rethink it is likely that a compulsory purchase order will be slapped on it. And that will come as a bitter blow to landlord *Paul Fletcher* and his partner *Liz Chambers* who have been at the pub less than 12 months This is *Paul* and *Liz*'s first pub, although she is no stranger to such places, having been born and brought up in a pub 100 yards away! Her dad *John Hayes* used to run the now-demolished *DUSTY MILLER* in Littleton Street. *Paul* ran his own small engineering company in Walsall for 20 years, manufacturing keys, but, like so many others, fell victim to the recession.....”

Mick Gull was married to Sue.

See also PRETTY BRICKS.

It closed on 10th July 2006.

It was demolished in October 2006.

LONDON APPRENTICE

Rushall Street / High Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Siddons []

NOTES

Siddons died in 1750 in a wrestling match.

He was the great grandfather of Sarah Siddons, the actress.

LONDON BAR

19, High Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Sneyd, chemist, High Street, Walsall

Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.

James Allen, butcher, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall

James Allen, Bournemouth

LICENSEES

Robert James Adams [1871] – [1872];

William Diggett [];

Frank Blakemore [];

John Johnson [];

Thomas Donohue [];

Robert Anslow [];

Stephen Griffin [1880] ?

Henry James Hold []

Frank Blakemore [];

Frederick T Hybell [];
Sophia Archer [];
Thomas Reuben Preston [] – 188_);
William Dance (188_ – 1889);
Edward Perris (1889);
Frederick Stokes (1889 – [];
Ann Stokes [] – 1890);
William Keats (1890 – 1894);
Mrs. Martha Lees (1894 – 1897);
James Edward Pascall (1897 – []:

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.
It also had a refreshment license.

1871 Census

19, High Street

[1] *Robert J. Adams* (24), beerhouse keeper, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Teresa Adams (24), wife, born Walsall:

Robert James Adams, beer retailer, 19 High Street. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 6/12/1886 - Advert

“Beerhouse (Attractive); long free lease; beds pay rent.

Apply on the premises, LONDON BAR, High Street, Walsall.”

William Keats = William Keate = William Keates

1891 Census

19, High Street – The LONDON BAR

[1] *William Keats* (60), bit maker, born Bloxwich;

[2] Elizabeth Keats (60), wife, born Berrington, Shropshire;

[3] Hubert Redford (39), visitor, tailor, born Brackensfield, Derbyshire;

[4] Walter Sutton (27), visitor, labourer, born Walsall;

[5] Henry Preston (48), boarder, saddler, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 7/1/1893

“Edward Carrol, Fidge’s Yard, was summoned, charged with two assaults, the first on a woman named Clara Broadhurst, and the second on *William Keates*, keeper of the LONDON BAR, High Street, who also charged defendant with smashing eight jugs and nine glasses belonging to him.

The first complainant appeared in court with her head bandaged, but as defendant failed to appear, the cases were adjourned for a warrant to be executed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/1/1893

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, Edward Carroll, collier, Fidge’s Yard, was charged on a warrant with assaulting Clara Broadhurst and *William Keates*, and also with wilful damage.

On Boxing Day the accused went into *Keates*’ House, the LONDON BAR, High Street, and asked for a Christmas box. The application was refused, Carroll being unknown to the landlord, and the fellow then seized a jug and threw it at the barmaid, who sustained a severe cut under the eye. Then Carroll turned upon the landlord and seized him by the throat, but on getting a whack with a stick he relaxed his hold and ‘set about clearing the jugs and glasses,’ smashing about a dozen glasses and doing other damage. The Bench convicted him of aggravated assault upon Broadhurst, and sentenced him to one month’s imprisonment, with hard labour; and for the assault upon *Keates* he was sentenced to a further period of fourteen days’ imprisonment. In the case of wilful damage nothing was done.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1893

“John Williams, alias Smith, sawyer, Green Lane, was charged on remand with unlawfully wounding Thomas Lee, miner, 44, New Street, Bloxwich.

Complainant stated that on the 9th inst, he was in the LONDON BAR, High Street, Walsall, and at closing time was getting up to go out when two jugs came flying at him, one narrowly missing his head and the second striking him with great force on the wrist, cutting him so badly that he had to be taken to the Cottage Hospital. He had remained there from then to the present time.

William Henry Pleby, Bloxwich, who was with complainant, said defendant threw the jugs at a man named Larry Carrigan, who, however, ducked, and avoided them, and complainant being in the rear received the full force of the one.

Prisoner here said he himself was struck on the head by a jug before this, but it was explained that complainant had done nothing with it.

Mr. Stearn, house surgeon, at the Cottage Hospital said complainant's injury was an incised wound over the right wrist and which divided the tendons, and the joint itself was open. It was quite possible the man might lose the use of the hand. Prisoner threw himself on the mercy of the Court, but the Magistrates said they had no power to deal with the case, and committed him to the Quarter Sessions for trial."

[At the Walsall Quarter Sessions (May 1893), John Williams pleaded guilty to common assault, and was bound over to come up when called upon.]

Walsall Advertiser 27/5/1893

"George Craddock, labourer, 35, Bott Lane, was summoned for stealing 6s 9d, the money of *William Keates*, the keeper of the LONDON BAR, High Street.

The prosecutor stated that defendant came to the house and was very quarrelsome, and ultimately was ordered to leave. He, however, went to the back of the bar, and helped himself at the beer tap. A police-constable was sent for, and defendant then snatched all the silver from the shelf in the bar, and ran out of the house.

Defendant denied the charge, but two witnesses swore to seeing him take the money.

As he had no rebutting evidence, and bore a bad character, the magistrates fined him 20s and costs, or 14 days."

Birmingham Daily Post 12/10/1893

"Yesterday, at the Guildhall, *William Keates*, keeper of the LONDON BAR, High Street, was charged with keeping open his house during prohibited hours, and with supplying drink to drunken persons. Mr. T. H. Stanley appeared on behalf of the accused.

It seemed that between ten and eleven o'clock on the night of the 5th inst, defendant sought the aid of Police-constable Morris, stating that his barmaid, Clara Broadhurst, had assaulted him. She was behind the bar, and her sister was sitting in the place with a man, both women were the worse of liquor. The defendant asked that the barmaid might be turned out, but she refused to go, declaring that she was his wife, and had as much right to be there as he has. The defendant, on being asked what he had to say about that, answered that she was not his wife, nor was she a servant; he did not pay her wages, but kept her 'like a lady.' At twenty past eleven, Police-constable Morris and Acting-sergeant Ballance found that he had been locked out of the house, and on getting the door open they saw the barmaid sitting at a table ill from the effects of drink and her sister still there.

The defence was that Clara was severely injured some months ago by a man who assaulted her in the house, and since that time a very little drink soon overcame her. Her sister had called with some things for her, and had been given some liquor.

The Bench fined *Keates* £5 and costs, without endorsement of license; and the women 10s each and costs for being upon the premises during prohibited hours."

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

"Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday.....

The Chief Constable withdrew his opposition to the renewal of the license of the LONDON BAR, High Street, a respectable tenant having been put into place.....

The Bench deliberated in private for some time, and on their return into court announced that all the other applications would be granted."

Mrs. *Martha Lees*, beer retailer, 19, High Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1896

"John James Morrall, butcher, of 193, Bloxwich Road, was summoned under the Married Women's Maintenance Act for persistent cruelty to his wife, Nellie Gertrude Morrall, LONDON BAR public-house, High Street. Complainant applied for a separation order. Mr. N. J. Cotterell supported, and stated that the parties were married some three years ago, during the whole of which time his client's life had, he thought, been nothing less than a misery through the conduct of the defendant. He had kicked her in the stomach, struck her on her nose and on the temple, rendering her insensible for some time, threatened her with a razor, and run her with a 'stake' knife. His conduct had been so bad that she was obliged to go home, where she had lived for the past three months or so. Ever since that he had met her and struck her with a stick across her shoulders, but the whole matter culminated on Tuesday evening, when he blackened her eye, the effects of which were still visible.

Complainant gave evidence as to the accuracy of the statement, and then called Jemima Capewell (Birmingham) who stated in her presence the defendant had beaten thrashed, and threatened his wife.

Police-constable Cattermole said he was called to a row at the LONDON BAR on Tuesday, and noticed that Mrs. Morrall had received a blow on the eye. Defendant said to him, 'Leave her alone, she'll come round, she has come round before.'

In defence the husband denied several allegations, while his father, James Morrall, 213, North Walsall, contended that the parties had broken up their home and were living apart owing to business losses, and not because of alleged ill-treatment.

The magistrates granted a separation, and ordered defendant to contribute 6s per week towards the maintenance of his wife."

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

"Mr. Disturnal (instructed by Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) applied to the magistrates, on behalf of Mrs. *Martha Lees*, for a temporary transfer to her of the LONDON BAR, High Street, to enable her to sell at those premises until the next transfer day, the present licensee having gone out of the premises. In making the application, Mr. Disturnal said that the circumstances were somewhat peculiar. The LONDON BAR belonged to Mr. James Allen, who resided at Bournemouth, but, unfortunately for him, the lease

became vested in a Mr. Everett, an auctioneer, of Birmingham, and Mr. Everett, from time to time, sub-let the premises to various tenants. At the licensing sessions of 1897 the license was renewed to Mrs. *Martha Lees*, the present applicant, who had held the license previously. She was licensed by the way of renewal at the annual licensing meeting in 1897. Shortly afterwards, in the month of September, she transferred the license to a Mr. *Pascall*. It appeared that Mr. Everett's methods with reference to licensed houses was somewhat peculiar – so peculiar that, unfortunately, he (Mr. Everett) found himself in Winson Green Gaol, Birmingham. The tenant of the house, in consequence of his conduct in reference to this house in particular, quitted it, and the lease being unexpired, everything was removed from the premises, and the house was shut up. His client (Mr. Allen) was bound to resort to the law to give him possession, but was not able to do so as sufficient rent was not in arrear. Shortly after June 24th this year, Mr. Allen applied to the Bench under certain Acts of Parliament passed in the reign of King George III to give him possession, and to put an end to the lease. That was done, and now Mr. Allen had undisputed possession. Free from his lease he now came before the Bench to ask them to give him further assistance, with reference to the license of which he had temporally been deprived by Mr. Everett's methods. Under those circumstances Mr. Allen had gone to the old tenant, Mrs. *Martha Lees*, a respectable lady, and had got her to come back to the house. She was now residing in the house, and agreement of tenancy had been made between her and Mr. Allen. Under those circumstances he made an application for a temporary transfer to her.

Chief Constable Taylor said he was opposing the application.

Mrs. *Martha Lees* was called in support of this application. She stated she was residing at the LONDON BAR, and had previously resided in Birmingham. She had entered into an agreement of tenancy.

Mr. Disturnal here proposed to question Mrs. *Lees* upon the agreement she had signed.

The Chief Constable objected to this course being taken, and after a good deal of legal argument on the point, Mr. Disturnal said he would put in the agreement, having protested.

In cross-examination by Chief Constable Taylor, applicant denied that she was the holder of a license in Birmingham, and she said she had sold her business in New John Street, West Hockley. She did not say she would not leave Birmingham until she got the license of the LONDON BAR. She could not tell what time she entered the house, but she had stayed there all night, although there was no furniture there. That was for the purpose of 'occupying' the house.

Chief Constable Taylor asked if there was any provision in the agreement that if the license was not granted the agreement was not binding?

Mr. Disturnal objected, remarking that the document spoke for itself.

Chief Constable Taylor said his objection was exactly the same in the RING OF BELLS case, namely, that the license had become null and void, in consequence of its having been granted to a person other than the 'real resident and occupier,' but the person who held the temporary authority was nothing more or less than a paid servant. This was a Mr. *Pascall*, who had had a grant of the license. Mrs. *Lees* left in September last year, and before the expiration of her license she had transferred all her rights, he submitted, to another person, and no amount of argument would make the granting of a new license. The owner, he submitted, could not get the license vested in an old tenant, who had lost her interest in it.

In the end, the Bench refused the application."

The license was not renewed in 1898.

LONGHORN

Sutton Road, Wood End, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Roper

James Roper

John Marshall [1871]

George Whitehouse, 12, Mellish Road, Walsall [1909]

Lichfield Brewery Co. Ltd.

Ansells Ltd.

Allied Domecq [1998]

Ember Inns [2007]

LICENSEES

Thomas Hartopp [1856]

James Roper [1858] – 1894);

Edwin Roper (1894 – 1899);

George Porter (1899 – 1901);

Stephen Dawson (1901 – 1906);

William Perry (1906 – 1914);

Walter Howard Homer (1914 – 1916);
Walter Richard Taylor (1916 – 1925);
Frank Smith (1925 – 1926);
Charles Pedley (1926 – []
Thomas Pittaway [] – 1935);
Gilbert Broughton Brown (1935 – 1947);
Edward Cronin (1947 – 1949);
Leonard Rickerby (1949 – [1966]
Esther Bennett [2004]

NOTES

It was originally an unnamed beerhouse.

It was later known as the RED HOUSE.

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/3/1856

“At the Guildhall, on Wednesday, Enoch Whitehouse, of the New Invention beerhouse, near Willenhall, was summoned on the information of Caleb H. Yewes, Secretary of the Animal Friends Society, for cockfighting. It appeared that the police, on receiving information, went to the RED HOUSE beershop, kept by *Thomas Hartopp*, which they found filled with people upstairs and in the back yard, into which people could see the house. After a good deal of difficulty they got up by a trap door, by which admission could only be obtained when those above allowed it to be opened. Here they found two men with gloves on, and a quantity of cocks feather’s lying on the floor. There were two rooms leading from this room but they were refused admission into them, but they heard cocks crowing there. They found the defendant in the yard with a cock in a bag, and upon taking him to the station they found spurs in his pocket. There were 200 people in the house. Mr. Highway said there was no moral doubt but that the defendant was guilty, but the evidence was scarcely sufficient to justify a conviction, and he was accordingly discharged.”

James Roper, beer retailer, Sutton Road. [1858]

1861 Census

Sutton Road – Beer House

- [1] *James Roper* (48), chainmaker and beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Amy Roper (46), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Anna Roper (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Edwin Roper (17), son, scrap founder, born Walsall;
- [5] Eliza Roper (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Thomas Tittley (19), boarder, agricultural labourer, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 27/4/1867

“Yesterday afternoon, A. A. Fletcher, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the house of *James Roper*, beer-house keeper, Wood End, upon the body of Thomas Jenks, aged 84, who died suddenly on the previous day. From the evidence it appeared deceased about 12 o’clock on Thursday, complained to a neighbour of being unwell and said he would lie down for a short time. Shortly after one o’clock Sarah Horobin, a girl who resides with her parents, next door to deceased and who has been in the habit of clearing-up the house for the old man, called and found him lying on the bed quite dead. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

James Roper, beer retailer, Wood End. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

Sutton Road – RED HOUSE

- [1] *James Roper* (57), chainmaker and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Amy Roper (55), wife, landlady, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Tittley (39), nephew, agricultural labourer, born Walsall:

John Marshall was an ironmaster, employing 130 men and 20 boys. [1871]

It was later called the WOOD END INN. [1881]

1881 Census

Sutton Road – WOOD END INN

- [1] *James Roper* (67), beer retailer, born Walsall;

[2] Ann Roper (65), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Thomas Tittley (49), nephew, agricultural labourer, born Walsall:

[Were Amy (1871) and Ann one and the same? If so which name was the right one?]

Its name was changed back to the RED HOUSE.

1891 Census

Sutton Road – REDHOUSE INN

[1] *James Roper* (77), widower, publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Annie Roper* (15), servant, general labourer, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/5/1895

“On Monday, at Rushall, a charge of having trespassed in search of game was made against William Spriggs, Walsall, and Edward *Roper*, RED HOUSE INN. Spriggs did not put in an appearance.

William Fisher stated that on Friday, April 19th, he saw the two defendants at about twenty-past four in the afternoon with two dogs walking towards the land belonging to William Oram. He watched them go on to the land, and ‘knew they were in search of game.’

Defendant denied the charge.

Edwin Roper, the father, who was in company with Spriggs and *Roper*, said they were only in search of potatoes, and the Bench dismissed the case.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/7/1895

“Annadine Smith (57) is a hawker living at Bentley, and has earned a disgraceful reputation for herself. She now appeared in the dock on two charges of drunkenness and one of wilful damage. On the first, Police-constable Brennan said that on Monday, the 15th inst, at 8.50pm, he saw her in Ablewell Street, drunk and creating a great disturbance with a large crowd of children round her. She was very excited, and using bad language.

The other charges were of having been drunk and disorderly in the Sutton Road and done wilful damage to the amount of 2s 6d to a window, the property of *Edwin Roper*, landlord of the RED HOUSE INN. On Saturday night prisoner was seen by one of Mr. *Roper*’s family lying in the gutter in Sutton Road, drunk. As the RED HOUSE was known to be her last house of call on her way home, Mr. *Roper* was on the look out for her, and immediately she appeared in the passage he pushed her out. She at once took a ‘running blow’ at the window with her fist and knocked a pane out.

Police-sergeant Ballance was called and he found the woman so drunk and yet so violent that she had to be placed on a wheelbarrow and strapped down.

Prisoner admitted that she had had some beer, but could have managed all right if she had been allowed to walk. The officer and the landlord, she declared, ‘served me cruel, and I’m all over mortified where they struck me’. There were 27 previous convictions. She was now fined 5s and costs on each of the three charges, and ordered to pay the damage, or a month in default.

Prisoner, as she went below, declared she would make the landlord ‘pay for the two and six’ when she ‘came back’.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/6/1899

“*Edwin Roper*, junior, and *William Roper*, RED HOUSE, Sutton Road, were summoned for assaulting Samuel Trivett, of the Keeper’s Cottage, Great Barr Road, and with wilfully damaging one hat, one coat, and one pair of breeches, doing injury to the complainant to the amount of £1 10s on May 25th; and *Edwin Roper*, the father of the two defendants, was summoned for aiding and abetting his sons to assault complainant. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) was for the prosecution, and Mr. J. Armstrong for the defence.

Mr. Jackson said complainant was a gamekeeper in the employ of Lady Bateman and Scott. On Thursday, the 25th May, defendant visited a farm in the vicinity of the THREE CROWNS INN, kept by Mr. Downes, and after conversing in the yard for some time with Mr. Allen both went into the road. *Edwin Roper*, jun. came up and told Trivett to get his coat off, and he would make him (Trivett) remember the 15th May last year, a date on which complainant appeared in a case against the two younger defendants for trespass, and who were fined. *Edwin*, jun. then rushed at Trivett, and hit him several times in the face, knocking him down three or four times. Unfortunately Mr. Allen could not interfere, having charge of a restive horse, and as soon as *Edwin Roper* had given him a good hiding *William* commenced. Subsequently the father came up, and told his sons ‘to give the fat headed old —— a good hiding. We shall have to pay for it, make it worth paying for. The old —— ought to have been killed long ago.’

Samuel Trivett bore out the statement made by Mr. Jackson, and several other witnesses gave corroborative evidence.

Dr. Phillips spoke to having examined Trivett and found his face badly bruised. Both eyes had been discoloured, his lower lip was cut, and his left ear was also much swollen.

For the defence Mr. Armstrong contended that it was a fair fight. There had been a grievance between the two parties, and on being challenged by *Edwin Roper* complainant accepted and they fought.

Edwin Roper was sworn, and said that it was a fair fight. Trivett knocked him to the floor and attempted to strangle him, but his younger brother came to his assistance and struck Trivett.

The father was also sworn, but admitted that he incited them on to fight Trivett.

Edwin (jun.) and *William* were each fined £5 and costs, with the alternative of two months’ hard labour for the assault, and 1s and 30s damages, or seven days’ hard labour, and the father, for aiding and abetting, £2 and costs, or 21 days’ hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1899

“John Cooper, 24, Lime Street, was summoned for being found drunk on licensed premises, the RED HOUSE, Sutton Road, on June 10th. Mr. J. R. Cooper (town clerk) prosecuted, and Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

The Town Clerk said that at 10.35 on Saturday evening, the 10th inst, the beer-house known as the RED HOUSE, in Sutton Road, was visited by Inspector Williams and Detective-Sergeant Haycock. In a room near the entrance they found twelve or thirteen persons, among them the defendant, who in the opinion of the officers was drunk. Defendant was making an attempt to sing, but his words were incoherent. He had a jug before him, three-parts full of beer. The landlord was present, and on being appealed to by the inspector as to the condition of the man said he was ‘tipsy’ but not drunk, and suggested that they should take the defendant to a doctor. The inspector told the landlord that that was precisely what he intended doing. They walked with the defendant to the house of Dr. Phillips, who was out, so they proceeded to the next medical man, Dr. Layton, who said he had not the slightest doubt in the world that the man was drunk at the time. The examination of the defendant was made at 11.20, and they had started from the RED HOUSE at 10.25. On the way to the doctor’s the defendant was so drunk that he staggered and had to lean upon the officers for support. After Dr. Layton’s opinion had been given the landlord asked that he should be taken to his own doctor, Dr. Oliver. There was no objection to that course, and they visited Dr. Oliver’s, who said he was sober, and he (Dr. Oliver) thought a licensed person would not be doing any harm if he supplied him with a glass of beer. From there he was taken to Dr. Wilson’s, where they did not arrive till 11.50. Dr. Wilson did not then give an opinion, but Mr. Cooper contended that between 10.25 and 11.50, and the defendant having had such a long walk in the meantime, and been under the ‘freezing influence’ of the two constables for that distance, it might have had a beneficial effect upon the defendant.

Inspector Williams gave corroborative evidence. He said the defendant appeared half-dosed. On proceeding to the doctors the defendant tumbled against him several times and also leaned on him. When witness told defendant not to lean on him defendant said he was drunk but not ‘speechless’. Defendant said he expected someone would have to pay for that. He asked witness for a match to light a piece of a cigar. Witness gave him a match, but after a time witness remarked ‘I cannot light it without you stop marching!’ When they arrived at Dr. Oliver’s (where they went at the landlord’s request), the landlord asked Dr. Oliver’s opinion, and the doctor, without any examination whatever, simply said ‘the man is not so bad. I don’t think a publican would be doing any harm in supplying him with a glass of beer’. From the last mentioned place they went to Dr. Wilson’s. Dr. Wilson asked the man a few questions, but said he would give his opinion at the proper time. Witness visited the defendant on the following day, and he admitted that he was drunk on the previous night.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jackson: It was hot and close in the room of the public house where they first found defendant, and such a close atmosphere, he thought, would have a tendency to make one drowsy. Witness was perfectly satisfied that defendant was drunk, but it was according to his instructions that he should take him to a medical man.

Detective-sergeant Haycock corroborated.

Dr. Layton was sworn, and said that in his opinion the defendant was drunk.

Mr. Jackson for the defence contended that the man was not drunk, and no better proof of that could they have than the fact that the defendant, when told by the officers that he was drunk, requested to be taken to a doctor.

Edward [sic] *Roper*, the landlord, was called, and denied that the man was drunk.

Dr. Oliver said the man was not drunk, and was capable of taking care of himself.

Cross-examined: When the defendant came to his house he could tell he had beer, and he could not say that having walked from the public house would have had any beneficial effect upon him.

Dr. Lynch also said that the man was not drunk at the time he examined him. He knew the man well, and he could see no difference in his condition from ordinarily. He could not give a definite opinion as to what his condition would have been two hours previously, but he should not think he could have been drunk by his sobriety when witness saw him.

Cooper was fined 5s and costs, or seven days, and *Edwin Roper*, the landlord, was fined 20s and costs for permitting drunkenness. On Mr. Jackson’s application, recognisances in case of appeal were fixed at *Roper* in £40 and two sureties of £20 each.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Three beer retailers were also summoned, 2 of whom were convicted, viz.....

16th June, *Edwin Roper*, RED HOUSE, Sutton Road, fined 20s and costs for permitting drunkenness.....

The renewal of the license for the RED HOUSE, Sutton Road, was also objected to by the Chief Constable, who said that this was somewhat more than a formal objection. He opposed the license ‘outright,’ and he asked the magistrates to support him in his action. The house was situated a long way from any number of dwelling-houses, and there are only four or five in the immediate neighbourhood, and irrespective of the convictions that were recorded against it, it was a house of a very undesirable character, and one not properly under police supervision. His grounds for objection were that on the 2nd June, *Edwin Roper* was fined £2 and costs for aiding and abetting his sons to assault Samuel Travett (Lady Bate and Scott’s gamekeeper) on 25th May; and that on 16th June, *Roper* was fined 20s and costs for permitting drunkenness; also that the licensed premises were frequented by thieves and poachers, and bad characters; and that *Roper* was not a fit and proper person to hold a license. Both *Roper*’s sons, who had been subpoenaed to attend that day, had been convicted of poaching, with other persons he had subpoenaed to attend there, and who were well-known poachers. On those grounds he asked the magistrates to refuse to renew the license.

Mr. R. E. C. Plumtre, instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson, appeared for *Roper*.

Mr. Plumtre said he admitted *Roper* was fined for aiding and abetting his sons in an assault, but contended the assault did not take place on the licensed premises; and though it was on a gamekeeper the gamekeeper was not in the execution of his duty.

Thomas Downes, farmer, of Wood End Farm, living in close proximity to the RED HOUSE INN, who had been subpoenaed by the Chief Constable, was called. Downes first protested against having been summoned to attend there and said it was very unfair. After having been sworn, he said he ‘believed’ he knew persons named Rough and Harriman, and he had seen them frequently at the RED HOUSE, and also in the garden there, but he (witness) had not been in the house for some years. Answering further

questions by the Chief Constable witness said he believed William and Edwin *Roper* were the sons of the landlord of the RED HOUSE, and he also believed they resided at the RED HOUSE.

Mr. Loxton: When you say 'believe' have you any doubt about it? – No.

In answer to Mr. Plumptre, witness said it had been three or four years since he was in the house. Witness said his land adjoined the garden at the RED HOUSE. He could not say how long it was since he saw either of the persons named at the RED HOUSE.

The Chief Constable (to witness): have you made a statement to anyone within the last two years in reference to the RED HOUSE? – I think it a very 'un-english' way to go about getting evidence in the way they have.

As witness did not answer Mr. Taylor's question, the latter remarked: Of course, there is not the slightest doubt but that he (witness) is afraid of those people.

Mr. Plumptre: Oh, I don't know.

The Chief Constable: He will tell you so himself.

Mr. Plumptre characterised the observations of the Chief Constable as unfortunate. Mr. Taylor, he said, was partly speaking as advocate and partly as Chief Constable.

To witness: Are you afraid to give evidence? – Witness: I decline to answer that question.

Mr. Plumptre: Is he afraid of the police?

Mr. Loxton (to witness): Have you made any statement to Inspector Gore with regard to this matter? – I believe I did; but I consider it was under very unfair circumstances.

Mr. Loxton: Was that statement taken down in writing? – I believe it was, but I did not see it after it was taken down.

The whole of the witnesses had been called, and all stood in a line behind the solicitor's table.

John Rough was the next witness called, but before he gave evidence, Mr. Plumptre interposed: Might I ask about these witnesses – I don't much like their looks – might I ask if they be out of court (laughter).

The witnesses were then asked to leave the court, and the Chief Constable proceeded to interrogate Rough.

The Chief Constable: How long is it since you were in the RED HOUSE, Mr. *Roper's*? – I could not tell you. I call there sometimes when I have got three ha'pence (laughter).

The Chief Constable: How often do you call? – It is not very often that I have got some money to call (laughter).

The Chief Constable: How many times have you been there during the last three months? – I couldn't say.

The Chief Constable: You have been before the magistrates a lot of times for poaching.

Mr. Plumptre interposed, and told witness not to answer, but the latter being rather deaf, made some unintelligible remark.

Mr. Plumptre said the Chief Constable must know by that time that if he called a witness he had no right to treat him as a hostile witness or to cross-examine him, and when the Chief had heard him object he must say that his behaviour was not with proper consideration to him, or proper courtesy not to hold his tongue until he (Mr. Plumptre) had submitted a point to the Bench.

The Chief Constable said that as soon as Mr. Plumptre objected he immediately stopped, but it was witness who continued speaking.

Mr. Loxton said that he had not heard the question, and also several magistrates also making the same remark.

Mr. Plumptre said he was glad they had not, but he heard the Chief of Police, with the great respect to him, asking witness, more or less sotto voce, the whole time he (Mr. Plumptre) was speaking. But if the Bench had not heard it he must object.

Mr. Loxton: What is the objection, Mr. Plumptre? – That he is now attacking the credit of his own witness. He had subpoenaed this person, and before he obtained the permission of the Bench to treat him as a hostile witness, he proceeds to show that the witness is a person of bad character. That he cannot do without the express permission of the Bench.

The Chief Constable contended that he was perfectly justified in asking the question. He was not treating the witness as a hostile one, neither was he cross-examining him. One of his grounds for putting the question was to show that poachers and persons of disorderly character frequented the house. If witness said 'no' to his question, he should then put in a copy of convictions. He thought Mr. Plumptre was rather hasty, because as soon as he objected he stopped asking questions, but the witness went on answering and he could not prevent him from doing so.

Mr. Plumptre said he was very sorry if he had said more than he ought to, and he accepted Mr. Taylor's statement.

Mr. Loxton: What do you say to Mr. Taylor's answer, that he was asking that question not to discredit the witness, but asking him as the person who knew best about it?

Mr. Plumptre said he objected to the question in that form, and Mr. Loxton agreed it was not a fair way of putting it. He suggested that witness be asked as a matter of fact if he had been convicted of poaching, and on how many occasions.

Mr. Plumptre: That is a different thing.

The Chief Constable then asked witness the question, and also if he had had penal servitude for felony. – Yes, I had seven years.

The Chief Constable: The last time you were convicted for poaching were you fined 40s and costs at Rushall? – No, it was here the last time I was convicted, and I had ten days (laughter).

Cross-examined by Mr. Plumptre, witness said it was in 1869 that he was convicted for felony. He used to go to the RED HOUSE very often when the father of the present occupant was alive, but since then – six years ago – he had not called very often. He has not called a dozen times during the last six years, but witness added, in a confidential tone, I shall call anywhere if I've got three ha'pence (laughter).

James Hammond, of Bank Street, Walsall, said he visited the RED HOUSE about once a month. He was there last Saturday, but he had not been in the house for a month before. Any time he was travelling that way he thought it to his benefit to get half-a-pint of ale at *Roper's* he got it (laughter). But he protested against being advertised up and down the country; when he had only been guilty of a 'disdemeanour.'

Mr. Loxton: You mean 'misdemeanour.' – You can miss it how you like (laughter). It was for trespassing upon other people's land.

In answer to the Chief Constable, witness denied that he had been convicted on several occasions, except for taking some fish.

Sergeant Riley, of the Rushall police, was sworn, and put in a certified copy of convictions against witness at Rushall Police Court.

William *Roper*, son of the landlord, acknowledged having been convicted at Rushall for game trespass, and also for an assault upon a gamekeeper at Walsall.

Edwin *Roper*, jun., another son of the landlord, denied that he was ever convicted at Rushall, but acknowledged having been convicted for an assault with his brother.

The Chief Constable put in certified copy of alleged convictions, but, on perusing it, Mr. Loxton said it seemed peculiar that witness should have been convicted on the 7th for an offence committed on the 20th of the same month.

Mr. Plumptre: It only shows how easy it is to get wrong.

Sergeant Riley was called, but he was not at all sure that witness had been convicted at Rushall.

The Chief Constable withdrew it.

Mr. Plumptre then called evidence as to the character of the house, two witnesses who had previously lived close to the RED HOUSE, both expressing their opinions that it was conducted as well as any house in Walsall.

Mr. Plumptre said he understood from the Chief Constable that he very seriously fought this case, and he was quite sure the Chief Constable thought he was perfectly justified in taking that course, but he submitted, very strongly and strenuously, that in spite of the cross-examination and suggestions about all sorts of things, when they got to the bottom of the case there was not much in it. It was perfectly true that there were one or two convictions, but the only one concerning the house was when the landlord was fined 20s and costs for permitting drunkenness. As far as he knew there was nothing against the man. The property had been in the *Roper* family for 60 years, and there was no other conviction against the house at all during the whole time. The late owner of the property, the present landlord's father, kept the property something like 50 years, and never had a conviction. Then the new man came into it, and he had been in possession some six years, and it was only in the present year there came that unfortunate affair of permitting drunkenness. That in itself was not a very serious offence because the fine imposed was only 20s and costs, and was it to be said that on that ground the license was going to be taken away? He did not think anyone would say that would not be very harsh and very hard to let one conviction do away with 60 years of good conduct. As regard the case of *Edwin Roper* having aided and abetted his sons in an assault, that was the only offence that had been proved against him. For that he had been punished, and it was nothing whatever to do with the public-house, and then they heard the good character given *Roper* by his neighbours. It had been said that the house was one which was disorderly. Now they could not take away that license except on one of four specific grounds in the Act of Parliament; and accordingly one was that he had failed to produce satisfactory evidence of good character. He ventured to hope that having heard the evidence of the two witnesses he had called that there was nothing against the man's character. They must bear in mind he had been in possession of the house for six years, during which time no complaint had ever been made against his character, and his property was to be confiscated because he had been guilty of one offence under the licensing laws, and one assault not connected with the license. But it was also said, and which seemed to be the Chief Constable's strongest opposition, that the house was of a disorderly character, and frequented by persons who were poachers, and other persons of undesirable character. He contended that a person who kept a beerhouse in that neighbourhood could not afford to be very particular as to the character of persons who might come into the house. He understood that there was no evidence before the court at all to show that *Roper* was aware of the antecedents of those witnesses who had been called; there was nothing to show that he knew of those convictions for felony, for instance, against the man *Rough*. *Rough*'s conviction was in 1869, and was it seriously going to be said that a man who was convicted so long ago for felony could not go into a house in which he was never proved to have made the slightest disturbance. Was a man so lost to the rights of citizenship that he must be treated outside the pale of human society because in the year 1869 he was convicted for felony; and as far as the evidence they had there that was all that could be said against that man. And then the word 'frequented' could not be applied to a man who only went into the house once in three weeks. That was not 'frequented,' which embraced that idea of something systematic about it. He asked them to bear in mind the evidence as to the good character of the house and then he thought they would not decline on this occasion to renew that license; but if for any reason they thought it would be desirable for Mr. *Edwin Roper* not to carry on that house, then he was prepared to find a new tenant, and one who should be agreeable and satisfactory in character to the police. He said there was no real foundation for the suggestion that the house was the resort of bad characters, and there was nothing there to suggest that crime was winked at there. He submitted that *Roper* was therefore entitled to have his license renewed, but if the Magistrates thought that there should be a new tenant he could assure them that their wishes in that respect would be complied with....

On returning the Magistrates announced their decisions as under....

RED HOUSE, the renewal was adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, but if Mr. Plumptre was prepared between then and the adjourned licensing day with a satisfactory tenant, the magistrates were prepared to further consider the question of renewal."

Walsall Advertiser 30/9/1899

"The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was held yesterday at the Guildhall....

RED HOUSE, Sutton Road. This was another old license which had been adjourned. Mr. H. H. Jackson said a new and a good tenant had been found in *George Porter*, of Sandwell Street, and Mr. *Roper*, the last tenant, had disposed of his property and left the premises.

The Chief Constable said he had now no objection to the license, and it was renewed."

Walsall Advertiser 7/4/1900 - Deaths

"On the 30th ult, John, son of *George Porter*, RED HOUSE, Sutton Road, aged 2 years."

Walsall Advertiser 30/3/1901

"A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on

Thursday week.....

New Members. *Stephen Dawson*, RED HOUSE INN, Sutton Road.”

1901 Census

Sutton Road – RED HOUSE INN

- [1] *Stephen Dawson* (34), publican, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Amelia A. L. Dawson* (35), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Ethel L. Dawson* (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Emily M. Dawson* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Norman S. Dawson* (3), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Clara Hawthorn* (14), general servant, born Aldridge:

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

During the last the period since the last annual licensing sessions five beer retailers were also summoned, two of whom were convicted and fined.....

12th December, 1900, *George Porter*, RED HOUSE, Sutton Road, fined 10s and costs for keeping his licensed premises open during prohibited hours.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared on behalf of the owner and licensee of the RED HOUSE, against which license the Chief Constable had given notice of objection. Renewed.”

Stephen Dawson, beer retailer, Wood End. [1904]

See also FOUNTAIN, Bott Lane.

Walsall Advertiser 28/1/1905

“There was a summons against *Stephen Dawson*, of the RED HOUSE, Sutton Road (for whom Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared) for allowing music and singing in the smoke room of his licensed premises without a license. The Chief Constable applied that it be adjourned for a week.

Adjourned accordingly.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... *William Perry*, RED HOUSE INN, Wood End, Sutton Road.”

1911 Census

Sutton Road – RED HOUSE INN

- [1] *William Perry* (53), innkeeper and brewer, born Lye;
- [2] *Annie Perry* (49), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Henrietta Ingram* (84), mother in law, widow, born Lichfield;
- [4] *Edith Cooper* (18), domestic servant, born Tipton:

William Perry, beer retailer, Sutton Road. [1912]

Walsall Observer 28/11/1914

“The meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held at the CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane.....

New members..... *Walter Homer*, RED HOUSE INN, Sutton Road.”

Walsall Observer 16/12/1916

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, Rushall.....

Mr. *Walter Taylor*, RED HOUSE INN, Sutton Road, Walsall, elected member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

RED HOUSE, Sutton Road. £1 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 12/10/1918 - Advert

“Wednesday, 23rd October, 1918.

Under instructions from Messrs. W. Butler & Co. Ltd. Springfield Brewery, Wolverhampton, Leonard C. Philpot will Sell by Auction the Brewery Plant, Utensils and Effects, at the following Licensed Houses, viz:

RED HOUSE INN, Sutton Road, Walsall.....

Further particulars in Next Week’s *Observer*, from the Auctioneer’s Offices, Midland Bank Chambers, The Bridge, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 8/11/1924

“A receiving order in bankruptcy was made on Tuesday, on the debtor’s own petition against *Walter Richard Taylor*, residing and carrying on business at the RED HOUSE, Sutton Road, Walsall, as a beerhouse keeper. The solicitors acting in the matter are Messrs. Lenton Lester and Co, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Demolished

Rebuilt in 1933 at the rear of the RED HOUSE.

The full license was transferred from the FREEMASONS, Park Street, on 2nd March 1933.

It opened in March 1934.

Lichfield Mercury 2/3/1934 - Adverts

“The RED HOUSE INN, Sutton Road, Walsall.

Now Open.

Allsopps Ales.

The Lichfield Brewery Co. Ltd.”

AND

“The New RED HOUSE INN has been built by Deacon & Boardman, Building Contractors, Algernon Street, Walsall. ’Phone 3953 Walsall.”

AND

“The RED HOUSE INN Gardens

Designed & Made by P. & F. Smith, Ltd,

Garden Architects & Contractors, Stratford Road, Hall Green, Birmingham. ’Phone Springfield 2415.”

AND

“All Sanitary Fittings including Baths, Lavatory Basins, Cisterns, Urinal Stalls,

Supplied to the New RED HOUSE INN, Walsall, by Messrs. Baldwins (Birmingham) Limited,

6/12, Lancaster Street, Birmingham 14. (Near General Hospital).

We cordially invite you to visit our showrooms, where we have an unequalled display of sanitary ware, grates and ironmongery.”

AND

Lichfield Mercury 2/3/1934

“The Lichfield Brewery Company are to be congratulated on their enterprise in providing for the licensing needs of the public, as instanced by the re-building of the NEW RED HOUSE INN, on the main Sutton Road at Walsall. On Tuesday the Licensing Justices made an inspection of the premises, and expressed their satisfaction with the improvements effected.

The re-building of these premises was necessitated by the important road improvement scheme in which it was proposed to eliminate the blind corner where the Sutton Road circled the old inn, by creating an easy bend, and an 80ft wide road, with the new house set well back to give the maximum visibility.

The external elevation is of nicely toned brickwork with a half-timbered upper storey of English oak, left rough from the edge, and plain plaster panels, and tiled roof. The elevations are Tudor in style, and the internal decoration and fittings, whilst of the most modern in arrangement, have all been designed with the characteristics of this period.

The house itself has been planned on the lines of a modern road house, with bar lounge, buffet bar, ladies’ room, smoke room, and an assembly room of fine proportions. Bedroom accommodation has also been provided for the use of travellers.

There is a fine car park at the front of the house, capable of accommodating a large number of cars or charabancs, a special playground for children, with shelter and the latest type of swings, roundabouts, etc, for their enjoyment.

For the use of patrons in summer weather, a large stone-flagged open loggia has been laid down with stone steps leading down to sunk lawns and tastefully laid out gardens with flowers and flowering shrubs. It is also proposed at a future ate to add an open-air bathing pool beyond the lawns.

The house has been designed by Messrs. Farmer and Farmer, of Walsall and Birmingham, with Mr. R. J. Barnes, of Lichfield, as associated architect. It is one of the last of the houses of this class carried out by the late Mr. H. E. Farmer, who died on January 27th.

The general contractors for the erection of the house were Messrs. Deacon and Boardman, of Walsall and Lichfield. This eminent firm has built a number of houses for the Lichfield Brewery Co, and at the time have a large number of contracts on hand in the Walsall district, including two arcades and a big extension to Walsall Hospital.

The furnishing arrangements, including domestic furniture and glassware, were dealt with by Messrs. T. W. B. Cockayne, of Angel Street, Sheffield, and the sanitary ware by Messrs. Baldwin’s, of Birmingham. The latter are acknowledged the leading firm for sanitary fittings, grates and ironmongery, and have just secured contracts for the new Central Fire Station, Birmingham, and the CRITERION HOTEL, Wolverhampton. Contracts just completed include the Birmingham Municipal Bank, Regent Palace Annex, London, and the Regal Cinema, Purley.

The attractive layout of the gardens was the work of Messrs. P. and F. Smith, of Hall Green, a firm noted for this class of ornamentation.”

1939 Register

Sutton Road – RED HOUSE INN Public House

[1] *Gilbert B. Brown*, date of birth 2/6/1886, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Dorothy F. (Florence D.) Brown*, dob 2/3/1882, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Ena D. (Brown) Denning, dob 14/3/1917, shop assistant (ladies outfitter), single;
[4] Nancy (Broadhurst) Townsend, dob 16/4/1915, general servant, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

RED HOUSE, Sutton Road, £5 5s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

RED HOUSE HOTEL, Sutton Road. £1 1s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 30/9/1944 - Advert

“Charwoman, mornings 3 hours only; also girl or young woman, live in, light housework, assist in Bar.

RED HOUSE INN, Sutton Road, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/3/1947

“Licensee of the RED HOUSE, Sutton Road, Walsall, for the past 13 years, Mr. *Gilbert Broughton Brown*, died on Saturday at the age of 61. A native of Glasgow, he was formerly licensee of the New Inns, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.”

The name was changed to the LONGHORN. [1984]

Sandwell Evening Mail 6/7/1992

“They’re the pubs that YOU think are the best in the Midlands – and now they’re all in the running for our prestigious Midland Town and Country Pub of the Year.....

The *Evening Mail* has teamed up for the contest with the Midland Counties Brewers’ and Licensed Retailers’ Association, to raise a toast to the very best of our region’s pubs. Now it is up to the judges, who face a huge task choosing the two winners from the enormous entry. They’ll be looking for service and standards of comfort demanded by today’s discerning pub-goer. And they will be awarding marks for another important ingredient of a successful pub – the part it plays as a hub of social life in the community.....

LONGHORN, Sutton Road, Walsall.”

[2017]

LORD HILL

BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Michael Partridge [1841] – [1842]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/7/1845

“Odd Fellowship – Wolverhampton Unity.

On Monday week, the brethren belonging to the ‘Friendly Brothers Loyal Lodge,’ Walsall District, dined together at the LORD HILL INN, Bloxwich. The chair was occupied by G. Adams, Esq, Walsall, and the dinner, &c, were excellent. After dinner the usual loyal and appropriate toasts were given and responded to with much enthusiasm. The evening was spent with great hilarity, and several songs, glees, &c greatly promoted the pleasure of the company. The order has been founded about eight years, and already has formed six districts numbering 6,000 members.”

LORD NELSON

Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James H Walton [1908] – [1912]

LORD NELSON

Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Butler [1834] – [1835]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Butler, retailer of beer, Stafford Street. [1835]

LORD RAGLAN

38, Mill Street / Leckie Road, Ryecroft Hill, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Jane Glover, Mill Street, Ryecroft, Walsall

Peter Aspinall, Shelfield

Manchester Brewery Co. Ltd. [1908]

Arthur Beebee [1905], [1910] (leased)

Edward Jeffries, Bell Street, Walsall

Samuel Allsopp and Sons Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd.

Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

Ansells Ltd.

Wiltshire Brewery

LICENSEES

Mrs. Ann Glover [1858] – [1860]

John Glover [1861] – **1865**)

Samuel Patten [1865]

Charles Starkey [1871] – **1872**);

James Ankrett (**1872** – [1873]

Emma Agnes Ankrett [] – **1875**);

John Thomas Green (**1875** – [1876];

Arthur Taylor [];

William Gough [1881] – 1889);
Arthur Gormley (1889 – 1894);
Hugh McCloskey (1894 – 1896);
Alfred Wilson (1896 – 1898);
Albert Hudson (1898);
Thomas Harrison Stretton (1898);
Henry French (1898 – 1900);
Clara Jordan (1900 – 1901);
Arthur Gormley (1901 – 1904);
Robert Woolley (1904 – 1906);
Francis Ephraim Flay (1906 – 1908);
John Henry ‘Harry’ Saunders (1908);
William Lee (1908 – 1910);
Arthur Hand (1910 – 1911);
Thomas Morris (1911 – 1912);
Frank Pitt (1912);
George Edward Evans (1912 – 1919);
Thomas Gay (1919 – 1921);
Sidney Hyde (1921 – 192_);
Thomas Henry Benton (192_ – 1928);
George Henry Dawkins (1928 – 1929);
William Cook (1929 – 1931);
Alfred Ernest Benton (1931 – 1940);
Thomas Enoch Rogers (1940 – 1946);
Arthur Lawton (1946 – 1949);
Wiliam Henry Chancellor (1949 – 1951);
Kenneth Horace Hawksworth (1951);
Harry Randall Gibbons (1951 – 1952);
Gerald Hubert Hopkins (1952 – 1954);
Ronald Cooling (1954);
George Humphries (1954 – 1955);
William Sydney Parker (1955);
Edwin Jones (1955 – 1958);
Arthur Edward Snell (1958 – 1959);
Kenneth Bird (1959 – 1960);
Henry George Edward Mason (1960 – 1961);
Derrick Neil Kenton (?) (1961 – 1962);
Michael Francis Smith (1962 – 1963);
Frank Austin (1963 – 1966);
Michael Finnegan (1966);
Maria Rose Ferguson (1966 – []
Parmajit Chatta [1984]

NOTES

121, Mill Street [1881]
38, Mill Street [1891], [1932]

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Ann Glover, landlady of the LORD RAGLAN, licensed victualler, Ryecroft Hill, was fined 5s and costs, for having three deficient measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

1861 Census

Mill Street

[1] *John Glover* (34), victualler, born Polesworth, Warwickshire;

[2] *Mary Glover* (35), wife, born Harbury, Warwickshire;

[3] *Sarah Ann Glover* (11), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;

[4] *Stephen Glover* (10), son, scholar, born Rushall;

[5] *Edath Glover* (8), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;

[6] *Mealieur Glover* (7), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;

- [7] Thomas Glover (6), son, scholar, born Rushall;
[8] John Glover (4), son, scholar, born Rushall;
[9] Eliza Glover (2), daughter, born Rushall;
[10] Sarah Ann Glover (20), visitor, dressmaker, born Derden, Warwickshire:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/9/1862

“*John Glover*, landlord of the LORD RAGLAN public house, Rye Croft whose licenses had been suspended in consequence of their names appearing in the ‘black book,’ were cautioned and had their licenses renewed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/11/1863

“At Rushall Police Court, on Tuesday, *John Glover*, publican, of Ryecroft, appeared to a summons, charged with having kept his house open during unlawful hours, on the morning of the 25th ult. The charge was proved by Sergeant Swift and Police-constable Asbury, both of whom deposed to having found seven men drinking in the house at five minutes to twelve on the morning named, and to the attempts of the defendant’s wife to conceal them from the view of the officers. A witness was called for the defence, but the Bench, a previous conviction having been proved, imposed the full fine of £5 and costs, with the alternative of one month’s imprisonment.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1864

“At the annual special Sessions for licensing purposes yesterday
The license of *John Glover*, of the LORD RAGLAN INN, was suspended until the 13th of September, to which day the session was adjourned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/9/1864

“At the adjourned licensing session, on Tuesday, Mr. *John Glover*, of the LORD RAGLAN INN, Ryecroft, whose license had been suspended, was reprimanded and cautioned, and his license was then renewed.”

AND

“At the Police Court, on Tuesday, the persons named below were, on the information of Mr. William Fullett, Inspector of Weights and Measures for the South Staffordshire district, fined in the sums set against their names for having defective scales, weights, or measures in their possession, with 12s costs in each instance

John Glover, LORD RAGLAN INN, Ryecroft, five measures, 10s.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/1/1865

“Yesterday morning *John Glover*, miner and publican, was killed by a fall of earth while at work in a pit at Reeves Wood, near Bentley. The body was recovered as speedily as possible and conveyed to his residence, the LORD RAGLAN public house, Ryecroft, where it now awaits a coroner’s inquest.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1865

“On Wednesday last, Mr. E. Hooper, Coroner, conducted an enquiry, at the house of Mrs. Miner, the MINERS ARMS, Ryecroft into the circumstances attending the death of *John Glover*, 39 years of age, the landlord of the LORD RAGLAN public-house, Mill Street. On Monday morning the deceased went to an open works at Reeveswood, of which he was lessee, under the Earl of Bradford, and had been at work about five minutes, when Job Hollis, one of his men, saw a large lump of coal loosening from the part of the wall situate at the spot where the deceased was ‘holing.’ Hollis called to him, and he attempted to run away, but had barely turned round when the coal struck him on the shoulders and knocked him down. He cried out for assistance, and his workmen at once went to his aid, and placed him in a wheelbarrow, but before they could remove him from the spot death took place. An examination of the face of the working showed that the slip had resulted from a hidden ‘fault’ in the coal. No neglect had taken place, nor was blame attributable to any person. Verdict, Accidental Death. The deceased was a married man, with a family of six children.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“On Tuesday last, the annual licensing day for the district

Samuel Patten, LORD RAGLAN, Ryecroft, who had been once convicted of having had his house open for the sale of liquors during prohibited hours, was cautioned.”

Birmingham Gazette 20/9/1871

“Adjourned Licensing day. The following parties, who had their licenses suspended, were cautioned, and had their applications for renewal granted

Charles Starkey, landlord of the LORD RAGLAN, Rye Croft.”

James Ankrett = James Ankreet

Midland Examiner 3/4/1875

“An application was made for the transfer of the LORD RAGLAN INN, Ryecroft, from *Emma Agnes Ankrett* to *John Thomas Green*; but the matter was adjourned for further particulars.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1876

“The undermentioned persons were summoned for the offences named, Mr. Glover appearing for the prosecution in each case, and Mr. Ebsworth for the defence.....

James Thomas Green, of the LORD RAGLAN INN, Ryecroft, appearing to two summonses, one charging him with having permitted gaming in his house, and the other having permitted drunkenness. Police-constables Wright and Blakeman gave evidence to the effect that on the night of the 29th ult, they went in plain clothes to the defendant’s house at about half-past five o’clock, and there found four men playing at cards for beer. When the first four had done, four others played, all the games being played in the presence of the landlord. The officers remained in the house about an hour and a half, and then went away until between nine and ten o’clock, when they returned and found other men playing. Some of the men who played were drunk, and the landlord supplied them with ale while they were in that condition. The defence was that the men were simply playing for pastime. The defendant was fined £2 10s and costs (including attorney’s fee of 10s 6d) for each offence.”

London Gazette 17/3/1876

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Charles Starkey*, formerly of the LORD RAGLAN INN, Mill Street, Ryecroft, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beer-house Keeper, but now of No.96, Green Lane, Walsall aforesaid, Butty Miner.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Jacob Rowlands, Solicitor, No.8, Ann Street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 29th day of March, 1876, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 13th day of March, 1876.

Jacob Rowlands, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session..... The licenses of the undermentioned were renewed with cautions, viz.

John Thomas Green, beerhouse keeper, Ryecroft In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Ryecroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

Evening Express 12/1/1881

“Elijah Appleby, Ann Street, Ryecroft, was charged with refusing to quit the LORD RAGLAN, public house, on Saturday night last.

The defendant, who failed to appear, was fined 10s and costs; in default, 14 days.”

1881 Census

121, Mill Street – LORD RAGLAN

[1] *William Gough* (43), publican, born Harden;

[2] *Elizabeth Gough* (51), wife, born Lane Head:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/9/1884

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, Isaac Bailey (53), miner, James Street, Ryecroft, was charged with causing the death of his wife, Mary Ann, Bailey, on the preceding Friday afternoon. The magistrates on the Bench were Messrs. J. H. Smith (Mayor), B. Beebee (ex-Mayor), W. H. Brookes, and E. T. Holden. Mr. Gillespie (Wilkinson, Gillespie, and Wilkinson) appeared to prosecute, and the prisoner was defended by Mr. E. T. Evans.

In opening the case, Mr. Gillespie referred to the law of murder, and asked the magistrates to commit the accused on that charge. The first witness called was Phoebe Brittain, wife of Benjamin Brittain, landlord of the UNION INN, James Street, Ryecroft. She deposed that about ten minutes past four on Friday afternoon deceased came to the house in a drunken condition and proceeded to the backyard. Shortly after prisoner came in and stood in the bar passage. When his wife came into the passage the prisoner called her a drunken cat, and deceased then used foul language to him and refused to go home when he told her. Prisoner then stepped forward and struck her a blow on the left side of the head, heedless of the witness’s request that he would not strike his wife. Deceased fell down heavily on her back and never stirred again. Witness called her husband, and he, with the assistance of a woman named Clara Saney, lifted deceased to a chair, but she was dead. Bailey did not attempt to strike his wife more than one blow, and when he was told his wife was dead he remarked ‘Oh, it’s only a drunken fit.’ Prisoner had always borne a good character and was quite sober.

Clara Saney, wife of Thomas Saney, bridle cutter, said she saw the deceased about half-past two on Friday afternoon. Deceased then said she had been to the LORD RAGLAN to fetch her husband and the landlord had turned her out. She also said she was going back to begin on the landlord. A few minutes after witness was fetched and induced deceased to go home. While at the shop deceased gave witness the key of the place and went away. About an hour after witness went to the UNION INN to take the key, and saw deceased, who was very drunk, there. Prisoner came in and asked his wife if she was not ashamed of herself. Deceased used bad language, and the prisoner then rushed forward, but witness did not see the blow, as she left the house at that moment. In a few minutes she returned and assisted to pick deceased up. Prisoner was very excited.

Benjamin Brittain, landlord of the UNION INN, said he picked deceased up, and remarked to prisoner, ‘Oh, Mr. Bailey, I believe she’s dead.’ Prisoner replied, ‘Her’ll come round directly. I have seen her like that before.’ Witness then sent for the police.

William Gough, landlord of the LORD RAGLAN INN, deposed to deceased quarrelling with her husband at his house, and said

he ejected the deceased twice, in consequence of her drunken misconduct. Deceased wanted to fight witness and her husband, and the latter advised her to go home, as she had had too much beer. When deceased tried to strike her husband, the latter said, 'Keep away, or I'll strike you.'

Joseph Alfred Merritt, baker, 14, Bank Street, who was in the RAGLAN INN when deceased came in, said she was very quarrelsome, and when turned out took hold of the landlord's collar to pull him into the street. She was so drunk that while in the street she could not stand, and reeled over the kerbstone, falling heavily upon her head.

Dr. Maclachan said he had made a post mortem examination of the body on Saturday. The body was that of a stout woman, about 5ft 4in in height. There were no external marks of violence, but internally he found two marks, each about the size of a shilling, one on each side of the head. At the back of the head slightly to the left, there was mark about the size of a half-crown, and an immense effusion of blood between the membrane and the brain substance. The liver and kidneys were extensively diseased, and there was also fatty degeneration and valvular disease of the heart. The cause of death was the effusion of blood on the brain, the diseases of the organs being chronic and not likely to cause sudden death. The injury to the brain was the cause, and in his opinion this would be caused by a fall, and not by a blow. He could not say what time had elapsed between the blow and the effusion of blood, but after the effusion she could not live an instant.

Mr. Evans, for the defence, argued that the gravamen of a charge of murder was malice aforethought, which in this case was entirely absent. The prisoner tried to get into his house, and finding the door locked, followed her to get the key. She abused him, and in a passion he struck her. She being drunk, fell, and a fall caused the injury resulting in her death. The evidence did not show whether death resulted from that fall or the one previously, near the RAGLAN. If the prisoner had wished to injure his wife, he would have done so when she attempted to strike him at the RAGLAN.

The Bench, after a short deliberation in private, committed the prisoner to the next Staffordshire Assizes on the charge of wilful murder.

The inquest on the body of the deceased was held yesterday afternoon, at the MINERS ARMS INN, Ryecroft, before Mr. T. Howard Stanley (borough coroner). Mr. Gillespie and Chief-superintendent Cater appeared on behalf of the police, and Mr. T. Harrison-Evans appeared for the prisoner, who was present in the custody of Acting-sergeant Cliff.

The evidence taken at the magisterial enquiry was repeated, and Dr. Mclachlan, after detailing the result of the post mortem, added that the deceased suffered from a peculiar disease of the heart, which rendered her blood vessels weaker, and consequently more liable to rupture. In reply to a jurymen, witness stated that the death might have been caused either by a blow or a fall. If a blow, it would have to be a very strong one. He was more inclined to think death was caused by injuries received from falling as in that case there would be greater tendency of blood to the head.

In the course of the hearing a jurymen stated that he knew deceased had been fond of a 'running fuddle,' and prisoner volunteered the statement that he had often had to remonstrate with her for that.

In summing up the Coroner recapitulated the evidence, and said that there was no doubt the deceased was overcome by drink, and irritated her husband, who was sober, by using bad language. There could be no doubt that the fall in the passage produced death, and the blow given by the prisoner produced the fall. He then defined the difference between murder and manslaughter, and submitted the facts tended strongly to negate the preservice of malice, expressed or implied.

After a short deliberation the jury returned a verdict on Manslaughter, and added a rider recommending prisoner to mercy on account of the great provocation he suffered."

Lichfield Mercury 14/11/1884

"Staffordshire Assizes.

Isaac Bailey (53), miner, was charged with the manslaughter of his wife, Mary Ann Bailey, at Walsall, on September 19. Mr. Plowden and Mr. Gwynne James prosecuted; Mr. Darling and Mr. Whitehouse defended the prisoner.

The deceased, who was a woman of drunken habits went in to the RAGLAN public-house, Ryecroft Walsall, on the afternoon of the day named, and was very violent towards the prisoner. Being ejected, she fell, and knocked her head against some stones outside. Subsequently she and the prisoner quarrelled in the UNION INN about the key, which she refused to give him. He struck her, and she fell on the floor and died from effusion of blood on the brain.

The jury convicted the prisoner, with a recommendation to mercy.

The Judge, saying few could have resisted the provocation to which the prisoner was subjected, passed a sentence of two days' imprisonment. The prisoner was immediately released. The sentence was applauded."

William Gough – see also BRITISH OAK, John Street, and HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane.

Walsall Observer 7/2/1885

"Yesterday afternoon Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the LORD RAGLAN INN, on the body of Thomas Butler, aged seven weeks, child of Joseph Butler, of 28, Ann Street. Deceased was put to bed as usual on Thursday night, and yesterday morning was found dead. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned."

Arthur Gormley = Arthur Cormley = Arthur Gornley

1891 Census

38, Mill Street – LORD RAGLAN

[1] *Arthur Gormley* (27), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Ireland;

[2] Rose Gormley (25), sister, born Ireland;

[3] James McNicholas (26), bar assistant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall were opened on Wednesday at the Guildhall, the Mayor in the chair. . . . The Magistrates granted the renewal of the LORD RAGLAN on the application of *Arthur Gornley*, who stated he was going to live on the premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/6/1894

“Joseph Robinson, better known perhaps as ‘Bonnie Spanks,’ appeared along with a companion named Charles Wilks, charged with refusing to quit the LORD RAGLAN INN, Mill Street, and Wilks with assaulting the landlord. Bonnie Spanks wanted drink, the landlady refused it because he had already had enough; Bonnie made a row, the landlord attempted to put him out, Bonnie objected, Wilks joined in and blackened the landlord’s eye – that was the publicans’ tale. But there are always two sides to a story, and the other side of this one as told by an exceeding cool, self-possessed witness for the accused was that ‘Wilks was the only man with pluck enough to try and stop the quarrel.’ ‘Wilks ought to be compensated for his act of bravery,’ added the advocate adventurously, considering that the publican bore unmistakable marks of Wilk’s peculiar way of assisting the maintenance of order.

Robinson was fined 20s and costs, or 21 days’ hard labour, and Wilks 10s and costs, or 14 days’ hard labour. The poor innocent lambs went to Stafford for a space.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

“The annual licensing meeting for the county borough of Walsall was held in the Guildhall on Wednesday forenoon. . . .

The Chief Constable gave notice of objection to the following licenses. . . .

The LORD RAGLAN, Mill Street, Ryecroft, and the ROYAL OAK, the Pleck, on the ground that they were in such a condition as not to be under proper police supervision and were not needed by the neighbourhood.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1898

“With regard to the LORD RAGLAN, the Chief Constable stated that he had given notice of objection on the ground that the premises were such that the premises could not have proper police supervision. He now withdrew his opposition on a promise of the licensee to build a wall so as to enclose the premises. License renewed.”

1901 Census

38, Mill Street – LORD RAGLAN

[1] *Clara Jordan* (47), widow, publican, born Birmingham;

[2] *Walter Jordan* (22), son, boot maker, born Birmingham;

[3] *Rebecca Jordan* (15), daughter, born Birmingham:

Arthur Gornley – see also DOG AND PARTRIDGE.

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1905 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell St., Walsall.

Houses. . . .

LORD RAGLAN, Ryecroft, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1907

“Frederick Bickley, 1 court, James Street, was summoned for being disorderly on the premises of the LORD RAGLAN INN, and refusing to quit when requested on the 1st inst.

Francis E. Flay, landlord, stated that on the date named the defendant was in his house, and refused to leave when he asked him to do so. On account of his conduct they had refused to serve him for a fortnight previously, and on this occasion he again refused to move, and became quarrelsome, so he sent for a policeman.

Police-constable Reddick (45) stated that he was called to the house to eject prisoner. The landlord and witness asked defendant to move and he refused, but when witness was taking off his gloves to turn him out, defendant got up and went out.

The Bench said that although they thought it a proper case to bring before the court, there was not sufficient evidence of disorderly conduct, and discharged prisoner.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1908

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough took place at the Guildhall on Wednesday. . . .

The Bench granted a temporary transfer of the LORD RAGLAN, Mill Street, from *Francis Ephraim Flay* to *John Henry Sanders*, a magistrates’ objection to the renewal of the license being postponed to the adjourned brewster sessions or some other convenient day.

Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) appeared for *Sanders*, and Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith represented the lessee, Mr. A. Beebee.

Flay, the outgoing tenant, in reply to Mr. Loxton (magistrates’ clerk), said the reason he was leaving the house was that he had a large family, and could not make a living. The reason he could not make a living was because of the long pull at several neighbouring houses – where they served a pint of ale for 1½d.

In reply to further questions witness (who caused some merriment and seemed quite amused in spite of his failure to make the house pay) said he was leaving the house on his own account, having given three months' notice. Asked what he was going to do, *Flay* said he was going to live privately – he thought he should turn Socialist (laughter). 'May I say another word,' he added as he left the box; 'The house is alright now – I have tamed the lions, but they were very rough at first'."

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 28th February 1908.

Walsall Advertiser 29/2/1908

"The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall..... The Bench proceeded to hear notices of objection which had been taken by the licensing justices to the renewal of six licences..... For the owners (Manchester Brewery Co.) and the occupier, Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared; and Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith for the lessee (Mr. A. Beebee). Chief-inspector Ballance repeated his evidence as to the number of other licenses in the neighbourhood, and the disorderly character of the district. Referred to the Compensation Authority."

Walsall Advertiser 23/5/1908 - Notice

"The Licensing Act, 1904, Notice Of Principal Meeting. County Borough Of Walsall. Notice Is Hereby Given that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Wednesday, the Third Day Of June, 1908..... List of Licensed Premises..... The LORD RAGLAN, Mill Street, Ryecroft. Alehouse. Licensee *John Henry Saunders*."

The license was renewed on 3rd June 1908.

Walsall Advertiser 6/6/1908

"A full bench of magistrates sat on Wednesday morning to hear applications for renewals and to fix compensation for closed houses.....

Mr. R. C. E. Plumptre (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson) applied for the renewal of the license of the LORD RAGLAN INN, Mill Street, on behalf of the owners, the Manchester Brewery Company, and the licensee, Mr. *J. H. Sanders*. Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith appeared for the lessee, Mr. Arthur Beebee.

Mr. Plumptre, addressing the Bench, said the application had already been made to the ordinary licensing authority, and had been referred for consideration to the licensing bench in full, the Compensation Authority. He had a report made by the licensing justices with regard to the house which said, 'it was structurally bad – it had recently been painted and papered – there were three rooms on the ground floor, there were three licenses within 200 yards of it, the house gave the 'long' pull, and the house was represented as doing a home-brewed trade, whereas a witness stated that the lessee blended brewery beer with home brewed.'

Mr. Plumptre denied that the house was structurally bad, and said a considerable sum of money had been spent in doing up the house. He did not know why there should be any reference to the 'long' pull in the report. He did not think there was any case which laid down that a publican was not at liberty to give what measure he liked. It had been stated that the house was used by bad characters, but he thought that the customers were on the whole thoroughly respectable, and it was singular that the house had a good record of 26 years, without a conviction, which he thought showed the house had been well conducted. It was proposed in 1907 by the Manchester Brewery Company (owners) to sell the LORD RAGLAN and eight cottages to Messrs. Allsopp's Brewery for £4,000. The cottages were worth about £500, so that the LORD RAGLAN, which was now represented as being structurally bad, was worth £3,500. Messrs. Allsopp, however, had a clause in the contract that if the license was not renewed before the date fixed for completion of the contracts, the bargain was to be allowed alteration. He argued that if houses had got to be taken away, it was better that the smaller and cheaper houses should go, and he mentioned four houses in the district, which ought to go before the LORD RAGLAN. He could not say on what a witness founded his belief that at the LORD RAGLAN brewery beer was being blended with home-brewed, but he was instructed that such a statement was absolutely untrue.

Arthur Beebee, lessee of the LORD RAGLAN, said there was absolutely no truth in the statement that the Manchester Brewery beer was being blended with his own. The trade at the house had gone up very much under the present tenant. His arrangement was to take five barrels a week from the Manchester Company, or pay the profit on them. He had been paying the profit on them. No brewery beer was sold except a barrel now and then of fourpenny beer, which he did not brew himself.

Replying to Mr. Loxton (clerk), he said he was also under an agreement with Robinson's Brewery Company with respect to the WOOLPACK HOTEL.

Mr. Loxton: Is there any truth in the statement that your beers have been mixed with Robinson's? – Mr. Beebee: No, they are not. In answer to further questions by Mr. Loxton, witness said he did not know how much beer his tenant gave over the ordinary quantity. He did not know what his tenants did.

Mr. Loxton: Do you mean to say you run four or five houses and don't know what your tenants are doing? – I know what my managers are doing, but so long as they are tenants I don't trouble at all about it.

Mr. Loxton: The managers give the 'long pull'? – Witness: Most of them do for out-side trade; it's all through the trade.

Sir Edward Holden asked if it was expected that the court was to pay compensation for the large amount of beer given away.

They were told that not only was the 'long pull' given, but the very long pull.

Mr. Plumptre said that it mattered not whether a man sold for profit or gave the beer away. A man was just as good a customer to his wine merchant if he gave the wine he purchased to his friends, as if he sold wine. The amount of business at the house would be the same if some fanatic bought up all the beer and poured it into a river.

Sir Edward Holden said the principle acted on by the justices was that the value was to be assessed by trade done in barrels and yet they were told it made no difference if the beer was simply poured out. He could not believe that Parliament ever meant to make a Bill in that way.

The hearing was adjourned.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/8/1908

“*John Henry Sanders*, LORD RAGLAN INN, Mill Street, was summoned for failing to have his name affixed to his licensed premises. Police-sergeant Cook said he had occasion to get defendant’s name on the 19th ult., and when he visited the house defendant was not in, and on examining the front of the premises found that he had not got his name on. Defendant, who pleaded ignorance, said that there was no name up when he went there.

The Bench dismissed that case on payment of costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home-Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.

Houses.....

LORD RAGLAN, Ryecroft, Walsall.”

1911 Census

38, Mill Street

[1] *Arthur Hand* (41), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Mary Ann Hand* (40), wife, married 8 years, assisting in business, born Warwick;

[3] *Beatrice Eccleston* (18), general servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

LORD RAGLAN, Mill Street. £0 6s 6d.”

George Henry Dawkins – see also BLACK HORSE, and ROYAL EXCHANGE.

The original pub closed on 5th May 1938.

It was rebuilt on the opposite side of the road, and opened on 6th May 1938.

The original building was demolished.

1939 Register

Mill Street – LORD RAGLAN (3 of 5)

[1] *Alfred E. Benton*, date of birth 18/2/1873, licensed house manager, widowed;

[2] *Thomas E. Rodgers*, dob 21/12/1887, bar potman, married;

[3] *Bertha Rodgers*, dob 21/4/1898, bar general, married;

London Gazette 16/8/1940

“*Re Alfred Ernest Benton*, Deceased. Pursuant to the Trustee Act, 1925.

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having any debts claims or demands against the estate of *Alfred Ernest Benton* late of LORD RAGLAN Mill Street Walsall in the county of Stafford retired Licensed Victualler deceased who died on the 14th day of July 1940 intestate and letters of administration to whose estate were granted out of the Birmingham District Probate Registry on the 2nd day of August 1940 to Herbert Benton are hereby required to send particulars thereof in writing to us the undersigned the Solicitors for the said administrator on or before the 21st day of October 1940 after which date the said administrator will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and demands of which he shall then have had notice.

Dated this 13th day of August, 1940.

Enoch Evans and Sons, 19, Bridge Street, Walsall, Solicitors for the said Administrator.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

LORD RAGLAN, Mill Street, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

LORD RAGLAN, Mill Street. £10 9s 2d.”

Thomas Enoch Rogers was convicted on 19th November 1945, and fined £10 for permitting betting, and 10s for permitting gaming.

Arthur Lawton – see also BRIDLECUTTERS ARMS.

Gerald Hubert Hopkins – see also CROWN AND CUSHION.

Arthur Edward Snell – see also GREEN MAN, and GREEN ROCK TAVERN.

Henry George Edward Mason – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY, CROWN AND ANCHOR, and WOOLPACK.

Closed

It reopened as the MANOR HOUSE.

[1995]

Closed [2006], [2007]

Demolished

Housing was built on the site. [2011]

LORD SMOKERS HALL

Ryecroft, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Stephen Glover [1850] – [1862]

LYNDON HOUSE

10, (9), (9+10), Upper Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Brown, Stonnall

John Thomas, farmer, Stonnall

Thomas Lancaster

N. Pratt and Sons, maltsters, Nottingham

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Edward Jones [1818] – [1822]

John Brown [1828] – [1862]

Tonks [1863]

Henry Hill [1863]

W. Bellamy [] – **1865**)

Andrew Tooth (**1865** – []

Thomas Yates [] – **1866**);

Robert Keay (**1866** – []

Thomas Cartwright [1868] – [1873];

Collins [1868] – [1870] manager
Thomas Heap [];
George Carter [1881] – **1889**);
Thomas Bird (**1889 – 1891**);
John Hodgkins (**1891**);
Samuel Grew (**1891 – 1892**);
Benjamin Walker (**1892 – 1893**);
Martin McTighe (**1893 – 1900**);
Martin McTighe Jnr. (**1900 – 1903**);
David Read (**1903 – 1906**);
Samuel Thomas (**1906 – 1921**);
Miss **Clare** Annie Thomas (**1921 – 1961**);
Eileen Dorothy Stopford (**1961 – 1964**);
James Edward Harris (**1964 – [1966]**)

NOTES

Rushall Street [1822]
Upper Rushall Street [1842]
9, Upper Rushall Street
10, Upper Rushall Street [1860], [1861], [1862], [1870], [1892], [1896], [1908], [1916], [1921], [1932], [1940]
9+10, Upper Rushall Street [1891], [1911]
Lower Rushall Street [1914]

BRITANNIA [1827], [1842], [1860], [1861], [1862], [1863], [1865], [1866], [1868]
NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE. [1868], [1872], [1890], [1895], [1908], [1918], [1921], [1932], [1940], [1941], [1942]

Edward Jones was also a plater. [1818]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 20/8/1827 - Advert

“A Small Desirable Public House, Walsall.

To be Let, and entered upon immediately, the BRITANNIA, in Lower Rushall Street, near the centre of the Butcher's Market.

The premises are very convenient, with an excellent pump of good water, stabling, &c.

The stock being low, the coming-in will be trifling. Rent and payments low.

The Brewing Vessels, with part of the Furniture, &c. to be taken to a fair valuation.

Immediate possession may be had; and for further information refer to Mr. J. Taylor, Auctioneer, &c, Peal Street, Walsall, if by letter, post paid.

PS This will not be repeated.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/8/1846

“*John Brown*, the landlord of the BRITANNIA public house, Upper Rushall Street, appeared to an information charging him with having permitted drunkenness and other disorderly conduct in his house and premises, on the morning of Sunday last. From the evidence of the police constable Thornhill, it appeared that he visited the house of defendant about seven o'clock on the morning in question, when he found six men in the taproom, all of whom were quite drunk, and two of whom were fighting. In answer to a question from the Bench, the witness stated that the house was at all times exceedingly disorderly. This being the case, the Bench inflicted the full penalty of £5 and at the same time cautioned the defendant, informing him that for the next offence of a similar disgraceful character he would be deprived of his license.”

1861 Census

10, Upper Rushall Street – BRITANNIA

[1] *John Brown* (64), widower, victualler, born Bicknall, Warwickshire:

Walsall Free Press 3/1/1863 - Advert

“The BRITANNIA INN, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.

To Be Let, in consequence of the serious illness of the Proprietor's wife, the above very excellent House of Business. The coming-in will made as easy as possible, in order that a speedy letting may take place.

Apply to Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer, or on the premises.”

Walsall Free Press 21/2/1863

“Burglars Preparing for Celebrating the Prince of Wales's Marriage.

Between the hours of half-past one and half-past six on the morning of Tuesday last, the dwelling house of Mr. *Tonks*, BRITANNIA INN, Upper Rushall Street, was broken into, and 30s, in silver and copper, one three gallon jar of British brandy, one three gallon bottle of peppermint, one quart bottle of gin, one quart bottle of rum, and a piece of bacon, stolen therefrom. The value of

the property stolen, including the money, is estimated at £7. The entrance had been effected by the thieves forcing the side door in with a jemmy.”

Walsall Free Press 9/5/1863

“*Henry Hill*, landlord of the BRITANNIA public house, Upper Rushall Street, was sentenced to pay a fine of 2s 6d and costs, for having had his house open, for the sale of drink, at ten minutes past five o’clock, on Sunday morning.”

Walsall Free Press 28/1/1865 - Advert

“BRITANNIA INN, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Horobin, on Monday Next, January 30th, 1865, the Licenses and Possession of the above Old Licensed Inn, Stock-in-trade, 4-Pull Beer Machine, Fixtures, Brewing Plant, 14 Ale Casks, part of the useful Household Furniture, Gas and Water Fittings, 8 valuable Oil Paintings, fine toned Grand Pianoforte, capital Malt Crusher, Sow In-pig, 2 strong Store Pigs, and other effects, belonging to Mr. *W. Bellamy*, who is leaving.
Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock.”

Walsall Free Press 27/5/1865

“*Andrew Tooth*, landlord of the BRITANNIA public house, Upper Rushall Street, was summoned for having had his house open for the sale of liquor during prohibited hours. Police-sergeant Mason said he visited the defendant’s house at 5.25 on Sunday morning last, but for some time could not get admittance. He looked over the window blind, and saw four men in the room. While he was looking in at the window, he saw a female enter the room and remove a jug, and tap one of the men on the shoulder. The female then left the room, and was followed by the men, after which he and Police-constable Willitt were admitted, and found twelve men in the garden behind the house, most of whom were drunk, and among them was one man whom he saw in the room. Police-constable Willitt having corroborated Sergeant Mason’s evidence, the Bench sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 20s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/6/1865

“*Andrew Tooth*, landlord of the BRITANNIA public house, Upper Rushall Street, was fined 1s and costs, for having, between twelve and one o’clock on Sunday morning, had his house open for the sale of beer. Police-sergeant Giles, who had seen a girl coming out of the house with a jug containing malt liquor, proved the charge.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

Andrew Tooth, BRITANNIA, Upper Rushall Street license suspended.”

Walsall Free Press 9/9/1865

“The Adjourned Licensing day.....

The following persons, whose license had been suspended, were cautioned and had their licenses renewed....

Andrew Tooth, BRITANNIA, Upper Rushall Street.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

The Chief Constable handed in the following report.....

Mr. *Thomas Yates*, keeper of the BRITANNIA, Upper Rushall Street, was fined in the sum of £5 and costs for knowingly suffering common prostitutes to assemble at and continue upon his premises on the 7th inst. Mr. *Yates* is only the nominal manager of this house. His mother is an aged person, but takes the responsibility of its management, though not capable of maintaining good rule and order therein. From personal observation I am bound to say that, under existing circumstances, I do not consider the present keeper a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a victuallers’ license at the BRITANNIA, Upper Rushall Street.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual Sessions for the renewal of existing licenses, and the consideration of applications for new ones, was held at the Guildhall Assembly Room on Friday.....

The Bench refused to renew the licenses of.....

Thomas Yates, BRITANNIA INN, Rushall Street.....”

Birmingham Journal 15/9/1866

“Adjourned Licensing Session. At this Session which was held at the Free Library.....

Mr. *Yates*, the BRITANNIA INN, Rushall Street, also applied for the renewal of his license, which had been refused under similar circumstances to Mr. Cook’s [to keep his house in a cleaner state], but the application was not acceded to.”

Walsall Free Press 15/9/1866 - Advert

“To Let, that Old Licensed House, the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Rushall Street.

Apply on the premises.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/10/1866

“The adjourned Licensing Session for the borough was held yesterday at the Free Library. The following transfers were made, viz.....

On the application of Mr. Duignan, the Bench consented to restore the license for the BRITANNIA INN, Rushall Street, *Thomas Yates* the late landlord, having parted with the house to *Robert Keay*.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/10/1866

“On Friday afternoon Mr. Hooper, coroner for the district, held an inquest at the Rushall police station upon the body of *Andrew Tooth*, snaffle-bit maker, who resided at Coal Pool, and was formerly landlord of the BRITANNIA public house, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased, who was twenty-seven years of age, and has recently been very eccentric in his habits, was locked up on Wednesday evening upon a charge of horse stealing, and at eight o’clock on Thursday morning he was found suspended from the ventilator of his cell, quite dead. Deceased had been visited about four o’clock in the morning, and there appeared nothing in his manner to excite suspicion. The jury after hearing the evidence found that the deceased Committed Suicide while in a state of Temporary Insanity.”

Walsall Free Press 30/5/1868

“Joseph Smith was charged with having, on Saturday last, unlawfully and maliciously broken a pane of glass in the window of the BRITANNIA public house, Upper Rushall Street, value 10s; and also a glass shade over the gas in the liquor shop.

From the evidence it appeared that, about three o’clock on the day in question, the prisoner went into the BRITANNIA with his clothes disarranged, and the manager (Mr. *Collins*) seeing the condition the man was in, turned him out, when the prisoner went across the street, picked up a piece of brick, and threw it through the window. Mr. *Collins* then came out, and took the prisoner into custody.

The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the prisoner to pay a fine of 5s and costs; or, in default, to be imprisoned for fourteen days.”

It was demolished.

The NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE was built on the site.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/7/1868

“A man, named Michael Divine, was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and refusing to quit a public house. It appeared that on Monday last at about half-past seven o’clock the defendant went to the NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Upper Rushall Street, and after creating a disturbance he went away, but returned shortly afterwards, and was then put out by the landlord, Mr. *Collins*. He was fined 20s and costs, or 21 days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 19/12/1868

“*Thomas Cartwright*, landlord of the EXCHANGE public house, Upper Rushall Street, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer at 11.20 on Sunday night last. This being the first offence, the bench imposed the mitigated penalty of 1s and costs.”

Thomas Cartwright – see also OLD PARK, Wednesbury. [1870]

Walsall Free Press 15/1/1870

“Martin Mullens, for having, on the 8th inst, assaulted Mr. *Collins*, the manager of the NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE, Upper Rushall Street, was fined £1 and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for one month.”

1881 Census

9+10, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *George Carter* (40), publican, born Stafford;
- [2] *Eliza Carter* (40), wife, born Stamford, Lincolnshire;
- [3] *Alice Carter* (19), daughter, publican’s assistant, born Stafford;
- [4] *Charles Carter* (16), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *Hugh Carter* (10), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [6] *Mary Carter* (7), daughter, born Walsall:

George Carter was fined 20s and costs, on 5th July 1886, for permitting drunkenness.

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of *Thomas Bird*, NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE, Upper Rushall Street. Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“At the Bankruptcy Court, on Wednesday, before Mr. Registrar Clarke, *Thomas Bird*, of 42, Emery Street, Walsall, brown saddler, formerly of the NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Upper Rushall Street, came up for his public examination. Mr. F. Bill appeared for the debtor, whose financial statement showed a deficiency of £270 12s 1d on liabilities amounting to £312 18s 6d. The exam-

ination showed that the bankrupt began business as a beer and wine retailer in Goodall Street in 1886, but in 1889 removed to the NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE. He attributed his failure to losses at the last-named house, bad debts, and the expenses of a large family. The examination was adjourned till the 4th of February.”

1891 Census

9-10, Upper Rushall Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *John Hodgkins* (49), publican, born Portobello, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Harriet Hodgkins* (52), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Thomas Peace* (23), wife’s son, black saddler, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Hodson* (70), mother in law, widow, living on her own means, born Walsall;
- [5] *Louisa Bird* (48), sister, widow, assistant barmaid, born Walsall;
- [6] *John Jarvis* (24), lodger, iron stamper, born Walsall;
- [7] *John Jarvis* (4), son, born Walsall:

John Hodgkins was fined £5 and costs, on 16th March 1891, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

“At the Guildhall yesterday, before Alderman Holden and Mr. W. E. Blyth, several charges against Walsall publicans were heard.

Martin McTighe, NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Upper Rushall Street, was charged with having permitted drunkenness on his licensed premises, on July 20th.

Police-sergeant Ballance said he visited the NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE and there saw a man sitting at a table drunk. Witness called the attention of the defendant to him, and he said he had only jut come in. The man was rather obstinate when spoken to, and when he went out he had to lean against the wall for support.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jackson, witness said that the man’s appearance led him to believe he was drunk.

Police-constable Mason corroborated.

Mr. Jackson pointed out to the Bench that the man had kept the public house for two and a half years and had never on any previous occasion had any complaint made against him.

James Stanley, a young fellow, who was in the house at the time, stated that the man in question was quite sober.

Thomas McTighe, brother to defendant, gave similar evidence but the Bench fined defendant 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.

The following is a return of licensees who have been proceeded against during the year ending August 30th, 1895.

Martin McTighe, NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Upper Rushall Street, for having permitted drunkenness on August 16th, fined 2s 6d and costs. The license was renewed with a caution.”

1901 Census

Upper Rushall Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *Martin McTighe* (65), licensed victualler, born Ireland;
- [2] *Ellen McTighe* (67), wife, born Ireland;
- [3] *Mary McTighe* (40), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Kate Healey* (36), daughter, widow, nurse, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1903

“Mr. S. S. Grundy Newman submitted a plan for alteration at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Upper Rushall Street in order to use a certain portion of the premises as a cart-way. Granted.”

David Read – see also PAUL PRY.

1911 Census

9+10, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *Samuel Thomas* (48), public house manager, born Redditch;
 - [2] *Ruth Thomas* (47), wife, married 26 years, born Redditch;
 - [3] *Samuel Howard Thomas* (24), son, butcher, born Redditch;
 - [4] *Annie Clara Thomas* (23), daughter, born Redditch;
 - [5] *John Thomas* (19), son, pattern making, born Walsall;
 - [6] *William Thomas* (17), son, pattern making, born Walsall;
 - [7] *Richard Thomas* (15), son, errand boy, born Walsall:
- [Was Annie Clara known as Clara Annie?]

Walsall Advertiser 7/3/1914

“Sarah Young, 24, Peal Street, was charged with stealing 15s in money from the person on Mark Sinnett, a groom, of Shenstone. The prosecutor said that at 3 o’clock on Saturday afternoon he went into the NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE, in Lower Rushall

Street, where he spoke to a man and enquired if he knew of respectable lodgings. The prisoner was present, and told him she could let him have a furnished room. He treated her to a drink, and afterwards went to her house. While there prisoner put her hand into his trousers pocket and took the money from him, afterwards running away. Later he pointed her out to a policeman in the public-house where he first met her.

Detective Ayres stated that he went with Sinnett to the NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE, and arrested prisoner, who denied the theft. He searched her house, and found 4½d mixed with some blacking in a tin. After she had been taken to the police station he received from Police-sergeant Robinson 2/0½ in an envelope which prisoner had been trying to conceal.

Police-sergeant Robinson said that while prisoner was in the charge-room at the police station he noticed that she was sitting on something. He found it to be 2½ in an envelope. While he was examining it she said, 'I had that off him' (meaning the prosecutor).

Prisoner was sentenced to 21 days' hard labour."

Walsall Observer 25/12/1915 - Marriages

"On December 20th, at St. Matthew's Church, by the Rev. R. S. Renfree, John, son of *S. Thomas*, ROYAL EXCHANGE, Upper Rushall Street, to Kathleen Jessie, daughter of W. T. Woodfield, of Emery Street, Walsall."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE, Upper Rushall Street. £1 4s 5d."

1939 Register

Upper Rushall Street – NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE

[1] *Clare Annie Thomas*, date of birth 14/2/1888, licensed victualler, single;

[2] *Edith F. Nicholls*, dob 10/4/1909, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

"Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.
Third List Of Subscriptions.....
NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE, Upper Rushall Street. £2 2s 0d."

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Miss *Thomas*, NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE, Upper Rushall Street. £1 6s 5d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE, Upper Rushall Street. £1 13s 2d."

Miss *Clara Thomas* retired in 1961.

Closed

It became the LYNDON HOUSE HOTEL in the 1990s.

[2017]

MAGIC LANTERN

Cavendish Road / Bloxwich Lane, Beechdale, WALSALL

OWNERS

Bass, Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Voyager Pubs [2002]

Red Star Estates [2013], [2014]

LICENSEES

NOTES

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

“Free Pint of Carling.

With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We've a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....

Where to get your Free pint.....

MAGIC LANTERN, Cavendish Road, Walsall.”

Express and Star 17/7/2013

“Almost 1,000 people have signed a petition to keep a Walsall pub, hailed as the heart of the community, from being replaced by shops. The MAGIC LANTERN, in Beechdale, has been earmarked for a retail development, sparking a campaign to save it. Residents claim the MAGIC LANTERN, in Cavendish Road, is the last on the estate and now plan to hand the petition to councillors before a decision is made by the Walsall Council's planning committee.

Councillor Tina Jukes, of Birchills-Leamore ward, said: ‘It's well known that local pubs are closing at a fantastic rate because of the decline in the trade but there's a public house that is thriving because it gives so much back to the community. It would be terrible if the LANTERN were to close.’

An over 60s group holds regular meetings there and it is home to the Magic Lantern Football Club which introduces youngsters to sport.

Owner Red Star Estates have submitted plans to convert the pub into a convenience store and other shops. It blames competition from other pubs and the financial downturn for the move.”

Express and Star 5/6/2014

“Residents had been fighting plans to turn The MAGIC LANTERN, in Beechdale, into a convenience store and four shop units. Pub owner Red Star Estates Limited has planning permission to re-develop the site, despite hundreds of objections and the action group's bid to rescue it for the community.

A successful application was made to Walsall Council to get the Cavendish Road pub recognised as an asset of community value, giving residents the chance to club together and buy the building should it come up for sale.

The developer then lodged an appeal against the move at Walsall County Court that was due to be heard May 29.

Birchills and Leamore representative Councillor Tina Jukes said: ‘There is no appeal they pulled out the morning it was due to be heard at court so the LANTERN at present stays as a pub which is fabulous for the community of Beechdale. We are over the moon that they have withdrawn the appeal. It's what the community and the residents want. The pub is still open for business and people are holding events there. The owner was taking Walsall Council to a tribunal over the decision to create a community asset management. Their objection was that because the building has been given this new status they can't now create the retail space. We don't know why they withdrew the appeal.’

She said the failure of the hearing to go ahead means that more entertainment nights can be planned for the venue situated at the junction with Bloxwich Lane and Bentley Lane.

The next event will be a Ska disco.

A Facebook page has also been set up to promote the campaign.

Competition in the drinks business and the financial downturn have been blamed for the decision to close the pub and convert it. Red Star Estates Limited had hoped to start the building work earlier this year and said it had tenants already lined up for the scheme that would create 16 jobs if it went ahead.

Walsall Council has confirmed that the appeal was withdrawn by Red Star and that the pub will remain on the community assets list. Red Star was not available for comment.”

[2017]

MALT SHOVEL

Birmingham Road, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas M. Humphries, Digeth, Walsall

John Lord

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 11th August 1939)

Hunt, Edmunds and Co. Ltd. (leased from February 1962)

LICENSEES

George Hackett [1834] – [1851]
James Willner [1860] – [1865]
James Cooke [1865]
John Cook [1868] – [1870]
Edward Fletcher [1870]
Mark Fletcher Cookson [1871] – [1873];
Mrs. Rosanna Cookson [];
John Griffiths [1881];
Joseph Pagett [];
Thomas Henry Minors [] – 1887);
Isaiah Taylor (1887 – 1912);
Edgar Biddulph (1912 – 1919); manager
John Orgill (1919);
James Jones Turner (1919 – 1938);
Robert Denman (1938 – 1947);
Frederick Harold Hodges (1947 – 1963);
John Creswich (1963 – 1964);
Henry Bernard Smith (1964 – 1967);
William Laidler Edgar (1967 – []

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/11/1846 - Advert

“Sale Of Growing Timber, Birmingham Road, and near the Windmill, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction by T. Franklin, at Mr. *G. Hackett's*, the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road, near Walsall, at three o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced.

One Hundred and Forty-Five Polar Trees, growing on the farm now in the occupation of W. William Partridge, Birmingham Road, near Walsall; and also about 60 Elm, Chestnut, Sycamore, Poplar, Fir, and other Trees growing on land in the occupation of John Whitgreave, Esq, near the Windmill, Walsall.

For further particulars apply at the office of the Auctioneer, Bradford Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1847 - Deaths

“On Sunday last, after a few days' illness, Maria, wife of Mr. *George Hackett*, of the MALT SHOVEL public-house, Birmingham Road, near Walsall, aged 67.”

George Hackett, beer retailer, Birmingham Road. [1850]

Birmingham Daily Post 16/7/1858

“About noon on Tuesday, a boatman named Charles Blakemore, who resided in Alison Street, Birmingham, was accidentally drowned in the canal, near Perry Barr. He had been engaged along with his brother in conducting a boat laden with coal from Rushall to Birmingham, and when near Perry Barr he went to fill a lock. Some ashes that were lying on the bank which slopes to the lock caused him to slip into the water on his return, his brother being at the time about a hundred yards away. The body was recovered twenty minutes afterwards by Thomas Sadler, the lock keeper, but his life was of course extinct. An inquest was held on the following afternoon at the MALT SHOVEL, on the Birmingham Road, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Borough Coroner, and a verdict of Accidental Death returned by the Jury.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/6/1860

“On Tuesday afternoon, two boatmen, named George Smith and William Wilkins, saw a boy's cap in the canal, near the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road, and on examining the water near the lock gates, they discovered the body of a boy, which proved to be that of a lad who had travelled with them from Birmingham. They did not know him, nor had his name at present been ascertained, but it is said he was coming to the fair to see his mother, who is supposed to have a stall there.”

James Willner = James Wilner

1861 Census

Birmingham Road – MALT SHOVEL

[1] *James Willner* (43), victualler and farmer of 26 acres employing 1 man, born Grendon, Warwickshire;

[2] Emma Willner (39), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Elizabeth Willner (4), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] John Willner (2), son, born Walsall;

[5] John Kirk (73), wife's father, widower, butcher, born Castle Donington, Leicestershire;

[6] John Burnal (20), servant, carter, born Silverstone, Northamptonshire:

Walsall Free Press 5/3/1864

“On Tuesday afternoon, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, held an inquest at the MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road, upon the body of Amelia Ann Emson, aged one year and seven months, daughter of George Emson, carpenter, Birmingham Road, who came to her death under the following circumstances. On Saturday, the 13th ult, the mother of the deceased went to the pump for some water, and, while there, heard her children screaming. On going into the house, she found the deceased enveloped in flames, and, before they could be extinguished, the deceased was so severely injured, that notwithstanding medical aid was immediately procured, the deceased, after lingering in great agony, expired on Sunday afternoon. It is supposed that the deceased ignited her clothes by lighting a piece of paper at the fire. The Jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Free Press 22/7/1865

“On Monday last, the children belonging to the Day and Sunday Schools connected with Wesley Chapel, Ablewell Street, had their usual annual treat in a field adjoining the MALT SHOVEL INN (on the Birmingham Road), where a large marquee was erected for their accommodation. At two o'clock in the afternoon, the children, numbering upwards of 700, assembled at the schools, and being marshalled in proper order, marched in procession, headed by the Temperance Band, to the field where each child was supplied with a paper bag containing a bun and about half-a-pound of plum cake, in addition to a liberal supply of tea.....”

Birmingham Gazette 22/12/1865

“*James Cooke*, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL public-house, on the Birmingham Road, charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer on Sunday last, between the hours of eleven and twelve (noon), was ordered to pay costs and discharged with a caution.”

Walsall Free Press 27/3/1869 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, all that Old-Licensed Inn, known as the MALT SHOVEL, situated on the Birmingham Road, Walsall, and within half-a-mile of the Town; together with upwards of 11 Acres of excellent Meadow and Pasture Land, adjoining the same.

For particulars apply to Mr. S. J. Wood, Wood End House, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/5/1869

“William Merchant, who had been remanded from Thursday last upon a charge of uttering a counterfeit coin, was again brought up in custody. The depositions taken on Thursday having been read over, further evidence was adduced, from which it appeared that about an hour before passing the florin at the WOOLPACK, Digbeth, he passed one at the MALT SHOVEL on the Birmingham Road. The date of all the florins was 1858. The prisoner was remanded till Thursday. The Bench, on the application of Mr. Dale, who appeared for the prisoner, agreed to accept bail, himself in £50, and two sureties of £25 each.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/7/1869

“Walsall Quarter Sessions. Grand Jury.

William Merchant was charged with having on the 10th of May last uttered a counterfeit florin to Mrs. Pitt, of the WOOLPACK public house, Digbeth. The prisoner, on being placed at the bar, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/4/1870

“James Lee, a labourer, was charged with having wilfully and maliciously broken two panes of glass, value 5s, the property of Mr. *Edward Fletcher*, of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road. Mr. Glover appeared for the prosecutor. The prisoner entered the house while drunk and wanted liquor, which prosecutor refused to supply, and after much difficulty got the unwelcome visitor out of the house. Lee threw two stones through the window, and was about to throw a third, when he was secured and taken to the police station. He pleaded that he was so drunk he did not know what he was doing, but the magistrates declined to accept the excuse, and sentenced him to two months' imprisonment.”

1871 Census

Birmingham Road – MALT SHOVEL

[1] *Mark H. Cookson* (34), publican, born Stirchley, Shropshire;

[2] *Rosannah Cookson* (30), wife, born Stirchley, Shropshire;

[3] *Mary J. Jones* (19), general servant, born Malerster (?), Shropshire;

[4] *Benjamin Blockside* (23), waiter, born Stirchley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/4/1871

“Cricket. Bradford Club, Walsall v United Eleven, Wolverhampton.

A match took place between these two clubs, on Monday last, on the ground of Mr. *Cookson*, at the MALT SHOVEL INN, who kindly lent the ground for the occasion, and resulted in a victory for the Walsall Club by 120 runs.....”

Walsall Free Press 28/6/1873 - Advert

“Cricket. The Hearts Of Oak Cricket Club will commence Playing for the Season, on Saturday, June 28th, 1873, anyone wishing to join must please apply to Mr. *Cookson*, MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road, or to Mr. Tulley, George Street, Walsall. Entrance 5s for the season.”

Cricket and football matches were played on the MALT SHOVEL ground for a number of years.

Walsall Free Press 27/12/1873 - Advert

“Wanted at once, a good General Servant.
Apply Mr. *Cookson*, MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/1/1875

“Three young men named William Sargeant, Prince Albert Square, David Hincks, Lower Rushall Street, and John Hincks, Bott Lane, were summoned at the instance of Thomas Mason, Hill Street, and charged with having assaulted him. Mr. Rhodes (from Mr. Glover’s office) appeared for the complainant. At twelve o’clock on the night of the 28th ult. the complainant and two companions left the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road, as did also the defendants. A quarrel which had been commenced in the house was resumed in the road, and the complainant alleged that in the course of it he was assaulted by all three of the defendants. Before it was over he also lost his watch and chain, and a witness named Mark Atkins deposed to having seen it in Sargeant’s hands. John Hincks was dismissed; David Hincks was fined 10s and costs; and Sargeant was remanded with a view to his being committed for trial on a charge of assault and stealing a watch on the highway.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 10/1/1878

“Yesterday the Walsall Borough Coroner held an inquest at the MALT SHOVEL INN, on the body of the man who was found in the canal on Sunday evening. The body was identified as that of Michael Murray of Wolverhampton, a deserter from the 106th Regiment Found Drowned.”

Rosannah Cookson married *John Griffiths* in the 4th quarter of 1876.

1881 Census

Birmingham Road – MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *John Griffiths* (31), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Rosannah Griffiths* (40), wife, born Stirchley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Martha Lorton* (18), general servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of *Isaiah Taylor*, MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road. Granted on Thursday and Saturday evenings.”

1891 Census

Birmingham Road – MALT SHOVEL Public House

- [1] *Isaiah Taylor* (33), married, publican, born Repton, Derbyshire;
- [2] *Agnes Taylor* (21), sister, barmaid, born Repton, Derbyshire;
- [3] *James Marshall* (42), visitor, beading maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elsie Parker* (19), general servant, born Walsall;
- [5] *John Lawden* (15), farm servant, born Penkridge:

Walsall Advertiser 17/12/1892

“I mentioned a week or two back a benefit match arranged for H. Ringwood, who, through sickness, has been unable to follow his employment for a period of twelve months. This takes place today on the MALT SHOVEL ground, Birmingham Road, the contesting teams being Walsall Albion and Walsall Harriers. The Town Swifts being away from home will release a great many of their followers, and I trust that a large number will wend their way to the MALT SHOVEL ground to assist in swelling a fund for a deserving cause.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/11/1893 - Advert

“Wanted, strong lad, to live in; able to milk; good character; state wages.
Apply *I. Taylor*, MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/1/1899

“I am asked to mention that there will be a general meeting of the members of the Town Unity Cricket Club on Saturday, the 21st inst, at 7.30pm, at the MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road. Anyone wishing to become a member should communicate with the hon. secretary, Mr. A. G. Burton, 71, Brace Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“Charles Orme (19), polisher, of 62, Wilton Street, Birmingham, was brought up in custody charged with stealing apples from the orchard of Mr. *Isaiah Taylor*, of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road. On Monday morning from his bedroom, Mr. Leighton saw a man go into Mr. *Taylor*’s orchard on Sergeant’s Hill, Birmingham Road, and sent a boy to inform Mr. *Taylor*. Mr. Leighton subsequently saw the man go out, and join a soldier and a girl on the Birmingham Road. Mr. *Taylor* searched his orchard, but finding no one, he went to the BELL INN, where he found the man whom Mr. Leighton had seen in company with a soldier and a girl. Police-constable Shirley (Great Barr) was with Mr. *Taylor*, and was given the prisoner into custody. But on leaving the house a jug of beer was thrown over him, and the girl with the soldier struck him on the cheek with a glass, for which she will have to answer at the Rushall Court. Prisoner admitted having nine apples on him which he said he had purchased from a man on the road for 1d. But the constable produced 13 fine apples which he had taken from the prisoner, who told him he had bought them at a shop a little distance away (which does not exist). In reply to Dr. Lynch, prisoner said he did not usually get nine apples for a penny; he did not believe he had 13. Fined 5s and 6s 6d costs, or seven days. He was only possessed of 4d, so he went down.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/11/1899

“Henry Hodgkins (65), alias William Smith, of no fixed abode, was brought up on a charge of wilfully damaging a tree, by stripping the bark, doing damage to the amount of 6d, belonging to *Isaiah Taylor*, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road; also with obtaining 3d by false pretences, the property of *Isaiah Taylor*.

The Chief Constable said he did not propose to go on with the latter charge, inasmuch as the prisoner was wanted on a more serious one by the Hinckley police.

Mr. *Isaiah Taylor* said that on October 31st the prisoner, after selling to witness some wood which he had represented to be Indian wood for destroying moths, got into witness’s garden and stripped bark from a black poplar tree growing there.

It transpired that prisoner had undergone seventeen years’ penal servitude, and he was now fined 10s and costs, or in default 14 days’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1900

“On Thursday night the fourth annual dinner of the Walsall Victoria Bowling Club was held at the club house, the MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road. The dinner was served in a tent, which had been erected on the green by Mr. S. Hawley (J. Hawley and Son), and a very beautiful dining room it made.....”

Walsall Observer 24/11/1900

“On Thursday night the Walsall Excelsior Cricket Club held its 14th annual dinner at the MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road, where about forty members and friends enjoyed the excellent spread.....”

1901 Census

Birmingham Road – farm – MALT SHOVEL HOTEL

[1] *Isaiah Taylor* (43), publican, born Repton, Derbyshire;

[2] Mary Taylor (43), wife, born Atherstone, Leicestershire;

[3] Leonard F. Taylor (10), son, born Walsall;

[4] Bertram J. Taylor (8), son, born Walsall;

[5] Lionel J. Taylor (5), son, born Walsall;

[6] Annie Heath (20), general servant, born Brownhills;

[7] Sarah Reynolds (14), general servant, born Ryton, Staffordshire;

[8] George Reynolds (18), servant, general labourer, born Codsall [Codsall?], Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 6/7/1901

“Charles and Annie Taylor, of no fixed abode, were charged with sleeping out without having any visible means of subsistence. Police-constable Bates said that on Saturday morning he found the prisoners sleeping by the side of a hayrick at the rear of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road. Discharged with a caution.”

Lichfield Mercury 23/5/1902 - Advert

“Wanted to live in, All-round Farm Labourer; good milker. Also Strong Youth (to live in), to make himself generally useful. Address, *I. Taylor*, MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/6/1902

“Walsall Victoria Bowling Club v Rugeley Bowling Club. The members of these clubs met in friendly rivalry on Wednesday afternoon last at the MALT SHOVEL ground, Birmingham Road. After a very enjoyable game the Vic’s were conquerors by the aggregate score of 61 points.....”

Walsall Advertiser 5/9/1903

“Walsall Y.M.F. Cricket Club. On Saturday last, after the cricket match between the above club and Willenhall (played at the MALT SHOVEL grounds, Birmingham Road, for the benefit of J. Lees), a good muster of members of both clubs sat down to a substantial tea, provided by the hostess, Mrs. *Taylor*.....”

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Thursday.....

Mr. Jackson (solicitor) put in plans for altering the well-known MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road. He explained that cricket, football, and bowling clubs, early closers, &c, met there, and all that was wanted was to make a dining room.

Dr. Lynch: Can you suggest that no drink will be served? – Mr. Jackson said he certainly could not. Suppose there was a dinner – they could not have a dinner without drink (laughter).

Dr. Lynch: On other occasions? – Mr. Jackson said the room would only be used on special occasions.

Mr. Thomson (Chief Constable) said what was proposed was to make a stable and loft into a dining room. He had occasion when the Corporation officials had a walking match to visit this house, and he then saw the difficulty there was, owing to there not being a proper assembly room.

Plans approved.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/6/1908

“We would draw the attention of our readers, especially owners of horses, &c, to the annual Horse Show and Parade, which is to be held on July 6th, on the MALT SHOVEL Grounds, Birmingham Road. A new departure this year is classes confined to local turnouts, so that local tradesmen will not now have to compete with outside prize-turnouts, and it is hoped that there will be a record number of entries.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/6/1908

“James Andrews, Frank’s Yard, Wolverhampton Street, was summoned for being such a distance away from a horse and wagon as not to have control of the horse. Police-constable Ashby (55) deposed to seeing a horse attached to a coal wagon outside the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road, on the 13th inst. Defendant was away about twenty minutes, and during that time the horse twice started to go. It was a very dangerous part of the road, the tramway loop being there.

Defendant denied being away anything like the time stated by Ashby, but he was fined 10s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

“There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....

In the case of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road, Mr. F. Cooper, solicitor, referred to certain alterations which were proposed to be carried out, plans of which had been deposited. The present tenant had been licensee of this particular house for over 22 years, and he did not anticipate that the magistrates would have any objection to the proposed alterations.”

1911 Census

Birmingham Road – MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *Isaiah Taylor* (54), licensed victualler and farmer, born Repton, Derbyshire;
- [2] *Mary Taylor* (55), wife, married 24 years, assisting in business, born Sheepy, Atherstone;
- [3] *Isaiah Best Taylor* (19), son, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [4] *Lionel James Taylor* (15), son, office boy, born Walsall;
- [5] *Edward Tuck* (27), servant, waggoner on farm, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Victor Thomas Crawford* (27), servant, general labourer, born Bromsgrove;
- [7] *Elsie May Weal* (18), general servant, born Pelsall;

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1911

“Bowling. At the MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road the members of the Victoria Club mustered in good force, it being the first of the series of games for prizes competed for during the season. All the members were well repaid for their visit and the majority of ends afforded keen and close bowling.....”

Walsall Advertiser 21/9/1912

“The members of the Paddock Bowling Club assembled at the headquarters, the SPRING COTTAGE, on Friday evening of last week, with the object of making a presentation to the host, Mr. *E. Biddulph*, in recognition of his services to the club during the time he has been the landlord of the SPRING COTTAGE. The idea was prompted by the fact that Mr. *Biddulph* is leaving to take up the license of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road.....”

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

In connection with the MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road, Mr. Frank Cooper applied for permission to add a storey to one-half of the house, construct a bay window and new fire-places in the dining room, new windows in the front of the house, strengthen the walls, and other alterations. He was not going to suggest that there would be no increase in drinking area, because he could not give an undertaking that the new part would not be used for drinking. There was an increase in drinking area, and he did not wish to badger the question. The whole of the alterations which he asked the Bench to sanction were to enable them to erect a second storey on half of the premises for a billiard room, and although there was considerable increase in the drinking area it could not be suggested that the drinking area of the billiard room was anything like so bad from a temperance point of view as the ordinary area of the house. The object of the alteration was not to create trade. They had the trade already, and they wanted to be able to deal with it better than they were at present. Connected with the house, having their headquarters there and going there week by week, were no fewer than three football clubs, four cricket clubs, a bowling club with a hundred members, a sick and dividend club, 49 allotments, an allotment society, and it was also headquarters to the Walsall Hockey Club. They could imagine

the state of congestion that occurred there on Saturdays, or any other day when it happened to be wet. It was almost impossible for the licensee to properly attend to his customers, and the billiard room would help him to allow those people who went there to play football or cricket to have some reasonable enjoyment without going into ordinary drinking premises. The house was well known, and for the last thirty years, probably, had been looked upon as a model. The old tenant, Mr. *Taylor*, held it for no less a period than twenty-six years, and the present licensee, Mr. *Biddulph*, had held a license for the last eighteen years, and was well-known to the Bench. So far as the house and the locality and the past and present licensees were concerned, he thought if ever there was a case when they might allow the extension of the area, that was the case.

The Justices' Clerk pointed out that in 1904 and 1909 other alterations were made to the premises.

Mr. Cooper agreed.

Mr. Loxton: The dining room is one-storey high, and now you are proposing to make it two and put a billiard room in it? – Mr.

Cooper: That is so. If the application is granted we propose to convert another room into a private room for Mr. *Biddulph*, and cut it off as far as drinking is concerned.

Mr. Loxton: Will this one storey bear another over it? – Mr. Cooper: That is the object of the strengthening pillars shown on the plan.

Mr. Loxton: You are going to rebuild the bottom? – Mr. Cooper: We shall have to strengthen it considerably, but will not actually rebuild it.

The architect (Mr. R. Jefferies), who was in Court, remarked that the walls would not need strengthening to satisfy the requirements of the bye-laws, but he thought it was advisable from the standpoint of appearance.

Mr. Cooper, in answer to Mr. Loxton, said the alterations would be about £350.

The application was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/8/1913 - Advert

“Flying To-Day.

At Spring Vale Farm opposite the MALT SHOVEL HOTEL, Birmingham Road, Walsall.

Flights Will Be made By Hicks, Hamel, & Prosser.

Gates Will Open at 3pm.

Applications for Reserved Seats or Passenger Flights should be made to the Promoters, The Walsall Garage, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 7/2/1914

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday morning.....

With respect to the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road, Mr. Frank Cooper applied for sanction to plans to enlarge the dining room by 186 square feet. He said that the application was really to extend the present dining room in order to make it square with the existing building. Permission to make that extension was asked for in July and it was then adjourned in consequence of there being a poor attendance of justices. The present application was discussed with them, and he (Mr. Cooper) did not think he was going too far when he said that the sub-committee felt the extension would be a very great improvement to the house and that it was a very necessary alteration.

Sir E. T. Holden: I think you ought to say that part of the sub-committee had left then. – Mr. Cooper: Oh, yes! One member.

Sir Edward: And someone else. – Mr. Cooper: I think not. Only yourself had gone, as the members will be able to bear me out.

Proceeding, Mr. Cooper said that an application was made at the last annual licensing sessions, but it was far more extensive alterations than at present suggested, and it was refused. The MALT SHOVEL was a house that was unique so far as the town was concerned. It had attached to it very extensive playing fields, and many cricket and football clubs had their headquarters there, including the Walsall Hockey Club, in addition there was a bowling club in connection with the house which was one of the largest and most important in the district. The MALT SHOVEL was an asset to the town, and ought to be encouraged. It was perfectly obvious that the present accommodation was inadequate.

The plans were sanctioned, the Clerk intimating that the justices required to be notified of the completion of the work so that they could visit the house.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road. £1 0s 5½d.”

James Jones Turner – see also LAMB.

Walsall Observer 18/10/1924

“On the ground that better living room and kitchen accommodation was needed, a Walsall Licensing Bench on Thursday, declined to sanction plans for alterations at the MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road, the chairman (Mr. G. A. Phillips) commenting that the justices considered the place should take on more of the nature of a large restaurant than an hotel. A large number of meals had to be served there at times, and the present kitchen was not sufficient.....”

It had a bowling green and tennis courts. [1925]

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of

the well-known Cape Hill brewery company's acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

John Lord's houses.....

MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road.”

Walsall Observer 16/9/1939

“We are going to assist the authorities in carrying out the lighting restrictions,” said Mr. H. Hucker, presiding magistrate at Walsall Guildhall on Monday, when the first local prosecutions under the blackout regulations were before the court.

Four of the five defendants in the five cases were publicans and three were each fined 20s, the fourth was ordered to pay 4s costs.....

Robert Denham (40), licensee of the MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road, also was represented by Mr. Hodgkinson.

Police-constable John Griffin stated that at 10.15pm on September 4 light was showing from three large windows across Birmingham Road and from a candle inside the front door (which illuminated the road every time anyone passed out) while two lights facing Birmingham were not sufficiently screened with black Italian cloth, which, however, was not thick enough for its purpose and defendant told witness he was waiting for more material.

Mr. Hodgkinson told the magistrates that defendant ordered 150 yards of black material a fortnight before the war, but was able to obtain only fifty yards. He then found it was not as impervious to light as he thought it would be and the material had to be put up double or treble, so that it went even a shorter distance. He then tried his utmost to get other materials and did everything he could to carry out his employers' instructions.

A fine of 20 was imposed.”

1939 Register

Birmingham Road – MALT SHOVEL INN

[1] *Robert Denman*, date of birth 14/5/1881, publican, married;

[2] *Beatrice L. Denman*, dob 30/6/1885, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Robert H. Denman*, dob 21/9/1912, furnisher's clerk, single;

[4] *Sheila F. (Denman) Coombes*, dob 29/4/1919, drapery assistant, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road, £3 10s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 26/4/1941

“The Walsall Hospital box at the MALT SHOVEL, Birmingham Road, has just produced £19.”

Walsall Observer 14/3/1942

“In acknowledgement of the fact that subscribers at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road, are contributing at least £50 for the maintenance of the Walsall General Hospital, an inscribed plaque has now been set above a bed in the children's ward. Most of the weekly contributions were sixpence a week, and the total of the first year amounted to nearly £60. About £35 has already been raised since January 1st for the second year's subscription.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

MALT SHOVEL HOTEL, Birmingham Road. £3 17s 6d.”

Closed

It was demolished c.1970.

The Crest Motel was built on the site.

MALT SHOVEL

71, (71+72), (7), Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Harriet Sheldon, 23, Walsall Street, Wednesbury
Arthur Beebee [1905], [1907], [1910]
Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd. [1924]
Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1924)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

Samuel Tonks [1818]
Thomas Wheeler (1820 – [1822])
Francis Thacker [1828] – [1830]
James Sheldon [1834] – [1845]
William Boden [1849] – [1851]
John Ricketts [1853]
James Lowbridge [1858] – [1860]
Randle [1860]
Sophia Randle [1861]
William Caulfield [1861] – [1862]
J Bednall [1862] – [1863]
John Steel [1864] – [1866]
Samuel Ricketts [1868] – [1870]
James Ricketts [1871] – 1891);
Mrs. Sarah Beebee (1891 – 1898);
Arthur Beebee (1898 – 1904);
Sydney Beebee (1904 – 1907);
Charles John Edwards (1907 – 1908); manager
Thomas Clow (1908 – 1909);
William John Baker (1909 – 1911);
Minnie Baker (1911);
George Edward Evans (1911);
Arthur George Saunders (1911 – 1918);
Anthony Oldfield (1918 – 1924);
Albert Richard Fencott (1924 – 1925);
George Farmer (1925 – 1926);
Charles William Swinnerton (1926 – 1931);
John Henry Brown (1931 – 1933);
George Yates (1933 – 1935);
Joseph William Davies (1935 – 1936);
Harriett Davies (1936 – 1956);
Arthur Middlebrook (1956 – 1957);
Stanley Clement Dutton (1957 – 1958);
Kathleen Peggy Stone (1958 – 1962);
Hilda Lena Swinburne (1962 – 1966);
Donald Rudge (1966 – 1967);
George Edward Franks (1967 – [])

NOTES

MALT AND SHOVEL [1940]

Rushall Street [1822]
71, Lower Rushall Street [1858], [1860], [1865], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940]
71+72, Lower Rushall Street [1861], [1868], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1881], [1891]

Samuel Tonks was also a shopkeeper. [1818]

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 11/9/1820 - Advert](#)

“*Thomas Wheeler* respectfully informs his Friends and the Public in general, that, owing to Sir Joseph Scott's Steward not giving Possession of the Scott's Arms, he was under the Necessity of taking another House, which is known by the Sign of the MALT SHOVEL, situated in Rushall Street, Walsall, where he solicits the Support of his Friends and the Public in general.
Walsall, September 6, 1820.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1831

“The Coronation. The bells commenced ringing at a very early hour, and in the more advanced part of the day the members of the different lodges assembled in their respective rooms preparatory to joining in procession, in honour of the occasion.....

The following is a list of the Lodges which formed the procession, and the house at which they are held. They had seven banners waving, and were accompanied by an excellent band.

Senior Lodge of Odd Fellows – BULLS HEAD.

Grand Lodge of Modern Druids – BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD.

Odd Fellows – ROYAL OAK.

Queer Fellows – WATERING TROUGH.

Two Lodges from the WATERLOO TAVERN.

Loyal Union Fellows – SPREAD EAGLE.

Fellows of Support – TURKS HEAD.

Social Fellows – TALBOT INN.

True Hearted Fellows – MALT SHOVEL.

The procession extended in length to about a quarter of a mile. The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the attendance being more numerous.”

James Sheldon was also a maltster. [1834]

1851 Census

Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *William Boden* (30), publican and pipe maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Jane Boden* (29), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Sarah Jane Boden* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *William Henry Boden* (2), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Martha Stackhouse* (19), house servant, born Pelsall;
- [6] *Betsey Reynolds* (16), house servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Thomas Wadsworth* (24), house servant, born Macclesfield, Cheshire;
- [8] *Michael Murry* (27), house servant, born Ireland;
- [9] *William Allen* (24), visitor, carter, born Walsall;
- [10] *Thomas Mason* (25), visitor, chainmaker, born Walsall;
- [11] *Joseph Tilley* (31), visitor, shovel maker, born Wolverhampton;
- [12] *Sarah Tilley* (28), visitor, born Wolverhampton;
- [13] *Richard Jukes* (41), servant, labourer, born Wales:

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/9/1851

“At the Guildhall, Walsall, on Wednesday last, before the Mayor and Arthur Adams, Esq, Mr. Thomas Hill, landlord of the CROWN retail beerhouse in The Square, was summoned by the police for keeping his house open for the sale of beer after the hour of eleven on the night of the 12th ultimo. James Smith, police-sergeant, stated about twelve o’clock on the night in question he visited defendant’s house, where he saw four persons seated in the parlour, one of whom was smoking; a glass was also standing on the table containing ale. Defendant stated, in reply, that very shortly before the police entered his house, a person named *Boden*, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL public house in Rushall Street, knocked at his door, and asked if a friend of his, who was with him, could remain there. While he was speaking, four other persons came in and asked for a quart of porter, but which was refused them; at this moment *Boden* quitted the house. The defendant called two witnesses in support of his statement, and the Bench dismissed the information. Mr. Armishaw, the police superintendent, stated that he had always found the house well conducted, and that it was in consequence of a communication made to him at the police station by Mr. *Boden*, that he sent two police officers to the house.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/2/1853

“On Saturday last, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the sign of the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, on the body of a young girl, named Sarah Ann Metcalf, who expired the same morning from the injuries sustained by her clothes taking fire, during the absence from home of her mother, on the previous day. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/7/1853

“The following three publicans were, on Wednesday last, fined, the first two 10s each, and the last 20s, for selling during prohibited hours on the Sabbath. Mr. James Fisher, the MINERVA, Ablewell Street; Mr. James Ashwell, the KINGS HEAD, Caldmore; and Mr. *John Ricketts*, of the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street.”

London Gazette 27/4/1858

“In the Matter of the Petition of *James Lowbridge*, now and for upwards of nine months last past of Lower Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Bridle Bit Maker, and Caster, previously thereto and for two years and upwards, of Bridgman-street, Walsall aforesaid, Bridle Bit Maker and Caster, and previously thereto of Stafford-street, Walsall aforesaid, Bridle Bit Maker only, an Insolvent Debtor.

Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to

make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 13th day of May next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary."

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/8/1858

"*James Lowbridge*, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL public-house, Lower Rushall Street, was fined 10s and costs for having on Sunday last kept his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours."

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

"Brewster Sessions..... In the following cases the applications were suspended for further consideration.....

James Lowbridge, of the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, who had been twice convicted of a breach of license, namely, on the 26th of May last, on which occasion he was fined 10s and costs for having kept his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours, and again, on the 18th instant, when he was fined in the same amount for a similar offence."

Walsall Free Press 16/6/1860 - Advert

"BALAKLAVA TAVERN, Blue Lane, Walsall.

To Be Let, with immediate possession, the above first class Beerhouse has been successfully carried on by Mr. *Randle*, for the last five years, who has now taken the MALT SHOVEL INN, Lower Rushall Street....."

1861 Census

71-2, Lower Rushall Street – MALT SHOVEL INN

- [1] *William Caulfield* (35), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Caroline Caulfield* (31), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *George Caulfield* (12), son, lockmaker's boy, born Walsall;
- [4] *William Caulfield* (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *James Caulfield* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 7/6/1862 - Advert

"Tea Party And Ball will be held on Whit Monday, at Mr. *Bednall's*, MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street.

Mr. C. Gay, of Birmingham will perform upon Wheatson's Patent English Concertina.

Tea at Five o'clock; Tickets, now ready, 1s each."

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863

"Walsall Wake.

A Ball and Concert will be held at the MALT SHOVEL TAVERN, Lower Rushall Street, September 21st and 22nd.

Admission Free.

Proprietor *J. Bednall*."

John Steel = John Steal

Walsall Free Press 16/7/1864 - Notice

"Mr. *J. Steel*, MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, Begg to inform his Friends that the Sixteenth Anniversary of the Old Established Lodge of the Walsall Free and Independent Order of Odd Fellows will be held on Monday, July 25th.

It has a good Floating Capital and a reasonable Stock in the Bank. Most of the Members are under thirty years; and any person wishing to become a Member may do so on that day, by paying 3s Entrance (Dinner included). Hours of Admission, from Eleven to One o'clock. No Miners admitted. Dinner at Two o'clock.

There will be a Tea Party the same Afternoon, at Five o'clock, for the Members Wives and Friends. Tickets 1s each.

A Money Club Supper, will take place at Seven o'clock on Tuesday, when the Landlord will be glad to see as many of his Friends as can make it convenient to attend."

John Steel was also a saddler and harness maker. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 30/12/1865

"The landlord of the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, who was going to have a tea meeting, applied for leave to keep open during prohibited hours. Two hours granted."

London Gazette 16/2/1866

"*John Steel*, of the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall-street, in the borough of Walsall, in the, county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Brown Saddler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 13th day of February, 1866, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 27th day of February instant, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. Thomas John Robinson, of Birmingham, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy."

Walsall Free Press 23/6/1866

“Michael Melville was charged with having, on Monday, the 11th inst, made use of threatening and abusive language to Mary Sheldon, for whom Mr. Sheldon (complainant’s brother), of Wednesbury, appeared.

From the evidence it seemed that, on the day in question, complainant went into the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, to collect the rent, and the defendant, who was there, after making use of some obscene language threatened to kill her, and rushed at her to strike her, but was prevented by some parties who were present.

The defendant called Ellen Keller, a married woman, whose husband is not in this country, and who lodges with defendant, said the complainant pushed the defendant over the fender, and said that if she were a man instead of a woman she would give it him for the language he had used to her.

On cross-examination, defendant said that she left her husband about three weeks ago in Ireland, and that defendant got off his seat to hear what complainant was saying. On being pressed, she admitted that she and another woman prevented the defendant striking complainant.

The Bench, after hearing the evidence, bound the defendant over to keep the peace for six months – himself in £5, and one surety in £5.”

Samuel Ricketts was also a baker. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

71+72, Lower Rushall Street – MALT SHOVEL INN

[1] *James Ricketts* (35), baker and publican, born Great Anle [Great Alne?], Warwickshire;

[2] *Susannah Ricketts* (32), wife, born Winchcombe, Gloucestershire;

[3] *Sarah J. Ricketts* (11), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;

[4] *Lucy Clara Ricketts* (10), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;

[5] *James A. Ricketts* (8), son, scholar, born Birmingham;

[6] *Mary Ann Ricketts* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] *Emily F. Ricketts* (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] *Ada A. Ricketts* (1), daughter, born Walsall;

[9] *Caroline Nicholds* (17), general servant, born Walsall Wood;

[10] *Walter Symes* (26), boarder, baker, born Taunton;

[11] *Ellen Symes* (24), boarder’s wife, born Birmingham;

[12] *Emily Symes* (4), boarder’s daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[13] *William Symes* (3), boarder’s son, scholar, born Walsall;

[14] *Ada Symes* (1), boarder’s daughter, born Walsall:

James Ricketts, beer retailer and baker, 71 & 72 Lower Rushall Street. [1872]

James Ricketts was fined £1 and costs, on 4th April 1877, for Sunday trading.

1881 Census

71+72, Lower Rushall Street

[1] *James Ricketts* (45), baker and licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Lucy C. Ricketts* (42), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *James A. Ricketts* (18), son, baker, born Walsall;

[4] *Mary A. Ricketts* (15), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *Emily F. Ricketts* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] *Ada A. Ricketts* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] *Priscilla C. Ricketts* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] *Fanny Taylor* (16), boarder, scholar, born Walsall:

1891 Census

71+72, Lower Rushall Street – MALT SHOVEL

[1] *Arthur Beebee* (40), harness manufacturer, born Walsall;

[2] *Sarah Beebee* (41), wife, licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[3] *Harry Beebee* (19), son, harness maker, born Walsall;

[4] *Howard Beebee* (18), son, currier, born Walsall;

[5] *Sydney Beebee* (16), son, butcher, born Walsall;

[6] *Alice Beebee* (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] *Agnes Beebee* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] *Arthur Beebee* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[9] *Helen Bates* (21), general domestic servant, born Walsall;

[10] *Abraham Taylor* (38), visitor, butcher, born Dudley:

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1897

“At the Rushall Police Court on Monday, *Agnes Beebee*, of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Rushall Street, Walsall, was summoned for having allowed a dog to be at large without muzzle or collar.

Police-constable 242 (Bailey) said that on the 2nd inst. he saw the defendant with a dog in Bosty Lane, Aldridge. He drew her attention to the fact that the dog had neither collar nor muzzle, and she said she was very sorry. Ordered to pay 5s 6d costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/8/1898 - Deaths

“On the 10th inst, at the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, *Sarah*, beloved wife of *Arthur Beebee*, aged 48.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/12/1898

“*Arthur Beebee*, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Lower Rushall Street, was summoned for keeping open his house during prohibited hours on the 24th inst; and Thomas Russon, of the OLD DOG INN, Pool Street, was summoned for a like offence on the 21st December.

Chief Constable Taylor said he had brought the cases as a warning, as there was a growing habit amongst the licensed victuallers of the town of selling right up to closing time, the consequences being that they did not close their houses till after 11 o’clock. About a week ago a publican who was cautioned remarked that he did not think it was so late, as the policeman on the beat had not cautioned him. If publicans thought policemen were going to conduct publican’s business they were very much mistaken. Mr. H. H. Jackson, who appeared for the defence, instructed by the Licensed Victuallers’ Association, said with regard to *Beebee*’s case that on Christmas Eve the defendant had about 100 people in his house, and had a difficulty in getting the house cleared. The selling portion, however, was closed at 11 o’clock, but as it took him some time to clear the house, it was not cleared at 11 o’clock. He had pointed out to the defendant that the house must be cleared by the time mentioned, and defendant had promised to see that this was done in future.

The case was withdrawn.”

Lichfield Mercury 21/4/1899 - Marriage

“On the 17th inst, at Shenstone Parish Church, Agnes Fannie Harvey, daughter of Mrs. Berrisford Fox, Fox and Hounds Inn, to *Arthur Beebee*, of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Walsall.”

Arthur Beebee was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

71, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Arthur Beebee* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Agnes Beebee (39), wife, born Barton, Staffordshire;
- [3] Arthur Beebee (17), son, iron caster, born Walsall;
- [4] Lizzie Jellings (22), cook, born Middleton, Warwickshire;
- [5] Lilian Walker (13), general servant, born Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1904 - Advert

“MALT SHOVEL INN, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.

Important Sale Of A Fully Licensed Inn.

Messrs. Thomas Harford & Son are favoured with instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on Monday, June 20th, 1904, at the STORK INN, Walsall, at 7.30 in the evening prompt (subject to conditions then to be produced), the Fully Licensed Inn and Two Freehold Houses adjoining.

Lot 1. Two Freehold Dwelling-Houses, with Outbuildings thereto belonging, being Nos.69 and 70, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, now in the occupation of Messrs. Downing and Warner, at rentals amounting to £28 16s per annum.

Lot 2. The Very important Fully-Licensed Inn, known as the MALT SHOVEL INN, No.71, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, having a frontage of 13 yards, and containing four Bedrooms, Drawing Room, Bar Parlour, Kitchen, Scullery (with room over), three Cellars (with rolling way), a large enclosed Yard at the rear, and Cart Entrance from Rushall Street, now in the occupation of Mr. *Arthur Beebee*, on a lease which expires on the 24th of June, 1907, at a rental of £50 per annum.

Remarks. This fully-licensed Inn is situate in a thickly-populated district, and commands a good indoor and outdoor trade. The auctioneers have every confidence in recommending this noted licensed inn to Maltsters, Brewers, and others in search of a really good free house.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. Rankin & Miller, Solicitors, 319, High Street, West Bromwich; to Messrs. Field & Mes-siter, Solicitors, Wednesbury; or to the Auctioneers, Junction Chambers, 33, Carters Green, West Bromwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1905 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell St., Walsall.

Houses.....

MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast

through clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith next applied for the approval of the plans for the alteration of the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street. These would result in the removal of three bay windows on the ground floor which projected on the footpath. Just at the spot the footpath was a narrow one. It was proposed to put in new windows which would be flat, and that would make the footpath some two feet wider at the spot. The plans met with the approval of the Streets Committee who were very thankful for the improvement and the concession which the owner made in giving up the sites of three bay windows without any cost to the town. The Chairman: What about the steps to the front door? – Mr. Pearman-Smith: One will be away.

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had adjourned all the plans, and proposed to visit the houses next Wednesday. They would be glad if the architects would accompany them.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1906

“Yesterday the adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall.....

Several applications for the approval of plans for alterations, had been deferred from the annual licensing meeting for the magistrates to visit the premises. The Bench decided as under.....

The application as to the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, was again adjourned.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/10/1908

“The following licenses were transferred.....

MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, from *Charles John Edwards* to *Thomas Clow*.....

Regarding the transfers of the licenses of the MALT SHOVEL and the STORK HOTEL, Sir Edward Holden said there had been many changes recently, and the magistrates would like to have an explanation why these licenses had been transferred.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said that in the case of the MALT SHOVEL there were satisfactory reasons why the licenses had twice been transferred, but the reasons were of a private nature.

Mr. Richardson (representing Messrs. Showell and Sons) said that with respect to the STORK HOTEL the late manager, Mr. Hazellhurst, had left because he had obtained a better situation in Liverpool. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

The owners of the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, Mr. Arthur Beebee, and the licensee, *William John Baker*, were represented by Mr. Pearman-Smith.

Chief-inspector Ballance stated that in Lower Rushall Street there were six alehouses and two beer-houses, and the population was 360 persons over sixteen and 194 under sixteen.

Cross-examined: Structurally, the house was in good order, and there was no difficulty about police supervision.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said the average yearly trade for the past three years was 666 barrels, and *W. John Baker*, manager, stated in evidence that for the past ten weeks his takings had averaged from £28 to £30.

Mr. Loxton: Do you give the long pull? – Witness: I give imperial measures and allow a dash for the froth.

Mr. Loxton: It has been called a dash, and it has been called the froth.

Mr. Pearman-Smith pointed out that about three years ago £350 was spent on the house, which was renovated throughout and fitted with electric light. The trade was a legitimately good one, and it was being done under respectable circumstances.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

The ACORN, MALT SHOVEL, and WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street, MANDAMUS ARMS, Stafford Street, and the SHINGLERS ARMS, Birchills were referred for compensation.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1910, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street. Alehouse. Licensee *William John Baker*.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

“A. Beebee's Noted Home-Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.

Houses.....

MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/2/1911

“The annual general licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....
Transfer Applications.....
MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, to *Minnie Baker* (executrix of *William John Baker*.)”

1911 Census

71, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *George Edward Evans* (39), manager, born Walsall;
- [2] *Emily Jane Evans* (40), wife, married 12 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ellen Agnes Evans* (11), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [4] *George Edward Evans* (6), son, school, born Walsall;
- [5] *Edith Monica Evans* (3), daughter, home, born Walsall;
- [6] *Lydia Davis* (16), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Arthur George Saunders – see also WHITE HORSE.

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, 3s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 19/12/1914

“Private *George Clow* (22), of Teddesley Street, now invalided home, states that while he and other comrades of the 2nd South Staffords were in the trenches at Ypres preparing breakfast and opening tins of bully beef, shells began to drop all round. ‘They came over,’ he says, ‘six at a time from a German quick firing battery about 400 yards away, and a number of us, including myself, were wounded.’ But this was not the end of his exciting experiences, for when travelling with other wounded down to the hospital, the enemy shelled and demolished portions of the tram, killing five or six and further wounding many more. He confesses it is painful to recall many of the horrors he witnessed. Days and nights, he says, they marched on with very little rest during the retreat from Mons; he spent eighteen days in the trenches at Aisne, and took part in five bayonet charges. When he left the Belgium fighting area, the enemy’s artillery, he says, were blowing the beautiful old town of Ypres to pieces. Private *Clow* was a barman in Birmingham, before he enlisted, two years ago. His father, Sergeant *Thomas Clow*, served 27 years with the South Staffords, and saw active service in the Egyptian and South African Campaigns. Formerly the licensee of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Lower Rushall Street, he was employed at Messrs. Stokes’, Hatherton Street, when war broke out, and has since re-enlisted in the Staffords.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street. £0 14s 4d.”

Walsall Observer 5/4/1924

“As a result of recent negotiations, the freehold licensed properties belonging to Messrs. Arthur Beebee Ltd, which include the DURHAM OX, Park Street; OLD STILL, Digbeth; THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road; Red Lion, Aldridge; MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street; GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street; the off license, 6, Camden Street; the brewery in Sandwell Street; and the lease of the FOX INN, Stafford Street, have been sold to the Highgate Brewing Co. Ltd, through Messrs. Fox and Harrison, FAI, of Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street.”

1939 Register

71, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Harriett Davies*, date of birth 12/3/1884, licensee, widowed;
- [2] *Joseph Davies*, dob 14/5/1907, final inspector (aero), single;
- [3] *Florrie Mason*, dob 10/4/1909, tailor’s machinist, married;
- [4] *Sydney Mason*, dob 16/4/1907, motor driver, married:

Walsall Observer 19/10/1940

“‘In the opinion of the Housing Committee and the Public Works Committee, this is a very satisfactory arrangement for dealing with this area,’ said Councillor Whiston, on whose motion the Council approved an arrangement for the purchase, for £450 and

costs, of the freehold premises known as the OLD KINGS ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, the conveyance of the premises known as the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, and the site of the OLD KINGS ARMS; and the conveyance by the Corporation to the Highgate (Walsall) Brewery Co, Ltd, of a site at the junction of Lower Rushall Street and Holtshill Lane, on which the brewery company will undertake to erect a new public house as soon as materials are available and a license to build has been obtained. The arrangement also provides for payment by the Corporation to the brewery company of £700 by way of compensation, plus thirty guineas towards the company's costs, payment to be deferred pending loan sanction and interest to be paid by the Corporation in the meantime at 4 per cent."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street. £1 4s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street. £1 2s 0d."

Arthur Middlebrook – see also BAKERS ARMS.

Closed

Demolished

MANCHESTER ARMS

31, Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Lancaster, butcher, 28, Stafford Street (later at Westbourne Road)

Thomas Lancaster Nelson, Terrace Green Lane, Walsall

Cheshire's Brewery Co. Ltd. (leased)

Miss Rosaline Lancaster, Lichfield Street, Walsall

LICENSEES

James Haywood [1868] – [1870]

Samuel Brown [1870] – 1872);

Joseph Fisher (1872 – [];

Stephen Griffin [];

William Stanton [1881] – 1895);

Herbert Tuckley (1895 – 1896);

Harry Taylor (1896 – 1901);

Eliza Taylor [1901] ?

Charles Edward Holmes (1901 – 1903);

George Henry Pilkington (1903 – 1904);

Mrs. Elizabeth Pilkington (1904 – 1908);

Edward Thomas Taylor (1908 – 1909);

William Mitchell (1909):

NOTES

MANCHESTER HOUSE [1872]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

James Haywood, beer retailer, 31 Stafford Street. [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/7/1870

“Wm. Smith, baker, was charged with having wilfully broken a pane of glass, valued £4 10s, the property of *Samuel Brown*, beerhouse keeper, Stafford Street. Prisoner, it appeared, on being ejected from complainant’s beerhouse, smashed the window. Ordered to pay the amount of the damage, £4 10s, and fine of £2 and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for two months.”

1871 Census

31, Stafford Street

- [1] *Samuel Brown* (41), beerhouse keeper, born Bescot;
- [2] Elizabeth Brown (33), wife, born Boston, Lincolnshire;
- [3] Mary Jones (14), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Walsall Free Press 11/11/1871

“Charles Sleigh was summoned for being drunk and refusing to quit the MANCHESTER ARMS, Stafford Street, when requested to do so, on the 1st inst. Defendant was likewise charged with assaulting the landlord, *Samuel Brown*. Fined 5s and costs for each offence. Mr. Glover prosecuted.”

Samuel Brown, beer retailer, 31 Stafford Street. [1872]

1881 Census

31, Stafford Street

- [1] *William Stanton* (56), publican, born Birmingham;
 - [2] Jane Stanton (57), wife, born Needwood Forest;
 - [3] William Stanton (32), son, widower, tinner, born Walsall;
 - [4] Eliza Stanton (23), daughter, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;
 - [5] Ellen Stanton (19), daughter, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;
 - [6] Ephraim Stanton (16), son, silver plater, born Walsall;
 - [7] Harry Stanton (13), son, pupil teacher, born Walsall;
 - [8] Alice Stanton (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
 - [9] Jerald Stanton (6), son, scholar, born Walsall:
- [Needwood Forest is a forest in Staffordshire.]

1891 Census

31, Stafford Street

- [1] *William Stanton* (66), beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] Jane Stanton (67), wife, born Burton, Staffordshire;
- [3] Ephraim Stanton (26), son, mechanical engineer, born Walsall;
- [4] Harry Stanton (23), son, time keeper, born Walsall;
- [5] Alice Stanton (21), daughter, tailoress, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 7/9/1895

“Samuel Tottey (26), a bit filer, Old Birchills, was placed in the dock on two charges of larceny. The first one investigated was that in which he was charged with having stolen 7s 8d from a public house till.

Herbert Tuckley, landlord of the MANCHESTER ARMS, Stafford Street, said that on Tuesday, the 27th ult, he left the bar for about five minutes. He then heard a noise as of someone counting coppers, and on looking through a small window he saw prisoner leaning over the bar with his hand in the till. Witness went round to the front to meet him as he left, and asked him to turn out the money he had taken. He said, ‘I’ve only got a shilling,’ but witness’s wife, after looking in the drawer, said that he had taken all the silver, of which there had been about 10s worth. Witness again asked him for the rest, and he gave him a half-crown, a shilling, and a sixpence. Witness again asked him for the rest, and he gave him a florin and eightpence in coppers.

Detective Williams said at 6pm on August 27th he arrested prisoner on another charge, and took him down to the cell. He asked for a piece of paper and a pencil, and later in the evening handed the Chief Constable the paper, on which he had written a statement to the effect that after a day’s drinking with a friend the latter had taken the money from prosecutor’s till, and had then sent him back for a shilling which he said he had left. Prosecutor caught him, and he had to give all the money he had, which was 7s 8d more than he took.

The second charge against prisoner was then gone into – namely, breaking and entering a dwelling-house, and stealing therefrom a silver watch, value £2 5s, the property of Edward Tuft, engine fitter, 4, Birchills.

Prosecutor said that at four o’clock on the 26th August he left his house. On his return the watch, which he had placed in the kitchen was missing. Both the doors were locked as he left them. The keys produced were those of the prisoner’s house, but witness had tried them in his own lock, and found them to fit.

Prosecutor’s wife gave similar evidence.

Charles Haywood, 2, Somerville Place, Wolverhampton, manager to a Wolverhampton pawnbroker, said that the watch and chain produced were pledged with him on the morning of the 27th August. Prisoner was not the man who pawned them. He was advanced 15s on them.

Detective Williams stated that having received information of the robbery on the morning of the 27th August, he visited the premises but found no trace of forcible entry having been made. Prisoner was arrested on another charge, and he then cautioned him, and charged him with having stolen the watch and chain produced. He replied ‘Yes. But why don’t you fetch —— (mentioning

another man). He's as bad as me. We went to Wolverhampton and pawned it.' Subsequently he wrote out a confession admitting that he and the other man had stolen and pawned the watch. He received the keys produced from prisoner's wife, and found they both unlocked and locked the prosecutor's front door. Prisoner had appeared anxious to give every information since his arrest. He was committed to the Sessions on both charges, bail being allowed himself in £10, with two sureties of £5 each. Prisoner's father was accepted as surety for the whole amount."
[At the Walsall Quarter Sessions, in October 1895, Samuel Totty, who had two previous convictions, was sentenced to six months' hard labour.]

Walsall Advertiser 23/1/1895

"Thomas Burns (26), a respectable looking labourer, who trembled in the dock as though on his trial for murder, was charged with having on the previous day solicited alms in Stafford Street. Police-constable Brennon said he was called to the MANCHESTER ARMS, where landlord (*Herbert Tuckley*) gave prisoner into custody for begging. Mr. *Tuckley* did not appear but Burns admitted the charge. He declared he had a job to go to that morning, and was only seeking the last copper towards his lodgings when arrested. He was discharged on promising not to offend again."

William Stanton, beer retailer, 31, Stafford Street. [1896]

1901 Census

31, Stafford Street

[1] *Harry Taylor* (37), born Walsall;
[2] *Eliza Taylor* (39), wife, publican, born Walsall;
[3] *Annie Taylor* (6), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] *Elsie Mary Taylor* (2), daughter, born Walsall:
[Harry Taylor held the license.]

George Henry Pilkington = Henry George Pilkington

George Henry Pilkington, beer retailer, 31, Stafford Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.... Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various.... *George Henry Pilkington*, occupier of the MANCHESTER ARMS, Stafford Street, was represented by Mr. H. H. Jackson. The question was as to the condition of the premises, and Mr. *Pilkington* was cross-examined by Mr. Loxton on these points. Replying further to Mr. Loxton, *Pilkington* said there was a sick and dividend club at his house, the members paid 3d a week. The members paid the secretary, and he (*Pilkington*) was only treasurer. Mr. Loxton: I should think that's the best thing in a club, isn't it (laughter)? Mr. Jackson objected to the question as to clubs being introduced as it was not on the notice. Referred to the adjourned sessions, objections to be laid that the house was not required, not structurally adapted to the needs of the locality, and that the tenant did not occupy the premises of proper value."

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1904

"The adjourned annual brewster session were held on Tuesday.... *George Holden* [see CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL], the well-known ex-pugilist, was called to prove that the MANCHESTER ARMS was an ante '69 license. He said he was reared in the next yard, and knew it as an 'on' license all his life. Mr. Jackson: And I hope it will never be off (laughter). License renewed."

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

"On Tuesday, the Deputy Borough Coroner (Mr. H. H. Jackson) held an inquest respecting the death of *Henry George Pilkington* (40), currier, and landlord of the MANCHESTER ARMS beerhouse, Stafford Street, whose body was found on Sunday in the canal near the Aldridge Road. Evidence was given that during the last six months deceased had been drinking to excess, and frequently complained of pains in his head. He had never threatened to destroy his life. On Saturday he followed his employment as a currier up to midday, when he returned home, ate a hearty dinner and drank three pints of ale. He wanted more, but his wife, noticing he appeared strange, refused to supply him, and eventually he left home ostensibly to go to the North Walsall Bowling Club. He was not seen again alive. The body was found by a man who was trolling for pike in the canal. The water, it was stated, was not more than 5ft deep. A verdict of Suicide during Temporary Insanity was returned."

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 3rd February 1909.

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1909

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, 1909, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

MANCHESTER ARMS, Beerhouse. Licensees, *Edward T. Taylor & William Mitchell.*”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The principal meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, when eight beer-houses and one ale-house, the licenses of which had been referred by the licensing justices, were dealt with, and in each instance the houses were referred for compensation, which means in due course the houses will close.....

MANCHESTER ARMS, Stafford Street. The parties interested in the beer-house, are Mrs. Rosanna Lancaster (owner), Messrs. Cheshire Brewery Company, Limited (lessees), *Edward T. Taylor* (tenant), and *William Mitchell*, previous (?) tenant. Mr. Enoch Evans represented Messrs. Lancaster and *Mitchell*, and Mr. Darby, West Bromwich, the brewery company and *Taylor*.

Mr. Evans said he could not see how *Taylor* was entitled to come in for compensation seeing the that license was referred when he went in. So far as the owner was concerned her loss would be a great one inasmuch as the house was let on a repairing lease, and she received £50 rental practically clear, and he asked the Bench to deal generously with the owner.

Mr. Darby had no objection to the justices dealing generously with the owner providing it was not at the expense of his client. His friends appeal seemed to be that the whole of the compensation should go to the owner.

Mr. Evans: I have never suggested anything of the kind.

Mr. Darby said the house was let on lease and there must be a fair division of the compensation money.....

The Bench having heard each case separately retired to consider their decision. In returning, the Mayor intimated that the renewals authority report would be adopted, and all the houses referred for compensation.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1909

“A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall, on Thursday, Sir Edward T. Holden presiding over a full Bench of Magistrates.....

In the case of the MANCHESTER ARMS, Stafford Street, Mr. F. Cooper, represented Miss R. Lancaster, and Mr. *E. T. Taylor*, the late tenant. An argument ensued in this case as to whether the late tenant was entitled to any compensation, it being contended by Mr. *Taylor* himself, on oath, that he had lost about £40 owing to the house being put on the compensation list.

Mr. Millerchip, of West Bromwich, who appeared for the Cheshires Brewery Co, contended that the late tenant was not entitled to any allowance, because he left on his own accord in April, whereas the house was not referred to compensation until June.....

The Magistrates decided to hold a further private sitting to go into the question of figures with the solicitors.

The decisions will be announced at a later date.”

Closed

The building was used by the Walsall Horse Collar Co. [1896]?

MANDAMUS

75, Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Whitehouse

Charles James Whitehouse

Emily Whitehouse

George Whitehouse and Mrs. Hirst

Bloxwich Brewery Co. (leased)

LICENSEES

Joseph Whitehouse [1861] – [1872];

Charles James Whitehouse [];

Mrs. Emily Whitehouse [1881]

William Whitehouse [1889] – **1890**;

Emily Whitehouse (**1890**);

William Ginder (**1890 – 1891**);

Charles Ernest Whitehouse (1891 – 1894);
John Patrick McNally (1894 – 1896);
Maynard Ball (1896 – 1899);
William Hugh Lawrence (1899 – 1903);
Mrs. Kate Lawrence (1903 – 1904);
John William Chapman (1904 – 1905);
Francis George Barnfield (1905 – 1908);
Alfred Kendrick (1908);
Charles Walton (1908 – 1909);
Patrick McTighe (1909 – 1910): manager

NOTES

It was originally an unnamed alehouse.

It was known as the STORES. [1892]

It was renamed the MANDAMUS [1894]

It had a six-day license.

1861 Census

75, Stafford Street

- [1] *Joseph Whitehouse* (45), wine merchant and maltster, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary B. Whitehouse* (46), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Charles J. Whitehouse* (19), son, clerk to Mrs. Marchant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Frederick Whitehouse* (18), son, apprentice to Saddlers' Company, born Walsall;
- [5] *Clara Whitehouse* (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *George Whitehouse* (7), son, born Walsall;
- [7] *Agnes Pearson* (24), general servant, born West Bromwich:

1871 Census

75, Stafford Street

- [1] *Joseph Whitehouse* (55), maltster, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Whitehouse* (56), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Frederick J. Whitehouse* (28), saddlers' ironmonger, born Walsall;
- [4] *Clara Whitehouse* (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *George Whitehouse* (17), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Agnes Morrison* (30), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Emily Whitehouse married *William Whitehouse*.

1881 Census

75, Stafford Street

- [1] *Emily Whitehouse* (35), married, wine merchant, born Walsall;
- [2] *Florence Whitehouse* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [3] *Emily Whitehouse* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Sidney Whitehouse* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Eliza Tollett* (27), barmaid, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mary Round* (29), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Emily Whitehouse was fined 20s and costs, on 13th June 1889, for permitting drunkenness.

William Ginder = *William Ginders*

1891 Census

75, Stafford Street

- [1] *William Ginder* (33), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Leah Ginder* (34), wife, born Hill Top, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Florie Ginder* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *William Ginder* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 1/12/1894

“Edward Burns, of Farrington Street, and Ellen Mannion, of 5 court, Short Acre Street were summoned for having been disorderly and refusing to quit the STORES INN, Stafford Street. The landlord, *John Patrick McNally*, proved the case, but said he did not wish to press the charge if the defendants would give an undertaking not to enter his premises again. They did this, and were placed on their good behaviour for a month.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/12/1894

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held on Thursday.....
New Members..... Mr. *John Patrick McNally*, MANDAMUS INN, Short Acre Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/12/1898

“*Maynard Ball*, landlord of the MANDAMUS INN, Stafford Street, and George Wyre, 42, Bloxwich Road, were summoned for assaulting William Degwell, of 2, Whitehouse Street; and Degwell also was summoned for assaulting Elizabeth *Ball*, wife of *Maynard Ball*. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for *Ball* and Wyre.

Complainant’s case was that a dispute occurred respecting the raffling of a watch, and that he was knocked down by the two defendants, and kicked till he was covered in blood, and he had a lump on his forehead a big as an egg.

The defence was that *Ball* received sufficient provocation to justify him striking William Degwell. *Ball* refused to supply Tom Degwell, William’s brother, with something to drink. William Degwell shortly afterwards assaulted Mrs. *Ball* by striking her in the face, and used the most disgusting language. Thereupon *Ball* knocked William Degwell down. As to Wyre he never struck a blow. In answer to Mr. Loxton (magistrates’ clerk) *Ball* admitted he struck William Degwell while the latter was on the floor. The Bench dismissed the case.”

1901 Census

75, Stafford Street – MANDAMUS INN

- [1] *William Hugh Lawrence* (37), licensed victualler and brewer, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Kate Lawrence* (38), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] Clara Lawrence (11), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Kathleen Lawrence (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Sarah Ann Winfield (21), general servant, born Wood End, near Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 1/8/1903

“A number of applications were made for the transfer of licences, and as there were no objections all were granted.....
MANDAMUS INN, Stafford Street, *Kate Lawrence* (administratrix of the estate of *William Hugh Lawrence*, deceased) to *Kate Lawrence*.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/8/1904

“The fifty-second annual general meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street.....
New Members..... Mr. *John William Chapman*, MANDAMUS INN, Stafford Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/8/1905

“On Thursday morning Mr. H. H. Jackson (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the MANDAMUS INN, Stafford Street, on the body of Florence Elizabeth Edwards, aged 13 months, the daughter of Vincent Edwards, carter, 1 Short Acre.

The evidence showed the deceased was seized with diarrhoea and sickness at 2.30 Monday morning, and died before the services of a medical man could be procured. The deceased had been insured but owing to her father being out of work the policy had lapsed.

Dr. O’Meara said he was called to see the deceased about 5.45am, and found her dead, the cause of death being exhaustion following acute diarrhoea.

The coroner said the mother appeared to have done all she could, but might not have been able to give the child sufficient nourishment.

A verdict of Natural Causes was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale of Brewing Plants and Public-House Fixtures & Fittings removed from the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, and the STORES, Rushall Street.

Messrs. Watkins, Powell, & Wood, will Sell by Auction, on Thursday Next, August 24th, 1905, in the Yard at the rear of the MANDAMUS INN, Stafford Street, Walsall, the Public-House Fixtures & Brewing Plant, comprising Mahogany Frame Upholstered Seating, Mahogany-case Beer Machine and Piping, Cross Leg, Deal and Mahogany-top Tables, Table Tops and Trestles, Benches, Counters, Mirrors, Bar Fittings, Match Boarding, Spirit Jars and Measures, Refrigerators, Coolers, Copper Boilers, Barrel Thralls, Gas Fittings, &c, &c, also a quantity of Household Furniture.

Sale to commence at 11 o’clock (entrance Short Acre Street).

Auctioneers’ Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

Patrick McTighe, MANDAMUS, Stafford Street.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson said the owners were Mr. George Whitehouse and Mr. Hearn (Torquay), the Bloxwich Brewery Company were the tenants, and the manager was *Patrick McTighe*. The takings were about £15 a week, having doubled since the present tenant had been there. The Whitehouse family had held that house for over seventy years. It was only a six days' license."

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

The ACORN, MALT SHOVEL, and WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street, MANDAMUS ARMS, Stafford Street, and the SHINGLERS ARMS, Birchills were referred for compensation."

Lichfield Mercury 18/3/1910

"The adjourned licensing sessions for Walsall were continued on Friday.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson renewed an application for sanction for re-building of the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street. He stated that the owner, Mr. Whitehouse, was now prepared not only to give up 1,600 feet of land for street improvement purposes, but surrender the license of the MANDAMUS INN, Stafford Street, in respect of which it was expected about £1,000 would be payable as compensation.

The Bench held that the case having been already disposed of, it could not be reopened except at another sessions."

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

"The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1910, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

MANDAMUS, Stafford Street. Alehouse. Licensee *Patrick McTighe*."

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1910

"A meeting of the Licensing Justices was held on Tuesday morning.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for the renewal of the license of the MANDAMUS, Stafford Street, the owners of which are Mr. George Whitehouse and Mrs. Hirst, and the tenants the Bloxwich Brewery Company. The house he said, was an old and respectable one, and was only a six days' license.

The manager of the house, for the Brewery Company, said the takings were £15 per week.

The license was refused."

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1910

"A supplementary meeting of the Licensing Justices to consider claims for compensation was held on Wednesday morning at the Guildhall. Mr. W. Bayliss presided, and there were present Messrs. W. E. Blyth, T. A. Smith, J. Clare, W. Halford, A. D. Cozens, J. J. Lynch, A. Jagger, and R. Thomas. The following houses came up for consideration.....

MANDAMUS, Stafford Street; owners, George Whitehouse and Clara Hearn; tenant, Bloxwich Brewery Company; manager and licensee for the Brewery Company, *Patrick McTighe*."

Patrick McTighe – see also NAGS HEAD.

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 25th February 1910.

Compensation was paid, and the house closed on 30th September 1910.

MANOR ARMS

Park Road, Daw End, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mr. Mellish [1894]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1991)

LICENSEES

Richard Anson [1861] – [1872]
John Anson [1892] – 1897;
Richard Anson (1897 – [1918])
Mrs. Sarah Anson [1924]
Bernard C Anson [1932]
Mrs. Sarah Annette Ferguson [1939] – [1940]
Alfred William ‘Bill’ Harley [1941] – [1945]
Eileen Codd [1977] – 1985)
Neil Johnson (1993 – [1994])
Derek Hart [2009]

NOTES

MANOR ARMS HOTEL [1940]

[Black Country Bugle 29/12/2021](#)

[Article by Steve James](#)

“.....The oldest pub in the area, and perhaps one of the oldest in the country, is the MANOR ARMS at Daw End. Some believe the building dates back to 1106 when it was a milking parlour, and was first licensed in 1248, but most of today’s pub is of Victorian origin.”

It was formerly a farmhouse.

It had a beerhouse license.

[Walsall Free Press 1/6/1861](#)

“Several summonses were heard before the justices this day, for infringement of weights and measures regulation of the district ‘C’ of South Staffordshire. All the summonses were preferred in the name of William Tullett, inspector of weights and measures for the district.....

Richard Anson, Daw End, beerseller, two weights and one pair of scales. Fined 2s 6d for the weights, and 5s for the scales, with costs. In each of the above cases the costs amounted to 12s.”

Richard Anson, farmer and beer retailer, Daw End. [1868], [1872]

[1871 Census](#)

Daw End

[1] *Richard Anson* (67), farmer of 70 acres employing 2 labourers and 1 boy, born Ayburr, Staffordshire;

[2] *Anne Anson* (65), wife, born Trentham, Staffordshire;

[3] *Mary Anson* (29), daughter, born Rushall;

[4] *Abram Hulme* (15), general farm servant (indoor), born Rushall;

[5] *Ann Rogers* (21), general servant, born Aldridge:

John Anson = John Hanson

John Anson, farmer and beer retailer, Daw End. [1892]

He was described as also being a farmer. [1896]

[Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894](#)

“The annual Licensing sessions for the Rushall division of the county were held on Monday at Rushall.....

Superintendent Salt’s report.....

The MINERS ARMS, at Daw End, which had been closed about four months had been let as a private dwelling, and he understood it was the intention to apply for the transfer of the license to the MANOR ARMS beerhouse, about a hundred yards away.....

John Hanson applied for the full license of the MINERS ARMS, Daw End, to be transferred to him at the MANOR ARMS, Daw End, which hitherto had been licensed as a beerhouse only. Mr. Gerald Lewis, barrister, said he appeared on behalf of the tenant, who was the applicant, and also the owner of the premises. The MANOR ARMS had been licensed as an off-beerhouse, and Mr. Mellish, the owner, was also the owner of the MINERS ARMS. Last year the MINERS ARMS license was renewed with an expression from the bench that the premises were not satisfactory, and in deference to that expression Mr. Mellish built a wall round the back of the premises, thereby making it more easily supervised by the police. The police, however, had made objections to the renewal of the license of the MINERS ARMS, and although there had been no conviction Mr. Mellish had thought it better (and the Vicar of the parish approved the proposal) to ask that the license should go to the other house. When, accordingly, application was made to the magistrates’ clerk to ascertain if he could transfer the license of the MINERS ARMS, the clerk, believing a mere transfer of tenants was meant, said, ‘Yes, if the proper notices are given.’ Notice was given, and the MINERS ARMS premises let to a private tenant, and when the misunderstanding was discovered it was not thought worth while to re-open the place for the few

weeks the license had then to run. Mr. *Hanson*, in reply to questions, said a footpath ran past the house, but it was 100 yards from the highway. The accommodation provided was mainly for boatmen.

Mr. James: The application is granted on the distinct understanding that no renewed application is to be made for the MINERS ARMS, so that there is one house having a full license, instead of one with a full and another with an off-license."

A full license was granted c.1895.

Walsall Advertiser 23/4/1898

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday, at Mr. Joshua Bloomers', CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane.....

New Members..... Mr. *Richard Anson*, MANOR ARMS, Rushall."

1901 Census

Daw End

[1] *Richard Anson* (37), farmer and licensed victualler, born Daw End;

[2] Sarah Asenath Anson (35), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Richard Meanley Anson (8), son, born Daw End;

[4] Edna Sarah Anson (5), daughter, born Daw End;

[5] Eric Garner Anson (2), son, born Daw End;

[6] Bernard Charles Anson (1), son, born Daw End;

[7] Zella Garner (33), aunt, housemaid, born Bog Mine, Shropshire;

[8] Ada Turner (16), general servant, born Daw End:

Lichfield Mercury 10/1/1902

"Ezekiel Fryer, of Clare's Buildings, Daw End, was summoned for refusing to quit the MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, when requested by the landlord (*Richard Anson*).

Evidence was given by the complainant that Fryer was in his house at nine o'clock on the 28th of last month, and commenced to quarrel with the other customers. He was asked to leave, but refused to do so, and he was ultimately ejected. He returned afterwards, and was put out a second time.

A fine of 5s and 8s 6d costs was imposed, the imprisonment in default being 14 days."

Walsall Advertiser 18/7/1903

"On Wednesday morning, a man named Joseph Bradbury, whilst proceeding along a field footpath near the Park Lime Pits, Daw End, a secluded spot situate just outside Walsall, came across the lifeless body of a young man who lay on the ground with a revolver clasped in his right hand, and a bullet wound in his head just over the right eye. Death appeared to have taken place a very short time previously, as the body was still warm. Information of the discovery was given to Police-sergeant Heath, at Rushall, who removed the body to the MANOR ARMS, Daw End, to await an inquest. The revolver had five chambers, only one of which had been discharged, and the four others were still loaded. All the evidence pointed to suicide, deceased having a number of cartridges in his pockets. Two photographs were found in his possession, one being that of a young woman, and from the names on these it is surmised that deceased had lived at Walsall. Police-sergeant Heath accordingly made enquiries there, and as a result the body was identified as that of Walter Davis (19), saddle-tree maker, who resided with his parents at Wisemore Villa, Walsall. Deceased had been in the employ of Mr. W. Cox, Lichfield Street, and it is understood that he had been keeping company with a young woman who was employed at an adjoining factory. The couple appear to have had a slight disagreement, and it is stated that deceased subsequently told a fellow workman that he should blow his brains out. He was engaged at his employment during the morning, but left about 10 o'clock, and it is believed he went straight away and committed suicide.

The inquest was held on Thursday evening at the MANOR ARMS, before Mr. H. A. Pearson, county coroner.

Deceased's father, a porter, said his son had small-pox a short time ago, prior to which he had pneumonia. Since coming out the small-pox hospital he had appeared strange in his manner, but witness never heard him threaten to take his life.

A girl of 19 named Ada Owen, a stitcher, Hale's Yard, Stafford Street, said she had kept company with the deceased for over a year. They were in the small-pox hospital at the same time. Last Saturday deceased went on a gipsy party, and on Sunday he had dinner with her. She asked him if he had not been with some other girls at the party on the previous day, and he replied, 'Yes. I am going with them again.' Witness told him that he could, and did not say anything more about it. Before deceased left her home the same evening he asked her to put her hand on his head and feel how it burned, saying he 'thought he was going mad,' and that his brain was 'all of a whirl.' She felt his head, and it was very hot. She saw him on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday morning he took her some strawberries and cake between 8.30 and nine, and asked her to forgive him, which she said she would. The deceased then took a watch out of his pocket and said 'take care of this, and don't let anyone have it,' also saying the watch had been in the family for some time. They parted on friendly terms.

Witness, replying to the coroner, said that when they came out of the small-pox hospital deceased took her to Sutton Park, where he said to her, 'Do you know what I have brought you here for? I am going to kill myself, and I don't want to leave you on earth.' He then pulled a revolver from his pocket, but after a struggle she got it from him. She then had a talk to him, and he eventually threw the revolver and a number of cartridges into a pool.

Frederick Tapper, of Whitehouse Street, a fellow workman of deceased's, said that on Tuesday they had a drink together, after which deceased asked him to buy a revolver for him, which he pointed out in a shop window, but he refused. The same evening, however, deceased showed witness a revolver and six loose cartridges, remarking 'I am going to do it.' He did not say what he

meant. The next morning witness showed him the revolver again, which this time was loaded in each chamber; and pointing to one cartridge with a dent in it, said it had missed fire, but 'he would settle it once and for all.'

Joseph Bradbury spoke to finding the body, as detailed above, and Police-sergeant Heath, who removed the body, said deceased had ten loose cartridges in his pocket.

The Coroner said deceased was evidently weak minded, and the jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst Temporarily Insane, several of the jurymen expressing the opinion that some restriction should be placed on the sale of cheap firearms.

The Coroner remarked that there was a Bill on this subject now before Parliament."

Richard Anson was also a farmer. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 13/10/1906

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End....."

Walsall Observer 14/11/1908

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the President, MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, Rushall. Mr. *R. Anson*, Daw End (president), occupied the chair....."

The President and Vice-president were chosen to represent the society at the 84th Annual Banquet of the Birmingham Licensed Victuallers' Society to be held at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Wednesday, November 25th, 1908."

Walsall Advertiser 7/12/1912

"The monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society will be held at the house of the President, Mr. *Richard Anson*, MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, Rushall, on Thursday next at seven o'clock in the evening.

The attendance of the members of the society and licensed traders generally will be welcomed."

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1912

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the President, Mr. *Richard Anson*, MANOR ARMS, Daw End, Rushall....."

Richard Anson was president of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society, for many years.

Sarah Anson was also a farmer and pedigree pig breeder. [1924]

Lichfield Mercury 24/3/1933 - Advert

"To Let, MANOR ARMS, Daw End, Rushall, near Walsall, including Farm House and fully-licensed premises, and 175 acres of land.

Apply, Nightingale, 145, Lichfield Street, Walsall."

Walsall Observer 4/1/1941 - Advert

"What A Thing!! What A Thing!!

Here's That Man Again.

Bill Harley. Bill Harley.

(from Parson & Clerk) takes Over His Own House, The MANOR ARMS, Daw End, Rushall, On Monday, January 6th.

Free House.

Ansell's - M & B's - Smiths.

What A Combination - *Billy Harley* & 'Bert' and Free House.

4 Miles Parson & Clerk. 2 Miles Walsall.

Keep saying The MANOR ARMS Go To It!"

1939 Register

Park Road - MANOR ARMS

[1] *Sarah A. Ferguson*, date of birth 18/4/1882, licensee, widowed:

Evening Despatch 15/12/1941

"Mrs. Doris Gwendoline *Harley*, now living at Chester Road, New Oscott, today successfully petitioned at the Birmingham Assizes for divorce on the grounds of the adultery of her husband, *Alfred William Harley*, licensee of the MANOR ARMS HOTEL, Rushall.

It was stated that Mr. *Harley* was formerly licensee of the Parson and Clerk Hotel, Chester Road, Streetly.

The parties it was stated were married on 22 May, 1915 at St. James', Handworth.

The petition was undefended and a decree nisi granted to Mrs. *Harley*."

'I Remember Rushall' by Walsall Local History Centre

"Americans, that were stationed up at Lichfield, [during World War 2] who used to come boozing into Rushall, used to go up the MANOR ARMS, at Daw End a lot....."

Walsall Observer 11/7/1942 - Marriages

"On July 9th, 1942, by special license at Southend, *Alfred W. Harley*, of MANOR ARMS, Daw End, to Wendy Walton of South-end."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"When at Aldridge Court on Monday John Collins (36), of 24, Blackroot Road, Sutton Coldfield was summoned for using motor fuel for a purpose other than that for which it was issued, he admitted driving 150 yards out of his way to have a drink at the MANOR ARMS HOTEL, Rushall.

War Reserve Constable Taylor said he was on duty in Rushall at 9pm on October 4, when he saw a car stationary on the car park outside the hotel. After waiting for some time defendant came out and said he had been for a drink. He was allowed petrol for his business as a haulage contractor. Collins told the Bench he had been on business at Bloxwich and was on the return journey to Sutton, when he branched 150 yards off the main road to go to the hotel. Since then he had always walked this distance. A fine of 40s was imposed."

Walsall Observer 24/2/1945 - Advert

"By direction of major Sir Charles Buchanan, Bart, and the Westminster Bank Trustee Department.
Walsall. Important Sale In 36 Lots of the Rushall Estate.
Fully-Licensed premises – The MANOR ARMS HOTEL, Daw End....."

Birmingham Daily Post 24/3/1945

"The Rushall Estate, situate on either side of the main road from Walsall to Lichfield, partly in Walsall and partly in the urban district of Aldridge, was sold by auction by Messrs. Edwards, Son, Bigwood and Mathews at Walsall Town Hall yesterday. All thirty-six lots were sold.....

The MANOR ARMS HOTEL, Daw End, fully licensed (freehold), £6,100."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/5/1945

"V Day celebrants in the MANOR ARMS HOTEL, Rushall, near Walsall, were carried off their feet by the impact of a thunder-bolt which crashed through the roof of the 700 year old building just before two o'clock yesterday.

Apart from shock and bruise no one was hurt, but the hotel was extensively damaged. Most of the roof was stripped of tiles, severed gas pipes were ignited, the chimney crashed to the ground floor, and windows were smashed.

'It's a miracle nobody was killed – but just the same we shall be open tonight, the proprietor (Mr. *A. W. Harley*) told a *Birmingham Gazette* reporter.

An eye-witness saw the 'ball of fire' first land in the yard of another licensed house near by and then leap several hundred yards to crash through the roof of the MANOR ARMS HOTEL. When it struck, a little girl was lifted of the saddle of her cycle and flung on the road."

Grade II listed building since 1951.

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/7/1952

"Twenty old inns and hotels in Staffordshire have been added to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's 'preservation list' because of outstanding historical and architectural interest. The total number of Staffs. Inns now listed is 49.

The Brewers' Society is selecting a design for a plaque for marking the inns. Several designs have been submitted by a sculptor, an artist, an architect, and an expert on industrial design, but a final choice has yet to be made. The object of these plaques will be to enable tourists and other visitors readily to identify inns of outstanding interest.....

MANOR ARMS, Rushall."

Eileen Codd nee Lambe.

She married George Codd.

John McHugh, the Wolverhampton born tenor lived here from January 1980 to June 1985. He helped out behind the bar and in the cellar.

It was Walsall Branch Pub of the Year in 1982.

Evening Mail 21/11/1994

'Old Black Country Pubs'

".....believed to be first licensed in 1248 and the building dates back to the 11th century when it was a milking house privately owned until three years ago when brewers Banks' became the owners *Neil* and *Julie Johnson* have run the pub for the past 18 months *Neil* formerly a bricklayer....."

[Its age as a pub is disputed by local historians.]

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

It won British Waterways' Best Waterside Pub in the UK award in 2009.

[2017]

MARKET TAVERN

16, (15), Freer Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Mary Collins, Green Bank, Birchfields, near Birmingham
Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.
Lichfield Brewery Co. [1903], [1911]
Ind Coope and Allsopp (leased) [1933]

LICENSEES

Thomas Errington [1841] – [1842]
Richard Boffey [1845] – **1863**;
John Surman (**1863** – [1865]
George Lakin [1866] – [1870]
Mrs. Emily Lakin [1871] – [1873];
Miss Clara Lakin [];
Charles Turner [];
Mrs. Clara Turner [1881];
Charles Spicer [1888] – **1900**;
Clara Spicer (**1900** – **1903**);
Mrs. Sarah Louise Wilkins (**1903** – **1906**);
Henry Frederick Machin (**1906** – **1908**);
William Burton (**1908** – **1911**);
Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Burton (**1911** – **1913**);
Eli Walker (**1913** – **1933**);
George Henry Johnson (**1933** – **1953**); manager
Harry Dobson (**1953** – **1955**);
Catherine Kate Aldridge (**1955** – **1956**);

NOTES

16, Freer Street [1860], [1861], [1864], [1865], [1871], [1881], [1891], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932], [1940]
15, Freer Street [1872]

1841 Census

Freer Street

- [1] *Thomas Errington* (40), bridle cutter, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Francis Errington (40), female;
- [3] Miles Errington (15), ironmonger's apprentice, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Thomas Errington Jnr. (10), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Eliza Lacy (20), fs:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 23/10/1842

"In the advertisement last week, having reference to some timber left on the premises of Mr. *T. Errington*, MARKET TAVERN, Walsall, by Mr. Stephen Samuels, the name was incorrectly printed 'Samuch'."

Richard Boffey = Richard Buffey

Richard Boffey was also a horse breaker. [1849], [1850]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 3/9/1849 - Advert

“Pointer Dog.

To be Sold, a well-broke steady Pointer, four years old; he is an excellent ranger, and is parted with not for any fault, but in consequence of the Owner having given up shooting.

May be seen on application to Mr. *Richard Boffey*, MARKET TAVERN, Walsall.”

1851 Census

Freer Street

[1] *Richard Boffey* (50), publican, born Birmingham;

[2] Rebecca Boffey (49), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Rebecca A. Boffey (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] M. Ann Suman (36), visitor, born Birmingham;

[5] Jane Faulkner (17), house servant, born Monaghan, Ireland;

[6] Charles Parker (33), lodger, horse breaker, born Lincolnshire;

[7] Thomas Pratt (42), servant, brewer, born Walsall;

[8] John Hill (37), lodger, painter, born Burton, Staffordshire;

[9] Joshua Wiggan (43), lodger, tailor, born Knutsford, Cheshire:

Birmingham Journal 9/8/1856

“An inquest was held yesterday, by A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Borough Coroner, at house of Mr. *Richard Boffey*, the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, on the body of Isaac Marshall, a boy between nine and ten years of age, the son of Richard Marshall, chaser, Freer Street, who was drowned in the canal, near the basin, on Monday afternoon. Mr. Joseph Hodgkins, builder, the Birchills, stated that at four o'clock on Monday afternoon, he heard an alarm that a boy was drowning in the canal, near Wolverhampton Lane, and he ran to the spot, which is much frequented by boys for the purpose of bathing. A little boy on the opposite bank, at the witness's request, pointed out the spot where deceased had gone down, and the witness then plunged in, dived, and instantly discovered the body. The depth of the water was above six feet. Life was quite extinct when the body was recovered. Not more than one minute and a half had elapsed from the time of hearing the alarm and the witness finding the body. The father of the deceased was called in, and said he had repeatedly threatened to punish the deceased for going to the canal. The Coroner made a few observations to the Jury, who at once returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

Birmingham Journal 7/4/1860 - Advert

“To Cover This Season, 1860, that Celebrated Horse Magician (late the property of Lord Strathmore, in whose hands he was regularly hunted, carrying upwards of twelve stone, and proved himself one of the stoutest horses of his day), now the property of Mr. John Cook, Little Sutton, at Five Guineas for thorough-bred mares, and Two Guineas for half-bred mares, and Five Shillings the groom. The groom's fee to be paid at the time of covering, and the remainder the last time round.....

Magician will attend the following places. Tuesday.....

MARKET TAVERN INN, Walsall, until Four o'clock, and home at night.”

1861 Census

16, Freer Street – MARKET TAVERN

[1] *Richard Buffey* (61), victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] Rebecca Buffey (57), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Rebecca Ann Buffey (19), daughter, domestic, born Walsall;

[4] Ann Adkins (47), lodger, cook, born Rugeley;

[5] Bridget Mourtey (19), general servant, born Ireland;

[6] Benjain Edgerley (49), brewer, born Stockton, Shropshire;

[7] Edward Connely (24), lodger, labourer, born Ireland:

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/1/1863

“A male child was left on the door step of the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, on Friday evening, and has been sent to the work-house.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/4/1864

“On Wednesday afternoon, Mr. A. Brooks, the recently appointed Borough Magistrates' Clerk, gave a dinner to the members of the police force, at the house of Mr. *Surman*, the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street. Detective-sergeant Wood occupied the chair, and Sergeant Mason the vice-chair. The guests sat down in two divisions, as they could be spared from their duties, and during the afternoon several toasts were given, and suitably responded to, that of the newly-appointed clerk being enthusiastically received.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 5/11/1864

“Open To All England. To be shot for, at Mr. *Surman*'s, the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, Walsall, on Monday, Nov 14, a 20 score pig; 20 members at 10s each. Conditions: Five birds each, guns $\frac{3}{4}$ in bore, single guns $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz of shot, 21 yards rise; double guns $1\frac{1}{4}$ oz of shot 19 yard rise, 80 boundary. The winner can either have the pig or money. Mr. Woodshaw will supply the best

blue rocks. The house is within two minutes' walk of the railway station. Shooting to commence at one o'clock."

Walsall Free Press 7/10/1865

"*John Surman*, landlord of the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, pleaded guilty to having had his house open on the morning of the 29th ult, between the hours of one and four, but stated in extenuation that he had some friends from the country staying with him, and he also had some parties who had been at the concert, and the time rolled on more quickly than they thought. Cautioned and ordered to pay costs."

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/11/1866

"*Lakin v. Surman*. This case was heard before a jury. Mr. Wilson appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. *George Lakin*, the present occupier of the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, and Mr. Glover for the defendant, Mr. *John Surman*, the late occupier of the MARKET TAVERN. The claim was for £16 9s, being the value of a stable, rack, manger, gig-house, and other structures, for which the plaintiff paid as tenant's fixtures when he took possession of the house but which had subsequently been claimed by Mr. Gilbert, auctioneer, of Birmingham, as agent of the owner. Mr. *R. Boffey*, the defendant's predecessor in the occupation of the MARKET TAVERN, deposed that he put up the structures in question upwards of twenty years ago, the then agent of the owner promising him in the presence of two witnesses, both of whom had since died, that he should be at liberty to take down or dispose of whatever erections he might put up. Some evidence being adduced to rebut his testimony, his Honour put the case to the jury, who found for the defendant."

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1869

"At the Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. F. B. Oerton, J. W. Newman, and J. Brewer, *George Lakin*, landlord of the MARKET TAVERN, and David Harvey were charged, the former with having assaulted, and the latter with having threatened, Frederick Augustus Harvey, agent for Messrs. Fletcher and Co, wine and spirit merchants. Mr. Dale (from the office of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) appeared for the complainant. On Tuesday night last, the parties were at the OLD STILL, Digbeth, when Harvey used opprobrious language and threats to complainant, and was urged on by *Lakin*, who said 'Give it to the ——; he's a bad one.' *Lakin* then endeavoured to push complainant out of his seat; but Mr. Beebee, the landlord, restrained him, and he sat down. He rose again, however, soon afterwards, and in addition to shaking complainant by the collar, struck him in the face. Trade differences seemed to have originated the affair. *Lakin* was fined 5s and costs; and a warrant was ordered to go for Harvey, who was not present when the case was heard, but subsequently attended, and was bound over to appear on Thursday next."

1871 Census

16, Freer Street

- [1] *Emily Lakin* (35), widow, publican, born Little Aston, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Clara Lakin* (17), daughter, born Sandhills, Staffordshire;
- [3] Robert Lakin (16), son, joiner, born Sandhills, Staffordshire;
- [4] Mary A. Lakin (11), daughter, scholar, born Sandhills, Staffordshire;
- [5] Joseph Milner (36), ostler, born Shenston, Staffordshire;
- [6] Charles Clark (46), lodger, licensed hawkier, born Hinkley [Hinckley?], Leicestershire:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/8/1871

"A distressing accident, resulting in the death of an old and respected inhabitant of the town – Mr. *J. Surman*, at one time landlord of the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, but more recently a resident of Church Hill – and the narrow escape of Mr. Charles Hathaway, of Upper Forster Street, occurred on Hatherton Lake, on Saturday afternoon. At about three o'clock Mr. *Surman*, who spent much of his time in fishing, was engaged in his favourite pursuit from one of the banks, but wishing to get to the opposite bank he asked Mr. Hathaway, who was in one of the flat-bottomed boats used on the lake, to take him across. Mr. Hathaway took him into the boat, and made for the desired point, but they had scarcely reached midway when they found the boat was filling rapidly with water, and, as it seemed going down. In the panic of the moment they sprang out, and made for the bank, which Mr. Hathaway contrived, with great difficulty to reach, but Mr. *Surman*, who was in his 71st year, after desperate struggles for a few moments, went down in water probably 30 yards deep, before the slightest assistance could be rendered him. As soon as possible drags were procured, and were used by Sergeants Wood and Williams, of the borough force, Police-constable Chell, of the county force, and others, at the same time, two or three expert divers from out of the large number of persons who gathered in the neighbourhood, stripped and went into the water, diving again and again but failing to reach the body, which was brought up by one of the drags about two hours after the accident, and was removed to the BUTTS INN. How the water got into the boat is at present unexplained, but certain it is that the prevailing rumour that the bottom of the boat came out is not correct. It may be as well to add, as indicating a point worthy of investigation, that complaints were very prevalent among the crowd as to the condition of the boats used on the lake."

Walsall Free Press 31/5/1873 - Advert

Two Shillings Reward.

Lost, on Thursday night, between the Square and Freer Street, a Scarlet and White Damask Curtain, and a Sheet. The finder bringing them to the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, will be rewarded."

Clara Lakin married *Charles Turner* in the 1st quarter of 1877.

1881 Census

16, Freer Street – MARKET INN

- [1] *Clara Turner* (27), widow, victualler, born Stonnall, Staffordshire;
- [2] Alfred C. Turner (16 months), son, born Walsall;
- [3] Robert Lakin (25), brother, brewer, born Stonnall, Staffordshire;
- [4] Mary A. Lakin (21), sister, barmaid, born Stonnall, Staffordshire:

Clara Turner married *Charles Spicer* in the 3rd quarter of 1883.

Walsall Advertiser 26/1/1884 - Advert

“Charles Spicer, Practical and General Wood Turner (late with A. Hewlitt, of Goodall Street, Walsall).

Begs to inform the Contractors, Builders, and Cabinet makers of Walsall, that he has commenced business on his own account, and hopes by strict attention to business and first-class workmanship at a reasonable charge, to merit their Orders.

Note The Address: Workshop, Back of the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 14/3/1885

“Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (Garrick Lodge). On Monday evening last the above lodge having been removed from the PRIORY HOTEL, was reopened at Bro. *Charles Spicer*'s, the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, by Prime Donellan, PGP of Walsall, with a numerous and excellent gathering of primes and brothers of the Order, after which the evening was spent in conviviality.....”

Lichfield Mercury 21/9/1888

“On Saturday a meeting of the miners' representatives of South Staffordshire, and Cannock Chase Districts was held at the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, Walsall, to consider the best means to secure an advance of 10 per cent during the early autumn. The chair was occupied by Mr. H. Barnes. After considerable discussion, it was decided to hold a pit-set conference in Wednesbury on Monday, 24th inst, and the representatives were impressed with the importance of each pit in the district sending representative. It was also thought desirable that a representative from each district should be sent to the conference on this subject to be held in Manchester on Tuesday, the 25th inst.”

Charles Spicer was also a cabinet maker. [1888], [1892], [1896]

He was vice-president of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society. He resigned in 1891.

He died in 1900.

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“There were 31 applications for dancing, singing and music licenses under the provisions of the new Corporation Act. The Bench heard all the applications and then retired to consider their decisions, which turned out to be in accordance with the principle which was laid down at a former Court, viz, that licenses should not be granted to vaults or public rooms, but should be confined to regular and existing clubs and class meetings in club rooms. Licenses were granted to.....

The MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street.”

1891 Census

16, Freer Street – MARKET TAVERN

- [1] *Charles Spicer* (32), victualler, born Worcester;
- [2] *Clara Spicer* (37), wife, born Lichfield;
- [3] Fred T. Spicer (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Gertrude Spicer (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Sarah Wright (26), general servant, born Walsall;
- [6] John Wood (17), general servant, born Shenstone;

Walsall Advertiser 29/9/1891 - Notice

“Bridle Cutters Union.

A General Meeting will be held at the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, on Wednesday, October 7th, 1891, at 8-0pm, when all members of the trade are urgently desired to attend.

E. H. Archer, Secretary, pro tem.”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/4/1895 - Advert

“Girl about 20, and young Man; both from country, and latter used to horses.

Wanted for public-house; to live in; good characters indispensable.

Apply MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, Walsall.”

1901 Census

Freer Street – MARKET TAVERN

- [1] *Clara Spicer* (48), widow, licensed victualler, born Sandhill, Staffordshire;

[2] Alfred C. Spicer (21), son, brewer, born Walsall;

[3] Gertrude C. Spicer (16), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 24/1/1903

“On Wednesday the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest at the Guildhall, Walsall, touching the death of *Clara Spicer* (49), of the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street. Mr. J. N. Cotterell represented the relatives.

Clara Gertrude Spicer, daughter of deceased, stated that her mother was the widow of *Charles Spicer*, licensed victualler, who died three years ago in April. Deceased had been in failing health for some time, but witness did not know what she suffered from. On December 30th, about 4.30 in the afternoon, deceased went into the living kitchen from the bar, and attempted to lift, with her left hand, a kettle from the fire. Her right hand she placed upon the fireguard, which upset, and deceased fell upon the floor with her right leg under her. She was helped up, and then walked a few yards into the bar. Deceased said she would attend to the bar and tried to get up, but fell, and witness called a young man, who was in the house at the time, to assist her to carry deceased to a couch in the kitchen.

Dr. Martland said he had attended Mrs. *Spicer* for eight or nine years off and on. He attended her on December 30th, and found that both bones of her right leg were broken above the ankle. He visited her regularly until the time of her death, which occurred on Sunday. Death was due to delirium tremens, brought on as the result of the accident. It was a common occurrence for delirium tremens to come on as a result of an accident of that kind.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/4/1903 - Notice

“I.O.O.F. M.U. Notice!

The Registered Office of the ‘Loyal Era’ Lodge No.2244 of the Bescot Bridge District has been Removed from the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, Walsall, to the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, Walsall, as from April 7th.

All Business of the Lodge will, therefore, be transacted at the above-mentioned house.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/4/1903

“The Bench sanctioned the transfer of the following licenses.....

MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, from Edward Wyatt (executor of the will of *Clara Spicer*, deceased), to *Sarah Wilkins*.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/5/1903 - Advert

“Important To Licensed Victuallers And Others.

Unreserved Sale Of Useful Brewing Plant & Utensils at the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, Walsall.

Messrs Watkins, Powell, & Wood FAI, are instructed by the Lichfield Brewery Company Limited to Sell by Auction, as above, on Wednesday Next, May 13th, a Quantity of Useful Brewing Utensils, comprising large copper and iron Boilers, excellent Cooling Vats, capital Mash Tubs, two Refrigerators, Pumps, Sieves, a number of stock Casks, Avery’s Weighing Machine, Collecting Vats, Under Tubs, and numerous other utensils.

Sale to commence at 11 o’clock sharp.

Auctioneer’s Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/8/1903

“Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) made an application on behalf of the licensee of the MARKET TAVERN for the extension of the club room. In this case Mr. Thomson (Chief Constable) stated to the magistrates that alterations had recently been made at the rear of the premises, and although a plan was now put in the alterations were completed without consulting the magistrates.

Mr. Jackson said he must apologise for his clients, but he assumed that what had been done had been done in ignorance, and were notwithstanding a great improvement.

Mr. Thomson admitted that there had been a great improvement, but the magistrates ought to know when alterations were being made.

Refused, but without prejudice to make an application at the next transfer day.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

Walsall Advertiser 4/6/1904

“Plans were submitted for an enlargement of a clubroom at the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1905

“The annual general meeting of the Walsall Excelsior Cycling Club was held on Monday at the headquarters, MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street. The balance sheet showed that the club will start the season with £16 in hand. There was a loss of £16 on last year’s sports, which the committee and officers will endeavour to wipe out this year.....”

Henry Frederick Machin – see also BLACK SWAN.

Walsall Advertiser 6/10/1906

“Very suddenly indeed there passed away on Wednesday evening Mrs. *Wilkins*, landlady of the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street.

The deceased lady had been a widow some five or six years, and only appeared to be suffering from a slight cold when she went to lie down for a brief rest in the early evening, but a short time afterwards she was found to be quite dead. For many years she had been highly esteemed in licensing circles, and also amongst friendly societies, for which she acted as hostess for a long period.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“Royal Oak Friendly Society. The annual meeting of the above society was held at the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, on Wednesday evening week, Mr. H. J. Robinson occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance.....”

1911 Census

16, Freer Street

- [1] *William Burton* (41), licensed victualler, born Leicester;
- [2] *Elizabeth Ann Burton* (35), wife, married 19 years, assisting in business, born Leicester;
- [3] *William Charles Burton* (16), son, grocer’s assistant, born Leicester;
- [4] *Reginald Cecil Burton* (10), son, school, born Leicester;
- [5] *Gwendoline Phillis Burton* (2), daughter, at home, born Walsall;
- [6] *Ernest Arthurs* (24), servant, ostler, born USA;
- [7] *Mabel Laura Hawkin* (22), domestic servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/8/1911

“An unusual request was made by Mr. Frank Cooper, who asked that the license of the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, should be transferred from *William Burton* to *Elizabeth Ann Burton*, the licensee’s wife. He said that *Burton* went away from his wife in July and had not been seen since. A letter had been received from him written at a post office in Derbyshire, in which he declared that he should not return again at any time.

Mrs. *Burton* informed the Bench that she made arrangements with the owners of the house to continue the business. The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“In connection with the ‘Forest of Arden’ Lodge, Sheffield Equalised Order of Druids, a successful whist drive was held at the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street. Between fifty and sixty members and friends spent an enjoyable evening. The prize-winners were: two 1sts (presented by Dr. Layton and the Secretary, Mr. T. H. Stanton), Messrs H. Thomas and White respectively; two seconds (Messrs. Frank Rigby’s and McCalister’s prizes), Messrs. Jones and Fereday respectively. The donors of the prizes were cordially thanked.”

Walsall Observer 19/12/1914 - The Roll of Honour

“Corporal Arthur *Walker* (22) is now in a Leeds Hospital with a fractured thigh, sustained during the fighting round Ypres, from a bullet which he thinks came from a German sniper. Reared among soldiers, he joined the Army nearly eight years ago in India, where his father, a well-known local soldier, Quartermaster Sergeant *Walker*, the present licensee of the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, was at the time serving. Quartermaster Sergeant *Walker* served 26 years with the Staffords, and, returning from India seven years ago, was appointed a military instructor at Wednesbury, and later transferred to Bloxwich. He left the army some twelve months ago, and is now serving at Grantham. A second son, Ernest, aged 16, imbued with the same military spirit, is now a drummer at Plymouth.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street. £0 10s 9½d.”

Walsall Observer 22/11/1924

“Members of the Sheffield Order of Druids, held an enjoyable smoking concert at the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, on Monday evening, when an address was given by Mr. G. B. Spray (Edgbaston) the general president.....”

Lichfield Mercury 29/11/1924 - Correspondence

“7th Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment.

Sir. I should be deeply indebted to you if you could again allow me a little space in your esteemed newspaper. I wish to bring to the notice of the above battalion that as a result of the deep interest taken in my last letter about the Battalion’s History, Captain *Walker* and I have arranged a reunion dinner to be held at 7.30pm on Friday, January 9th, in the Drill Hall, Walsall (kindly lent for the occasion by Lieut.-Colonel E. A. Wilson, M.C., commanding 5th Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment). The main cost of the dinner is being defrayed by a friend of the battalion, and only a nominal charge of one shilling is being made. Application for tickets, without which admission cannot be granted, should be made either personally or in writing to Captain *E. Walker*, D.C.M., MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, Walsall, who has kindly undertaken to make all arrangements. Applications should be made with 1/- enclosed, if possible before January 2nd. I only need to add that Colonel Seckham D.S.O, has promised to be present and to take the chair.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/2/1926

“At Walsall, Stephen Wigmore, Goodall Street, a constable in the local police force; Harold Brookes, clerk, 102 Borneo Street,

and John George Andrews, of Shelfield farm, were summoned for consuming intoxicating liquor on the premises of the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, at a time other than during permitted hours; and *Eli Walker*, the licensee, was summoned for aiding and abetting. Mr. F. Cooper, who defended, said Wigmore was friendly with *Walker's* children, and Mrs. *Walker* asked him to have some supper. He ordered the beer for consumption with the supper, and under the Act he was entitled to stay there for half-an-hour after the usual closing time. Brookes was a friend of Andrews, who was friendly with *Walker*. The licensee asked Andrews to stop and talk about his wireless set, which had gone wrong, and afterwards he asked them to have a drink with him. He was perfectly entitled to do that. The Chairman (E. J. Shaw, Esq.) said the Bench had grave doubts about some of the evidence given, and all the cases would be dismissed on payment of costs.”

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

“.....while the licenses of two Freer Street houses – MARKET TAVERN and STORES – were renewed subject to plans for alterations and renovations.”

1939 Register

Freer Street – MARKET TAVERN

[1] *George H. Johnson*, date of birth 10/3/1887, manager licensed premises, married;

[2] *Hannah Johnson*, dob 24/5/1889, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, £2 1s 4d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street. £0 14s 11d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street. £1 8s 8d.”

Harry Dobson – see also BRIDLECUTTERS ARMS, and WHITE LION.

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 1st March 1956.

Compensation of £3,149 8s 4d was paid on 24th December 1956.

The house closed on 31st December 1956.

MASONS ARMS

Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Ward [1828] – [1830]

Thomas Croasdell [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

MAW GREEN TAVERN

West Bromwich Road, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Robert Hays [1868] – [1872]

NOTES

It was originally a farmhouse.

Robert Hays = Robert Hayes

Walsall Free Press 22/2/1868

“*Robert Hayes*, beerhouse-keeper, Maw Green, for having had his house open at a quarter past ten on Sunday morning last for the sale of beer, was fined 10s and costs.

Acting-sergeant Ogden and Police-constable Elms said that they visited the house at the time in question, and found a man and a lad with a jug of ale, which the lad tried to conceal under the sink. Defendant called Harry Peppett, who said that he had his meals in the house and was present at the time. Acting-sergeant Ogden said the witness was not the man who was in the house when he visited it. Witness was in the yard when he went.”

Robert Hays, beer retailer, Moor Green. [1872]

Closed

It was demolished in the 1930s.

MAY POLE

Daw End, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Rowley [1771]

Samuel Meanley [1818]

NOTES

‘The Folklore of the Black Country’ by Roy Palmer (2007)

“An advertisement of February 1771 reads as follows. ‘A main of cocks will be fought at the house of *Thomas Rowley*, known by the sign of the MAYPOLE in Pelsall on Midlent Monday, 11th March, between the Gentlemen of Walsall and the Gentlemen of Lichfield and Burntwood, to weigh 11 cocks of each side, two five pounds, two odd size ones; to begin to weigh at 8am and no-one to interfere in the Pit but the two Players. Gentlemen desired to attend by 11am. Dinner will be ready at one. The main will be for Ten Guineas.’”

MINERS

Wolverhampton Road, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Samuel Hodgkins [1835]
Samuel Cleobury [1841] – [1842]

NOTES

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 8/7/1839 - Advert

“MINERS ARMS TAVERN, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall.

I. Allen is instructed to Sell by Private Treaty, the above valuable Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession, of the above old-licensed Public House, in one of the best mining districts in Staffordshire, left in consequence of indisposition of the Proprietor. The Premises are in every way suited for the business, and are held at the low rent of £22. Coming-in about £200 including Fixtures, Furniture, Stock, and Brewing Utensils, to be taken at a fair valuation. The above is a valuable opportunity to any industrious couple about to commence business.

For further particulars apply on the premises, or at the offices of I. Allen, Auctioneer, Appraiser, and General Agent, Smithfield, where may be seen on or after Wednesday next samples of choice and extensive variety of British and Foreign Cigars, for which I. A. invites the attention of Dealers, Innkeepers, and Consumers. They will be on sale in quantities of from a single box or any quantity, at prices that will call forth astonishment.”

MINERS ARMS

134, (132-134), High Street, Cunneries, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Robert Trussler, Walsall Wood
William Goodwin, Bloxwich [1905]
Bloxwich Brewery Ltd. (leased) [1905], [1907]
Walsall Corporation [1907]
J. and J. Yardley and Co. Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

John Brumhall [1858]
Samuel Beech [1860] – [1861]
John Darrall [1866]
James Somerfield [1868] – [1872];
Adam Harper [];
Miss Maria Hartill [1881];
George Ball [] – **1889**);
James Hinks (**1889 – 1890**);
Joseph Hooper (**1890 – 1891**);
John Owen (**1891**);
Thomas Edmund Goodwin (**1891 – 1895**);
Thomas Goodall (**1895 – 1896**);
Eli Wootton (**1896 – 1903**);
William Tolley (**1903 – 1907**):

NOTES

132-134, High Street [1891]
134, High Street [1904]

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 17/3/1860 - Notice

“MINERS ARMS, Bloxwich.

Mr. *Samuel Beech*, intends Opening a Lodge, under the Nottingham Ancient Imperial United Order of Odd Fellows Friendly

Society.”

Walsall Free Press 29/7/1860 - Notice

“Nottingham Ancient Imperial United Order Of Oddfellows.

Mr. *S. Beech*, MINERS ARMS, New Street, Bloxwich begs most respectfully to inform the inhabitants of Bloxwich and Neighbourhood, that a New Lodge in connection with the above Order will be Opened, at his house, on Monday, August 13th, 1860, when parties wishing to become members will oblige by making application at the Bar.”

1861 Census

Cunneries – MINERS ARMS

[1] *Samuel Beech* (54), bricklayer and publican, born Bloxwich;

[2] Elizabeth Beech (54), wife, born Brewood, Staffordshire;

[3] William Rose (18), bricklayer’s apprentice, born Lichfield;

[4] Samuel Beech (7), grandson, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 15/12/1866

“*John Darrall*, landlord of the MINERS ARMS beerhouse, Bloxwich, for having had his house open during prohibited hours, on Saturday last, was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 15/2/1868

“*James Sommerfeld*, beerhouse-keeper, Bloxwich, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer at 11,40am on Sunday last.

As it appeared that the man who was seen in the house had been ill for some time Mr. *Sommerfeld* had in pity given him some beer, the case was dismissed.”

1881 Census

132+134, High Street

[1] *Maria Hartill* (28), unmarried, beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;

[2] Sarah Gee (32), sister, born Willenhall;

[3] Sarah Johnson (18), domestic servant, born Wednesfield:

1891 Census

134 and 132, High Street – MINERS ARMS

[1] *John Owen* (50), publican, born Bilston;

[2] Rebecca Owen (52), wife, born Madeley, Shropshire;

[3] Roland Owen (17), son, miner, born Bilston;

[4] Mary Ann Owen (15), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;

[5] Pemplar Owen (10), daughter, scholar, born New Invention;

[6] Ishmael Owen (5), grandson, born Moxley:

Thomas E. Goodwin, beer retailer, 134, High Street, Bloxwich. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 14/4/1900

“The Borough Surveyor had been instructed not to take proceedings against Messrs. Hickton and Farmer for non-compliance with the bye-laws in relation to the recent alterations made at the MINERS ARMS, Bloxwich, in consideration of their undertaking that the alteration shall not prejudice the Corporation when they desire to widen High Street, Bloxwich.”

Eli Wootton was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

William Tolley, beer retailer, 134, High Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

William Tolley, MINERS ARMS.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/10/1905 - Advert

“Sale Of Freehold Properties.

Fox and Harrison (M. F. Harrison, FAI), Are instructed to Sell by Auction on Monday, October 30th, 1905, at the SPREAD EAGLE HOTEL, Bloxwich, at Seven o’clock in the evening precisely (subject to conditions of the Birmingham Law Society) the following Properties.

Estate of William Goodwin, deceased.

Lot 2. The Valuable Freehold Beerhouse, well known as the MINERS ARMS INN, numbered 134 in High Street, Bloxwich, leased to the Bloxwich Brewery Company Limited, for a term of 14 years from 25th December, 1899, at a rental of £26 per annum, the lessees paying rates. The house is in the occupation of Mr. *William Tolley* and has always done a good trade. The accommodation includes – Bar, Tap Room, Smoke Room, Good Cellarage, Kitchen, and 3 Bedrooms, and outside there is a roomy Wash House and Stable with a well-lighted Store Room over measuring 24ft by 12ft, and there are the usual out-offices.....”

Walsall Advertiser 4/11/1905

“Mr. M. F. Harrison, FAI, (Fox and Harrison) offered for public auction on Monday at the SPREAD EAGLE HOTEL, Bloxwich, before a very large and representative gathering, several properties.....

Lot 2 Comprised of the freehold beerhouse, the MINERS ARMS, High Street, Bloxwich, and lot 3, the old-established butcher’s shop and premises, 126, High Street, Bloxwich. Lots 2 and 3 were first submitted as a whole, and biddings commenced for it at £1,000, and rose to £1,910, at which price the property was withdrawn. Subsequently the lots were divided, and £1,450 was offered for lot 2 and £450 for lot 3, and each of these lots was withdrawn.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/12/1905

“At the Town Council meeting on Monday the Streets Committee will submit the following recommendation. That the council purchase from the trustees of the late Mr. Goodwin the freehold beerhouse, known as the MINERS ARMS, and numbered 134, High Street, Bloxwich, the adjoining messuages Nos.130, 136, and 188, High Street, Bloxwich, and the messuage of No.128, High Street, Bloxwich, for the sum of £1,950, for the purpose of widening and improving the street, and that the Town Clerk be instructed to make application to the Local Government Board for their sanction to the Council borrowing a loan for that amount and for the repayment thereof being spread over a period of 60 years.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

The other objection was as to the MINERS ARMS, Bloxwich, Mr. Jackson appearing for the tenant. It transpired that the Corporation were the owners, and Mr. Moseley asked if it was too much trouble for the Town Council to appear; it was too much trouble for them to come to court last year.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

In regard to the MINERS ARMS, Bloxwich, owned by the Corporation, objection had been taken as to it not being required and being structurally unfit. Mr. J. R. Cooper (Town Clerk) said the Corporation had purchased the house for street improvements, and he left the matter in the hands of the Bench. Mr. H. H. Jackson, for the lessees, urged that the license was necessary.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/5/1907

“The meeting of the Walsall Confirming Authority under the Licensing Act was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday. The houses recommended to the Compensation Authority were the UNION INN, Bath Street (for which Mr. Foster appeared), and the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street, the MINERS ARMS, High Street, and the IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street, for all of which Mr. Jackson appeared. The advocates objected to the reference in each case, but the magistrates confirmed the whole of the recommendations of the Licensing Authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/7/1907

“John Herbert Russell, Huntingdon Terrace, Chadsmoor, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the MINERS ARMS, Bloxwich, on June 22nd. Police-sergeant Cattermole saw the defendant come from the inn on the date named, but the landlady did not know he was on the premises, and he had not been served.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/10/1907

“Walsall Town Council.....

Instructions have been given for so much of the property in High Street, Bloxwich, purchased from Goodwin’s Trustees, as may have to be demolished for widening the street as soon as possible, now that compensation to be paid for the non-renewal of the MINERS ARMS license had been arranged, and the Town Clerk has been directed to give the tenants notice to quit forthwith, and to advertise the old building materials for sale. When the buildings are pulled down, the Borough Surveyor has been instructed to complete the improvements and to fence off the land remaining.

The Town Clerk has reported that the compensation to be paid for the non-renewal of the MINERS ARMS, Bloxwich, has been settled at £900, £650 being paid to the Corporation in respect of their interest as owners, and £250 to the Bloxwich Brewery Company Ltd, as lessees, such latter sum to include also their tenant’s interest.”

Walsall Observer 16/10/1915

“Streets Committee.....

The Junior Imperial League has been allowed to give up possession of the old MINERS ARMS property in High Street, Bloxwich, on the 25th December next.”

MINERS ARMS

Leamore Lane, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Hadley [pre 1869]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

MINERS HOME [1869]

Walsall Free Press 9/1/1869 - Advert

“To Be Let, the MINERS HOME INN, Leamore Lane, Bloxwich.

Apply to Sidney Arnold on the premises.”

[This advert was published several times in 1867, 1868 and 1869.]

London Gazette 24/12/1869

“*Joseph Hadley*, of No.61, James-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Bridle Bit Maker, previously thereto of the FOREST-ERS ARMS, No.4, Proffit-street, Walsall, Retailer of Beer and Bridle Bit Maker, previously thereto of the MINERS ARMS, Leamore-lane, Bloxwich, in the said county of Stafford, Retailer of Beer and Bridle Bit Maker, and previously thereto of the UNION INN, Bloxwich aforesaid, Retailer of Beer and Bridle Bit Maker, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 23rd of November, 1869, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination and make application for his Discharge, will be held at the said Court, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall, on the 25th day of January next, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Frederic F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Abraham Baker, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

MINERS ARMS

Goscote, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Bickley [1858]

NOTES

Worcestershire Chronicle 26/6/1872

“On Thursday an inquest was held at the MINERS ARMS, Goscote, on the bodies of Sarah Ann Heskett and Alice Armstrong, aged six, her daughter by a former husband, who were killed on Tuesday by lightning. William Heskett, wagoner, deposed that soon after two o'clock on Tuesday he was standing at the back door of his house at Mouse Hill, with his wife and child watching the storm, when his wife asked him to take a pancheon and place it beneath the spout in the entry. He took up the vessel and was stepping out, when he was struck down insensible, and when he came to himself he found that his wife and child were dead, but an infant which she had in her arms was unhurt. Charles Bickley, a neighbour, spoke to helping remove the bodies. The Jury found that the deceased were accidentally Killed by Lightning.”

MINERS ARMS

Allens Lane, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Charles Beckley [1858] – [1859]
Joseph Jones [1861] – [1862]
Anne Jones [1864]
Abraham Birch [1868]
Thomas Holder [] – 1872);
David Williams (1872 – []
Charles Starkey [] – 1881)
Elizabeth Waltho (1881 – 1885);
John Bill (1885 – []
Edward Cope Clarke [1891]
John William Reaves [] – 1895);
Robert Greaves (1895 – []

NOTES

Charles Beckley = Charles Bickley

Walsall Free Press 3/7/1858 - Advert

“To Publicans And Others.

To Be Let, with immediate possession, the MINERS ARMS, an old-licensed Public House, situate at Pelsall, in the parish of Wolverhampton, and now in the occupation of Mr. *C. Bickley*. Stock and Fixtures taken at a valuation. Rent Moderate. For further particulars apply to the landlord.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859

“A Special Petty Sessions was held at Brownhills on Friday last, before C. Forster, Esq, MP, and the Rev. G. H. Fisher, when the following persons were fined for having in their possession unjust weights and measures, on the information laid by Mr. Inspector Tullett, Inspector for the South Staffordshire district.....

Charles Beckley, MINERS ARMS, Pelsall, unjust measures 1s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 29/10/1859

“To Be Disposed of that Old Licensed Public House, known as the MINERS ARMS, Pelsall. For particulars apply to Mr. *Charles Bickley*, or on the premises.”

1861 Census

Allens Lane – MINERS ARMS

- [1] *Joseph Jones* (68), victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] Anne Jones (55), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Thomas Jones (16), son, bricklayer, born Bilston;
- [4] Francis Otway (32), son in law, roll turner, born Pelsall;
- [5] Elizabeth M. Pearson (17), visitor, born Bilston;
- [6] Amelia Maulin (46), servant, born Bilston:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/1/1864

“*Ann Jones*, landlady of the MINERS ARMS, Pelsall, for having, on the night of the 26th October, permitted disorderly conduct in her house, was sentenced to pay a fine of 10s and costs. Defendant said she had kept a public-house for thirty years, and never had a charge preferred against her before, and on the night in question she was from home, having gone to Bilston, and had been taken ill there, and confined to her bed for sixteen weeks. Had she been at home the conduct complained of would not have been permitted.”

Evening Express 7/6/1881

“A petition has been filed in the Walsall County Court, on behalf of *Charles Starkey*, of the MINERS ARMS, Pelsall, licensed victualler. The liabilities are estimated at £200, assets not yet declared. Messrs. Huggins and Mallard, Birmingham, are the solicitors to the debtor.”

Elizabeth Waltho = Elizabeth Walthowe

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1884 - Advert

“Sale At The MINERS ARMS INN, Pelsall, close to Pelsall Station.

To Publicans, Brokers, and Others.

Unreserved Sale of Capital Brewing Plant, quantity of Household Furniture, Fat and Store Pigs, Two Weighing Machines, Two Pockets of Worcester Hops, 50 Barrels, and a quantity of useful Effects.

Messrs. Bill Brothers have been favoured with instructions from the Landlady (who is making extensive alteration) to Offer by Public Auction the whole of the above useful effects, on Monday Next, September 1, without reserve. Sale to commence at 11.30 punctually. Catalogues on application.

Auctioneers Offices, 44, Temple Street, Birmingham.”

Walsall Observer 14/3/1885

“Samuel Sheargold, ironworker, was charged with having assaulted William Yates, carpenter.

Mr. E. Evans (Walsall) appeared for the defendant.

Complainant stated that on the 21st of last month he was in the MINERS ARMS public house, in company with defendant and his two sons, and after he had been there some time defendant followed him into the back kitchen of the house, and struck him in the face, blackening his eye and breaking his nose.

Samuel Southey, pianist at the above house, stated that after the complainant had been in the room with him about three minutes, defendant followed complainant in, and deliberately struck him in the face.

In reply to the Bench, witness said that he left off playing at 9.45pm in order to get the house cleared by 9.55, but what took place between defendant and complainant before that time he could not tell, there being a great many people in the house at the time.

Mr. Evans contended that defendant did strike complainant, but was aggravated to do so in consequence of complainant vilifying defendant’s father, and used very disrespectful language towards defendant’s mother.

A youth named William Gorman, horse driver, was called for the defence, and stated that when complainant came into the house he hit defendant several times, but he did not take any notice of it. After that he used abusive language towards defendant, which he could not put up with, and he struck complainant.

Mr. Holden asked witness what he was doing in the house, as he was rather young to be in a public house drinking.

Witness said he was 20 years of age. He went into the house about 8.30, and he had one half pint of ale.

Mr. Holden said that the Bench fully believed that bad language had been used, but the defendant had no right to take the law into his own hands, and fined him 10s, or fourteen days’ imprisonment – the costs to be divided.”

1891 Census

The Town, Pelsall – MINERS ARMS

[1] *Edward C. Clarke* (35), innkeeper, born Armitage;

[2] *Mary Clarke* (33), wife, born Burntwood;

[3] *Samuel Clarke* (10), son, scholar, born Burntwood;

[4] *Annie Clarke* (5), daughter, scholar, born Burntwood;

[5] *Lucy Cartwright* (12), niece, born Hednesford:

Edward Clarke – see also SPRING COTTAGE, Shelfield.

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1895

“Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy county coroner) resumed the inquiry on Monday, at the MINERS ARMS, Pelsall, on the body of Benjamin Watson (14), Old Town, Pelsall, who was killed at new Plant Colliery, Pelsall, on the 27th ult. Mr. W. B. Scott, inspector of mines, attended the inquest.

Arthur Rowley, Chapel Street, stated that about 8.30 on the date named he was in the working of the colliery, and was at the top of an incline, in charge of a loaded tub. It was his duty to detach the horse from the tub on reaching the incline, and fasten the wheels. Deceased went down the incline with the horse, and when at the bottom whistled, which was a signal that all was right. Witness removed the blocks from the wheels, and released the tub. He afterwards proceeded to the bottom of the incline, and found that the tub had turned off the proper set of rails and gone into a siding where empties were generally kept. He found deceased apparently in a great pain, and he told witness that the tub had struck him in the stomach. Assistance was obtained, but the boy soon expired.

Other evidence having been tendered, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/12/1896 - Advert

“Wanted, a good strong general Servant, about 18 or 20; one to assist in the bar.

Apply, MINERS ARMS, Pelsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

Since the last licensing day one license had been given up voluntarily, he presumed, the MINERS ARMS, Pelsall. This was no

longer a licensed house, and was converted into a private house.”

MINERS ARMS

Blue Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1867

“To Be Let, the MINERS ARMS, Blue Lane, Walsall, comprising bar, parlour, tap-room, club-room, two chambers, large attic, brewhouse, large workshop, entire yard, hard and soft water. This is a good opportunity for an industrious couple as there are no fixtures to be taken to.

Apply to Mr. Fox, Grocer, Rushall Street.”

Walsall Free Press 9/5/1868

“William Dowlan was charged with having on Saturday night, the 25th ult, assaulted Acting-sergeant Rawls; and John Dowlan with having at the same time and place assaulted Police-constable McGarry. It appeared that on the night in question the prisoners were turned out of the MINERS ARMS, Blue Lane, and the officers on getting them outside advised them to go home; but after using some threatening language William Dowlan struck Rawls with a tin can, and cut his cheek, and on McGarry going to Rawl’s assistance he was struck by John Dowlan. The prisoners who denied the charge called Sarah Morris, who said the police struck the men twice with their staves before the prisoners struck them. Police-constable McGarry struck John Dowlan with his staff and knocked him down for dead, and they carried him in, William Dowlan then went to his brother’s assistance, and was struck by Police-constable Rawls, and on being struck William Dowlan struck Rawls with a can.

Margaret Clark, the prisoner’s sister, said on the night in question she heard a noise, and on going out saw the prisoners and the police, and requested the police to let them alone and she would take them in, and as she did so Police-constable McGarry struck John Dowlan a blow which caused him to reel and fall.

Mary Clark said she saw Police-constable Rawls strike William Dowlan.

The Bench after hearing the evidence on both sides, sentenced the prisoners, who had been previously convicted, to a pay a fine of 40s and costs each, or in default to be imprisoned for one month.”

MINERS ARMS

101, (103), Lichfield Road, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Shire Oak Brewery [1923]

John Joule and Son Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1993]

Totally Fair Pub Group [1998]

LICENSEES

Samuel Kendrick [1845] – [1849]

Samuel Nuttall Snr [1858] – [1881]

Samuel Nuttall [1891] – [1901]

Elizabeth Nuttall [] – **1902**;

John Alma Nuttall (**1902 – 1905**);

Charles Ernest Whitehouse (**1905 – 1915**);

Elizabeth Whitehouse (**1915** – []

George Benjamin Clayton [1915] – [1918]

George Edwards [1932]
Frank Rufford [1939] – [1940]
Mrs. Sarah Ann Rufford [1943]
Cooper [1944] – [1945]
Mrs. Sarah Ann Cooper [1959]

NOTES

103, Lichfield Road
101, Lichfield Road [1939], [1940]

MINERS ARMS HOTEL [1911]

It was situated opposite to the common.

Rushall Olympic FC changed here.

1851 Census

Rushall

[1] *Samuel Nuttall* (40), widower, miner of limestone, born Rushall;
[2] Frances Nuttall (16), daughter, housekeeper, born Rushall;
[3] *Samuel Nuttall* (14), son, miner of limestone, born Rushall;
[4] Joseph Nuttall (12), son, errand boy, born Rushall;
[5] Ann Nuttall (10), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;
[6] Eliza Nuttall (7), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;
[7] Emma Nuttall (5), daughter, scholar, born Rushall:
[This has been included to establish the family members.]

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Samuel Nuttall, sen, licensed victualler, the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, was fined 20s and costs, for having sixteen unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/11/1860 - Married

“On the 22nd ultimo, at St. George’s Church, Wolverhampton, by the Rev. J. H. Asman. Mr. Joseph Cooke, of the former place, to Ann, second daughter of *Samuel Nuttall*, MINERS ARMS, Rushall.”

1861 Census

Lichfield Road

[1] *Samuel Nuttall* (49), victualler and miner limestone, born Rushall;
[2] Mary Nuttall (39), wife, born Bloxwich;
[3] Joseph Nuttall (22), son, miner limestone, born Rushall;
[4] Eliza Nuttall (17), daughter, born Rushall;
[5] Emma Nuttall (15), daughter, born Rushall;
[6] Elizabeth Nuttall (3), daughter, born Rushall;
[7] Florence Nuttall (10 months), daughter, born Rushall:

Walsall Free Press 31/12/1864 - Deaths

“On the 22nd inst, of diphtheria, aged four years and seven months, Florence, the beloved child of *Samuel* and *Mary Nuttall*, of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall.”

Walsall Free Press 4/5/1867 - Deaths

“On the 29th ult, at West Bromwich, after a lingering illness, in the 33rd year of her age, Fanny, the beloved wife of Mr. Daniel Jones, and the eldest daughter of Mr. *Samuel Nuttall*, MINERS ARMS, Rushall; beloved by all who knew her.”

1871 Census

Lichfield Road, Rushall – MINERS ARMS

[1] *Samuel Nuttall* (60), limestone miner and victualler, born Walsall;
[2] Mary Nuttall (49), wife, born Bloxwich;
[3] Elizabeth Nuttall (13), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;
[4] Mary A. Nuttall (8), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;

[5] Sarah Smart (24), general servant, born Walsall:

1881 Census

Lichfield Road, Rushall

[1] *Samuel Nuttall* (70), widower, licensed victualler, born Rushall;

[2] Emma Ann Boot (21), general servant, born Rushall;

[3] Hannah Meeke (18), visitor, dressmaker, born Rushall;

[4] Florence N. Garbett (11), granddaughter, scholar, born Rushall:

Lichfield Mercury 18/11/1887

“An extension of four hour’s duration was granted to *Samuel Nuttall*, landlord of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, on the occasion of an entertainment being given, the funds realised from which are to be given to the widow of Charles Holmes, who recently committed suicide.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

“The following publicans from Rushall were granted one hour’s extension on Monday, October 13th, the occasion being the wakes *Samuel Nuttall*.”

1891 Census

Lichfield Road – MINERS ARMS

[1] *Samuel Nuttall* (54), licensed victualler, born Rushall;

[2] Elizabeth Nuttall (52), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Lilly Nuttall (19), daughter, born Dudley Port;

[4] Harry Nuttall (17), son, plumber’s apprentice, born Dudley Port;

[5] Ernest Nuttall (15), son, apprentice labourer, born Dudley Port;

[6] Ada Nuttall (13), daughter, born Dudley Port;

[7] Joseph Nuttall (11), son, scholar, born Dudley Port;

[8] Samuel Nuttall (23), son, joiner, born Rushall;

[9] Elizabeth Nuttall (22), daughter in law, born Banbury, Oxfordshire;

[10] Eliza Price (17), general servant, born Dover;

[11] Harry Price (39), widower, agricultural labourer, born Bilston:

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held on Monday at the Court-house, Rushall.....

Mr. John N. Cotterell (Walsall) applied for an out-door beer license for premises at Rushall in the occupation of George Bakewell, but the license was opposed by the police and Mr. Jackson (Walsall) for Mr. *S. Nuttall*, of the MINERS ARMS, and Mrs. McLean, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON. Refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Licensing Sessions for this district took place at the Rushall Police Court on Monday morning. The magistrates present were Messrs. F. James, W. H. Brookes and J. Naylor.

Superintendent Barnett opposed the renewal of the licenses of the following houses.....

MINERS ARMS, Daw End, Rushall, on the ground that the premises were difficult to supervise on account of insufficient fencing at the back the police required certain alterations deferred until the Adjourned Sessions, and then, if the alterations had been effected, the license would be renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/6/1895

“Before Mr. Frank James, Mr. T. A. Hill, Dr. Cooke, and Mr. J. Clare, at the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, Albert Henry (?) *Nuttall*, MINERS ARMS Rushall, pleaded guilty to a charge of having driven furiously along Lichfield Road on Sunday evening about 8.25 on June 19th.

A fine of 2s 6d and 7s costs ordered to be paid.

Mr. James said it was a serious matter for defendant to be fined, as he was a license holder, and the occurrence would doubtless influence the Bench when he applied for the renewal of his license.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1895

“On Monday, at the Police Court, before Mr. F. James, Dr. Cooke, and Mr. W. H. Brookes, Thomas Reaves, Floyds Lane, miner, was fined 9s and 14s costs, or 14 days, for having stolen potatoes, value 6d, the property of *Samuel Nuttall*, MINERS ARMS, Rushall.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/10/1895

“At the Petty Sessions on Monday, before Messrs. J. Naylor, W. H. Cooke, MD, W. H. Brookes, and J. Clare, *Samuel Nuttall*, licensed victualler, applied for an hour’s extension at Rushall wakes, on Monday the 14th inst. PS Riley informed the magistrates that there was no objection on the part of the police, and Mr. Naylor stated that the magistrates would follow their usual custom and grant the application.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1898

“The Bench at Rushall on Monday (Dr. Cook and Mr. R. H. Holden) granted an hour’s extension for Mrs. *Nuttall*, of the MINERS ARMS, on the occasion of a concert in connection with the Olympic Football Club.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/2/1900

“Walsall and District Reservists Fund. Eighteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mrs. *S. Nuttall*, MINERS ARMS, Rushall 20s.”

Walsall Observer 17/2/1900

“On Monday afternoon the County Coroner (Mr. H. A. Pearson) held an inquest at the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, in reference to to the death of Sarah Lily Clarke, a child of eight years of age, the illegitimate daughter of Amelia Clarke, living at Barnes Lane, Rushall, who died suddenly on Saturday last.

William Henry Devine, a miner, of Barnes Lane, Rushall, identified the body of the deceased child as the illegitimate daughter of Amelia Clarke, a married woman, who had lived with witness previously. The deceased had always been a sickly child and was taken to Dr. Dallas two years ago. On Thursday last the deceased complained of a headache and pains in the stomach. She was given milk and whisky, but would have nothing to eat. Witness returned from work at 6.20am on Saturday, and the child, getting no better, was put to bed. Shortly after eleven o’clock they found the child dead, and Dr. Hawley was sent for.

Lucy Devine, wife of the last witness, gave similar evidence.

Martha Bird, a neighbour of the Devines, stated that she had known the child for about twelve months. She was always a small child, but had recieved the same treatment as Devine’s other children, and as far as witness knew had also been very well treated. Dr. Hawley, of Walsall, gave evidence that he saw the dead body of the child on Saturday afternoon. She had been dead about six hours. He had since, made a post mortem examination of the deceased. There were no external marks of violence. It was a badly-nourished child, and looked like a child of five or six years of age. All the organs were bloodless, and the stomach and intestines were empty. The lungs and bowels were in a consumptive condition, and the brain presented signs of tubercular meningitis, or wasting of the membranes of the brain. The immediate cause of death was cardiac failure, resulting from general tuberculosis. The physical condition of the child was such that, although it had been well nourished, it would present signs of neglect. The Coroner having summed up, the jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

1901 Census

Lichfield Road, Rushall – MINERS ARMS

- [1] *Samuel Nuttall* (64), licensed victualler, born Rushall;
- [2] Elizabeth Nuttall (62), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Lydia Nuttall (28), daughter, born Dudley Port;
- [4] Ada Nuttall (23), daughter, born Dudley Port;
- [5] Joseph L. Nuttall (21), son, barman, born Dudley Port;
- [6] Martha Millard (16), general servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/7/1902 - Advert

“Preliminary Notice.

MINERS ARMS, Rushall, Walsall.

Messrs. Watkins, Powell & Wood are instructed by Mrs. *Nuttall* to Sell by Auction on Monday, July 28th, the Household Furniture, Brewing Plant, Horse, Pigs, &c.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/8/1902

“At the Police Court, on Monday, Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for a temporary transfer of authority in respect of the MINERS ARMS, from *Elizabeth Nuttall* to *John Alma Nuttall*. This was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/11/1902

“At the Police Court, on Monday, an application was made to the transfer of the license of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, from *Elizabeth Nuttall* to her son, *John Nuttall*. This was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. Edwin James, the RED LION INN, Navigation street, and there was a good attendance.....
New Members..... *J. Nuttall*, MINERS ARMS INN, Rushall.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905

“The 53rd annual general meeting of the members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last.....
New Members..... *Charles Ernest Whitehouse*, MINERS’ ARMS, Rushall.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1908 - Advert

“T. Boulter & Son, Shire Oak (Near Walsall), Brewers, Maltsters, Spirit & Hop Merchants.

Noted Home-Brewed Ales and Stouts. Guaranteed Pure Malt and Hops Only.

The SHIRE OAK INN, which is within ten minutes' walk of Walsall Tramway terminus at Walsall Wood, has been thoroughly renovated, and an excellent Bowling Green put down.

An Entirely New And Up-To-Date Brewing Plant has been installed, ensuring that our Ales and Stouts are of the finest quality possible. All Orders Promptly Executed. Our Ales are to be obtained at the MINERS ARMS, Rushall.

FOUR CROSSES, Sheffield.

The RESTAURANT, Bridge St., Walsall (Mr. P. Claridges).

The STORES, Freer Street, Walsall.

The Swan, Stonall."

1911 Census

Rushall – MINERS ARMS

[1] *Charles Ernest Whitehouse* (40), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Elizabeth Whitehouse (41), wife, married 20 years, housekeeper, born Bilston;

[3] Frederick Whitehouse (18), son, electrical engineer, born Walsall;

[4] Charles Arthur Whitehouse (17), son, pianist, born Walsall;

[5] Annie Rigby (18), domestic servant, born Cannock:

Walsall Advertiser 5/8/1911

"At the Police Court on Monday, before Messrs. W. H. Brooks (presiding), W. F. Clark, and J. Smith, a Walsall man, named Thomas Holdcroft (24), who lives at the Pleck, was summoned for assaulting Frank Hathaway, of Rushall.

Complainant stated that on Monday, July 24th, he went to have a drink at the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, and while there quarrelled with the defendant. When they went outside Holdcroft struck him, knocking him down, and then kicked him behind the ear.

As the defendant did not put in an appearance, the Magistrates issued a warrant for his arrest."

Walsall Advertiser 24/8/1912

"The second annual Church parade of Rushall Friendly Societies took place at Rushall on Sunday. The procession was headed by the Walsall Wood Brass Band, and consisted of members of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, Ancient Order of Foresters, United Order of Free Gardeners, MINERS ARMS Sick and Draw Society, Rushall and Daw End Liberal Club....."

Walsall Observer 18/7/1914 - Advert

"3½ T.T. Triumph, late 1911; complete with lamp, horns and tools; in splendid condition. Bargain £24.

Whitehouse, the MINERS ARMS, Rushall."

London Gazette 26/2/1915

"*Charles Ernest Whitehouse*, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given, that all creditors and other persons having any debts, claims or demands against the estate of *Charles Ernest Whitehouse*, late of The MINERS ARMS, Lichfield Road, Rushall, near Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler (who died on the fourth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and fifteen, and to whose estate letters of administration were on the 22nd day of February, 1915, granted by the Lichfield District Registry of the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice to *Elizabeth Whitehouse*, the lawful Widow and relict of the deceased), are hereby required to send particulars of their claims or demands to me, the undersigned, as Solicitor to the said administratrix, on or before the twenty-seventh day of March next, after which day the said administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the said Deceased amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which she shall then have had notice; and the said administratrix will not be liable for the assets, or any part thereof, so distributed, to any person of whose debt or claim she shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 24th day of February, one thousand nine hundred and fifteen.

E. Irwin Miller, Imperial Buildings, Bridge Street, Walsall, Solicitor to the said Administratrix."

Walsall Observer 13/3/1915

"At the same court, the license of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, was transferred to the widow of the late *Charles Ernest Whitehouse*."

Walsall Advertiser 16/10/1915

"A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Member..... Mr. *George Benjamin Clayton*, MINERS ARMS INN, Rushall."

Walsall Observer 29/7/1916

"At Rushall Police Court on Monday, *George Benjamin Clayton*, licensee of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, was summoned for supplying less than a reputed pint of ale in an unsealed vessel to a girl named Emma Poxon, aged 13 years, and also for supplying less than a reputed pint of ale in an unsealed vessel to a girl named Florrie Yates, aged 12 years.

Evidence was given by Police-sergeant Lewis and Police-constable Reynolds, who met the girls coming away with ale from the public house, and the former cross-examined by Mr. H. H. Jackson, who defended, denied that there was a notice posted in the

public house that girls under 14 years of age would not be served with less than a reputed pint.

Mr. Jackson addressing the Court, pointed out that Mr. *Clayton*, who served the girls had been the tenant of the house for about nine years, and had excellent credentials. The onus was on the prosecutor to prove that the landlord knew the girls were under 14 years of age.

Mr. Precey (magistrate) said the appearance of the girls was quite sufficient.

Mr. Jackson pointed out that Poxon was thirteen years and five months old, and the landlord, who was busy at the time, thought they were over fourteen years old, and he put a notice up in the house that girls under fourteen would not be served.

Mr. Precey: A child could not read that.

A fine of 40s was imposed in one case, and 10s in the other.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/2/1923

“The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....

Complaints had been made regarding the inadequate living accommodation provided for licensees at public houses, and the justices felt that the necessary steps should be taken to remedy this. There was also a need for better sanitary accommodation. The justices had considered the question of an alteration in the hours of opening on Sundays, but had decided that there should be no change.

Supt. Sault formally objected to the renewal of the licence of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, owing to unsatisfactory living accommodation, and it was announced that if the owner, Mr. Boulter, of the Shire Oak Brewery, submitted plans for alterations, they would be considered at the adjourned licensing sessions. The Chairman intimated that it was their desire to make the licensees as comfortable as possible.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/2/1924

“The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....

Notice of objection to the renewal of the license of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, had been served on the ground that the premises were structurally unsuitable.....

Mr. G. Hawley applied for approval of plan for alterations at the MINERS ARMS, and said that the improvements related entirely to the living accommodation, and the drinking area would remain practically the same.

The Chairman announced that the Bench would pass the plans, but if the work was not put into operation shortly they would refuse the renewal of the license, for which the owner has already had twelve months in which to do the work.”

Walsall Observer 18/3/1939

“The Justices also announced that the licenses of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall, and the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, consideration of which was adjourned from the General Sessions, would be renewed subject to undertakings which the owners had given the bench.”

1939 Register

101, Lichfield Road – MINERS ARMS

[1] *Frank Rufford*, date of birth 10/5/1874, publican, incapacitated, married;

[2] *Sarah A. (Rufford) Cooper*, dob 19/10/1876, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *William J. Cooper*, dob 1/2/1895, barman, single:

1941 Probate

“*Frank Rufford*, of MINERS ARMS, Lichfield Road, Rushall, near Walsall, Staffordshire, died 26 June 1941 at the General Hospital, Walsall. Probate Birmingham 12 September to *Sarah Ann Rufford*, widow. Effects £1,224 2s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 13/2/1943

“No plans were submitted for alterations to licensed premises, and no work had been done to the premises of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, for which plans were approved in 1939.”

Walsall Observer 11/12/1943

“There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held on Thursday.....

Mrs. *Sarah Ann Rufford*, MINERS ARMS, Lichfield Road, was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 15/4/1944 - Acknowledgments

“Mrs. Noble and Family, GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall, sincerely thank all kind friends for floral tributes and sympathy: Mr. and Mrs. Smith, RED COW, Heath End, Mrs. *Rufford*, Mr. *Cooper*, MINERS ARMS, Mr. and Mrs. Martin and Family, Mrs. Duffy and Nora, and Customers of GEORGE AND DRAGON.”

Sarah Ann Rufford married *William J. Cooper* in the 3rd quarter of 1945.

Walsall Observer 15/9/1945 - Personal

“Mr. and Mrs. *Cooper*, of the MINERS ARMS, Lichfield Road, wish to thank Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Yates and all Friends who helped make their Wedding Day a happy one; also Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard, Mr. and Mrs. Pincher, Mr. and Mrs. George Hod-

son, for the lovey presents received.”

Walsall Observer 22/9/1945

“Mr. and Mrs. W. J. *Cooper*, MINERS ARMS, Rushall, wish to extend their thanks to Mrs. Amy King, Mr. and Mrs. Mowbray for generous help and good wishes, also Friends and Customers for congratulations and good wishes received on their wedding, September 11, 1945.”

1956 Probate

“William John *Cooper*, of the MINERS ARMS, 103 Lichfield Road, Rushall, Staffordshire, died 11 February 1956 at the Manor Hospital, Walsall, Staffordshire. Administration Birmingham 28 April to *Sarah Ann Cooper*, widow. Effects £597 5s.”

Walsall Observer 27/2/1959

“The claim of Mrs. Gertrude Hanman, aged 79, of the Swan Inn, Brownhills, to be the oldest licensee in the district has been challenged by Mrs. *Sarah Ann Cooper* of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, who is in her 82nd year. Mrs. *Cooper* also claims to have been in the licensed trade much longer, her experience of it extending over a period of 40 years. Before she and her first husband, the late Mr. *Frank Rufford*, took over the Bowling Green, Holloway Head, Birmingham, she worked for eight years as a waitress in Birmingham. It was 21 years ago that they became tenants of the MINERS ARMS after serving as managers of several houses in the Birmingham district. Mr. *Rufford* died shortly after they had taken over the MINERS ARMS and she took on the tenancy. She later married her barman, Mr. Jack *Cooper*, who died three years ago, and now she once more holds the tenancy. Her sojourn in the MINERS ARMS falls seven years short of Mrs. Hanman’s 28 years’ residence at the Swan Inn, but this is the only record which Mrs. *Cooper* is unable to match. She says she is too old to bother with hobbies, but she finds time to carry out her duties as president of the Licensed Victuallers’ Association.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/3/1959

“When 89-year-old Mrs. Annie Southam was granted the license of her first public house, the BRIDGE INN, at Willenhall, yesterday, she also took over the distinction of being the district’s oldest woman licensee from Mrs. *Sarah Ann Cooper*, of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, who is a mere 82 Mrs. Cooper has held her license for nearly 21 years; she took over on the death of her first husband, Mr. *Frank Rufford*.....”

Walsall Observer 3/2/1967

“The Staffordshire finals of the *News of the World* Individual Darts Championship of England and Wales will be held at Bloxwich Memorial Club, Harrison Street, Bloxwich, at 7.30pm on Monday next, February 6.....

The eight players taking part are.....

John Taylor (MINERS ARMS, Rushall).....

The winner will receive a Philips Twin Turbo fan heater, the runner up a Sunbeam pop-up toaster, the semi-finalists will get Kodak Instamatic cameras and all the finalists will get a set of *News of the World* darts.”

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn Quiz. [1974/5], [1978], [1979]

It closed in 2011.

It was severely damaged by fire on 18th October 2011.

Demolished [2012]

MINERS ARMS

Daw End, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mr. Mellish

LICENSEES

Isaac Evans [1850]

John Bromhall [1851] – [1872]

Elizabeth Bromhall [1881]

Benjamin Walker [1890] – [1893]

NOTES

John Bromhall = John Broomhall

1851 Census

Daw End

[1] *John Broomhall* (24), victualler, born Rushall;

[2] *Elizabeth Broomhall* (25), wife, born Erdington, Warwickshire:

Birmingham Journal 24/1/1857

“On Tuesday last, Mary Grady, aged twelve years, was charged before the Magistrates with having stolen money for the till of Mr. *John Broomhall*, landlord of the MINERS ARMS. She had been employed as nurse about three days, and was detected in the commission of the offence. From enquiries made by Inspector Price, of Rushall, and Superintendent Cater, of Walsall, it appeared that the accused had only lately returned from Stafford Gaol, where she had been confined for six weeks for felony. She was committed for trial at the next Sessions.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/8/1858

“On Saturday, an inquest was held before G. H. Hinchcliffe, Esq, coroner, at the MINERS ARMS, on the body of George Ingley, aged 7 years. It appeared from the evidence that on the previous Thursday the deceased went with two other boys to the canal to bathe. They all went into the water, and, after being there a short time, the deceased went to the middle of the canal, which was nearly six feet in depth, he was unable to swim, and immediately sank. A quarter of an hour elapsed before he could be taken out, and when found he was quite dead. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

John Broomhall, licensed victualler, MINERS ARMS, Daw End, was fined 20s and costs, for having ten unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

1861 Census

Daw End – MINERS ARMS

[1] *John Bromhall* (34), victualler, born Daw End;

[2] *Elizabeth Bromhall* (35), wife, born Edington, Warwickshire;

[3] *Elizabeth Bromhall* (9), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;

[4] *John Bromhall* (8), son, scholar, born Rushall;

[5] *Maria Bromhall* (6), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;

[6] *William H. Bromhall* (5), son, scholar, born Rushall;

[7] *Margaret Bromhall* (3), daughter, born Rushall;

[8] *Charles Bromhall* (5 months), son, born Rushall:

Walsall Free Press 3/10/1863

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions on Tuesday last.....

John Bromhall, Publican, Daw End, was fined 5s and costs for having had his house open for the sale of beer at five minutes to twelve on Sunday, the 20th inst.”

Walsall Free Press 26/12/1863 - Advert

“To Be Seen alive, at Mr. *Broomhall*'s, The MINERS ARMS, Daw End, The Largest Young Pig In Staffordshire.

Not to be seen before 1 o'clock on Sundays.”

Walsall Free Press 1/10/1864

“On Tuesday afternoon, E. Hooper, Esq, coroner for the district, held an inquest at the MINERS ARMS, Daw End, on the body of William Greenwell, who came by his death under the following circumstance. The deceased who was employed at the brick-yard at Daw End, went, about four o'clock on Saturday afternoon last, to Mr. Brewer's pit, at Pelsall, for a load of 'slack,' and while he was filling his waggon, a quantity of material slipped, and, falling upon him, inflicted such serious injuries that the unfortunate man died about two o'clock the next morning. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death, but censured the man in charge of the 'slack' heaps, and requested the coroner write to Mr. Brewer to appoint a competent person to attend at the pit. Deceased who was 36 years of age, left a wife and eight children, the youngest of whom is only five weeks old.”

1871 Census

Daw End – MINERS ARMS

[1] *John Bromhall* (44), licensed victualler, born Rushall;

[2] *Elizabeth Bromhall* (38), wife, born Erdington, Warwickshire;

[3] *Elizabeth Bromhall* (19), daughter, dressmaker, born Rushall;

[4] *Mary A. Bromhall* (16), daughter, born Rushall;

[5] *Margaret Bromhall* (13), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;

- [6] Charles Bromhall (10), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [7] Frederick Bromhall (8), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [8] Fanny Bromhall (6), daughter, born Rushall;
- [9] Jane Bromhall (5), daughter, born Rushall;
- [10] Ernest Bromhall (2), son, born Rushall:

1881 Census

Daw End

- [1] *Elizabeth Bromhall* (54), widow, licensed victualler, born Erdington, Warwickshire;
- [2] Mary A. Bromhall (26), daughter, employed in housework, born Daw End;
- [3] Margaret Bromhall (23), daughter, certificated assistant governess, born Daw End;
- [4] Frederick G. Bromhall (18), son, pupil teacher, born Daw End;
- [5] Ernest Bromhall (13), son, scholar, born Daw End:

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

“The following publicans from Rushall were granted one hour’s extension on Monday, October 13th, the occasion being the wakes
..... *Benjamin Walker*.”

1891 Census

Daw End, Rushall – MINERS ARMS

- [1] *Benjamin Walker* (54), licensed victualler, born Daw End;
- [2] Jane Walker (52), wife, born Daw End;
- [3] Benjamin Walker (18), son, brown saddler’s apprentice, born Rushall;
- [4] John Walker (15), son, currier’s apprentice, born Rushall;
- [5] Jonah Walker (13), son, rope spinner’s apprentice, born Rushall;
- [6] George Walker (9), son, scholar, born Rushall:

Lichfield Mercury 12/5/1893

“.....There were like summonses against *Benjamin Walker*, of the MINERS ARMS, Daw End, and *Agnes McLean*, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall. The constable who gave evidence in this case admitted that he took part in the gaming, and that he had no corroborative evidence, and Mr. Loxton, who defended, at once took the objection that the uncorroborated evidence of an accomplice was insufficient to warrant a conviction. The objection was allowed and the cases dismissed, Mr. Naylor advising that in future the chief constable should see that corroborative evidence was given in such cases.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

“The annual Licensing sessions for the Rushall division of the county were held on Monday at Rushall.....

Superintendent Salt’s report.....

The MINERS ARMS, at Daw End, which had been closed about four months had been let as a private dwelling, and he understood it was the intention to apply for the transfer of the license to the MANOR ARMS beerhouse, about a hundred yards away..... John Hanson applied for the full license of the MINERS ARMS, Daw End, to be transferred to him at the MANOR ARMS, Daw End, which hitherto had been licensed as a beerhouse only. Mr. Gerald Lewis, barrister, said he appeared on behalf of the tenant, who was the applicant, and also the owner of the premises. The MANOR ARMS had been licensed as an off-beerhouse, and Mr. Mellish, the owner, was also the owner of the MINERS ARMS. Last year the MINERS ARMS license was renewed with an expression from the bench that the premises were not satisfactory, and in deference to that expression Mr. Mellish built a wall round the back of the premises, thereby making it more easily supervised by the police. The police, however, had made objections to the renewal of the license of the MINERS ARMS, and although there had been no conviction Mr. Mellish had thought it better (and the Vicar of the parish approved the proposal) to ask that the license should go to the other house. When, accordingly, application was made to the magistrates’ clerk to ascertain if he could transfer the license of the MINERS ARMS, the clerk, believing a mere transfer of tenants was meant, said, ‘Yes, if the proper notices are given.’ Notice was given, and the MINERS ARMS premises let to a private tenant, and when the misunderstanding was discovered it was not thought worth while to re-open the place for the few weeks the license had then to run. Mr. Hanson, in reply to questions, said a footpath ran past the house, but it was 100 yards from the highway. The accommodation provided was mainly for boatmen.

Mr. James: The application is granted on the distinct understanding that no renewed application is to be made for the MINERS ARMS, so that there is one house having a full license, instead of one with a full and another with an off-license.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/7/1901

“Harry Baker and John Riley, miners, of Daw End, Rushall, were summoned at the Rushall Police Court on Monday for trespassing in pursuit of game on land at Daw End, belonging to Edward Myatt.

Rose Ellen Tyre, of Lindley Cottages, Rushall, deposed to having heard the report of a gun whilst she was coming down Myatt’s fields at Daw End, and on turning to look in the direction from which the report came she saw the two defendants. She saw Riley run along and pick up a rabbit, and then both defendants left the field.

Henry Laley, of Daw End, said that he heard the report of a gun in Myatt’s fields, and on proceeding there he saw two men running away. He followed them for a time, but was not able to overtake them.

Mr. C. H. Darby (Sharpe and Darby) West Bromwich, represented the defendants, and contended that the witness who had sworn

she saw the defendants in Myatt's fields was mistaken. He asserted that at the time the defendants were alleged to be in the field they were both together at the MINERS ARMS public-house at Daw End. The magistrates considered the case proved, and ordered defendants to pay 10s and costs."

MINERVA

10, Paddock Lane, (10, Paddock Street) / Union Street, (Ablewell Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

James Whitehouse

Frederick Birch, maltster, Great Barr
Ann Fox
William Fox
James Fox
Bloxwich Brewery
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mary Eld [1835]
John Eld [1835]
Edward James [1841] – [1842]
John Ankrett []
George Smith [1849] – [1852]
James Fisher [1852] – [1854]
Aaron Stokes [1856] – **1861**;
Samuel King (**1861** – [1862]
Frederick Birch [1864] – [1865]
J Evans [1865]
William Lloyd [1868] – [1870]
Thomas Millington [] – **1870**;
William Shelton (**1870** – [1880]);
James Fox [1881] – **189**_);
Mrs. Ann Fox [1891] – [1892] (**189**_ – **1900**);
William Fox (**1900** – **1911**);
Albert Edward Wood (**1911** – **1922**);
John Thomas Alcock (**1922** – **1926**);
John Rogers (**1926** – **1929**);
Robert Woolley (**1929** – **1930**);
Achille Leo Williams (**1930** – **1946**);
Frank Henry Daniels (**1946** – **1958**):

NOTES

Ablewell Street [1835], [1840], [1844], [1846], [1850], [1851], [1852], [1853], [1854]
10, Paddock Lane [1862], [1881], [1891], [1896], [1901], [1908], [1932], [1939], [1940]
10, Paddock Street [1864]

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/3/1835 - Advert

"To be Sold by Auction, at the GREEN MAN INN, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on Wednesday the 15th day of April, 1835, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions as will be then and there produced, and in the following or other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale.....

Lot 4. All that very valuable Messuage or Public House, known by the sign of the MINERVA, situate in Ablewell Street, Walsall, and fronting the road leading from Walsall to Birmingham, with convenient brew-house and garden at the back of same, and appurtenances thereto belonging, and now in the occupation of Mr. *John Eld*, and producing a clear annual rental of £38....."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/11/1839 - Advert

"MINERVA INN, Walsall.

To Be Let, with immediate possession, that good accustomed and old-established House, known by the sign of the MINERVA INN, in Ablewell Street, with stabling for twelve horses and lock-up gig house. It is situated in a very populous district, fitted up with every convenience, and capable of doing a very extensive business. The fixtures and stock, which is very low, will be required to be taken at a fair valuation.

For further particulars apply to Mr. C. Marklew, solicitor, or S. Whitehouse, auctioneer and land agent, both of Walsall.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/3/1840 - Advert

“To be Sold or Let, with immediate possession, that old-established and highly advantageously situated Public House, known by the sign of the MINERVA, in Ablewell Street, in the borough of Walsall, with extensive and convenient Cellaring, capital Stabling and Coach-house, a very spacious Yard, and every requisite for carrying on a first-rate business.

There is no Stock to be taken to, and but very few Fixtures, therefore it is an opportunity for any person wishing to embark in the Public Business of placing himself at a very trifling expense in a first-rate situation.

The House is fitted up with every convenience, and is in the most complete repair; it is situated in a very populous and highly respectable neighbourhood, and does really possess advantages which are seldom offered to the public.

For further particulars apply to J. Whitehouse, Land Surveyor and Auctioneer, Bradford Street, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 10/3/1844

“James Gifford, of Walsall, will match his dog Spring against Fox's dog, of Darlaston, for £5 or £10 a side, 33lb; if declined, any other dog within 15 miles of Walsall can be accommodated on the same terms. The money is ready at the MINERVA, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

London Gazette 7/8/1846

“Whereas a Petition of *John Ankrett*, at present and for six months last past, residing in Lodgings at Church-hill, Wednesbury, Journeyman Carpenter, and for six months previous thereto residing at the MINERVA Public-house, Ablewell-street, Walsall, Publican, and for twelve months previous thereto residing in Rushall-street, Walsall aforesaid, Baker and Provision Dealer, and for nine months previous thereto residing in Birmingham-street, Walsall aforesaid, Baker and Provision Dealer, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, and the interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *John Ankrett*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said John Ankrett is hereby required to appear in Court before John Balmay, Esq, the Commissioner acting in the matter of the said Petition, on the 14th day of August instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, at the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, at Birmingham, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *John Ankrett*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. James Christie, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, the Official Assignee, nominated in that behalf by the Commissioner acting in the matter of the said Petition.”

London Gazette 13/4/1849

“Whereas a Petition of *Edward James*, at present, and for fourteen days now last past, residing in Lodgings, in Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, and being out of business and employment, and for four years and upwards previously thereto, residing at a house called or known by the name or sign of the QUEENS HEAD, in Hill-street, in Walsall aforesaid, there carrying on the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, and for three years previously thereto at a house in Ablewell-street, Walsall aforesaid, called or known by the sign of the MINERVA, there also carrying on the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Edward James*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Edward James* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 30th of April instant, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Edward James*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. William Cotterill, Clerk of the said Court, at his offices, in Bridge-street, Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

1851 Census

Ablewell Street

- [1] *George Smith* (27), innkeeper, born Sutton Coldfield;
- [2] *Marianne Smith* (32), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Henry G. Smith* (7 months), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Jane Bailey* (18), servant, born Kings Bromley, Staffordshire;
- [5] *John Davis* (48), lodger, labourer, born Shrewsbury;
- [6] *Richard Felton* (26), lodger, labourer, born Albrighton, Shropshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/3/1852 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Henry Farrington, by direction of the Trustees of the will of the late Mr. James Whitehouse, deceased, at the NEW INN, Park Street, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 16th day of March, 1852, at five o'clock in the afternoon.....

Lot 38. All that old-established Inn, called the MINERVA, well situated in Ablewell Street, being one of the leading thoroughfares of Walsall, and now occupied by Mr. *George Smith*.

The above contains capital Bar, Parlour, Tap-room, Kitchen, Brewhouse, excellent Cellars, capital Lodge-room, four Chambers,

large Yard, Pump of excellent water, large Stabling for 20 horses, and other conveniences. Together with the small House adjoining, occupied by Mrs. Thornhill. And also the House, Stable, and Out-Offices, fronting to the Ditch, occupied by Mr. John Longmore.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/8/1852 - Advert

“Sale at the MINERVA INN, Ablewell Street, (under a Bill of Sale). George Allin will sell by auction, on Monday next, August 16th, all the clean and useful Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, and other Effects; comprising four-post and other bedsteads, three prime feather beds, handsome mahogany chest of drawers, painted wash stands, dressing tables and chairs; capital eight-day clock, in oak case; oak and deal dining and other tables; capital four-pull Beer Machine, and piping complete; gas meter, pendants, and piping; two iron furnaces and fittings; capital large cooking grate, nearly new; two mash tubs, three coolers, quantity of tubs; quality ale casks, various sizes; quantity of timber and plank-ing, and a variety of other effects; which will appear in catalogues, to be had at the Auctioneer’s Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall. Sale to commence at ten o’clock in the morning, under the usual conditions.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/8/1852

“Samuel Nightingale, Mark Maley, and *James Fisher* were charged by the police with having their respective public-houses open at improper hours, and were severally fined 5s each and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/7/1853

“The following three publicans were, on Wednesday last, fined, the first two 10s each, and the last 20s, for selling during prohibited hours on the Sabbath. Mr. *James Fisher*, the MINERVA, Ablewell Street; Mr. James Ashwell, the KINGS HEAD, Caldmore; and Mr. John Ricketts, of the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/1/1854 - Advert

“Sale at the MINERVA INN, Ablewell Street. George Allin will Sell by Auction, on premises as above, on Monday, January 23rd, 1854, part of the clean and useful Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, well-seasoned Casks, &c, comprising mahogany and deal tables, Windsor chairs, benches, excellent eight-day clock and timepiece, capital four-pull beer machine, and piping tap, counter, shelving, and other bar fittings; six-light gas meter and fittings, fourteen prime ale casks, from 30 to 150 gallons; excellent 18-bushel mash tub, pair capital vats, working and other tubs, capital 140-gallon iron furnace and fittings, brewing utensils, skittle frame and pegs, and numerous other effects, belonging to Mr. *James Fisher*, who is declining the public business. Sale to commence at 11 precisely. Conditions as usual. Catalogues may be had at the Auctioneer’s Office, Bridge Street Walsall, and High Street, Wednesbury.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day appointed for the renewal of old licenses, and considering the application for new ones, there was a rather full attendance of magistrates. There were no less than twenty-eight applications for new licenses, all of which were refused with the exception of *Aaron Stokes*, beerhouse keeper, Paddock Lane. The applications were for the most part refused, in consequence of the number of houses already licensed in the respective localities, and in a few instances from the want of sufficient accommodation.”

Walsall Free Press 31/7/1858 - Advert

“Mr. *Aaron Stokes*, MINERVA INN, Paddock Lane, will hold his annual Gipsy Party, on Monday, August 9th, in a field adjoining the Walsall Cricket Ground, Chuckery. Tea on the table at five o’clock, pm. Tickets 1s 6d each, Music included.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“Foreign Publicans at Darlaston Wake. Mr. Harper; Mr. William Coates, Bulls Head, Kidderminster; Mr. William Ashcroft, of Bilston; Mr. *Aaron Stokes*, of Walsall; Mr. Francis Jones, of West Bromwich; Mr. William Grattage, of Wolverhampton; and Mr. Joseph Archer, of Wolverhampton, were severally charged at Wednesbury Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, with having, on Sunday, the 22nd current, the opening day of Darlaston wake, unlawfully sold, by retail, quantities of exciseable liquors (spirits or ale) to be drunk and consumed on their premises there situate, the said parties not being then and there licensed so to do, and not being then and there the heirs, executors, administrators, or assignees, of the parties duly licensed so to do. Mr. Bartlett, solicitor, of Wolverhampton, appeared for the defendants, and Inspector Blaney conducted the case for the prosecution. The charge against Harper was first taken, when Serjeant Went proved that he saw exciseable liquors sold in the defendant’s booth on the day in question. Mr. Bartlett, on the part of his client, said that for a good number of years it had been customary for persons like his client to fix booths for the sale of their liquors at such places of pleasure and pastime. Mr. Leigh: I must decide according to law. Mr. Bartlett: I speak merely as to mitigation of fine. Mr. Leigh: In the case of a village festival, which may occur only once a year, I would consider it very hard that certain tradesmen should come from a distance and endeavour to deprive the local publicans of the chance of reaping a good trade. There may have been licensed victuallers from Kidderminster at Darlaston wake. Just at the very moment when the publicans of Darlaston, who

are subject to pay rates and all other legal taxes, expected to command a good business, they were suddenly pounced upon and put in competition with ten or twenty licensed victuallers from a distance. This is not allowed by the spirit of the law.

Mr. Bartlett stated that his client had acted under misapprehension of the law, and he considered supplying refreshments at wakes similar to erecting booths at race-courses. Mr. Bartlett also quoted notices, intimating that on each day of the wake there would be a pony race for a purse of money.

After a patient consideration of the case, Mr. Leigh decided that the law had been infringed; and, as Mr. Bartlett gave notice of appeal to the Quarter Sessions, he would impose a penalty of £20.

In the course of the other six cases being tried – for they were all similar – Mr. Bartlett, on consulting his clients, withdrew his notice of appeal, when the whole defendants were fined each in the mitigated penalty of £5.”

Walsall Free Press 19/2/1859 - Advert

“Capital Old-Licensed Public House, in Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Farrington, at the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, Walsall, on Monday, the 7th day of March, 1859, at seven o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions.

All the capital well accustomed old-licensed Public-House, known as the MINERVA INN, comprising front and back parlours, bar, tap-room, large club-room, sleeping rooms, spacious cellars &c, with brewhouse thereto belonging, situate in front of Union Street and Paddock Lane, in Walsall, and now or lately occupied by Mr. *Aaron Stokes*.

The house and buildings were erected about four years ago, in a very substantial manner, are situate in the most improving street in Walsall, and are well adapted for carrying on an extensive business. The site contains 850 square yards, and is held under a lease for 99 years from the 25th day of March, 1855, at a yearly ground rent of £4 8s 6d.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, or to Mr. Wilkinson, Solicitor, both of Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 29/2/1859 - Advert

“Notice Is Hereby Given, that the intended Sale of the MINERVA INN, Walsall, advertised to be held at the OLD STILL INN, Walsall, on Monday, the 7th day of March next, Will Not Take Place.

Saml. Wilkinson, Jun, Walsall, 24th February, 1859.”

Walsall Free Press 30/7/1859 - Advert

“Mr. & Mrs. *Stokes*, of the MINERVA INN, Paddock, Walsall, take leave to announce that their annual Tea And Dancing Party will take place on Monday, the 8th day of August, 1859, in the Marquee on the ground adjoining the house.

Tea on the table 5.30pm. Tickets 1s 6d each. Music included.

Ladies and Gentlemen will meet with every attention to their comfort, and their attendance will be esteemed a favour.”

London Gazette 16/4/1861

“*Aaron Stokes*, late of the MINERVA INN, Paddock-lane, in the Foreign of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, and Licensed Retail Dealer in Wines, Spirituous Liquors, Ale, Beer, and Tobacco, at the same time carrying on the trade of Builder, and occasionally working as a bricklayer.”

Walsall Free Press 14/9/1861

“*Aaron Stokes*, keeper of the MINERVA, Paddock Lane, was charged by Sergeant Mason with having had his house open at ten minutes to one on Sunday, the 1st of September. The sergeant entered the house at that hour, and found a man drunk on the premises. Defendant denied having sold anything, but admitted the house was open. The Bench gave him the benefit of the doubt, and dismissed the summons.”

Walsall Free Press 12/10/1861 - Advert

“To parties in search of a respectable Public House.

The MINERVA INN, Paddock Street, Walsall.

To Be Disposed Of By H. Farrington, the Licenses, Good-will and Possession, of that excellent Old Licensed Public House, known as the MINERVA INN, pleasantly situated in a very populous and improving neighbourhood, and near to the entrance from Ablewell Street, to Paddock Street.”

Walsall Free Press 16/11/1861

“Application was made for the transfer of the MINERVA, Paddock, from *Aaron Stokes* to *Samuel King*.

.....The police gave all applicants good characters, and the transfers were permitted.”

Walsall Free Press 12/3/1864 - Advert

“Wanted a General Servant.

Apply at the MINERVA INN, Paddock.”

Walsall Free Press 15/4/1865 - Advert

“A Tea Party will take place on Easter Monday, April 17, 1865, at Mr. *J. Evans*'s, MINERVA INN, Paddock. Tea on the Table at 5 o'clock. Tickets 1s each, music included.”

1871 Census

10, Paddock – MINERVA INN

[1] *William Shelton* (54), licensed victualler, born Shiffnall [Shifnal], Shropshire;

[2] *Mary A. Shelton* (55), wife, born Shiffnall, Shropshire;

[3] *Eliza Shelton* (18), daughter, born West Bromwich;

[4] *Mary A. Russell* (6), granddaughter, scholar, born West Bromwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/7/1878

“On Thursday Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the MINERVA INN, Paddock, on the body of *Mary Ann Shelton*, aged 48, wife of the keeper of the house. It was shown that on Wednesday night the deceased and her husband were returning from Sutton races in a light trap, and when near Mr. James’s residence in Aldridge Mr. *Shelton*, who was driving, made an attempt to pass a heavily-laden brake, which was proceeding in the same direction. At the moment the horse shied, and caused one of the wheels of the trap to rise against the roadside bank, the result being that Mrs. *Shelton* was thrown out, and one of the hind wheels of the brake passed over her body, killing her instantly. Dr. Cooke was summoned, however, and was on the spot in about five minutes. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/12/1878

“On Monday Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an adjourned inquest at the MINERVA INN, Paddock, on the body of *Henry Saunders*, aged 79. Dr. Maclachan, who made the post-mortem examination in the case, referred to the great want of a public mortuary and dissecting room in the town, mentioning that there being no furniture in the house in which the body lay, and the neighbours refusing to lend a table, the body had to be placed upon an old door propped upon the backs of two chairs. Such cases as this were not infrequent, and they pressed very hard upon the medical practitioners, to say nothing of the want of proper respect to the dead. The coroner expressed his sympathy with these remarks, and he hoped some arrangement would be made by the Council for the use of the new rooms in the Cottage Hospital. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

1881 Census

10, Paddock Lane – MINERVA INN

[1] *James Fox* (43), saddler, born Walsall;

[2] *Ann Fox* (43), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Maria Fox* (18), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;

[4] *James Fox* (15), son, born Walsall;

[5] *Agnes Fox* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] *Nelly Fox* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] *Frank Fox* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] *Sarah Fox* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[9] *Kate Fox* (2), daughter, born Walsall;

[10] *Thomas Fox* (1), son, born Walsall;

[11] *Annie Massey* (20), domestic servant, born Walsall;

[12] *Elizabeth Leake* (16), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Evening Express 22/7/1881

“This day (Friday) A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for Walsall, held an inquest at the MINERVA public house, Paddock Lane, Walsall, upon the body of *Eliza Whittaker*, aged 67.

From the evidence it appeared deceased had been suffering from diarrhea, but had not had any medical assistance. On Tuesday night she went to bed, and about half past seven next morning, when her son went downstairs, he found deceased lying on the sofa quite dead.

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

Evening Express 1/12/1881

“On Monday evening the members of Court Garibaldi, AOF, celebrated their 21st anniversary by a dinner in the MINERVA public house, Paddock Lane, Walsall. The chair was occupied by the Mayor, and among those present were Alderman Evans, Councillors Humphries and Lester, and Dr. Kelly.

The Mayor in proposing the toast of the evening, ‘Success to Court Garibaldi,’ pointed out the great advantages of such societies, and urged upon all the members who did not now subscribe to the widows’ and orphans’ fund to do so. The Toast was acknowledged by Mr. James Frates, DCR, who gave an interesting account of the development of Forestry in this district from the year 1865 up to the present.

Mr. Hyslop, the secretary, also replied to the toast, and gave a history of the court, which he said was at present in a very flourishing condition.

Several other toasts were given and responded to, and altogether a very pleasant evening was spent.”

Walsall Observer 11/4/1885

“The Paddock Money Club. On Wednesday a supper was provided for the members of the above club at Mr. *J. Fox*’s MINERVA INN, Paddock Lane, at which about 35 sat down. After the cloth had been withdrawn Mr. J. Marlow was voted to the chair, and a very enjoyable evening was spent, and the host must surely be congratulated on providing such an admirable repast. It was men-

tioned that upwards of £300 had passed through the hands of the secretary (Mr. S. Davis) during the last club, and the present club was a more flourishing one.”

1891 Census

10, Paddock Lane – MINERVA

- [1] *Ann Fox* (53), widow, licensed victualler, born France;
- [2] *Agnes Fox* (21), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [3] *Nellie Fox* (18), daughter, machinist, born Walsall;
- [4] *Frank Fox* (16), son, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [5] *Sarah Fox* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Kate Fox* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Thomas Fox* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Mary A. Law* (17), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1892

“A most successful dinner in connection with the Paddock Ward Liberal Association took place in the MINERVA TAVERN, Paddock, on Thursday last.....”

Walsall Observer 6/5/1893

“The annual dinner in connection with the Walsall Strollers Football Club was held on Monday evening last, at the MINERVA INN, Paddock Lane, and proved of a very interesting character. Upwards of forty members and friends sat down to a capital repast, which was excellently served, and to which full justice was done by those present. The cloths having been removed, the President of the club (Mr. J. Moseley) took the chair.....”

Agnes Fox (27), spinster, 10, Paddock Lane, Walsall, married *William Fox* (27), bachelor, licensed victualler, Stone Cross, West Bromwich, on 28th April 1897.

Walsall Observer 3/2/1900

“*Ann Fox*, Deceased. Notice is hereby given, that all Creditors and other Persons having any Claims against or upon the Estate of *Ann Fox*, late of the MINERVA INN, Paddock Lane, Walsall Publican, deceased, who died on the 23rd day of October 1899, and whose Will was proved in the Lichfield District Registry of the Probate Division.....”

Walsall Advertiser 14/7/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... *William Fox*, MINERVA INN.”

1901 Census

10, Paddock Lane

- [1] *William Fox* (30), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Agnes Fox* (30), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Norman Fox* (2), son, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Kate Fox* (10 months), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Kate Fox* (23), sister in law, living on own means, born Walsall;
- [6] *Ellen Fox* (27), sister in law, living on own means, born Walsall;
- [7] *Lucy Hill* (64), visitor, living on own means, born Malvern, Worcestershire:

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1902

“The first meeting of the newly-elected Executive Committee of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the president, RED LION INN, Navigation Street..... Mr. *Wm. Fox*, MINERVA INN, Paddock was unanimously elected as a licensed victualler to the vacant seat on the executive.”

1911 Census

10, Paddock Lane

- [1] *William Fox* (40), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Florence Fox* (35), wife, assisting in business, born Rushall;
- [3] *Norman Fox* (13), son, born Stone Cross, near Wednesbury;
- [4] *Kate Mary Ann Fox* (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Violet Allen* (19), domestic servant, born Walsall:

William Fox – see also STONE CROSS, West Bromwich.

Walsall Observer 2/5/1914 - Advert

“Wanted, strong General; character essential.

The MINERVA, Paddock.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

MINERVA, Paddock, Walsall, 11s 8d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
The MINERVA, Paddock Lane. £1 10s 6d.”

John Rogers – see also PEACOCK.

1939 Register

10, Paddock Lane

[1] *Achille Leo Williams*, date of birth 7/2/1879, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Sarah Williams*, dob 25/8/1876, housewife, helps in business, married;

[3] *Elsie Teresa (Williams) Cooper*, dob 20/3/1921, domestic servant, single:

Walsall Observer 3/2/1940

“Both members of old Walsall families, well-known, especially in the Paddock district, Mr. and Mrs. *James Fox*, of 4, Burleigh Street, celebrated their golden wedding on Monday, having been married fifty years ago at St. George’s Church by the Rev. Colin Barrett, who was then vicar of the parish.

Mr. *Fox*’s father, whose Christian name was also *James*, was at different times licensee of two Lower Rushall Street public-houses – the KINGS ARMS and the ACORN (now demolished) – and also the MINERVA, Paddock Lane.....”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

MINERVA INN, Paddock Lane. £0 12s 0d.”

It closed on 17th April 1958.

The license was transferred to the LAMP, Bloxwich.

Demolished

MITRE TAVERN

8, Orlando Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Henry Newman

Henry Hickman

Joseph Yardey, maltster, Darlaston

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

William Henry Newman [1858] – [1872];

Henry Hickman [1873] – [1883]

Mrs. Hannah Hickman [] – 1889);

William Henry Hickman (1889 – 1894);

Mrs. Ellen (Hickman) Wightman (1894 – 1904);

Andrew Wightman [1901] ?

Henry ‘Harry’ Purchase (1904 – 1912);

William Mallinson (1912 – 1913);

Ernest William Wilkes (1913 – 1920);

Charles Edward Naylor (1920 – 1923):
George Jukes [1921] ?

NOTES

William Henry Newman = Henry Newman

1871 Census

8, Orlando Street – MITRE TAVERN

- [1] *William H. Newman* (64), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Matilda Newman* (60), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ann Welsh* (17), general servant, born Walsall Wood:

Midland Examiner 7/8/1875

“*Henry Hickman*, licensed victualler, of Orlando Street, was summoned for having on the 29th ult, had in his possession six pint cups as measures, the same being defective, and unjust towards the purchaser. The defendant pleaded guilty to the charge, stated that the measures were not used for any purpose at all, and added that he purchased them when he took the house. The Mayor said the defendant ought to have taken care that the jugs in his possession were correct. Fined 20s and costs.”

1881 Census

8, Orlando Street

- [1] *Henry Hickman* (59), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Hannah Hickman* (60), wife, born Weeford, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Emma Baker* (23), general servant, born London:
[Weeford is about 5 miles W of Tamworth.]

Walsall Advertiser 17/2/1883 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable girl, about 18 to 20, as General Servant.
Apply, *Henry Hickman*, MITRE TAVERN, Orlando Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/4/1885 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant, about 18 or 20.
Apply, MITRE TAVERN, Orlando Street.”

1891 Census

8, Orlando Street

- [1] *William Henry Hickman* (44), licensed victualler and brown saddler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ellen Hickman* (42), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Charles H. Hickman* (11), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *William J. Hickman* (9), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Mary Williams* (21), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 9/6/1894 - Deaths

“On the 28th ult, after a long illness, *William Henry Hickman*, MITRE TAVERN, Orlando Street, aged 47.
Interred in family vault, St. Mathew’s Churchyard, May 31st. Deeply regretted.”

Ellen Hickman married *Andrew Wightman* in the 4th quarter of 1895.

1901 Census

8, Orlando Street – MITRE TAVERN

- [1] *Andrew Wightman* (54), publican, born Dumfriesshire, Scotland;
- [2] *Ellen Wightman* (52), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Charles Hickman* (21), stepson, pattern maker (buckle), born Walsall;
- [4] *William Hickman* (18), stepson, chemist’s assistant, born Walsall;
- [5] *Annie Jenkinson* (28), domestic servant, born Durham:

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1904

“On the application of Mr. Wyllie a temporary transfer of authority with respect to the MITRE TAVERN, Orland Street, was granted from *Ellen Wightman* to *Henry Purchase*.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/3/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... Mr. *Harry Purchase*, MITRE TAVERN, Orlando Street.”

1911 Census

8, Orlando Street

- [1] *Harry Purchase* (35), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Patience Purchase* (34), wife, married 12 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Dora Purchase* (5), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [4] *May Purchase* (3), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/4/1912

“John Jackson (32), a vice-cutter, of 53, Long Street, was charged with stealing a clock, valued at 5s, the property of *Harry Purchase*, on April 1st.

The evidence of Mrs. *Patience Purchase* showed that the clock was taken from the MITRE INN, Orlando Street, prisoner having entered the house to have a drink in company with a woman. The clock was on smoke room shelf. Later she saw the prisoner in the entry carrying a brown paper parcel. She at once missed the clock and gave information to the police. She had since been shown the clock, and had identified it as her property.

Detective Ayres said when he arrested prisoner he immediately admitted taking the clock, and took witness to the house of the woman in Bridgeman Street where he was given the clock. When charged the prisoner said: ‘Yes, I took it. I am sorry for it.’ Prisoner pleaded guilty and expressed his regret saying he had no intention of stealing the clock. Prisoner was placed on his good behaviour for three months.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/8/1913

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *E. Wilkes*, MITRE TAVERN, Orlando Street.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... MITRE TAVERN, Orlando Street. £0 15s 1d.”

George Jukes = George Dukes

South Staffordshire Times 22/10/1921

“At Walsall on Monday, *George Jukes*, MITRE INN, Orlando Street, was summoned for supplying intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours; and Joseph and Ellen Walker, West Bromwich Street, for consuming intoxicants on licensed premises during prohibited hours.

Evidence was given that Police-Inspector Lloyd and PC Mason, at 10.45pm, on 17th ult, climbed a wall and entered the public-house by a back door. In the bar they found the two Walkers. The landlord and his wife were near the beer machine. Mrs. Walker was drinking from a glass of stout, and her husband was crossing the room with two half-pints of beer. Walker admitted having been on the licensed premises before closing time, but the landlord’s explanation was the Walker was an old friend whom he had met at a football match that afternoon and to whom he had given an invitation to bring his wife to supper. Lloyd admitted there was bread and cheese about.

For the defence it was stated that the bar was the only living room of which the landlord had the use, as although the license had been transferred from a man named *Naylor* the latter was protected by the Rent Act, and was still living on the premises with his wife and six children. Mrs. *Jukes*, on her part, had nowhere even to cook, and the brewery company recently put her a stove in the cellar.

The Bench dismissed all the summonses, but said it was a proper case to bring into court.”

It was referred to the Compensation Authority.

Compensation was paid on 8th October 1923.

It closed on 13th October 1923.

Walsall Observer 15/3/1924

“Messrs. Fox and Harrison, FAI, have privately disposed of the Orlando Street leasehold business premises, formerly known as the MITRE TAVERN but now delicensed with vacant possession, together with the two private household dwellings.”

NAGS HEAD

Goscote, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Banks [1828] – [1830]

NAGS HEAD

Bank Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mary Heath [1834] – [1835]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Mary Heath, retailer of beer, Bank Street. [1835]

NAGS HEAD

Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Hickin [1818]

NAGS HEAD

28, (28+29), (25), Upper Rushall Street, (Bridge Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

William Jackson, 71, Lichfield Street, Walsall

Abel Rogers Grove

Mr. Hobson, Clifton Road, Sutton Coldfield

R. A. Harper Ltd, Bilston (acquired in 1898 for £3,000) [1904]

Eleys Stafford Brewery Ltd.

Butler & Co, Wolverhampton [1936]

LICENSEES

John Jackson [1801]

Sarah Jackson [1822] – [1830]

William Clarkson Smith* [1834] – [1835]

William C Smith* [1841] – [1842]
Joseph Mountford [1845] – [1851]
John Matthews [1851]
Joseph Matthews [1858] – [1862]
Joshua Matthews [1864] – [1865]
Joseph Matthews [] – 1868)
Abel Rogers Grove [1871] – [1881]
James Morris [] – 1891);
Thomas Green Cleobury (1891 – 1898);
Amos Whitehead (1898);
Thomas Arrowsmith (1898 – 1904);
Richard Andrew Harper (1904);
Thomas Edge (1904);
Thomas Edward Russell (1904 – 1907);
Patrick McTighe (1907 – 1909);
John Richard Rodgers (1909 – 1911);
John Savage (1911 – 1912);
Daniel Dalton (1912 – 1913);
William Joseph Braid (1913 – 1923);
Thomas Henry Smallman (1923 – 1928);
George Astbury (1928 – 1929);
Ronald Thomas Alcock (1929 – 1933);
Thomas Henry Baker (1933 – 1937);
Kenneth Dawes (1937):

NOTES

Bridge Street [1801]
Rushall Street [1822]
28, Upper Rushall Street [1860], [1861], [1862], [1901], [1908]
25, Upper Rushall Street [1871]
28+29, Upper Rushall Street [1881], [1891], [1932]

* possibly the same person

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/1/1837 - Advert

“To Maltsters.

Wanted immediately a man as above.

Apply to Mr. *W. C. Smith*, NAGS HEAD, Rushall Street, Walsall.”

Joseph Mountford was also a boot and shoe maker. [1845]

1851 Census

Upper Rusall Street

- [1] *Joseph Mountford* (36), victualler and maltster, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Mountford (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Mountford (74), father, widower, lodger, born Walsall;
- [4] Ann Wall (17), house servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Free Press 11/9/1858

“Isaac Deacon, a person of apparently rather weak intellect, and who described himself as a miner, had on the night of Saturday last gone to the NAGS HEAD, Rushall Street, and after partaking of some ale commenced to smash the jugs and glasses, the value of which Mr. *Mathews* retained out of the money tendered in payment of the ale. On leaving the house Deacon broke several panes of glass to the amount of 4s 6d, which sum together with 1s and costs, he was now ordered to pay, or in default to be imprisoned for fourteen days. Mr. *Mathews* said defendant had never been in his house but once before, and on that occasion he smashed some jugs.”

Walsall Free Press 27/11/1858

“About ten o'clock, on the morning of Tuesday week, James Pearce, spur-fitter in the employment of Mr. Eglington, Park Street, went in company with several of his shop-mates to the RED LION, Public-house, Park Street, and remained there drinking till five o'clock in the afternoon, at which time Pearce, who was very tipsy, requested to be supplied with Port wine, which however the landlady, seeing the state he was in, refused to fill; but she having occasion to leave the tap-room, Pearce seized the opportunity and helped himself to half-a-pint of rum, and then to three half-quarters of gin; but while in the act of drinking the gin he fell

insensible upon the floor and was conveyed home, and remained in that state till Wednesday morning, when he expired. Mr. Pitt, surgeon, who made a post-mortem of the body, found the brain had been so injured by excessive drinking as to cause death. On the Friday following, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Coroner of the Borough, held an inquest upon the body of the deceased at the NAGS HEAD public-house, Rushall Street, at which the jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Excessive Drinking.”

Walsall Free Press 27/10/1860

“Edward Gaunt was charged with being drunk and disorderly in the NAGS HEAD Rushall Street. Police-constable No.16 stated the circumstances of the case, which were confirmed by Mrs. *Mathews*, the landlady. Both witnesses deposed to the prisoner being a very quiet man under ordinary circumstances, and not much given to drink. Cautioned and discharged.”

1861 Census

28, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *Joseph Matthews* (53), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Ann Matthews* (52), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Elizabeth Matthews* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ann Barrons* (31), daughter, saddler's wife, born Walsall;
- [5] *Kate Miat* (18), servant, born Hanley, Staffordshire;
- [6] *Jane Matin* (23), servant, born Aldridge:

Walsall Free Press 20/4/1861

“William Bishop v. John Collins. Defendant did not appear, and police-constable Hudson deposed to having served a copy of the summons he produced, upon him, on Saturday last. Complainant stated that he was in the NAGS HEAD, Rushall Street, taking some refreshment, when defendant entered, and commenced speaking to him about some work he (witness) had promised to endeavour to procure for him. Suddenly defendant attacked and struck him several times, without any cause. In answer to the Bench, complainant said he could assign no reason for the assault committed upon him; and as defendant did not choose to attend and contradict complainant, it was to be presumed that his absence was equivalent to an admission of the offence. He was accordingly fined 5s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 8/6/1861

“Police-constable Twigger, charged *Mary Ann Wooden* (a woman of gigantic proportions) under the Wine and Refreshments Room Act, with being disorderly in the NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street, and refusing to leave when ordered to do so by the officer. The constable deposed that prisoner was in a disorderly condition, and that he told her repeatedly to leave the house, but she refused to do so. Cross-examined by the prisoner, the officer said he had taken prisoner into custody in the street. Mr. *Mathews*, the landlord of the NAGS HEAD, whose testimony was said to be of some importance, was not in attendance, and as, according to the officers' own admission, prisoner was arrested in the street, and must consequently have left the house, the case was dismissed.”

Walsall Free Press 6/6/1863

“*Samuel Cope* and *Richard Jones* were charged with assaulting *John Butler*. It appeared from the evidence that all the parties are inhabitants of Darlaston, and that, on Tuesday afternoon, they visited the fair, and, after feasting their eyes upon the rare and wonderful sights, they betook themselves to the NAGS HEAD public house, Upper Rushall Street, to replenish the inner man; but they had not long been there when a dispute arose about a ‘single young man lodger’ who had left *Cope's* house and taken up his abode with *Butler*. From words they came to blows, and, in course of the melée, *Butler* got rather roughly handled. Witnesses were called who, in some measure, corroborated complainant's statement as to the conduct of *Jones*, but could not speak satisfactorily as to *Cope* striking complainant. The bench considered the assault committed by *Jones* to be proved, and fined him 2s 6d and costs, and dismissed the charge against *Cope*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/4/1866

“On Wednesday morning Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Borough Coroner, resumed an inquiry at the NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall-street, on the body of a child, which was found on Friday, in the brook in the towns meadows. The mother of the child was present in custody. *Mary Price*, the wife of a lodging house keeper in Bull's Head-yard, deposed that about seven weeks ago the prisoner, who had been lodging at her house, left, and witness saw nothing more of her until the night of Thursday previous to the inquest, when she came back again. The elder child only was with her then. Witness had seen the body of the deceased at the Police station, and could positively identify it as that of the prisoner's youngest child. *Mary Bagnall*, the wife of a collier, living at Wednesbury, said the prisoner, her two children, and a man who passed as her husband, came to lodge with witness about five weeks ago, but the man, whose name witness did not know, went away at the end of the first week, without leaving the prisoner any money, or paying the first week's lodgings. On Thursday she seemed very low-spirited and desponding, and about seven o'clock she went away. She then had two children with her. *Thomas Rawson*, puddler, deposed to having found the body of a child in the town brook, in the meadow, on Friday morning. Police-constable *Dobbins* said he apprehended the prisoner on Friday morning, and charged her with being concerned in the murder of the child found in the brook. He cautioned her in the usual manner. She said, ‘It is not mine. I had a child, but it is dead and buried.’ He said, ‘Where did you bury it?’ and she replied, ‘In Wednesbury, last week.’ He asked at what church or chapel, or

cemetery she had buried it? She answered, 'I cannot tell you the name of the place.'

Mr. F. P. Palmer gave a detailed account of the result of a post mortem examination of the body, which went to show that the body was that of a fine and healthy child, but that the several organs presented such appearances as would be produced by drowning. The Jury found that 'The child came to its death by violent means, and that at the hands of its mother'; in other means a verdict of wilful murder against the prisoner, who was forthwith committed for trial on the Coroner's warrant. On Thursday, the prisoner was brought up at the Walsall Free Library, before J. Brewer, jun. (Mayor), W. Ward, H. Highway, and J. B. Anderson, Esqs, charged with the wilful murder of her child. The evidence tendered was substantially the same as that given at the inquest, and the prisoner, who was much affected by her position, was committed for trial at the assizes."

Walsall Free Press 28/7/1866

"Stafford Assizes. Elizabeth Burford was yesterday charged with the wilful murder of her child. Mr. Motteram prosecuted and Mr. Brown, at the request of Mr. Justice Shee, defended....

The evidence went to show that deceased was in perfect health when the prisoner took her from Wednesbury on the evening previous to the day on which she was found in the brook at Walsall; but as Mr. Palmer, surgeon, said that it was impossible to say whether the deceased had been suffocated before being placed in the water, Mr. Brown pointed out the probability of the prisoner having accidentally smothered the child on her way from Wednesbury, and having in her despair placed it where it was afterwards found. The jury, adopting this view of the case, returned a verdict of not guilty, and the prisoner was accordingly acquitted. The hearing of this case occupied the court three hours.

Mr. Cater, chief of police, took charge of the poor woman and brought her to Walsall. When in the railway carriage, Mr. Matthews, Mr. Palmer, and Mr. Tibbits handed to Mr. Cater 2s 6d each, and another gentleman who was travelling in the carriage 1s, for the purpose of assisting her. Any lady or gentleman desirous of rendering further assistance, which will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged, may forward the same to Mr. Cater."

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/10/1868

"On Saturday Mr. E. Hooper, district coroner, held an inquest at the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End, Rushall, touching the death of *Joseph Matthews*, aged 61, landlord of the NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street, the finding of whose lifeless body was recorded in last week's *Advertiser*. It was shown that he left home on the preceding Wednesday, at two o'clock, with his son-in-law and some other persons to go to the races, but he turned back on the plea that he wanted a greatcoat, and after sitting down at home for a few moments he went off in another direction. He was next seen about two o'clock going towards the canal bridge at Daw End, and at one o'clock his body was found floating in the water close to the bridge by a young man named David Watson. In the deceased's pockets were found a half sovereign, a half crown, two shillings, and two pairs of spectacles. It was given in evidence that he had been very unwell for some time, and that his friends, in consequence of noticing something peculiar in his manner, had kept a watch upon him. A verdict of Found Drowned was returned."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/2/1870 - Advert

"For Sale, Three Barrels, from 300 to 500 gallons in good condition.
Apply, NAGS HEAD, Rushall Street, Walsall."

Walsall Free Press 1/10/1870

"Walsall Races. In consequence of the Agricultural Meeting taking place the week before the usual time of holding the Races, it has been decided they shall be held on the Monday and Tuesday following, viz, the 3rd and 4th October. Parties wishing to secure Sites for Booths must apply this day (Saturday) to Mr. *Grove*, NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street."

1871 Census

25, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *Abel Rogers Grove* (47), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Caroline Grove* (33), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Kate H. Grove* (11), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Ellen B. Grove* (8), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Charles F. Grove* (6), son, born Birmingham;
- [6] *William Grove* (4), son, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Frank Grove* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *Caroline Griffiths* (20), general servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [9] *Rhoda Bourne* (15), nurse, born Kidderminster;

Walsall Free Press 24/5/1873

"Michael Sweeney, who failed to appear, was sentenced to pay a fine of £2 and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for 21 days, for having refused to quit the NAGS HEAD public house, Upper Rushall Street, on the 12th inst."

Walsall Free Press 16/8/1873 - Advert

"To Farmers And Others.

To Be Sold, about Two Hundred gallons of Fresh Ale, at 9d per gallon.
Apply, NAGS HEAD Rushall Street."

Walsall Free Press 10/5/1873 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable Servant, about 20; also a nurse Girl about 14.
Apply, NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street.”

Black Country Bugle 7/4/2005

‘When Walsall was On To A Winner.....’

“.....As the [19th] century wore on, the races gradually became detached from the Michaelmas Fair they has accompanied for so long, being held instead in August, and the driving force of *Abel Grove*, the landlord of the NAGS HEAD in Upper Rushall Street, ensured that they continued. However, as *Grove* and fellow members of the Race Committee discussed the plans for the next race meeting through the autumn and winter of 1876, they were not to know that the end was in sight for the Walsall Races. The death sentence was finally passed in February 1877, when the Long Meadow was sold to the Midland Railway Company.”

1881 Census

28-29, Upper Rushall Street – NAGS HEAD

- [1] *Abel R. Grove* (57), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Caroline Grove* (43), wife, birthplace not known;
- [3] *Kate H. Grove* (21), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Ellen B. Grove* (18), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *William H. Grove* (15), son, engraver, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Frank Grove* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Gertrude F. Grove* (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Harold E. Grove* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Blanch E. Grove* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [10] *Martha Wilcox* (17), general servant, born Bloxwich;
- [11] *Catherine L. Dewsbury* (38), visitor, born Birmingham:

Walsall Observer 11/4/1885

“The NAGS HEAD, Rushall Street. Mr. H. Nicholls (from the office of Messrs. Marlow, Potter and Morton) made an application on behalf of the above public house. He stated that when Mr. *Grove* died an application was made for the license to be transferred to Mrs. *Grove*, which was granted; but she died suddenly before the transfer was completed. He now applied for permission for a daughter of deceased to have the privilege of a temporary authority. The Bench said there was no objection, and the application was acceded to.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/11/1890

“At the guildhall, yesterday – before Messrs. S. Russel (Mayor), J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, E. Bliss, and Captain Brookes – *James Morris*, of the NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street, was summoned for having sold liquors during prohibited hours. Mr. Duignan (borough solicitor) appeared in support of the complaint, and Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. Cotterell) for the defence.

The evidence of Police-constables Curtis and Cattermole, and Police-sergeant Marshall, was to the effect that at twenty minutes past eleven on the night of the 28th October they saw a man named Thomas Aston standing outside the defendant’s house, and saw the door open and some vessel handed out from which Aston drank. He handed it back, and on Marshall and Curtis looking in the doorway they saw two men named Jefferson and Hunt there, the former in the act of wiping his mouth with the back of his hand. Hunt gave them the name of Cleveland. The landlord told them that the men had been working for him in fighting for the removal of a club from the WINDMILL TAVERN, and that Jefferson had actually been fetched from a sick bed to vote on his behalf. They had called as they were taking Jefferson home, and he had given them a glass of whisky each. Mr. Herbert said this was the literal truth, and after he had called witnesses the Bench dismissed the summons.”

James Morris was fined 40s and costs, for selling during prohibited hours.

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“There were 31 applications for dancing, singing and music licenses under the provisions of the new Corporation Act. The Bench heard all the applications and then retired to consider their decisions, which turned out to be in accordance with the principle which was laid down at a former Court, viz, that licenses should not be granted to vaults or public rooms, but should be confined to regular and existing clubs and class meetings in club rooms. Licenses were granted to.....
The NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street.”

1891 Census

28-29, Upper Rushall Street – NAGS HEAD

- [1] *James Morris* (54), widower, licensed victualler, born Kingswinford;
- [2] *Elsie D. Morris* (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] *Arthur P. Morris* (14), son, tailor, born Walsall;
- [4] *Walter J. Morris* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Harry C. Morris* (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mary A. Parker* (28), barmaid, born Birmingham;

[7] Hannah M. Walter (23), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton;

[8] John Potter (82), father in law, widower, retired farmer, born Fairley, Worcestershire:

Walsall Advertiser 2/7/1892

“Joseph Hughes (17), Regent Street, Pleck, was put forward on remand to answer five different charges (1) obtaining by false pretences 2s from Emily Mold, (2) obtaining by false pretences 2s from Peter Vickers, (3) obtaining by false pretences 2s from John Reynolds, (4) obtaining by false pretences 2s from John Hennessy, (5) obtaining by false pretences 2s from *Thomas Green Cleobury*.

Emily Mold, landlady of the GLOBE INN, Bridgeman Street, said that on the 25th the prisoner came to her house and obtained 2s from her, stating that it was for Mr. Lawson of the Conservative Club. He also said he was working for him in the committee room, and Mr. Lawson had gone to Birmingham without leaving him any money, and he was out of stationary. She gave him the money.

Ada Wadsworth corroborated.

Walter Lawson, secretary to the Walsall Conservative Association, said that he did not know the prisoner. He was not employed by the Association, and he had not authorised the prisoner or anyone else to borrow money on his account.

Detective Smith deposed to the arrest of the prisoner.

Peter Vickers, 48, Goodall Street, deposed that on Saturday last the prisoner came and asked him for 2s for Mr. Lawson, on the same representation as in the previous case.

John Reynolds, barman at the DUN COW, Wolverhampton Street, stated that the prisoner came to the house and asked for Mr. Egan, the landlord. Mr. Egan was out, and the prisoner said that he was employed in the Liberal Committee Rooms. He said Mr. Hughes had gone to Birmingham without leaving him any money, and he wanted 2s for stationary. Witness knew Mr. Hughes was secretary to the Liberal Association, and he gave prisoner the money.

Richard Harry Hughes, hon. sec. Liberal Association, said he did not know prisoner, and he had not authorised him or any other person to borrow money in his name.

Thomas Cleobury, landlord of the NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street, deposed to the prisoner asking him for 2s for Mr. Lawson. He did not lend him the money. He told him to go about his business, as he did not believe him.

John Hennessy, landlord of the BRADFORD ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, deposed to a similar attempt on the part of the prisoner, and his refusing to lend him the money.

The prisoner was returned for trial to the sessions on the several cases.”

[At the Walsall Quarter Session (July 1892), Joseph Hughes was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.]

Walsall Advertiser 23/7/1892 - Advert

“Public-House to Let. The NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street; old licensed; home-brewed ale, and doing a good business. Apply to the Proprietor.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/5/1893

“Ann Maria Grant, of the NAGS HEAD, Rushall Street, was also summoned for the same offence [unjust weights and measures] in respect of two unstamped measures of a quarter gill and half gill, and two unjust measures of half a gill each. Inspector Whitworth proved the case, and called his assistant, Clement Newton, to prove that a notice had been served at the NAGS HEAD. Defendant denied the receipt of a notice, and said the measures were ‘for ornament more than for use.’

A fine of 40s and costs was imposed in the case of the measures which were found to be deficient, and 10s and costs for the two unstamped measures.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/12/1893

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers' Society.

The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last, at the house of Mr. *Thomas G. Cleobury*, the NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1895

“Early yesterday morning a fire broke out behind the bar at the NAGS HEAD, Rushall Street, but, with the aid of a hand pump, the flames were subdued. The flooring was damaged, and an eighty gallon barrel of beer was spoiled by the water.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/9/1896

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *Thomas G. Cleobury*, NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street, was unanimously elected a member of the executive committee.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/1/1901

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held at the house of Mr. *Thomas Arrowsmith*, NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street.....”

1901 Census

28, Upper Rushall Street – NAGS HEAD

- [1] *Thomas Arrowsmith* (58), hotel keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Kate Arrowsmith* (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Thomas Arrowsmith* (17), son, barman, born Walsall;
- [4] *Arthur Arrowsmith* (15), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Kate Arrowsmith* (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Edna Arrowsmith* (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *May Arrowsmith* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] *Harriet Smith* (71), cook, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/5/1901

“Bernard Durkin, The Ditch, was summoned for being disorderly on licensed premises, and with refusing to quit on May 9th. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared to prosecute.

Kate Arrowsmith, wife of *Thomas Arrowsmith*, of the NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street, stated that on Thursday afternoon last the defendant and another man entered the house and tried to get up a fight with an old man, and witness ordered him out. He refused to go, and used most filthy language towards witness, and eventually threatened to strike her. Her son warded off the blow and defendant was ejected.

Defendant stated that he went out as soon as he was ordered to.

There were 70 previous convictions against the defendant, and the magistrate imposed a fine of 20s and costs, or 21 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1901

“Mr. T. H. Stanley, the Borough Coroner, held an inquest on Thursday afternoon at the NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street, touching the death of *Catherine Arrowsmith*, aged 38, wife of *Thomas Arrowsmith*, the landlord of that house. It seemed that on Tuesday the deceased was very busily engaged in the bar, being Christmas Eve, until eleven o’clock, and retired to rest about midnight, her husband having previously gone to bed, in a different room. Mrs. *Arrowsmith* slept with a daughter, aged 12, and did not undress further than taking off her boots. On the child awakening on Christmas morning she found her mother dead. Dr. Martland was sent for, and he gave the opinion that she had been dead some six hours, the body being perfectly rigid. There was a discharge from the nose and mouth, and discolouration about the chest and face. The general appearances indicated that she had had a convulsive fit, which might have been produced by the excitement on account of the business, or a little stimulation. Verdict, Died from Natural Causes.”

T. Arrowsmith was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Mr. Wilcock (Wolverhampton) appeared on behalf of Mr. *R. A. Harper*, owner of the NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street, who desired a permanent transfer from *Thomas Arrowsmith*. Mr. Wilcock said this house had been before the court since last September, when an application was made for a transfer to Mr. Deakin. There was no objection to Mr. Deakin, there was no objection by the police, and there had been nothing said as to what was the objection to the transfer. Mr. *Harper* bought the house six years ago for £3,000; he had since, with the permission of the Bench, expended £500 on alterations. During the time he had the house he had no intimation given to him to any cause of complaint against the tenant or in respect of the house. In regard to the notice of objection, he did not think he had ever met with a similar notice. When an objection was taken it was customary to state openly what had been done in order that the person who came for a renewal of the license might know what was alleged against him.

One objection was that the premises were not structurally suitable; but they had never heard anything being wrong with them.

They were on the eve of having the questions dealt with in Parliament; and if there was an excess of licenses it was a difficult matter to say which should be removed. If the house had not been conducted according to law the police would have intervened; as to the question of the telephone, that was taken out immediately the interim transfer was granted. Another objection was that a bona-fide licensing business was not carried on. He asked what was alleged to have been done that was not in conformity of the license. Was there a man who alleged that the licensee had done wrong? If so, let him stand forward, and they would answer it!

Mr. Loxton: Are you questioning the magistrates?

Mr. Wilcock said he had never known that the premises had been used for purposes for which they were not licensed.

Mr. Loxton said Mr. Wilcock was called upon to satisfy the magistrates as to the way in which the house had been conducted. In compliance with the Act of Parliament they had had notice requiring them to satisfy the magistrates as to the conduct of the house.

Mr. Wilcock said he had not got the grounds of objection.

Mr. Loxton said the license holder was asked to go into the box to satisfy the Bench.

Mr. Wilcock said there was no offence alleged and asked why they were there?

Mr. Loxton: Because the magistrates require proof. Is it an illegal course? – Mr. Wilcock: I say it is unfair.

Mr. *Thomas Arrowsmith*, the license holder, was then put into the box. He said the house had only been used for public business. He had had a home-brewed house for eight years for a dozen customers, and he had the telephone for his business.

Cross-examined by Mr. Loxton, witness said he had carried on the business of a coal haulier whilst he was at the house, but he had not carried on the business of a bookmaker and he had never made a bet through the telephone. He ‘never laid a bet in his life through the telephone.’

Dr. Lynch: Has the Chief Constable obtained the evidence we required? – The Chief Constable: Yes, I have obtained evidence as to the accommodation of the house, the number of licensed houses in the vicinity, and the population of the district.

Mr. Wilcock: You can oppose every house in the district on the same lines.

Dr. Lynch: Has any member of your family carried on betting in the house within five years? – *Arrowsmith*: Not to my knowledge.

Is it possible it was carried on without your knowledge? – Certainly not.

Is it impossible? – I think not.

Do you know a man named Barbury? – Yes.

Did he come to your house? – He came when he liked.

What is his occupation? – He has one arm, and was a clerk.

Is he a bookmaker? – I have nothing to do with him.

Who superintended your business? – I have sons, and had a wife.

Did they make a book in your house? – No; not to my knowledge.

Dr. Lynch: If you swear to that I have nothing more.

The Bench renewed the license.”

Patrick McTighe – see also MANDAMUS.

Walsall Advertiser 1/5/1909

“The transfer sessions were held before Mr. W. Bayliss (presiding), Sir R. T. Holden, and Mr. A. D. Cozens.....

In the case where Mr. *Harper* appeared in connection with plans submitted for alterations at the NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street, the Chief Constable said that the alterations had been stopped.

Mr. *Harper* said that the alterations were such that he did not think plans were necessary, and the drinking area was reduced.

Mr. Bayliss said the Bench would adjourn the matter until the next transfer day, and they wished it to be clearly understood that licensees in the town must not carry out any alterations without laying plans before the magistrates. In the meantime the Bench would inspect the premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Mr. Jackson appeared in support of an application for consent to alterations to the NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street, but the

Magistrates’ Clerk gave notice of objection to the renewal of the license on the grounds that it was not required and that unauthorised alterations had been carried out, and Mr. Jackson’s application was adjourned.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

Permission was given for alterations at the NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street, and the license renewed.”

1911 Census

Upper Rushall Street

[1] *John Richard Rodgers* (24), licensed victualler, born Langley;

[2] *Frederic Arthur Laurie* (36), caretaker, born Dudley;

[3] *Ada Louisa Laurie* (31), wife, married 9 years, housewife, born West Bromwich;

[4] *Frederic Wilkinson Laurie* (6), son, school, born West Bromwich:

Walsall Observer 13/6/1914

“*Edwin Blackmore* (47), baker, Upper Rushall Street, was charged with being drunk on licensed premises, the NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street, on Wednesday.

Chief Inspector Ballance stated that at 9.20 on Wednesday morning he was called into Upper Rushall Street, where he was told that a man had threatened to smash a tradesman’s head in with a bottle. As he went towards this public house he saw the man being ejected. He was drunk, and had in his possession a bottle half full of beer. Witness ascertained that he had not been served. Police-sergeant Jones gave corroborative evidence, and a fine of £5 and costs was imposed.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street. £1 1s 2½d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/2/1936

“Walsall Licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday.....

Mr. Cooper applied on behalf of Messrs. Butler & Co, Wolverhampton, for the removal of the license of the NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street, to premises proposed to be erected at Wallows Lane, Bescot. Mr. Cooper said there was no other house within a quarter of a mile of the proposed site. A canvass of the adult population of the area showed that out of 1,200, 1,106 favoured the application, 53 were against it, and 48 neutral. The brewery company were also prepared to surrender another license, the name of which he handed in. He added that the approximate cost of the new house would be £5,000, excluding the purchase of the ground. Mr. A. V. Haden, on behalf of the Temperance Society and other bodies opposed.”

Kenneth Dawes – see also TIGER.

It closed at 2pm on 16th November 1937.
The license was transferred to the KING GEORGE V.

NAVIGATION

Marsh Lane, Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Elizabeth Powell [1818]
Henry Thornhill [1822]

NOTES

Marsh Lane [1822]

It was situated on the right hand side of the street.
[from Wolverhampton St. ?]

[1812]

NELSON

82, (56), (54), Church Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Mr. Keay, Wednesbury
Mrs. Keay
Henry Beech, Bloxwich (acquired in February 1885)
William Walker
J. and J. Yardley and Co. Ltd.
Old Wolverhampton Brewery Ltd. [1913]

LICENSEES

Joseph Fisher [c.1866]
Thomas Lester [1867] – [1885];
William Walker [1886] – **1894**);
Sarah Walker (**1894 – 1896**);
Frederick William Johnson (**1896 – 1901**);
Eliza Johnson (**1901**);
Mrs. Sarah Walker (**1901 – 1904**);
David Lawrence (**1904 – 1908**);
Joseph Wall (**1908 – 1914**):

NOTES

56+54, Church Street [1881]

54, Church Street [1891]
82, Church Street [1901], [1911]

It was originally an unnamed beerhouse.

London Gazette 28/7/1868

“*Joseph Fisher*, at present residing in lodgings at Mr. George Perry’s, in Church-street, Bloxwich, in the county of Stafford, out of business, and lately residing at and keeping a Beerhouse called the NELSON, in Church-street, Bloxwich aforesaid, Beerhouse Keeper, Butcher, and Blacksmith, adjudicated bankrupt on the 9th day of April, 1868. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 22nd day of July, 1868.”

1871 Census

69, Church Street – The NELSON

- [1] *Thomas Lester* (27), butcher, born Bloxwich;
 - [2] Sarah Anne Lester (24), wife, born Bloxwich;
 - [3] Ann M. Lester (3), daughter, born Bloxwich;
 - [4] Henry T. Lester (1), son, born Bloxwich;
 - [5] Ann M. Molton (15), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:
- [This is included to show that he was a butcher.]

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1874

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall took place yesterday, at the Guildhall.....
The undermentioned persons applied for wine licenses.....
Thomas Lester, beerhouse keeper, Bloxwich. Refused”

1881 Census

56+54, Church Street – Public House and Butcher’s Shop

- [1] *Thomas Lester* (40), publican and butcher, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Sarah A. Lester (34), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Ann M. Lester (13), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 9/8/1881 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor and the Chief Constable of the Borough of Walsall, in the County of Stafford; and to all it may concern.

I, *Thomas Lester*, of 54, Church Street, Bloxwich, in the Borough of Walsall, Beer Retailer, Do Hereby Give Notice, that it is my intention to apply at the General Annual Licensing Meeting for the said Borough of Walsall, to be holden at the Guildhall, in the Borough aforesaid, on the 26th day of August, next ensuing, for a License to Sell by Retail Wines, at the house, shop, and premises situate at 54, Church Street, Bloxwich, in the said Borough, and known as the NELSON INN, to be drunk in the said house, shop, and on the said premises.

Given under my hand this 30th day of July, 1881.

Thomas Lester.”

Lichfield Mercury 2/9/1881

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough took place at the Guildhall, on Friday.....

Mr. Loxton (instructed by the Licensed Victuallers’ Association) opposed every one of the subsequent applications.....

Thomas Lester, the NELSON INN, Church Street, Bloxwich, to sell wine on the premises (supported by Mr. Brookes). Refused.”

Walsall Observer 17/1/1885

“Mr. Thomas H. Farrington is favoured with instructions from the Executors of the late Mrs. Keay to Sell by Auction on Monday, the 2nd day of February, 1885.....

The Freehold Public House, known as the NELSON INN, and the Butcher’s Shop adjoining, situate in Church Street (at the corner of the Flats), in Bloxwich; together with the Slaughterhouse, Stable, and Outbuildings thereto belonging, all being now in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Lester*. The Premises comprise Corner Retail Shop, large Tap Room, Bar, Kitchen, 2 Brewhouses, Malt Room, Slaughterhouse, entire Yard, with gateway entrance, large Cellar, and 5 Bedrooms.

And also the Four Freehold Dwelling-Houses or Cottages.....

The property produces together, at low rents, £61 8s 0d per annum in the gross.....”

Walsall Observer 7/2/1885

“On Monday Mr. T. H. Farrington offered for sale by auction, at the SPOTTED COW INN, Bloxwich, a freehold property consisting of the NELSON INN, a butcher’s shop and four dwelling houses. The total annual value of the property was £61 3s.

There was a large company present; and the property, which started at £500, was knocked down to Mr. H. Beech at £750.....”

William Walker was fined 10s and costs, on 7th April 1886, for permitting drunkenness.

Lichfield Mercury 6/6/1890 - Advert

“Important Sale of Two Freehold Beerhouses at Bloxwich.

To Be Sold By Auction by Messrs Watkins and Powell, at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, on Monday, June 9th, 1890, at Six o'clock pm precisely.....

Lot 2. The Capital free Beerhouse known as the NELSON INN, situate in Church Street, Bloxwich, in the occupation of Mr. *William Walker*, at an annual rent of £25. The house contains bar, tap-room, sitting-room, kitchen, corner shop, malt-room, four bed-rooms, and three cellars, with convenient yard and stabling at the rear. Lot 2 is freehold, and is well situate for doing a good trade.....”

Walsall Advertiser 14/6/1890

“On Monday evening last at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, before a large and representative gathering Mr. H. C. Powell (Messrs. Watkins and Powell) offered by auction two freehold beerhouses situate at Bloxwich.....”

Lot 2, the free beerhouse known as NELSON INN, situate in Church Street Bloxwich, in the occupation of Mr. *W. Walker* at an annual rent of £25. This lot is freehold. Biddings again started at £200, but after some spirited competition was sold for £650.....”

1891 Census

54, Church Street

- [1] *William Walker* (45), butcher, born Bilston;
- [2] Sarah Walker (45), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Richard Walker (23), son, butcher, born Pensnett;
- [4] Keaty Walker (11), daughter, born Eastwood, Nottinghamshire;
- [5] Thomas Walker (4), son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Sarah Walker (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] William Walker (8 months), son, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Elizabeth Allen (23), daughter, married, domestic servant, born Oldbury;
- [9] Frances Allen (5 months), granddaughter, born Bloxwich:

David Lawrence was fined 5s and costs, on 3rd January 1901, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 20/4/1901

“This being transfer day, the following licenses changed hands.....

NELSON, Church Street, Bloxwich, from the executors of *Fredk. Wm. Johnson* to *Eliza Johnson*.”

1901 Census

82, Church Street

- [1] *Eliza Johnson* (40), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Frederick Johnson (16), son, born Walsall;
- [3] Eliza Johnson (15), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] Lydia Johnson (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Gerty Johnson (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Daniel Johnson (8), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Walter Johnson (2), son, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Elizabeth Colman (19), domestic servant, born Cannock:

Walsall Advertiser 1/8/1903

“Anthony Boden (28), a hawker, was charged with stealing a horse, the property of *Sarah Walker*, at Bloxwich, between the 21st and 22nd of May, 1903. Mr. G. Lewis prosecuted and Mr. R. Thomas defended.

Prosecutrix keeps the NELSON INN, at Bloxwich. On May 19th the prisoner went to the house, and bargained for her pony for £7 10s, and he paid a deposit of 10s, and then asked that he might have the pony and he would pay the remainder in a few days. Prosecutrix refused as prisoner was unknown to her. The same night, however, prisoner was found by Thomas Dolan, in whose field the animal was, trying to catch it, and he refused to allow prisoner to take it. On the morning of May 22nd, the pony was missed from the field, and information was given to the police. On June 6th prisoner was arrested at Fenton, where he was living, and the pony recovered. When charged with the theft, prisoner said, ‘It’s not stealing; it’s a County Court job.’

Prisoner was convicted, and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment with hard labour.

Thomas Gray (30), baker, was then charged with being an accessory after the fact, and with assisting Boden to elude the pursuit of justice. Mr. B. C. Brough defended.

It appeared that both Gray and Boden had been living at Fenton together. On the evening of June 6th Gray went to Mrs. *Walker* and asked her if she got her money or the pony back to take no further steps in the matter. She declined, and sent for the police, and prisoner was arrested. On this he gave information with the result that Boden was arrested. Mr. Brough submitted that there was no guilty knowledge shown on the part of Gray of the theft, and the learned Commissioner concurring, the prisoner was discharged.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable inter-

est. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Sarah Walker, NELSON INN.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/1/1906

“At the Guildhall, on Wednesday, *David Lawrence*, NELSON INN, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises; and John Silvery, 54, Revival Street, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, on the 26th inst. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended Lawrence.

Inspector Marshall stated the on the date named, in company with Detective Wilcox, of the county police, stationed at Lichfield, he went to the NELSON INN, making enquiries in a robbery case. They stood outside the house for about five minutes, and during that time he did not notice anyone either leave or enter the house. When he entered he saw Silvery sitting on a form by the front window, and he was very drunk. He called to him, and it took the defendant Silvery all his time to stand up and walk. He pointed out the defendant’s condition to the landlord, who replied, ‘Yes, he is drunk. I did not know he was in; I have just come from my dinner.’ There was a number of jugs containing beer on the tables, and about eleven men in the house. He could not say the man had been served at the house.

In cross-examination, Inspector Marshall admitted that after enquiring of the men if defendant had been served with anything, he said he was satisfied that the man had not had any beer there. The men in the house were all eating something.

Mr. Jackson pointed out that at Christmas time it was the custom at some houses to give beef sandwiches to their customers.

(To the Inspector): Bloxwich is notorious for its hospitality on these festive days isn’t it? – Inspector Marshall: I don’t know that it is, more than any other place.

Detective Wilcox (county police) corroborated.

Mr. Jackson pointed out that the landlord had no idea that Silvery was in the house; he must have gone in while the landlord was having his dinner. Inspector Marshall was quite satisfied that Silvery had not been served with anything, after questioning the other men, and he submitted that there was no charge that could be substantiated to register a conviction.

The landlord stated that he had kept the NELSON for about a year and eight months, and before he went there he kept the KINGS ARMS at Pelsall for four years without complaint. He did not see Silvery enter his premises, and when his attention was called to him, he could see that he was the worse for beer. He had just been to have his dinner, and the man was not in the house when he left it.

Job Welsh said that he was in the house when Inspector Marshall came in, and the defendant Silvery had been in the house about two minutes.

After a private deliberation, Dr. Lynch said the Bench were satisfied that a technical offence had been committed. Silvery would be fined 20s and costs, and Lawrence 5s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Black List From Bloxwich. The Chief Constable reported that three license holders had been fined, viz, W. C. Athersmith, VINE INN, Bloxwich, under the Child Messenger Act, and Sarah Waterfield, VICTORIA STORES, Bloxwich, and *David Lawrence*, NELSON INN, Bloxwich, for permitting drunkenness.

These licenses were renewed, with a caution.”

1911 Census

82, Church Street

- [1] *Joseph Wall* (36), publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Harriett Wall* (36), wife, married 10 years, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Joseph Ralph Wall* (9), son, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Alice May Wall* (7), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Grace Evelyn Wall* (6 weeks), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Emanuel Lawrence* (23), servant, brewer, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Violet Almark* (15), servant, born Bloxwich:

Joseph Wall, beer retailer, 82, Church Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

The following were the notices of objection (Compensation Clause).....

NEW INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Hy. Mellor).

SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Jacob Williams).

NELSON, Church Street, Bloxwich. (*Jos. Wall*).

STAG, Field Street, Bloxwich. (Jane Tolley).

PLOUGH, Cemetery Road, (Charles Mansfield).
RISING SUN, Park Road, Bloxwich, (Charles Orgill).
STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, (Charles Ernest Perry).
BEEHIVE, New Street, Bloxwich, (Benjamin Hughes).”
AND

“In the case of the NELSON, Church Street, Bloxwich, Mr. Pritchard again appeared for the landlord and the owners, the Old Wolverhampton Brewery Co. Ltd.

Inspector Pritchard said that the street contained, in addition to the NELSON, one fully-licensed house and an off-licensed house. The population of the street was 354 persons over sixteen, 240 under sixteen, 100 occupying houses, and two boys. He had visited the house on nineteen occasions in ten weeks and found 145 persons there, or on average 13 customers per visit. The landlord had one front room apart, in which he carried on the business of butcher and grocer, and he had an entrance to this room from the licensed premises.

In reply to Mr. Pritchard, witness said that if the NELSON was taken away there would be no on-licensed house between the QUEENS HEAD and the VICTORIA STORES, a distance of 350 yards. The house had a very fair trade and was more convenient to the people in that particular street than either of the two houses mentioned.

The landlord, Mr. *Joseph Wall*, said he was tied to the brewery company, but did some brewing on the premises himself. The trade he did was perfectly satisfactory and he could live on it, but he tried to make more from the business of butcher and grocer which he carried on.

The Bench again reserved their decision, and the Court adjourned till Friday.”

AND

“The Court re-assembled yesterday (Friday) morning.....

Having retired, the Bench announced that the licenses of the STAG and the STORES would be renewed for this year, but might be considered at some future date. The remaining six houses would be referred to the compensation authorities.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 7th February 1913.

Walsall Advertiser 31/5/1913

“The principal meeting of the Compensation Authority for the Borough of Walsall was held on Tuesday morning at the Guildhall.....

The NELSON, beerhouse, Church street, Bloxwich, the owners being Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd, and the tenant Mr. *Joseph Wall*, was next considered. Mr. Pritchard (Wolverhampton) appeared for the parties. The rent was £30 and the average annual trade in barrels was 355. The licensee carried on a small business as a butcher and grocer, but could live on his licensed trade. The license was refused.”

Compensation was paid.

It closed on 2nd January 1914.

NEW FULLBROOK

246, West Bromwich Road / Broadway, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

[Soho Tavern Group](#) [2021]

LICENSEES

Harold Ernest Alger (1926 – 1928);

Albert Thomas Sherwood (1928 – 1931);

Herbert Guest (1931 – 1949);

Bernard John Williams (1949 – 1964);

Gordon Alfred George Turley (1964 – 1966);

Dennis Stokes Chapman (1966 – []

Sam Wilkes [1989]

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/5/1925

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Monday, before a full Bench.....

The justices also confirmed the removal of the ROEBUCK INN, Upper Rushall Street, to premises about to be erected at the junction of the new ring road and Westbromwich Road. The Hon. Sir Reginald Coventry, who made the application, pointed out that Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers were giving up the ROEBUCK INN without compensation, and were also giving up the FULLBROOK INN in West Bromwich Road, which would enable the road widening to be carried out.”

It was opened on 13th October 1926.

Harold Ernest Algar – see also BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, and SWAN WITH TWO NECKS.

1939 Register

246, West Bromwich Road – NEW FULLBROOK INN

[1] *Herbert Guest*, date of birth 23/10/1893, public house manager, married;

[2] Sarah A. Guest, dob 31/8/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Herbert F. Guest, dob 14/4/1922, joiner and carpenter, single;

[4] Jessie B. Guest, dob 6/2/1925, at school, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

NEW FULLBROOK HOTEL, West Bromwich Road, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

NEW FULLBROOK, West Bromwich Road. £0 19s 3d.”

Dennis Stokes Chapman – see also LITTLETON ARMS.

[2009]

FULLBROOK LOUNGE & SPORTS BAR [2011], [2019]

Express & Star 14/10/2021

“A prominent Walsall venue will have a brand new identity for the first time in decades if plans to convert it into an Indian Gastro-pub are given the go-ahead. Plans have been put forward to transform the NEW FULLBROOK on West Bromwich Road and the Broadway into the SOHO TAVERN, creating more than 30 jobs in the process. Mikey Singh, director of the Soho Tavern Group, said the first phase of investment in refurbishing the bar will be in the region of £200,000 and they hope to be open within weeks of getting planning permission. The pub, which is currently shut and closed off by hoardings, will be extended on the ground floor while five apartments will be created on the first floor, should the proposal get the go-ahead. The FULLBROOK had been a favourite for football fans for years and is located on one of the main routes to Walsall FC’s Banks’s Stadium. One of its darkest days came back in April 1995, when Crystal Palace fan Paul Nixon was killed outside the pub during a violent clash with rival supporters. The 35-year-old was one of many who travelled from London to Walsall ahead of his team’s FA Cup semi-final clash with Manchester United at Villa Park. A floral and football shirt tribute at the rear of the FULLBROOK is maintained to this day. But the pub is now set for a major overhaul complete with a name change and new look bar and dining area with Mr Singh keen to point out it will be much more than a ‘desi pub’. He said, ‘Customers can expect to see a Indian Gastropub which is family friendly. Our look will be one of that a pub in Walsall is yet to deliver. We will have an open state-of-the-art open kitchen which will cook vegan/vegetarian food separate to meat, with a 150 seater dining area. In addition to this we are set to have a private dining area which will be available to book for up to 40 people. In doing all of this we will also be keeping a small modern pub area separate to our dining side. Although our branches have won awards for best desi pubs in the Midlands we would not describe ourselves as ‘desi pubs.’ We are more of a Indian Gastropub group. By this we mean we specialise in more than just food. We have used locally sourced ingredients in all our food and we sell locally sourced ales – a part of our group is a multi-award winning local ale pub, ‘The Black Eagle.’ We have a sports bar aspect were we will have all live events showing. Furthermore, our ranges of beer range from places all over the continent. In terms of this side of Walsall, we believe it has been crying out for a family friendly place and we can see this in all the positive feedback we have been getting from the local and wider communities. Subject to planning we look create up 25 part time jobs along with around 10 full-time jobs. We will be employing locally with an opportunity for young people to get their first insights into the world of work. Within six weeks of obtaining planning we should be open. The level of investment for phase one the refurbishment and extension of the ground floor will be approximately £200,000.’

Planning officers at Walsall Council are anticipated to make a decision on the proposal towards the end of November.”

Express & Star 6/4/2022

“A transformation of a prominent Walsall venue into an Indian gastropub has been given the green light. The NEW FULL-BROOK, at West Bromwich Road and the Broadway, will be turned into the SOHO TAVERN, creating more than 30 jobs once work is complete. The project will see the ground floor extended, along with a further double-storey side extension. The first floor will be converted to create five apartments.....

Architects Bharya Design said the building has suffered from vandalism but added they were delighted the revamp can now go ahead. Director Daljit Bharya said, ‘Bharya Design successfully secured planning permission with submission of detailed meticulous plans and provided full support by addressing all issues raised by the council throughout the project. The FULLBROOK had recently become derelict attracting vandals and concerns for local residents. Now that planning has been approved it won’t be long before a new lease of life is breathed into the FULLBROOK as an Indian gastropub, also creating around 30 jobs in the process. Once known as a favourite for football fans, the proud new owners, Soho Tavern Group now hope to create a new community hub providing a family-friendly dining and events venue and a host for charitable community projects/events.....”

NEW INN

148, (246), (17), (7), Blakenall Lane (54, Blakenall) / Chapel Street, Blakenall Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Charles Whitehouse
S. Cox Esq.
Lichfield Brewery Co. Ltd.
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased from 23rd January 1932)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)
Pubmaster

LICENSEES

Charles Whitehouse [1856] – [1881] – **188_**);
Thomas William Vale (**188_** – **189_**); [1893]
Joseph Whitehead [1896] (**189_** – **1913**);
Harry Westwood (**1913** – **1922**);
Ernest Raymond Westwood (**1922** – **1924**);
Mrs. Helen Westwood (**1924** – **1933**);
Mrs. Dora Mary Westwood (**1933** – **1941**);
William Kent (**1941** – **1951**);
Norman Edward Jeffery (**1951** – **1954**);
Joshua Jackson (**1954** – **1960**);
Jack Spruce (**1960** – **1963**);
Mabel Brown (**1963** – **1964**);
George Albert Hudson (**1964** – **1965**);
Bernard Charles Carney (**1965**);
Henry Leonard Gulliver (**1965** – **1967**);
Ronald Harry Cox (**1967** – []

NOTES

7, Blakenall Lane [1861]
54, Blakenall [1871]
17, Blakenall Lane [1881], [1891], [1901]
246, Blakenall Lane [1911]
148, Blakenall Lane [1939]

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day appointed for the renewal of old licenses, and considering the application for new ones, there was a rather full attendance of magistrates.....

There were no less than twenty-eight applications for new licenses, all of which were refused with the exception of *Charles Whitehouse*, beerhouse keeper, Blakenall.....

The applications were for the most part refused, in consequence of the number of houses already licensed in the respective localities, and in a few instances from the want of sufficient accommodation.”

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....
Charles Whitehouse, Blakenhall. Refused.”

C. Whitehouse, beerhouse, Blakenhall. [1858]

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers’ licenses.....
Charles Whitehouse, Blakenhall. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....
Charles Whitehouse, Blakenhall. Refused.”

Charles Whitehouse, beer retailer and iron chain maker, Blakenhall. [1861]

1861 Census

7, Blakenall Lane

- [1] *Charles Whitehouse* (37), beerhouse keeper, born Blakenall;
- [2] Alice Whitehouse (34), wife, born Blakenall;
- [3] Eliza Whitehouse (13), daughter, scholar, born Blakenall;
- [4] Sarah Whitehouse (4), daughter, scholar, born Blakenall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 16/6/1861

“G. Wootton of Bloxwich will run E. Lees of the same place 100 yards, if he will give him three yards start, or 120 yards with four yards start, for from £5 to £25 a side. Money ready any night next week at *C. Whitehouse’s*, NEW INN, Blakenhall.”

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861

“The business of the general licensing day then commenced. There were seventeen applications.....

Mr. *Charles Whitehouse*, Blakenall, applied through Mr. Wilkinson, who referred to the many applications made by Mr. *Whitehouse*, and to the hopes which he (Mr. *Whitehouse*) at least imagined had been held out to him that his application might be successful if a new house were built. Mr. *Whitehouse* has at an expense of between £500 and £600 built a new and spacious house, and the great reason for refusing the licence of former occasions – that his house was old and incommodious – was now removed. Application refused.”

Charles Whitehouse, retailer of beer, Blakenall. [1862]

Bell’s Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/2/1865

“I. Goodreid of Bloxwich is surprised that Bateman of Wolverhampton should challenge him to run 140 or 200 yards level. If Bateman really means business Goodreid will run him if he will give four yards in 110, for £20 a side; to come off in seven weeks from signing articles; or he will take three yards of Mills of Wednesbury in the like distance, for the same sum. Money ready at Mr. *Whitehouse’s*, NEW INN, Blakenall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/7/1867

“ROYAL OAK Grounds, Burnt Tree, near Dudley. Tipton Wake, Monday and Tuesday, July 22 and 23.

Mr. Nuttall will give £10 to be run for in an All England Handicap Foot Race, distance 140 yards; first prize £8, second 30s, third 10s. Entrance 1s 6d each, no acceptances. Entries to be made no later than July 15 at the grounds, or to *C. Whitehouse*, NEW INN, Blakenhall; M. Whitehouse, BELL AND CUCKOO, Stafford Street, Walsall; Mr. Boston, Wolverhampton; or Welsh, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Oldbury. Anyone entering falsely will be disqualified. Stamps as cash. Runners admitted free.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/12/1867

“Vale, W. Purslow, and J. Taylor of Bloxwich have made their money good (£5 each) to run 120 yards, the winner to take the £15. To be on the mark at half-past twelve o’clock on Thursday, Dec 26. Mr. *C. Whitehouse* of the NEW INN, Blakenall, is stakeholder and referee.”

Charles Whitehouse was also a shopkeeper. [1868], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

54, Blakenall – NEW INN

- [1] *Charles Whitehouse* (46), publican and bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Alice Whitehouse (44), wife, born Bloxwich;

- [3] Sarah A. Whitehouse, (14), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Elizabeth Whitehouse (6) granddaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Carrie Edwards (20), visitor, born Bloxwich:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/6/1872

“Emery’s bitch Crow of Brownhills and Cotton’s bitch Silk of Blakenall are matched to run 200 yards, for £10 a side, Silk to receive three yards and a half to the pound, and a dog to be slipped in front. £5 a side is down in the hands of Mr. *Whitehouse*, of the NEW INN, Blakenall, who is stakeholder and referee. To run on June 24.”

1881 Census

17, Blakenhall Lane – NEW INN

- [1] *Charles Whitehouse* (57), widower, licensed victualler, born Blakenhall;
- [2] *Thomas Vale* (32), son in law, butcher, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Elizabeth Vale (32), daughter, house keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Sarah Ann Vale (5), granddaughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] William Vale (10), grandson, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Elizabeth Stokes (16), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Harriet Masklew (19), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 16/6/1885 - Advert

“Walsall Conservative Association.

Mr. Frank Fearnley (of Kidderminster) Will Address Conservative Meetings, to be held on Tuesday Evening, June 16th at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ryecroft, and on Wednesday Evening, June 17th, at the NEW INN, Ryecroft, Blakenall Heath.

The Conservatives of the Pleck Division also hold a meeting at the NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, on Wednesday, June 17th.

Chairs to be taken each Evening at 8pm.

Working Men Are Invited to Attend.

H. H. Cannell, Secretary.”

Lichfield Mercury 4/2/1887

“On Friday Mr. T. H. Stanley, borough coroner, held an inquest at the NEW INN, Blakenall, on the body of Arthur Reginald Davenport, 17, who was injured by an explosion of gas at the Fishley Colliery, on the 14th of November. Mr. R. Thomas, jun. attended on behalf of the overseers of the colliery. The evidence was the same as that adduced as that of the body of deceased’s father, the late Mr. Richard Savage Davenport, mining engineer, who was also injured by the explosion, and who died of the following day, with the addition that Dr. Somerville testified that the deceased was going favourably until Monday, when he was taken with epileptic fits, which resulted in his death. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

1891 Census

17, Blakenall Lane

- [1] *Thomas Vale* (43), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Elizabeth Vale (43), wife, born Blakenall;
- [3] Sarah Vale (16), daughter, born Blakenall;
- [4] Ernest Vale (10), son, scholar, born Blakenall;
- [5] Frank Vale (8), son, scholar, born Blakenall;
- [6] Elizabeth Clarke (20), domestic servant, born Bilston:

Birmingham Daily Post 29/12/1891

“Yesterday Mr. T. H. Stanley (coroner) held an inquest at the NEW INN, Blakenall, on the body of Joseph Peace (30), a widower, of 23, Blakenall Lane, who cut his throat with a razor on Saturday night. The evidence bore out the statement already published as to the determined manner in which deceased gashed his throat, and as to the depressed state of mind in which he had been through in want of work. Verdict, Temporary Insanity.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/11/1894

“On Wednesday evening last, at the NEW INN, Blakenall, Mr. Walter Hughes satisfactorily disposed of three blocks of property by auction. There was a large company present, and unusual interest manifested in the sale. Lot 1 comprised four freehold houses producing a rental of £41 3s 4d. For this the first bidding was £300, and after a very keen competition the lot realised £527 10s. For Lot 2, a freehold double-fronted house and workshop, the first bidding was £100 and this lot realised £250. Lot 3 comprised six newly-built houses fronting Providence Lane, Leamore, producing £74 8s a year, which are leasehold for 99 years from 24th June, 1894, at a ground rent of £5 6s 3d. £400 was the first bid for this lot, and it was eventually sold for £700, making a total for the evening’s sale of £1, 477. The solicitors acting for the vendors were Messrs. Wilkinson, Mills, and Walford, of Walsall.”

Joseph Whitehead = Joseph Whitehouse

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1897

“Public singing and music licenses were granted as follows.....

Joseph Whitehouse, NEW INN, Blakenall (7 to 10.30pm every Saturday).”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

“Sick and Dividend Club. A supper in connection with the above club was held at Mr. *J Whitehead*’s NEW INN, Blakenall on the 18th ult. After the cloth had been withdrawn Mr. J. Moseley was voted to the chair, and Mr. G. Yardley to the vice chair.....”

Walsall Observer 21/4/1900

“A grand smoking concert was held at the NEW INN, Blakenall, the house of Mr. *J. Whitehead*, for the benefit of the juveniles of the Free Gardeners branch annual trip, on Saturday the 7th inst. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. Moseley, the vice chair by Mr. H. Degwell.....”

Walsall Observer 2/6/1900

“A supper was held at Mr. *J. Whitehead*’s , NEW INN, Blakenall, on Saturday night last, to celebrate the Queen’s birthday and the relief of Mafeking. Between 30 and 40 sat down to a splendid repast out on the table by the host and hostess in their usual style. After the cloth was drawn, the evening was filled up with harmony.....”

Walsall Observer 10/11/1900

“The annual supper in connection with the Lodge No.1733, of the National United Order of Free Gardeners was held on October 27th, at Mr. *J. Whitehead*’s, NEW INN, Blakenall Heath, when over forty sat down to a grand spread.....”

1901 Census

17, Blakenall Lane – NEW INNS

[1] *Joseph Whitehead* (44), licensed victualler, born Bedworth, Warwickshire;

[2] Annie E. Whitehead (39), wife, born Lichfield;

[3] Martha Bradford (24), domestic servant, born Blakenall;

[4] Ernest W. Whitehead (14), son, solicitor’s joint clerk, born Lichfield:

Joseph Whitehead was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 1/3/1902

“National United Order Of Free Gardeners. A smoking concert was held on Saturday, at Mr. *J. Whitehead*’s, NEW INNS, Blakenall, for the benefit of Brother Samuel Holyman, a member of the above lodge, who has been unable to follow his employment for some considerable time. Councillor John Williams presided, and Councillor C. C. Walker was in the vice-chair. Afterwards the following programme was gone through in excellent style: Pianoforte solo, ‘Come Back to Erin,’ Miss Jones; song, ‘Dolly Grey’ (encore, ‘Honeysuckle and the Bee’), Miss Jones; song, ‘Marguerite’ Mr. J. Wright; song, ‘Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep,’ Mr. D. Owen; comic song, ‘Trying it on’ (encore, ‘Nice night this evening’), Mr. Harry Lawrence; song, ‘Soldier and a Man,’ Mr. H. Degwell; song, ‘Granny’s Counsel,’ Miss Jones; song, ‘Portrait of my wife,’ Mr. D. Owen; ‘Queen of the Earth,’ Mr. J. Wright; song, ‘Must You,’ Mr. Nicholls; song, ‘Sons of the Motherland’ (encore, ‘Ha’porth of Gold’), Mr. Harry Lawrence; song, ‘Framed in oak,’ Mr. H. Selvey; song, ‘England’s Prize,’ Mr. J. Dutson. A few remarks by the Chairman and Vice-chairman, and the singing of the National Anthem brought the very pleasant evening to a close.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/5/1902

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Joseph Whitehead*, NEW INN, Blakenall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 4/4/1903

“Blakenall Free Gardeners. A large gathering of Pride of Blakenall members and friends took place at the NEW INN, Blakenall, on Monday evening, the occasion being a smoking concert in connection with the Juvenile Outing Fund.....”

Walsall Advertiser 23/5/1903

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday evening at the house of Mr. *Joseph Whitehead*, NEW INN, Blakenall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 4/7/1908

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week, at the NEW INN, Blakenall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 3/7/1909

“Mr. R. A. Cooper, prospective Unionist Candidate for the borough of Walsall, was initiated a member of the Grand Independent Order of Loyal Caledonian Corks at the ordinary meeting of Lodge 65, of the Walsall District, held in the NEW INNS, Blakenall, Bloxwich, on Monday evening.....”

Walsall Observer 23/1/1915

“At the Walsall county Court on Thursday, Mr. Frank Cooper made an application, under the Workmen’s Compensation Act, on

behalf of Henry Mills, a professional footballer, of Balls Hill, Walsall, for an award against Messrs. Charles Ross, Bloxwich Road, Leamore; *E. Westwood*, NEW INNS, Blakenall; E. Perry, The STORES, High Street, Bloxwich; and W. H. Bratt, RED LION, Leamore (secretary), as representing the Bloxwich Strollers Football Club. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared on behalf of the club.

The applicant, who is a well-known footballer in Walsall, and was previously connected with one of the Manchester clubs, met with an injury on February 14 whilst playing for Bloxwich Strollers, sustaining a broken leg. He was paid £1 weekly from the date of the accident to August 1st, 1914, when the payment was stopped.

Mr. Cooper said there was a request for arbitration on the file, and he (Mr. Cooper) agreed to an award of £40 in full settlement of all claims.

Mr. Jackson said the man has commenced work again.

An award by consent of £40 was made.”

Walsall Observer 28/10/1916 - Roll of Honour

“Sergeant Isaiah Brookes, who was wounded in April last, had been back in France with his battalion of the Grenadier Guards, only fifteen days, when he lost his right arm in a charge, the second time he had been ‘over the top’ since he returned. A single man, 32 years of age, he was employed, up to September 2, 1914, when he enlisted, at Messrs. Hawley’s, Lichfield Road, and resided with his aunt Mrs. *Westwood*, at the NEW INNS, Blakenall. The wound he received in April had made him deaf in the right ear, and he could scarcely see with his left eye. He is now in hospital in Sheffield, and, describing his experiences to his cousin says that they were charging over No Mans Land when a private soldier yelled to him, ‘Look at your arm, sergeant.’ In the excitement of the charge he had not noticed that he had been hit, but looking down, saw his arm hanging limp by his side. Then comes a gruesome part in the narrative. Seizing hold of the injured limb with his sound arm, Sergeant Brookes pulled it down his sleeve from the elbow, where it had been badly smashed by a piece of shell, and was almost severed, and threw it away! He had been at the Front about twelve months when he was first wounded.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
NEW INN, Blakenall. £2 14s 10½d.”

1911 Census

246, Blakenall Lane

[1] *Joseph Whitehead* (54), licensed victualler, born Bedworth, Warwickshire;

[2] Annie Elizabeth Whitehead (50), wife, born Swinfen, Lichfield;

[3] Ernest William Whitehead (24), son, insurance inspector, born Lichfield;

[4] Elizabeth Farnell (23), domestic servant, born Blakenall:

Joseph Whitehead – see also TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood.

A Provisional Grant for the license removal to new premises erected partly on land forming part of the existing premises and partly on land forming the site of an existing cottage, was made on 9th March 1937.

The new premises opened at 2pm on 5th March 1938.

1939 Register

148, Blakenall Lane (3 of 4)

[1] Ernest Westwood, date of birth 9/3/1887, victualler, married;

[2] *Dora M. Westwood*, dob 21/2/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Harry Westwood, dob 10/9/1917, assistant, licensed trade at home, single;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

NEW INN, Blakenall, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“We gather from Mrs. Drabble, of the W.V.S., that 209 Walsall lads in the fighting forces applied directly to her for winter comforts. These will be sent. Where possible individual application should be made with full addresses to which parcels can be despatched. In appreciation of this work Mrs. *Westwood*, of the NEW INN, Blakenall, has sent to Mrs. Drabble £3 11s 6d subscribed by her customers.”

Walsall Observer 6/11/1943 - In Memoriam

“Sweet memories of a dear mother, *Helen Westwood*, late of the NEW INNS, Blakenall. A real good mother, ever true, a loving gran, a dear friend too. Never forgotten. *Dora*, Ernie and Harry.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

NEW INNS, Blakenall. £0 5s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 17/2/1945

“Members of ‘B’ and ‘C’ Companies of the Walsall Home Guard have formed an Old Comrades Club, which is to hold social gatherings on the first Wednesday of each month. If the attendance of 120 at the first of them, which took place at the NEW INNS, Blakenall, may be taken as an indication, the club is destined to be a great success. During the evening a number of certificates were presented and an enjoyable musical programme was provided by Messrs. Walter Heeley, Alex Kirk, Charles King, Eddie Dibbs and Ted Leadbeater.”

Mabel Brown – see also GREEN MAN, and ALMA.

George Albert Hudson – see also GREEN MAN.

Ronald Harry Cox – see also STARTING GATE.

[2017]

NEW INN

23, Pinfold, (New Street), (23, The Indies), (17, Pinfold Bank), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

James Beard, bricklayer, Reeves Street, Bloxwich

Job Yardley, chemist, Bloxwich

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Co. Ltd. [1913]

LICENSEES

Edward Deacon [1859]

John Beard [1861] – [1862]

Mrs. Ebenezer Deakin [1865]

Edward Davis [1868]

James Smart [1871]

George Ball [1872];

Thomas Lloyd [];

Rosannah Constable [];

John Heal [];

John Gough [1891] – **1912**;

Henry ‘Harry’ Mellor (**1912 – 1913**):

NOTES

17, Pinfold Bank [1871]

23, Pinfold [1891]

It had a beerhouse license,

1861 Census

Pinfold Bank – NEW INN

[1] *John Beard* (30), unmarried, publican, born Walsall;

[2] John Thomas (19), visitor, bitt maker, born Hamstall Ridware, Staffordshire:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/2/1862

“J. Stokes of Bloxwich will take five yards start in 200 of Fowler, for £5 or £19 a side. Money ready any time next week, at Mr. *J. Beard*’s, NEW INN, Bloxwich.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/5/1862

“J. Stokes of Bloxwich will run Elwell of Brierley Hill, or Price of Tipton 120 yards if allowed two yards start; or will run B. Acland of Dudley the same distance level. Either of the matches, for £5 or £10 a side, can be made any evening next week at *J. Beard's*, NEW INN, Pinfold Bank, Bloxwich; or at J. Holden's, Town End Bank, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 29/7/1865

“Mrs. *Ebenezer Deakin* pleaded guilty to having had her house open during prohibited hours on the 16th inst, and stated in extenuating circumstances, that the party supplied represented that they came from Cannock. The Bench ordered the defendant to pay a fine of 1s and costs.”

Birmingham Journal 26/12/1868

“At the Walsall Police Court, on Thursday, *Edward Davis*, the NEW INN beerhouse, Pinfold, appeared to a summons charging him with having had his house open at half-past nine o'clock on Sunday morning. The case was proved by Sergeant Martin, and a prior conviction of recent date having been proved against the defendant, he was fined 10s and costs, and told that if he made his appearance before the Bench again he would be fined £5.”

1871 Census

17, Pinfold Bank, NEW INN

- [1] James Smart (45), publican, born Bilston;
- [2] Sarah Smart (48), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] John Smart (21), son, miner, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] James Smart (11), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] Sarah Finland (20), domestic servant, born Stone:

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1880 - Advert

“Bloxwich. Beerhouse To Let, the NEW INNS, Pinfold Bank; Rent £16, In-coming £30. For particulars, apply on the premises.”

A wine license was granted pre 1881.

1891 Census

23, Pinfold

- [1] *John Gough* (49), widower, bridle bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Agnes A. Gough (22), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Cecilia M. Gough (19), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] James Gough (16), son, bridle bit filer, born Bloxwich;
- [5] William Gough (14), son, labourer, born Bloxwich:

1901 Census

23, The Indies – NEW INNS TAVERN

- [1] *John Gough* (59), widower, beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Annie Gough (38), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Cecilia Gough (29), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] James Gough (26), brewery storekeeper, born Bloxwich;
- [5] William Gough (24), brewer, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

John Gough, NEW INN.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Jackson applied to make alterations to the drinking area of the NEW INN, Bloxwich, on the ground of domestic convenience.”

1911 Census

23, Pinfold

- [1] *John Gough* (68), widower, beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Cecilia Mary Gough (34), daughter, housekeeper, born Bloxwich;
- [3] James Gough (36), son, store keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [4] William Gough (34), son, assistant brewer, born Bloxwich;

[5] Josephine Mary Teague (1), granddaughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1912

“The little child of *John Gough*, the landlord of the NEW INN, The Pinfold, Bloxwich, had a narrow escape from death on Tuesday night. The little one was asleep in a room in which the chimney-place was stopped up with rags. These were evidently set alight by a spark from the chimney, and the flames quickly spread to the bed hangings, and everything in the room was soon ablaze. Fortunately, Miss *Gough*, who was in a lower room, noticed the smoke, and was able to rush into the room and rescue the child. The bed and mattresses were burnt all round. Information was sent to Bloxwich Branch Fire Station and the men were quickly on the scene, under Inspector N. Pritchard. Their work with a hand-pump proved so effective that the fire was practically extinguished before the arrival of the Walsall Fire Brigade under Chief-inspector Ballance.”

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

The following were the notices of objection (Compensation Clause).....

NEW INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (*Hy. Mellor*).

SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Jacob Williams).

NELSON, Church Street, Bloxwich. (Jos. Wall).

STAG, Field Street, Bloxwich. (Jane Tolley).

PLOUGH, Cemetery Road, (Charles Mansfield).

RISING SUN, Park Road, Bloxwich, (Charles Orgill).

STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, (Charles Ernest Perry).

BEEHIVE, New Street, Bloxwich, (Benjamin Hughes).”

AND

“The first house taken was the NEW INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich, tenanted by *Henry Mellor*. Mr. Pritchard (Wolverhampton) appeared for the Old Wolverhampton Brewery Co. Ltd, and the landlord.

Inspector Pritchard, of Bloxwich, stated that in Pinfold there were two beerhouses and one fully-licensed house – the NEW INN, the SPORTSMAN, and the WHEAT SHEAF, the last being the fully-licensed house. The population of the streets and courts in the vicinity was 135 persons over sixteen, 131 under sixteen, and one boy. He had visited the NEW INN on nineteen occasions in ten weeks, varying the times, but chiefly in the evening, and the total number of customers which he found was 193, averaging about 10 persons per visit. It was 15 paces from the NEW INN to the SPORTSMAN and 54 to the WHEAT SHEAF.

In reply to Mr. Pritchard, witness said that the house was quite large enough for the street and the position, and was practically at the junction of the main road. The living accommodation was also satisfactory, and there was nothing against the house as far as its past history was concerned.

Mr. *Mellor*, the landlord, gave evidence, and said that he paid 18/- per week rent, including license duties, and he paid all outgoings in the shape of rents and taxes. The weekly trade averaged about 2½ to 3 barrels, gross of bottled beer, 4 dozen minerals, and tobacco.

Mr. Pritchard submitted that after the very favourable reports which the Chief Constable presented to their Worships year by year in Walsall it was not necessary to refer all those cases for compensation, and little discrimination might be exercised.

The Bench reserved their decision.

In the case of the SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich.....

He knew it was very difficult for the Bench to discriminate between the house and its neighbour the NEW INN, but both being in many respects very much alike, he did not see how one could be kept without the other, or how one could be done away with and the other allowed to remain, and he asked the bench, if they spared one, they would spare the other as well.

The decision in this case was also reserved.”

AND

“The Court re-assembled yesterday (Friday) morning.....

Having retired, the Bench announced that the licenses of the STAG and the STORES would be renewed for this year, but might be considered at some future date. The remaining six houses would be referred to the compensation authorities.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 7th February 1913.

Walsall Advertiser 31/5/1913

“The principal meeting of the Compensation Authority for the Borough of Walsall was held on Tuesday morning at the Guildhall.....

The first to be considered was that of the NEW INN, beerhouse, Pinfold, Bloxwich, for which the owners were the Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd, and the tenant Mr. *Henry Meller*. Mr. Pritchard, of Wolverhampton, appeared for the owners and licensee. The rent, it was stated, was 18/- per week, and the weekly trade was from 2½ to 3 barrels of beer, and a gross of bottled beer. The renewal of this license was refused.”

Compensation was paid.

The license was extinguished on 6th September 1913.

Walsall Advertiser 9/1/1915

“Mrs. Mellor, of Church Street, Bloxwich, has three sons and two grandsons serving their country, viz. *Harry Mellor*, aged 36, of

the Royal Field Artillery, late of the NEW INNS, Bloxwich. His home is in Little London. He was in the Army when the Boer war was on and was drafted out to India with the R.F.A, where he spent six years. He had finished his service some two years ago, but re-joined his regiment when the present war broke out and is now stationed at Dundalk Ireland.....”

NEW INN

123, Stafford Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Ebenezer Deakin [1860] – [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

123, Stafford Street

- [1] *Ebenezer Deakin* (38), brewer, born Birmingham;
- [2] Emma Deakin (28), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Harriet Deakin (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Emma Deakin (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] William Deakin (2), son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Henry T. Deakin (1 month), son, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Ann Deakin (15), general servant, born Rugeley;

Ebenezer Deakin – see also SPORTSMAN.

NEW INNS

144, (145), (143+144), (143), Blue Lane West, WALSALL

OWNERS

Samuel Cox, Holtshill Lane, Walsall
Henry Hateley
Thomas Gameson
Mrs. J. Fairfield
Messrs. Thompson, malaters, Oldbury
Emma Bird
Bird's Brewery Ltd. [1902]
Ansell's Ltd. (acquired on 1st May 1967)

LICENSEES

Enoch Scott [1858] – [1881];
Thomas Bradbury [] – 1890);
Alfred Jones (1890 – 1893);
William Henry Manson (1893 – 1902);
Charles Jones (1902 – 1910);
Mrs. Sarah Jones (1910 – 1926);
Miss Alice Elizabeth Jones (1926 – 1931);
Robert Frederick Charles Hartin (1931 – 1933);
John Gilbert (1933 – 1937);
Philip Skelton (1937);

Norman William Walker (1937 – 1940);
Harry Albert Beresford (1940);
Enoch Antill (1940 – 1946);
Claude Wilson (1946 – 1947);
Thomas Smith (1947 – 1949);
Isaac John Fletcher (1949 – 1961);
Alfred Coleman (1961 – 1962);
Harry Simpson (1962 – 1963);
Harry Sydney Dutton (1963 – [1966])

NOTES

143, Blue Lane [1861]
143, Blue Lane West [1881]
143+144, Blue Lane West [1891], [1939]
145, Blue Lane West [1896]
144, Blue Lane West [1901], [1904], [1911], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Enoch Scott, beerhouse, 144, Blue Lane. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 9/1/1858 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, (By Order of the Assignees of Mr. H. Farrington)....

Lot 2. The Equity Of Redemption Of And In All Those Twenty-Six Leasehold Houses, With the Shopping, Outbuildings, Gardens, and Premises, thereto respectively belonging, situate in the several places hereinafter mentioned....

Six fronting to Blue Lane, Walsall, occupied, one as a Public House (called the NEW INN), by *Enoch Scott*....”

Enoch Scott, beer retailer, Blue Lane West. [1861]

1861 Census

143, Blue Lane

- [1] *Enoch Scott* (44), shoemaker, born Walsall;
- [2] Henry Arthur Scott (20), son, shoemaker, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary Ann Scott (43), wife, born Aston, Warwickshire;
- [4] Samuel Scott (17), son, shoemaker, born Walsall;
- [5] Ellen Scott (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Emanuel Scott (12), son, closer, born Walsall;
- [7] Walter Scott (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Emma Scott (2), daughter, born Walsall:

Enoch Scott, retailer of beer, 144, Blue Lane West. [1862]

Enoch Scott, beer retailer and shoemaker, 144, Blue Lane West. [1864], [1868]

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst....

Enoch Scott, NEW INN, Blue Lane.” [This application was not followed up.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1866

“*Enoch Scott*, beerhouse keeper, Blue Lane, charged with having a number of pigs on his premises so as to be a nuisance, was ordered to remove them within seven days.”

1871 Census

143+144, Blue Lane

- [1] *Enoch Scott* (54), boot and shoe maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Ann Scott (54), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Samuel Scott (27), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Ellen Scott (25), daughter, general servant, born Walsall;
- [5] Emanuel Scott (22), son, malleable iron caster, born Walsall;
- [6] Walter Scott (17), son, boot and shoe maker, born Walsall;
- [7] Emma Scott (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Eliza Ann Wilkinson (9), granddaughter, scholar, born Walsall:

1881 Census

143, Blue Lane West

- [1] *Enoch Scott* (64), publican and shoe maker, born Walsall;
 - [2] *Mary A. Scott* (64), wife, born Walsall;
 - [3] *Walter Scott* (27), son, boot maker, born Walsall;
 - [4] *Emma Scott* (22), general servant, born Walsall;
 - [5] *Eliza A. Wilkinson* (19), granddaughter, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;
- 144, Blue Lane West
NEW INN – uninhabited:

Walsall Observer 23/5/1885

“Yesterday, Mr. T. H. Stanley, borough coroner, held an inquest at the NEW INN, on the body of *Sarah Rickaby* (63) a widow, who had been residing with a daughter at Red Lion Street. Deceased retired to bed apparently in good health on Wednesday night, but on Thursday morning she was found lying on the bed partially clothed, and quite dead. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

1891 Census

143-144, Blue Lane West

- [1] *Alfred Jones* (30), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Rosa Jones* (30), wife, born Kidderminster;
- [3] *Rosa B. Jones* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Alfred J. Jones* (8 months), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Elizabeth Boon* (16), general servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892 - Advert

“Wanted, a Girl about 18; character required. Apply Mrs. *Jones*, NEW INN, Blue Lane.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/8/1893 - Advert

“The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883-90.

Re *Alfred Jones*, NEW INN, Blue Lane West, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, By Messrs. *Watkins, Powell & Wood*, on Monday Next, August 28, 1893, entirely without reserve (by order of *E. Pritchard Esq.*, Official Receiver) the whole of the useful Brewing Plant, comprising capital 120 gallon Copper Boiler, Steal Boiler, 8 bushel Mash Tub, Vats and Frame, Refrigerator, Wort Spout, Casks, Weighing Machine, quantity of Sussex Hops, &c, &c; and also a quantity of Household Furniture.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock sharp.

Auctioneers' Offices. Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/9/1893

“*Alfred Jones*, beerhouse keeper, NEW INN, Blue Lane West, formerly a well-known football player, appeared for his public examination, and was represented by *Mr. H. H. Jackson*, solicitor. His statement showed liabilities £311 10s 2d and assets £50 10s 3d. The following were the Official Receiver's observations: prior to 1887 he took the ALMA INN, Paddock Lane, Walsall. He had no capital, but borrowed £14 from a friend. In April, 1889, he removed to the STORES INN, High Street, Walsall, and in 1890, to the NEW INN, Blue Lane West, Walsall. He agreed to pay £250 for goodwill, fixtures, brewing plant and unexpired portion of the lease, and to take stock at a valuation which amounted to £22. He borrowed £300 from a friend to pay these sums. He gave no security for the £300, and still owes £165 of that sum. The lease expired on the 25th March last. The bankrupt remained in possession and carried on business up to the time he filed the petition. He states the cause of his insolvency to be ‘paying an excessive amount upon taking to the NEW INN, loses upon brewing, supplying beer on credit, and illness of my child.’ He kept no books of account. He accounts for his deficiency as follows: Excess of liabilities over assets 12 months ago, £120 19s 11d; bad debts (for beer drunk upon the premises), £19; household expenses for the past 12 months, £75; loss upon forced realisation of effects, which he has estimated at a breaking up price, £50; doctor's bills and illness, £5; total £260 19s 11d. The examination was adjourned to the 27th inst. for closing.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing session for Walsall borough took place yesterday..... Plans for alterations at the NEW INN, Blue Lane, were submitted. Granted.”

London Gazette 11/5/1894

“Notices Of Release Of Trustees.....

Jones, Alfred, NEW INN, Blue-lane West, Walsall, Staffordshire, Beerhouse Keeper.”

William H. Manson, beer retailer, 145, Blue Lane West. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 11/7/1896

“An inquest was held by Mr. T. H. Stanley, at the NEW INN, Blue Lane, on Thursday, touching the death of Edgar Hawkins, seventeen months, son of David Hawkins, puddler, 7 house 5 court, Blue Lane.
Annie Hawkins, mother of deceased, proved identification, and said her child had not been healthy from its birth. The baby had a fall about six or seven weeks ago, while being nursed by her little daughter, and Dr. McKinstry had since been attending him. The child died on Tuesday. He was insured.
Dr. McKinstry stated that the child was brought to him suffering from diarrhoea, and a severe bruise and two small wounds to the left side of the head. He got well from diarrhoea within a week, but soon symptoms of inflammation of the brain showed themselves, and continued till death. Four days before this the diarrhoea reset in. The primary cause of death was diarrhoea, the secondary cause being inflammation of the brain.
In reply to a juror, witness said the wounds seemed to have been properly cared for. Death was undoubtedly accelerated by the fall.
Maria Somerfield, wife of Joseph Somerfield, bit filer, 16, Railway Row, spoke to seeing the child directly after the accident. She did not think he was hurt as there only seemed to be two little scratches on his forehead.
A verdict was returned in accordance with the medical testimony.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....
Billiard licenses were applied for by the following....
William Henry Manson, beerhouse keeper, NEW INN, Blue Lane. Refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....
The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Beerhouses.....
Wm. Henry Manson, NEW INN, Blue Lane, served 10 children.....
He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....
On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....
In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

“NEW INN Sick and Dividend Society. The annual supper in connection with the above club was held on Friday, December 29th, when upwards of 30 members sat down to an excellent repast, served in the well known style of the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *W. H. Manson*). After full justice had been done to the good things provided, Mr. J. Bird was voted to the chair, and Mr. G. Bird to the vice chair.....”

Walsall Observer 15/9/1900 - Advert

“Wanted, a good Girl; one from the country preferred.
Apply Mrs. *Manson*, NEW INN, Blue Lane West.”

1901 Census

144, Blue Lane West

- [1] *William H. Manson* (36), brass caster and beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Harriet Manson* (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Nelly Manson* (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Dora Manson* (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Minnie Manson* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *John W. Manson* (3), son, born Walsall;
- [7] *Mary Dickinson* (19), general servant, born Brownhills:

Walsall Advertiser 11/4/1903

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....
Mr. *Charles Jones*, NEW INN, Blue Lane West, was elected a member of the society.”

Charles Jones, beer retailer, 144, Blue Lane West. [1904]
He was married to *Sarah*.

1911 Census

144, Blue Lane West

- [1] *Sarah Jones* (58), widow, publican, born Walsall;

- [2] Edith Robinson (26), daughter, married, assisting in the business, born Walsall;
- [3] Alice Jones (23), daughter, unmarried, assisting in the business, born Walsall;
- [4] Gladys Skinner (11), grandchild, school, born Walsall;
- [5] Beryl Skinner (10), grandchild, school, born Walsall;
- [6] Alonso Skinner (5), grandchild, born Walsall;
- [7] Edith Robinson (2), grandchild, born Walsall:

Mrs. *Sarah Jones*, beer retailer, 144, Blue Lane West. [1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
NEW INN, Blue Lane West. £1 8s 8d.”

Walsall Observer 9/2/1924

“.....The NEW INN, said Chief Inspector Cooke [at the annual licensing sessions] also only had one living room, but four bedrooms, the premises being generally very clean and in good repair Mr. Harrison told the Bench that the average trade at the NEW INN during the past three years was 436 barrels and 290 dozen bottles.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/8/1927

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers’ Society was held at the house of Mr. Samuel Birch, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention, on the 11th inst. Mr. P. B. Cooke (president) occupied the chair. Miss *Alice Jones*, NEW INN, Blue Lane West, and Mr. Harry Male, DUN COW HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street, were elected members of the Society.....”

1939 Register

143+144, Blue Lane West – NEW INN Public House (2 of 4)

[1] *Norman W. Walker*, date of birth 5/10/1908, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Helen Walker*, dob 5/6/1908, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Advertiser 13/1/1940

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held on Thursday last.....
Mr. *Albert Edward(?) Beresford*, NEW INN, Blue Lane, was elected a member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 21/9/1940

“At the September meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....
Enoch Antill, NEW INN, Blue Lane was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 17/5/1941

“That fire watchers on duty in premises do relieve the owners of responsibility for black-out observance was ruled by Judge A. C. Caporn and Mr. D. W. Jones when, at Walsall Police Court on Monday in which *Leslie Antill*, NEW INNS, Blue Lane West, was summoned for displaying a light at the Walsall Co-operative Society branch shop at Blakenall Lane, and the Society for permitting the light to be displayed. Mr. J. H. S. Addison appeared for the society, and pleaded not guilty, *Antill* admitting the offence. It was stated by Police-constable Grundy that he found a light burning at the rear of the premises on a Sunday evening and there was nobody in the building. *Antill* explained to him that he had been there as a fire watcher throughout the day, from 7am until 7pm; had switched on the electric light and had forgotten to turn it off. The people who should have relieved him did not turn up and that was why the black-out had not been attended to. Witness saw Mr. H. Busill Jones, the Secretary of the Society, and his explanation was that there had been a general misunderstanding, because other people had not taken over from *Antill*. Mr. Addison said that the Society had been careful in the arrangements that were made for blacking-out the various premises, but added that in consequence of the need for fire watchers strangers were allowed on some of the premises. *Antill* had had occasion to switch on the light because it went dark in the afternoon and he did not notice that it was left burning. He should have been relieved by two women but they did not put in an appearance. If they had done they would have seen to the black-out and nothing would have been wrong. Regarding the black-out, the Society made the branch managers responsible, but in this case the manager left the premises on Saturday night and was not due there again until the Monday morning. ‘It seems,’ added Mr. Addison ‘that the owners of the property can only rely on the common sense of people who go onto the premises for fire watching purposes.’
When Judge Caporn pointed out that the Society seemed to have taken no precaution to see the black-out regulations were complied with, Mr. Addison replied that all they could do in addition to what they had done would be to have ‘watchers to watch the watchers.’
Mr. Busill Jones told the Bench of the arrangements that the Society had made for securing black-out of their premises and the branch manager said that for the week-end the blacking-out was left in the fire-watchers hands. He agreed in reply to Police-superintendent Raybould, that he would not have gone to the shop himself again on the Sunday afternoon, leaving things in order on the Saturday night.
Announcing a fine of 40s against the Society and the payment of costs of 4s by *Antill*, Judge Caporn said the Society had failed to satisfy them that they took reasonable precautions to prevent the offence being committed.”

Walsall Observer 25/7/1942 - Forthcoming Marriage

“The Wedding arranged between Alfred Dickenson, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Gnosill, of 45, Blue Lane, and Gladys, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *Antill*, NEW INN, Blue Lane, will take place at St. Peter’s Church, Stafford Street, Walsall, on Wednesday, August 5, 1942, at 1 o’clock.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Antill*, NEW INNS, Blue Lane. £0 12s 2d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
NEW INN, Blue Lane. £1 0s 0d.”

A full license was granted on 3rd March 1960.

London Gazette 15/1/2013

“Final Meetings In the Walsall County Court.

Armand Edward Snow In Bankruptcy.

Current Address: C/o The NEW INN, Blue Lane West, Walsall, West Midlands WS2 8NU. Occupation: Publican. Date of Birth: 16 August 1946. Trading Name: The ROYAL HOTEL. Trading Address: 54 Castle Street, Coseley, WV14 9DP.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Rule 6.137 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that a Meeting of the Bankrupt’s Creditors will be held at 3 Havyat Business Park, Wrington, Bristol, BS40 5PA on 13 March 2013 at 2 pm for the purpose of considering the Trustee in Bankruptcy’s final report and granting his release. To be entitled to vote at the Meeting, a Creditor must give written details of his debt (including the amount) and lodge any necessary form of proxy and/or postal Resolution at David Exell Associates, PO Box 1601, Wrington, Bristol, BS40 5WA no later than 12.00 noon on 12 March 2013 (or deliver them to the Chairman at the Meeting). Date of Appointment: 6 September 2010.

David Exell, Trustee.

09 January 2013.”

Claude Wilson – see also BUTTS INN.

[2017]

NEW INN

The Green, (Little Common), Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Lichfield Brewery Co. Ltd. [1915]

LICENSEES

Charles Beckley [1861]

Charles Watson [1890] – **1904**;

William Ernest Norris (**1904 – 1913**);

George H Moore (**1913** – []

John Francis Peabody [1917]

Mrs. Elizabeth Betteley [1924]

NOTES

Charles Beckley = Charles Bickley

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/10/1861 - Advert

“To Be Let, that well-frequented Beerhouse known as the NEW INN, Pelsall, and now doing an excellent business. Immediate possession may be had.

Apply to Mr. *Charles Beckley*, on the premises.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/8/1864

“An inquest was held by Mr. Hughes, coroner for the county, at the NEW INN, Pelsall, on Tuesday, on the body of Emanuel Price, 19, who was killed at the beginning of last week whilst following his occupation as a miner. Deceased was employed in the Peel House Colliery, Pelsall, belonging to Mr. James Moillet, Abberley Hall, and on Monday last week, about two o’clock in the afternoon he was working at a depth of seventy yards from the mouth of the pit, when a huge piece of soil, weighing six or seven hundred weight, suddenly gave way, and struck him on the head, killing him in a few minutes. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned. Mr. J. P. Baker, Inspector of Mines for South Staffordshire and Worcestershire, was in attendance, and made several inquiries of the witnesses as to the mode of working in the time.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

“The following publicans were granted one hour’s extension on Monday, October 6th, on the occasion of Pelsall wakes
Charles Watson.”

1891 Census

Little Common – NEW INNS

- [1] *Charles Watson* (42), publican, born Pelsall;
- [2] Sarah Watson (35), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] Samuel Watson (22), son, blacksmith, born Pelsall;
- [4] Lucy Fanny Watson (15), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [5] Sarah Alice Watson (11), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [6] Annie Watson (9), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [7] Florrie Watson (3), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [8] Archibald Watson (2), son, born Pelsall:

Lichfield Mercury 11/10/1895

“At the Petty Sessions on Monday, *Charles Watson*, licensed victualler, applied for an extension of one hour the same evening, the occasion being Pelsall wake. The application was granted.”

1901 Census

Little Common

- [1] *Charles Watson* (53), publican, born Pelsall;
- [2] Sarah Watson (46), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] Sarah Ann Watson (21), daughter, waitress in public house, born Pelsall;
- [4] Annie Watson (18), daughter, domestic servant, born Pelsall;
- [5] Florrie Watson (13), daughter, school teacher [pupil teacher?], born Pelsall;
- [6] Archibald Watson (11), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [7] Charlie Watson (9), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [8] Lily Gertrude Watson (7), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [9] George Fox Watson (4), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [10] Evelina May Watson (1), daughter, born Pelsall:

Walsall Observer 23/7/1904

“The Rushall magistrates on Monday (Alderman Holden, and Messrs. A. W. Greatrex, and J. F. Crump) granted a temporary transfer of the license of the NEW INN, Pelsall, from *Charles Watson* to *Ernest Norris.*”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905

“The 53rd annual general meeting of the members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday
New Members *William Ernest Norris*, The NEW INN, Pelsall.”

1911 Census

Pelsall – NEW INN

- [1] *William Ernest Norris* (39), license holder and coal miner, born Chasetown, Staffordshire;
- [2] Sarah Rebecca Norris (38), wife, married 10 years, assisting in business, born Brownhills;
- [3] William Frank Norris (9), son, born Brownhills;
- [4] Annie Frances Watson (19), general servant, born Pelsall:

Lichfield Mercury 29/11/1912

“*William Ernest Norris*, licensee of the NEW INN, Pelsall, was granted the temporary transfer of the license of the Queen’s Head Inn, Watling Street, Brownhills, from the present licensee.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/2/1913

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, *William E. Norris*, licensee of the NEW INNS, Pelsall, applied to the Magistrates for

the transfer of the license to *George H. Moore*. This was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/5/1915 - Advert

“NEW INN, Pelsall, to be Let at Mid-summer.
Apply, The Lichfield Brewery Co. Ltd., Lichfield.”

Walsall Observer 21/7/1917

“Sgt. John Francis Peabody, of the NEW INN, Pelsall, has been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal. A single man, 27 years of age, he enlisted in the West Yorks Regiment in September, 1914, being then employed as a miner in Yorkshire, was made lance-corporal in April, 1916, became a corporal in the July following, and in January this year, attained his present rank of sergeant. The following is the official description of the deeds which gained him the honour.
‘Batt. West Yorks, Regt. No.14767. Sgt John Francis Peabody. Throughout the attack on Hill 60, June 7, 1917, this NCO displayed the greatest gallantry. After the capture of the objective, in the absence of any officer, on his own initiative he organised the consolidation of part of the new line. Later, when a counter attack was threatened, and the new line was heavily shelled, he set an excellent example to his men by his cheerfulness and devotion to duty. He was also instrumental in digging out six men who were buried. The officers of three different companies testified to the coolness and ability he displayed throughout the action. Subsequently on June 10, when the company was in reserve trenches, he himself dug out five men who were buried, thus saving their lives, although the trench was being heavily shelled at the time.’
He was educated at Pelsall Wesleyan School, and was a member of the Pelsall Wesleyan Bible Class.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1921

“The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....
All the beerhouse licenses would be renewed, with the exception of the NEW INN, and the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Pelsall, neither of which it seemed to the justices, was needed, but, at any rate, the premises should have more accommodation.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

“At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....
Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....
For repairs and alterations of structure.....
NEW INNS, Pelsall.”

NEW INNS

176, (175+176), Green Lane / Hospital Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Nevill, butty miner, Rowleys Buildings, Leamore, Bloxwich
William Nevill, butcher
William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1933]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Nevill [1868] – [1870]
Thomas Dolphin [1871]
William Nevill [1880] – [1881];
Joseph Bromwich [] – **1889**);
George Walker (**1889 – 1892**);
Benjamin Meek (**1892 – 1893**);
David Noake (**1893 – 1895**);
Samuel Bird (**1895 – 1901**);
Thomas Edward Stanley (**1901 – 1926**);
Edward Mills (**1926 – 1931**);
Mrs. Miriam (Mills) Hanstock (**1931 – 1959**);
George William Victor Byworth (**1959 – 1960**);
Dennis Alfred Smith (**1960**);
William Wood (**1960** – [1966])

NOTES

176, Green Lane [1901], [1911], [1939]

175+176, Green Lane [1904], [1912], [1940]

NEW INN VAULTS [1909]

It was situated on the opposite corner to the WHITE LION.

It had a beerhouse license.

William Nevill = William Neville

William Nevill, butcher and beer retailer, Green Lane. [1868], [1870]

[In the 1871 Census he was a butcher living next door to the NEW INN, at 175.]

1871 Census

176, Green Lane – NEW INN

[1] *Thomas Dolphin* (50), siviter and publican, born The Middle, Shropshire;

[2] *Eliza Dolphin* (67), wife, born Eccleser [Eccleshall?], Shropshire;

[3] *Henry Dolphin* (21), son, miner, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Joseph Dolphin* (18), son, puddler, born Dudley;

[5] *Edward Dolphin* (11), son, born Walsall;

[6] *David Clark* (15), boarder, puddler, born Stourport;

[7] *James Huberry* (30), boarder, miner, born Eccleshall, Staffordshire;

[8] *Sarah A. Hodson* (15), domestic servant, born Walsall:

A wine license was granted pre 1881.

Walsall Advertiser 3/7/1880 - Notice

“Birchills Explosion Fund.

Messrs. Cook & Son, the well-known firm of Tourist Agents, having offered to hand over the total profits of one of their Excursions to this Fund, it has been decided that it shall be made to Matlock (Switzerland in Miniature), and Rowley (for Chatsworth and Haddon Hall), on Monday, July 12th, 1880, from North Walsall 7.50am, Walsall 8am, Aldridge 8.10am, and Sutton Coldfield 8.20am.

Tickets may be had at ‘The Observer’ Office, The Bridge, ‘Advertiser’ Office, The Bridge, ‘Free Press’ Office, High Street; Mr. John Fletcher, manager, Birchills Iron Works; Mr. Joseph Pittaway, manager, at Messrs. Bunch & Son’s Iron Works; Mr. Millard, at Messrs. Bissell’s, Mr. Capper, Stafford Street; Mr. *Nevill*, NEW INN, Green Lane, at Cook’s Excursion Offices, The Bridge, Walsall; and 27, Queen Street, Wolverhampton; and at all Stations.

For full particulars see small bills.”

William Nevill = William Neville

1881 Census

NEW INN

[1] *William Nevill* (44), beer retailer, born Longdon, Staffordshire;

[2] *Maria Nevill* (43), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Jane Nevill* (18), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;

[4] *Maria Nevill* (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *William Nevill* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] *Harry Nevill* (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] *Ellen Nevill* (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] *Sarah Nevill* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[9] *Frank Nevill* (4), son, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/4/1882

“Yesterday, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the NEW INN, Hospital Street, on the body of Charles Smith (43), wheelwright, of the same street. The evidence bore out the statement already published that the deceased had been of very drunken habits; that when the worse for liquor he never entered the house at which he lodged to sleep, but made his way into a loft about forty yards away; and that on Sunday morning his lifeless body, terribly injured about the face and head, was found in a stable which is used as a pigsty, and which is situate under the loft, the supposition being that he had fallen through a hole in the floor of the loft, and alighted head foremost in the pig’s trough. He was last seen alive at ten o’clock on Saturday night, when he was in a drunken state.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/10/1883 - Advert

“To Let, good Corner Shop, with two large windows; suit energetic man, either Butcher or Grocer. Apply, NEW INN, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Evening Star 10/4/1884

“A painfully suggestive text for the addresses of the promoters of the Gospel Temperance Mission at Walsall has been furnished by the death of Charles Smith (45), wheelwright, Hospital Street, in that town.

The deceased it appears had been addicted to drinking for a long period, and when in a drunken state has been in the habit of sleeping in a loft over a stable at the back of his lodgings. At ten o'clock on Saturday night he was seen in the NEW INN beerhouse, Hospital Street, the worse for liquor, but his movements after that time have not been traced. It is supposed, however, that on his return to his lodgings he went into the loft to sleep, as was his custom under such circumstances, and fell through a hole in the flooring into a pigstye below. At all events, a girl named Frances Amelia Craddock, a daughter of the woman with whom he lodged, found his dead body in the pigstye at about 10.30 yesterday morning, with the head and face terribly knocked about, he having apparently fallen head foremost through the hole and alighted on the trough.”

[The inquest was held at the NEW INN.]

1891 Census

176, Green Lane

- [1] *George Walker* (27), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Sarah Ann Walker (35), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] John Walker (5), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Samuel Walker (1), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Clara Dolphin (17), general servant, born Walsall:

George Walker – see also TIGER.

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1893

“A man named John Bayliss, whose home is in Blue Lane, was charged with stealing 5s 6d from the till of *David Noake*, the landlord of the NEW INN beerhouse, Green Lane.

Prosecutor left the money in the till about nine o'clock in the morning, and went to get his breakfast, and the servant girl saw the prisoner with his hand in it. He went into the vaults afterwards, and from there to the street. She went and told her master, and he went after him. The whole of the silver, with the exception of one threepenny bit, was gone from the till. It appears that Davis [?] went to his lodgings after, and was seen upstairs counting his money.

A sentence of six weeks' hard labour was imposed.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/11/1895

“At the County Court on Thursday, before a jury, *Samuel Bird*, of the NEW INN, Green Lane, sued William Abbott, coal dealer, Whitehouse Street, for £32 8s 6d, the value of a mare.

The facts appeared to be that the mare was hired to Abbott from time to time on the stipulation that it was only driven by him, and that it was returned each night. On the 15th July it was being driven with three others in a brake to Bromsgrove by a young man in the defendant's employ, and turning a corner the pole was driven into its body, injuring it terribly. It was taken to Birmingham by the driver, who went to a veterinary surgeon about it, but the surgeon would not see it on his authority, its injury was simply dressed. The driver left it in Birmingham, and on returning to Walsall said it was done up. On the following day plaintiff went to Birmingham and learned the details. For the defence the injury was denied, and it was alleged that the animal was really broken down, and was useless.

A verdict was given for the plaintiff for £26, and the veterinary surgeon's charges, with costs.”

Samuel Bird, beer retailer, 175 and 176, Green Lane. [1896]

1901 Census

176, Green Lane – NEW INNS TAVERN

- [1] *Samuel Bird* (51), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Bird (50), wife, born Somersetshire;
- [3] Sarah Nickless (17), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [4] Charles Smith (22), nephew, commercial clerk, born Walsall;
- [5] May Collins (7), niece, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1902

“Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of the above society was held on Thursday..... New Members..... Mr. *Thomas Stanley*, NEW INNS, Green Lane.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/10/1902

“The Caledonian Corks. On Saturday evening a large gathering of officials and members of the above progressive order assem-

bled at the NEW INNS, Green Lane, at which house a new lodge was opened.....”

Thomas Edward Stanley, beer retailer, 175 and 176, Green Lane. [1904], [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....
NEW INN VAULTS, Green Lane. This lodge of the Loyal Caledonian Corks Friendly Sick and Dividend Society has experienced the worst year since its formation. The contributions amounted to £54, but owing to the extraordinary sickness among the members – on some occasions there were six members drawing on the funds – no less that £56 was expended in sick pay. The committee decided to take £8 from the benevolent fund, and after the accounts had been put straight, a dividend of 2s 11d per member was paid.”

Alterations were sanctioned in 1910.

1911 Census

176, Green Lane

- [1] *Thomas Edward Stanley* (40), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Stanley (31), wife, married 9 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [3] May Elizabeth Stanley (17), daughter, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah Stanley (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Thomas Edward Stanley (8), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Louisia Stanley (5), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
NEW INN, Green Lane. £1 6s 9d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/6/1926

“At Walsall, on the 18th inst., Harry Ledbrook (25), stamper, Ann Street, and Charles Elwell (23), caster, James Street, were charged with being drunk and disorderly; and Ledbrook was further charged with wilfully damaging a plate-glass window at the NEW INNS, Green Lane, and Elwell with assaulting *Edward Mills*, the licensee.
The evidence showed that Ledbrook smashed the window with his fist, and when the licensee appeared on the scene Elwell struck him in the mouth, knocking out four teeth.
Ledbrook was fined £2 and ordered to pay the damage, with the alternative of 42 days’ imprisonment, and Elwell was fined £4 or 28 days.”

It was described in 1933 as having stabling for three horses, and had a trade of 3½ barrels per week.

Miriam Mills married Emanuel *Hanstock* on 4th February 1933.

1939 Register

176, Green Lane (3 of 5)

- [1] Emanuel Hanstock, date of birth 29/12/1888, barman, married;
- [2] *Miriam Hanstock*, dob 7/2/1893, licensed victualler, married;
- [3] Jean (Hanstock) Taylor, dob 8/2/1929, at school, single;

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.
Third List Of Subscriptions.....
NEW INN, Green Lane. £0 16s 0d.”

A full license was granted on 3rd March 1960.

Dennis Alfred Smith – see also SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bloxwich.

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.
Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....
NEW INN, Green Lane, Walsall.”

It closed in June 1981.

It was demolished in 1981.

It was re-erected at Blists Hill Museum, Telford in 1985.

NEW INN

Mutton Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

NEW INN

11, (5), Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Hart [1774]

Charles Perks

John Crowther Smith, solicitor, Wolverhampton [1872]

Smith and Barton, brewers, Tipton

Peter Walker and Co. Ltd, Tipton

Atkinsons Ltd. [1919]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 1st October 1959)

LICENSEES

George Fox [1813] – [1818]

Thomas Croxall [1822]

Charles Adams [] – **1827**)

Francis Adams [1828]

E Jukes [1831]

Ann Jukes [1834]

Bassett Charles Edwards [1835]

Francis Davenport [] – **1839**)

James Kilner [1841] – **1843**)

Mrs. Clarinda Kilner [1845]

Mrs. Sarah Kilner [1849]

Mrs. Clarinda Kilner [1850] – [1851]

Robert Hodson [1858] – **1889**);

John Donellan (**1889 – 1893**);

Mrs. Margaret Ann Donnellan (**1893 – 1904**);

Josiah Mortiboys (**1904 – 1905**);

John Harry Brown (**1905 – 1907**);

Harry Gilbert (**1907 – 1915**);

Francis Joseph 'Joe' Zeller (**1915 – 1918**);

James Howard Biddulph (**1918 – 1920**);

James Loynes (**1920 – 1924**);

George Alfred Morrell (**1924 – 1928**);

William Thomas Mears (**1928 – 1930**);

Samuel Hollies (**1930 – 1933**);

John Henry Loynes (**1933 – 1934**);

Charles Victor Mycock (**1934 – 1960**);

Norman Frederick Eley (**1960 – 1962**);

John Plimmer (**1962 – 1964**);

John Alexander Hiley (**1964 – 1966**);

Horace Jobber (**1966 – []**)

NOTES

5, Park Street [1858], [1861], [1862], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1871], [1873], [1881], [1911]
11, Park Street [1891], [1892], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1932], [1939], [1940]

NEW INN AND COMMERCIAL HOUSE [1834]

Commercial house [1834], [1841], [1851]

NEW INN HOTEL [1862]

NEW INNS HOTEL [1893], [1894], [1897], [1911], [1914], [1931]

Aris's Gazette (1774)

"Newly erected and complete, convenient for the occupation of noblemen and gentlemen traveling through Walsall."

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

"Walsall mail, from the NEW INN, Park Street, every evening at half past three o'clock, which takes all letters for Birmingham and its delivery. This mail arrives every day at two o'clock, with letters for the town and its delivery. Overcharges allowed from nine in the morning to half past ten in the forenoon, and from four to eight in the evening."

AND

"An Account of the Various Coaches, with their Departures and Arrivals.....

From the NEW INN, Park Street. Perks's coach, every morning (except Sundays) at nine o'clock, to Birmingham, and returns the same day from Birmingham, during the summer season at six o'clock, and during the winter season at five o'clock, in the evening. This is a very useful coach to the respective towns of Birmingham and Walsall, for the conveyance of passengers and parcels."

AND

"Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Clubs.....

Friendly Society, male, held at NEW INN, Park Street, supposed number 90 or 100, instituted 1804, surgeon Mr. Adams, secretary Thomas Hoply."

Coaches left from here. [1818]

George Fox was also a butcher. [1818]

The Royal Mail coach to Birmingham, left from here every afternoon at 20 minutes past 2. [1822]

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/9/1825 - Advert

"Walsall Races.....

Ordinary on Wednesday at the GEORGE HOTEL; on Thursday at the DRAGON; and Ball at the GEORGE HOTEL.

Cocking in the Cock Pit, at the NEW INN, Park Street.

Performances at the Theatre every night as usual."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/10/1827 - Advert

"To be Sold by Auction (pursuant to a Decree and subsequent Order of the High Court of Chancery made in the cause of Woolley and others versus Gordon Perk and others, with the approbation of William Wingfield, Esq, one of the Masters of the said Court), at the house of Richard Moore Fletcher, the GEORGE INN, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on Wednesday next, the 3rd day of October, at twelve o'clock noon. Freehold and Leasehold Tenements and Building land, Commercial Inn, extensive Manufactory, and Premises, situate in the town of Walsall; also upwards of 110 Acres of Accommodation Land, with the Mines and Minerals thereunder, and the Houses and Farm Buildings thereon, near Walsall aforesaid, and in Rushall and Bloxwich; also Houses and Garden Ground at Bescot, and Houses and Building land at Wednesbury, all in the county of Stafford, late the property of Charles Perks, deceased.....

Lot 11. All that Freehold Commercial Inn and Extensive Premises, called the NEW INN, in the centre of the town of Walsall, with Stabling, Lofts, Granary, Corn Warehouse, small Dwelling, Cockpit, Piggeries, Yard and Gateway Entrance from Park Street, and large Garden extending to the brook and the race ground, which premises were formerly in the occupation of the late *George Fox*, as a Travellers' Coach, and Waggon Inn.

The Inn and part of the stabling and premises are in the possession of Mr. *Charles Adams*, and the corn warehouse and part of the stabling by Mr. Samuel Perks...."

Birmingham Journal 27/10/1827 - Deaths

"On Sunday, Mr. *Charles Adams*, of the NEW INN, WALSALL, in his 47th year."

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/5/1828 - Notice

"Notice Is Hereby Given, That the Assignees of the Estate and Effects of *George Fox*, late of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Victualler, who was lately discharged from his Majesties gaol in and for the county of Stafford, under and by virtue of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the first year of the reign of his present Majesty, entitled 'An Act for the Relief of Insolvent

Debtors in England, will, on Tuesday the third day of June next, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, attend at the NEW INN, situate in Park Street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, to declare the amount of balance in hand, and make a dividend out of the same amount amongst the Creditors of the said Insolvent, whose debts are admitted in the Schedule sworn to by the said Insolvent, and if the Insolvent, or any of his Creditors object to any debt or debts mentioned in the said Schedule, such objections are at the same time and place to be made.

C. Marklew, Solicitor to the Assignees.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/9/1831 - Advert

“Extensive Sale At The NEW INN, Park Street, Walsall.

Five very superior Horses, new Patent Coach, called the Greyhound, Sets of Four-horse Harness, Saddle, &c, Household Furniture, Fixtures, Brewing Utensils, excellent Ale Barrels, Stock of very choice Port and Sherry Wine, Ale, Porter, and other Effects, and valuable Land and Licenses of the above old established Inn.

By *E. Jukes*. To be Sold by Auction, on the premises, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday next, the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th days of September (under an execution from the Sheriff), the Lease and Licenses of the above old-established Inn, also the whole of the Household Furniture, Fixtures, and Stock-in-Trade, and other effects, comprising mahogany four-post and tent bedsteads, capital feather beds, mattresses, blankets, linen, mahogany chests, drawers, book-case, swing-glasses, wash-hand stands and tables, neat chamber chairs, mahogany night chest, carpets, elegant set of mahogany dining-tables, mahogany circular table, card and two-leaf dining tables, several sets of mahogany chairs, sofas, pier and chimney glasses, Brussels carpets, glass-ware, glazed and panelled partitions, oven and other grates, copper boilers, excellent brewing utensils and kitchen requisites, very capital ale casks, stable fixtures, stock of very choice port and sherry wines, in the wood and in bottle, prime ale, porter, and liquors, and other numerous effects; also a patent Coach, called the Greyhound, five well known very superior horses, steady in harness and sound, set of four-horse harness, two sets of four-horse reins, saddles, &c. &c.

Eleven years in the Lease will be unexpired at Lady-day next.

N.B. The Horses, Harness, and Coach will be offered for sale at one o'clock on Thursday morning.

Sale to commence each day at ten o'clock, conditions as usual.

Catalogues will be distributed and may be had of *E. Jukes*, Land Surveyor and Auctioneer, Walsall.”

This was a very popular venue for auctions from the 1830s to 1890s.

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/8/1839 - Deaths

“On Wednesday last, in the 64th year of his age, Mr. *Francis Davenport*, of the NEW INN, Park Street, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/1/1843 - Died

“On the 3rd instant, by a fall from his horse, aged 42, Mr. *James Kilner*, of the NEW INN, Walsall.”

1851 Census

Park Street

- [1] *Clarinda Kilner* (50), widow, victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mary Ann Kilner* (22), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Clara Jane Kilner* (21), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Claranda Wood* (23), niece, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Edward Males* (9), nephew, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Walter Woods* (23), hostler, born Beley [Beoley?], Worcestershire;
- [7] *Charles Penn* (17), boots, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Ann Snape* (20), house servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [9] *Susan Llewelyn* (17), house servant, born Walsall;
- [10] *John McQuhee* (28), visitor, commercial traveller, born Scotland;
- [11] *Robert Millegan* (24), visitor, commercial traveller, born Scotland;
- [12] *David Ronald* (29), visitor, commercial traveller, born Saltcoats, Scotland;
- [13] *Elizabeth Adams* (41), house servant, born Walsall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1855

“Birmingham Bankruptcy Court. In re *Clarinda Kilner*, of Walsall, innkeeper.

This was a meeting for last examination. The balance sheet, prepared by Mr. Free, accountant, showed the following statement: Dr. To creditors, £1,168 11s 3d. Cr.: By good debts, £58 18s 11d; property, £254 7s 10d; excepted articles, £20; total £333 6s 9d. Deficiency, £835 4s 6d. Mr. Hodgson appeared for the assignees, and offered no opposition. The bankrupt passed, and the 8th of October next was fixed for the certificate meeting. Official assignee, Mr. Christie.”

In 1857 members of the Bridge Street Chapel, due to a breach between members, some led by Mr. Jerome Clap Jerome (deacon), father of the author Jerome K. Jerome, and the Rev. Alex Gordon, split away and worshipped in the club room of the NEW INN, Park Street, and eventually built the Wednesbury Road Congregationalist Church.

Robert Hodson had the contract to drive the Walsall lunatics to Burntwood.

Birmingham Daily Post 10/2/1858

“Mr. Bowes, a preacher of the Society of Christian Brethren, delivered a discourse on this system of Yankee Mahomedanism in the large room of the NEW INN, Park Street, on Monday evening last. Mr. Bowes exposed the vices of Mormonism in a most effective manner. The audience expressed their satisfaction by repeated applause, and at the close the speaker called upon the Mormons present to defend themselves from the heavy charges he had brought against the sect. It was understood that there were several present – it was even said by one who professed to have been raised from the dead – but all of them declined the challenge. Mr. Moses, who was stated to be a converted Jew, was called to the chair, and an intellectual man, in the dress of a labourer, who professed himself wholly uneducated, and indebted to twenty years’ close study of the Bible for all that he knew, in a very few and sensible and neatly expressed remarks, proposed the thanks of the audience to Mr. Bowes, entreating his hearers to search the Scriptures in order to find arguments against the errors that had that night been exposed. The motion was carried by acclamation.”

Walsall Free Press 25/9/1858

“William Jones was charged with stealing two watches – one silver, the property of John Cox jun., valued at £1 5s, and the other a german silver one, valued at 7s 6d, the property of John Hoblins. It appeared that the prisoner, who pleaded guilty and requested to have his case disposed of by the Bench, had for three months past lodged with Cox’s father, who keeps a beerhouse in Ablewell Street, had about a fortnight ago got on the spree and taken the watches and sold them to raise the wind. The silver watch he had given to a person named Weeby to pledge, but as the pawnbroker refused to advance anything on it, he gave it a person named Heatley to sell, and he disposed of it to David Evans, ostler at the NEW INN, Park Street, for eighteen shillings. The german silver watch he had disposed of to a market gardener from Lichfield, named Richard Blaknell for six shillings. On being apprehended at Willenhall on Thursday last by Police-constable Fugle, the prisoner admitted the charge. Cox, the owner of the silver watch, interceded on behalf of the prisoner, whom he had never known to be guilty of such an act before; and in consequence of this intercession the Bench sentenced the prisoner to two months’ imprisonment for stealing the silver watch, and one months’ imprisonment for stealing the german watch.”

Walsall Free Press 7/5/1859

“On Saturday last, Augustus Davenport, aged fifteen, son of Mr. James Davenport, tailor, the Bridge, went bird’s nesting, and in about four hours afterwards was found suspended from a tree, on the farm of Mr. J. Frost, Wood End. At the inquest held upon the body at the NEW INN, Park Street, on Monday last, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, the jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Congestion of the Brain.”

1861 Census

5, Park Street

- [1] *Robert Hodson* (40), victualler, born Longdon, Staffordshire;
- [2] Sarah Hodson (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Edward Lord (26), visitor, commercial traveller, born Walsall;
- [4] Thomas Johnson (24), visitor, needle manufacturer, born Redditch;
- [5] Martha Smith (19), waitress and house servant, born Lichfield;
- [6] Selina Lowe (22), waitress and house servant, born Bilston;
- [7] John Spare (27), ostler and boots, born Hogs Norton, Leicestershire;
- [8] James Mackel (20), ostler and boots, born Fulletby, Lincolnshire;

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1862

“Wiliam Stewart, a servant in the employ of J. W. Newman, Esq, was summoned by Mr. *Robert Hodson*, of the NEW INN, Park Street, charged with having assaulted him on Tuesday evening last. The defendant, it appeared, was in the yard attached to Mr. *Hodson*’s premises on the evening named, and as he had no business there, complainant ordered him away. He refused to go, and complainant pushed him, when a scuffle ensued, and a policeman was sent for. Mr. Matthews (from the office of Mr. Wilkin-son) appeared for the defendant, and called Mr. Newman, who testified to Stewart being sober just prior to the alleged assault, of which, however, he knew nothing. The charge was dismissed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/12/1867

“At about five o’clock on Tuesday morning a fire was discovered to have broken out in the bar at the house of Mr. *Hodson*, the NEW INN, Park Street, but with a timely application of a few buckets of water the flames were extinguished, not, however, until a cupboard, a sofa, and some other articles in the room were consumed. The Norwich Brigade with their engine, and a party of police with reel and hose attended, but their services were not required.”

1871 Census

5, Park Street

- [1] *Robert Hodson* (48), hotel keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Hodson (42), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah Hodson (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Annie Hodson (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Clara Hodson (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Alice Hodson (4), daughter, born Walsall;

- [7] Robert Hodson (3), son, born Walsall;
- [8] Elizabeth Sampson (25), barmaid, born Walsall;
- [9] Mary Mantle (16), nursemaid, born Walsall;
- [10] Rosana Bell (19), general servant, born Staffordshire;
- [11] Charles Haskill (37), ostler, born Dorsetshire:

Midland Examiner 14/8/1875

“*Robert Hodson*, of the NEW INN, Park Street, for having in his possession seven unjust measures which were unjust towards the purchaser, was discharged on paying costs, as the quantity which was deficient was exceedingly small.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/1/1879 - Advert

“General Servant Wanted.
Apply, NEW INN, Park Street.”

1881 Census

5, Park Street

- [1] *Robert Hodson* (60), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Hodson (54), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah Hodson (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Annie Hodson (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Clara E. Hodson (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Alice Hodson (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Robert Hodson (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Charlotte Hodson (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] John Hilditch (42), visitor, gentleman, born Walsall;
- [10] Llewelyn Price (21), hostler, born Walsall;
- [11] Frank Taylor (20), hostler, born Pleck:

Walsall Advertiser 20/8/1881 - Advert

“For sale, a grey Horse, 5 years old, 16 hands high, suitable for cart or van.
Apply, NEW INN, Park Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/12/1882 - Advert

“Wanted, a young man to attend Horses; one used to driving.
Apply, NEW INN, Park Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/4/1883 - Advert

“For Sale, a handsome Dog Cart (light) cheap.
Apply, Mr. *Hodson*, NEW INN, Park Street.”

John Donellan = John Donnellan

Walsall Advertiser 17/5/1890

“On Wednesday night a meeting was held at the NEW INNS, Park Street, for the formation of a Cycling Club for Walsall. Mr. F. W. Willmore presided. It was explained that the objects of the new club were to form a more intelligent appreciation of cycling than at present obtains, in opposition to the present ‘ruching,’ ‘scorching,’ and unobservant running through the country, and to promote the interests of wheelmen through the N.C.U. and the C.T.C. Sir Charles Forster, M.P., and Mr. James, C.C., were elected patrons, Dr. Willmore, president, Messrs. W. Bayliss, J.P., W. H. Duignan, W. H. Robinson, M. H. Highway, F. Smith, E. H. Eglington, and Councillor Noake were invited to become vice-presidents.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“There were 31 applications for dancing, singing and music licenses under the provisions of the new Corporation Act. The Bench heard all the applications and then retired to consider their decisions, which turned out to be in accordance with the principle which was laid down at a former Court, viz, that licenses should not be granted to vaults or public rooms, but should be confined to regular and existing clubs and class meetings in club rooms. Licenses were granted to.....
NEW INN, Park Street.”

1891 Census

11, Park Street – NEW INN

- [1] *John Donnellan* (43), licensed victualler, born Clare, Ireland;
- [2] *Margaret A. Donnellan* (41), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] James A. Donnellan (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Nancy Lowe (45), visitor, retired governess, born Darlaston;
- [5] Henry Welsh (23), barman, born Aldridge;

- [6] Daniel Kendrick (25), barman, born Walsall;
[7] Clara Webb (20), general servant, born Birmingham;
[8] Rebecca Parker (14), visitor, scholar, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1893

“Great surprise was occasioned on Wednesday by the announcement of the death, with painful suddenness, of Mr. *John Donnellan*, keeper of the NEW INNS HOTEL, Park Street, and a well-known licensed victualler. Mr. *Donnellan*, who had been connected with the trade for a considerable number of years, has recently been somewhat out of health, but no immediately serious results were anticipated, and on Tuesday he was able to go about his business in the ordinary course, and was about town a good deal during the day. In the evening he was still cheerful and conversed freely before going to bed. He was seen by Dr. Richards, his medical attendant, at 11.40, but about three o’clock in the morning he was taken with a seizure and death took place in a very short time. The deceased leaves a widow and family, and his death will be regretted by a large circle of friends, with whom his genial disposition had made him very popular.

Amid genuine expressions of regret, the funeral took place yesterday afternoon at the Mount. There was a very large gathering at the burial ground and chapel – in fact the concourse of people was so great that the mourners could not all obtain seats.....”

Walsall Advertiser 4/8/1894

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The forty second annual meeting of the members of this society was held on Thursday We have to report with regret that by death we have lost five members Mr. *John Donnellan*, NEW INNS HOTEL, Park Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/4/1897

“The annual smoking concert, in connection with the Walsall Branch of the Postmen’s Federation, was held on Monday evening, at the NEW INNS HOTEL, Park Street. Mr. J. Stanton (president of the local branch) was in the chair, Mr. A. Russell (Wolverhampton) being his viz-à-viz. There was a large attendance, and representatives were present from various places, including Dudley, Wednesbury, Darlaston, Wolverhampton, and Birmingham.

The Chairman, having offered a hearty welcome to all, went on to refer to the recent prohibition against postmen asking for Christmas boxes, and he held that the sum equivalent ought to be given.

Songs, toast, and sentiment, filled the rest of the evening, and among those who took part in the programme were Messrs. F. Evans, J. Dearne, G. Ellis, A. Shevyn, B. Hunt, W. Wyneberg, J. Pearsell, Bros. Blakemore, and Bros. Garvin.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/6/1897 - Notice

“K.G.H. & R.A.O.B.

By special desire of the Knight Commander and Grand Primo, all Members of the above are respectfully invited to assemble at the NEW INNS HOTEL Park Street, at 10.30am prompt, for the purpose of joining the Jubilee Procession.

L. I. Aulton, K.C.,
Sir H. S. Bentley, G.P.,
Jeff. C. Crooke, Scribe,
E. H. Allen, G. Sec.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/3/1899

“K.G.H. No.7 Pioneer Encampment. The annual invitation smoking concert in connection with the above took place on Thursday evening, in the NEW INNS Assembly Rooms, Park Street. There was a large attendance.....”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Then the magistrates also want to know if you can report to them during the sitting of this meeting as to the accommodation provided by the GEORGE HOTEL, the STORK, the DRAGON, the PRIORY, NEW INNS, the WOOLPACK, and the QUEENS?

.....the Chief Constable said he was then in possession of the information asked by the Magistrates with reference to the bedroom accommodation at the hotels. At the GEORGE HOTEL there were nineteen beds for commercials. The two large rooms at that hotel, formerly used for balls, &c, had been converted into eight bedrooms and a bathroom, and no plans had been submitted for the alterations. At the PRIORY there were six bedrooms for accommodation, five at the DRAGON, three at the QUEENS, but there was no bedroom accommodation at the STORK, NEW INNS, and the WOOLPACK Hotels.....

Mr. Loxton announced that the hotel licenses would be renewed with the exception of the GEORGE.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/9/1899

“On Sunday night a crowded meeting in connection with the Walsall Nos.1 and 2 Branches of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants was held at the NEW INNS, Park Street.....”

Walsall Observer 14/4/1900

“The annual smoking concert in connection with the No.7 Pioneer Encampment of the KGH was held at the NEW INN, Park Street.....”

1901 Census

11, Park Street

[1] *Margaret A. Donellan* (51), widow, licensed victualler, born Darlaston;

[2] John T. Donellan (13), son, born Walsall;

[3] James A. Donellan (11), son, born Walsall;

[4] Rhoda Lowe (22), niece, barmaid, born Darlaston;

[5] Ann M. Hunstone (23), housemaid, born Great Bridge;

[6] William Gale (32), barman, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 22/4/1902

“The annual smoking concert promoted by the No.7 Pioneer Encampment of the Knight of the Golden Horn, at the headquarters, the NEW INNS, Park Street, took place on Thursday, and was a huge success.....”

John Harry Brown – see also PRINCE, RED LION, NEW STATION, THREE CUPS.

Walsall Advertiser 19/11/1910

“The fifty-eighth annual general meeting of members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week at the NEW INNS HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall.....”

1911 Census

Park Street – NEW INNS

[1] *Harry Gilbert* (58), publican, born Northamptonshire;

[2] Eliza Gilbert (50), wife, born Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire;

[3] Hannah Bates (69), widow, born Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire;

[4] Charlotte Wallerson (29), barmaid, born Chase Terrace, Staffordshire;

[5] Eliza Alport (21), servant, born Brownhills, Staffordshire;

[6] Alice Yarrold (14), visitor, born London:

Walsall Advertiser 18/11/1911

“The fifty-ninth annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the NEW INNS HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 24/8/1912

“A mass meeting arranged by the Walsall and District Branch of the National Federation of Hairdressers was held at the NEW INNS, Park Street, on Thursday, to consider the new minimum price list arranged by the Central Council of the Federation.....”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

NEW INNS, Park Street, Walsall, 7s.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1915

“A warning that certain drinking scenes described as a disgrace to the town, must cease, was given by the Walsall Magistrates yesterday (Friday) when an application was made for the transfer of the license of the NEW INN, Park Street, from *Harry Gilbert* to *Francis Joseph Zeller*. The Magistrates were Dr. G. A. Phillips (presiding), Messrs. E. J. Shaw, S. M. Slater and A. D. Cozens. Mr. F. S. Wilson Smith made the application.

After a private consultation Dr. Phillips said the application would be granted, but the justices wished to point out to the incoming tenant that there had been scenes going on in the gateway and yard with regard to drinking which they hoped would be altered.

Mr. Wilson Smith said that on behalf of the incoming tenant he would promise that the suggestion would be carried out. The times had been abnormal, and it had been very difficult to keep the yard clear. However, Mr. *Zeller* was prepared to do his utmost to improve matters.

Dr Phillips: The number of women, and even children who have been drinking there in the past was a great disgrace to the house and the town.

Mr. Wilson Smith: You must blame the Act of Parliament that makes it an offence for a woman to take a child into a public house.

Dr. Phillips: We have nothing more to say in the matter, except that we hope the incoming tenant will give careful attention to what we have said.”

Walsall Observer 5/2/1916

“The general annual licensing sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday morning.....

The justices view with increasing displeasure the practice on the part of some license holders of permitting drinking in the passages, entries and gateways attached to their licensed houses. They call particular attention to four houses visited by them, namely, the NEW INNS, Park Street (in which case an undertaking had previously been given that the practice should be discontinued); the DURHAM OX, the TALBOT, and the TURKS HEAD.

In addition, the sanitary arrangements of these houses was most unsatisfactory. Objection is taken in open court on behalf of the Licensing Committee to the renewal of these four houses, and will be put back until the adjourned general annual licensing meet-

ing, at which the personal attendance of the licensees will be required.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said that as representing the owner of the NEW INNS he would be glad to know whether it was the intention of the justices to serve any formal notice of objection on the owners of the house, so as they might know precisely what was required.

The Clerk: The statute provides for that doesn't it? – Mr. Pearman-Smith: I should imagine so, but it seems that if notice is given to the parties concerned they would not have been put to the expense of coming here, and possibly the requirements would have been complied with.

Mr. Phillips: But the requirements have not been complied with. It has been mentioned before; special attention had been drawn to it and an undertaking was given at the time the license was transferred to Mr. *Zeller* that this matter should be remedied. They were spoken of very strongly at the time.

Mr. Pearman-Smith: I can assure you that every precaution, every possible means, have been taken to prevent people drinking in the passages of the NEW INNS. Special men have been employed to prevent drink being carried out of the house. A customer comes in and is served with drink in the house, and sometimes – and this cannot be prevented – a man takes drink out of the house to drink if he wishes. That is a very difficult situation, I can assure you now that every precaution has been taken to prevent such a state of things existing. It is equally the desire of the license holder that it should be prevented. The trade is good enough, and there is no need to stoop to that, or anything the magistrates do not wish.

The Clerk said it was perfectly clear that objection might be taken by anyone in open court, and if it were proceeded with notice would be given requiring the license holder to appear at the adjourned licensing meeting.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said that when notice was given the grounds should be stated.

The Clerk: You can't object to a license without stating the grounds.

It was then announced that all remaining licenses would be renewed, and that the compensation authority had decided to make no levy this year for the purpose of compensation."

Walsall Observer 26/2/1916

"The adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

NEW INN, Park Street. The license holder (*Francis Joseph Zeller*) was represented by Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith.

Chief Inspector Ballance stated that he had frequently seen large numbers of people drinking in the gateway, but since he had cautioned Mr. *Zeller* there had been some improvement. At one time there were seats in the entry, but these had since been removed, and under the present management no drink had been served in the gateway. The yard was used for certain purposes by people who did not go into the house.

Adjourned for a month for plans of the licensed area to be deposited.

It was intimated that the licensees would be responsible for any drinking taking place in the entries."

Evening Despatch 24/3/1916

"A further sitting of the Walsall Licensing justices was held today.....

The plans of the NEW INN were sanctioned, and the license renewed, on condition that steps be taken to prevent the public using the yard at the rear of the house."

Walsall Observer 1/7/1916 - Roll of Honour

"Another Walsall officer who had been awarded the Military Cross is Major *Walter Zeller*, the only son of Mr. *Joseph Zeller*, of the NEW INNS, Park Street. Born at West Bromwich, Major *Zeller*, who is thirty-two years of age, came to Walsall when quite young, and his early school days were spent at Queen Mary's Grammar School. Leaving there in 1899 he proceeded to Shrewsbury, where he continued his education. Soon after leaving he joined the local Volunteers, and rose to be Captain. While serving the Stockport Brewery Company as head brewer, he was for a time a lieutenant in the Cheshire Regiment. He then joined his father in his wine and spirit business. Later he obtained a commission in the R.F.A, and in 1912 obtained his captain's certificate with honours at Aldershot. The day following the declaration of war he applied for a commission in the Royal Engineers, and four months later he went to France as Captain, being made a temporary Major four months later. Soon afterwards he was confirmed in the rank of Major, and for a time acted as Brigadier-General.

Major *Zeller* was a prominent member of the Walsall Swimming Club, with which he gained several certificates. He was an enthusiastic player in the Hockey Club."

Birmingham Mail 10/1/1917

"Joseph Tranter (38), cooper, Windsor Street, Birmingham, was fined 20s at Walsall today, on charges of being drunk and incapable, and stealing a bottle of port wine and glass, value 6s. The evidence showed that prisoner had been employed by Mitchells and Butlers, Ltd, and was sent to the NEW INNS, Park Street, Walsall, to repair a barrel. He was apparently sober when he left the premises, but was afterwards found lying helpless in the street with a smashed bottle which had contained port wine, in his pocket. He had been working near a cask of port wine.

Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith, solicitor, said prisoner had been employed by the firm for two years, and they had never known him to give way to intemperance before."

South Staffordshire Times 13/12/1919

"Because he had no house to go to, Mr. *James H. Biddulph*, licensee of the NEW INNS, Park Street, Walsall, objected to the transfer of the license to Mr. *James Loynes*, of the NEW INNS, King Street, Darlaston. The objection was made to the magistrates on Monday, when an application for the transfer of the license was made by Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith on behalf of Atkinson's

Brewery Co. *Biddulph* admitted that he had three months notice, and said he refused to give up the license until suitable accommodation was found for him elsewhere. 'I want somewhere to go, and not to be turned out into the street,' *Biddulph* added, Mr. Pearman-Smith said Messrs. Atkinsons were satisfied with *Biddulph*, and would not have given him notice but for certain facts which came to their notice, and which he (Mr. Pearman-Smith) did not want to go into. Messrs. Atkinsons appreciated the difficulty *Biddulph* might be placed in, and offered to store his furniture free of cost. The magistrates granted temporary authority."

Samuel Hollies – see also STAG, Bloxwich, and THREE TUNS.

Dudley Herald 25/4/1931

"An enjoyable gathering of officials and employees of the Birmingham Canal Navigations took place in the assembly room of the NEW INNS HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall, on Saturday evening last, to make a presentation to Mr. Samuel Price, of Bloxwich, late Inspector for the Walsall district, on the occasion of his retirement, he having reached the age limit.

A letter, expressing his good wishes and regretting being unable to attend was read from the manager (Mr. P. Nadin).

The presentation took the form of a leather wallet containing Treasury notes, with the inscription: 'Mr. Samuel Price, for 48 years' service, from the officials and staff, B.C.N.'

Mr. A. Muir White (the company's engineer) occupied the chair, and in making the presentation said how pleased he was to be present at the gathering, in order to meet their old inspector, Mr. Price, and other canal workers. He referred to the position Mr. Price had occupied for a number of years in keeping the canal banks, subsiding areas, etc, in order, and said it was up to all to do their best in the interests of the canal.

On Behalf of the officials and employees of the B.C.N he asked Mr. Price to accept the wallet with every good wish in his retirement.

Mr. Price on rising to reply, was received with musical honours, and said he hardly knew what to say to them for the kindness which had been shown to him. He would feel more at home if he was building a bridge or putting a 'lock' in. During his inspectorship he had always had good workmen who had been at the back of him all the time, and he had to thank them for being always loyal. He hoped they would continue in the same way for his successor.

Mr. Price entered the B.C.N service at Ocker Hill works in the years 1883, and in 1896 was promoted to the position of foreman, he occupying this post in the Birmingham, Tipton and Netherton districts until 1900, when he was appointed district inspector for the Netherton area.

In 1909 he was transferred to the Walsall district, Bloxwich depot, and remained there until his retirement at the end of last year. He had been succeeded by Mr. V. Allsop, who belongs to an old Bloxwich family, and lately of Birmingham district.

Mr. Price is an old Tiptonian, he having resided at Ocker Hill until the time of his removal to Netherton in 1905. He was one of the founders of the Ocker Hill Early Morning Adult School, and held the position of Treasurer of that body until the time of his leaving the district.

In proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. A. Muir White for presiding, Mr. T. Banner said he was sure he was voicing the feeling of all present in saying how pleased they were in having his company that evening, and hoped to have the pleasure of doing so on many future occasions.

Mr. V. Allsop, in seconding, paid a tribute to Mr. Price in the way the men had been trained under him, and said he had no doubt they would all do for him as they had done for Mr. Price.

The chairman suitably replied, and he was given musical honours.

A musical programme was provided by the Ocker Hill Works' Quartette Party, Messrs. E. Hill (tenor), B. Crockett (baritone), J. Palmer (humourist), A. Holt (banjo), H. Wellings (monologues), and Mr. H. Cartwright (accompanist).

A vote of thanks to the artistes was proposed by Inspector T. Price, Birmingham."

John Henry Loynes – see also BARREL.

Demolished

Rebuilt

1939 Register

11, Park Street

[1] *Charles V. Mycock*, date of birth 7/12/1898, manager licensed house, married, ARP;

[2] *Phoebe Mycock*, dob 31/5/1895, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Dorothy (Dennis) Porter*, dob 19/5/1918, bar general, single;

[4] *Eleanor May Rose (Joiner) Reddington*, dob 12/7/1922, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 14/10/1939

"Concert for Wardens and Wives. Organised by the Social Committee of 'J' area, a concert was held at the NEW INNS, Park Street, on Thursday evening, and provided an enjoyable time for about fifty wardens and their wives and friends. The attendance was limited to a hundred in accordance with the regulations. Mr. C. Bardell presided and in addition to songs by Mrs. N. Ball, Miss D. Nicholls and Messrs. Garnett Orton and J. Parsons, there were community singing and a spirited rendering of the 'Warden's Swing-Song' to the tune of the 'Lambeth Walk.' Mr. Watts was the accompanist. It is proposed to arrange further concerts if possible, for the remainder of the 150 wardens in the area."

Bakers' and Confectioners' Amalgamated Union, (Henry Harrison, sec.), NEW INNS, Park Street. [1940]

Walsall Observer 10/5/1941

“Well-known for many years as a licensee in Walsall and Birmingham, Mr. *John Harry Brown* died on Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Cronin, of the FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, with whom he had resided since he retired about eight years ago. He was in his 79th year, and had been ill for about a month.

Eldest son of John Brown, a well-known Walsall cricketer, who for twelve years headed the town club’s batting averages (and who had at times played with or against some of the most famous men of his time, including the Graces, Parr, Minn and Daft), the late Mr. *Brown* himself, like several of his brothers, took an active part in the game and assisted the town club.

He left the currying trade to take his first licensed house, the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street, and among other Walsall licenses he held were those of the NEW INNS and the CUPS HOTEL, Park Street. He had been at the latter before his retirement and it was while he was there that his wife died eleven years ago. He had been a member of both the Walsall and Birmingham licensed victuallers’ societies. He leaves six sons and a daughter. The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery on Thursday.”

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

NEW INNS, Park Street. £4 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

NEW INNS, Park Street. £7 7s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

NEW INNS, Park Street. £3 12s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 9/9/1944 - Notice

“To All Members.

Amalgamated Engineering Union (Walsall Branch).

A Special Meeting will be held at the NEW INNS, Park Street, on Wednesday, 13th September, 1944, at 7-30pm, to discuss the opening of a new branch in Walsall.

F. Clapham (District Secretary) will be in attendance.”

Charles Victor Mycock died in the 1st quarter of 1960.

Norman Frederick Eley – see also KING EDWARD.

John Plimmer – see also OAK.

John Alexander Hiley – see also BOROUGH ARMS.

Horace Jobber – see also BOROUGH ARMS.

Birmingham Canal Navigation Society held its inaugural meeting here, upstairs, on 25th July 1968.

Closed

Demolished

NEW INN

Rolling Mill Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

George Farley, Pleck Road, Walsall

James Lavender

John Russell and Co, Pleck Road, Walsall

LICENSEES

Joseph Rigby [1872];
James Lavender [];
Stephen Griffin [];
John West [] – **1896**);
Edward Johnson (**1896** – []

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

The license was cancelled after Sergeant Ballard reported that there was no place in existence.

NEW INN

Stank Lane, Caldmore, WALSALL

OWNERS

North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)

LICENSEES

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Post 26/2/1879

“Yesterday afternoon, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the NEW INN, Stank Lane, on the body of William Taylor (68), shoemaker, Caldmore, who, as, stated in Yesterday’s *Post*, was found drowned in a pool at the back of the New Mills, on Monday morning. An open verdict was returned, there being nothing to show how he got into the water.”

Indenture dated 28/10/1909

“First All That piece of land situate near to Caldmoor in Walsall aforesaid fronting to the turnpike road leading from Walsall to Wednesbury and containing in the whole 462 square yards or thereabouts.
And Secondly All That piece of land situate near to Caldmoor aforesaid fronting to the said turnpike road from Walsall called Stank Lane being of triangular shape situate at the junction of the said turnpike road and on the other side to Stank Lane aforesaid and abutting backwards upon the first described piece of land and which said piece of land secondly described contains in the whole 199 square yards or thereabouts. And also that messuage or dwelling-house with the outbuildings thereto belonging erected on the said secondly described piece of land now occupied as a public-house and called The NEW INN. And also the bakehouse fronting Stank Lane aforesaid erected on the said secondly described piece of land.”

Check Wednesbury Road.

NEW INNS

113, (117), Wednesbury Road / Milton Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Webster
Mrs. Lucy Webster
John Beech
Henry Moseley
Chesters Brewery Co.

North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)

LICENSEES

John Webster [1866] – [1872];
Mrs. Lucy Webster [1880] – [1882];
John Beech [1883];
Amos Whitehead [1885] – **1906**;
Albert George Holden (**1906 – 1910**);
Mrs. Ruth Elizabeth Littler (**1910 – 1913**);
R. Anson [1913] (?)
George William Freeman (**1913 – 1922**);
Harriet Elizabeth (Freeman) Smith (**1922 – [1924]**)
Albert Coley* [1930]
Albert Leonard Coley* [1939] – **1963**;
Joseph James Hill (**1963 – 1966**);
Frank Frederick Eden (**1966 – 1967**);
Stanley Charles Freeman (**1967 – []**)
John Thomas Chance (**1994 – 1996**):

NOTES

117, Wednesbury Road [1881]
113, Wednesbury Road [1891], [1901], [1911], [1939], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. Mathews also applied on behalf of *John Webster*, beerhouse keeper, Wednesbury Road, and Mr. John Warley, beerhouse keeper, Rollingmill Street, The Pleck. In both instances the applications were refused.”

John Webster, beer retailer, Wednesbury Road. [1868], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday applications for new licenses for the sale of spirits.....

Mr. Gillespie applied on behalf of *John Webster*, beerhouse keeper, Wednesbury Road.

The Mayor announced that the Bench had decided not to grant any new licenses this year.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1870

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

There were eight applicants for new spirit licenses.....

John Webster, the NEW INN, Wednesbury Road.....

The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and after having been absent about half an hour they returned, and announced that they had decided to refuse all the applications, though they had come to this decision with much regret in some instances.”

1871 Census

NEW INN – Wednesbury Road

[1] *John Webster* (49), beerseller, born Kings Norton;

[2] *Lucy Webster* (43), wife, born Coventry;

[3] Ellen Evans (14), general servant, born Tipton:

Lichfield Mercury 3/9/1880

“The usual licensing session took place at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Friday.....

Lucy Webster, the NEW INN beerhouse, Wednesbury Road, applied for a victualler’s license Refused.”

1881 Census

117, Wednesbury Road

[1] *Lucy Webster* (48), widow, beer retailer, born Coventry;

[2] John Bush (27), nephew, brewer, born Walsall;

[3] Eugenia Bush (25), niece, born Coventry;

- [4] Eda Emma Beech (2), great niece, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Webster (12), great niece, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Emma Beech (25), visitor, general servant, born Walsall;
- [7] Emma Beech (1 month), niece, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1882

“The annual Licensing Sessions for Walsall borough took place yesterday, at the Guildhall.
Lucy Webster, the NEW INN beerhouse, Wednesbury Road, applied for a victualler’s license Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/9/1883

“Applications were made with the following results.
That of *John Beech*, of the NEW INN, Wednesbury Road, to sell wines, was refused.”

Walsall Observer 27/6/1885

“Grand Independent Order of Caledonian Corks. On Wednesday last the officers and members of lodge 488, held at Bro. Burton’s the PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, opened a new lodge at Bro. *Whitehead*’s NEW INN, Wednesbury Road. A large number of members from the different lodges of the town were present, and assisted in the ceremony. Some new members were also initiated.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“There were 31 applications for dancing, singing and music licenses under the provisions of the new Corporation Act. The Bench heard all the applications and then retired to consider their decisions, which turned out to be in accordance with the principle which was laid down at a former Court, viz, that licenses should not be granted to vaults or public rooms, but should be confined to regular and existing clubs and class meetings in club rooms. Licenses were granted to.
The NEW INN, Wednesbury Road.”

1891 Census

113, Wednesbury Road – Public House – NEW INN

- [1] *Amos Whitehead* (36), publican and baker, born Bedworth, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Jane Whitehead* (38), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Clara Pallen* (23), general servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 29/9/1894

“On Monday the members of the NEW INNS Angling Society, of Wednesbury Road, held their first angling competition. The club rent about a mile and a half of the River Trent at Carwarden Spring, near Rugeley, and this was the scene of the contest. The threatening appearance of clouds and the early rain was sufficient to deter the less enthusiastic disciples of ‘Izaak,’ and the list of competitors was reduced to nine. The first prize fell to the rod of Mr. R. B. Sutton, who just managed to defeat the second prizeman, Mr. R. Price, by a turn of the scales; Mr. Cleaving being third. A fine chub of about 3lbs fell a victim to the rod of Mr. J. Bird. Mr. Sutton brought back a nice catch of roach, out of thirteen fish only one being under a quarter of a pound. The meetings of the society are held weekly, and the members will gladly greet any followers of the sport. It is pleasing to record that the committee disqualified all fish under a quarter of a pound from being weighed in the competition.”

Amos Whitehead, baker and beer retailer, 113, Wednesbury Road. [1896], [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 1/4/1899

“Mr. T. H. Stanley, borough coroner, held an inquest on Monday afternoon at the NEW INN, Wednesbury Road, on the body of Frederick Young, aged six months, son of Walter Young, of 88, Milton Street.
The mother of deceased said she took the child out on the previous Friday, at about 12 noon. She was not out with him for more than one or two minutes, and he then appeared quite well. When she came back, she gave the child to her mother, who shortly afterwards called her, and said that the baby had been taken ill.
Mrs. Clarke, mother of last witness, said that shortly after she had received the child she found out that it was unwell.
Dr. Layton said he was called in to see the child, but when he saw it, it was dead. He made an outward examination of the body, and apparently the child died from the effects of wind in the intestines, which produced syncope.
A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.”

1901 Census

113, Wednesbury Road

- [1] *Amos Whitehead* (46), beerhouse keeper, born Bedworth;
- [2] *Jane Whitehead* (48), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *May Deighton* (15), general servant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Lettie Banks* (23), general servant, born Wednesfield:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable inter-

est. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Amos Whitehead, NEW INN (for whom Mr. Walford appeared) was questioned as to the approaches to his premises at the corner of Milton street. The yard was entirely enclosed; he had a bakehouse; and the gates he had were necessary. License renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... Mr. *Albert G. Holden*, NEW INN, Wednesbury Road.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/11/1907

“Mr. J. J. Thompson of the Pleck Branch of the Imperial Tariff Committee, presided over a meeting held under its auspices at the NEW INN, Wednesbury Road, on Monday night, when an address was delivered by Mr. J. R. Rooke (gun-worker), of Birmingham. In the course of his remarks the speaker referred to the progress made in other countries where Tariff Reform was in operation. Dealing with the Colonial aspect of Tariff Reform, he said they ought to give their support to their brothers across the seas, instead of encouraging the foreigners they were making them rich at our expense, and some day they would use those riches against us.”

1911 Census

113, Wednesbury Road – NEW INNS

[1] *Ruth Elizabeth Littler* (47), widow, licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;

[2] Fannie Haycock (34), barmaid, born Darlaston;

[3] Lydia Maud Bullock (15), niece, visitor, born Bloxwich;

[4] Sarah Jane Astbury (23), maid of work, born West Bromwich:

Mrs. *Ruth Elizabeth Littler*, beer retailer, 113, Wednesbury Road. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1912

“Mr. W. Bayliss presided at the adjourned Licensing Sessions on Tuesday.....

Mrs *Ruth Elizabeth Littler*, licensee of the NEW INN beerhouse, Wednesbury Road applied for a full license.

Mr. S. A. Newman appeared in support of the application and Mr. H. H. Jackson entered formal opposition on behalf of the licensee and owners of the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Wednesbury Road.

Mr. Newman submitted that there was ample accommodation to warrant the granting of the license as there were three rooms downstairs and five bedrooms. There was plenty of stabling and a coach-house, in fact, he thought there was better accommodation at this beer-house than there was at any fully-licensed house. The nearest house in the Wednesbury direction was the HOPE AND ANCHOR, and on the other side the TURF TAVERN in Bradford Street, and on the Caldmore side the WHITE HART. There was no fully-licensed house within a radius of half-a-mile. He submitted that the license was a public necessity for the residents in the neighbourhood, who, when illness or other necessity arose to obtain spirits, would have to go a very great distance to get them. Further, since the last application was made the houses and population in the district had enormously increased. He had a memorial signed by a great number of residents in the neighbourhood urging on the Bench the necessity of granting a license for the sale of spirits.

The Magistrates’ Clerk enquired what Mr. Newman was going to give for the license; that was the point.

Mr. Newman said he had no instructions to submit the Justices to the indignity of bargaining with him.

Eventually the Bench refused to grant the license.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/10/1913

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *R. Anson*, NEW INNS, Wednesbury Road.”

Walsall Observer 11/9/1915 - Advert

“Bakehouse, good with stabling, to Let.

Apply *G. Freeman*, NEW INNS, Wednesbury Road.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

NEW INNS, Wednesbury Road. £1 17s 8½d.”

Harriet Elizabeth Freeman married a Mr. *Smith* on 7th February 1924.

* possibly the same person

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

“Both the NEW INN, a Wednesbury Road beerhouse; and the KING EDWARD VII were also in the list opposed at the annual sessions, but Mr. Cooper now applied for the removal of the KING EDWARD license to the NEW INN.

The NEW INN, said Mr. Cooper, was very definitely in an area where a full license was required and if the application were granted the net result would be one beer ‘on’ beer license fewer in the borough. The brewery company did not pretend that the present NEW INN premises were suitable for a full license, but they undertook to submit to the next transfer sessions a scheme to rebuild the house. The plans also provided for a modern house in every respect and would do away with the present awkward corner of Milton Street and Wednesbury Road.

Evidence that there was a demand for wines and spirits by customers of the NEW INN was given by the licensee, *Albert Leonard Coley*; and by Alfred Pomlett, motor garage proprietor, 6, Milton Street.

The application was opposed by Robert Arnold Hildick, managing director of Whithalls Wines Ltd, who reminded the justices that at the opening sessions on February 9 they refused his company’s application for a wines and spirits off-license for their Wednesbury Road premises, after the Chief Constable and others had opposed on the ground that the district was already adequately served. ‘Although it would be permissible,’ he said, ‘for my company to have a spirits license on the premises, we are prepared to accept your worships’ opinion that the district is adequately served.’

After enumerating licensed premises in the neighbourhood of the Wednesbury Road, Mr. Hildick added: ‘And if we have any fastidious drinkers still not satisfied, it is considerably less than half a mile to the GEORGE HOTEL.’

Mr. Ledbury (justice): Have we any fastidious drinkers in Walsall? – Mr. Hildick: Well, we have sly drinkers.

Subject to the submission of plans for rebuilding the NEW INN, the justices granted the application and they renewed both licenses pending completion of the removal.”

It reopened with a full license at 2pm on 4th May 1939.

The new license was removed from the KING EDWARD VII, High Street.

1939 Register

113, Wednesbury Road – Public House

[1] *Albert L. Coley*, date of birth 16/8/1883, licensee, married;

[2] *Phoebe Coley*, dob 5/2/1890, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *France George R. Coley*, dob 9/10/1919, electrician, single;

[4] *Henry W. A. Stevens*, dob 25/6/1903, ?????, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940 - Marriages

“On December 3, 1940, at St Paul’s Church, Wood Green, Wednesbury (by license), George Robert Francis *Coley* (R.A.C.), only son of Mr. and Mrs. *A. L. Coley*, of NEW INNS, Wednesbury Road, Walsall, to Pearl, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Osborne, of Myvod Road, Wood Green, Wednesbury.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.
NEW INNS, Wednesbury Road. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.

NEW INNS, Wednesbury Road. £0 17s 8d.”

1963 Probate

“*Albert Leonard Coley*, of the NEW INN, 113 Wednesbury Road, Walsall, Staffordshire, died 9 April 1963. Administration London 22 August to *Phoebe Coley*, widow. Effects £1,023 4s.”

Frank Frederick Eden – see also FOUR CROSSES.

John Thomas Chance married Susan.

It closed in 1996.

It was converted into a private residence. [2001]

NEW MARKET TAVERN

63, (64), (62), (62+63), Lower Hall Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

Jesse Moore, Lichfield Street, Walsall
D. J. Moore, surgeon
W. S. Moore Esq., Hastings
E. S. Hold Esq., Walsall

LICENSEES

George Pitt [1872];
George Thomas Pitt [1881];
Richard Arrowsmith [1891] – **1900**;
Hugh Charles Godby (**1900**);
Georgina Godby (**1900 – 1901**);
Frederick Westwood (**1901**);
Mrs. Alice Arrowsmith (**1901 – 1905**);
George Frederick Sunter (**1905 – 1913**):

NOTES

62, Lower Hall Lane [1881]
62+63, Lower Hall Lane [1901]
63, Lower Hall Lane [1901]
64, Lower Hall Lane [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.

George Pitt, beer retailer, 62, Lower Hall Lane. [1872]

1881 Census

62, Lower Hall Lane
[1] *George Pitt* (58), widower, beer retailer, born Ludlow;
[2] George Pitt (28), son, engine driver, born Birmingham;
[3] Enoch Pitt (25), son, boat riveter, born Birmingham;
[4] Martha Cross (40), house keeper, born Derby;
[5] Samuel Sims (25), boarder, hame filer, born Birmingham;
[6] John Heydan (24), boarder, gardner, born Shifnal;
[7] Thomas Little (19), boarder, painter, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 20/4/1889 - Advert

“Fred. Davies, Aerated Water Manufacturer, Birmingham Road, Begg to Announce that for the convenience of his many Customers in the centre of the Town, he has Opened a Store for the Supply of his well-known high-class Waters at the NEW MARKET TAVERN, Lower Hall Lane (Near Digbeth).
Any Orders left at this Establishment will receive prompt and careful attention.”

1891 Census

62+63, Lower Hall Lane – OLD MARKET TAVERN
[1] *Richard Arrowsmith* (58), widower, publican, born Walsall;
[2] Harriet Arrowsmith (87), mother, living on her means, born Wolverhampton;
[3] Clara Arrowsmith (18), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] Charles Arrowsmith (21), son, labourer, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 10/3/1894

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last, at the house of Mr. *Arrowsmith*, NEW MARKET TAVERN, Lower Hall Lane.....”

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1895

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this friendly and protection society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *Arrowsmith*, NEW MARKET TAVERN, Lower Hall Lane.....”

Richard Arrowsmith, beer retailer, 62, Lower Hall Lane. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1898

“Mr. Disturnal, instructed by Mr. Enoch Evans, made an application on behalf of *Richard Arrowsmith*, beerhouse keeper, NEW MARKET TAVERN, Lower Hall Lane, for the removal of his license to premises in the Arcade, Bradford Street, owned by Alderman E. T. Holden; and there was a second application for a full license to sell all intoxicating liquors on or off the premises in Bradford Street.....”

[There was a very long and involved argument, the application being heavily opposed, it appeared that Alderman Holden’s new ‘Hotel’ was a very speculative venture, and the application was eventually granted ‘subject to the usual confirmation’.]

Walsall Advertiser 19/5/1900

“Mr. E. Evans made an application for the temporary transfer of the license of the MARKET TAVERN, Hall Lane, from Mr. *Charles Godby* to *Georgina Godby*. In answer to the Bench, he explained that the present licensee (*Charles Godby*) had mysteriously disappeared, and the owners of the house were prepared to accept *Godby*’s wife as a tenant. The magistrates consented to the transfer.”

1901 Census

63, Lower Hall Lane – NEW MARKET TAVERN

[1] *Frederick Westwood* (35), beer retailer, born Birmingham;

[2] *Miriam Westwood* (23), wife, born Dudley:

Mrs. *Alice Arrowsmith*, beer retailer, 62, Lower Hall Lane. [1904]

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air Rifle League. [1906]

1911 Census

64, Lower Hall Lane

[1] *George Frederick Sunter* (58), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Sarah Ann Sunter* (56), wife, married 37 years, assistant, born Walsall;

[3] *Harry Sunter* (35), son, labourer, born Walsall;

[4] *Sidney Sunter* (30), son, brass dresser, born Walsall;

[5] *Beatrice Sunter* (28), daughter, servant, born Walsall;

[6] *Ethel Sunter* (24), daughter, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;

[7] *Florence Sunter* (21), daughter, machinist, born Walsall;

[8] *Dorothy Sunter* (16), daughter, tailoress, born Walsall;

[9] *Minnie Sunter* (14), daughter, turner, born Walsall:

George Frederick Sunter, beer retailer, 62, Lower Hall Lane. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 14/9/1912 - Advert

“NEWMARKET TAVERN, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.

Absolutely Unreserved Sale of Public House Fittings, and a quantity of useful Household Furniture, in consequence of the forthcoming demolition of the Premises.

Mr. A. C. Fraser, FAI (Watkins, Powell & Wood; and Walter Hughes) will Sell by Auction, entirely without reserve, on Thursday, 26th September, 1912, the whole of the useful Public-House Fixtures And Trade Effects on the above premises, comprising: Excellent 4-Pull Beer Engine, expensive ‘National’ cash Register, 17ft Counter, strong Mahogany and other Tables and Benches, Cork-drawing machine, Smokeroom Chairs, Glazed Window Screens, Partitioning and Matchboarding, Seating, Jugs, Glasses, Measures, large Framed Sign, etc, and also the superior Household Furniture, including, Overmantles and Pier Glasses, Grandfather Clock, Pianoforte, Walnut Suite, fine Vienna Regulator, Mahogany Loo and other Tables, ‘Bradbury’ Treadle Sewing Machine, handsome Walnut Bedroom Suite, Bedsteads, Bedding, 18th Century Oak Chest of Drawers, Kitchen Dresser and Chairs, large Lean-to Shed and many other effects.

Sale to commence at 11 o’clock.

On View Morning of Sale from 9am.

Detailed catalogues from the Auctioneer’s Offices, 28, Bridgeman Street, Walsall. (telephone 186).”

The license lapsed in 1913.

NEW NAVIGATION

109, Old Birchills / Green Street, (100, Birchills (Street)), WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Allen
Sarah Allen
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1982]

LICENSEES

Thomas Allen [1866] – [1873];
Mrs. Sarah Allen [1881] – **1890**);
Joseph Allen (**1890** – **189**_);
Enoch Astley (**189**_ – **189**_) [1891] – [1898]
Edwin Edward Edgerton (**189**_ – **1913**);
George Stanley (**1913** – **1916**);
Harry Jones (**1916** – **1924**);
Samuel Smith (**1924** – **1940**);
Mrs. Ellen Smith (**1940** – **1955**);
Leonard Marriott (**1955** – **1959**);
Samuel Brotherton (**1959** – **1960**);
Joseph Highfield (**1960** – **1961**);
Joseph Heeley (**1961** – [1966]
Mrs. Janet Davies [1987]
Mick Till [1999]
Frederick Leonard Willis [2007]
Shaun Simcox (**2009** – []

NOTES

NAVIGATION [1866], [1868], [1870], [1881], [1891], [1897], [1901], [1911], [1916], [1964]

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

It was reputedly haunted.

[Staffordshire Advertiser 10/2/1866](#)

“Thomas Evans, carpenter, Bentley, was charged on a warrant with assaulting a man named Joseph Letts, blacksmith, Blue Lane, by striking him on the head with a hammer. It appeared that both men were in the NAVIGATION INN, Old Birchills, on the 25th ult, when a disturbance took place, in the midst of which the prisoner, without any provocation, as was proved by different witnesses, struck the prosecutor violently above the eye with a hammer which he was carrying. The blow rendered Letts insensible, and he had been unable to work since the occurrence. Taking into view the aggravated nature of the assault, the Bench fined Evans £5 and costs, or in default two months’ imprisonment. The fine was paid.”

[Walsall Free Press 10/2/1866](#)

“On Friday morning, as a boy, named Thomas *Allen*, son of Mr. *Thomas Allen*, NEW NAVIGATION INN, Birchills, was riding along the canal bank on a pony, the animal from some cause or other leapt into the canal, and at the same time threw off the lad, who, before assistance could be procured, was drowned.”

Thomas Allen, beer retailer, Old Birchills. [1868], [1870]

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/12/1868](#)

“Yesterday afternoon, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Coroner for the borough of Walsall, held an inquest at the NAVIGATION INN, upon the body of Walter Moore, aged 12 years. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased, whose parents reside in Great Tindal Street, Ladywood, was in the employment of a boatman named Edward Sheldon, Ledsam Street, and about four o’clock on Saturday morning, as the boat was lying at Birchills, deceased was sent to an engine house to fetch some fire, but as he did not return, search was made, and the body found in the canal. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

[Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869](#)

“Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday applications for new licenses for the sale of spirits.....

Thomas Allen, landlord of the NEW NAVIGATION INN beerhouse, Bloxwich.

Mr. Glover, who appeared for the applicant, showed the fitness of the premises for the business of a licensed victualler, also the qualifications of his client, and dwelt at some length upon the increase of population which had recently taken place in the locality. The Mayor announced that the Bench had decided not to grant any new licenses this year.”

Walsall Free Press 6/8/1870

“*Thomas Allen*, landlord of the NAVIGATION INN, Birchills, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours; but as the house had hitherto been well conducted, the charges were withdrawn upon the defendant paying costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1870

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

There were eight applicants for new spirit licenses.....

Thomas Allen, the NEW NAVIGATION, Birchills.....

The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and after having been absent about half an hour they returned, and announced that they had decided to refuse all the applications, though they had come to this decision with much regret in some instances.”

1871 Census

Birchills

- [1] *Thomas Allen* (39), publican, born Gornal;
- [2] *Sarah Allen* (39), wife, born Northwich, Cheshire;
- [3] Elizabeth Allen (16), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Sarah Allen (11), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Joseph Allen* (8), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [6] Rosetta Allen (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Catherine Allen (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] Jane Allen (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] Alice Allen (3 weeks), daughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/5/1873

“Shortly after midnight on Tuesday, a young woman, named Elizabeth *Allen*, daughter of the keeper of the NAVIGATION beerhouse, Birchills, while drunk, attempted self-destruction by jumping into the canal near her father’s house. Her mother went to her rescue, and was dragged into the water. Then Mr. Thomas, chartermaster, hearing cries, went to the assistance of the pair, and ran some danger of losing his own life; but eventually he got both mother and daughter out of the water, and they were taken home and put to bed, both being in a very exhausted state. The daughter made a like attempt a short time ago, and was taken before the Magistrates, who handed her over to her father upon his promising to look after her.”

1881 Census

Old Birchills – NAVIGATION INN

- [1] *Sarah Allen* (47), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Cheshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Allen (26), daughter, general servant, born Spon Lane;
- [3] Sarah Allen (21), daughter, bridle stitcher, born Spon Lane;
- [4] *Joseph Allen* (18), son, canal boatman, born Spon Lane;
- [5] Rosetta Allen (16), daughter, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;
- [6] Catherine Allen (13), daughter, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;
- [7] Jane Allen (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Phoebe Allen (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Samuel Boaz (60), boarder, engineer, born Walsall;
- [10] Edward Done (45), boarder, general labourer, born Shrewsbury:

Walsall Advertiser 24/3/1885 - Advert

“If the Horse that was left last Tuesday Night, at the NAVIGATION Stable, Birchills, be not claimed in 3 days, it will be sold for expenses.

Apply, Walsall Police Station.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/2/1890

“Yesterday morning Mrs. *Sarah Allen* (58), of the NEW NAVIGATION, near Birchills, died very suddenly.”

Walsall Observer 1/3/1890

“The following inquests have been held during the week by Mr. T. H. Stanley, the borough coroner.....

On Wednesday, at the NEW NAVIGATION INN, Birchills, on the body of *Sarah Allen* (57), the landlady of that house. The evidence was that deceased had suffered from bad legs for a long time, and had been attended by Mr. Hubbard about two months ago. Since then, though ill, she had been able to go about her business. On Monday morning she called her daughter to get breakfast, and an hour later the daughter found her dead in bed.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/3/1890 - Advert

“Valuable And Well Secured Ground Rents And Freehold Beerhouse And Other property At The Birchills, Walsall.

To Be Sold by Auction, By Messrs. Watkins & Powell, at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 25th day of March,

1890, at Six for Seven o'clock in the evening precisely.....

Lot 6. (By order of the Trustee of the Will of *Thomas Allen*, deceased.)

The Valuable Freehold Beerhouse known as the NEW NAVIGATION INN, Birchills, Walsall, occupied until lately by Mrs. *Sarah Allen*, and now by Mr. *Joseph Allen*, together with the House adjoining, being No.107, Birchills.

The Beerhouse contains large Tap Room, Bar, Back Kitchen, two Cellars, two large Bedrooms and Clubroom, and the Outbuildings include stable room for 16 horses.

The property adjoins the top lock of the Birmingham Canal at the Birchills, and is admirably situated for a very extensive trade. It has the advantage of a side entrance from the canal towing path for which a small acknowledgement is paid to the Canal Company. Immediate possession may be had.

The whole property occupies an area of 989 square yards, and is estimated to produce a rental of £60 per annum.

The mines are reserved subject to liability to make compensation for any damage to buildings.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/5/1890 - Advert

“NEW NAVIGATION, Birchills, Walsall.

Sale Of Household Furniture and Effects.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Watkins & Powell, on Monday next, May 5th (by instructions from the representatives of the late Mrs. *Allen*) – the Useful Household Furniture, comprising Chimney Glass, in inlaid frame; birch Sofa, Centre Table, Windsor Chairs, 8-day Clocks, deal tables; 4-pull Beer Machine, with brass taps; sets of French Iron Bedsteads, pair of Paillasses, Feather Bed, Child's Cot, mahogany Night Chair, Toilet Tables, Swing Glass, Kitchen Utensils, and other Effects.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock.

Auctioneers' Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Enoch Astley = Enoch Ashley

1891 Census

109, Old Birchills – NAVIGATION INN

- [1] *Enoch Ashley* (46), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Julia J. Ashley* (44), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Enoch Ashley* (21), son, labourer, born Great Bridge;
- [4] *James Ashley* (19), son, boatman, born Moxley;
- [5] *Florence Ashley* (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *David Ashley* (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Eliza Ashley* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Isaac Ashley* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *William Ashley* (3), son, born Walsall;
- [10] *Emma Andrews* (18), visitor, born Walsall;
- [11] *William Tonks* (45), boarder, born Gloucester;
- [12] *Ernest Sauldry* (21), boarder, born Oldbury;

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1892

“At the Walsall Police Court, yesterday, a woman named *Harriet Martin* was charged with having stolen a sovereign and half a sovereign, the monies of *Enoch Astley*, landlord of the NAVIGATION INN. It appeared from the evidence that the defendant was employed in the prosecutor's house as charwoman when the money was missed.

The defendant pleaded guilty, and the magistrates taking a very lenient view of the case, and remembering that the prosecutor had no desire to press the charge, adjourned the case for a month.”

Enoch Astley, beer retailer, 100, Birchills. [1896]

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/3/1897

“On Monday, at the NAVIGATION INN, Old Birchills, Mr. T. H. Stanley held an inquest on the body of *Mary Emma Mears*, aged seven months. The mother deposited the child on the floor in front of the fire whilst she went on an errand on the 1st of February, and when she returned she found the little one's clothes were smouldering. She extinguished the fire and took the child to the hospital, but refused to leave it there. She took it, however, to be treated as an out patient, until the 24th, and after that she had the assistance of Dr. O'Meara at her own home until Friday, when death took place. The jury found that death was caused by Bronchitis, accelerated by the burns.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/12/1898

“*Enoch Astley* (29), boatman, Wolverhampton Street; *Henry Bullingham* (21), boatman, 49, Old Birchills; and *John Dyoss* (48), boatman, Upper Rushall Street, were charged with stealing a gold watch, a silver watch, and a gold locket and chain, value £11 10s, and also half-a-sovereign, the whole the property of *Thomas Davies*, carter, of 105, Old Birchills, between the 8th and 9th of December. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended *Astley*.

Emma Davies, wife of prosecutor, identified the goods named in the charge (produced) as her husband's property. At 3.30 on Thursday afternoon, the 8th inst, she left them safe on the dressing table in the front bedroom. During that same afternoon she went to the NAVIGATION beer-house, which *Astley's* mother kept, but did not leave the house for more than ten minutes. Next

morning she went into the bedroom and found the articles missing, together with half-a-sovereign.

Hannah Maria Bickley, Cannock Road, Hednesford, assistant to Mr. Thomas Vaughan, pawnbroker of Hednesford, said that the prisoner *Astley* came to her shop and offered in pledge the silver watch and gold chain and locket (produced). He said they were his own and that he wanted the money to pay for a boatload of coal. She lent him 29s on the articles. He gave the name of 'Fred Smith, Queen Street, Smethwick.' He said that he had given 28s second-hand for the watch, and that he had paid £4 for the chain. On Saturday, the 10th inst, Detective Sergeant Harper came to her shop and she handed the articles named to him. Later in the day she came to Walsall and identified *Astley* as the man who pledged the goods.

Lewis Jackson, manager for Mr, Thomas Vaughan, pawnbroker, High Street, Brownhills, said that on the afternoon of the 9th December, Dyoss came to the house and offered a gold watch in pledge, which he said was his own property. Dyoss said that he had been waiting a week for a boat load of coal, but could not get it, so was a little short and had to pledge the watch. Defendant gave the name of 'John Wood. Oldbury.' Witness had subsequently handed that watch over to Detective Harper, and on Wednesday identified Dyoss from a number of men at the Police Station.

Detective-sergeant Harper deposed to going to the NAVIGATION INN, Birchills, on Saturday the 10th inst, and seeing Bullingham and Dyoss together in the front kitchen. He arrested *Astley* at the back of the house, who was identified by Mrs. Bickley. He then arrested Bullingham, but did not know at the time that Dyoss was incriminated. He charged *Astley* and Bullingham together, and the latter replied, 'There was no half-sovereign there; I am guilty of the rest.' *Astley* said, 'I pawned the watch and chain but did not steal them.' On Monday he arrested Dyoss, and when cautioned and charged together, Dyoss said he knew nothing about it. *Astley* said, 'Tell the truth; he knows all about it.' Bullingham said, 'Ah! Go on.'

Defendants pleaded guilty.

Mr. Jackson said that with regard to *Astley* he could not plead 'not guilty' after the evidence that had been brought before the court, but *Astley* did not steal the goods at all. Bullingham came to him and asked him to pledge the watch and chain. *Astley* asked if it was 'all right' and the reply was 'yes.' Of course the fact that the goods were pawned in an assumed name was quite sufficient to make anyone suppose he knew there was something wrong, but he urged that it had rather a different meaning with *Astley*, who had never appeared before a court before. He had been a companion no doubt of the other men, but whether they had led him into trouble or not he would leave the magistrates to decide.

There were three previous convictions against Bullingham, but none against the other two. Prisoners were each sentenced to three calendar months' imprisonment, with hard labour."

1901 Census

Old Birchills – NAVIGATION INN

[1] *Edwin Edward Edgerton* (40), unmarried, publican, born West Bromwich;

[2] William Edward Hinton (17), nephew, carpenter, born Walsall;

[3] Nellie Hinton (12), sister, born Pelsall;

[4] Matilda Hinton (10), sister, born Pelsall;

[5] Amos Hinton (7), brother, born Pelsall;

[6] Ernest Hinton (5), brother, born Pelsall;

[7] Mary Ann Devey (18), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Edward Edmund Edgerton, beer retailer, 100, Birchills Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 24/6/1905

"Amos Hinton, Birchills, was charged with non-payment of maintenance arrears and costs due to his wife, Elizabeth Hinton, NAVIGATION INN, Birchills. Complainant said her husband had not paid anything for several months, but could find money for beer as he was drunk when arrested. Defendant said he could not pay as he had got no work, but was willing to pay when he had. Sentenced to a months' hard labour."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... NEW NAVIGATION INN, Old Birchills. £1 12s 2½d."

Samuel Smith was president of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Provident Society. [1934], [1935]

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/12/1934

"The 82nd annual meeting of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Association was held on the 22nd ult at the NEW NAVIGATION INN, Old Birchills, Mr. *Samuel Smith* presiding. Mr. M. F. Harrison, the secretary, reported that the membership was 195. The retiring officers were heartily thanked for their services, and were re-elected, with the addition on the committee of Messrs. H. W. Mellor, W. H. Nicholls, Joseph Page, and Frank Wilson."

Walsall Observer 18/2/1939

"Birchills A.R.P. men lead the way with the first actual area test in full equipment of the efficiency of wardens in discovering and reporting the effects of an 'enemy air raid.' On Monday night they assembled at the clubroom of the NAVIGATION INN, Birchills, where the licensee, Mr. *S. Smith*, had placed at their disposal not only the clubroom but an adjoining building which serves admirably for cleansing and changing, the test having been arranged by and carried out under the instruction of Mr. J. P.

Llewellyn, with the assistance of Mr. H. Tisdale (area warden) and Mr. H. Broughton (sector warden). When the zooming of the raiding aircraft (reproduced by a gramophone record) has ceased, and the 'All clear' signal had been given, six patrols, each comprising a warden, trainee and messenger, were despatched to various clearly-defined beats in the neighbourhood to discover the spots at which high explosive, gas and incendiary bombs were supposed to have been dropped, as indicated by certain distinctive markings. A maximum of twenty minutes was allowed for investigations. As a whole the plan worked out very successfully. Less than four minutes after going out the first messenger clattered up the stairs and pantingly reported on the pumping station, but that no serious damage had been done. The messengers on this occasion were on foot, and possibly the provision of cycles would be in the breath of the boys engaged on this important duty. The second messenger came in hard on the heels of the first, and the next two ten minutes later. There were more difficulty in locating a house, with shattered windows, which was supposed to have been struck; and the patrol in quest of gas had to admit defeat. To unmasked people there was a distinct smell of gas from a whitewashed drum, but it may have not been strong enough for those with respirators. Moreover, the drum was some yards from the path to which the patrol had been told to stick. The A.R.P. Officer (Captain D. C. Chisholm) dropped in to wish the men luck before they went out, but could not stay as he had to go to Northampton to take part in a black-out there the same night. No doubt as a result of recent events the volunteers took advantage of the opportunity to pass a vote of complete confidence in him, this being backed by several personal tributes. Captain Chisholm, in reply, said that the knowledge of their feelings and the splendid way they all worked made his job a happy one."

Walsall Observer 11/11/1939 - Deaths

"On Nov 7, 1939, at the NEW NAVIGATION INN, Walsall, *Samuel*, deeply-loved husband of *Ellen Smith*, aged 61 years. Deeply mourned by Wife and son Ray."

Walsall Observer 2/12/1939

"Walsall Magistrates on Wednesday transferred the license of the NEW NAVIGATION INN, Birchills, from the name of the late *Samuel Smith* to his widow, *Ellen Smith*."

1939 Probate

"*Samuel Smith*, of NEW NAVIGATION INN, Old Birchills, Walsall, Staffordshire, died 7 November 1939. Administration London 9 December to *Ellen Smith*, widow. Effects £394 1s 8d."

1939 Register

Old Birchills – NEW NAVIGATION INN

- [1] *Ellen Smith*, date of birth 19/2/1883, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [2] Raymond Smith, dob 7/1/1917, telephone wireman, single;
- [3] Margaret (Rudd) (Scott) Davies, dob 5/4/1918, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

NEW NAVIGATION INN, Old Birchills, £5 0s 0d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

NEW NAVIGATION, Old Birchills. £2 0s 0d."

Walsall Observer 13/11/1943

"Remarkable success attended a concert recently organised by Mr. and Mrs. A. Sergeant and Mr. C. Bradley, held at the NEW NAVIGATION INN, Birchills, on behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, for it produced no less that £50. This sum, with a bouquet of chrysanthemums, was handed to Councillor Mrs. A. McShane by Miss H. Brooks. The artists were Messrs J. Beach, S. Bridgetts, 'the Great Lorenzo,' Billy Bull, Bobby Thwaites, Ronnie Higgins, Mrs. Burton, Mrs. Pearson, with Mrs. F. Brevitt. Mrs. F. Garbett and Mrs. Bridgetts sharing the accompaniments and Mr. Ernest Thomas as compere."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

NEW NAVIGATION, Old Birchills. £67 0s 0d."

A full license was granted on 8th February 1951.

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

"Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Higgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....

NEW NAVIGATION, Birchills, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 10/1/1964

“The quarter finals, semi-finals and final of the Walsall, Wolverhampton and district sub area competition of the *News of the World* individual darts championship of England and Wales, will be held in Pelsall Social Club, Norton Road, Pelsall, on Thursday next, January 16, all players to be on the mark at 8pm prompt. The eight finalists are.....
Georgie Merrick (NAVIGATION INN, Old Birchills, Walsall).”

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn Quiz competition. [1974/5]

[2023]

NEWPORT ARMS

153, (155), Pleck Road / Wharf Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Russell, Victoria Terrace, Lichfield Street, Walsall [1872]
William Downing, maltster, The Hollies, Smethwick
Messrs. Mills, Pleck, Walsall
William Roberts, Station Brewery, Brownhills [1893], [1910]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Cozens [] – **1866**;
Mrs. Emma Cozens (**1866** – []
Thomas Bowater [1868] – [1870]
John Humphries [1871] – [1873];
John K Northall [] – **1881**;
Mrs. Rebecca Northall (**1881**)
Isaiah Edwin Northall [];
Sarah Jane Northall [];
John Savage [] – **1889**;
Julia Savage (**1889**);
John Penton (**1889 – 1893**);
Henry Bateman (**1893 – 1898**);
Thomas Sadler (**1898 – 1910**);
Alfred Kendrick (**1910 – 1914**);
Albert Richard Reeves (**1914 – 1923**);
Comfort Walliss Reeves (**1923 – 1926**);
Sydney Noake (**1926 – 1927**);
Frederick Sidney Walmsley (**1927 – 1928**);
Ronald Arthur Simes (**1928 – 1931**);
Mrs. Sarah Ann Benton (**1931 – 1941**);
Arthur Lane (**1941 – 1948**);
Frederick Boucher (**1948 – 1951**);
Henry George Edward Mason (**1951 – 1956**);
George Thomas Rathbone (**1956**);
Frederick Lawton (**1956 – 1958**);
Desmond Thomas Hughes (**1958 – 1959**);
Frederick Kitchener Wells (**1959 – 1961**);
Dennis Gray (**1961 – 1962**);
Patrick Arthur Swain (**1962**);
James Arthur Dobson (**1962 – 1964**);
George William Beeley (**1964 – 1965**);
Joseph Parker (**1965**);
Alan Fletcher (**1965 – 1966**);

Wilfred Raymond Morgan (1966);
David James Kennedy (1966 – []

NOTES

153, Pleck Road [1881], [1908], [1911], [1932], [1939], [1940]
155, Pleck Road [1891]

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. Mathews applied on behalf of *John Cozens*, beerhouse keeper, The Pleck.

Mr. Dale opposed on behalf of Mr. Cox, landlord of the FORGE public-house, on the ground that there was no necessity for any additional accommodation, and stated that between Bridgeman Street and The Pleck Church there were only 50 houses, and only one new dwelling house had been erected since last year.

Mr. Oerton said Mr. Cox’s house was the filthiest in the place – indeed a memorial had been presented by the coroner, stating that Mr. Cox’s house was unfit to hold an inquest in. Application granted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/10/1866

“The adjourned Licensing Session for the borough was held yesterday at the Free Library. The following transfers were made, viz.....

The NEWPORT ARMS INN, The Pleck, from *John Cozens* to *Emma Cozens*, his widow.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/4/1869 - Advert

“Found, April 20, a White Bull Dog. Anyone owning the same can have it by paying expenses.

Apply NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, Walsall. Unless owned in three days will be sold.”

Walsall Free Press 29/5/1869

“*Thomas Bowater*, for whom Mr. J. Glover appeared, was charged with having, on Sunday last, had his house – the NEWPORT ARMS public house, The Pleck – open during prohibited hours, namely, at a quarter to twelve o’clock noon, on Sunday last. Acting-sergeant Bevan said that at a quarter past twelve o’clock on this day he visited the house kept by defendant, with another officer, and found two men in the back yard, one of them sitting down upon a door step smoking his pipe, the other man had a jug in his hand which contained malt liquor. The officer asked defendant whether those persons were his servants. He said no, but they were there to help the landlord.

This evidence was corroborated by Police-constable Sharp.

Mr. Glover, objected to a conviction on two points; first the police had not proved the men found in the house were not travellers, and there had been no proof of sale of beer. The Bench dismissed the case.”

Walsall Free Press 22/4/1871 - Advert

“NEWPORT ARMS INN, Pleck Road, Walsall.

To Be Let, the above commodious Old Licensed House & Premises, at Midsummer Next. The Inn is in the vicinity of several Iron Works, and is on the Main Road from Walsall to Wednesbury. It is now doing a first-class business, but an energetic man with sufficient capital might nearly double the amount of trade. The premises are suitable for a Small Brewery, and the arrangements in the department are very complete.

For particulars apply to the Cyclops Iron Works, Walsall. Incoming is nominal.”

Walsall Free Press 9/9/1871

“Mary Ann Casey was charged with having, on Wednesday evening, broke a pane of glass and a water filter in the house of Mr. *John Humphries*, NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road. It appeared the prisoner, in company with some other parties visited the prosecutor’s house, and created a disturbance, and in the course of the row the prisoner broke the filter and a pane of glass. Sentenced to pay a fine of 1s and costs, in addition 18s, the value of the filter; or, in default to be imprisoned for 21 days. In this case Mr. Barnett prosecuted.”

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

“Municipal Election. The Bridge Ward.....

On Tuesday evening the supporters of Messrs. Cotterell and Evans held a meeting at the NEWPORT ARMS.....”

Midland Counties Evening Express 28/1/1875

“On Tuesday evening a meeting was held at the NEWPORT ARMS, The Pleck, Walsall, to take into consideration the present position in affairs. [In the Tube trade]. There was a large assembly, and the chair was occupied by Mr. George Bullman, who at some length reviewed the proceedings in connection with the movement, and encouraged the men to resist the attempted encroachment to put an extra hour per day upon the workmen. Three years ago the employers said nine hours were quite long enough for the men to work, but now they thought the men ought to work ten hours Mr. Hawkins (Walsall) proposed the next resolution ‘That this meeting pledges itself to use every legitimate means in its power to prevent a return to the old ten hours a day

system.’ – Mr. Knight seconded a resolution, which was carried.”

1881 Census

153, Pleck Road – NEWPORT ARMS

- [1] *John K. Northall* (51), publican, born Cradeley (sic), Worcestershire; [Cradley]
- [2] *Rebecca Northall* (52), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Isaiah Edwin Northall* (28), son, engine fitter, born Cradeley, Worcestershire;
- [4] *Annie R. Northall* (26), daughter, housekeeper, born Cradeley, Worcestershire;
- [5] *Sarah Jane Northall* (23), daughter, barmaid, born Netherton;
- [6] *John Knight Northall* (14), son, born Netherton:

Evening Express 5/9/1881

“On Friday night, *Rebecca Northall*, widow, landlady of the NEWPORT ARMS INN, Pleck Road, Walsall, retired to bed apparently in her usual health. Shortly afterwards she was followed by her daughter, whom she asked for some water. The daughter left the room to obtain it, and on her return she found her mother was dead.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/6/1885 - Advert

“Walsall Conservative Association.

Mr. Frank Fearnley (of Kidderminster) Will Address Conservative Meetings, to be held on Tuesday Evening, June 16th at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ryecroft, and on Wednesday Evening, June 17th, at the NEW INN, Ryecroft, Blakenall Heath.

The Conservatives of the Pleck Division also hold a meeting at the NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, on Wednesday, June 17th.

Chairs to be taken each Evening at 8pm.

Working Men Are Invited to Attend.

H. H. Cannell, Secretary.”

John Savage was fined 10s and costs, on 14th June 1889, for keeping open during prohibited hours.

John Penton = John Pinton

Walsall Advertiser 1/3/1890 - Advert

“Monday, 10th March, at Eleven o’clock, at the NEWPORT ARMS INN, Pleck Road, Walsall.

Unreserved Clearance Sale of the costly and extensive Brewing Plant and Utensils; and also Cottage Pianoforte.

Sold by order of W. Roberts, Esq, prior to alterations being made.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of *John Pinton*, NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road. Refused.”

1891 Census

155, Pleck Road

- [1] *John Penton* (30), licensed victualler’s manager, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Eliza Ann Penton* (26), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Florence S. Penton* (6), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Anne Maria Penton* (4), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Harold Wilfred Penton* (2), son, born Pelsall;
- [6] *William Edwin Penton* (2 months), son, born Pelsall;
- [7] *Mary Wall* (16), general servant, born Pelsall;
- [8] *Mary Ann Hill* (41), nurse, born Walsall;
- [9] *William Edwin Clark* (21), boarder, tube maker, born Bloxwich:

Birmingham Daily Post 17/8/1893

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Henry Bateman* was summoned for selling without a license at the NEWPORT ARMS, The Pleck. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the defendant, and pleaded not guilty.

The Chief Constable said that under these circumstances he should not ask the Bench to hear evidence, nor did he press for a heavy penalty. The defendant was the keeper of the BOAT INN, Walsall Wood, as manager for Mr. Roberts, and he exchanged houses with the manager of the NEWPORT ARMS, which was also one of Mr. Robert’s houses, and sold a couple of days before getting authority. A mistake had probably been made through the way in which business was done in the county, where the justices met less frequently than in the borough, and the people sold for a few days before formal authority had been obtained.

A fine of 1s and costs was imposed, and a temporary authority granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/4/1895

“On Monday, at the Borough Court, the Chief Constable objected to the granting of a singing and dancing license to Mr. *Henry Bateman*, NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, who through Mr. H. H. Jackson, solicitor, applied for the license for Wednesday evenings from 7.30 to 10.30pm, for the accommodation of the recently-formed ‘Excelsior’ Minstrel Troupe.

The Chief Constable said that every opportunity had been taken to obtain music licenses for public-houses, and this application on behalf of a so-called minstrel troupe was only a mean of getting in the thin end of the wedge on those premises.

Mr. Jackson objected to this *ex parte* statement.

The Chief Constable: I know what is going on.

Mr. Jackson: If we get the license and anything goes wrong it will be for the Chief to lay an objection. Only members of the troupe will be admitted.

The Chief Constable said that the Bench must either grant a license or not. They could not make conditions, and if it were granted, there would be nothing to prevent the general public from taking advantage of it. There were plenty of coffee-houses at which the troupe might meet, where no intoxicating liquors would be sold.

The Bench, which consisted of the Mayor, Mr. S. Russell, and Mr. J. Scott, 'by a majority' decided to grant the license."

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

"On Saturday evening a very pleasant gathering took place at the NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, when the men of the Cyclops Ironworks – winners of the tug-of-war championship cup and medals at the recent Police Sports – met to celebrate the victory. Mr. N. Grainger presided, and a very capital dinner was served up by Host *Bateman* and his wife. The Chairman congratulated the Cyclops men upon being the first to carry away the trophy and medals. He believed that next year they would be able to place as good a team on the field as had won it this year (a Voice: 'First team next time,' and laughter). During the evening various songs were contributed, and a vote of thanks was passed to the gentlemen who had subscribed towards the gathering. A vote of thanks was also passed to host and hostess."

Walsall Advertiser 14/11/1896

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last....

Mr. *Henry Bateman*, NEWPORT ARMS INN, Pleck Road was elected a member as from 1st January, 1897."

Thomas Sadler = Thomas Saddler

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1899

"Walsall & District Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *Thomas Saddler*, NEWPORT ARMS INN, Pleck Road, Walsall."

T. Sadler was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 26/7/1902

"Mary Ann Cooper (46), charwoman, no fixed abode, was brought up on a charge of wilfully breaking a plate-glass window at the NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck, doing damage to the extent of £3. Mr. H. H. Jackson prosecuted.

From the evidence given by *Thomas Sadler*, licensee of the NEWPORT ARMS, and other witnesses named William Richards and Gertrude Williams, it seemed that defendant went into the NEWPORT ARMS to sell some wire articles she carried. She was told nothing was wanted, and she replied, 'Then here goes for the window.' She went outside, picked up a stone, and threw it through the plate-glass window.

Defendant now said that she went into the NEWPORT ARMS for something to drink, and was immediately pushed outside.

There was a bad record against defendant. As the chief constable remarked, she seemed to have a mania for smashing windows. She had been convicted of that offence six times, once at the Sessions. She was now sent to Stafford for two months. On going 'under' she objected that it was very likely she would do the same again when she came out."

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4], [1905]

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

"Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople's Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road (per Mr. *Saddler*). 4s 6d."

Walsall Advertiser 14/11/1903

"Birmingham & District Air-Gun Association.....

A few weeks ago the NEWPORT ARMS Club journeyed to Birmingham to shoot against one of its best teams, namely the Spread Eagle, Sherborne Street, and the return visit took place last Saturday night at the NEWPORT ARMS, when upwards of 40 visitors turned up, some coming by an old-time coach, the 'Tantivity', which is one of the best coaches in the Midlands, four splendid greys forming the motive power; and the remainder journeyed by train It was a splendid contest, the official score reading NEWPORT ARMS 230, Spread Eagle 229. After the match refreshments went round, full justice being done. Then the president of the Spread Eagle, being voted to the chair, ventured on a few remarks, speaking generally of the great good air-gun shooting had done for the working man in particular, in finding something to occupy his mind in a legitimate manner, as well as introducing a pastime which tended to influence him in a sober direction; for everyone knew that a hard drinker was no good for shooting. Therefore, he claimed that air-gun shooting was beneficial to the masses, and had it been introduced ten years ago he had no hesitation in saying that the late disastrous Boer war would have been over in twelve months....."

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1904

“Walsall & District Air-Gun League. Hospital Cup & Medals.

The concluding draw, to be shot on Tuesday next, the 21st inst, at the VINE HOTEL, Lower Hall Lane, is as under:

1. VOLUNTEER or KING WILLIAM v GOLDEN EAGLE.
2. NEWPORT No.1 or CRITERION v CROWN or Leamore.

Final. Winner of No.2 v Winner of No.1.

The first team to have choice of shooting. The first match to commence at 8pm sharp, the second at 8.45, final at 9.45. Individuals to immediately follow.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/7/1904 - Notice

“Walsall & District Air-Gun League.

Hospital Cup And Medals.

The Presentation of the above will take place on Tuesday next, the 12th inst., at the FORGE INN, Pleck Road, at 8.30pm. All interested in Air-Gun Shooting are invited to attend. The winners are NEWPORT No.1. Runner-up, KING WILLIAM, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/7/1906

“On Tuesday at the NEWPORT ARMS, a meeting of the Walsall and District Air Rifle League was held for the purpose of electing teams. The following teams applied for admission into the league and were elected: TANNERS ARMS, LAMP TAVERN, NEW-MARKET TAVERN, GOATS HEAD, COMMERCIAL INN, FITTERS ARMS.

Last season the league consisted of the following teams, none of which have withdrawn: NEWPORT ARMS, VOLUNTEER INN, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, CROWN AND CUSHION, ORANGE TREE, and CROWN (Leamore). It was decided that the last day for the election of teams to the league should be postponed until the 17th inst. It was also decided that the league again affiliate with the National Air-Rifle Association. Several prizes having been offered for competition at 20 yards, arrangements have been made at the NEWPORT ARMS for practice for any member affiliated with league or association.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1907 - Advert

“Walsall And District Air-Rifle League. Season 1907-8.

A Special Meeting of Above will be held on Tuesday Next, the 20th, at 8pm, at the NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, to inaugurate the League for 1907-8.

Mr. M. Hirst, and Mr. Stratford, S.M.R.C. (Specialists in Air-Rifle Shooting), will address the meeting.

Chairman – Capt. J. S. Robinson.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.

New Members..... *Thomas Saddler*, NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/8/1908

“Walsall And District Air-Rifle League (Affiliated to the S.M.R.C.).

The above meeting took place on Tuesday last at headquarters (NEWPORT ARMS), Mr. J. Laker presiding. The Secretary (Mr. *T. Sadler*) gave his report, which stated that the season had been a most successful one and that the WALSALL ARMS had again won the League Championship, having shot 22 matches, won 18, lost 3, drawn 1, with an average of 271 (H.P. 300) per match.....”

Walsall Advertiser 26/9/1908

“Societies Of Miniature Rifle Clubs. Birmingham And District League.....

The beautiful trophy presented by the Walsall Advertiser for Miniature Rifle shooting is a fine specimen of art work, and can be seen at headquarters (NEWPORT ARMS). The trophy will shortly be presented to the winner for the season (Mr. T. Hykin).”

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

“There was a large attendance of those interested in air-gun shooting at the CRITERION HOTEL, Stafford Street, on Monday evening, when the final shoot for the ‘Hospital’ and ‘R. A. Cooper’ Cups took place. With the formation of the Walsall Air-Gun League it was felt that through it some benefit could be conferred upon the Walsall Hospital, and eventually a handsome cup was offered for competition, and the proceeds derived from the meetings of the respective clubs given to the Hospital. So far £29 had been handed over to the treasurer of the institution by the Air-Gun Executive, which should be largely augmented this year. The final was between those old rivals, NEWPORT ARMS and WALSALL ARMS, and, as expected, the shooting was of a high-class order. In the end the cup went to the WALSALL ARMS team for the second time. It will be remembered that the WALSALL ARMS won the Cup outright but returned it to the Executive of the League, and it now forms the basis of an annual competition for the benefit of the Hospital.

Mr. F. J. Cotterell, chairman of the Hospital was in the chair, and supporting him were Mr. E. Hall (president), Mr. T. A. Sadler (honorary secretary), Mr. R. E. Ledbury, &c.”

1911 Census

153, Pleck Road – NEWPORT ARMS

- [1] *Alfred Kendrick* (33), manager, brewer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Lucy Kendrick* (31), wife, married 8 years, manager, born Walsall;
- [3] *Edith Kendrick* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ethel Kendrick* (2), daughter, born Fazeley, Warwickshire;
- [5] *Patience Mosedale* (20), servant, born Walsall;
- [6] *Gomer Kendrick* (5 months), son, no birthplace given:

Lichfield Mercury 31/1/1913

“Albert Edward Day (19), court, Long Acre Street, was charged at Walsall on Monday with stealing a bicycle, valued at £7, belonging to Harry Holmes, Sun Street, Palfrey. It transpired that on Friday night prosecutor left his bicycle outside the NEWPORT ARMS INN, Pleck Road, and missed it a few minutes later.

On Saturday morning Pc. G. Bailey (Lichfield), whilst on duty in Bird Street, Lichfield, saw prisoner riding a bicycle, and noticed that he appeared very awkward, as if unaccustomed to cycling. The constable accordingly followed him into Walsall Road, where Day fell off the machine. He attempted to remount, but was unable to do so, and eventually ran off. Bailey chased and caught him, whereupon prisoner said a ‘pal’ at Walsall had lent him the bicycle. He was taken to the Police Station, and when subsequently charged with stealing the bicycle he replied that he ‘watched it for three hours before he pinched it.’ He, however, told Detective-sergeant Burrell (Walsall), who received him in custody, that he took the machine through a sudden temptation. Burrell now told the Bench that prisoner had been discharged from the Army as physically unfit, and had recent been out of employment. Mr. Orchard (probation officer) said that when in work prisoner had been the main support of his mother. Under the circumstances, the Bench placed the accused on probation for six months.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, Walsall, 15s 2d.”

1939 Register

153, Pleck Road

- [1] *Thomas H. Benton*, date of birth 20/9/1873, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Sarah A. Benton*, dob 9/12/1876, licensed victualler, married;
- [3] *Gertrude (Hayward) Huddleton*, dob 11/3/1921, barmaid, single:

Walsall Observer 4/5/1940

“A fine of £10, with £2 9s 6d costs, was imposed, at Walsall Police Court, on a Darlaston licensee, Hugh Morrison (45), of the THREE HORSE SHOES, Bull Stake, Darlaston, who pleaded guilty to being in charge of a motor car whilst under the influence of drink to such an extent as to be incapable of proper control.

Police-constable Grundy told the Court that he and Police-constable Lee were called to the NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, on the night of April 24, and outside saw a saloon car, the only occupant of which was defendant, who was at the driving wheel. The engine was running, but Police-constable Lee removed the ignition key. Getting out of the car at their request, accused had to hold on to the side to prevent himself falling down.

‘When I told defendant I considered he was under the influence of drink and should take him to the police station’ added Police-constable Grundy, he said, ‘I’ll take you down in my car,’ but I refused the offer.’

Dr. Baker (deputy police surgeon), who examined Morgan at the police station at 9.58 on the night in question, described the reasons that led him to certify defendant as being under the influence of drink.

On behalf of Morgan Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson told the magistrates that defendant lost his wife some time ago and became on bad terms with her family. April 24 was the anniversary of his wife’s death and he went to the NEWPORT ARMS to try and affect a reconciliation with the family. He was not successful and it was because he was not allowed to stay in the house that he went outside and was found in the car by the police.

In addition to the monetary penalty, the magistrates suspended the defendant’s driving license for twelve months.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, £5 9s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road. £3 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of

Subscriptions.....

NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road. £2 3s 9d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1945 - Advert

“By Direction of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Bradford. Third Sale of Valuable Freehold Ground Rents.....
Nine Licensed Houses..... NEWPORT ARMS HOTEL, Pleck Road.”

Walsall Observer 7/7/1945

“The Pleck and District Darts league is headed by the FORGE INN ‘A’ who have won all their seven matches. The next three positions are filled by the NEWPORT ARMS, HOPE AND ANCHOR ‘A’ and ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, with 12 points each, then come the DUKE OF WELLINGTON and ROYAL OAK, Pleck. Highest score and highest finish, 146, J. Bullock, HOPE AND ANCHOR ‘B’; highest start, 140, S. Hogan, WINDMILL TAVERN.”

Henry George Edward Mason – see also DELVES, HORSE AND JOCKEY, LORD RAGLAN, and WOOLPACK.

Frederick Kitchener Wells – see also DELVES.

Dennis Gray – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY.

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....
NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, Walsall.”

George William Beeley – see also DOLPHIN.

Wilfred Rayond Morgan – see also ROYAL OAK.

It closed in July 1977.

NEW STATION

30, (85), (55), Park Street, Town End Bank, WALSALL

OWNERS

Samuel Meanley, Park Street, Walsall
William Cotterell, tailor, Park Street, Walsall
Showells Brewery Co. Ltd. [1890]
Atkinsons Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mrs. Mary Ann Wilkins [1872]
Thomas Russell [1872] – **1873**);
Joseph Hayes (**1873** – []
Thomas Miller [];
Ruben Willetts [];
Mrs. Mary A Willetts [];
John Shirley [] – **1880**);
Aaron Frankham (**1880** – [1881];
Samuel Whitehouse [1883];
Elizabeth Eagan [];
William Cullerne [];
George Bailey Cullerne [1886] – **1888**);
Francis Job Zeller (**1888** – **1889**);
Richard Harper (**1889** – **1890**);
James Faulkner (**1890**);
William Holloway (**1890** – **1891**); manager
William Snook (**1891**);

Harry Wood (1891 – 1892);
Alfred Walters (1892 – 1895);
James Haynes (1895 – 1896);
Frederick Winkle (1896 – 1897);
Mrs. Mary Winkle (1897 – 1904);
William Slater (1904 – 1908);
Edgar Victor Booth (1908 – 1909);
John Harry Brown (1909 – 1911);
John Thomas Hawkins (1911 – 1912);
Joseph Berwick (1912 – 1913);
Joseph Kelly (1913 – 1914);
Alfred Edwards (1914);
George Frederick Hands (1914 – 1919);
John Mason (1919 – 1920);
Harry Hampton (1920 – 1921);
John McKenzie (1921 – 1926);
Harry Hill (1926 – 1927);
Arthur Henry Hill (1927 – 1929):

NOTES

85, Park Street [1873]
55, Park Street [1881]
30, Park Street [1891], [1901]

It was originally the CROSS KEYS.

It was renamed the STATION HOTEL.

NEW STATION HOTEL [1890], [1904], [1911]

Walsall Free Press 1/2/1873 - Advert

“Wanted, a General Servant; also a strong girl as Nurse.
Apply, CROSS KEYS, Park Street.”

Walsall Free Press 18/10/1873

“The license of the CROSS KEYS, Park Street, was transferred from *Thomas Russell* to *Joseph Hayes*. Mr. *Hayes* promised not to allow any betting in the house.”

The licensee was fined £5 and costs, on 20th February 1880, for permitting drunkenness, violent, quarrelsome and riotous conduct in his house.

The licensee was fined £5 and costs, on 3rd July 1880, for permitting drunkenness, violent, quarrelsome and riotous conduct in his house.

Lichfield Mercury 17/9/1880

“The adjourned annual licensing session took place on Friday, at the Guildhall.....

The license of the CROSS KEYS INN, Park Street, which was withheld from *John Shirley*, at the annual meeting was transferred from him to *Aaron Frankham*, on the application of Mr. Carter (from Mr. Cotterill’s offices).”

1881 Census

55, Park Street

- [1] *Aaron Frankham* (49), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
 - [2] *Mary Frankham* (29), wife, born Walsall;
 - [3] *Eleanor Frankham* (19), daughter, inn servant, born Cefnely, Radnorshire;
 - [4] *Harrie Frankham* (15), son, scholar, born Walsall;
 - [5] *Clara Frankham* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
 - [6] *Collin G. Frankham* (3), son, born Walsall;
 - [7] *Alice York* (20), general servant, born Dudley;
 - [8] *Emma Morgan* (19), barmaid, born Abbey Cwmlin, Radnorshire:
- [Mary was obviously not Aaron’s first wife.]

Aaron Frankham – check also STORES.

London Gazette 29/6/1883

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Samuel Whitehouse*, of the CROSS KEYS INN, Park-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, and of No.2, Lower Rushall-street, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, Newsagent, and Engine Fitter.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. T. H. Stanley, Solicitor, 4, Bridge-street, Walsall, in the said county of Stafford, on the 12th day of July, 1883, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 26th day of June, 1883.

T. Howard Stanley, Solicitor for the Debtor.”

Walsall Free Press 11/8/1883

“At Walsall County Court on Saturday, Mr. T. H. Stanley (Walsall) applied to Mr. Registrar Clarke to register a resolution in the matter of *Samuel Whitehouse*, CROSS KEYS INN, Park Street, Walsall. The application was opposed by Mr. Thompson (of the firm of Warmington and Thompson, Dudley), on the ground that there were no assets, and the resolution was for the good of the debtor and not the creditors. The application was refused.”

The Era 27/11/1886 - Advert

“Pianist and Vocalist Wanted, Lady or Gentleman, for Vaults.

Must be able to vamp.

To commence Dec. 6th, One Month.

Lowest Term to *George Cullerne*, NEW STATION HOTEL, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. Cotterell) applied for a license for music and singing at the NEW STATION HOTEL, Park Street, for Monday, Tuesday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings, the last-named being in respect of a Buffalo lodge meeting on that evening and using an American organ. The house, it transpired, belongs to Messrs. Showell, and is managed by Mr. *W. Holloway*. Granted for the club-room on alternate Monday evenings.”

1891 Census

30, Park Street – NEW STATION INN

[1] *William Snook* (30), innkeeper, born Shrewsbury;

[2] Ann Keeman (23), barmaid, born Boston, Lincolnshire;

[3] Phoebe Allen (20), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1895

“Midlands Counties Trade Federation. A special meeting of the Council of this Federation took place at the NEW STATION HOTEL, Walsall, On Wednesday night. . . .”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1897

“The following transfers were granted. . . .

NEW STATION HOTEL, Park Street, from *Frederick Winkle* (deceased) to *Mary Winkle*.”

1901 Census

30, Park Street – Public House

[1] *Mary Winkle* (49), widow, publican, born Willenhall;

[2] Sidney E. Winkle (16), son, chartered accountant's clerk, born Willenhall;

[3] Emma Marshall (32), barmaid, born Willenhall;

[4] Annie Neal (17), domestic servant, born Dudley Port:

Mary Winkle – see also WHEATSHEAF, Birmingham Road.

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission. . . .

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various. . . .

Mary Winkle, NEW STATION HOTEL.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week. . . .

New Member. *W. Slater*, NEW STATION HOTEL, Park Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/10/1908 - Advert

“YE OLDE WHITE HARTE, Caldmore.

William Slater (for some years of the NEW STATION HOTEL, Park Street), has taken over the above Ancient Rendezvous. Everything of the best.

Allsopp’s Stout, Allsopp’s Lager.

All the Noted Brands of Wines, Brandies and Whiskies.”

Walsall Observer 14/11/1908

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the President, MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, Rushall. Mr. R. Anson, Daw End (president), occupied the chair.

New Members..... *E. V. Booth*, NEW STATION HOTEL, Park Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

“Applications for transfer of licenses were heard in the Walsall Guildhall on Tuesday.

The bench unanimously granted a transfer of the license of the NEW STATION HOTEL, Park Street, from *Edgar Victor Booth* to *John Harry Brown*, the Chief Constable stating that Mr. *Brown* had held licenses in that town for a number of years.”

Edgar Victor Booth – see also GRAND THEATRE VAULTS.

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.

Permission to make alterations to the NEW STATION HOTEL, Park Street, was asked by Mr. Grundy Newman, and the Bench adjourned the decision until they had inspected the premises.”

1911 Census

Park Street – NEW STATION HOTEL

[1] *John Harry Brown* (45), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Fanny Brown* (46), wife, married 28 years, born Walsall;

[3] *Frank Brown* (24), son, taxi driver, born Walsall;

[4] *Howard Brown* (19), son, news agent, born Walsall;

[5] *Herbert Brown* (17), son, booking clerk, born Walsall;

[6] *Claude Brown* (14), son, born Walsall;

[7] *Arthur Brown* (11), son, born Walsall;

[8] *Laura Price* (23), domestic servant, born Walsall:

John Harry Brown – see also PRINCE, NEW INN, RED LION, THREE CUPS.

Walsall Advertiser 23/8/1913

“On Tuesday the Walsall and District Football league held a special meeting at the NEW STATION HOTEL, Walsall, Mr. J. T. Lippett presided.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1914

“The following transfer of licenses were granted.

NEW STATION HOTEL, Park Street, from *Henry Richard Page* (executor of *Joseph Kelly* deceased), to *Alfred Edwards*.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/12/1914

“An inquest was held at Walsall Guildhall yesterday by Mr. F. Cooper (Deputy Coroner) on *Alfred Edwards*, aged 38, a married man, of 28, Milton Street, Walsall. The deceased, until about a week ago, kept the NEW STATION HOTEL, Walsall. He had complained of pains in the stomach, and remained in bed Christmas Day.

John James, of Pleck Road, a friend, who visited the house on Christmas night, found him dead in bed. In evidence, he said that when deceased went to bed early on Christmas morning he had a sleeping draught, which witness fetched for him from *Shelley’s* chemist shop.

Dr. J. J. Lynch, who attended the deceased, stated that he was an alcoholic subject, and had dropsy and liver and kidney trouble. He regarded the case as hopeless at first. Death might have been accelerated by the sleeping draught, but the man’s condition was such that he might have died at any time without it.

Miss Shelley (daughter of Mr. E. Shelley, chemist) was called to prove having served the sleeping draught according to her father’s instructions by telephone. She was not informed as to the man’s condition, except that he was restless and could not sleep. She was told that he had been dangerously ill. Replying to a further question she said she did not put a label on the bottle.

In answer to *Dr. Lynch*, witness said she was aware that opium was a scheduled poison, but she was busy at the time she served it. *Dr. Lynch* also wanted to know whether the father was a qualified dispenser. *Miss Shelley* said her father kept a qualified dispenser on the premises.

Dr. Lynch said that under no circumstances should opium have been prescribed in this case, as it was incompatible with the man's disease. He was of opinion that the opium accelerated his death.

The case was adjourned to a date to be fixed, so that the Home Office might be communicated with respecting the desirability of an analysis of the contents of the stomach."

[In January 1915 a coroner's jury found that the deceased's death was due to syncope, and added a rider that every chemist's shop should have a qualified dispenser in charge of it.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/11/1915

"A summons for permitting drunkenness against *George Frederick Hands*, of the NEW STATION HOTEL, Walsall, was dismissed by Walsall magistrates yesterday."

Harry Hill – see also WHITE HORSE.

It closed on 5th April 1929.

The license was surrendered and transferred to CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street.

Walsall Observer 5/10/1940

"Mr. *John 'Jock' Mackenzie*, of Wednesbury Road, a popular member of the Walsall football team twenty years ago, died with tragic suddenness yesterday morning. He had been on Home Guard duty at the gas works during the night, and appeared to be quite all right when he left his post about 6am. He walked home and entered the living room, but then apparently collapsed. Mrs. *Mackenzie*, who was in bed, heard a noise and called out but received no reply, and on coming downstairs she found her husband lying dead on the floor.

A native of Douglas, Lanarkshire, Mr. *Mackenzie*, who was aged 55, joined the Walsall Football Club in 1920, having previously played for Heart of Midlothian, Carlisle United, and Norwich City.

In the last war he served in Egypt with the R.G.A. When football was resumed he returned to Norwich and afterwards was signed by Walsall for what was to prove their last season in the Birmingham League. He was a sound fullback, and played many good games that season, but he was, of course, getting past his best and his career came to an end the following season, when he made only a few appearances for Walsall in the northern section of the Third Division.

On relinquishing the game Mr. *Mackenzie* became a licensed victualler, and held in turn the licenses of the NEW STATION, Park Street, the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck, and the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street. Then, about eight years ago, he joined the staff at the gas works, where he became very popular with his fellow employees and continued his sporting activities as a member of the bowling club. He is survived by Mrs. *Mackenzie* and one son (now serving with the Forces), with whom deep sympathy will be expressed in the bereavement which has so suddenly befallen them."

Walsall Observer 10/5/1941

"Well-known for many years as a licensee in Walsall and Birmingham, Mr. *John Harry Brown* died on Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Cronin, of the FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, with whom he had resided since he retired about eight years ago. He was in his 79th year, and had been ill for about a month.

Eldest son of John Brown, a well-known Walsall cricketer, who for twelve years headed the town club's batting averages (and who had at times played with or against some of the most famous men of his time, including the Graces, Parr, Minn and Daft), the late Mr. *Brown* himself, like several of his brothers, took an active part in the game and assisted the town club.

He left the currying trade to take his first licensed house, the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street, and among other Walsall licenses he held were those of the NEW INNS and the CUPS HOTEL, Park Street. He had been at the latter before his retirement and it was while he was there that his wife died eleven years ago. He had been a member of both the Walsall and Birmingham licensed victuallers' societies. He leaves six sons and a daughter. The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery on Thursday."

NOAHS ARK

Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/5/1848

"Yesterday (Tuesday) an inquest was held at the NOAHS ARK, Walsall Wood, in this parish, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Ann Wood, about thirteen years of age, who, whilst riding upon a reel connected to a steam engine at Anson's

colliery, in this parish, was thrown off against a pole, and thence to the ground. She was killed on the spot, a dreadful cut being found upon the side of the head.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

NOAHS ARK

The Meadows, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Bodley [1871]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 5/11/1870 - Advert

“To Be Sold Cheap, a Strong One-Horse Cart.
Apply to *James Bodley*, NOAHS ARK.”

1871 Census

The Meadows – NOAHS ARK

- [1] *James Bodley* (39), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Louisa Bodley* (38), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] *William T. Bodley* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Hannah Bodley* (7), daughter, born Walsall;

NORTH WESTERN

20, (21), Duncalfe Street, Wisemore, WALSALL

OWNERS

London and North Western Railway Co.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

John Beebee [1857] – [1870]

Thomas Russell [1871] – [1873]

John Russell [1875]

Richard Tomlinson [1881]

Stephen Wilson [];

William Lawrence [];

William Edward Banner [];

Alfred Yerrell [];

William Williams [] – 1887);

John Sargent (1887 – 1896);

Enoch Hodgkins (1896);

Ellen Hodgkins (1896 – 1898);

Henry Russell (1898 – 1899);

Ann Bradley (1899 – 1903);

Samuel Westwood (1903 – 1904);

Jane Westwood (1904 – 1905);
William Dixon (1905);
William Thomas Lowbridge (1905 – 1909);
Edwin Dawes [1909] ?

NOTES

21, Duncalfe Street [1871], [1909]
20, Duncalfe Street

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

It was previously the RAILWAY TAVERN. [1869], [1871], [1875]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 25/1/1857

“John Jones of Walsall will run Reuben Craddock of Arden 120 yards, for £5 or £10 a side, in one month from the first deposit. Money ready any night next week at Mr. *John Beebee*’s, the RAILWAY TAVERN, Duncalf Street. Walsall.”

Birmingham Journal 26/12/1857

“*John Beebee*, a Walsall publican, was charged at the Guildhall, on Monday, with assaulting Phoebe Beebee. The defendant did not appear; but his wife stated that he was confined to the house with a badly sprained knee. Mr. S. Wilkinson, jun., who appeared for the complainant, hinted a doubt as to the truth of the excuse. He said, too, that the evidence for the prosecution would in all likelihood disclose that card playing for money had been carried on to an enormous extent in the defendant’s house. A very gross assault had been committed upon his client, who was nearly related to the defendant, to whose house she had gone to bring home her husband, who was there, gambling away his means; and if the case was adjourned for any length of time, there was strong possibility that it might be made up, and the ends of justice thus frustrated. Mr. Wilkinson then offered to send a car for the defendant at his own expense. Police-sergeant Martin was accordingly despatched for the defendant with a vehicle, but returned, reporting that he refused to accompany him. The case was then adjourned till Wednesday, with the understanding that if *Beebee* does not then appear, the charge will be gone into in his absence. However, on Wednesday the parties did not appear.”

John Beebee, beerhouse keeper, 21, Duncalf Street. [1858]

1861 Census

20+21, Duncalf Street

- [1] *John Beebee* (49), chainmaker, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Beebee (49), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] John Beebee (19), son, chainmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] Susan Beebee (17), daughter, sticker, born Walsall;
- [5] Sarah Beebee (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] William Beebee (10), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Frank Beebee (10), son, born Walsall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 10/11/1861

“John Beebey of Walsall will fight Crump of Stourbridge at catch weight, for £25 to £20 in two months from signing articles. Man and money ready any time next week at Mr. *John Beebee*’s, RAILWAY TAVERN, Duncalf Street, Walsall. Or if this won’t suit, Beebey will fight Fisher of Birmingham, if Fisher will stake £15 to £10. Man and money ready as above, and the Editor of *Bells Life* to be stakeholder.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/11/1862

“W. Colley of Walsall will fight A. Baggot of Darlaston at 9st 4lb or 6lb, or any man in Walsall on the same terms, for £10 a side. Money ready at *J. Beeby*’s, RAILWAY TAVERN, Duncalf Street, Walsall, or G. Holden’s, New Street, Walsall.”

John Beebee, beer retailer, 21, Duncalfe Street. [1864], [1868], [1870]

He was also a shopkeeper.
Check CURRIERS ARMS.

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Yesterday being the day appointed for granting beerhouse licenses the following magistrates were present: J. Hildick (Mayor), S. Stephens, F. B. Oerton, J. W. Newman, H. Brace, and J. Brewer, Esqs. There were 133 applications; and all except the following had their licenses granted.....

John Beebee, RAILWAY TAVERN, Duncalf Street, who had been convicted of permitting cock fighting in his house, and of obstructing the police.”

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1869

“This being the adjourned licensing day, those parties whose licenses had been either suspended or refused, again put in applications.....

Mr. Dale applied on behalf of Mr. *John Beebee*, landlord of the RAILWAY TAVERN beer-house, Duncalfe Street, whose license had been refused in consequence of his having been convicted of permitting cock-fighting, and also with having refused admission to the police. Mr. Dale said, although his client had been twice convicted, yet, in point of fact, both offences were one offence, as the one arose out of the other. His client was convicted of permitting cock-fighting, and with refusing to admit the police, and he thought it only right to inform their worships that the affair was no a premeditated one. The facts of the case were simply these. A cock-fight had been arranged to take place at another house; but the police, having got scent of the affair, the parties came to his client's house, and he, unfortunately, allowed them to fight the cocks in his house. While the fight was going on the police arrived, and, not being immediately admitted, the second charge arose; but, as their worships would see, both the offences took place at the same time, and were virtually one offence. He could assure them his client would be more careful in future; and, he would remind their worships, if they refused the application they would be taking his client's bread from him. Mr. Dale put in a certificate signed by a number of Mr. *Beebee*'s neighbours. Application refused.”

1871 Census

21, Duncalfe Street – RAILWAY TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Russell* (30), bit filer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Sarah Russell* (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Thomas Russell* (2), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Sarah A. Russell* (11 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *John Beebee* (59), boarder, cart gear maker, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sarah Beebee* (59), boarder, born Walsall;
- [7] *Francis Beebee* (19), boarder, saddle tree maker, born Walsall:

Thomas Russell, beer retailer, Duncalf Street. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

“Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

The cases of *John Russell*, the RAILWAY TAVERN, Duncalf Street were adjourned.”

1881 Census

21, Duncalfe Street

- [1] *Richard Tomlinson* (37), beer seller, born Stone;
 - [2] *Fanny Tomlinson* (37), wife, born Hopton, Staffordshire;
 - [3] *Fanny E. Tomlinson* (14), daughter, born Stafford;
 - [4] *William R. Tomlinson* (12), son, scholar, born Stafford;
 - [5] *Alfred H. Tomlinson* (4), son, scholar, born Manchester:
- [Hopton is about 3 miles ENE of Stafford.]

1891 Census

21, Duncalf Street – KINGS HEAD

[KINGS HEAD seems to have been added to the Census later.]

- [1] *John Sargent* (44), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Eliza Sargent* (42), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Florence A. Sargent* (21), daughter, mother's help, born Walsall;
- [4] *Lily A. Sargent* (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *John H. Sargent* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Frank Sargent* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Alice M. Sargent* (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 16/9/1893

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *John Sergeant*, NORTH WESTERN INN, Duncalf Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1894

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. Thomas Deakin, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton Street.....

Mr. *John Sergeant*, beerhouse keeper, of the NORTH WESTERN INN, Duncalf Street, Walsall, and Mr. Alfred Stockley, licensed victualler, of the FOUR HORSE SHOES INN, Wellington Street, The Pleck, were unanimously elected to fill vacancies on the committee.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/2/1895

“An inquest was held by Mr. Thomas Howard Stanley (Borough Coroner) on Monday afternoon, at the L&NW RAILWAY INN,

Duncalfe Street, touching the death of George Andrew Bird (1), son of John Bird, buckle roller, 13, Duncalfe Street, who died on Friday evening.

Agnes Bird, mother, identified the body, and deposed that about mid-day on Thursday morning week she placed a saucepan containing stew upon the fire, and continued her work. Deceased and another child were playing on the hearth, and after she had been at work for some few minutes she heard one of them cry, and on turning round she saw that George Andrew was scalded, and that though the saucepan still remained on the fire, part of the stew was on the floor. She could not tell how that had happened. One of the children might have touched the saucepan, or the coal might have given way, and over-balanced it. She immediately sent for Dr. Oliver, who advised removal to the hospital. This advice was not followed, as the father was not agreeable, linseed oil was put on the child's arm while at home. The father sent for Dr. Oliver the next morning, and he renewed the linseed oil dressing, but the child died the same evening. Deceased had not been insured. Witness believed the child had a fit previous to his collapse.

By a Juror: The child could reach the saucepan, because the grate was so low.

Dr. O'Meara said he attended deceased on Friday morning, and found him to be suffering from a very severe scald on the right arm extending almost from shoulder to wrist. There was also a slight scald upon the left shoulder. He dressed the wound with linseed oil and flannel. The child was in a low condition, and witness went to the house again just before six the same day, at which time the child was in a dying state. The cause of death was shock consequent to the scalds.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

John Sargent, beer retailer, 21, Duncalfe Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 15/4/1899 - Advert

"Monday Next, 17th April, 1899, At Eleven O'clock.

NORTH WESTERN INN, Duncalf Street, Walsall.

Unreserved Sale By Auction Of The Brewing Plant & Utensils, consisting of equal-to-new 160-gallon Copper Boiler, 5-gallon Iron Boiler and Settings, pair Cooling Vats on Stand, capital Copper Refrigerator with piping, Copper Refrigerator, 7-bushel Mash Tub, four ½ Tubs, 3 Barm Tubs with handles, excellent Circular Fermenting Vat with massive brass tap, eight 60-gallon Stock Casks, one 100-gallon Cask, two 18-gallon Casks, Underback, Wort Spout, Mash Rule Ladle, Tun Pail, Saccharometer, Thermometer, &c.

Walter Hughes is instructed by Mr. *Henry Russell*, who is leaving, to Sell by Auction, upon the premises as above.

On view two hours prior to sale.

No Catalogues.

Auction Offices, the Bridge, Walsall."

Walsall Advertiser 3/6/1899

"On Wednesday afternoon Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the NORTH WESTERN INN, Duncalfe Street, respecting the death of *Wm. Bradley*, the landlord of the NORTH WESTERN INN, who died suddenly on Sunday.

Ann Bradley, wife of deceased, said her husband had been in delicate health for some time. On Sunday he went down the cellar with her to clean two of the beer pipes, and shortly afterwards went up to draw the beer through the pipes. As he did not draw any through witness called up to her daughter asking where her father was, and the girl replied that he was in the yard coughing. Witness ascended from the cellar, and found deceased in the yard vomiting blood. Deceased had a similar attack about eight months ago.

Dr. Lynch said he had attended deceased occasionally during the last eight years. About six or eight months ago deceased had an attack of blood-spitting, and witness then attended him. There was always a risk of the illness recurring if violent exercise were indulged in. Death was due to the bursting of a blood vessel in the lungs.

A verdict on accordance with the medical evidence was returned."

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

Samuel Westwood, beer retailer, 21, Duncalfe Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Samuel Westwood, NORTH WESTERN."

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

"The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

The license of the NORTH WESTERN INN, Wisemore, held by *Samuel Westwood*, was the first case taken on the unfinished list of 78 objections.

Mr. J. F. Addison appeared for the licensee, and Mr. Donnollan appeared for the owners, the L&NW Railway Co.

For the defence it was contended that the license was ante'69, and Mr. Loxton (magistrates' clerk) said an important question arose as to whether the premises licensed in '69 were not different to the present premises.

It was shown in evidence that only a portion of the premises had been cut off by the railway company. Consideration deferred."

Walsall Advertiser 9/4/1904

“In connection with the recent Walsall Brewster Sessions, there were this week six appeals at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions against the decisions of the borough magistrates in refusing the renewal of licenses.....

Samuel Westwood, tenant of the NORTH WESTERN INN, Walsall, appealed against the decision of the borough justices not to renew the license of the house. Mr. Plumptre and Mr. Hazel were for the appellant, and Mr. Disturnal for the justices.

Mr. Disturnal said the house existed before 1869, and the ground upon which the respondents relied was that the house was not of the value required by law, which in Walsall was £15 a year.

Mr. J. W. Hickton, architect and surveyor, Walsall, who was appointed to value the house by the justices, said the district in which the public house was situated was rather poor. He estimated that as an ordinary house it would let at £13 16s 4d a year.

For the appellant, Mr. Stannard, estate agent for the London and North-Western Railway Company, said the house belonged to the company, and was let on a quarterly tenancy to a brewery company for £20 a year. On the statutory basis he thought the house could be let at from 7s to 7s 6d a week. The house was not let at its full value, and he had advised that the rent should be increased.

Mr. Hughes, auctioneer, said that on the statutory basis he could let the house at 7s a week; and a similar opinion was expressed by Mr. Bewlay, surveyor, Birmingham.

After Mr. Plumptre had addressed the Court, Mr. Disturnal said it appeared to him that there was some inaccuracy in the figures, and he thought he ought not to contest the appeal any further.

The appeal was allowed.”

A team from here was to have taken part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905]

The license renewal was refused on 3rd February 1909.

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1909

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, 1909, at 11 o’clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

The NORTH WESTERN, 21, Duncalf Street, Beerhouse. Licensee, *Edwin Dawes*.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The principal meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, when eight beer-houses and one ale-house, the licenses of which had been referred by the licensing justices, were dealt with, and in each instance the houses were referred for compensation, which means in due course the houses will close.....

The NORTHWESTERN, Duncalf Street. The owner of this beer-house are the L&NW. Railway Company, and the lessees Messrs. Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery Company, and *Edwin Dawes* was the licensee. The rental was £30, and the tenant paid £20, being a quarterly tenant.

Dawes said he was tied for all bottle stuffs and malt.

Mr. Turner represented the parties concerned and offered no objection.

The Bench having heard each case separately retired to consider their decision. In returning, the Mayor intimated that the renewals authority report would be adopted, and all the houses referred for compensation.”

It closed in 1909.

OAK

336, (337), Green Lane, Townend Bank, WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Paddock [1861]

Matthew Fox, grocer, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall

Thomas Toon

Mrs. Stanley [1904]

Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1904) [1939]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

Premier Midland Ales (acquired in 1990)

United Breweries

Admiral Taverns [2007]

LICENSEES

Edward Paddock [1855]
Thomas Humphries [1857]
Edward Paddock [1858] – [1865]
John Holden (1865 – [1870])
Edward Holden [] – 1869);
John Arblaster (1869 – []
Edwin Green [1872];
Mrs. Selina (Green) Taylor [];
Thomas Taylor [];
Thomas Owen [1881] ?
Thomas Toon [1880] – 1896);
Isaiah Lees (1896 – 1904);
William Challinor [1904] manager
James Parsons (1904 – 1906);
Frederick ‘Fred’ Marshall (1906 – 1913);
Isaiah Lees [1908] tenant
Lilian Marshall (1913 – 1919);
William Frederick Wood (1919 – 1934);
Ernest Wellings (1934 – 1946);
Eric Vaughan (1946 – 1952);
George Hugh O’Neill (1952 – 1954);
Harry Buttery (1954 – 1957);
James Laing (1957 – 1960);
William James Yates (1960);
Maurice Henry Woodward (1960 – 1961);
John Plimmer (1961 – 1962);
Eugene Derek Campbell (1962 – 1963);
Alan Robert Evans (1963 – 1964);
Robert Walter Hoar (1964 – 1965);
Patrick John Dunne (1965 – 1966);
Thomas William Goodhead (1966 – 1967);
Leslie Westwood (1967);
Barrie Wright (1967 – []
Andrew Burton* [1993]
[Andy Button*](#) [1994]
Alan Jones [2014]

NOTES

337, Green Lane [1861], [1870], [1872], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1909], [1912], [1939], [1940]
336, Green Lane [2005], [2007]

HEART OF OAK [1855], [1857], [1865], [1867]

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Journal 26/5/1855

“John Whittyears, landlord of the SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street, was summoned on Monday before the Magistrates, on the charge of knowingly permitting gambling on his premises. Mr. Sill was retained for the defence. In the *Journal* of last week it was stated that three Irishmen, named McGuire, McCarthy, and O’Hara, had been convicted for causing a affray in the public streets. It was stated by them that the quarrel had originated through card playing at the house of defendant, and that of a beerhouse keeper named *Paddock*, in Green Lane. The Irishmen were called and distinctly testified to the gaming, with the knowledge of the landlady. A penalty of 20s and costs was then inflicted. In the case of *Paddock*, a similar fine was imposed.”

AND

“Mrs. *Paddock*, of the HEART OF OAK, Green Lane, requests us to state that there was no truth in the allegation that a party of Irish labourers played at cards in her house, as one of them told the Magistrates when brought up at the Public Office. He stated that her husband stood by at the time, but it can be proved that Mr. *Paddock* was from home during the whole day in question.”

Walsall Free Press 17/1/1857

“About eight o’clock on Tuesday morning it was discovered that a fire had broken out on the premises of Mr. *Edward Paddock*, retail-brewer, Green Lane. The fire was fortunately subdued before the engines arrived. Damages, however, to the amount of £3, had been sustained. It appears to have been caused by a spark flying, which ignited some clothes hanging near the fire to dry.”

Birmingham Journal 3/10/1857

“On Saturday last the workmen of Messrs. Brayford and Lancaster, Birchills Iron Works, were treated with a dinner at Mr. *Thomas Humphries*’ HEART OF OAK, Green Lane, as a reward for having worked during the races. The masters were present, and the usual toasts given.”

E. Paddock, beerhouse, 337, Green Lane. [1858]

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers’ licenses.....
Edward Paddock, Green Lane. Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 3/9/1859

“The Bench proceeded to the applications for the renewal of old, and the granting of new licenses.....
The application of Mr. *Edward Paddock*, beerhouse keeper, Green Lane, supported by Mr. Crump, was refused on the ground of it not being necessary to increase to increase the number of public-houses in that locality.”

Edward Paddock, beer retailer, 337, Green Lane. [1860], [1861]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....
Edward Paddock, Green Lane. Refused.”

1861 Census

337, Green Lane

- [1] *Edward Paddock* (61), bricklayer, born Harding for Wal ____ (?);
- [2] Sarah Paddock (56), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Lucy Humphries (23) daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Thomas Humphries (3), grandson, born Walsall;
- [5] John Paddock (23), son, journeyman bricklayer, born Walsall:

Edward Paddock, beer retailer and builder, 337, Green Lane. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....
Edward Paddock, Green Lane applied personally for licenses, but their applications were refused.”

Bell’s Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/10/1865

“Mr. *John Holden*, in returning his grateful thanks to his numerous friends and the sporting public generally for the liberal patronage so kindly conferred for the last 15 years, begs most respectfully to inform them that he had removed from the TOWNS END TAVERN to the HEARTS OF OAK INN, Town’s End Bank, Walsall (a few doors above his late residence) at which place he respectfully solicits a continuance of past favours. Sparring, rattng, &c, still carried on as usual, for which his large and commodious room is well fitted up.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 3/8/1867

“Young Skeyte of Walsall, hearing that Munro is not satisfied with his late defeat, will make another match to fight on the same conditions – namely, at catch weight, for £25 or £50 a side; to fight in the midlands district. A deposit sent to *Bell’s Life* (stakeholder), and articles to Skeyte, at Mr. *J. Holden*’s, HEARTS OF OAK INN, Walsall, will meet with prompt attention.”

AND

“T. Whitehouse (alias Heenan) of Walsall will fight J. Beebee at catch weight, for £10. A deposit sent to *Bell’s Life* (stakeholder), and articles to Heenan, at Mr. *J. Holden*’s, HEARTS OF OAK INN, Green Lane, will meet with prompt attention.”

John Holden, beer retailer, 337 Green Lane. [1868], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 12/2/1870 - Advert

“To Be Let, the HEART OF OAK, Green Lane. Doing a good Trade. Fixtures to be taken at a valuation. Satisfactory reasons given for leaving.
Apply on the Premises.”

Mrs. *Selina Green* (37), widow, married *Thomas Taylor* (36), widower, chain maker, on 11th June 1874.

Lichfield Mercury 3/9/1880

“The usual licensing session took place at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Friday.....

Thomas Toon, the OAK INN beerhouse, Green Lane, applied for a license to sell wines Granted.”

A wine license was granted pre 1881.

1881 Census

337, Green Lane

- [1] *Thomas Toon* (39), case hame maker, beerhouse keeper, born Atherstone, Warwickshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Toon (37), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Maria Toon (20), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Elizabeth Toon (17), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Frances Toon (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Job Toon (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Sarah Toon (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Rosa Toon (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Sidney Toon (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] Louisa Toon (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [11] Thomas Toon (3), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [12] Frederic Toon (2), son, born Walsall;
- [13] John Toon (6 months), son, born Walsall;
- [14] Mary Lennard (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:

In 1884 the premises were enlarged, by the consent of the Justices, who visited the house on 29th September 1884.

Birmingham Daily Post 11/6/1887

“Yesterday morning, as Job *Toon*, son of the keeper of the OAK INN, Green Lane, was engaged in brewing at his father’s house, he slipped and fell into a vat of boiling liquor. He was rescued, and taken as speedily as possible to the Cottage Hospital, where his injuries were found to be of so serious a character as to place his life in jeopardy.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/1/1891

“Political. Conservative.....

On Monday next a meeting to elect a committee and officers for Birchills Ward will be held at Mr. *Toon*’s, the ROYAL OAK, Green Lane, when Mr. S. B. Wheway will occupy the chair.....”

1891 Census

337, Green Lane – ROYAL OAK INN

- [1] *Thomas Toon* (49), hame and chain manufacturer, born Hatherton, Warwickshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Toon (48), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah Toon (20), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Rose Toon (17), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [5] Sidney Toon (16), son, hame and chain manufacturer, born Walsall;
- [6] Louisa Toon (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Thomas Toon (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Frederick Toon (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Edward Toon (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] Louisa Hill (21), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Thomas Toon, beer retailer and hame maker, 337, Green Lane. [1896], [1904] ??

1901 Census

337, Green Lane

- [1] *Isaiah Lees* (35), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Lees (30), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sidney Lees (4), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Myra Z. Lees (5 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Annie Brien (20), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 3/1/1903

“A friendly football match took place on the MALT SHOVEL ground on Monday, between Mr. *Lees*’ team, from the OAK INN, Green Lane, and Mr. T. Whittaker’s team, DUKE OF YORK INN, Dudley Street, for the benefit of Charles Eadis, a collar maker, who had been ill for the past twelve months. Mr. *Lees*’ team won by 2-1 after a most enjoyable encounter, and the handsome sum of about £16 was realised for the beneficiare.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/3/1903

“*Albert William Broster*, landlord of the IRISH HARP INN, was charged with causing the death of Thomas Smith, Green Lane, on the 12th inst. Mr. Addison defended. The evidence that was given at the inquest last week was repeated, and was that on the 12th inst, the prisoner and deceased were in the OAK INN and were ‘haggling’ about a pony. Afterwards the prisoner caught the deceased by the wrist, and they went out into the yard, where they wrestled together and the deceased was thrown heavily on the bricks. He went to work the next day, but on the 14th he was seized with fits, and his arm swelled so that he was ordered to the hospital, where he died on the 17th inst, from acute blood-poisoning. The medical evidence was that there were some scratches on the deceased’s elbow, but the arm was in such a very dirty and greasy state and it was impossible to tell how the scratches were caused.

The bench, after a short consultation, dismissed the charge, but the accused still stands committed on the Coroner’s warrant.”
[Thomas Smith was employed as a carter by *Isaiah Lees*, landlord of the OAK INN, Green Lane.]

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

Isaiah Lees – see also ROYAL OAK, Lord Street.

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

The OAK, Green Lane. *Isaiah Lees*, tenant of this house, was questioned as to its conveniences, one of which was approached from the smoke-room. Mr. Walford was for the owners, and Mr. Jackson for the licensee. Mr. Walford promising to have done what improvements were required, the license was renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1904

“The adjourned annual brewster session were held on Tuesday.....

Mr. S. Grundy-Newman and Mrs. F. Bill appeared in the case of the STORES INN, and Holden [see CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL] was called to prove that this also was an ante-’69 license. He said he used to live in Peal Street, and the STORES was the same then as now. A man named Frankham kept it, and he (witness) had often had a drink there.

Mr. Armstrong (solicitor) thought that Holden might also be asked if he remembered the OLD OAK in Blue Lane – whether that was not an ante-’69 license?

Mr. Loxton: George, do you remember the OLD OAK? – Witness: Why, my uncle kept that over fifty years ago (laughter).

Mr. Loxton: I should think Mr. Loxton will give you a fee (laughter).”

The license renewal was refused in 1904, on the grounds of it being in poor repair.

It was renewed.

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

“Walsall Air-Gun League.

The first annual meeting of the above was held at the CRITERION, Stafford Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smallwood presided, and there was also present Messrs. Hicken (EAGLE), G. Smith (OLD KINGS ARMS), Powell (TANNERS ARMS), E. James (PLUMBERS ARMS), McDonald (CRITERION), Cliffe (GOLDEN EAGLE), Hunt, E. Towe (treasurer), and Mason (secretary).....

The undermentioned clubs with power to add to their number, were elected to the League for the forthcoming season: The WHITE HART (Walhouse Street), TANNERS ARMS, OLD KINGS ARMS, EAGLE, PLUMBERS ARMS, CRITERION, GOLDEN EAGLE, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, OAK, and DUKE OF YORK.

There was no other business of public interest.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/7/1908

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week....

New Members..... *Frederick Marshall*, OAK INN, Green Lane.”

Frederick Marshall, beer retailer, 337, Green Lane. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 28/6/1913

“A well-known local licensed victualler passed away at his residence, the OAK INN, Green Lane, on Tuesday night in the person of Mr. *Frederick Marshall*. Deceased who was only 33 years of age, succumbed to a long and painful illness. He leaves a widow and four children to mourn his loss. Mr. *Marshall* was the second son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, of the PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, and has been closely associated with the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Association for some considerable time. He had always given a helping hand in needy cases, and was greatly respected in the licensed trade. The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery yesterday (Friday) and among the numerous wreaths received were those from the Walsall Licensed Victual-

lers' and the Highgate Brewery Company.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/8/1913

“The late Mr. *Fred Marshall*, of the OAK INN, Green Lane, Walsall, has left an estate valued at £1,448 gross.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/10/1913

“On Thursday morning the death occurred of a highly-respected resident in the person of Mr. *Thomas Toon*, of ‘Ivydene’, Lichfield Street, Walsall, a former licensed victualler, who passed away at the age of 73. The late Mr. *Toon* lived for practically the whole of his life in the borough, and about forty years ago he took charge of the OAK INN, Green Lane, a charge which he relinquished fourteen or fifteen years ago. During his occupancy of the OAK INN he carried on successfully the business of hame and chain manufacturer associated with the house. For forty odd years he had been a much respected member of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Association, and though, being of a retiring disposition, he did not occupy prominent office, he rendered yeoman service on the committee. Married fifty-three years ago, the deceased gentleman leaves a widow and six children, four daughters and two sons. Both as host at the OAK INN, and later in private life, he made a large number of friends, who sincerely regret his demise, and the members of the bereaved family will be the recipients of general sympathy. The funeral will take place on Monday at Ryecroft Cemetery.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

OAK, Green Lane, Walsall, 5s 2½d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

OAK INN, Green Lane. £2 4s 7d.”

William Wood was the manager in 1919.

He was the tenant in 1925.

It was referred to the Compensation Authority in 1933.

The license was renewed.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

OAK INN, Green Lane.”

1939 Register

337, Green Lane (2 of 3)

[1] *Ernest Wellings*, date of birth 3/12/1892, public house manager, married;

[2] *Agnes R. Wellings*, dob 6/11/1892, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

OAK INN, Green Lane, £2 5s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 28/6/1941

“Walsall Magical Society. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, July 2nd, at 8pm, the OAK INN, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

OAK INN, Green Lane. £1 11s 10d.”

Walsall Observer 10/2/1945 - Marriages

“On Feb 6, 1945, at St. Paul’s Church, Walsall, by the Rev. K. A. Saunders, Pte Enrico Musatti (U.S. Army), to Doris May (W.R.N.S.), eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *E. Wellings*, OAK INN, Green Lane, Walsall.”

A full license was confirmed on 6th May 1948.

*probably the same person

Sandwell Evening Mail 11/6/1994

“Down Your Local. OAK, Walsall.

Running the OAK in Green Lane is a family affair. Behind the bar is daughter Louise *Button*; in the cellar can be found dad *Andy* – and in the kitchen is mum Sally. And let’s not forget the family pet Boxers, all eleven of them! Between them, the *Buttons* keep customers satisfied at this popular town-centre pub.....

The OAK was a Mitchells and Butlers pub until 1989. It closed for a couple of months for refurbishment before being re-opened by Premier Brewery selling mainly Wiltshire and Pitfield ales. It’s now part of United Breweries of Calcutta following a series of corporate changes of identity.....

Price of a Pint: Stonehenge bitter £1.28; Pitfield mild £1.52; McEwans lager £1.44; Becks lager £1.74.

Food: Sausage, egg and chips £1.40; Steak and kidney pie and chips £1.80; Scampi, chips and salad £2.60.

Parking: 15-space car park at side.

Transport: Buses to Walsall town centre.

Opening Hours: Noon to 2.30pm and 7pm to 11pm (Monday to Friday); noon to 3pm and 7pm to 11pm (Saturday); 7pm to 10.30pm (Sunday).”

Closed

It reopened in 2008 after months of closure.

Alan Jones had served in the army in the Falklands conflict in 1982.

He was given a 12 month prison sentence, suspended for 2 years, a 12 month supervision order, and fined £535, for the production of a class B drug, in November 2015.

[2017]

O’CONNELL

Freer Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/3/1841 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property, in Freer Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, by T. Franklin, at the STORK TAVERN, Bridge Street, Walsall on Monday, the 5th day of April next, subject to conditions to be produced, in one lot.

All that well-built Freehold Public House, called the O’CONNELL, situate in Freer Street, Walsall, with an entire spacious yard, brewhouse, extensive pig sheds, stabling, cow-houses, and other out-offices.

The above mentioned property is well and eligibly situated, being opposite the Pig market, and contains ample room and conveniences for carrying on an extensive and lucrative business.

Further particulars may be had at the office of J. Forster, Esq, or of the Auctioneer, Walsall.”

[This was repeated in January 1842.]

ODDFELLOWS ARMS

1, Townend Bank (1, Stafford Street) / Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Edwards, blacksmith, Blue Lane, Walsall

LICENSEES

Omer Stokes [1849] – 1851)

Mrs. Susan Bird [1860] – [1861]

Richard Pagett [1862]

S Machin [1864] – [1865]

George Holden Jr. [1868] – [1880]

NOTES

Town End Bank, Stafford Street [1860], [1865]

1, Stafford Street [1871]

It was originally the FARRIERS ARMS.

Omer Stokes = Omar Stokes = **Homer Stokes**

Omer Stokes was also a bridle cutter. [1849], [1850], [1851]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/3/1849

“Staffordshire Assizes.

John Neary and Anthony Ware (on bail) were indicted of cutting and wounding Joseph Scott, a police officer, on the 4th of December, at Walsall, with intent to murder him. The indictment contained three counts, varying the charge.

It appeared from the evidence of the part of the prosecutor, that about one o'clock in the morning of the 4th of December last, the prosecutor, in the discharge of his duty, called at the FARRIER'S ARMS, Walsall, where there were a number of Irishmen. After requesting them to go home, the prisoner Neary became very violent, and threatened prosecutor, who, seeing there was likely to be a disturbance, went to the police station for assistance. As he returned with some constables, part of whom walked on one side of the street and the prosecutor on the other, the latter met the prisoner and nine or ten other men. As soon as he had passed them, Neary said, 'That's Scott', to which he replied, 'Good night Jack; go home, there are good lads.' Neary then seized hold of the prosecutor, assisted by others, and threw him down, when the other officers crossed the road to his assistance, one of them (Reay) was immediately attacked by Neary, who pulled his staff so violently from his hand as to break the string by which it was attached to his wrist, and then struck the prosecutor violently across the head with it, making him fall upon his knees. Whilst the prisoners were fighting with the officers Reay and Smith, the prosecutor again got up, when Neary struck him again, but he warded the blow from his head with his cutlass, the violence of the blow against which cut off part of the staff. At the time Ware urged Neary to murder the ——; when the prosecutor gave Neary a blow on the side of the head with his cutlass, and the whole of them ran away, but were pursued and apprehended by the officers, Neary having at the time the staff, with blood on it from the prosecutor's head and face, which were cut in a frightful manner. The whole of the evidence was corroborated by Reay, Smith, and partly by serjeant Welch; and person named Yates stated that when he was conveying Neary to gaol in April last year, for an assault, the prisoner said, 'Two months will not be long, and when I come back I will make Scott's head bounce.'

Mr. George Hughes Whipper, surgeon, who examined Scott, stated that he found several lacerated wounds upon his forehead, and several bruises upon his body. He was afraid of inflammation ensuing from the severity of the blow. (By Mr. Vaughan – He examined the prisoner Neary; they were both badly wounded. Neary's was an incised wound.)

Mr. Vaughan then addressed the jury on behalf of the prisoners, and after his lordship had summed up, the jury returned a verdict of guilty on the third count – intent to maim – when Neary was sentenced to be transported for the term of ten years; and Ware to be imprisoned for six months.”

It was renamed ODDFELLOWS ARMS.

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/3/1851 - Died

“On Monday last, aged 42, Mr. *Omer Stokes*, of the ODD FELLOWS ARMS, Park Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Walsall. Annual Licensing Day.

The following parties had their licences refused.....

George Holden, jun., landlord of the ODD FELLOWS ARMS, Townsend Bank were refused their licenses in consequence of having brothels in the houses adjoining their premises.”

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1869

“This being the adjourned licensing day, those parties whose licenses had been either suspended or refused, again put in applications.....

Mr. Glover appeared on behalf of Mr. *George Holden*, jun., landlord of the ODD FELLOWS ARMS, Townend Bank. Mr. Glover said he believed the ground upon which his client's application had been refused was that behind his house were some houses of a disorderly character; but he could assure them that with the exception of having collected the rents, Mr. *Holden* had no connection with those houses, which are some 60 yards away from his house, and do not belong to the same landlord.

In reply to Mr. Cater, Mr. Glover said his client at one time had lent some money upon the houses in question; but that money had been repaid, and consequently Mr. *Holden* had no connection with those houses.

Mr. Cater said he was very glad to hear Mr. Glover make the explanation he had made, as it was only right the Bench should be in possession of the whole of the facts.

Mr. Glover then reminded the Bench that his client had kept the house 2½ years without the slightest complaint having been made against him.

Application granted."

1871 Census

1, Stafford Street – ODDFELLOWS ARMS

[1] *George Holden* (29), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] C. Holden (28), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *George Holden* (5), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Florence Holden* (5 months), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Alice Stanton* (15), general servant, born Walsall:

Midland Counties Evening Express 1/2/1875

"*George Holden*, of the ODDFELLOWS ARMS, Stafford Street, was summoned for allowing liquor to be consumed on his premises after 11 o'clock on the 26th January fined £5 and costs."

London Gazette 26/10/1875

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *George Holden* the younger, of the ODD FELLOWS ARMS, Towns End Bank, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. John Glover, No.66, Park-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on the 5th day of November, 1875, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 21st day of October, 1875.

John Glover, No.66, Park-street, Walsall aforesaid, Attorney for the said Debtor."

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

"Defensio, Non Provocatio. Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the Merchandize Marks Act, 1862, and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association.

Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association.

Agents For Staffordshire.....

Walsall: S. Tonks, ROYAL OAK INN, 28, Ablewell Street; F. Weston, BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street; *G. Holden*, ODD FELLOWS ARMS, 1, Stafford Street; G. Smith, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street; J. Whittall, THREE CUPS INN, Park Street; J. H. Newell, ROYAL OAK Brewery, Pleck."

Closed

It was demolished c.1880.

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1882

"Walsall Town Council.

Report of the General Purposes Committee.....

On the motion of Alderman Brewer, seconded by Councillor Kirkpatrick, it was further resolved, on the recommendation of the same committee, 'That the Council allow the licenses of the five alehouses, viz, the ODD FELLOWS ARMS, the ROYAL GEORGE, the SPREAD EAGLE, the GEORGE AND DRAGON, and the WATERLOO TAVERN, and the beerhouse, the BOAT INN, purchased for the purposes of the Artisans' Dwelling Scheme, to lapse, it being considered that there is in the neighbourhood an ample number of licensed houses to meet the requirements of the district.' This was unanimously agreed to."

OLD ANCHOR

Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Male [1818]

NOTES

Thomas Male was also a brush maker. [1818]

OLD BOOT

Walsall Road / Boatmans Lane, Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

Rock and Saunders [1856]
William Roberts, Station Brewery, Brownhills [1893]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Bates [1823] – **1829**)
Mrs. Mary Rock [1849]
Isaiah Saunders [1856]
Stokes and Davis [1858]
Solomon Whitehouse [1860] – **1861**);
Aaron Stokes (**1861** – []
Robert Batkin [1863] – [1868]
Thomas Thacker [] – **1870**);
William Brown (**1870** – []
David Ward [1882]
Henry Bateman [1891] – **1893**);
John Penton (**1893** – **1897**);
Henry Bateman (**1897** – [1912]
John Brown (**1922** – []
Percy Jacques [1927] – [1932]
William Lowe [1938]
Alfred Charles Mason [1939]

NOTES

OLD BOAT [1861], [1864], [1865]
BOAT [1856], [1870], [1899]
BOOT [1823], [1829], [1849], [1860], [1861], [1863], [1870], [1895], [1897], [1899], [1900], [1901], [1906], [1908], [1921], [1927], [1938], [1939], [1940]

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/10/1823

“On Tuesday afternoon last, Thomas *Bates*, a young man only 18 years of age, son of Mr. *Bates*, of the BOOT INN, Walsall

Wood, near Lichfield, on going into his father's field, suddenly fell down and almost immediately expired. He had previously eaten a very hearty dinner, and appeared in perfect health."

Birmingham Journal 24/1/1829 - Deaths

"On Monday, the 12th instant, Mr. *Thomas Bates*, of the BOOT public-house, Walsall Wood, in the foreign of Walsall, aged 85."

1851 Census

Turnpike Road, Walsall Wood

[1] Thomas Rock (47), unmarried, farmer of 28 acres employing 1 man, born Walsall Wood;

[2] *Isaiah Sanders* (23), partner with the above, born Walsall Wood;

[3] *Mary Rock* (77), mother, retired victualler, born Walsall Wood:

Staffordshire Sentinel 20/9/1856

"Wednesbury. At the police-court on Tuesday, Mr. *Isaiah Saunders*, of the OLD BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, was brought up in custody before James Bagnall and Edward Elwell, jun., Esqs, on the charge of uttering certain forged receipts with intention to defraud.

Mr. Bayley appeared to prosecute, and was about stating his case, when he was interrupted by Mr. Sill, from the offices of Messrs. Duignan and Hemmant, who, retained by the prisoner, objected that as Mr. Bayley, he understood, was to give evidence in the case, he could not combine the characters of advocate and witness.

The bench held the objection to be valid, and Mr. Bayley was then sworn. He deposed, as attorney for Mr. Thomas Styring, wine and spirit merchant, of Huddersfield. I attended the prisoner at my office, respecting an arrangement as to withdrawing the bailiffs under a bill of sale. I had been concerned as attorney for the prosecutor, preparing, executing, and putting into force a bill of sale for £63, which is now in the hands of the bailiffs. An offer had been made by Mr. Stryring to withdraw the bailiffs, at the request of the prisoner, if he would pay £50 and the expenses, or £25, and find security for the remaining £25. On Tuesday, the prisoner handed me the three receipts purporting to be for the respective amounts of £22, £5, and £15, and which were signed 'G. Atkinson, for Thomas Styring.' The prisoner said he had no credit given him for these amounts, and that he owed nothing like £63 to Mr. Styring. This interview took place in the presence of a friend of the prisoner's named, I believe, Proffitt. I told the prisoner that he had signed the bill of sale for £63, and that I would send for Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Styring's agent, who had instructed me in the matter. Mr. Atkinson was sent, for and came. I asked him in the presence of the prisoner whether he had received, or given receipts for, the three sums named, and he replied that he had not. He denied having received the respective sums of £22 and £15. I then said, it is a very serious matter; either there is a case of embezzlement against Mr. Atkinson or of forgery against you (the prisoner). I further said, it is my impression that it is a forgery, and that I thought the date had been altered – that the figure two in the twenty-two had been altered from a one, that is the sum of £12 had been changed to £22. Mr. Atkinson admitted having received the several sums of £5, £5, and £12. I then said I felt it to be my duty to detain the receipts, which were written on the back of an invoice, and that it was a question whether I should not advise the prisoner be given into custody. I showed the paper to his friend (Proffitt) and the prisoner made a grasp, and tried to take it, but I retained, and have kept it in my possession ever since.

Mr. Dawes, an auctioneer, came into the room and I now apply for a remand, in order to obtain his evidence.

By Mr. Sill: I want Mr. Dawes to state his observations to the prisoner, and reply to the latter. I also apply for a remand to obtain evidence from Mr. Proffitt, or Pitt (Mr. Henry Pitt, who was in Court, the witness believed to be the friend of the prisoner, whom he had previously called Proffitt, but Mr. Bayley would not positively identify him) I wasn't to go to Walsall Wood for more evidence.

Mr. George Atkinson said: I am agent for Mr. Styring, and dealt with the prisoner and his partner, Mr. Rock, and sold them goods. The invoice produced is one for goods I sold them. The handwriting of the receipt is mine, but one of the figures is not; the first figure is altered from a one to a two, and the receipt for £5 is as I wrote it. The third receipt is altered by placing the figure of one before the five, and thus making £5 £15. I have not received more money than stated in my own receipts from the prisoner.

By Mr. Sill: I have a distinct recollection of the transactions between myself and the prisoner as to the receipt for £12. I have an account of transactions between myself and the prisoner and now produce it. I have a clear recollection of having received £12 on the 15th of March. I only gave the prisoner credit for £7 on that day, because I lent him £5 to take up a bill, which sum I deducted from the £12. I have no other cash-book other than the one produced, in which all payments are entered, and which I call my ledger.

By the Bench: I enter payments in my memorandum-book, and then in the ledger when I reach home.

Mr. Bayley here applied that the case should be adjourned for a couple of hours, to enable him to instruct an attorney, which after some discussion was granted; and at two o'clock Mr. Burbury was instructed, the case was re-opened and the witness re-examined.

After a brief deliberation, Mr. Bagnall said the bench were of the opinion that the case was not one to send to a jury. They came to this conclusion solely through the loose way in which Mr. Atkinson kept his books, the memorandum-book not corresponding with the ledger.

Mr. Burbury said it would be his duty to report to Mr. Styring, that it was open to him to prefer a bill of indictment against *Saunders*, for the impression might go abroad that Mr. Atkinson had been guilty of a felony.

Mr. Bagnall observed that the magistrates had no such impression; it was simply through the loose manner in which the books had been kept that the charge had been dismissed; there was not the slightest imputation on Mr. Atkinson's character, but the bench could not understand his books, and the questioned if he could do so himself.

Mr. Bayley trusted the magistrates did not deem that he had brought a case forward on insufficient grounds.

Mr. Bagnall replied that the bench considered it a very fit one for investigation.

The proceedings occupied the court for several hours, and were listened to with intense interest by a large audience.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 11/10/1856

“The Recent Burglaries At Walsall Wood. On Friday the accused men, John Sturme y and Wm. Shorter, were brought before J. E. Bealey, Esq, at the office of the magistrates’ clerk, Walsall, charged with burglary at Walsall Wood, as reported in our last and John Holden and William Smith alias Biddle, were also charged with receiving, with a guilty knowledge, a watch, a portion of the proceeds of one of the robberies. Mr. W. H. Duignan appeared for the alleged receivers. The first case gone into was the burglary at the house of Messrs. Rock and Saunders, the BOAT INN, Walsall Wood.

Isaiah Saunders deposed that on Saturday morning the 27th ult, he rose about two o’clock, found the doors open, and on looking round missed a silver watch, from three to four pound ten shillings in money, and a guard attached to the watch. Some brandy and gin were also taken away. It appeared the ingress had been obtained by some one passing their arm through a window where there was a pane of glass wanting, and undoing the fastenings. The watch then produced he believed to be the stolen one.

The evidence was such to induce the magistrates to commit Shorter and Sturme y for trial in this case also [another burglary]. Smith alias Biddle, was admitted to bail. Holden was discharged without any imputation on his character on the charge of ‘receiving’.”

Walsall Free Press 15/12/1860 - Advert

“Rare Opportunity.

To Be Disposed of, on account of the ill-health of the Landlady, that Old Licensed Public House, known as the BOOT INN, situated at Walsall Wood. Doing an excellent business.

Apply to Mr. W. S. Dorsett, Aldridge.”

1861 Census

BOOT INN

[1] *Solomon Whitehouse* (28), publican and brickmaker, born Oldbury;

[2] Mary Whitehouse (25), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Stephen J. Whitehouse (1), son, born Walsall Wood;

[4] Jane Hawkins (18), house seevant, born Bloxwich;

[5] Samuel Reed (20), lodger, labourer, born Aldridge:

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861 - Advert

“Walsall Wood. To Be Disposed of, the License and Possession of that old-established Public-house known as the BOOT, well situated, fronting the turnpike road to Lichfield, and near extensive blue brick yards, and in the occupation of Mr. *Whitehouse*, who is leaving on account of other engagements.

For particulars apply to H. Farrington, No.1, St. George’s Buildings, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 9/11/1861

“*Solomon Whitehouse*, of the BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, applied for permission to transfer his license to *Aaron Stokes*, late of the MINERVA INN, Paddock, Walsall. Everything being found satisfactory, the permission was granted.”

Robert Batkin = Robert Badkin

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/9/1863

“Yesterday was the annual licensing day for the Rushall division of the county. The magistrates on the Bench were Messrs. J. E. Bealey, W. Harrison, and D. Bloomer. Before hearing the applications for new licenses and those for the renewal of old ones, the Bench called those publicans whose names were down on the black list.

The license of *Robert Badkin*, BOOT INN, Rushall, who had been summoned for permitting fighting on his premises, but who escaped punishment because the field in which the fight took place, though in the possession and occupation of *Badkin*, was not within the curtilage of the house.”

Walsall Free Press 3/10/1863

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions on Tuesday last It being adjourned licensing day.

Robert Badkin, landlord of the BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, whose license was suspended last licensing day, was duly cautioned, and there being no further complaint against him, had his license renewed.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/1/1864

“Rushall Petty Sessions. *Robert Batkin*, publican, Walsall Wood, was fined 2s 6d and costs, for furiously driving along the Lichfield high road, near to Lady Pool, between Walsall and Rushall, on the 22nd ult.”

Walsall Free Press 12/11/1864

“Rushall Petty Sessions. *Robert Batkin*, landlord of the OLD BOAT INN, was charged with having his house open for the sale of beer on Sunday, the 30th of October. Police-constable Astbury said that he visited the house at twenty five minutes to twelve on the day in question, and found two men with a pint of ale before them. Mr. *Batkin* said that the men seen in the house were travellers – one, a Mr. Smith, from Walton-on-Trent, and the other was a man belonging to Brownhills, who had walked from Darlston.

As neither of the men were present to give evidence, the defendant was sentenced to pay a fine of 10s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 27/5/1865

“Rushall Petty Sessions. *Robert Batkin*, landlord of the BOAT INN, was charged with having had his house open on Sunday, the 14th instant, during prohibited hours. Police-constable Rumney, who visited the house, and found three men drinking porter, proved the charge. The defendant, who had been previously convicted, was sentenced to pay a fine of 40s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“On Tuesday last, the annual licensing day for the district.

Robert Batkin, the BOAT, Walsall Wood, who had been three times convicted of having had his house open for the sale of liquors during prohibited hours, had his license suspended.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1865

“At the Rushall adjourned Licensing Session, yesterday, *Robert Batkin*, of the BOAT INN, Walsall Wood, received his license, which had been suspended; but was cautioned as to the future management of his house.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1870

“*Thomas Thacker*, the BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, was fined 10s and costs, with the option of fourteen days’ imprisonment, for having his house open at eleven o’clock on the morning of the 30th ult.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 31/8/1870

“Rushall Annual Licensing Day. The Inspector presented the Bench a list of licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers who had been fined for breach of license in the course of the past three years.

Thomas Thacker, the BOAT, Walsall Wood.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/9/1870

“Adjourned Licensing Meeting. Yesterday John Lloyd, beerhouse keeper, Rushall; Richard Owen, landlord of the ROYAL GEORGE beerhouse, Walsall Wood; *Thomas Thacker* of the BOOT public house, Walsall Wood; and William Milner of the ROYAL OAK public house, Pelsall, who, in consequence of having been convicted of breach of license in the course of the last year, had had their licenses suspended, were cautioned, and had their licenses renewed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/3/1882

“*David Ward*, of the OLD BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, pleaded guilty to selling ale before half-past twelve o’clock on Sunday, the 26th ult. and was fined 20s and 10s 6d costs.”

Lichfield Mercury 20/2/1891

“*Samuel Bateman*, miner, Walsall Wood, was charged with deserting his wife, Mary Ann Bateman, on the 14th Dec. Mr. Evans (Walsall), was for the prosecution, and Mr. H. Jackson was for the defence. Complainant said she was married to the defendant on November 30th last, who lived with his father at the BOOT INN, Walsall Wood. She had also lived there as servant, but after they were married she told her mother-in-law that she would not act as servant any longer. She lived at the house for a fortnight afterwards, but during the time she had been married to defendant had not been allowed any money. She went to her own home to see her mother, and when she returned defendant refused to see her, and she (witness) had been living with her mother ever since. On the 1st February she again saw defendant who came out of the public house with her at 10 o’clock and took her to her mother’s, and promised to find her a home. Four days afterwards she again went to see defendant, but she was turned out by defendant’s father and mother, the latter striking her several times.

By Mr. Jackson: She told him she would not live with him at the public house, but would live with him if he found a proper home for her.

Susannah Lakin said on the 14th Dec. her daughter visited her, and she accompanied her back to the BOOT INN, where she saw defendant. In answer to a question he replied that he should do nothing for her, and he had entirely done with her.

By Mr. Jackson: Witness fetched her daughter’s clothes away after she saw defendant who would do nothing for her daughter. *Samuel Bateman*, the defendant, sworn, said a fortnight after he was married his wife left him without any cause. In the evening she returned, but he did not see her. His wife had never asked for any money, but he had offered her some which she refused. She had never complained of being ill-treated, or asked him to find her a home.

Martha Bateman, mother of defendant, swore that the complainant asked her to let her stop at the house as servant. She knew no reason why her daughter-in-law left the house.

By Mr. Evans: Complainant was to keep on as servant after she was married. She admitted turning complainant out of the house. Mr. James said this was a sad case, and if the parties could come to terms and agree to live together it would be much better than if the court were to adjudicate on the case.

The defendant, his mother and solicitor then left the court, and on returning Mr. Jackson announced that defendant had offered to find a home for his wife in one month. The case was accordingly adjourned.”

1891 Census

Walsall Road – OLD BOOT INN

[1] *Henry Bateman* (41), coal miner and publican, born Leicester;

- [2] Martha Bateman (58), wife, born Dunstone Heath;
- [3] Harry Bateman (15), son, labourer, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] Charles Jackson (21), lodger, labour master, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] Ellen Hood (20), domestic servant, born Walsall Wood:

Henry Bateman – see also NEWPORT ARMS.

Birmingham Daily Post 17/8/1893

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Henry Bateman* was summoned for selling without a license at the NEWPORT ARMS, The Pleck. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the defendant, and pleaded not guilty.

The Chief Constable said that under these circumstances he should not ask the Bench to hear evidence, nor did he press for a heavy penalty. The defendant was the keeper of the BOAT INN, Walsall Wood, as manager for Mr. Roberts, and he exchanged houses with the manager of the NEWPORT ARMS, which was also one of Mr. Robert’s houses, and sold a couple of days before getting authority. A mistake had probably been made through the way in which business was done in the county, where the justices met less frequently than in the borough, and the people sold for a few days before formal authority had been obtained. A fine of 1s and costs was imposed, and a temporary authority granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Licensing Sessions for this district took place at the Rushall Police Court on Monday morning. The magistrates present were Messrs. F. James, W. H. Brookes and J. Naylor.

Superintendent Barnett opposed the renewal of the licenses of the following houses.....

BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, on the ground that the premises were difficult to supervise on account of insufficient fencing at the back. Renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1895

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday, at the house of Mr. *John Penton*, the BOOT INN, Walsall Wood.....”

John Penton – see also NEWPORT ARMS.

Lichfield Mercury 24/3/1899

“*Henry Bateman*, of the BOAT INN, Walsall Wood, applied for authority to sell at the Grange Farm from 11 till 6pm on the 29th inst, the occasion being a sale. Granted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/12/1899

“In Walsall County Court, on Thursday, before his Honour Judge Young, an action came on for hearing in which Edward Sale of Coppice Road, Walsall, claimed of *Henry Bateman*, of the BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, the sum of £12 10s damages in lieu of the delivery of a bicycle alleged to be won by the plaintiff in a five-mile race at the Friendly Society Sports, Walsall Wood, on June 25. Evidence was given by the judge Mr. Breese, who stated that he decided that Sale won the race, and a programme was put in on which it was stated that the judge’s decision was to be final. On this his Honour found for the plaintiff for the amount claimed unless the bicycle was delivered up.”

Walsall Observer 27/1/1900

“On Friday evening, the 12th inst, a farewell supper was given by Mr. *Bateman* and a few friends at the BOOT INN, in honour of Messrs. James and William Baker and Robert Higgins, who were leaving for the front.....”

1901 Census

Lichfield Road – BOOT HOTEL

- [1] *Henry Bateman* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary J. Bateman (33), wife, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] Daisey Bateman (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Sidney Bateman (4), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Newall (24), general servant, born Newham Bridge, Staffordshire;
- [6] Elizabeth Astbury (23), general servant, born Pelsall;
- [7] Ann Blakemore (10), niece, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week at the house of Mr. *Henry Bateman*, the BOOT HOTEL, Walsall Wood.....”

Walsall Advertiser 22/6/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday (13th) at the house of Mr. *Henry Bateman*, BOOT HOTEL, Walsall Wood.....”

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1912

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

Mr. Arthur Cresswell, STAND TAVERN, Newport Road, was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy on the executive committee caused by the resignation of Mr. *Henry Bateman*, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Observer 10/5/1913

“Scenes of an exciting character were witnessed on Wednesday night as the result of a mad gallop of a horse which bolted at Walsall Wood and continued its flight into Lichfield Street, a distance of over three miles. The horse was attached to a trap, belonging to Mr. Morgan, wholesale grocer, of Vicarage Place, and was left outside the BOAT INN, Walsall Wood, about seven o’clock. A traveller named Samuel Allen, of Arundel Street, and a boy named William Murphy, of Duncalfe Street, had been in the vehicle, but Allen had to make a call and the boy got out afterwards. Soon after the horse took fright, and galloped madly away, but although in the course of its journey it passed several tram cars and numerous other vehicles the animal did not collide with anything. Several attempts were made to stop the horse, one of the pluckiest being by Police-constable Cross, at Rushall. The officer, although being unable to hold the animal, scrambled into the trap, only, however, to find himself helpless as there were no reins. In jumping out again the constable fell but fortunately escaped injury. In Lichfield Street the horse slackened its pace somewhat, and it was eventually stopped by a man named Arthur Bebb, of Butts Street.”

Lichfield Mercury 18/2/1921

“At the annual Licensing Sessions for the Rushall Division on Monday.....

The whole of the licenses would be renewed with the exception of a number of houses which would be visited, and where alterations were needed, chiefly for living accommodation and better sanitary conditions. The houses to be visited were.....

BOOT INN, Walsall Wood.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1921

“The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....

All the licenses would be renewed with the exception of.....

BOOT INN, Walsall Wood.....

In these cases, alterations were necessary, and the Bench would defer consideration until they had visited the premises and inspected the plans.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

“At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....

Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....

On the ground of redundancy.....

BOOT INN, Walsall Wood.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/4/1927

“At Rushall Police Court, on Monday, *Percy Jacques*, BOOT INN, Walsall Road, Walsall Wood, was summoned for failing to send his child Vera regularly to school.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/5/1938

“Sixteen applications, granted earlier in the year by the local justices, remained to be dealt with when an adjourned meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Confirmation Committee was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Tuesday.....

William Lowe applied successfully for the removal of the full license of the BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, to premises to be erected in Salters Road, Walsall Wood. Mr. Brown explained that the license would be moved from a district well served to one where there were no facilities. If the application were granted, the owners were prepared to surrender the license of an off-license known as the Vigo Stores.”

Walsall Observer 4/3/1939 - Advert

“P. Plested, Car Dismantler, Boatman Lane (back of BOOT INN), Walsall Wood, Breaking Austin 16 and 7; Palatine; Morris Isis; Oxford, Cowley and Minor; Hillman, and others. Good, used Spares for Sale.”

Closed

Walsall Observer 17/2/1940

“The Bench granted Mr. S. L. Edwards a music, singing and dancing license in respect of a room at the de-licensed premises formerly known as the BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, from 7.30 until 10.30, one of the stipulations being that there should be no admissions after ten o’clock.”

Walsall Observer 15/9/1945

“At a meeting of the Council in Committee a letter had been read from Mr. James Homer, of Walsall, enquiring whether there were any restrictions upon the OLD BOOT INN, Walsall Wood, to prevent its use as a leather goods factory. He was informed that no restrictions would be imposed and the proposed change of use was approved.”

Demolished

Check BOAT and BOOT.

OLD CHURCH AND BELL

9, (2), Church Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Lee [1811] – [1818]

Mary Lee [1822] – [1834]

James Flinders [1841] – **1844**)

George Flinders [1845]

Mrs. Hannah Flinders [1849] – [1851]

Charles Welch [1851] – [1870]

NOTES

2, Church Street [1851]

9, Church Street

CHURCH [1818], [1822], [1828], [1830]

BELL [1834], [1837], [1857]

OLD CHURCH [1842], [1845], [1849], [1850], [1854], [1858]

OLD CHURCH AND BELL [1858], [1861]

CHURCH AND BELL [1862]

It had a beerhouse license.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 18/12/1837 - Advert

“The BELL Public House, Church Street, Walsall.

To be disposed of by Private Contract, the Good-will, Licenses, &c, with immediate possession of the above old-established house, with Shopping, Stabling, Gig-house, Piggery, Bowling-alley, and other conveniences thereunto attached.

The Fixtures, Brewing Utensils, &c, which are excellent, to be taken at a fair valuation. Rent under £20, coming-in from £60 upwards.

The present occupier is leaving on account of other engagements.

For particulars apply on the premises.”

1841 Census

Church Street

[1] *James Flinders* (30), publican;

[2] *Mary Flinders* (25);

[3] *George Flinders* (10);

[4] *Hannah Flinders* (65);

[5] *Mary Walker* (35);

[6] *James Swift* (30), born Staffordshire;

[7] *Letticha Nickles* (25):

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/5/1844 - Deaths

“On the 15th ult, at Walsall, aged 42 years, Mr. *James Flinders*, of the BELL public-house, Newport Street, formerly of Nottingham.”

1851 Census

2, Church Street

[1] *Charles Welch* (43), plumber and glazier, born Walsall;

- [2] Hannah Welch (42), wife, born Nottingham;
[3] Hannah Flinders (74), mother, widow, born Nottingham;
[4] Cary Kilrey (36), visitor, born Nottingham;
[5] William Kilrey (8), son, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1854

“Between twelve and one o’clock on Tuesday night, the 22nd August, seven or eight young men of dissolute habits were boxing with gloves in the OLD CHURCH TAVERN, a low public-house, in Church Street when two of them, named respectively John Nicholls and James Barber, quarrelled, and Nicholls produced a poker with which to strike Barber, but was prevented by the landlord, who expelled him from the house. In about half an hour Nicholls returned, and desired to be readmitted, but was not. In a short time Barber and his companions, five in number went out, and the quarrel between Barber and Nicholls was resumed. Blows were exchanged, and Barber knocked his antagonist down with the back of his head upon the curbstone of the footpath. In about an hour afterwards he was found by a man named Waldron, who took him into the OLD CHURCH TAVERN, and gave him some brandy. He was afterwards removed to the house of his mother, in Goston’s yard where medical assistance was obtained, and it was found that a portion of the skull had been forced in. He spoke only once, viz, on Wednesday night, when he said ‘Barber did it; Barber struck me,’ and died on Saturday night last. Barber absconded on the Wednesday before, but was apprehended last Monday evening by Inspector Price, of Rushall, in a corn field, about two miles from the town, in company with a girl of loose character, who had supplied him with food in his hiding place ever since he had absconded. On Tuesday an inquest was held upon the body of the deceased Nicholls, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, at the QUEENS HEAD, in Church Street, and after a lengthened investigation, and twenty minutes’ deliberation, the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against James Barber, who was forthwith committed by the Coroner for trial at the Assizes. Barber is only 18 years of age, a plater, and like the deceased, was a constant associate of females of disrepute. It is a melancholy coincidence, that just twenty years ago, Barber’s father killed a man named Starling, in a fight in Delves Green, and was tried for the offence.”

[At the Staffordshire Assizes in March 1855, the case against James Barber was dismissed, it was thought his lengthy remand waiting for trial was punishment enough.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/11/1854

“On Wednesday Thomas Holman, landlord of the WHITE LION, Little London, was fined 30s and costs for keeping his house open on Sunday week during prohibited hours by the recent Act. It was the second offence, and the Bench warned him that its repetition would lead to the suspension of his license. *Charles Welch* and Samuel Cooper, were each fined 10s for a similar offence.”

Walsall Free Press 7/2/1857

“Town Council, Quarterly Meeting.....

The Clerk stated a letter had been received from Mr. Duignan, clerk to the Union representing the great increase of a certain degrading disease, and its natural consequence of poverty; mention the bad character of the BELL, in Church Street, and the PIGEON in the Ditch, and calling their attention to the suppression of these nuisances. Mr. Cater was called in, and explained the difficulty connected with the interference of these house, they, generally taking care to keep within the limits of the law.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“On Wednesday afternoon an inquest was opened at the QUEENS HEAD, Church Street, Walsall, before Mr. A. A. Fletcher, on the body of John Springthorpe, who came to his death on the previous Tuesday, after fighting with Richard Garbett, as detailed in the evidence before the Magistrates. Mr. Wilkinson appeared to watch the case behalf of *Welsh*, who keeps the OLD CHURCH AND BELL, and who is charged with aiding and abetting Garbett in the attack upon the deceased. Maria Scully repeated the evidence she had given on the Wednesday before the Magistrates, firmly adhering to her statement that *Welsh* was the instigator of the attack. A number of witnesses were called – Hannah Cooper, William Thomson, William Bird, Joseph Bartholomew, and Isaac Whitlick – whose evidence generally corroborated that of Maria Scully, except in regard to Garbett having taken hold of the deceased’s handkerchief. All agreed that *Welsh* ‘squared’ at the deceased, who was peaceable and quiet, the only one who cast any doubt upon this point being Bartholomew, who said that when *Welsh* was stated to be running about the street stripped, the deceased said, ‘I’ll have some fun now, and soon make *Welsh* go into his house.’ All agreed that *Welsh* made the first demonstrations against the deceased; that he afterwards entered the house, some hearing him call ‘Dick’, after which Garbett rushed from the entry and attacked the deceased. It appeared plain that Garbett compelled the deceased to fight. When attacked the latter said he was an old man when compared with Garbett, and did not wish to fight. *Welsh* encouraged Garbett to attack the deceased, urging him to ‘have another round at him’ after the poor fellow had received the death blow. Bird, who saw the fight, said that in the last round Garbett seized the deceased by his collar and brace with his left hand and dealt him a violent blow on the throat with his right hand, on which the deceased fell. He complained of his throat, and died soon afterwards. Mr. E. J. Marshall, surgeon, who had made a post mortem examination, deposed to the effect that the throat of the deceased, of which he complained before death, was seriously injured. The bone and cartilage of the throat was injured, and there was a good deal of congestion about the larynx and the muscles of the glottis. His opinion was that the injuries were the result of a blow when the head was thrown backwards. The witness opened the larynx to relieve the breathing, with the concurrence of Mr. Edwards, surgeon, and in his presence. The injuries in the throat were the only means of accounting for death. The inquest was adjourned to Thursday evening, when some further witnesses were called, and the jury, after five hours’ deliberation, terminating at nearly half past eleven, returned a verdict of ‘Wilful Murder’ against Garbett as the direct perpetrator of the fatal act, and against *Welsh* as aiding and abetting, and the Coroner issued his warrant for their committal.

On Friday they were brought up before C. Eyland Mayor, F. B. Oerton, W. Ward. C. Greatrex, and H. Highway, Esqs, and were committed for trial at Stafford assizes.

It is remarkable that the last inquest held at the OLD QUEENS ARMS was to inquire into the death of a man killed in a somewhat similar manner at the house of *Welsh* four years ago.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“The name of *Charles Welch* of the OLD CHURCH AND BELL INN, Church Street, was erased from the list of licensed victualers. *Welch*, it will be recollected, has been committed in company with Richard Garbett, for wilful murder. The house has been conducted in a disreputable manner. The Bench [Walsall Licensing] expressed their determination of depriving every licensed house that was badly conducted of its license.....”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... applications for renewal of old licenses, and the granting of new ones.

The Mayor, at the commencement of the business, intimated that it was the intention of the Bench to withdraw the license from the OLD CHURCH AND BELL Public-house kept by *Charles Welsh*.

Mr. Oerton said it was not only intended to withhold the license from the present landlord, but from the house, as it would be a mere farce to refuse it to one landlord and grant it to another. Here two houses (the BULLS HEAD and the OLD CHURCH AND BELL) had been a disgrace to the town; and he hoped that the example made by the Bench would serve as a warning to other publicans.”

AND

“The application on behalf of *Charles Welsh*, landlord of the OLD CHURCH AND BELL, Church Street, and who was last week committed to Stafford Gaol by a Coroner’s warrant on a charge of murder, was likewise refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/10/1858

“The quarter sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Tuesday morning last at the Guildhall.....

Charles Welch, who was some time ago committed for trial on a charge of wilful murder, has been admitted to bail by a Judge at Chambers.”

Walsall Free Press 30/10/1858 - Notice

“In The Matter Of *Charles Welch*, upon the occasion of the death of Mr. Springthorpe.

Some months ago, *Charles Welch*, of the public house called the BELL, in Church Street, Walsall, was accused of Manslaughter upon the body of Mr. Springthorpe.

Mr. *Welch* can afford to the generous public, upon any trial that may take place, sufficient grounds of his conduct for some years past; and in furtherance of such conduct can produce the most undeniable references to his character, both in social and public life.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/12/1858

“The business of the Winter Assizes for the county of Stafford.....

Two of the prisoners, Richard Garbett and *Charles Welch*, were charged with wilful murder at Walsall, for which crime the Grand Jury returned a true bill. The offence, however, as will be seen from our report, resolved itself in the course of the trial into that of manslaughter, and the prisoners having been found guilty, were sentenced to three months’ imprisonment with hard labour, the previous good character of Garbett, by whose immediate act the death of the deceased man Springthorpe was caused, being taken into account by Mr. Baron Bramwell, the Judge who presided.”

1861 Census

9, Church Street

[1] *Charles Welch* (53), publican, born Bloxwich;

[2] Hannah Welch (53), wife, born Nottingham;

[3] David Welch (21), son, painter, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 29/6/1861

“The Church Street Brothels. Johanna Rollason, a resident at the back of the CHURCH AND BELL beerhouse, Church Street, was charged with stealing 18s from the person of John Lyons, on Saturday last. She too had the benefit of the prosecutor’s absence, and was discharged.”

Charles Welch, beer retailer, 9, Church Street. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Yesterday being the day appointed for granting beerhouse licenses the following magistrates were present: J. Hildick (Mayor), S. Stephens, F. B. Oerton, J. W. Newman, H. Brace, and J. Brewer, Esqs. There were 133 applications; and all except the following had their licenses granted.....

Charles Welch, landlord of the OLD CHURCH AND BELL, Church Street, in the yard behind whose house are a number of brothels, and who had his license taken from him some years ago.”

Charles Welch was the uncle of Ann Whittall of the GLOBE, Bridgeman Street.

OLD DOG

20, (24), (22), Pool Street, (Lime Pit Bank), WALSALL

OWNERS

Samuel Perks, Preswlfed, Rhyl
Lichfield Brewery Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Charles Startin [1834] – [1851]
Henry Shaw [1855]
Samuel Johns [1857] – [1870]
Charles James [1869] – [1875];
Mrs. Elizabeth James [];
Edward Roberts [1881] – **1890**);
John Darby [1892] ?
Joseph Henry Jeffries (**1890 – 1893**);
John Price (**1893 – 1894**);
Joseph Eden (**1894 – 1896**);
Thomas Russon (**1896 – 1900**);
Thomas V Hawley (**1900 – 1914**);
Mrs. Kate Hawley (**1914 – 1923**):

NOTES

24, Pool Street [1864], [1865]
22, Pool Street [1872]
20, Pool Street [1858], [1860], [1881], [1896], [1901]
20+21, Pool Street [1911]

DOG [1835], [1842], [1845], [1851], [1853], [1871], [1872], [1885]
OLD DOG [1860], [1861], [1865], [1868], [1875], [1881], [1891], [1892], [1893], [1901], [1903], [1908], [1914]
SPOTTED DOG [1888]

Charles Startin was also a brass founder and coach and harness plater. [1834], [1845]

1841 Census

Pool Street

- [1] *Charles Startin* (60), plater, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Susan Startin (50), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Charles Startin (10), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Hannah Startin (12), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Jane Brown (15), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [6] Edward Bates (15), ms;
- [7] Richard Buckler (15), apprentice, born Staffordshire;
- [8] George James (15), apprentice, born Staffordshire;
- [9] John Bevington (40), cl(?), born Staffordshire:

London Gazette 8/6/1849

“Whereas a Petition of *Charles Startin*, at present and for one year and three months now last past lodging with James Startin and Charles Startin, of Pool-street, in Walsall, in the county of Stafford, and for twenty years theretofore living in Pool-street, in Walsall aforesaid, Brass and Silver Coach-harness Manufacturer, and Publican, but now out of business, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Charles Startin*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Charles Startin* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 19th day of June instant, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, for his first ex-

amination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Charles Startin*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. William Cotterill, Clerk of the said Court, at his office, in Bridge-street, Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent."

1851 Census

Pool Street

- [1] *Charles Startin* (73), brass founder, born Lichfield;
- [2] Susan Startin (58), wife, born Trysull;
- [3] Charles Startin (20), son, plater, born Walsall;
- [4] William Caddick (30), lodger, plater, born Worley [Wyrley?], Staffordshire;
- [5] John Smith (18), apprentice to plater, born Walsall;
- [6] Alfred Woolley (14), apprentice to plater caster, born Walsall;
- [7] Tertius Green (12), apprentice to plater, born Walsall;
- [8] Margaret Coffee (18), house servant, born Ireland:

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/4/1852

"Geo. Allin will Sell by Auction, at the DOG INN, Lime-Pit Bank, on Monday, the 12th day of April 1852, and following day if necessary, all the valuable Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, Public-House Fixtures, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *Charles Startin*, who is giving up business, consisting of four-post and other bedsteads, feather beds, oak dining and other tables, deal table and tressels, deal bench, screens, &c, 12 extra large-size ale casks, excellent coolers and other tubs, 2 capital wash tubs, 100 gallon copper furnace, 2 iron furnaces, 2 beer machines, 5 light gas meter, &c; also a capital shaking machine, turning lathes, polishing ditto, casting pots, about 2 tons of malleable castings, bellows, tools, and other stock, upon the above premises.

Sale to commence at ten o'clock.

Catalogues may be had at the Auctioneer's Offices, Bridge Street."

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/7/1853 - Advert

"To Publicans.

By George Allin. To be Disposed of by Private Treaty, the Licenses, Goodwill, and Immediate Possession of that old-established Public-house, known by the sign of the DOG INN, Pool Street, Walsall, situate in a populous and improving part of the town, and now doing twelve bushels a week.

The Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, &c, may be taken to at a fair valuation.

For particulars apply to Geo. Allin, Auctioneer and Public-house agent, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/9/1854 - Advert

"Walsall, Staffordshire. Capital old-licensed Public-House.

To Be Sold By Private Treaty, by Messrs. Allin and Flanagan, the License, Goodwill, and valuable Possession of the DOG INN, Pool Street, Walsall, now doing a good ready-money in and out-door business. A portion of the Household Furniture, Fixtures, &c, may be taken to at a fair valuation. Coming-in about £80. Satisfactory reasons will be given for the present proprietor declining the business.

For particulars, and to treat, apply to the Auctioneers, at their Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall, and High Street, Wednesbury."

Birmingham Journal 6/1/1855

"*Henry Shaw*, the DOG INN, Pool Street, was fined 5s and costs, for an offence against his license."

Walsall Free Press 17/1/1857

"An inquest was held at the OLD DOG INN, Pool Street, on Thursday last, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, on the body of William Holt, aged twenty-four, who had cut his throat with a pen-knife on the previous Monday. Mr. Pitt, surgeon, had been attending the deceased for some days for a severe complaint, from which he could not have recovered, neither could he have lived many hours, which the result of the post mortem examination had proved. The wound made in the throat would not have resulted fatally to a person in good health. There was no doubt he was temporarily insane from the influence of the disease under which he was suffering. Mary Holt, wife of deceased, said her husband had been subject to melancholy, but had never threatened to take his life till a few days previous to his death, when, under the influence of pain, he attempted to throw himself from the window. The jury returned a verdict of Temporary Insanity."

Walsall Free Press 4/4/1857

"*Samuel Johns*, landlord of the DOG INN, Pool Street, was charged with having on Monday night, the 30th instant, allowed card playing in his house contrary to the tenor of his license. Mr. Sill was retained for the defence. Police-constable Harris said he went to the defendant's house, and found four persons playing at cards. He heard one of them remark 'We shall lose this quart.' Mr. Sill examined the informant, and elicited that he went in and called for a glass of ale, he had a pipe in his mouth at the time, but he was not on duty. Mr. Sill, after commenting rather strongly on the conduct of the officer, stating that it was against the regulations of the service for an officer to be drinking in a public-house, called several witnesses, who distinctly averred that the game was only being played for pastime. The information was dismissed."

1861 Census

20, Poole Street – OLD DOG INN

- [1] *Samuel Johns* (51), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Johns* (57), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *George Johns* (27), son, caster dresser, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Delamore* (29), house servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 26/6/1869

“*Charles James*, landlord of the DOG public-house, Pool Street, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer on Sunday last. Defendant admitted the charge, and was fined 1s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 9/10/1869

“About half-past nine o’clock yesterday morning, *Benjamin Wesley*, aged 64, a silver-plater, residing at Paddock, was found dead at the bottom of a stair case leading to his brother’s workshop, in a yard in Paddock Lane. Deceased was at the DOG public-house, Pool Street, and left shortly before one o’clock, and at the time appeared quite well. While at the DOG he had three pints of ale and some bread and cheese. It is supposed deceased had gone to sleep in the workshop and had fallen down stairs and fractured his skull. When found he was lying with his face downward, his face being covered by his cap, which was full of blood. Mr. Palmer, surgeon, who was called by Sergeant Mason, gave it as his opinion that deceased had died from fracture of the skull.”

1871 Census

20, Pool Street – DOG

- [1] *Charles James* (38), victualler and silver plater, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ann Maria James* (38), wife, born Leicester;
- [3] *David Brodes* (?) (23), born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/10/1874

“At the Guildhall, on Friday, *Charles James*, of the DOG INN, Pool Street, was charged with having his house open at ten minutes past twelve on Saturday night. Police-constable Wright said he saw a man leave the house with a bottle containing whisky at the time named, and the landlord offered him money to say nothing about it.

Evidence was produced that the whisky was required for a sick woman named Westley.

The Bench said but for the attempt to bribe a constable the summons would have been dismissed; as it was the defendant would be fined 2s 6d and costs.

The defendant said he never attempted to bribe the constable, and he would proceed against him for saying that he did.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 21/5/1875

“A summons against *Charles James*, OLD DOG INN, Pool Street, for having his house open in prohibited hours, was dismissed for want of evidence.

On hearing the decision, the defendant, who appeared to be greatly excited, handed over a sovereign for the Cottage Hospital.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

“Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

Charles James, the OLD DOG, Pool Street, was cautioned.”

1881 Census

20, Pool Street – OLD DOG INN

- [1] *Edward Roberts* (39), saddle tree maker and publican, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Sarah Roberts* (38), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Sarah Roberts* (14), daughter, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *William Roberts* (12), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *Edward Roberts* (10), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [6] *Elizabeth Roberts* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Emily Roberts* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Ada Roberts* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] *Thomas Roberts* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [10] *Charlotte Reeves* (69), mother in law, widow, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 3/1/1885

“Inquests in Walsall. On Saturday, at the DOG INN, Pool Street, on the body of *George Sanders* (34), a filer, who had lived at No.80, Walsingham Street, who died on Christmas Day. The evidence showed that deceased fell downstairs on Monday, the 22nd December, and received some injury, but was able to go to work on Wednesday. He was left in bed on Christmas Morning, apparently asleep; but when a cup of tea was taken up to him shortly afterwards, he was found dead in bed. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/12/1886

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Edward Roberts*, the DOG INN, Pool Street, was summoned for having permitted drunkenness on his premises. Mr. Duignan appeared for the defence, and in the end the summons was dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/1/1888

“On Saturday, Mr. T. H. Stanley, borough coroner, held an inquest at the SPOTTED DOG, Pool Street, on the body of Mary Frankham (47), wife of Charles Frankham, Selborne Street. It seemed that she had been of intemperate habits, particularly during the last three months. On Friday morning her husband took her a cup of tea, and found her sitting up in bed talking to herself. Being unable to understand what she said he sent for a doctor, but death took place before aid arrived. Verdict, Death from Natural Causes.”

Edward Roberts was fined £5 and costs and his license was endorsed, on 2nd May 1890, for opening on a Sunday morning.

1891 Census

20 and 21, Pool Street – OLD DOG INN

- [1] *Joseph H. Jeffries* (41), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Annie E. Jeffries (44), wife, born Nottingham;
- [3] Thomas Pennistone (38), boarder, brewer, born Leicester;
- [4] Kate Flynn (20), general servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/8/1893

“Mr. M. W. Pearman-Smith applied for a temporary authority to *John Price* at the OLD DOG INN, Pool Street. It seemed that on the 10th inst. Price was granted a temporary authority, which lasted until Tuesday, when he ought to have applied for further powers. He did not do so, however, neither he nor the outgoing tenant putting in an appearance, and when too late he found that he could not legally continue selling. A second temporary authority was now applied for. The Chief Constable objected, on the ground that the Bench had no authority to grant a second temporary authority; but it was explained that the men had acted in ignorance, especially the in-coming tenant, who had previously been a farmer, and the Bench decided to grant the application, at the same time stating that the decision must not be taken as a precedent.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/6/1894

“The first meeting of the creditors of *Price, John*, of the OLD DOG, Pool-street, Walsall, and the Conduit Farm, Watling-street-road, Norton, and trading as a licensed victualler and farmer, was held at the office of the Official Receiver (Mr. E. Pritchard), on Thursday. The deficiency, as shown in the statement, was £244 18s 6d, which included household expenses of self, wife, and two children, £78; law costs, £20; and £1 18s 6d unaccounted for. In his observations the Official Receiver says: the bankrupt assisted his father at his farm at the Conduit Farm, Norton Canes, until March, 1890, when the latter gave up the farm to him. He had no capital. He continued his occupancy of the farm up to the date of his petition. In August, 1893, he took the OLD DOG, Public House, Pool Street, Walsall. He paid £92 8s 7d as incoming tenant. He borrowed £100 from a money lender, to whom he and his wife and father gave a promissory note for £150 payable £8 6s 8d per month. He has paid £72 13s 4d. He managed the inn and employed a labourer to look after his land. Having been sued by several creditors he filed this petition. He states the causes of his insolvency as to be ‘sickness, law costs, interest on loans, and bad debts.’ He has not kept any books. His assets will not realise anything near the amount at which he estimates them.

Mr. *Price*’s public examination was afterwards taken before Mr. Registrar Clarke, and adjourned.”

Joseph Eden = Joseph Eaden

Walsall Advertiser 12/1/1895

“A young woman named Emma Salt (19), domestic servant, Talbot Yard, was charged with having stolen a bottle of sherry, value 1s 6d, the property of *Joseph Eaden*, landlord of the OLD DOG INN, Pool Street. Mrs. *Eaden* said the prisoner had been in her employ as domestic servant. Just before Christmas she missed a bottle of sherry from the club room, and on prisoner’s return from her holiday she accused her of having taken it and she answered ‘Yes.’ On Saturday she came for her clothes, but witness refused to let her have them until she paid for the wine. In reply to the Clerk (Mr. Newman), Mrs. *Eaden* said that if the prisoner had paid for the wine she would not have been prosecuted.

The Bench thereupon dismissed the case.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1897

“John (?) *Eden*, of 64, Eldon Street, was summoned for assaulting Clara *Eden*, his wife. Mr. H. H. Jackson, who appeared for the complainant, said the parties had previously kept the DOG INN, Pool Street, but for certain reasons they had removed to a private house, the public-house now being kept by complainant’s parents. On the 12th inst, she had occasion to assist her mother, and on returning home she found that the door was locked. She got the assistance of a policeman, and defendant admitted her, but subsequently when she retired to rest he struck her a violent blow and kicked her out of bed.

Complainant having given evidence in support, defendant alleged his wife was in the habit of going drinking at her mother’s house, and was also very violent. In answer to this complainant denied the allegations, and said she simply went to her mother’s to assist.

The Bench did not consider the evidence sufficient to convict, and dismissed the case.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/12/1898

“Arthur Beebee, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Lower Rushall Street, was summoned for keeping open his house during prohibited hours on the 24th inst; and *Thomas Russon*, of the OLD DOG INN, Pool Street, was summoned for a like offence on the 21st December.

Chief Constable Taylor said he had brought the cases as a warning, as there was a growing habit amongst the licensed victuallers of the town of selling right up to closing time, the consequences being that they did not close their houses till after 11 o'clock.

About a week ago a publican who was cautioned remarked that he did not think it was so late, as the policeman on the beat had not cautioned him. If publicans thought policemen were going to conduct publican's business they were very much mistaken.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who appeared for the defence, instructed by the Licensed Victuallers' Association, said with regard to *Russon's* case, this case was different to the other one. Here the house was closed at 11 o'clock. There, however, had been a leakage in a pipe, and Mrs. *Russon* had sent for a workman named Turton to repair it. The man came with a soldering iron, and was working down the cellar, and did not finish till five minutes past 11 o'clock.

Mr. Taylor (Chief Constable) said that was not how the matter was reported to him. According to the report he had, two men left the house. Perhaps Mr. Jackson would explain that.

Mr. Jackson: I want the officer to explain. I only know of one.

Police-constable 22 (Burdett) gave evidence as to visiting the defendant's house, the OLD DOG, on December 21st, and said that there were two men, their names being Mason and Horton. He called the landlord's attention to the matter, and he said, 'We have only been having a friendly chat. Give the officer your names.'

Mr. Jackson: The second man is a myth.

The officer was cross-examined by Mr. Jackson with a view to show that the name given the officer was Turton not Horton.

Turton was here asked to stand up in court and did so.

Police-constable Burdett: That is not one of the men.

Mr. Jackson: Then there were three men?

Mr. Newman (deputy magistrates' clerk): Apparently. And you will have to explain the other two men.

Mr. Jackson: It must be different men and a different house (laughter).

The Chief Constable: I say nothing about Turton. It's the other two I want you to explain away.

Mrs. *Russon* then gave evidence bearing out the statement of Mr. Jackson for the defence. Her husband was fastening the door when she called his attention to Mr. Turton mending the pipe. Turton had a hammer in his hand as he went out. Mason had left at 11 o'clock, and when he saw the door open for Turton to come out, Mason came to the door and wanted to come in. The house was closed at 11 o'clock, and the only person who went out was Mr. Turton.

Cross-examined by Mr. Taylor: He said 'You know me. My name is Turton, and I live by John Horton's.'

The case was dismissed.”

1901 Census

20, Pool Street – Tavern – The OLD DOG

[1] *Thomas V. Hawley* (35), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Kate Hawley* (39), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Thomas W. Hawley* (11), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Maud Hawley* (10), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Bernard Hawley* (6), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1901

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *Thomas Hawley*, OLD DOG INN, Pool Street (licensed victualler) was elected a member of the Executive Committee.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/9/1903

“George Lyons (39), labourer, Box Street, was charged with stealing a fowl from the OLD DOG INN, Pool Street, on Saturday.

A witness named Williams stated that while he was at work in a room overlooking the back premises of the OLD DOG he saw the prisoner seize a fowl which was walking about, and take it into an outhouse. Witness immediately informed Wm. Walton, the brewer of the public-house. The latter deposed that he accused prisoner of stealing the fowl, but Lyons denied any knowledge of the bird. On being searched, however, the fowl was discovered dead tied to his waist by a cord and wire.

Thomas Hawley, landlord of the OLD DOG, also gave evidence, adding that he did not wish to press the case.

Prisoner was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days' hard labour.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Thomas Hawley, The DOG.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/6/1907

“Dora Bridget Green, 42, Pool Street, was summoned for knowingly sending her son, Richard, aged 9, to the OLD DOG INN, Pool Street, for the purpose of obtaining whisky, which was not sold in a corked and sealed vessel. *Thomas Hawley*, landlord of the public house, was summoned for knowingly selling whisky to the boy, in an unsealed vessel.

Police-constable Stopford (59) stated that at 10.40pm on Saturday, the 1st inst, he was in Pool Street, when he saw a boy come out of the OLD DOG INN. When he saw the policeman the boy ran across the road into a house. The boy was carrying the cup (produced) which he ascertained contained twopennyworth of whisky. Witness followed the boy into the house, but he could not find him, and the mother said it was her son Richard. He went to the OLD DOG INN and saw Mr. *Hawley*, the landlord, and told him what he had seen, and he said he had not knowingly served the boy, and said his daughter had previously refused to serve the boy. The Chief Constable said he had really taken the case to summon the mother, as advantage had been taken to send the boy on a busy Saturday night.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who defended, said Mr. *Hawley* was serving in the out-door department, and the cup and 2d was put in the trap door and when asked what it was for a woman answered two-pennyworth of whisky. He put the whisky and handed it to the woman and he never saw a boy at all. It was his custom to refuse to serve young boys.

The woman admitted sending the boy, and she was fined 1s and costs (4s), and the Bench expressed the hope that it would be a warning to her. The case against the publican was dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1911

“John Kennedy, of 3 house, 13 House-row, was summoned by Wm. Henry Walton, of 11, Union Street, for assault, on Feb. 11th. Complainant alleged defendant was one of a gang who had been turned out of the OLD DOG public-house, Pool Street. He waylaid witness and struck him in the eye. The Chief Constable stated that complaints had been received about the gang mentioned by the complainant. Defendant admitted assaulting the complainant, but denied he blacked his eye. Fined 10s and costs or fourteen days.”

1911 Census

20+21, Pool Street

- [1] *Thomas V. Hawley* (45), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Kate Hawley* (50), wife, married 25 years, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas W. Hawley* (21), son, draper's assistant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Maud Hawley* (20), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Bernard J. S. Hawley* (16), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 24/10/1914

“The annual dinner in connection with the OLD DOG Musical Society was held at the OLD DOG INN, Pool Street, on Tuesday night. After a capital repast, provided by the hostess, Mrs. *Hawley*, there was an excellent concert, the programme of which included: Pianoforte solo, Mr. Auliffe; songs, Messrs. C. Meeson, B. Hawley, A. Allbut, and E. Coley, and a recitation by Mr. H. Hawley. During the interval, the President (Mr. F. Wood) made a presentation of a ladies hand-bag to Miss Maud Hawley, Miss Hawley suitably responding. Mr. J. Cooper (vice-president) proposed a vote of thanks to the Hostess and the pianist (Mr. Auliffe), which was carried with applause.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
OLD DOG, Pool Street. £0 13s 2d.”

It had a full size bagatelle table. [1923]

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority in 1923.

It closed on 15th October 1923.

OLD GOLDEN CUP

Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Smith [1798]

Henry Lycett [1813]

Jonathan Smith [1818]
Joseph Smith [1822]

NOTES

GOLDEN CUP [1798], [1813], [1820]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/10/1798 - Advert

“Freehold.

To be Sold by Auction, by Randle Walker, on Monday the 8th day of October, 1798, between the hours of Two and Four o'clock in the Afternoon, at Mr. *Smith's*, the GOLDEN CUP, on Park Street, Walsall, subject to Conditions then to be produced.

Lot I. All the Messuage or Tenement, consisting of a Cellar, Kitchen, Shop, and three Lodging Rooms, situate in Park Street, in Walsall, in the Occupation of Mr. Joseph Platt, at a yearly rent of £5 6s.

Lot II. All the Messuage or Tenement, adjoining the above Premises, known by the RED LION, consisting of three exceeding good Vaults, Kitchen, Parlour, and back Kitchen, five Lodging Rooms a Pump of excellent Water, Brewhouse, and Chamber over the same, with an entire Yard, in the Occupation of Mr. John Sheldon; also a small tenement adjoining, in the Occupation of Mr. Thomas Ketland, together at a yearly rent of £18.

The Premises are under Lease, herein, four years are unexpired at lady Day next.....”

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

“A list of Waggons, &c....

Ling's Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Durham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and all parts of the North, from his warehouse, *Henry Lycett's*, GOLDEN CUP, Park Street, every Sunday and Thursday night, returns every Tuesday and Saturday morning, for Birmingham and all parts of the kingdom.

Solloway carrier loads at *Henry Lycett's*, GOLDEN CUP, Park Street, for Lichfield and all parts of the North.

Richard Harris, carrier, loads at *Henry Lycett's*, GOLDEN CUP, Park Street, for Wolverhampton, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Ashmore loads at *Henry Lycett's*, GOLDEN CUP, every Tuesday for Sheffield.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/2/1818 - Notice

“By Order of the Court for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors.....

Henry Lycett, late of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Publican now prisoners in his Majesty's Gaol of Stafford, for Debt, will be examined before his Majesty's Justices of the Peace at an adjournment of the General Session of the Peace, which will be holden at Stafford, on Saturday the 21st day of March.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/4/1820

“To Serve Mares This Season.....

Cesario, sire of Eccleston, Donna Clara, Fourth of June, &c, &c. See Racing Calendar.

He will be at GOLDEN CUP, Walsall. See hand Bills.”

OLD GRAND

Station Street / Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Grigg and Brettell Ltd.

Ansells Ltd. [1960s]

LICENSEES

George Edwin Morrell (1941 – 1942);

William Alfred Little (1942 – 1943);

Albert Turner (1943 – 1946);

William Platt (1946 – [1966])

NOTES

It was originally ALEXANDRA CONCERT HALL, built on the site of Charles Cooke's beer and wine shop. [1893]

ALEXANDRA THEATRE

It became a cinema. [1930s]

It was destroyed by fire in 1939.

The OLD GRAND opened at 6pm on 1st May 1941.

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
OLD GRAND VAULTS, Park Street. £2 16s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

OLD GRAND, Park Street. £9 1s 9d.”

[1960s]

OLD HOUSE AT HOME

29, Portsea Street, (29, Leamore), (Leamore Lane), (31, (29), (10), Portland Street), (Providence Street), Leamore, (Cockshots), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Collins

Abraham Collins

Mrs. Ruth Daniels

William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

William Collins [1858] – [1876];

Abraham Collins [1881] – [1888];

Job Daniels [];

Mrs. Ruth Daniels [1891] – **1894**);

John Frederick Bunney (**1894 – 1905**);

Ruth Bunney (**1905 – 1906**);

John Howard (**1906 – 1910**);

William James Howard (**1910 – 1912**);

Henry ‘Harry’ Tolley (**1912 – 1934**);

Harold Oakes (**1934 – 1943**);

Reginald Esketh Oakes (**1943 – 1957**);

Daniel Smith (**1957 – 1960**);

Trevor Joseph Charles Green (**1960** – [1966])

NOTES

10, Portland Street [1871]

29, Leamore

Providence Street [1881]

29, Portsea Street [1881], [1932], [1939], [1940]

29, Portland Street [1891]

31, Portland Street [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers’ licenses.....
William Collins, Leamore Lane, Bloxwich. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....
William Collins, Bloxwich. Refused.”

1861 Census

Cockshots – OLD HOUSE HOME

- [1] *William Collins* (54), snaffle bit maker, master, born Walsall;
- [2] Rebecca Collins (44), wife, born Oakengates, Shropshire;
- [3] *Abraham Collins* (16), son, snaffle bit filer, born Walsall;
- [4] Joseph Greenwood (17), apprentice snaffle bit filer, born Faisley [Fazeley?], Staffordshire;
- [5] Edward Cole (16), apprentice snaffle bit filer, born Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861

“The business of the general licensing day then commenced. There were seventeen applications.....
Mr. Wilkinson then applied on behalf of Mr. *William Collins*, Portland Street, Leamore Lane, whose house was situated (he stated) in a new district. License refused.”

William Collins, retailer of beer, Bloxwich. [1862]

William Collins, beer retailer and bit maker, Leamore Lane. [1865]

William Collins, beer retailer and bridle bit maker, Leamore Lane. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

10, Portland Street

- [1] *William Collins* (68), bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Rebecca Collins (60), wife, born Oakengates, Shropshire;
- [3] Charles William Collins (8), general servant, born Blakenall;
- [4] John Olex ____ (21), general servant, born Aston, Warwickshire:

The licensee was fined 20s and costs, on 19th January 1874, for suffering gaming in his house.

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session..... The licenses of the undermentioned were renewed with cautions.....
William Collins, beerhouse keeper, Leamore, Bloxwich In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Ryecroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

Abraham Collins was the son of *William*.

1881 Census

29, Portsea Street

- [1] *Abraham Collins* (37), bridle bit maker and licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Mary A. Collins (36), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Alfred Collins (7), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Thomas Collins (6), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Joseph Collins (1 day), son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Jane Wright (66), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [7] Edward Pardow (21), boarder, bridle bit maker, born Wolverhampton;
- [8] Charles Wilks (17), boarder, bridle bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Henry Wilks (16), boarder, bridle bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Elizabeth Rogers (14), barmaid, born Bloxwich:

Wednesbury Herald 6/5/1882 - Advert

“The OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Bloxwich. To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Hawkins and Son, (under a Bill of Sale), on Wednesday, the 10th day of May, 1882, the whole of the Public House Fixtures, Copper, Furnace, Wood Vats, Brewing Utensils, Malt Crusher, Hop Press, Beer Machine, Piping and Taps, Tap, Table, Drinking Tables, Screens, Chairs, Sofa, Washing Stands, Dressing Tables, Feather Beds, Bedsteads, Anvils, Hammers, Vices, Files, Burnishing Tools, Bellows, Finished and Unfinished Stock, and Effects in and upon the above Premises.....”

The licensee was fined 20s and costs, on 30th March 1885, for Sunday trading.

Walsall Observer 24/9/1887

“Walsall Licensing Sessions

The adjourned annual licensing meeting was held yesterday, at the Sessions Court.....

Applications which had been adjourned owing to the tenants having been convicted during the past year.

The following were granted.....

OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Bloxwich.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1888

“*Abraham Collins*, keeper of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Leamore was summoned for being drunk on his own premises on the night of the 2nd inst, he was ordered to pay costs.”

1891 Census

29, Portland Street

[1] *Ruth Daniels* (48), widow, beerseller, born Austrey, Warwickshire;

[2] Hannah Law (18), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

J. Bunney = J. Bunny

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1895

“National Order Of Free Gardeners. On Saturday night a new Lodge, under the Walsall New District of the above friendly society, was opened at the HOUSE AT HOME, Portland Street, Leamore. After the formal opening by the D.M. (Bro. A. J. Hulse), assisted by the D.D.M (Bro. Thos. Wilson), a good number of young men were introduced and initiated into the mysteries of the Order, and the newly-made members were briefly addressed by the district officers, who explained to them the advantages of membership of the Order. The new members then proceeded to elect their officers, with the following result: L.M., Bro. W. Morris; D.L.M., Bro. A. Morris; S.W., Bro. T. Collins; J.W., Bro. T. Dawson; secretary, Bro. E. Davis; and treasurer, Bro. *J. F. Bunny*. After the officers had been installed in their respective positions, the host (Bro. *Bunny*) promised to do all that lay in his power to make the ‘Rise of Leamore’ Lodge second to none in the district. In addition to the above district officers, there were present also Bros. T. Murphy, D.S., E. Davis, E.D., B. Baugh, J. Jones, G. Arms, W. Campbell, W. Clay, &c. This lodge will hold its meetings on alternate Saturdays, from 7 to 9 o’clock.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/10/1898

“On Monday evening the members and committee of the Leamore and District Floral and Horticultural Society, together with a few friends, held their third annual dinner in the clubroom of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Portland Street. A capital spread was put on the table by Host *J. Bunny*, and full justice was done to the good things provided. After the cloths were drawn, a smoking concert was held, at which Councillor Cope took the chair. In the course of a few remarks, he (the chairman) urged the desirability of extending the radius for exhibitors, for, at present, the shortness of the radius prevented a few well-known growers from exhibiting. By increasing the radius they would be increasing the interest in their show, and in time would be able to have a very large one. They must take into account that the majority of the subscriptions came from outside the radius, and unless the radius were increased the subscriptions might fall off. During the remaining portion of the evening, songs, etc. were well rendered by ‘local talent.’ Votes of thanks to the Chairman, the Host, and the entertainers concluded a most enjoyable evening.”

1901 Census

31, Portland Street

[1] *John F. Bunney* (48), bricklayer and beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;

[2] Ruth Bunney (51), wife, born Austrey, Warwickshire;

[3] Phoebe Bunney (14), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[4] Agnes Edwards (18), general servant, born Boxwich;

[5] Martha Barton (59), servant, born Darlaston:

[John F. must have married Ruth Daniels.]

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1901

“John Arnold (22) alias William Darney, otherwise Thomas Jackson, was in custody at Willenhall Police Court on Monday charged with breaking into the bakehouse of Shadrach Edwards, baker and grocer, Walsall Road, Willenhall, on the 14th inst. The prosecutor said the bakehouse was alright at 6pm but at 6am he found that 14 flour sacks and two pieces of hurden, value 24s, had gone. The sacks were afterwards found sold at Bloxwich. Police-constable Quinn arrested the prisoner in the same street as the OLD HOUSE AT HOME was in at Bloxwich. ‘A man named Joseph Tew got in through the window, and I got in afterwards.’

The officer went to Bloxwich and recovered four of the bags from a Mrs. Reeves.

The prisoner said as he had been coaxed by the police to plead guilty he should plead guilty, although another fellow stole them. Prisoner was committed to the Adjourned Staffordshire Quarter Sessions to be held on the 31st inst, bail was allowed, himself in £10 and one surety of £10.”

[At the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions on 31st December, 1901, John Arnold was found guilty, and was committed for twelve months with hard labour.]

1911 Census

Leamore

- [1] *William James Howard* (26), licensed victualler, born Leamore, near Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Howard (54), mother, widow, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Nellie Cockayne (15), visitor, bridle stretcher, born Leamore, near Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/3/1911

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *William James Howard*, OLD HOUSE AT HOME INN, Portland Street, Leamore was unanimously elected a member of the Society.”

William Howard, beer retailer, Portland Street, Leamore. [1912]

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Leamore, 2s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 28/11/1914

“The meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held at the CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane.....

New members..... *Harry Tolley*, OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Leamore.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/1/1915

“Benjamin Oliver, of 43, Portland Street, was summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Leamore, and with being drunk and disorderly in the street on Jan. 9. Mr H. H. Jackson prosecuted. The evidence showed that defendant was not served with drink at the house, and, as he refused to leave, had to be ejected. Fines of 20s and costs on the first charge and 10s and costs on the second were imposed.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Leamore. £1 8s 2d.”

1939 Register

29, Portsea Street – OLD HOUSE AT HOME (2 of 3)

- [1] *Harold Oakes*, date of birth 24/8/1884, licensee, married;
- [2] *Jessie E. Oakes*, dob 15/1/1885, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Leamore, £3 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Oakes*, the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Leamore. £0 16s 5d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Leamore. £3 15s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Portsea Street, Leamore. £4 10s 0d.”

A full license was granted on 2nd February 1950.

The license was surrendered on 11th February 1971.

OLD HOUSE AT HOME

73, Norton Road, Little Common, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Bowen [1890] – **1900**);
Mrs. Hannah Bowen (**1900 – 1904**);
John Benton (**1904** – [1925]
Sidney Cooper [1939] – [1940]
Allan Price [2023] manager

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

The original pub stood some 30 yards away.

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

“The following publicans were granted one hour’s extension on Monday, October 6th, on the occasion of Pelsall wakes *William Bowen*.”

1891 Census

Little Common – OLD HOUSE AT HOME

- [1] *William Bowen* (57), publican, born Rodinton, Shropshire;
- [2] *Hannah Bowen* (51), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Martha Bowen* (23), daughter, born Wednesfield;
- [4] *Isaac Taylor* (22), stepson, butcher, born Wednesfield:

William Bowen died in 1900.

1901 Census

Norton Road

- [1] *Hannah Bowen* (61), widow, public house keeper, born Essington;
- [2] *William Taylor* (38), son, widower, coal miner below ground, born Spring Bank, Willenhall;
- [3] *Phoebe Taylor* (33), daughter, born March End, Willenhall;
- [4] *Isaac Taylor* (32), son, butcher, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Isaac Taylor* (10), grandson, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904

“Temporary transfers were granted by the Rushall Bench, on Monday, with respect to.....
OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Pelsall, from *Hannah Bowen* to *John Benton*.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905

“The 53rd annual general meeting of the members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last.....
New Members..... *John Benton*, OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Pelsall.”

1911 Census

Norton Road – OLD HOUSE AT HOME INN

- [1] *John Benton* (49), coal miner hewer, beerhouse keeper, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Ruth Benton* (45), wife, married 27 years, assist in business, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Harriet Benton* (24), daughter, assist in business, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Job Benton* (19), son, coal miner, horse driver below ground, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Ellen Benton* (16), daughter, born Pelsall;

[6] John William Benton (14), son, colliery screen labourer, above ground, born Pelsall;

[7] Lily Benton (11), daughter, school, born Pelsall;

[8] David Benton (9), son, school, born Pelsall:

Lichfield Mercury 13/4/1914

“The Rushall adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

Mr. Jackson applied for the renewal of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Pelsall, which was opposed on the ground of redundancy. The Bench renewed the license.”

Walsall Observer 13/2/1915

“Rushall Brewster Sessions.....

Applying for sanction to alterations to the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Pelsall, Mr. H. H. Jackson (Walsall) said these entailed no re-arrangement in the drinking area, but were purely to provide better accommodation for the licensee.

After examining the plans Sir Edward Holden announced that the matter would be held over for further consideration on the adjourned day.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/3/1915

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held at the local Police Court on Monday.....

Respecting alterations made to the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Pelsall, Mr. Jackson said the magistrates assembled at the annual sessions had inspected them. There was no increase in the licensing or drinking area, but the alterations had been done purely for the living accommodation of the licensee.

The Chairman said the licensing justices saw the desirability of such an improvement and his (Mr. Jackson’s) application for approval of plans would be granted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1921

“The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....

All the beerhouse licenses would be renewed, with the exception of the NEW INN, and the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Pelsall, neither of which it seemed to the justices, was needed, but, at any rate, the premises should have more accommodation.”

Lichfield Mercury 13/3/1925

“Rushall Licensing Sessions.....

The renewal of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Norton Road, Pelsall, was objected to by the police on the ground of redundancy. Inspector Skerratt stated that the licensee, *John Benton*, had been in the house since November, 1904, without complaint or conviction. The property was very old and badly constructed as a licensed house.

Mr. Jackson, for the owners, the Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery Company, Ltd., said the house was probably the oldest one in Pelsall. He would be sorry to see it taken away and replaced probably by some staring place. He thought it was admitted that a diminution of licenses did not mean a diminution of drinking, but a concentration of drinking. As he had said before, the death of a pub meant the birth of a club. He had heard a lot said about the evils of drinking in public houses, but he had never heard any diatribe against clubs.

Would they, he asked, rather have a public house under the strict supervision of the police, or a club that had no supervision? If there was such a thing as evil in drinking, they had it ten times worse in a club than in a public house.

The house was referred to compensation on the ground of redundancy.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/6/1925

“The Principal Meeting of the County Compensation authority, under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Thursday.....

In the case of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Norton Road, Pelsall, an ante ’69 beerhouse, referred from the Rushall Division, Inspector Scarratt stated that there were 20 licensed houses in the parish, giving one to every 196 inhabitants.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, of Walsall, who appeared for the owners and licensee, *John Benton*, said that the latter had held the license 20 years without any complaint. Mr. and Mrs. *Benton* were both elderly people, and what they would do if the license were taken away he (Mr. Jackson) did not know. He thought they deserved reasonable consideration.

Benton was then called, and was asked by Mr. Jackson how he was going to get a living if deprived of his license.

Witness: I don’t know. Go on the dole I suppose.

The Chairman: Is there any dole for licensees? (Laughter).

Mr. Jackson: I think there ought to be. When a license is taken away the licensee ought to be superannuated and have a pension out of county funds. He added that the house in question was an old-fashioned one, and had been well conducted.

The committee decided to renew the license.”

Lichfield Mercury 23/10/1925

“Brownhills And District Air-Gun League.....

Pelsall OLD HOUSE AT HOME (away) defeated Pelsall QUEENS HOTEL (home) by 215 to 194.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/12/1925

“Brownhills & District Air-Gun League.....

Station Hotel, Brownhills (away), defeated OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Pelsall, by 211 points to 202.”

1939 Register

Norton Road – OLD HOUSE AT HOME

[1] *Sidney Cooper*, date of birth 14/6/1894, coal miner, stallman, married;

[2] Lily Cooper, dob 9/1/1900, unpaid domestic duties, duties in connection with Public House, married;

[3] David Chambers, dob 10/11/1895, coal miner, stallman, single;

[4] Violet (Blakemore) Cope, dob 16/2/1924, maid, house and bar, single:

Walsall Observer 14/9/1940

“An A.R.P warden gave evidence in the case against *Sidney Cooper* (46), OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Norton Road, Pelsall, who was also fined 30s with 9s special costs for a blackout offence. The warden said that at 11.30pm on August 18 a light was showing from a living room window of the public house and he told the licensee to black the window out properly. This *Cooper* agreed to do, but at midnight the faulty screening was unchanged and the police were informed. While the constable was examining the window another light from an upstairs window came on for about a minute.”

Closed

Rebuilt [1950s]

It was reputedly built on the site of an abbatoir.

[2023]

OLD KINGS ARMS

Wallington Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

It had become a private dwelling called Wallington House by 1814.

OLD KINGS ARMS

78, (79), Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd. [1880]

Mrs. Spurrier, Acocks Green

Samuel Allsopp and Co. Ltd.

Ind Coope and Allsopp (acquired on 23rd January 1936)

Grigg and Brettell Ltd. (acquired on 24th April 1937)

LICENSEES

Thomas Male [1813]

William Derry [1818]

Thomas Male [1822] – [1845]

James Sheldon [1849] – [1861]

Charles Cooper [1861] – **1866**;

Henry Nevill (**1866** – [1870])

Thomas Hickson [1871]

Spurrier [1872]
Mrs. Mary Spurrier [1872] – 1873);
James Fox (1873 – [1875];
John Archibald [];
Henry Franklin [1880];
Joseph Willson []
William Mahon [];
Henry Phibbs [];
Josiah Wedge [] – 1890)
John Nicklin [] – 188_);
Richard Thomas (188_ – 1894);
Harriet Bassett (1894);
Thomas Bassett (1894) temporary
William Slater (1894 – 1900);
Elizabeth Ross (1900 – 1901);
Thomas William Taylor (1901 – 1902);
George Edmund Knight (1902 – 1904);
Harry Langley (1904 – 1936);
James Anson (1936);
David Abraham Warman (1936 – 1938):

NOTES

It was situated opposite to Whittimore Street.

Rushall Street [1822]

78, Lower Rushall Street [1858], [1860], [1861], [1862], [1865], [1871], [1872], [1901], [1908], [1911], [1932]

79, Lower Rushall Street [1868], [1870], [1872]

KINGS ARMS [1818], [1835], [1836], [1841], [1848], [1861], [1866], [1872], [1881], [1892], [1896], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1932]

OLD KINGS ARMS [1845], [1865], [1868], [1879], [1892], [1911], [1934]

KINGS HEAD [1850]

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/8/1836 - Deaths

“On the 29th ult. Rebecca, wife of Mr. *Thomas Male*, of the KINGS ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, aged 62.”

1841 Census

Rushall Street

[1] *Thomas Male* (65), victualler, born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/11/1848

“On Saturday last, an inquest was held at the KINGS ARMS INN, Lower Rushall Street, before W. Cotterill, Esq, coroner, upon the body of James Martin, a lad, whose death was occasioned under the following circumstance. He was going along High Street, Walsall, when another lad put his foot out which occasioned the deceased to fall, and he sustained such injuries as to cause his death a few days after the accident. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Lower Rushall Steet

[1] *James Sheldon* (55), publican, born Great Barr;

[2] *Phoeby Sheldon* (46), wife, born Darlaston;

[3] *Selina Bonehill* (20), house servant, born Walsall:

James Sheldon and *Charles Cooper* appeared in the same 1861 Directory.

1861 Census

78, Lower Rushall Street – KINGS ARMS

[1] *Charles Cooper* (41), licensed victualler, born Southwick, Surrey;

[2] *Maria Cooper* (41), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Harriett Cooper* (13), daughter, scholar, born St. Lukes, London;

[4] *Emma Cooper* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *Harry Cooper* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] *Mary O'Marrow* (18), general servant, born Ireland:

London Gazette 29/4/1862

“*James Sheldon*, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having any claims against the estate of *James Sheldon*, late of Lower Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Gentleman, formerly a Licensed Victualler, deceased (who died on the 11th day of February, 1861, and whose will and codicil were proved in the District Registry of Her Majesty’s Court of Probate at Lichfield, on the 12th day of April following), are hereby required to send in the particulars of such claims to James Beddoe, Draper, and Edwin Sheldon, Bridle Cutter, both of Walsall aforesaid, the executors of the said deceased, or to their Solicitor, William Thomas, of Walsall aforesaid, on or before the 10th day of June next, at the expiration of which time the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said *James Sheldon*, deceased, having regard to those claims only of which they shall then have had notice, and that they will not be liable for the assets so distributed to any person of whose claim they shall not then have had notice.

Dated the 25th day of April, 1862.

William Thomas, Walsall, Staffordshire, Solicitor to the said Executors.”

Charles Cooper was also a gig saddler. [1864], [1865]

He issued tokens from here.

Birmingham Daily Post 1/8/1865 - Advert

“The OLD KINGS ARMS TAVERN, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.

By Roderick & Son. To be Sold by Private Contract, the Lease, Licenses, and Goodwill of the above capital house of business, now doing an excellent tavern and out-door trade. Coming-in about £400.

Apply, 36, Cherry Street, Birmingham.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/10/1866

“On Friday last, the usual Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the borough were held in the Guildhall Assembly Room, before W. J. Neale, Esq, Recorder. There were also on the Bench Messrs. J. Brewer, jun. (Mayor), and J. Shannon.

Sarah Ann Worley, 16, domestic servant, was indicted for having on the 13th of July last stolen a silk mantle, of the value of 25s, the property of her master, *Charles Cooper*, a licensed victualler, at the time living in Rushall-street, but now residing in Birmingham. Mr. Jelf prosecuted. The Jury returned a verdict of not guilty and the prisoner was discharged.”

1871 Census

78, Lower Rushall Street – OLD KINGS ARMS

[1] *Thomas Hickson* (?) (37), publican and engineer, born Coppice Hall, Staffordshire;

[2] Sarah A. Hickson (36), wife, born Stratford le Bow;

[3] Alice M. Hickson (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 6/6/1872

“On Saturday, thirty-four members of the 1st and 2nd Companies of Walsall Volunteers competed at 200, 500, and 600 yards, five shots at each, for a silver tea service, presented by Mr. *Spurrier*, of the KINGS ARMS INN, Lower Rushall Street, and to become the absolute property of the man winning it three times, Corporal Gee won with a score of 43, Sergeant Patrick being second best with a score of 42.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 1/10/1875

“At Walsall, Donald McKenzie was brought up in custody under remand charged with having embezzled various sums of money belonging to his employer, Mr. Emil Behncke, wine and cigar merchant, New Street, Birmingham. Mr. Gillespie (Messrs. Wilkin-son and Gillespie) appeared for the prosecutor, and the prisoner was defended by Mr. Rhodes, of Wolverhampton.

James Fox, Lower Rushall, publican, said that since the 10th of August last, he had paid the prisoner £3 1s on the prosecutor’s account, for which he produced a receipt signed by the prisoner.

Simeon Lunn, beerhouse keeper, Darlaston, produced a receipt of £3 3s, which he had paid to the prisoner for Mr. Behncke.

The prosecutor said he received neither of the above sums from the prisoner nor others, the payment of which was proved at a previous hearing of the case. He had, however, received two £5 notes on account of those sums. He did not owe prisoner anything, but had overpaid him £13 19s 4d on his commission account.

Mr. Rhodes contended that, owing to the nature of the relations between the parties, the prisoner was not criminally liable, although he had, perhaps, acted morally wrong. The Bench, however, expressed their belief that there was a prima facie case warranting a committal.

Mr. Rhodes said that, looking at the time that must elapse before the sessions, his client would plead guilty.

Prisoner was thereupon sentenced to four months’ hard labour.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/1/1879

“Yesterday afternoon Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Upper Rushall Street, on the body of Leah Norah Manning, aged 14 months, illegitimate daughter of Caroline Manning, a lodger at the house of Wm. Parkes, Intown Row. The evidence showed that, about seven o’clock on Saturday evening, a small bottle of laudanum was taken into the lodging house for the use of the landlord, a bed ridden man, and the child being fretful at the time and crying for the bottle, Mrs. Parkes, not knowing the deleterious nature of the drug, with the consent and approval of the mother, poured a small quantity into the child’s

mouth. Soon afterwards the child fell asleep, and at half-past eleven the mother, becoming alarmed, took her to Dr. Ketty, who directed hot coffee to be administered, and every effort was made to keep the child awake. His orders were obeyed, but the child died at about half-past one. Dr. Maclachan, who made the post mortem examination, attributed death to opium poisoning. The jury returned a verdict of Homicide by Misadventure, and at their request the mother of the child, Mrs. Parkes were censured.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/6/1880 - Advert

“Cannock Brewery Co. Limited require Tenders for Woodwork on the outside
OLD KINGS ARMS, Rushall Street.....
Inside with Papering, &c, of the
OLD KINGS ARMS.....
All the above are situate in the town of Walsall.
Particulars as to class of work may be obtained at, and Tenders received by
Cannock Brewery Co. Limited, Cannock.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/5/1890 - Advert

“Summary of Sales by Walter Hughes
Wednesday, 4th June, at Two o’clock, at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Rushall Street, Walsall.
Unreserved Clearance Sale of the whole of the Capital Brewing Plant and Utensils, by order of the out-going tenant Mr. *Josiah Wedge*.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1892 - Advert

“To Let. The OLD KINGS ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall; full license may be taken to at valuation; well fitted house, doing good trade; free for wines and spirits, and tied to Allsopp & Co. for ales.
Apply, Walter Hughes, Hotel Valuer, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

“The following temporary authorities were granted.....
OLD KINGS ARMS, from the administrators of *Harriet Bassett* to *Thomas Bassett*.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1895 - Advert

“R.A.O.B. ‘Prince Of Wales’ Lodge is held at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, Tonight, 8.30.
Host Bro. *William Slater*.”

Lichfield Mercury 16/8/1895 - Advert

“Wanted, a thorough respectable Girl as General Servant; aged about 19; country preferred.
Apply *Slater*, OLD KINGS ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/9/1895

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last.....
New Members..... Mr. *William Slater*, OLD KINGS ARMS.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1896 - Advert

“Conservative League Jottings.
‘Greatrex Lodge’. A meeting of above lodge will be held on Wednesday next, at 8 o’clock prompt at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Lower Rushall Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/1/1897

“Greatrex Lodge. A most successful smoking concert in connection with the above lodge was held at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, on Wednesday evening. The W.M. (Bro. A. Y. Brookes) presided over a good company of members and friends, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Apologies were received from Bro. A. W. Greatrex, who was unable to be present, being away from town, and Bro. T. H. Greatrex, who was also unable to attend. The programme was as follows: Song, ‘Mona,’ Mr. Cash; song, ‘True till death,’ Mr. Johnson; song, ‘Erin,’ Mr. Sealey; recitation, ‘Seven ages,’ Mr. Jameson; song, ‘My sweetheart,’ Mr. Bowen; song, ‘The Midshipmite,’ Mr. Johnson; song, ‘In friendship’s name’ (encore ‘There is a flower that bloometh’), Mr. Cash; recitation, ‘The fate of Nancy Brig’ (encore ‘Barbara Fritch’), Mr. Jameson; song, ‘Ora pro nobis,’ Mr. Powis; song, ‘The old story,’ Mr. Johnson; song, ‘Rather,’ Mr. Southall; ‘God save the Queen.’ Mr. J. Lowbridge acted as accompanist.”

1901 Census

78, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Elizabeth Ross* (46), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Lily Ross* (23), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] *Maude Ross* (22), daughter, costumier, born Walsall;

- [4] Marion Ross (20), daughter, tailoress, born Walsall;
- [5] Ada Ross (19), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [6] Tom Ross (15), son, saddler's ironmonger, born Walsall;
- [7] Alfred Ross (13), son, butcher, born Walsall;
- [8] Andy Ross (11), son, born Walsall;
- [9] May Ross (10), daughter, born Walsall:

1911 Census

78, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Harry Langley* (45), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Alice Langley (44), wife, married 24 years, assist in business, born Walsall;
- [3] Florrie Langley (23), daughter, tailoress, machine, born Walsall;
- [4] Ethel Langley (20), daughter, clerk, buckle manufacturer, born Walsall;
- [5] Jessie Langley (18), daughter, clerk, clothier, born Walsall;
- [6] Harry Langley (14), son, errand boy, born Walsall;
- [7] Irene Langley (10), daughter, school, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 23/12/1911 - Letter

"Robins' Xmas Breakfast And Old Folks Dinner.

To the Editor of the *Walsall Advertiser*.

Sir. In forwarding you a further list of subscriptions paid and promised on account of the above fund, we beg to thank your readers for their generosity already extended to us. Upwards of 3,000 children and 1,000 old folk will be fed on Christmas morning next, at the Town Hall, and to do this will involve an expenditure of about £200. Donations may be paid to the Hon. Treasurer, London City and Midland Bank, or to the Secretary, 30, Lumley Road, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

Thanking you in anticipation, Yours faithfully, John Venables (Mayor), President, R. B. Sutton, Chairman, A. H. Anstey, Secretary.....

Collected per. Mr. *Langley*, OLD KINGS ARMS, Rushall Street, 4s 6d....."

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1912

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Members..... *Harry Langley*, KINGS ARMS INN, Lower Rushall Street."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

OLD KINGS ARMS, Lower Rushall Street. £0 8s 7d."

Harry Langley was vice president of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Provident Society. [1934], [1935]

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/8/1937

"At the Walsall Licensing Transfer Sessions on Tuesday.....

The license of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, was renewed subject to it being surrendered later, when new premises were erected in Coalpool Lane."

It closed on 7th March 1938.

The license was surrendered.

Walsall Observer 3/2/1940

"Both members of old Walsall families, well-known, especially in the Paddock district, Mr. and Mrs. *James Fox*, of 4, Burleigh Street, celebrated their golden wedding on Monday, having been married fifty years ago at St. George's Church by the Rev. Colin Barrett, who was then vicar of the parish.

Mr. *Fox*'s father, whose Christian name was also *James*, was at different times licensee of two Lower Rushall Street public-houses – the KINGS ARMS and the ACORN (now demolished) – and also the MINERVA, Paddock Lane....."

Walsall Observer 19/10/1940

"In the opinion of the Housing Committee and the Public Works Committee, this is a very satisfactory arrangement for dealing with this area,' said Councillor Whiston, on whose motion the Council approved an arrangement for the purchase, for £450 and costs, of the freehold premises known as the OLD KINGS ARMS, Lower Rushall Street, the conveyance of the premises known as the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street, and the site of the OLD KINGS ARMS; and the conveyance by the Corporation to the Highgate (Walsall) Brewery Co, Ltd, of a site at the junction of Lower Rushall Street and Holtshill Lane, on which the brewery company will undertake to erect a new public house as soon as materials are available and a license to build has been obtained. The arrangement also provides for payment by the Corporation to the brewery company of £700 by way of compensation, plus thirty guineas towards the company's costs, payment to be deferred pending loan sanction and interest to be paid by the Corpora-

tion in the meantime at 4 per cent.”

Demolished

OLD KINGS ARMS

2, West Bromwich Street / 1, Spout Lane, Caldmore, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Thorpe, Bradford Street, Walsall
Job Wheway
Thomas Robinson and Co. Ltd, Burton on Trent
Arthur Beebee Ltd. [1905], [1910]
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (acquired on 31st July 1934)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)

LICENSEES

Daniel Gould [1834] – [1842]
Mrs. Eliza Gould [1845] – [1850]
Richard Wheeler [1849] – [1850]
James Ashwell [1851] – **1855**)
William Gould [] – **1857**);
John Mason (**1857** – [1859]
George Holden [1860] – [1861]
John Hall [1865] – **1866**);
George Muggleton (**1866** – [1868]
Joseph Thorpe [] – **1869**);
Henry Bunn (**1869** – []
William Cornfield [1871] – [1873];
George Wheway [1881] – **1890**);
James Mason (**1890** – **1891**);
Walter Ross (**1891** – **1893**);
William Hawley [1892] ?
Phoebe Adeline Ross (**1893** – **1894**);
Joe Fawcett (**1894** – **1895**);
John Sprawson Iliffe (**1895** – **1896**);
Arthur Trott (**1896**);
Richard Turner (**1896** – **1898**);
Charlotte Turner (**1898** – **1901**);
George Edward Pritchett (**1901** – **1902**);
Henry Gossage (**1902** – **1903**);
Harry Beebee (**1903** – **1904**);
Arthur Beebee (**1904** – **1906**);
William Dukes (**1906** – **1912**);
George Armishaw Thornton (**1912** – **1915**);
Robert Ratcliffe (**1915** – **1928**);
Sidney Cooper (**1928** – **1932**);
Edward Jones [1929] ?
Mrs. Louisa Bradbury (**1932** – **1940**);
Abel Belmore Shenton (**1940**);
William Alton (**1940** – **1942**);
Harry Lowe (**1942** – **1944**);
John Henry Pearce (**1944** – **1950**);
Leslie Ernest Allaway (**1950** – **1951**);
Albert Edward Meadows (**1951** – **1953**);
George Dennis Weaver (**1953** – **1957**);
Elizaberth Rose Weaver (**1957** – **1958**);
William Samuel Packham Jones (**1958**);

William Smith (1958 – 1959);
George Crump (1959 – 1960);
Derrick Neil Renton (1960 – 1961);
Roy Miller (1961);
Leonard Jones (1961 – 1962);
Derek Edward Alexander (1962 – 1963);
Edward Levy (1963 – 1964);
John Walker (1964);
Iris May Lea (1964 – 1965);
William Henry Lea (1965 – [1966])

NOTES

Caldmore [1860]

1, Spout Lane [1871], [1872], [1881], [1892]

2, West Bromwich Street [1904],[1908], [1911], [1912], [1932]

KINGS HEAD [1834], [1853]

KINGS ARMS [1842], [1849], [1851], [1855], [1869], [1871], [1891], [1895], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1909], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1929], [1932], [1942]

OLD KINGS ARMS [1880], [1881], [1995]

Birmingham Journal 13/7/1850 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Freehold Dwelling Houses, Public House, and Building Land, at Caldmore, and the Birchills, in the Foreign of Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, By George Allin at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, near Walsall, on Monday, the 29th July, 1850, at Six o’clock in the evening, in the following or other such lots as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions then to be produced.

Lot 2. The old-established Inn, called the OLD KINGS ARMS, situate at Caldmore aforesaid, fronting the road leading from Walsall to West Bromwich, in the occupation of Mr. *Richard Wheeler*; with Brewhouse, Workshop, Malt Room, two-stalled Stable, entire Yard, Pump of excellent water, and a large productive Garden and Premises thereto belonging.

The House contains Bar, Smoke Room, Tap Room, Parlour, good Cellars, and three Bed Rooms. Also the Dwelling House adjoining, with two Workshops at the back, suitable for Twenty pairs of hands, in the occupation of Mr. Craddock, Snaffle Bit Maker.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/7/1853

“The following three publicans were, on Wednesday last, fined, the first two 10s each, and the last 20s, for selling during prohibited hours on the Sabbath. Mr. James Fisher, the MINERVA, Ablewell Street; Mr. *James Ashwell*, the KINGS HEAD, Caldmore; and Mr. John Ricketts, of the MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street.”

Birmingham Journal 12/5/1855

“About half-past three o’clock on Tuesday morning, Police-constable Childs, in going his rounds, discovered a man weltering in his blood in Dudley Street. The unfortunate man was partially insensible, but the officer succeeded in obtaining his address, and at once removed him thither, where medical aid was promptly called in. The name of the injured man was John Jennings, and he had three incised wounds on the head, and one on the arm. A report of the transaction was made to Mr. Bilson, Superintendent of Police, and the active officer instantly instituted inquiries which led to the following information. Jennings, with a soldier and other persons, was drinking till near three o’clock on Tuesday morning, at the KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, when they left. One of the party, a returned convict and a notorious ruffian, named Holland, wanted to pick a quarrel with a collier, and Jennings interfered to prevent a fight. The collier ran away, and the man Holland then turned upon the peacemaker, and exclaimed, ‘If I can’t have my revenge upon him, I will upon you.’ Holland put his hand in his pocket, drew something out, and directly Jennings found himself wounded, and fell down insensible. The ruffian had absconded, but the most strenuous efforts are being made by the police for his apprehension. The wounded man is going favourably.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/9/1855

“Monday was the day appointed for the renewal of, and hearing of applications for fresh licenses.

The license of *W.(?) Ashwell*, KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, which was in abeyance, was renewed on a promise that the house should be regularly conducted in future.”

Birmingham Journal 13/10/1855

“F. B. Oerton, Esq, (Mayor), and H. Highway and J. Shannon, Esqs, were on the Bench on Wednesday last, when Mr. *William Gould* applied for the transfer of the license of the KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, from *James Ashwell* to himself. The applicant some time ago took the house and fixtures from the present landlord, made repeated applications for a transfer of the license, and they were invariably refused. The Mayor remarked that he would not undo a resolution formed by the Bench of Magistrates. The

applicant said the license expired that day, and he wished to know what he was to do. The Mayor replied that the license had been granted at the last licensing day to Mr. *Ashwell*, and they (the Magistrates,) had nothing to do with Mr. *Gould*, who well knew why the transfer had been refused. Card playing to a great extent had been carried on, and continued within the last nine or ten days. The application was refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/12/1855

“At the Magistrates’ meeting on Wednesday, applications for the transfer of licenses were heard.....

A person named *Gould* applied for the transfer of the KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, from *James Ashwell*. The applicant had been refused the transfer on several previous occasions, and his application was again refused, in consequence of the disorderly manner in which the house had been conducted.”

Walsall Free Press 30/1/1858 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that good old-licensed house, the OLD KINGS ARMS, situate at Caldmore, and brewing twelve bushels per week.

Apply to Mr. *John Mason*, the landlord, who is leaving on account of ill health.”

Walsall Free Press 19/2/1859 - Advert

“Sale At The OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, Walsall.

To be Sold By Auction, by John Osbourn, upon the premises of that old-established Inn, as above, on Wednesday Next, February 23rd, 1859, the Licenses, Goodwill and Possession, with all the Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Ale Barrels, and effects, belonging to Mr. *John Mason*, who is declining the public business; comprising Windsor and other chairs, mahogany dining and other tables, sofas, screen, handsome 4-Pull Beer Machine, chest of drawers, bedsteads, mattresses, feather beds, bed linen, 120-gallon iron boiler, 14-bushel mash tub, coolers, ten ale barrels (from 60 to 100 gallons), ale measures, cups and jugs, gas meter and fittings, grates, signs, kitchen requisites, &c, &c.

Sale to commence at ten o’clock, under the usual conditions.”

Walsall Free Press 4/7/1863 - Advert

“To be Let, the OLD KINGS ARMS, with Shopping and Garden, situated at Caldmore.

Apply at No.26, Bradford Street.”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/10/1865 - Advert

“OLD KINGS ARMS INN, Caldmore, Walsall Foreign.

To Be Sold By Auction, By H. Farrington, at the NEW INN, Park Street, Walsall, on Tuesday Next, October 17, at Six o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions, in one or more lots as may be agreed upon – all that Old-established Public-House and Premises, known as the OLD KINGS ARMS, at Caldmore, Walsall, in the occupation of *John Hall*, comprising Bar, Tap Room, good Parlour, and Cellars, four Bed Rooms, Brewhouse, large yard, Stable Piggery, Pump, and other conveniences. Also the House adjoining, occupied by Mr. Wilson, and Shopping for Seven pairs of Hands, with Garden Ground, Brewhouse, and other conveniences.

The above Property has an excellent frontage of 54 feet to Spout Lane, and of 61 feet to a main road to West Bromwich, through Doveridge, and is situated in an improving locality.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. Bourne and Owen, Solicitors, Dudley; or to the Auctioneer, St. George’s Buildings, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 3/2/1866

“*John Hall*, OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, was charged with having permitted gaming in his house. Police-constable Lakin said that, at five minutes to twelve o’clock on the night in question, he visited the house, and saw some men play for a quart of ale, which was supplied by the landlord. Fined 10s and costs.”

London Gazette 18/2/1868

“*George Muggleton*, formerly of 33, Caldmore, Walsall, Stafford, grocer and carter, and now of the OLD KINGS ARMS INN, 1, Caldmore aforesaid, licensed victualler, grocer, and carter.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/12/1869

“*Henry Bunn*, the KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, pleaded guilty to having had his house open during prohibited hours on the 5th December, and was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

1871 Census

1, Spout Lane

[1] *William Cornfield* (45), victualler KINGS ARMS, born Bilston;

[2] *Sarah Cornfield* (34), wife, born Bilston;

[3] *Frederick William Cornfield* (6), son, scholar, born Moxley;

[4] *John B. Cornfield* (3), son, scholar, born Moxley;

[5] *Mary Jane Gough* (16), domestic servant, born Coseley:

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1880 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant, not under 20 years of age.
Apply, OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, Walsall.”

1881 Census

1, Spout Lane – OLD KINGS ARMS

- [1] *George Wheway* (65), licensed victualler, born Nuneaton, Warwickshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Wheway (51), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] James Mason (19), servant and brewer, born Willenhall;
- [4] Jane Lewis (21), general servant, born Rushall:

Evening Star 8/3/1882

“On Tuesday afternoon, the borough coroner (Mr. A. A. Fletcher) held an inquiry at the OLD KINGS ARMS INN, Walsall, upon the body of Charles Lakin (44), late of Spout Lane, whose death was announced in Saturday’s *Star*.

Emily Lakin, wife of the deceased, said that on the 5th inst (?) her husband, who was a carter, rose about six in the morning to attend to his horses. In going down the stairs, which were very inconvenient ones, he fell and severely hurt his back. When she went to him she found he could not move his legs. He was attended by Dr. Kelly, and on the following day removed to the hospital, where he remained till the 24th ult, when at his and her request he was brought home. He did not get any better, but gradually wasted away, and died on Friday last. He became completely paralysed before his death and could not take any food.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/3/1887

“Conservatism. A very successful smoking concert took place at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, on Wednesday evening. Mr. Edmonds presided and during the evening addresses were given by Councillors *Wheway* and Parsons, Mr. T. F. Ferrier and others.....”

Walsall Advertiser 27/5/1890

“On Tuesday evening following a representative gathering of brewers and brewers’ agents were present at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, when Mr. Powell offered for competition the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, and great interest was manifested in the sale. The house is situated at the junction of Spout Lane and West Bromwich Road, and is occupied by Mr. *George Wheway*, with the plot of freehold land adjoining, containing 345 square yards, and fronting 17 yards to West Bromwich Road. The first bid was £3,300 and some spirited competition raised the amount to £5,250, at which sum the lot was sold. Messrs. Loxton and Newman acted as solicitors for the vendors.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Mr. Cotterell asked that the application by *James Mason*, of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore might stand over till January; and being refused he withdrew the application.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“There were 31 applications for dancing, singing and music licenses under the provisions of the new Corporation Act. The Bench heard all the applications and then retired to consider their decisions, which turned out to be in accordance with the principle which was laid down at a former Court, viz, that licenses should not be granted to vaults or public rooms, but should be confined to regular and existing clubs and class meetings in club rooms. Licenses were granted to.....

The OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore.”

1891 Census

Spout Lane – KINGS ARMS

- [1] *James Mason* (28), manager, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Eliza Mason (27), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Minnie E. Mason (3 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary A. Hastings (29), boarder, widow, born West Bromwich;
- [5] William Powell (33), barman, born Bradley, Herefordshire;
- [6] Eliza A. Powell (30), boarder, born West Bromwich;
- [7] William A. Powell (4), boarder, born West Bromwich;
- [8] Clara Powell (2 months), boarder, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 26/8/1893

“The inauguration ceremony in connection with the newly formed Staffordshire Conservative League was performed at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, on Saturday.....”

Phoebe Adeline Ross = Phoebe Ann Ross

Joe Fawcett = John Fawcett

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

“Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday.....

John Fawcett, the OLD KINGS ARMS, applied for a music and dancing license for certain nights, and music and singing licences for other nights for the meetings of friendly societies and political lodges.....

The Bench deliberated in private for some time, and on their return into court announced that all the other applications would be granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/4/1895

“Walsall Conservative Association.

On Monday evening a meeting of No.23 Polling District (Caldmore) was held at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, Mr. John Moseley, JP, presiding. Mr. W. Coleman was unanimously elected vice-chairman. Several new members were also added to the committee.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1895

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *John S. Iliffe*, of the OLD KINGS ARMS INN, Caldmore, was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1895

“The Borough coroner (Mr. T. Howard Stanley) held an inquest at the KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, on Thursday, touching the death of Lucy Ann Sharratt (13), of 558 Bloxwich Road. The evidence was to the effect that deceased was a servant with Miss A. Bettelstone, 41, Spout Lane, and on November 29th she complained of pains in her bowels, which continued intermittently until Monday morning last, when she expired. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Rupture.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/10/1896

“Mr. J. Armstrong applied on behalf of *Richard Turner*, landlord of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, for an hour’s extension for Thursday last, the occasion of the annual supper of the ‘Brace’ Lodge of the Staffordshire Conservative League. He explaining that there would probably be about seventy working men present, and as the function did not commence until 7.30, there would be little time for harmony in the absence of an extension.

Mr. Dean: Is it a trade society? (laughter). – Mr. Armstrong: No, sir, it is a political and social club.

Mr. Loxton asked if Mr. Armstrong were correct in stating that the license had been granted before.

The Chief Constable said that an extension was granted once, but next time it was applied for he opposed it because he had ascertained that persons were admitted who were not members of the lodge, and it was refused. He had no objection now, because there was a new landlord, but he should have opposed if that had not been the case.

The Bench, after some consideration, said that even though the Chief Constable did not object, they did, and refused the application.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Charlotte Turner, OLD KINGS ARMS, served 60 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under.....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Walsall Observer 17/2/1900

“An inquest was held yesterday afternoon, at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, by Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner), respecting the death of Adeline Dorothea Dines (1½), whose parents reside at 162, Dale Street.

Walter Henry Dines, an insurance agent, of 162, Dale Street, stated that he was the father of the deceased child. On the morning of the 14th inst Mrs. Dines brought the baby downstairs, and she was given some milk and a piece of bread and butter. About twenty five minutes after that she seemed as if something caught her in the throat and she could not get her breath. Witness saw the child changing colour, and she died in a few moments afterwards. From the time he noticed something catch her in the throat she never breathed again. A doctor was sent for immediately.

Dr. Hogan spoke to seeing the body of the child. He came to the conclusion that the child was suffocated through food getting into the air passage.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Observer 9/6/1900

“An inquest was held on Tuesday afternoon at the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, by the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley),

on the body of John Butler (50), brass dresser, of 12, Spout Lane, Walsall, who died suddenly on Sunday night last. Alice Butler, the widow of the deceased, stated that her husband had been ill for two years with a nervous complaint. On Sunday, the 3rd of June, he was out in the morning at his daughter's, in Windsor Street. He came home, had dinner, and appeared to be about the same. At about five minutes after eleven deceased was about to go to bed and got up from his chair but reeled round and fell, witness catching him in her arms. She called her son, and told him to get some water and then sent him off for the doctor. She bathed his forehead and wet his mouth with the water, but he died in a few minutes after the seizure. Dr. Dearden stated that he had known the deceased for about 2 years, having attended him last about 11 months ago. He was suffering from general paralysis. Witness saw him on Sunday night shortly after death had taken place. He made an outward examination but found nothing to attract attention. He was of opinion that death was due to heart failure, consequent upon the nature of the illness from which he suffered. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

1901 Census

West Bromwich Street – OLD KINGS ARMS

- [1] *Charlotte Turner* (36), widow, licensed victualler, born Bromyard, Herefordshire;
- [2] Louisa Turner (17), daughter, barmaid, born Great Bridge;
- [3] Gertrude Turner (16), daughter, dressmaker, born Great Bridge;
- [4] Lottie Turner (5), daughter, born Dudley Port;
- [5] Lydia Davies (21), cook, born Brownhills;
- [6] Mary Cowley (23), barmaid, born Brownhills:

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1901

"Mr. J. A. Armstrong applied for the temporary transference of authority from Mrs. Keeling of the RED LION INN to *George Edward Pritchett*. Mr. F. Bill, who appeared for the brewery company, and *Pritchett*, explained that Mrs. Keeling was the widow of the man to whom the original license was granted, and as she was anxious to leave the house immediately and they could not find a tenant to suit them, this application was made. Mr. *Pritchett* had held the license of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, to the satisfaction of the police.

Acting Chief Constable Ballance said he had no objection to Mr. *Pritchett* on the ground of character, but when he had the OLD KINGS ARMS, the license had already been refused to another man, named Richards, who, however, he allowed to remain in the house when he left it.

Mr. Holden observed that Mrs. Keeling had already been given two temporary authorities, and surely she could stay a little longer until a new tenant arrived. The authority would only be granted for a week.

A few minutes later, however, Mr. Bill and Mr. Armstrong returned, and stated that they had obtained an actual tenant for the house, in Mr. Ernest Hennessy.

The application was granted."

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1903

"Harry Thorpe, 59, Victor Street, was summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore; for refusing to quit when requested to do so by the landlord, *Henry Beebee*; and for damaging a jug and beer-pull machine to the extent of 5s. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) prosecuted.

Complainant stated the defendant came to his house in a drunken condition and called for beer, but he refused to supply him, and defendant went away. He came back, however, shortly afterwards, and went into another room, and asked the barman to supply him with drink, but he was also refused. Defendant then picked up a jug and threw it at the barman, but it missed him and struck and damaged a beer-pull machine.

Henry Moore, barman, gave corroborative evidence.

John Lester said he was in the house when Thorpe came in, and saw him throw the jug.

For the defence, Benjamin Webster stated that he was in the room with defendant when Mr. *Beebee* asked him to leave, and they both went out together. He did not see him go back again.

Kate Thorpe, defendant's wife, said she was in the public-house with her husband, and he did not throw the jug, but banged it on the counter.

Fined 40s and costs, or two months' hard labour."

Harry Beebee was fined 40s and costs, on 25th March 1904, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

"Walsall Air-Gun League.

The first annual meeting of the above was held at the CRITERION, Stafford Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smallwood presided, and there was also present Messrs. Hicken (EAGLE), G. Smith (OLD KINGS ARMS), Powell (TANNERS ARMS), E. James (PLUMBERS ARMS), McDonald (CRITERION), Cliffe (GOLDEN EAGLE), Hunt, E. Towe (treasurer), and Mason (secretary).....

The undermentioned clubs with power to add to their number, were elected to the League for the forthcoming season: The WHITE HART (Walhouse Street), TANNERS ARMS, OLD KINGS ARMS, EAGLE, PLUMBERS ARMS, CRITERION, GOLDEN EAGLE, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, OAK, and DUKE OF YORK.

There was no other business of public interest."

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) objected to the renewal of the license to *Arthur Beebee*, OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, on the ground that Harry *Beebee*, son of the present tenant, who then kept the house, had been convicted for permitting drunkenness on his premises on the 9th March, 1904, when he was fined 40s and costs. The transfer of the license from the son to his father was on the 22nd of April, 1904, and the house had been conducted satisfactorily ever since.

Mr. Pearman-Smith appeared for the tenant. He said that nothing was proved, as the man was only seen leaving the premises just at eleven o'clock in a drunken condition. It was not proved that he obtained the beer or liquor there. Under the circumstances he asked for a renewal to be granted, as the father had taken the sole responsibility of the house, and there had been no conviction of any kind since.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1905 - Advert

“A. Beebee's Noted Home Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell St., Walsall.

Houses.....

OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/2/1907

“A tea party and social in connection with the OLD KINGS ARMS (Caldmore) Women's Sick and Dividend Club was held on Wednesday night. About 60 members and friends sat down to a capital tea, provided by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Dukes*. After tea Mr. W. J. Wells took the chair. A good programme was provided, which included contribution by Master Bob Davey, Mr. I. Lord, Mr. Harry Lawrence, Master H. Davey, Mrs. Cheadle, Mrs. Binnion, and Mr. Davey. Mr. Davey accompanied, and selections on the harp and violin by Messrs Dixon and Edwards were given during the evening. Votes of thanks were given to the chairman, Mr. and Mrs. Davey, for their kind assistance, and to the artistes, and a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. *Dukes*.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/9/1908

“There was a very crowded assembly in the club room of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, on Tuesday evening, when a smoking concert took place, and presentations were made to Mr. and Mrs. F. Davey, recently host and hostess of the OLD WHITE HART, Caldmore, on their removal to take over an important position at Lancaster. Councillor E. Shelley occupied the chair, and was supported by Councillor J. N. Cotterell, Dr. Riordan, &c. An excellent musical programme was rendered during the evening, and practical expressions of appreciation were tendered by Mr. and Mrs. Davey. Dr. Riordan presented them a beautifully illuminated address, the work of Mr. W. A. Dunham, the text of which was as under.

To Mr. and Mrs. Davey.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Davey. On behalf of your numerous friends and well-wishers, we beg your acceptance of this address of our affection and esteem. We have felt that we could not let you depart Walsall without expressing in some tangible form the high respect we feel for you, and our sincere appreciation of your geniality and hospitality as host and hostess while at YE OLDE WHITE HARTE. You may rest confidently assured that you take with you our united wishes for your future health and prosperity. Signed on behalf of the subscribers, James Neville (chairman), *William Dukes*, Wm. Boulter, John Neville, Samuel E. Hodgkins, Geo. Hilton, W. J. Rattenbury, W. Henry Swift (secretary).

Dr. Riordan also presented Mrs Davey a gold brooch, and also on behalf of Mrs. *Dukes*, a bouquet. Councillor, on behalf of the Imperial Cycling Club, presented to Mr. Davey, a finely framed photograph of the members, and another presentation was made by Mr. Rattenbury on behalf of the Caledonian Corks.

Mr. Davey suitably acknowledged the kind things said of his wife and himself.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....

KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, Sick and Dividend Society (men and women) paid out a dividend of 7s 6d to the men and 9s to the women, and at the annual meeting all last year's officers were re-elected.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

“A. Beebee's Noted Home-Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.

Houses.....

OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, Walsall.”

“Home brewed ales” [1911]

1911 Census

2, West Bromwich Street

[1] *William Dukes* (44), publican, born Amblecote;

[2] Clara Dukes (44), wife, married 12 years 9 months, born James Bridge;

[3] Ethel Dukes (4), daughter, born Whittington, Staffordshire;

[4] Alice Maud Smith (22), servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 15/2/1913

“The offence of permitting drunkenness on licensed premises was alleged against *George A. Thornton*, landlord of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Spout Lane, Caldmore. Mr. W. J. Pearman Smith appeared for the defendant and pleaded not guilty. Evidence was given by police-constable Betteley to the effect that at 9.15pm on Saturday, Jan 25th, in consequence of something said to him, he went to the OLD KINGS ARMS. There was a crowd outside the house and witness noticed that the glass panel in the door was smashed. On going into the smoke room he saw a woman named Annie Bennett sitting there in a drunken condition and the landlord was trying to persuade her to go. She had blood over her face and clothes, and when witness requested her to leave she walked into the passage, her gait being very unsteady. When in the passage she said, ‘It’s my fault.’ The woman’s husband then entered the house, and the landlord gave him into custody for wilfully damaging the plate glass panel. Witness then arrested the man, whereupon Mrs. Bennett put her arms around her husband’s neck and clung to him, trying to prevent him being taken into custody. The woman was taken to the police station by another officer, and witness and Police-constable Smith took the man, who was under the influence of drink and who did not go quietly.

Cross-examined by Mr. Pearman Smith witness said he had frequently seen the woman drunk and he believed she had been many times convicted.

Arising out of other questions by Mr. Pearman Smith, the Chief Constable explained that on the Monday following the occurrence the woman was sentenced without the option on a charge of being drunk and disorderly, and the man was also convicted.

Police-constable Smith, a recruit who was patrolling the Caldmore district with Police-constable Raybould, also deposed to being called to the house. The woman was drunk.

Police-constable Raybould, who was also of the same opinion, added that she accompanied him to the police station, where he charged her with being drunk and disorderly.

Joseph Raynes, of Port Street, spoke to being in the house at the time, when the landlord told Bennett and his wife to ‘drink up and clear out.’ They were ejected by the landlord and another man, but suddenly the woman rushed into the house and commenced to throw glasses about, and her husband deliberately broke the glass panel with a bottle. He thought both were excited because they had been ejected from the house.

Answering Mr. Pearman Smith witness said everything was quiet and orderly until the landlord told the man and woman to go out. The woman did not walk unsteadily.

Inspector Haycock deposed to seeing Bennett and his wife in the police office soon after they were brought in. The man was in the dock using very bad language, and frothing at the mouth, and witness formed the opinion that he was wild drunk. He had to be forcibly restrained from kicking a police constable. The woman was calling at the top of her voice for the release of her husband. She was drunk and afterwards became hysterical, and her shrieks and screams caused a large crowd to gather outside the police office.

For the defence, Mr. Pearman Smith said it was a case which showed the great difficulties with which a licensed victualler had to contend. He submitted that the woman was mad with passion – more mad than drunk.

Giving evidence the defendant said as soon as he saw the man and woman he decided from their appearance they were not desirable people for the smoke room and he ordered them out. He had not the slightest idea they were drunk. As they refused to go they were ejected and the disturbance followed. Evidence was also given by Ernest Baker, of 37, Upper Forster Street, who helps at the OLD KINGS ARMS, and who served the man and woman; William Gascoigne, 9, Spout Lane, who was in the smoke room at the time; Laura Morris, married woman of Spout Lane; all of whom were of the opinion that the woman was sober. The case was dismissed, Mr. Scott stating that the Bench considered it was a proper case to bring before them, but at the same time they were not satisfied with the evidence.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/7/1913

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *G. A. Thornton*, OLD KINGS ARMS INN, West Bromwich Street, Caldmore was unanimously elected member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, Walsall, 7s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore. £1 0s 0d.”

Birmingham Journal 5/12/1929 - Deaths

“On Saturday last, aged 23, Miss *Ellen Jones*, daughter of Mr. *Edward Jones*, of the KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, near Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

KINGS ARMS, Caldmore. £10 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore. £0 1s 8d.”

Walsall Observer 17/3/1951

“At the monthly meeting of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers Society.....

New members elected were Mr. A. E. Meadows, OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore.”

[1995]

Closed

It was converted into an office. [2007]

OLD KINGS ARMS

Church Road, (Norton Road), Upper Common, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Richard A Harper (acquired in 1903)

LICENSEES

Mrs. Catherine Lycett [1849] – [1860]

William Lycett [1861] – [1871]

Lucy Lycett [1881] – [1891]

John Lycett (1891 – []

James Francis Aspinall [1896] – 1899);

Ann ‘Annie’ Aspinall (1899);

George Willetts (1899 – 1900);

David Lawrence (1900 – 1904);

Henry Farrow (1904 – 1907);

Robert Woolley (1907 – [1908]

William Morgan (1908 – [1910]

NOTES

Norton Road [1861]

Church Road [1891]

It was close to St. Michael’s and All Angels Parish Church

KINGS ARMS [1858], [1870], [1896], [1900], [1904]

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Catherine Lycett, licensed victualler, KINGS ARMS, Pelsall, was fined 15s and costs, for having seven unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

1861 Census

Norton Road – OLD KINGS ARMS

[1] *William Lycett* (46), victualler and cordwainer, born Pelsall;

[2] *Lucy Lycett* (46), wife, born Pelsall;

[3] *John Lycett* (24), son, platelayer railroad, born Pelsall;

[4] *Levi Lycett* (22), son, cordwainer, born Pelsall;

- [5] Job Lycett (20), son, cordwainer, born Pelsall;
- [6] Enoch Lycett (18), son, puddler, born Pelsall;
- [7] Sarah Lycett (15), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [8] Lucy Lycett (12), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [9] William Lycett (9), son, born Pelsall;
- [10] Emily Lycett (6), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [11] William Kent (17), boarder, apprentice, born Pelsall;
- [12] George Jackson (15), boarder, apprentice, born Pelsall:

Walsall Free Press 19/4/1864

“On Thursday afternoon, T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner for the district, held an inquest of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Pelsall, upon the body of a new-born infant. It appears that, about three weeks before Christmas, Eliza White, wife of Daniel White, was confined; and, on the night of the day following the confinement, the child was interred as a still-born infant. About three weeks ago, a Mrs. Bullock, who had been at the confinement, having quarrelled with Mrs. White, circulated a report that the child had been killed. In consequence of this report having reached Mr. Phillips, the coroner, he caused the body of the child to be exhumed, and a post-mortem examination was made. Mr. Whympster, surgeon, Walsall, who made the examination, gave it as his opinion that deceased had been still-born. A verdict, in accordance with the evidence, was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1870

“At the Rushall adjourned licensing session, yesterday, the following licenses, the applications for which had stood over from the previous Tuesday, were granted, the licensees in each case being cautioned.....
Wm. Lycett, KINGS ARMS, Pelsall.”

1871 Census

Upper Common – OLD KINGS ARMS

- [1] *William Lycett* (56), licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Lucy Lycett* (56), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] *John Lycett* (33), son, cordwainer, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Levi Lycett* (32), son, cordwainer, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Sarah Lycett* (25), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [6] *Lucy Lycett* (22), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [7] *William Lycett* (19), son, puddler, iron works, born Pelsall;
- [8] *Arthur Lycett* (4), grandson, born Pelsall;
- [9] *James Birch* (91), father in law, widower, born Pelsall:

1881 Census

near Church

- [1] *Lucy Lycett* (66), publican, born Pelsall;
- [2] *John Lycett* (43), son, boot maker, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Job Lycett* (40), son, iron moulder, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Sarah Lycett* (35), daughter, dressmaker, born Pelsall;
- [5] *William Lycett* (28), son, plate layer, born Pelsall;
- [6] *Asher Lycett* (14), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [7] *Lucy Ann Wiggins* (7), granddaughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [8] *Sarah Wiggins* (5), granddaughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [9] *Mary Wiggins* (4), granddaughter, born Pelsall;
- [10] *Elizabeth Price* (13), domestic servant, born Pelsall:

1891 Census

Church Road – OLD KINGS ARMS

- [1] *Lucy Lycett* (76), innkeeper, born Pelsall;
- [2] *John Lycett* (53), son, shoemaker, born Pelsall;
- [3] *William Lycett* (36), plate layer, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Emily Lycett* (14), granddaughter, servant, born Pelsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1891

“Licensing Meeting. Rushall.

The license of the OLD KINGS HEAD, Pelsall, was transferred from *Lucy Lycett*, deceased, to *John Lycett*.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/11/1892 - Register Of Sales

“Monday, December 5th. By Mr. Thos. H. Farrington. Freehold Old-licensed Public-house, the OLD KINGS ARMS, Pelsall, at 7.”

James Francis Aspinall = James Francis Aspinall

Lichfield Mercury 17/7/1896

“Rushall Petty Session. These sessions were held on Monday, before Messrs. W. H. Brookes, R. H. Holden, and J. Clare. For contravening the muzzling of dogs order, *James Francis Aspinall*, KINGS ARMS, Pelsall was fined 5s 6d costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/11/1898

“At the Rushall Police Court on Monday, *James Francis Aspinall*, OLD KINGS ARMS, Pelsall, pleaded guilty to a charge of being drunk whilst driving a horse and cart in the Walsall Road, Pelsall.

Police-constable Dixon said he had to drive defendants home in consequence of him being totally unfit to be in charge of a horse and cart. Defendant had not lit the lamps of the cart, although it was full time that he should have done so.

Financed 20s and the costs for being drunk in charge, and 1s and 8s costs for driving without a light.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/8/1899 - Deaths

“On the 30th ult, *James Aspinall*, OLD KINGS ARMS, Pelsall, aged 39 years.”

London Gazette 22/8/1899

“Re *James Francis Aspinall*, Deceased.....

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands against the estate of *James Francis Aspinall* late of The OLD KINGS ARMS Pelsall in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler deceased (who died on the 30th day of July 1899 and whose will was proved in the Lichfield Registry of the Probate Division of Her Majesty's High Court on the 18th day of August 1899 by *Ann Aspinall* of the OLD KINGS ARMS INN Pelsall aforesaid Widow and *Mary Ann Theresa Taylor* Wife of *Thomas Taylor*, of Norton-road Pelsall aforesaid Baker the executors therein named) are hereby required to send particulars in writing of their claims or demands to the said executors or to me the undersigned on or before the 30th day of September 1899 after which date the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice and they will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims or demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 18th day of August, 1899.

Enoch Evans, 20, Bridge-street, Walsall, Solicitor for the said Executors.”

James Francis ASPINALL – see also JOLLY BACCHUS.

Lichfield Mercury 8/9/1899

“Rushall Licensing Sessions. These annual sessions were held on Monday.....

On the application of Mr. *Enoch Evans*, a temporary transfer of the KINGS ARMS, Pelsall, was granted from *Ann Aspinall* to *George Willetts*.”

AND

“Rushall Petty Sessions.

Annie Aspinall, KINGS ARMS, Church Road, Pelsall, was charged with assaulting *Charles Ruane*, commission agent, also of Church Road. Mr. *Enoch Evans* defended.

Complainant stated that on the 29th ult, about 11.30am, the defendant came to his premises and she said she had come for some potatoes, and used the most disgusting language. She also threatened to cut his head off with a spade. He took the spade off her and she went into his house and took his cap.

He admitted that when he went to take out a summons he told the Clerk that there was a dispute about the ownership of the potatoes.

The case was dismissed, the Chairman remarking that there was evidently some dispute about the ownership of the potatoes, and they had better settle their dispute in the County Court.”

Lichfield mercury 22/9/1899

“On the application of Mr. *Enoch Evans* (Walsall) a temporary transfer of the KINGS ARMS, Pelsall, was granted to *George Willetts* from the executors of the late *James Francis Aspinall*.”

Walsall Observer 24/3/1900

“On Tuesday night at the KINGS ARMS INN, a supper was held in connection of one of Mr. *Joseph Thomas*'s clothing clubs, when upwards of 30 sat down to a capital spread, which reflected the greatest credit on the worthy host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Richards*).....”

Daniel Lawrence was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in November 1900.

Walsall Advertiser 10/11/1900

“Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *David Lawrence*, OLD KINGS ARMS, Pelsall..... elected members of the society.”

1901 Census

Church Road

- [1] *David Lawrence* (54), coal miner and hewer below ground, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Emma Lawrence* (54), wife, born Momber Lane;
- [3] *Phoebe A. Lawrence* (21), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Arthur E. Lawrence* (17), son, coal miner and hewer below ground, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Emanuel Lawrence* (13), son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Samuel Lawrence* (7), son, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Edith E. Athersmith* (16), niece, born Bloxwich;

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1904

“On Monday the magistrates at Rushall Police Court (Messrs. H. Holden and E. Wilkes) granted a temporary transfer of the license of the *KINGS ARMS*, Pelsall, from *David Lawrence* to *Henry Farrow*.”

David Lawrence – see also NELSON INN.

Walsall Advertiser 20/4/1907 - Deaths

“On the 11th inst, *Kate Farrow*, *OLD KINGS ARMS*, Pelsall, aged 28 years.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/6/1907

“At the Petty Sessions, Rushall, on Monday, the license of the *OLD KINGS ARMS*, Pelsall, was temporarily transferred from *Henry Farrow* to *Robert Wooley*.”

Robert Woolley = Robert Wooley

Lichfield Mercury 16/10/1908

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions on Monday, before Messrs. R. H. Holden, E. Wilkes, E. J. Shaw, and W. M. Lester, *Robert Wooley*, landlord of the *OLD KINGS ARMS*, Pelsall, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises, also for keeping open during prohibited hours on September 22nd, and further with bribing the constable on September 24th.

George Crook (hawker), Heath End, Pelsall, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, and also with being on licensed premises during prohibited hours on September 22nd.

Mr. H. H. Jackson was for the defence, and pleaded not guilty.

Pc Rushton gave evidence to the effect that at 10pm (closing time) he saw three men leave the *OLD KINGS ARMS*, and about twenty minutes later he heard someone talking in the sitting room. On looking through the window he saw the landlord, his wife, and defendant *Crook*, sitting at the table. Witness heard *Crook* say ‘I am going to pay for — shilling’s worth of brandy for you; you have been a — good ‘un to me.’ The officer, after hearing further conversation, walked inside, and saw *Crook* leaning on the landlord’s shoulders. When *Crook* saw him (witness) he staggered towards him, and fell on a bicycle leaning against the table. He called the landlord’s attention to *Crook*’s condition, and he replied that he and his son had asked him to stay and have supper. There were four glasses on the table. On September 24th the officer saw *Mr. Wooley*, who after trying to persuade the office not to report the case, gave him 10½d and walked away.

Questioned by *Mr. Jackson*, witness said the public door was fastened, but the door which admitted to the private part of the house was only on the latch.

Further cross-examined, the officer said he went to the house in consequence of what he was told by *Mrs. Crook*, who was not on the best terms with her husband.

Evidence was given by *Mary Ann Crook* and *Hannah Crook*, who said that *Crook* was drunk at 7-30pm and 8pm.

For the defence it was urged that *Crook* was perfectly sober, and walked home, a distance of about five hundred yards, unassisted, and the landlord stated that all the man had to drink in the house was two half-pints.

The charge of keeping open during prohibited hours was dismissed. For permitting drunkenness *Wooley* was fined £3 and costs £2 2s 6d, and *Crook* for drunkenness was fined 2s 6d and costs. The bribery charge was withdrawn.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/11/1908

“*George Crook*, a hawker, of Pelsall, was summoned before the Rushall magistrates, Messrs. W. H. Brookes (presiding) and J. S. Lloyd, on Monday, for deserting his wife, *Mary Ann Crook*, who applied for a separation order.

It will be remembered that a short time ago *Mrs. Crook* informed the police that her husband was at the *OLD KINGS ARMS*, Pelsall, drunk, with the result that *Robert Wooley*, the then landlord, was fined £5 2s 6d for permitting drunkenness.

Complainant stated that she married defendant in 1882. Her husband left her on November 2nd, when he went up to *Wooley*’s, saying that she (complainant) had ruined them, and that he was going to stick to them. She has had no money from him since the case (referred to above) was heard. She went to *Wooley*’s the day after her husband left her and gave him a smack in the face, and would have given *Mrs. Wooley* one also only she ran away. *Mrs. Crook* complained of her husband’s misconduct with *Mrs. Wooley*, and in answer to *Mr. Lewis* (magistrates’ clerk) said that the only reason she had for suggesting impropriety was that she saw them sitting alone in *Wooley*’s sitting room.

In answer to her husband’s complaint admitted that she had thrown three jugs of water, three lumps of coal and a saucer of jam at him, and also that she had punched him on the nose and told him to clear out. She also admitted that she had locked up the house at night and that defendant had had to creep through the window, but she denied that she told him that if he went away she would

not trouble him. Addressing the Bench defendant said ‘She told me to —— off, so I thought I’d have a fortnight on my own.’ The Bench adjourned the case for three weeks and advised the parties to get together again.

Defendant: I’ll give her another chance, I’ll go home tonight, but I expect that the first thing I shall get will be a jug of water, and be told to —— off again.”

AND

“On the application of Mr. H. H. Jackson, the Rushall bench on Monday granted the transfer of the license for the OLD KINGS ARMS, Pelsall, from *Robert Wooley* to *William Morgan*.”

Lichfield Mercury 12/3/1909

“The Rushall adjourned licensing sessions took place on Monday. Mr. R. H. Holden, presiding.

On the application of Mr. H. H. Jackson the Bench also renewed the license of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Pelsall, the opposition in this case having been based on a conviction for selling during prohibited hours. The Bench said more care would have to be exercised in future.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1910

“There was a full Bench of Magistrates present at the Licensing Sessions for the Rushall Division, held on Tuesday, at the Rushall Police Court.

OLD KINGS ARMS, Pelsall. This house is fully-licensed, the registered owner being Mr. Richard A. Harper, who bought the house seven years ago. The house was ‘tied’ to Mr. Harper for beer, wines and spirits, and the agreement of tenancy was a quarterly one. The population had increased, and in answer to Mr. H. H. Jackson, who appeared for the owner, and tenant, Superintendent Salt said the gardens were not well kept.

Mr. H. H. Jackson said that as the FORGE INN had been taken away he thought that one license in a village in one year was enough. It was a quiet old-fashioned house, such as were desirable, and there was a good steady trade done.

The Bench decided to refer this house for compensation.

In answer to a question by Mr. H. H. Jackson, the Chairman remarked that the houses would be referred to the County Authority, and licenses would, of course be renewed provisionally.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/7/1910

“On Friday the principal meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shirehall, Stafford. Licenses refused.

OLD KINGS ARMS INN, Pelsall, full license.”

Lichfield Mercury 6/1/1911

“The annual report of the County Licensing Committee stated that at the principal meeting the committee refused to renew 27 licenses. At the supplemental meetings the committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard, upon oath, evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee considered that the amounts of compensation agreed upon were satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the compensation fund.

OLD KINGS ARMS, Pelsall, full license, £950.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1911

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Rushall Division of Staffordshire were held at Rushall Police Court on Monday. ... Superintendent T. Salt read his report.

The reduction in the numbers has been brought about by means of the Compensation Clauses of the Licensing Act, 1904.

OLD KINGS ARMS (full license), Pelsall, having been referred for compensation at the general annual licensing meeting last year, and compensation being paid, the house closed on the 28th ultimo.”

OLD NAGS HEAD

100, (98), (98+99), Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Whitehouse, wine and spirit merchant, Stafford Street, Walsall
R. A. Harper Ltd.

LICENSEES

Sarah Jackson [1818]
James Baker [1835]

Mrs. Peggy Allen [1841] – [1842]
Thomas Allen [1849] – 1850
Mrs. Peggy Allen [1851]
William Allen [1857] – [1865]
William Grant [1868] – [1873];
Mrs. Ann Maria Grant [1881] – 1897);
Clara Kearsley (1897 – 1900);
Joseph Stackhouse (1900 – 1901);
Ada Blakemore (1901 – 1902);
Edwin Corbett Walker (1902 – [1904]
Joseph Beebee [1908]

NOTES

98, Ablewell Street [1860], [1861], [1871], [1872], [1881], [1896], [1901], [1904]
98+99, Ablewell Street [1864], [1865]
100, Ablewell Street [1908]

NAGS HEAD [1818], [1835], [1841], [1842], [1845], [1850], [1857], [1861], [1862]
OLD NAGS HEAD [1850], [1858], [1860], [1868], [1871], [1911]

Birmingham Journal 27/4/1850 - Died

“On the 22nd inst, aged 47 years, Mr. *Thomas Allen* of the OLD NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

1851 Census

Ablewell Street

- [1] *Peggy Allen* (85), widow, victualler, born Walsall;
[2] Lucy Cox (14), servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 5/9/1857 - Advert

“Valuable Leasehold Property In The Foreign Of Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, By Mr. H. Farrington, at the house of Mr. *Allen*, NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, Walsall, on Monday the 21st day of September, 1857, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions; all that well-built Licensed Retail Public House, called the FOUNTAIN INN, situate in Bank Street, as above, in the occupation of Mr. Henry Hinds, with Two Houses adjoining, in the occupation of George Leadbetter, and one void, the whole of which have been lately erected, regardless of expense.....”

Walsall Free Press 24/12/1859

“About nine o'clock on Monday morning, a man named John Johnson, about seventy years of age, was found dead in his bed, in a cottage in Taylor's Yard, Ablewell Street. The man, who had been ailing for some time, had been seen at ten o'clock on the previous evening, in his usual delicate health, by Mrs. Price, but no suspicion was entertained of his being seriously ill. On Wednesday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, at which the jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

1861 Census

98, Ablewell Street – Public House – NAGS HEAD INN

- [1] *William Allen* (56), brush maker and publican, born Walsall;
[2] Jane Allen (48), wife, born Walsall;
[3] Arthur Adkins (20), apprentice brush maker, born Walsall;
[4] Reuben Lusan (16), apprentice brush maker, born Southwell, Nottinghamshire;
[5] Helen Palmer (16), house servant, born Walsall:

William Allen was also a brush maker. [1864], [1865]

See also OLD RODNEY.

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/2/1866

“A respectably dressed young man named John Welsh, who was stated to have come from the neighbourhood of Stafford, was charged with stealing on Tuesday last in the DURHAM OX public house, Park Street, £27 and a silver watch belonging to a greengrocer named Roberts, living in Stafford Street. Mr. Mathews appeared in support of the charge, and as the prosecutor on being robbed had gone to Stafford in search of the prisoner and had not yet returned, he simply asked that sufficient evidence might be taken to justify a remand, and called Detective Kates, who deposed to apprehending the prisoner at the DURHAM OX. On searching him at the police station he found upon him a silver hunting watch, £12 in gold, and £1 15s 3d in silver. Witness charged him with stealing the money, when he replied that it was his own; he added that he had been employed for five months as an usher in the household of Lord Hatherton. Another witness named James Partridge, buckle maker, Lower Rushall Street, also

gave evidence that he had seen the accused on Tuesday in the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, with two watches and a quantity of gold in a leather bag, which was produced and said to belong the prosecutor. The prisoner was then remanded until Monday.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/2/1866

“John Walsh, who stood remanded from last week on a charge of robbing Francis W. Roberts, greengrocer, Stafford Street, on the 30th ult, of the sum of £27 and a silver watch, in the DURHAM OX, Park Street, was again brought up. The prosecutor, it appeared, was unable to identify the property found on the prisoner as part of that which had been stolen from him, and as no further inculpatory evidence was adduced he was discharged.”

Walsall Free Press 30/7/1870 - Advert

“Wanted, a strong active Girl for a public house, from 20 to 25.
Apply at NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

1871 Census

98, Ablewell Street – OLD NAGS HEAD

- [1] *William Grant* (44), licensed victualler, born Northampton;
- [2] *Ann M. Grant* (40), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Sarah A. Grant* (14), daughter, scholar, born Dudley;
- [4] *William Grant* (8), son, scholar, born Dudley;
- [5] *Edward Grant* (2), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Daniel Grant* (8 months), son, born Walsall;
- [7] *Elizabeth Smith* (22), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 10/5/1873

“Wanted, a good General Servant, from 20 to 25, one from the country preferred.
Apply at the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street.”

1881 Census

98, Ablewell Street – NAGS HEAD

- [1] *Ann M. Grant* (50), widow, licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] *William J. Grant* (18), son, carpenter, born Dudley;
- [3] *Edward Grant* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ann M. Belcher* (4), granddaughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *David Dutton* (37), brewer, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mary Hales* (17), general servant, born Darlaston:

1891 Census

Ablewell Street – OLD NAGS HEAD

- [1] *Ann Maria Grant* (60), widow, licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] *Edward Grant* (22), son, brewer, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ann Maria Belcher* (14), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Howard Belcher* (9), grandson, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Ruth Mary George* (16), domestic servant, born Blakenhall, Walsall:

Ann Maria Grant was fined 10s and costs for permitting drunkenness, and also 10s and costs for attempting to bribe a police officer.

1901 Census

98, Ablewell Street

- [1] *Ada Blakemore* (52), widow, publican, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *John Blakemore* (26), son, brewer, born Sheffield;
- [3] *George Blakemore* (21), son, plumber, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *Joseph Blakemore* (15), son, engine fitter, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *Ada Blakemore* (13), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [6] *Rowland Blakemore* (7), son, born Wednesbury;
- [7] *Agnes Chambers* (14), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 10/8/1901

“Mark Ryan (32), labourer, 51, Ball Street, was charged with breaking a plate glass window at the OLD NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, the property of *Ada Blakemore*, doing damage to the amount of £5, on August 4th. John Blakemore stated that on the night in question prisoner was in the NAGS HEAD. Witness heard a crash, and found the window broken. He went to the prisoner, who said that he had done it accidentally. He had done it with a bottle with which he had meant to hit his wife. Henry Blakemore stated that he saw the prisoner pick up a bottle and throw it. Witness could not swear whether it was thrown at prisoner’s wife or at the window. Police-constable Pilsbury (54), said he heard the window smashed, and when he went into the house Blakemore

gave the prisoner into custody. Prisoner said he was throwing water at his wife, and the bottle slipped. The Magistrates dismissed the case on the ground that there was no evidence that the damage was wilful.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/6/1902

“Jennie Morris, landlady of the STORES INN, Upper Rushall Street, was charged with keeping her house open during prohibited hours, and also selling; *Ada Blakemore*, landlady of the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, and her son, John Charles, were summoned for being on the premises of the STORES during prohibited hours – Mr. H. H. Jackson defended. Police-constable Ashby found Mrs. *Blakemore* and her son on the premises of the STORES at 1.45am on May 22nd. It seemed that the parties are neighbours and friends, and the Bench gave the defendant the benefit of the doubt.”

Edwin Corbett Walker = Edwin Corbet Walker

Walsall Advertiser 2/5/1903

“A young soldier, Michael Rooney (20) of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was brought up charged with assaulting the police, and being drunk on the premises of the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, on Saturday last. Police-constable Sheppard said that about 9.35 on Saturday he was called to the NAGS HEAD, where defendant was creating a disturbance, and without provocation the latter picked up a glass of ale and threw the contents in witness’s face, at the same time using very bad language. He also said it was with difficulty they got him to the police-station.

Police-constable Gaunt said he was called to the assistance of Police-constable Sheppard, and whilst in the house, received a severe blow on the jaw from defendant, who also bit his hand drawing blood.

Prisoner, who said he was absent from his regiment, without leave, and said that he remembered nothing of the occurrence, was sentenced to two months’ hard labour for assaulting the police and fined 10s and costs or 14 days’ hard labour for being drunk on licensed premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/5/1903

“*Edwin Corbett Walker*, NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises on April 25th. Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman defended.

Police-constable Sheppard deposed that on the 25th ult, he visited the NAGS HEAD INN, and found the smoke room at the back filled with a number of disorderly young men and women, among them being a young soldier, who took up a glass of beer and threw it in his (witness’s) face. He was also very violent and struck Police-constable Gaunt on the jaw.

Police-constable Gaunt said he accompanied Police-sergeant Sheppard on the day in question, and he saw the man Rooney throw the beer.

Questioned by Mr. Newman, witness said Mr. *Walker* did not call attention to this room as they were going out.

Mr. Newman said that the defendant was in no way cognisant of the fact that Rooney was on the premises. On this occasion Mr. *Walker* was going about from room to room, and his wife was serving at the bar. The officers came in, and looked into some of the rooms, and were going when Mr. *Walker* told them there was another room at the rear if they cared to look in it. He showed them in, and as they were coming out Rooney threw the beer at them. They were about to arrest a civilian for it, when the landlord said, ‘No, that’s the man’ pointing at Rooney, ‘help me put him out.’ Rooney could not have been in more than a few minutes, because he was not there a few minutes earlier when Mr. *Walker* visited the room. He further said that Mr. *Walker* had held licenses for the last twelve years, and had had no complaints before.

Mr. *Walker* said the officers came and visited his house, and would have left without looking in the smoke-room, had he not told them of it. He showed the way, and they were about to come out again when the soldier threw the beer, for which they would have arrested another man had he not shown them the right one.

John Charles Hobson said he was in the house at the time, and saw the landlord come in followed by two officers, who looked round, and were about to depart when Rooney threw the beer over them. He corroborated the evidence as to the officers being about to arrest another man until Mr. *Walker* showed them the right one.

Arthur Bolton and Charles Payne gave similar evidence, both stating that the man had been in less than five minutes.

The magistrates retired to consider the case, and on returning dismissed it, Dr. Lynch remarking that he entirely disagreed with the decision.

Mr. Newman: I expect you would sir.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/10/1903

“Air-Gun Shooting. NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, 187; STORES, Upper Rushall Street, 237.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Edwin Corbett Walker, NAGS HEAD.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day.....

OLD WINE STORES and NAGS HEAD. Inspector Ballance explained that the backs of these house adjoined, the yard being

also common to the other property.

Mrs. Morris (tenant of the OLD WINE STORES) said they brewed their own beer and did a good trade. Her late husband paid £200 for entry to the premises. In answer to Dr. Lynch, witness admitted there was only one urinal for the use of both houses. Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith, appearing for all parties, said that negotiations had been proceeding for some time for the abandonment of one of these licenses, and if the magistrates would grant both renewals he would give an undertaking that plans should be submitted before the next Brewster Sessions for alterations to one of the houses, and that the renewal for that license only should be applied for. Both renewals were granted, on the this understanding.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/8/1904

“A bricklayer’s labourer of no fixed abode named William Davis (38) was brought up in custody charged with stealing a pair of boots, value 10s, the property of *Edwin Corbett Walker*, landlord of the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, on Monday. Prosecutor identified the boots and said he saw them on a chair in the passage yesterday afternoon. A little later he missed them and notified the police and next saw them at Rose’s pawnshop, where he was sent by Detective Burrell. The latter now deposed to making enquiries, and finding the boots at the pawnshop. Subsequently he arrested the prisoner, who, when cautioned and charged, replied, ‘I pinched ’em.’

Inspector Ballance said that the prisoner was an ex-convict and had already served three months’ imprisonment for failing to report himself.

He now pleaded guilty and was sent to prison for a further three months.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The following is the list of houses in respect of which the licensing justices have called the holders of the licenses to show cause why the licenses should be renewed.....

OLD NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale of Brewing Plants and Public-House Fixtures & Fittings removed from the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, and the STORES, Rushall Street.

Messrs. Watkins, Powell, & Wood, will Sell by Auction, on Thursday Next, August 24th, 1905, in the Yard at the rear of the MANDAMUS INN, Stafford Street, Walsall, the Public-House Fixtures & Brewing Plant, comprising Mahogany Frame Upholstered Seating, Mahogany-case Beer Machine and Piping, Cross Leg, Deal and Mahogany-top Tables, Table Tops and Trestles, Benches, Counters, Mirrors, Bar Fittings, Match Boarding, Spirit Jars and Measures, Refrigerators, Coolers, Copper Boilers, Barrel Thralls, Gas Fittings, &c, &c, also a quantity of Household Furniture.

Sale to commence at 11 o’clock (entrance Short Acre Street).

Auctioneers’ Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

[1911]

It was demolished.

Part of the BOROUGH ARMS was built on the site.

OLD OAK

21, (22), Upper Hall Lane (22, (21), Hall Lane) / George Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

B. N. Weaver, Park Street, Walsall and others

Edward Smith

Thomas Gameson

James Drew, butcher, Hall Lane, Walsall

Frank Myatt Ltd. [1906]

LICENSEES

Robert Arch* [1858] – [1861]

Robert Arch* [1864] – [1865]

James Robatham [1868] – [1873];

Henry Walter Taylor [1881] – [1882];

Catherine Taylor [];

Edward Smith [1884];
Thomas Gilliver [];
Frank Blakeman [] – 1886);
Theodore Grice (1886 – 1890);
Mrs. Sarah Ann Barr (1890);
James Barr (1890 – 1894);
Mrs. Sarah Ann Barr (1894 – 1898);
Maria Grove (1898 – 1901);
Caesar Augustus Llewelyn Jenkyns (1901 – 1902);
Mark Knight (1902 – 1903);
Herbert Tuckley (1903);
George Ford (1903 – 1906):

NOTES

21, Upper Hall Lane [1861], [1862], [1881]
22, Hall Lane [1872]
21+22, Upper Hall Lane [1891], [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

* probably the same person

Robert Arch, beerhouse, 21, Hall Lane. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 3/9/1859

“To Let, with Immediate entry, two large and commodious Dwelling Houses, pleasantly situated in the immediate vicinity of the Vicarage. The houses are fitted up with all the requisites for a respectable family, and each have a large garden attached. Rent moderate.

For particulars apply to Mr. *R. Arch*, OLD OAK, Hall Lane.”

Robert Arch, beer retailer, Upper Hall Lane. [1861]

Robert Arch, retailer of beer, 21, Upper Hall Lane. [1862]

1861 Census

21, Upper Hall Lane – OLD OAK INN

[1] *Robert Arch* (70), victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Phoebe Arch (63), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Sarah Stratton (14) general servant, born Walsall Wood:

Robert Arch, beer retailer, 21, Upper Hall Lane. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 3/2/1866 - Notice

“Mr. *Robert Arch*, Deceased.

All Persons who stand indebted to the Estate of the late Mr. *Robert Arch*, late of the OLD OAK INN, Upper Hall Lane, Innkeeper, deceased, are requested to Pay the same forthwith to William Arch, VINE INN, Lower Hall Lane; and any persons who have any claims against the said Estate are requested to send the same with the particulars thereof to the said William Arch, on or before the 1st day of March next, in order that the same may be examined and paid.

By order of the Executors.

Dated this 1st day of February, 1866.”

James Robatham, beer retailer, 21, Upper Hall Lane. [1868], [1870], [1872]

Walsall Free Press 12/3/1870 - Birth

“On the 24th ult, at the OLD OAK INN, Hall Lane, Walsall, Mrs. Fanny Weaver, of a son.”

1871 Census

21, Upper Hall Lane – OLD OAK INN

[1] *James Robatham* (49), bedstead fitter, born Walsall;

[2] Harriet Robatham (45), wife, born Walsall;

[3] George Robatham (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Benjamin N. Weaver (25), lodger, collar maker, born Walsall;

[5] Mary Weaver (19), lodger, born Walsall;

[6] Benjamin S. W. Weaver (1), lodger, born Walsall:

1881 Census

21, Upper Hall Lane

- [1] *Henry W. Taylor* (28), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Catherine Taylor* (27), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Henry Taylor* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Joseph Taylor* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Anne Taylor* (2), daughter, born Walsall
- [6] *Mary Ann Johnson* (21), general servant, born Walsall;
- [7] *Anne Hill* (14), general servant, born Walsall;
- [8] *Agnes M. Taylor* (7 months), daughter, born Walsall:

Evening Star 24/2/1882

“*Henry W. Taylor*, of the OLD OAK INN, Upper Hall Lane, was charged with opening his licensed premises before half past twelve on Sunday morning last.

Police-sergeant Mason stated that at twelve noon on Sunday last, he went into the defendant’s house, and there found two men in the parlour and three in the kitchen.

Mrs. *Taylor* swore that the two men in the parlour were friends of Mr. *Taylor*’s who had come to see him, he being ill in bed. One of three in the kitchen was the father of the servant. Of the remaining two, one was a friend of the servant’s and the other a traveller, who was the only one who paid for the beer he had. Mr. Loxton appeared for *Taylor*, and called other witnesses to support what Mrs. *Taylor* had stated. The case was dismissed.”

Edward Smith was fined 5s and costs, on 5th November 1884, for selling before 12.30.

Birmingham Daily Post 5/10/1886

“Walsall. OLD OAK Beerhouse, Hall Lane; long lease; good brewing plant. Rent low, £70. Apply on Premises.”

Theodore Grice was fined 20s and costs, on 15th June 1888, for opening before lawful hours on Sunday.

1891 Census

21+22, Upper Hall Lane – OLD OAK

- [1] *James Barr* (48), currier, born Scotland;
- [2] *Sarah A. Barr* (48), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Barr* (20), son, organ builder, born Walsall;
- [4] *James Barr* (18), son, bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Sidney Jones* (17), son, presser, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sarah A. Jones* (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Eliza Williams* (14), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 16/3/1895

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. Joseph Butler, FITTERS’ ARMS INN, Hatherton Street.....

Mrs. *Sarah Ann Barr*, of the OLD OAK INN, Upper Hall Lane, was unanimously elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The following is a return of licensees who have been proceeded against during the year ending August 30th, 1895.....

Theodore D. Grice, PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, for having kept his licensed premises open during prohibited hours on January 4th, fined 1s and costs.....

Objections were also lodged against *Theodore Grice*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Portland Street on the grounds (1) that *Grice* was fined 10s and costs on June 15th, 1888, for keeping open during prohibited hours, (2) that he was on January 4th, 1895, further fined 1s and costs for a like offence, (3) that he was not a fit and proper person to hold a license, and (4) that the license was not demanded by the requirements of the neighbourhood.....

In the case of *Grice* which was taken first, Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared in support of the landlord. Mr. J. N. Cotterell represented Mr. Downing, who is the owner of the house. Mr. Jackson, referring to the objections raised by the Chief, stated that the first conviction in 1888 was when his client held the license of the OAK INN, Hall Lane, so that he considered it most unfair now that the magistrates had granted *Grice* a transfer of another license that that offence should again be brought up against him The license was renewed with a caution.”

Mrs. *Sarah Ann Barr*, beer retailer, 21, Upper Hall Lane. [1896]

Caesar A. L. Jenkyns = *Caesar A. L. Jenkins*

1901 Census

21+22, Upper Hall Lane

- [1] *Caesar A. L. Jenkins* (34), beerhouse keeper, born Broughwood, Brecknockshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Jenkins (31), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Ruth Jenkins (12), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] Dorothy Jenkins (5), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] Henry Jenkins (4), son, born Manchester;
- [6] Violet Jenkins (5 months), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 25/1/1902

“Mr. T. H. Stanley applied for the transfer of the license of the ROYAL [sic] OAK beerhouse, Upper Hall Lane, from *Caesar Jenkyns* to *Mark Knight*. The Acting Chief Constable (Inspector Ballance) said he had no objection on the ground of character, but *Jenkyns* left the house on Wednesday last, since when *Knight* had been managing it.

Mr. R. J. Cooper (Town Clerk) said he had instructed the Acting Chief Constable to issue a summons against *Knight*, who had been receiving the profits of the house for five days without having a license.

The house was ordered to be closed for the day, and a further application to be made next day.”

AND

“*Mark Knight*, of the OLD OAK INN, Upper Hall Lane, was summoned for selling beer without a license on January 15th and four following days.

The Town Clerk (Mr. J. R. Cooper) appeared on behalf of the police, explaining that the license of the OLD OAK INN was at present held by a man named *Jenkyns*. Some arrangement had been come to between the defendant and *Jenkyns* by which the defendant was to have possession of the house on Wednesday last week, but difficulties arose, and, notwithstanding that no authority was obtained from the magistrates to empower defendant to sell, he entered into possession, keeping *Jenkyns* on the premises, although *Jenkyns* had removed his goods and gone to reside in another part of the town. However, after hearing the explanation which would no doubt be made to the Bench, he did not propose to proceed further with the summonses, with the permission of the Bench. It appeared to him the defendant thought he was satisfying the law by arranging for the last tenant to remain on the premises until he obtained a temporary authority. The object of issuing the summonses was to show to the public that there must not be trafficking in those licenses, and that before any person could sell on licensed premises it was absolutely necessary that the authority of a bench of magistrates should be obtained.

Mr. H. H. Jackson (who represented *Knight*) said that *Knight's* tenancy was a bona fide one; he paid the owner £35 on deposit to go into the house, and had to pay a further £30. On Wednesday last he was instructed to apply for a temporary authority, but owing to the owner of the premises not turning up they could not proceed. A wire was sent to Wolverhampton for the owner, but unfortunately he did not arrive until the court was over. *Jenkyns* who was the licensee, remained on the premises, and under those circumstances *Knight* thought he was perfectly justified in selling. Strictly speaking he supposed a technical offence had been committed, but everything had been fair and above board. The house had been closed on the previous day and was closed that morning, so he thought the defendant had been punished for his negligence or want of care in not having a temporary authority. Everything was all in order now, and he asked the Bench to accede to the suggestion of the Town Clerk and allow the case to be withdrawn.

The Town Clerk mentioned that Mr. Jackson was willing to pay the costs of the summons.

The magistrates consented to this course, and subsequently granted a transfer of the license from *Jenkyns* to the defendant.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/3/1902 - Advert

“James Drew, Deceased.

Valuable Freehold Beerhouse and Other Properties in Upper Hall Lane and High Street, Walsall. To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Fox & Harrison at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday Next, the 18th day of March, 1902, at Seven o'clock in the evening precisely.....

Lot 2. The Well-known Freehold Beerhouse, known as the OLD OAK INN, situate in Upper Hall Lane, Walsall, now in the occupation of *Mark Knight*; together with the Cottage in the rear thereof, in the occupation of Michael Bannon.

And also the Five Adjoining Houses, Numbered 19, 20, 20A, 23, and 24, in the occupation of O'Brien, Coleman, Burke, and Whittick, at weekly rents producing £55 18s per annum.

The OLD OAK INN and the Cottage in the rear thereof are let on lease to Mr. Matthew Rhodes, brewer, Ettingshall, near Wolverhampton, for a term of seven years commencing 1st September, 1899, at the yearly rent of £60.

The accommodation of the Licensed House comprises, on upper floors, five Chambers; on ground floor, Smoke Room, Tap Room, Bar, a second Smoke Room, Sitting Room, and Pantries; on basement, two excellent Cellars; Yard, Brewhouse (with room over), and Washhouse.

The Lessee has the option of purchasing the whole of the property comprising Lot 2 for £2,500, at any time before the 1st day of September, 1906, on giving three calendar months previous notice. The property is sold subject to the said Lease and to the option of purchase. The counterpart Lease can be seen at any time on application to either of the undermentioned solicitors.

NB. This Freehold Licensed House is well worth the attention of Brewers and Publicans, as well of Investors.

For further particulars and plans apply to the Auctioneers, 51, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall; to Mr. James Armstrong, Solicitor, 20, Bridge Street, Walsall; or to Mr. T. Harrison Evans, Solicitor, 45, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/7/1902

“The petition in bankruptcy has been filed at the office of the Wolverhampton Official Receiver (Mr. Sam Wells Page), of *Mark Knight*, beerhouse keeper and commercial traveller. The statement of the debtor’s affairs shows gross liabilities amounting to £106 8s 6d, the deficiency being £92 2s 6d. Bankrupt gives the cause of insolvency ‘want of capital, bad debts, and bad trade.’ In his observations the Official Receiver states: The bankrupt is 37 years of age. Prior to January, 1902, he was a public house manager. In November, 1901, he purchased the stock, license, and effects of a beerhouse, known as the OLD OAK INN, Walsall, for £35, but did not have possession until the 25th January, 1902. He had capital of £30, and the balance of the purchase money he borrowed. He traded at the OLD OAK INN up to the time of his bankruptcy. Shortly after going into the house he was unable to pay his debts as they became due. On 27th June, 1902, a distress was levied for half-year’s rent, £12 10s; and on 30th June an execution was levied for £14. The bankrupt then consulted his solicitor, and the petition was filed on 4th July, 1902. The same day the landlord sold all the distrainable effects at the inn. The sale only realised £10 16s 5d. The unsecured creditors consist of £15 10s money borrowed, £78 0s 1d trade debts, and £8 12s 5d miscellaneous items. The debts have been contracted since December last. The bankrupt kept no cash book or ledger. He states his present deficiency had arisen from loss upon carrying on business since taking to the inn, and household expenses since then. The first meeting of creditors takes place at Wolverhampton on the 29th inst, and the public examination of the debtor at Walsall on the 31st.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/8/1902

“Walsall Bankruptcy Court.....

Mark Knight, beerhouse keeper, of the OLD OAK INN, Upper Hall Lane, Walsall, appeared for public examination. The statement of affairs showed liabilities expected to rank £102 2s 6d. In reply to the Official Receiver (Mr. Sam Wells Page) debtor stated that for four years prior to December, 1900, he lived in Lower Hall Lane, and was employed by Messrs. Shannon. From December, 1900, to January, 1902, he was at the ROLLING MILL INN, Bradley, and since that time he had been at the OLD OAK INN, where he purchased the stock, license and fixtures for £35. He did not have a previous valuation, however. Shortly after going into the OLD OAK debtor found that he was unable to pay his debts as they became due. He had been disappointed in the house. He attributed his insolvency to want of capital, bad debts, and bad trade. The examination was adjourned to August 27th. Mr. J. Armstrong appeared for the debtor.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/8/1902

“Mr. J. A. Armstrong called attention to the case of the OLD OAK INN, of Upper Hall Lane. The license holder, Mr. *Mark Knight*, recently became bankrupt, but the license had not lapsed. The Official Receiver was prepared to accept Mr. *Knight* to continue to keep the house. The magistrates granted permission for Mr. *Knight* to remain landlord of the inn.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/1/1903

“Today was the adjourned transfer day. Transfers of full licenses were granted in the case of.....

Mr. J. N. Cotterell renewed his application for the granting of a transfer of the OLD OAK, Upper Hall Lane, from *Mark Knight* to *Herbert Tuckley*, who had been temporarily in authority for the last few weeks. He said that *Tuckley* had been a license holder upwards of twelve years, during which time no complaint or conviction had been registered against him. In September 1901, he left the FOUR WAYS, Birchills, and became steward of the Birchills Working Men’s Club, at 35s a week. Not liking club work, however, he applied, or intended to apply to be granted the license of a house in Ablewell Street, but was given to understand that he could not hold a license while steward of a club. He therefore gave up his appointment at the club, which he had had absolutely nothing to do with since. In July he was granted a temporary authority in respect of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, but he gave up that house very quickly, through a misunderstanding as to takings. Though a man of some means *Tuckley* had to earn his living, and for that reason he was applying for this transfer.

The Bench intimated that they wished to know *Tuckley*’s connection with the working men’s club.

Who paid him his wages while he was steward? – Applicant: The club.

Mr. Beebee asked how far the house at which the club was held was distant from the FOUR WAYS? – Mr. Cotterell said he did not know, but Dr. Lynch said that the two places were on opposite sides of the road.

Mr. Dean suggested that the club was really an opposition shop.

The next question was as to whose the house was which the club occupied? – The reply was it belonged to Mr. *Tuckley*, who, however, had granted a lease of it to the Butler’s Brewery Co, for 14 years.

Mr. Beebee said the justices were informed that *Tuckley* was well off, and had no necessity to keep a club or anything else.

Mr. Cotterell assured the Bench that his client had to earn his living, having a large family to keep, and further submitted that even if he had been a rich man that would not have been a ground for refusing the transfer.

Replying again applicant said that since his wife had leased the club house in Pargeter Street, he had had nothing to do with the club, and was in no way interested in the affair, except as regarded the lease.

Mr. Dean: Have you anything to do with another club in Hollyhedge Lane? – Applicant: No, sir.

Has your wife? – No, sir.

To whom does the property on which the club is held belong? – Mr. Maiden.

Is that your brother-in-law? – Yes.

Dr. Lynch: As a matter of fact, is not your wife financing that club? – No, sir.

Mr. Beebee said he did not know whether applicant could answer for his wife. It was not everyone that could (laughter).

Dr. Lynch asked if Butler’s had not spent £650 in renovating the club premises? – Applicant did not know.

Mr. Dean said that when the law dealt as it did with licensed houses, they did not want to have people opening clubs, and then turning them over to brewery companies at big rents.

Applicant repeated that he had nothing to do with any club now. He added that he had not been on friendly terms with his brother-in-law for a long time who was concerned with the Hollyhedge Lane club.

The Chief Constable said he had no objection to *Tuckley* as licensee of the OLD OAK.

When the Town Clerk contemplated opposing *Tuckley's* application for a license, it was while he was steward of the Working Men's Club.

In reply to further questions applicant said the club in Pargeter Street was started in January, and he received notice to leave the FOUR WAYS in March, though he did not actually leave until September.

The justices after a short retirement, decided to grant the transfer."

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

George Ford, landlord of the OLD OAK, Upper Hall Lane, was called on to show whether his house was necessary, was in a proper state of repair, and of sufficient value. Mr. Armstrong representing the owners. Ford said his rent was £25. Asked how long he had paid that, he replied, 'I am not in arrears yet' (laughter). Questioned as to whether he knew 'there are two GREEN MANS at the corner of the street,' he answered, 'Well I have been away since morning (loud laughter, in which the magistrates joined).

The case was adjourned to March 1st, the magistrates laying an objection to the renewal."

The license renewal was refused on 1st February 1906.

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

"There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Chief Constable had given notice of objection to the renewal of the following seven licenses; William Henry Lowe, ACORN, alehouse, Lower Rushall Street; James Scott, JOLLY BACCCHUS, alehouse, New Street; George James Sambrook, KING WILLIAM, alehouse, Little Bloxwich; *William Wright*, OLD OAK, beerhouse, Upper Hall Lane; William Alfred Burton, STORES, beerhouse, Ablewell Street; George Carrington, STORES, beerhouse, Upper Rushall Street; John James Lawrence, STORES, beerhouse, High Street.

Mr. Loxton said these objections were by direction of the Bench, and he had also served notices on behalf of the magistrates, simply to comply with the section of the Act of Parliament, and without forming any opinion or prejudging cases. The justices directed him to state for the convenience of the advocates that the objections were mainly on the grounds of not required which would necessitate their being referred to the Compensatory Authority. But if during the hearing of the cases the grounds should be such as to justify the refusal of renewal on grounds without compensation, the advocate would be required to direct his attention to such grounds.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said he came there on the understanding that it was the intention to refer those licenses to the Compensatory Authority to report on.

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had inspected a number of houses with a view to whether they should report to the Compensatory Authority. It might be that some houses were structurally unfit, and in such case they would refuse the license, and they would have to go the quarter sessions.....

The first case taken was that of the OLD OAK, Upper Hall Lane. Mr. R. J. Lawrence, instructed by Messrs. Stanley and Jackson, appeared for the owners, Frank Myatt and Co, Wolverhampton, and the tenant William Wright.

Chief-inspector Ballance said there were five licenses within 120 paces of the OLD OAK INN. There was a deficiency in sanitary accommodation, and the ceilings were rather low, and in parts dilapidated, and the stairs were dark and dangerous.

By Mr. Lawrence: The house was in an improved condition to what it was. In all the business parts of the house it was in a clean and good condition. The population of the neighbourhood was decreasing.

Mr. Lawrence contended that the district was a more important one now than it ever had been. If the requirement was less it was no reason why this particular house should be taken away; it was only fair that those which had come into existence since should go first. There was no complaint about the house, it was in good condition, and the owners and tenant strongly hoped that the Bench would not report the house for compensation. They were doing a good trade, and did not wish to be scheduled, as no doubt some would.

Mr. H. E. Framer and Mr. T. A. Lowry (Wolverhampton), architects gave evidence that the house was in a tenantable condition.

Mr. Lawrence to Mr. Lowry: Is it not one of the latest fads among architects that there is better ventilation in a low room than in a high one (laughter). – Mr. Lowry: I won't go into that.

Answering a further question, witness said he knew the DUKE OF YORK INN, and the outside of that was in a bad state.

Mr. Loxton: If the OLD OAK ought to be taken away, the DUKE OF YORK more so? – Witness: Yes.

Mr. Loxton (to the Chief Constable): Perhaps you will make note of that for next year.

Mr. Lawrence said the fact that the owner did not want to come on the compensation and was satisfied with the trade ought to be considered by the Bench.....

The justices were not prepared to renew this license, but would refer it to a full bench as the compensation authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/5/1906

“On Tuesday before a full Bench, comprised of Messrs. W. H. Brooks (presiding), G. Gull, J. Moseley, A. D. Cozens, R. Thomas, S. B. Wheway, H. D. Clark, P. Bull, J. Clare, and (Dr.) J. Lynch, Mr. F. Bill (solicitor) appeared in support of the report made by the Licensing Committee in respect of the four following houses: KING WILLIAM, Little Bloxwich; OLD OAK, Hall Lane; STORES, Ablewell Street; and STORES, High Street.

Mr. Bill in explaining the mode of procedure, said that if the Licensing Committee thought a license should be dealt with on certain grounds they could deal with it, and could refuse the license, but if they considered that it should be dealt with in respect of grounds other than those particular grounds, the matter must be brought before a full bench of Magistrates to deal with. The grounds of the report in these cases were that the licenses were not required by the needs of the district. This was one of the grounds the Licensing Committee could not deal with, and they must send the licenses so reported to a full bench of magistrates, who could renew or refuse the license. In case the latter course was taken then the question of compensation arose. He was instructed that these four houses had been inspected by the magistrates, so that their condition and the neighbourhood must be within their own knowledge. Mr. Bill then proceeded to call evidence.....

OLD OAK. Chief-inspector Ballance said that the house was difficult to police-supervision, structurally bad, old, and in parts dilapidated. He knew the district well and in his opinion there were too many public-houses, of which this was the least suitable of those in close proximity.

Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the owners F. Myatt, Ltd, and for the licensee *W. Wright* (?).

After a private deliberation, the chairman (Mr. W. H. Brooks) said the Bench had unanimously confirmed the resolution of the Licensing Committee that the four houses were unnecessary, and the licenses would be refused.”

OLD PEAL AND NELSON

6, (5), (2), Peal Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Freeman, Paddock, Walsall

Mrs. J. Freeman, widow

Edgbaston Brewery Co. Ltd, Five Ways, Birmingham

William Henry Anderson, Dudley Street, Wolverhampton (acquired in 1892)

LICENSEES

Thomas Chillingworth [1813]

Ann Chillingsworth [1818] – [1822]

George Boulton [1828] – [1830]

James Hayes [1834] – [1835]

Robert Parsons [1841] – [1842]

Isaac Webb [1843]

Joseph Freeman [1845] – [1870]

Henry Smith [1871] – [1872]

Joseph Beebee [1872] – **1873**;

Levi Evans (**1873** – [];

James Childs [];

Charles Pinder [];

John George Robotham [];

Charles Matthew Anderson [];

Edward Wainwright [1880] – [1881];

John Heaton [];

Albert Lovett [];

Henry Edwards [] – **1888**;

William Cramwell (**1888**);

Richard Shazell (**1888**);

James Dyer (**1888 – 1893**);

James O’Hanlon (**1893 – 1894**);

William Henry Tonks (**1894**) ?

Ebenezer Cooper (**1894**):

NOTES

5, Peal Street
6, Peal Street [1860], [1871], [1891]
5+6, Peal Street [1861]
2, Peal Street [1881]

OLD PEAL [1818], [1822], [1828], [1830], [1834], [1835], [1841], [1842], [1865]
NELSON AND PEAL [1841], [1872], [1891], [1893], [1894]
OLD PEAL AND NELSON [1843], [1851], [1860], [1868], [1874]
PEAL AND NELSON [1845], [1849], [1850], [1858], [1864], [1865], [1893], [1894]
OLD NELSON AND PEAL [1873]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/3/1828 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, on the premises, on Tuesday the 8th day of April, 1828, at four o'clock in the afternoon (unless in the meantime a suitable offer should be made by private contract), the Licences, Goodwill, and Possession of that old established and well frequented Market House known by the sign of the OLD PEAL, most eligibly situated in Peal Street, close to the Market Place, with capital Cellars and Stabling for twelve horses.

The present tenant leaves on account of entering into the farming business.

N.B. The Stock (which is kept reduced), Fixtures, Household Furniture, &c to be taken to at a fair valuation.

To treat apply to E. Jukes, Land Surveyor and Auctioneer, Park Street, Walsall.”

1841 Census

Peal Street

[1] *Robert Parsons* (40), farmer;
[2] *Ann Parsons* (35);
[3] *Joseph Parsons* (6), born Staffordshire;
[4] *Thomas Parsons* (9), born Staffordshire;
[5] *Selina Parsons* (4), born Staffordshire;
[6] *Roseanna Parsons* (1), born Staffordshire;
[7] *Eliza Jones* (20);
[8] *Sarah Baylis* (1), born Staffordshire;
[9] *Julia Dunn* (45):

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/9/1841

“The general annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday. The magistrates present were John Whitgreave, Esq, R. James, Esq, C. F. Cotterill Esq, and C. Greatrex, Esq. Several applications were made for new licenses, but only two were granted, one to John Boys, at the JUNCTION INN, Bridgeman Street, and the other to a person named Amos, at Bloxwich. The licenses of two old houses were withdrawn for misconduct, namely the BULLS HEAD, in Rushall Street, and the NELSON AND PEAL, Peal Street.”

London Gazette 23/6/1843

“I, *Isaac Webb*, at present, and for four months past, residing at a house known by the sign of the OLD PEAL AND NELSON, in Peal-street, in the parish of Walsall, and county of Stafford, and being a Stone Mason and Licenced Victualler, and for six months previously thereto residing in Freer-street, in the said parish, and being then a Stone Mason, and for eighteen months previously thereto residing in Stafford-street, in the said parish, and being then a Stone Mason, and for eighteen months previously thereto residing in Portland-street, in the said parish, and being then a Stone Mason and Beer Retailer, do hereby give notice, that I intend to present a Petition to the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, at Birmingham, praying to be examined touching my debts, estate, and effects, and to be protected from all process, upon making a full disclosure and surrender of such estate and effects, for payment of my just and lawful debts; and I hereby further give notice, that the time when the matter of the said Petition shall be heard, is to be advertized in the London Gazette and in the Staffordshire Advertiser Newspaper, one month at the least after the date hereof.

As witness my hand, this 15th day of June in the year of our Lord, 1843

Isaac Webb.”

Joseph Freeman was also a horse dealer. [1845], [1849], [1850], [1861]

1861 Census

5+6, Peal Street

[1] *Joseph Freeman* (56), publican and horse dealer, born Walsall;
[2] *Frances Freeman* (63), wife, born Compton;
[3] *Mary Freeman* (21), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] *Mary Fox* (18), servant, born Ireland;

- [5] Jane Jackson (48), lodger, born Northampton;
[6] Robert Jackson (38), lodger, labourer, born Henford, Bedfordshire:

Walsall Free Press 24/6/1865 - Advert

“Mr. J. Challoner & Company begs to inform the public that a Meeting will be held at the OLD PEAL, Peal Street, at Eight o'clock, on Monday Night, for the ‘Beef, Pork and Milk Company.’
By Order, J. Challoner, Chairman.”

1871 Census

6, Peal Street

- [1] *Henry Smith* (59), publican, born Norton Canes;
[2] Eliza Smith (50), wife, born Walsall;
[3] Emily H. Smith (19), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] Clara E. Smith (17), daughter, born Walsall;
[5] Alice M. Smith (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] Richard H. Smith (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[7] William N. Smith (8), grandson, scholar, born Walsall;
[8] Sidney H. Smith (12), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/10/1872

“Bridget Jordan, wife of a shoemaker living in Dudley Street, was charged with stealing a bottle of whisky, value 5s 6d, the property of Mr. *Joseph Beebee*, of the NELSON AND PEAL, Peal Street. On Wednesday morning the prisoner went to the prosecutor's house, and soon after the bottle of liquor in question was missed. Sergeant Drury was communicated with, and he went to the prisoner, who denied knowing anything about the missing property. The officer, however, found it under her dress. A previous conviction having been proved against her, she was sentenced to one months' imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 30/8/1873

“Harriet Baynton and Jeremiah Trysull were charged with having stolen a silver watch, valued £7, the property of William Lowe. It appeared that on Saturday, the 9th inst, all the parties were in the SWAN AND PEAL public-house, Peal Street, and prosecutor went to the bar and requested the girl who was there lend him a needle and thread to sew a brace button on, and the female prisoner offered to sew it on for him. She did so, and in about ten minutes afterwards he missed his watch, and accused Baynton of taking it, but she denied all knowledge of it. Elizabeth Gabbes, sister of the female prisoner, said that on Sunday, the 10th inst, the female prisoner told her that she (prisoner) had stolen the watch, and that the male prisoner had sold it. *Levi Evans*, landlord of OLD NELSON AND PEAL, said the male prisoner came to his house and said, ‘I have something here I can sell cheap – it came cheap;’ but as someone came to the bar window the prisoner went away and came back in about half-an-hour and produced the watch, which was a silver one, with a silver dial and gold letters. Prisoner offered to sell the watch for £4 and said it cost £7 10s. Detective-sergeant Drury proved the apprehension of the female prisoner, who denied all knowledge of the watch. The male prisoner, who had been apprehended at Oldbury, also denied, when taken into custody, all knowledge of the watch. The prisoners, who pleaded not guilty, were remanded for a week.”

[At the Borough Quarter Sessions at the Guildhall, on 19th September, Harriet Baynton, who had previously been convicted, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment, including two weeks' solitary confinement, and Jeremiah Trysull to three months' imprisonment, including one week's solitary confinement.]

London Gazette 10/3/1874

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Levi Evans*, of the OLD PEAL AND NELSON INN, Peal Street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Innkeeper and Press Tool Maker.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Fredrick Bill, at No.5, Bridge-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on the 24th day of March, 1874, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 6th day of March, 1874.

Frederick Bill, 5, Bridge-street, Walsall, Attorney for the said Debtor.”

1881 Census

2, Peal Street

- [1] *Edward Wainwright* (69), publican, born Atherston, Staffordshire;
[2] Hannah Wainwright (60), wife, born Wilnecoate [Wilnecote?];
[3] Thomas Heaton (39), son in law, jeweler, born Birmingham;
[4] Eliza Heaton (30), daughter, born Birmingham;
[5] Joseph Clark (28), boarder, painter, born Birmingham;
[6] Emily Meek (17), servant, born Aston:

1891 Census

6, Peal Street – NELSON AND PEAL INN

[1] *James Dyer* (39), manager of public house, born Kidderminster;

[2] *Mary Dyer* (37), wife, born Warrington;

[3] *Maggie Dyer* (11), daughter, scholar, born London;

[4] *Harriet Dyer* (9), daughter, scholar, born Brownhills;

[5] *Lilly Dyer* (7), daughter, scholar, born Warrington;

[6] *Minner Dyer* (5), daughter, scholar, born Warrington;

[7] *Etty Dyer* (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/8/1893

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *James O’Hanlon*, the NELSON AND PEAL, Peal Street, was summoned for selling without a license. It seemed he omitted to get a temporary authority on Monday, when he entered into possession of the house, and a couple of days was selling illegally. He was ordered to pay the costs of the Court 19s 6d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing session for Walsall borough took place yesterday.....

An application for the transfer of the PEAL AND NELSON, Peal Street, from *James Dyer* to *James O’Hanlan*, was opposed by the Chief Constable, on the ground that the house was the resort of disorderly persons, and that the license was not required. Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. Jackson) appeared for the owner, Mr. Anderson, and said that gentleman proposed to make the house his central stores for Walsall. Mr. Anderson was called, and he said that when he bought the house last year he saw the Chief Constable, who gave him to understand that it had been well conducted. Granted.”

James O’Hanlon was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness, 10s and costs for selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person, and 40s and costs for being drunk on his own premises, on 8th November 1893.

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1894

“At the Guildhall, on Monday, *James Dyer*, keeper of the STORES INN, High Street, applied for the transfer of the license of that house to himself from John Henry Tully, who supported the application. The case was before the court on the previous Friday, the special transfer day, when Tully failed to appear. The Chief Constable (Mr. Taylor) now intimated that he had given notice of objection.

Dyer was sworn and admitted that his wife kept a coffee house and lodging-house in Peal Street, but said he left the PEAL AND NELSON INN because of this, as the Chief Constable told him if he got any other house than this he would have no opposition. Mr. Taylor: I told him I would not agree to his keeping a license if he had a common lodging house a few yards away.

The applicant denied it was a common lodging house, but the Chief Constable explained it was formerly the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, and although not a registered lodging-house was frequented by people on the road who were not of a particularly good character. Proceeding Mr. Taylor said his present objection was that he was not satisfied as to the applicant’s present character. Since *Dyer* had left the PEAL AND NELSON there had been continual uproar in that part of town between his wife and people of the name of Fahy, and something would have to be done about it.

The applicant said he was afraid there was something under the surface as regards this opposition besides what had come out. It was not much good his doing anything against what the Chief Constable was able to do.

Mr. Loxton said there was no ground for such a statement as this. The magistrates would give him every consideration.

Mr. Brewer asked what he meant by something under the surface? – *Dyer*: Well, I will tell you; as it may well come out. In Mr. Holden’s last election the Chief Constable sent Police-constable Bentley to my house, and he brought me up to his office. He said I hear you are taking an active part in this election, and if such is the case I shall have to oppose your license.

Mr. Moseley: On whose behalf was it? – *Dyer*: On behalf of Mr. Holden.

Mr. Brewer: Do you want to insinuate that because you were working for Mr. Holden the Chief Constable turned against you and warned you? – *Dyer*: I give you this statement, and you can take it for what it is worth.

Mr. Taylor asked to be allowed to meet this charge. It was perfectly true that he sent for this man and another man as well. It was at the last election, and he heard *Dyer* was getting a party of roughs together on behalf of Sir Arthur Holden, and that a man named Hunter, who was well known to the magistrates, was alleged to be getting another party of roughs together for Mr. Ritchie. He sent for both and warned each separately that if they had anything to do with any such thing he should have them bound over to keep the peace. This he did in the interests of the peace of the town.

Mr. Loxton: Certainly, that is obvious.

The applicant here said it was in Mr. Holden’s not Sir Arthur Hayter’s election.

Mr. Loxton said it was obvious that the Chief Constable acted in the interest of preserving peace.

The Chief Constable added that to show the absence of any personal feeling when the license of the PEAL AND NELSON was opposed he gave *Dyer* the character of having done his best whilst in charge there.

The Magistrates adjourned the application for a week for evidence in support of the opposition.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1894

“*Ebenezer Cooper*, keeper of the PEAL AND NELSON INN, Peal Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on Saturday, the 27th ult. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the defence.

The Chief Constable, who conducted the prosecution, stated that the case was the sequel to proceedings taken against a man named Lawrence Farrol, who was sentenced to twenty-one days’ imprisonment for being drunk and disorderly and assaulting the

police. It then transpired that Farrol had been at the PEAL AND NELSON INN, that he was sober on going there, but afterwards got into such a state the he commenced to use a razor, and the police had to be called in.

Farrol was now called, and said he had a share of four pints of beer while in the house. He had also had five pints previously, but it took more than this to affect him, and he was perfectly sober all the time. He was not drunk when he was locked up.

In reply to the Chief Constable, he admitted he pleaded guilty before the magistrates.

Police-constables Reynolds, Bell, and Ballance each gave evidence as to prisoner being drunk, and Benjamin Hawkins, potman, in defendant's employ, was examined as to admissions he made when Farrol's case was being heard.

Mr. Jackson for the defence, said the whole case arose in consequence of Farrol using a razor; but for that nothing would have been heard of the matter. He denied altogether that Farrol was drunk.

Defendant was sworn and said he managed the house for Anderson & Co. He had 20 years' character from Birmingham. Farrol when seen by him was certainly not drunk, but was very much excited; in fact, for the time being he was like a maniac.

Defendant was questioned as to not attending the court when Farrol was charged, and said some goods came unexpectedly which he had to stay and get in. Asked by the Chief Constable what these were, he said it was irrelevant, and after considerable pressure said he meant he had barrels to tap &c, and this delayed him.

Several witnesses spoke as to Farrol's sobriety. Their evidence, however, being somewhat contradictory. Ultimately the magistrates dismissed the case, Mr. Brewer, however telling defendant that the considered he had given his evidence in a very disgraceful and untruthful manner. After the statements he had made they could not believe him again.

Mr. Russell said he quite endorsed Mr. Brewer's remarks. He himself could not place the slightest reliance on the evidence if the defendant after he had fenced with a plain question and told such different stories. Mr. Gill said he quite concurred in the remarks made. Defendant had a very narrow escape."

Walsall Advertiser 24/3/1894

"On the application of Mr. H. H. Jackson, the license of the PEAL AND NELSON INN, Peal Street was transferred to *Wm. Henry Tonks*. Mr. Jackson said the proposed tenant bore an excellent character, and it was hoped would be proved to be the right man at last. Mr. Brewer said the magistrates hoped this would be the case, and they would have less trouble with the house in future."

Birmingham Daily Post 29/3/1894

"At the Guildhall, yesterday, Margaret Kelly, Church Street, was charged, on remand, with having, on the 19th inst, at the PEAL AND NELSON INN, stabbed William Rowan. Dr. Stearn having deposed that the injured man was still in hospital in a somewhat critical condition, the accused was remanded for a week."

Birmingham Daily Post 12/4/1894

"At Walsall, yesterday, Margaret Kelly (23) was charged on remand with having, on the 19th March, stabbed William Rowan with intent to murder. Mr. H. H. Jackson watched the proceedings on behalf of the owners of the house where the alleged attempt was made.

Rowan stated that on the day named he and the prisoner were at the PEAL AND NELSON INN, Peal Street, the greater part of the day, a new tenant having entered into possession that day, and there being free drinks about. Some words arose over witness speaking to another young woman, and he made a slight kick at defendant, but did not touch her. She drew a knife from her pocket, and stabbed him in the breast. (The knife was an ordinary table-knife, worn to a dagger-like point by use.)

Henry Jones, at whose house the couple lodged, said the woman fetched the knife from his house, and after some time came back crying, and threw herself on the squab, saying, 'What shall I do? I have stabbed my Bill.'

Kate Dyer, 4, Park Place, Aston, said that whilst she was in the house Rowan asked her to pay for a drink for him, and she did so. In the yard she asked prisoner if she was jealous, and the reply was 'no.' When prisoner struck the blow she said to Rowan 'I'll kill you.'

James Fitzgerald said they were all getting jolly, but were not drunk. After Rowan had received the wound he called out 'I'm done for,' and staggered out of the house.

Police-constable Morris deposed that the woman came to the police station immediately after the occurrence, and gave herself up, saying, 'I've stabled my husband with a knife in the PEAL AND NELSON. We had been quarrelling, and I was in a temper.'

Dr. Stearn deposed that Rowan had a wound 1½in long, passing into the chest cavity. The man was nearly dead when admitted, and it was thought desirable to have his deposition taken at once. He was in dangerous state for some days.

Accused was committed for trial at the assizes, the Bench consenting to accept bail, herself in £50, and two sureties in £25 each." [At the Staffordshire Assizes, on July 24th, 1894, Margaret Kelly was indicted for unlawfully and maliciously wounding William Rowan, she was found guilty of unlawful wounding, and the sentence was deferred.]

William Tonks, who had left the house after remaining there only forty-eight hours had, on 18th April 1894, his license endorsed, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

"The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The Chief Constable said the objections he had to make to the renewals of licenses were those of the NELSON AND PEEL, Peal Street, and the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Mill Street, Ryecroft. In the case of the NELSON AND PEEL he opposed the renewal on the ground (1), that on November 8 *James O'Hanlon* was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness, 10s and costs for selling to a drunken person, and 40s and costs for being drunk on his own licensed premises; and that on April 18, 1894, *Henry Wm. Tonks* was fined £4 and costs for permitting drunkenness on the premises; (2), that the house was of a disorderly character; and (3),

that the sale of intoxicating drinks was not demanded by the needs of the locality.....”

The license renewal was refused at the adjourned Licensing Meeting on 28th September 1894.

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

“Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday.....

The case of the NELSON AND PEAL, Peal Street, was next taken, Mr. Plumptre (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson) appearing in support. The Chief Constable objected to the renewal on grounds of convictions of one manager for permitting drunkenness, selling to drunken persons, that the house was of a disorderly character, selling to drunken persons, and being drunk on the premises, one conviction of another manager for permitting drunkenness, that the house was of a disorderly character, and the house was not required to meet the wants of the locality. Detective-inspector Cliff deposed as to the disorderly character of the house and neighbourhood, and evidence of similar character was given by other officers. Mr. Plumptre contended that this was an exceptional case, and ought to be treated in an exceptional way. Peal Street was a low neighbourhood, but public-houses, he supposed, must exist in low neighbourhoods, and all the evidence went to show that Mr. Anderson had done his utmost to procure good tenants and to have the house conducted properly, and had consulted with the Chief Constable from time to time with regard to the people to be put in. Mr. Anderson gave £2,000 for the freehold and fixtures of the NELSON AND PEAL about fifteen months ago, and he submitted that to inflict Mr. Anderson the tremendous punishment of confiscating his property because he was more sinned against than sinning, would drive respectable men out of the trade, and would be an injustice and harshness committed in the name of justice and law, and would be likely to cause a great reaction. The real wrongdoers were the tenants, who had been merely punished with penalties of not more than £5 and costs in any case. Mr. Anderson was then called, in support of their statement. *Ebenezer Cooper*, the present manager of the house, was called to speak of the measures taken to keep disorderly persons out of the place; and James Rowley, builder, deposed that he had made alterations to fit the place for a bottling establishment..... The Bench deliberated in private for some time, and on their return into court announced that the license of the NELSON AND PEAL was refused.....

Mr. Plumptre gave notice of appeal in the matter of the NELSON AND PEAL.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/10/1894 - Advert

“13th November, at Seven pm At the DRAGON HOTEL, Walsall.

Sale of important Block of Freehold Property, comprising the Extensive-fronted Premises hitherto known as the NELSON AND PEAL INN, Peal Street, and Adjoining Property.

Solicitor, A. T. Ashwell, Esq, Nottingham.”

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle’s references in last week’s Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remembers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKE-SPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

OLD QUEENS HEAD

22, Temple Street / Hill Street, (Church Hill), (Church Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Benjamin Hancox, New Street, Walsall
Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Robert Westwood [1845] – [1851]
William Westley [1858] – [1861]
Joseph Gostlow (1860 – 1861)
Joseph Marlow [1861]
Martin Kennedy [1861]
Matthew Kennedy [1862]
Thomas Chidlow [1863] – [1872]
Edward Taylor [1872];
Benjamin Hancox [1873];
James Garner [1880]

NOTES

OLD QUEENS ARMS [1849]

QUEENS HEAD [1850], [1854], [1858], [1861], [1886]

OLD QUEENS HEAD [1860], [1864], [1868]

1851 Census

Temple Street

[1] *Robert Westwood* (55), licensed victualler, born Burntwood, Staffordshire;

[2] *Hannah Westwood* (69), wife, born London;

[3] *Ann Dix* (25), servant, born Hopton, Staffordshire;

[4] *Emma Mason* (20), servant, born Walsall:

William Westley = William Wesley

Walsall Free Press 27/10/1860 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that Old Licensed Public house, the OLD QUEENS HEAD, Temple Street, Walsall. The stock is low, and fixtures may be taken at a valuation.

For particulars apply to John Osbourn, Auctioneer, &c, 28, Lower Hall Street, Walsall.

N.B. the proprietor is leaving solely on account of other engagements.”

Birmingham Journal 7/9/1861

“Insolvent Debtors. *Joseph Gostlow*, now and for six months last past renting furnished apartments at No.53, Bagot Street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, occasionally employed as a Porter and Keeper in Stables, my Wife having for a portion of the period occasionally employment in needlework, and being now employed as an out-door servant, previously thereto and since the 10th day of January last past lodging at the house known by the sign of the Duke of York, in Duke Street, Birmingham aforesaid, in no way of employment for about two months previously thereto residing at the house known by the sign of the OLD QUEENS HEAD, Temple Street, in the township of the borough of Walsall in the county of Stafford, for about eighteen months previously thereto residing at the house known by the sign of the CROWN, in the Square, in the township of the borough of Walsall aforesaid, and during the whole period of my residence at the said two last named places, carrying on business as a Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, for about two years and one month previously thereto residing at the house known by the sign of the SLATERS ARMS, at the Pleck, in the foreign of Walsall, in the said county of Stafford, carrying on business as a Licensed Brewer, Retailer of Beer, and Dealer in Tobacco, and for about two months previously thereto lodging at Bridgeman Street, in the township of the borough of Walsall aforesaid, in no way of business.”

1861 Census

22, Temple Street

[1] *Joseph Marlow* (36), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Sarah Marlow* (32), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Joseph Marlow* (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Thomas Marlow* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 14/12/1861

“*Martin Kennedy*, landlord of the QUEENS HEAD, Temple Street, was charged with keeping a disorderly house, on the 4th instant. Police-constable No.11 deposed that on Wednesday morning, about ten minutes past four o’clock, he heard a great disturbance in defendant’s house. He secured an entrance, and found twelve drunken men in the tap room, and two prostitutes in the bar. It would appear as two men had been fighting. Defendant said that he had not permitted the disorderly conduct in his house. He could not get the men out. Two of them set about him, and it was as much as he could do to protect himself. Fined 5s and costs.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 7/11/1863

“J. Allen of Wednesbury will walk J. Miles of Bilston seven miles for £25 a side and the Champion’s Belt, on the Strawberry Gardens, Liverpool, handicap terms. If the deposit of £5 in our hands is covered, and articles are sent to Allen at Mr. *Chidlow*’s the OLD QUEENS HEAD, Temple Street, Walsall, a match can be on (we have not received the £5 mentioned above).”

Walsall Free Press 16/7/1864

“*Eliza Butler* was charged with having, on Thursday last, stolen a purse containing 15s, the property of *Lewis Thacker*, miner, Brownhills. From the evidence, it appeared that the prosecutor called at the OLD QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street, and there saw the prisoner, who gave him a glass of something to drink, and kept ‘bothering’ him to drink. He was perfectly sober, only having drank part of a pint of ale. In taking the glass of drink which the prisoner partly poured down his throat by force, he became quite helpless; but he recollected the prisoner taking the purse from his pocket, and endeavoured to prevent her but could not. She emptied the money out of the purse into her basket. He asked her for his money but she refused to give it him. He then attempted

to take it from her, but the people in the house prevented him. She then left the house.

On cross-examination he admitted that he had previously been drinking at the OLD CHURCH public house.

Ann *Chidlow*, landlady of the OLD QUEENS HEAD, said the prosecutor and the prisoner had been drinking together at her house. They had two or three quarters of gin. The last glass of gin the prosecutor drank was dark coloured like beer. Both parties refused to pay for the last quarter called for, and, on the prosecutor refusing, the prisoner paid for it; and she took a purse from the prosecutor and went into the bar, where she picked up a jacket and put it into her basket. Witness took the jacket from her. Prisoner then went into the back yard.

Police-constable Frost said that he was sent for on the night in question to Mr. *Chidlow*'s, and on examining the water closet found the purse now produced, and which was identified by the prosecutor as his property.

The prisoner, who pleaded guilty, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment with hard labour."

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1865

"A young man named Joseph Ratcliff was charged by his father, James Ratcliff, a shoemaker, with stealing three pairs of boots out of his workshop in Rushall Street on the 25th ult. The prosecutor stated that from something he had heard he suspected the prisoner had been robbing him, and gave information to the police. Police-constable Kates deposed to apprehending the prisoner at the QUEENS HEAD, Temple Street; and Ann *Chidlow*, wife of the landlord, deposed to receiving the boots from prisoner in pledge for some refreshments in the shape of beer and bread and cheese, which he had on the day of the robbery. The prisoner was sentenced to 21 days' imprisonment with hard labour."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 29/2/1868

"Messrs Chidlow and Richardson will give £15 to be run for in an all England Handicap, distance 125 yards, to come off at the Bellevue Grounds, on Easter Monday and Tuesday, April 13 and 14; entries 1s each, and 1s 6d to accept; entries not later than March 20, and acceptance on or before March 27, to be made at the ground, or to Mr. *Chidlow*, OLD QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street, Walsall. The usual handicap law will be strictly abided by."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 12/9/1868

"Bellevue Grounds, Moat Road, Walsall. Mr. Noake, the proprietor of the above grounds, will give £6 10s to be run for in an All England Handicap race of 125 yards, to take place on Walsall wake Monday and Tuesday, Sept 21 and 22. Entries 1s each no acceptances made to Mr. Middlebrook, TEDDESLEY ARMS, Walsall; *Chidlow*, OLD QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; Russell, Bloxwich; or at the grounds. Any one entering falsely disqualified."

1871 Census

22, Temple Street

- [1] *Thomas Chidlow* (43), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Ann Chidlow (44), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Chidlow (20), son, labourer, born Walsall;
- [4] George Chidlow (16), son, sailor, born Walsall;
- [5] Selina Chidlow (18), daughter, general servant, born Walsall;
- [6] Sarah Ann Chidlow (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] John Lowbridge (20), boarder, born Walsall:

Benjamin Hancox = Benjamin Hancock

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1886 - Advert

"To Builders And Contractors.

Tenders required for taking down the QUEENS HEAD at the corner of Temple Street in connection with the Parish Church, Walsall.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at Mr. J. Davis's, Architect, Westbourne Road, on and after, July 16th, 1886.

Tenders to be sent to the Rev. the Vicar, Walsall, not later than Friday, July 23rd."

Closed

Demolished

St. Matthews Church Institute (opened 1903) was built on the site.

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1922

"Annual Licensing Sessions.....

There were also objections, to the renewal of the licenses chiefly on the ground of redundancy of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich; ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street; FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street; VINE, Blue Lane; WOODMAN, Blue Lane; and VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street; and it was announced that the applications in respect of these houses would be considered at the adjourned sessions on March 2nd."

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

"Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle's references in last week's Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remembers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLING-

TON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKESPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

OLD RING OF BELLS

Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Eld [1834]

OLD RODNEY

25, Park Street / Pig Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Whitehouse [1818] – [1822]

Mrs. Elizabeth Whitehouse [1828] – **1831**)

John Male [1834] – **1864**)

William Allen [1868] – [1876];

William John Baker []:

NOTES

OLD RODNEY [1822], [1831], [1849], [1858], [1865], [1868], [1870]

RODNEY [1835], [1841], [1842], [1845], [1850], [1857], [1862], [1864], [1865], [1870], [1872], [1875], [1876]

Joseph Whitehouse was also a maltster and buckle plater. [1818]19/10/18

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/2/1831 - Died

“On the 10th instant, Mrs. *Elizabeth Whitehouse*, of the OLD RODNEY public-house, Park Street, Walsall, aged 80.”

1841 Census

Park Street

[1] *John Male* (35), victualler, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Jane Male* (24), fs, born Staffordshire:

1851 Census

Park Street

[1] *John Male* (47), unmarried, innkeeper, born Walsall;

[2] *Maria Sanders* (31), house keeper, born Walsall;

[3] *Sarah Ingleby* (13), servant, born Sutton [Coldfield?], Warwickshire:

Birmingham Journal 28/1/1857

“On Monday, at the Police Court, before J. Whitgreave and S. Stevens, Esqs, Thomas Brown alias William Upton, and George Edwards were charged with having on Tuesday night broken into the house of Mr. Jones, contractor, situate in Blue Lane, and stolen coats, trousers, waistcoats, gloves, and innumerable other items of wearing apparel. Mr. Samuel Jones, son of the prosecutor, who lives in Blue Lane gave evidence to having seen the house properly secured when he went to bed about ten o'clock. About six o'clock on Wednesday morning, when he went down stairs, he found that a window had been broken, the fastening undone, and

an entrance effected. He afterwards missed his clothes. Police-sergeant Dackus deposed to having received Brown into custody on Saturday night at Dudley, and also having on Sunday morning apprehended Edwards. Having cautioned the prisoners in the usual manner, he asked them, when both were present, if either of them had anything to say. Brown said, 'About eight o'clock on Tuesday night, I met Edwards at the RODNEY, in Park Street, and he told me he would find some money if I would go with him. We walked together until about five o'clock in the evening, when he took me down a street, and told me to 'stand.' He afterwards brought me up a bundle of clothes, and said we should go and pawn them in Dudley. Accordingly, we went to Dudley, to three different shops, and pawned the clothes. We came back to Wednesbury and remained until Saturday morning. On Saturday night we went again to Dudley, and Edwards told me to go and pawn the jacket, and he would stop at the COACH AND HORSES public house till I returned. I did go to the pawn shop, where I was detained until the police came.' Edwards said nothing. Police-constable Smith, of Dudley, deposed to having apprehended Brown at Kenrick's pawnshop, in that town, on Saturday. He at first denied the robbery, and said the clothes were given him, but he afterwards admitted that some wearing apparel found upon him belonged to Mr. Jones. The prisoner had been detained by Mr. Kenrick. A whole host of articles, almost covering the justice table, were exhibited by the constables as the proceeds of the robbery. Superintendent Cater applied for a remand, that the case might be more fully investigated. The magistrates granted an adjournment until Monday next week."

Walsall Free Press 19/6/1858

"Richard Shaw, according to his own statement, had been fifty years in the world, and four of these he had spent in Walsall; but never in the course of all that time had he had the honour of being presented to a bench of magistrates, and believed he would not have had that honour had it not been that some friend (?) had induced him on Friday last to visit the OLD RODNEY in Park Street, where finding the drink to be to his liking, he partook rather freely of it. Sergeant Broadhurst, by whom the prisoner had been apprehended in Goodall Street, proved that when taken into custody the prisoner was drunk and disorderly. Richard admitted, though it was unpleasant to make a confession, that the statement of the officer was correct. As this was Richard's first offence, and he appeared to be truly penitent, he was discharged with a reprimand."

1861 Census

25, Park Street

- [1] *John Male* (58), unmarried, victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Ann Allsop (26), general servant, born Walsall;
- [3] Ann Carry (22), general servant, born Ireland;
- [4] John Askins (14), nephew, cabinet maker, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 22/10/1864 - Deaths

"On the 19th inst, aged sixty-three years, Mr. *John Male*, of the RODNEY INN, Park Street, Walsall, much regretted by all who knew him."

Walsall Free Press 5/11/1864 - Advert

"Walsall. Sale At The Assembly Room, GREEN DRAGON INN, Goodall Street.

H. Farrington is instructed by the Executors of the late Mr. *John Male*, of the RODNEY INN, Park Street, Walsall, to offer by Auction, as above, on Thursday next, November 10th, 1864, at Eleven o'clock, subject to conditions.

The License and Possession of the Old-established Inn called the RODNEY, situate in Park Street, Walsall, for many years successfully carried on by the late Mr. *John Male*.

Also a variety of Genteel and useful Household Furniture, Plate, and other effects, comprising elegant half-tester and 4-post bedsteads, paillasses, fine goose feather beds, mahogany and oak chests of drawers, elegant time-pieces, 8-day clocks, mahogany glazed bookcase, set of telescope dining tables, mahogany chairs, couches, sofa, mahogany washstands, toilet glasses, carpets, oil paintings, engravings, plated cruets, decanters, &c, belonging to the late Mr. *John Male*, and removed for convenience of sale to the above room."

Birmingham Daily Post 13/12/1865

"The Cottage Hospital. The committee of this institution announce the receipt of the following legacies, viz, £10 under the will of the late Mr. D. Butler, Goodall Street; and £5 under the will of the late Mr. *J. Male*, of the RODNEY, public house."

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1870

"John Shaw, filer, George Street, was convicted of having stolen an umbrella, value 2s 6d, the property of Joseph Price, dealer, and was sentenced to one months' imprisonment. The prosecutor was selling an umbrella in the RODNEY public-house, Park Street, on Saturday night, when the prisoner picked up a second umbrella, which the prosecutor had placed on a seat in the room, and went off with it. After some time prosecutor went in search of him, and finding him in Digbeth with the umbrella in his hand, gave him into custody."

1871 Census

25, Park Street

- [1] *William Allen* (66), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Jane Allen (57), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Elizabeth Nicklin (26), general servant, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary Saunders (40), general servant, born Walsall;

[5] Agnes Nicklin (3), lodger, born Walsall:

William Allen – see also OLD NAGS HEAD.

Midland Counties Evening Express 10/3/1875

“George Henry Dickenson, of St. Pauls Row, was charged with stabbing William Preston, in the wrist, on Monday night. The evidence of the witnesses was that on the night in question the parties named and some others were in the RODNEY public house, where prisoner and a friend were sparring. They knocked against the table, and prosecutor’s jug of ale fell to the floor. He asked prisoner to pay for them, and as he did not, prosecutor struck him, and he ran away. About an hour afterwards prisoner returned to the house, and when prosecutor left some more words passed between them, ending in prisoner striking prosecutor with a knife. Prosecutor put up his hand and received a cut upon his wrist, although not a very serious one Prisoner was committed for trial at the Sessions; bail was refused It may be stated that all the parties are young men of apparently 18 or 20 years.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/1/1876

“*William Allen*, of the RODNEY INN, Park Street, was summoned for having permitted drunkenness in his house. The evidence showed that on Saturday night a drunken man went into Mr. Plant’s spirit vaults, Park Street, and asked for a drink, which was refused him, and he was turned out. He then made his way to the defendant’s house, and Police-constable Hickman followed in a few minutes, and found him sitting in the kitchen with a pint of ale before him. It was said, however, that the servant girl had supplied the ale without the knowledge of the defendant. A fine of 20s and costs was imposed, the defendant’s license not to be endorsed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session. . . .

The applications of *William Allen*, the OLD RODNEY INN, Park Street were further adjourned till the 9th of October. In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Ryecroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/10/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Meeting. The suspended licenses of *William Allen*, the RODNEY, Park Street; Samuel Horton, the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane; and Henry Lynex, the HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street, were renewed.”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“The premises were acquired and demolished by the railway company to enlarge their station entrance.”

OLD STILL

34, (3), Digbeth, (High Street), (Adams Row), WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Beebee
Mrs. Elizabeth (Beebee) Payne
William Seedhouse
Thomas Hanbury
M. Hanbury
Arthur Beebee Ltd.
Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1924) [1939]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

Thomas Horton [1818]
Joseph Shaw [1822]
John Cooper [1828] – [1834]
John Bowater [1835] – [1836]
Richard Evans [1841] – [1845]
Mrs. Evans [1844]
Job Wilkes [1849] – 1865)
Joseph Beebee [1866] – [1873];

Mrs. Elizabeth Beebee [];
William Seedhouse [1881];
William Dixon [1885] – 188_);
Thomas Hanbury (188_ – 1914);
Elijah Ford (1914 – 1917);
John Bayley Robinson (1917 – 1924);
Walter Edwards (1924 – 1934);
Richard Nicholls (1934 – 1937);
Cyril Vernon Sleigh (1937 – 1939);
William Sheldon Hutchinson (1939 – 1942);
John Mulloy (1942 – 1947);
Herbert Thomas Postle (1947 – 1959):

NOTES

Adams Row [1841]
34, Digbeth [1860], [1861], [1862], [1881], [1891], [1908], [1932], [1939], [1940]
3, Digbeth [1871]

STILL [1822]
OLD MILL [1861] [probably a typographical error]
OLD STILL HOTEL
OLD STILL VAULTS [1911]

Racehorses were stabled here before Walsall Races.

'Black Country Pubs' by Robin Pearson and Jean Wade

"Part of the interior was called Dr. Johnson's Corner, who rested between coaches on his visits back to Lichfield."

Thomas Horton was also a hairdresser. [1818]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/3/1828 - Advert

"To be Sold by Auction (by direction of Executors).....

Lot II. All that very desirable and well frequented Freehold Public House, eligibly situated in Digbeth, known by the sign of the OLD STILL, with Brewhouse, Stabling for ten horses, Piggeries, large party Yard, Pump, and Out-offices, now in the occupation of *John Cooper*, with right of carriage-road out of Hall Lane, including an excellent eight-quarter Malthouse, fronting Hall Lane, occupied by Mr. Hawkins, also spacious Shopping and Yard at the back, in the possession of Mr. Hobbins....."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 24/12/1832 - Advert

"The Attwood.

New light fast four-horse day Coach will start from the OLD STILL, Digbeth, Walsall, on Monday the 24th inst, at half past nine in the morning, and arrive at the Rose and Punch Bowl, Bull Street, Birmingham, at a quarter before eleven, and return the same evening at half past five.

The proprietor respectfully solicits the support of his Friends and the Public to this Conveyance. Performed by the public's obedient servant, William Hilton.

Walsall, Dec. 21, 1832."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/7/1834

"On Monday last, the Lodge of Friendly and Benevolent Sisters held their annual feast, at the sign of the OLD STILL. The bells commenced ringing at six o'clock in the morning; about noon a procession was formed to the parish; each female being respectably attired, and wearing a blue scarf, proceeded by a band, and accompanied by the Vicar and the Rev. John Gwyther, the former of whom delivered an exhortation from the pulpit. At the conclusion of the service, where the members again formed and returned to the lodge-house, where members of the lodge partook of an excellent dinner, and afterwards enjoyed each other's company till a late hour."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 17/8/1835 - Advert

"Valuable Freehold Public House and other Property in Walsall, in the County of Stafford, by order of the Assignees of Mrs. Gary. By Farrington and Son.

To be Sold by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Bowater*, at the sign of the OLD STILL, in Walsall, on Friday next, the 21st day of August, at six o'clock in the evening subject to conditions to be produced – four seventh undivided shares of and in the interest of all that old established Freehold House known by the sign of the OLD STILL, situate in Digbeth, Walsall, with Malthouse and Outbuildings, and three Houses adjoining the same.

For particulars apply to Mr. John Heeley, Solicitor, or the Auctioneers, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1836 - Married

“On the 1st instant, at the Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, Mr. James Archer, to Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. *John Bowater*, of the OLD STILL, Digbeth, Walsall.”

Birmingham Journal 16/9/1837 - Deaths

“On the 11th inst, Mary Ann, wife of Mr. *John Bowater*, of the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, Walsall, aged 48.”

The Lodge of the Benevolent Sisters met here. [1838]

1841 Census

Adams Row

- [1] *Richard Evans* (50), publican;
- [2] Ellen Evans (30), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Jane Daniel (16), fs, born Staffordshire:

Birmingham Journal 6/7/1844

“Mrs. *Evans*, the landlady of the OLD STILL, in Digbeth, charged Thomas Wilcox, of Marsh Lane with an assault. It appeared that the defendant, with some others, had been playing at skittles, and on Mrs. *Evans* applying to him for payment of some ale, he became very abusive, and on remonstrating with him, he struck her on the side of the head, and knocked her down. The defendant endeavoured to justify his conduct in some degree, by stating that the complainant had thrown a brick at him, and that he was ‘half seas over’ at the time, which caused him to be so violent. The Bench fined him 5s and costs, or in default fourteen days in the borough gaol. The fine was paid at night, and the defendant was set at liberty.”

Birmingham Journal 14/9/1850

“At the Guildhall, on Wednesday last, before John Day and R. James, Esqs, an information was preferred against Mr. *Job Wilkes*, landlord of the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, for having on Friday last ‘knowingly’ permitted disorderly conduct in his house. Mr. Superintendent Burton stated that about half-past one o’clock on the morning of Saturday last, whilst standing in the street near Mr. *Wilkes*’s house, his attention was attracted to it by Sergeant Smith and Police-constable Reay entering the premises. There was a great noise and disturbance inside, and the officers having ejected one or two persons, came out, but subsequently the disturbance was renewed, and on going in Mr. Burton found five or six drunken persons in the house, whom he persuaded to disperse. Mr. and Mrs. *Wilkes* were out, and the house, usually very orderly, had been kept open later, waiting for their return, and the Bench, after an attentive hearing of the case, dismissed the information considering that Mr. *Wilkes* had not, being from home, ‘knowingly permitted disorderly conduct in his house’.”

1851 Census

Digbeth

- [1] *Job Wilkes* (31), married, innkeeper, born Darlaston;
- [2] Ann Smith (22), house servant, born Great Bridge;
- [3] Sarah Bullock (21), house servant, born Darlaston:

Walsall Free Press 4/6/1859 - Advert

“James Bird, BRADFORD ARMS INN, Walsall, Licensed To Let Post Horses, Saddle Horses, Cars, Cabs, Gigs, & Breaks For Hire, Begg most respectfully to acquaint the Gentry and Inhabitants of the town and district, that having supplied himself with every article necessary for carrying on the business as Postmaster, he is desirous of receiving their patronage and support. Cars for Weddings with Greys. Gipsy parties can be accommodated on the shortest notice, and on very reasonable terms. Steady and obliging Servants attendant on same.

N.B. A Fashionable Break will run during the Summer months to and from Sutton, on Sunday afternoons, leaving Mr. *Job Wilkes*’s, OLD STILL, Digbeth at Two o’clock, and return from the Old Sun, Sutton, at Seven p.m.”

Walsall Free Press 17/11/1860 - Advert

“To Be Sold by private contract, at the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, Walsall, Two Useful Horses, a covered Van with Pole and Shafts, and Double Harness, also a Heavy Cart and Harness.”

1861 Census

34, Digbeth

- [1] *Job Wilkes* (41), widower, licensed victualler, born Darlaston;
- [2] Ann Croxall (14), house servant, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Mary Ann Williams (15), barmaid, born Madeley, Shropshire;
- [4] Sarah Week (19), house servant, born Moxley;
- [5] Mary Ann Wattton (23), housekeeper, born Birmingham:

Walsall Free Press 29/8/1863

“Three Irishmen, named respectively Welsh, Brown, and Hickin, were charged with assaulting Mr. Lakin, a victualler residing at

Walsall Wood, on the evening of Thursday. The complainant said the prisoners had obtained some drink from him on credit, they having been employed to reap in the neighbourhood. They left him without paying for the drink, and when he accidentally met them in Digbeth on the night in question, he said to them, 'Halloa! You are the gentlemen I wanted to see.' Welch then struck him, and the others aided and abetted Welch, and in doing so they all struck him, where upon he ran into the OLD STILL, and was followed by the prisoners. Mr. *Job Wilkes*, landlord of the OLD STILL, and Edward Lord, corroborated complainant's evidence. Mr. Isaac Webb, stone mason, said he saw Welch beating complainant, from whose nose blood was flowing. Welch struck witness on the arm with a pair of tongs. All the prisoners were engaged in creating riot. Welch was sent to prison for six weeks, Hickin one month, and Brown two weeks, each to undergo hard labour. Welch was further charged with having, on the same afternoon, wilfully and maliciously broken a table, the property of Mr. Earp, landlord of the LEATHERN BOTTLE, Hill Street. Prisoner and his companions had been drinking at that house, in consequence of the landlady refusing to supply them with drink on credit, he kicked the table to pieces; damage 4s. Fined in the amount of damages and costs, or to be imprisoned for fourteen days, to commence at the expiration of his former sentence."

Walsall Free Press 16/9/1865

"On Thursday evening, a telegram, brief but emphatic, was received announcing the melancholy fact that Mr. *Job Wilkes*, proprietor of the OLD STILL, Digbeth, who, a few days ago, had gone to Alford in Lincolnshire, had been drowned while bathing at that place. The news quickly spread, and created, wherever that intelligence was conveyed, a melancholy gloom. The deceased gentleman possessed a kind and benevolent disposition, and was universally respected. Immediately in receipt of the intelligence, his brother and Mr. John Osbourn – an intimate friend of the deceased – started off by rail to the scene of the lamentable occurrence, which, it was expected, they would reach about mid-day yesterday; but up to the time of our going to press, no particulars of the sad disaster had been received."

Walsall Free Press 28/10/1865 - Advert

"Very Valuable Freehold Inn & Retail Shop, In Digbeth, and Houses in Hall Lane, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Osbourn, at the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, Walsall, on Thursday, the 23rd November, 1865, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions, the following Property.

Lot 1. All the Freehold, and the Licenses, Good-will, and Possession of that well accustomed Inn, called the OLD STILL, fronting to the Market Place in Digbeth, in the very best business locality in Walsall, with the large Private Yard, spacious Stabling, affording standing for 30 horses, Carriage-house, and Outbuildings thereto belonging. The house comprises tap-room, large bar, parlour, sitting room, excellent club-room, 43ft by 12ft 4in; five sleeping rooms, water closet, three cellars, pantry, brewhouse and other conveniences. There is also a malt room, and hay loft over one stable, and a store room 53ft long by 14ft 2in wide, over the other. The stabling is lofty, nearly new, and the fittings are excellent. There is a carriage road into the yard from Hall Lane, a few yards from Digbeth. And also those three newly and very substantially erected Houses, adjoining the yard of the OLD STILL, being Nos. 2, 3, and 4 in Lower Hall Lane, in the occupation of Messrs Robinson, Brown and Lyon, and producing the annual income of £23 17s.

Lot 1 is a most valuable and important property, the inn being unquestionably one of the best accustomed houses in the Town of Walsall, and much frequented as a market tavern, the late proprietor having, as is well known, accumulated a handsome fortune within a comparatively few years, and without much effort or trouble....."

London Gazette 9/3/1866

"In the Matter of *Job Wilkes*, Deceased.

The creditors and others having claims upon the estate of *Job Wilkes*, late of the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, deceased (who died in the month of September, 1865, and whose will was proved in the Lichfield District Registry, on the 10th day of October, 1865, by Samuel Wilkes, of Tame Bridge, in the parish of Wednesbury, in the said county, Licensed Victualler, and James Gray, late of Hednesford, but now of Wolverhampton, respectively, in the county of Stafford, Farmer, the executors of the said will), are on or before the 24th day of June, 1866, to send in the particulars of their debts or claims to the said executors, at the office of their Solicitor, Mr. Samuel Wilkinson, jun., No. 7, Bridge-street, Walsall, or in default thereof the said executors will, after the said 24th day of June, 1866, proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to those claims of which they shall then have notice.

Dated this 8th day of March, 1866.

Saml. Wilkinson, jun., Walsall, Solicitor to the Executors."

Walsall Free Press 2/6/1866 - Advert

"Wanted, a few healthy Men, not more than 35 years of age, to join the old-established Benefit Society (duly enrolled), lately removed from the CASTLE INN to Mr. *Joseph Beebee's*, the OLD STILL, Digbeth, where any further information may be obtained. Amount of funds, £330. Proposition fee, 2s 6d."

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1869

"At the Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. F. B. Oerton, J. W. Newman, and J. Brewer, George Lakin, landlord of the MARKET TAVERN, and David Harvey were charged, the former with having assaulted, and the latter with having threatened, Frederick Augustus Harvey, agent for Messrs. Fletcher and Co, wine and spirit merchants. Mr. Dale (from the office of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) appeared for the complainant. On Tuesday night last, the parties were at the OLD STILL, Digbeth, when Harvey used opprobrious language and threats to complainant, and was urged on by Lakin, who said 'Give it to the ——; he's a bad one.' Lakin then endeavoured to push complainant out of his seat; but Mr. *Beebee*, the landlord, restrained him, and he sat down.

He rose again, however, soon afterwards, and in addition to shaking complainant by the collar, struck him in the face. Trade differences seemed to have originated the affair. Lakin was fined 5s and costs; and a warrant was ordered to go for Harvey, who was not present when the case was heard, but subsequently attended, and was bound over to appear on Thursday next.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/5/1870

“Thomas Gadsbey, beerhouse keeper, Hall Lane, was charged with having stolen about two gallons of water from a tap in the OLD STILL yard, Digbeth, belonging to the Waterworks Company. He admitted the charge, and was fined 10s and costs.”

1871 Census

3, Digbeth

- [1] *Joseph Beebee* (43), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Caroline Beebee* (39), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Alice Ann Beebee* (17), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] *Joseph Beebee* (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Emily Beebee* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Harry Beebee* (1 month), son, born Walsall;
- [7] *Sarah Barnsley* (25), general servant, born Netherton;
- [8] *Ellen Donny* (17), cook, born Bilston;
- [9] *John Robinson* (17), stable lad, born Blythe Marsh, Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 1/2/1873 - Advert

“Wanted immediately, a good General Servant about 25, from the country preferred. Apply, Mrs. *Beebee*, OLD STILL, Digbeth.”

1881 Census

34, Digbeth

- [1] *William Seedhouse* (49), licensed victualler, born Brownhills;
- [2] *Thirza Seedhouse* (41), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Elizabeth Wilson* (26), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Matilda Lawson* (19), general servant, born Cannock;
- [5] *Charlotte Hampson* (16), general servant, born Cannock:

William Dixon issued tokens from here.

He was fined 20s and costs for opening during prohibited hours.

Lichfield Mercury 10/10/1890

“At the Guildhall, on Monday. John Linsay, Birchills, was sentenced to one months’ hard labour for having, on the 20th ult, assaulted *Thomas Hanbury*, landlord of the OLD STILL, Digbeth.

The defendant created a disturbance in the house, and when asked to leave assaulted the landlord and his ostler, the former in a very cruel manner. He was got out of the house, and becoming disorderly outside was proceeded against by the police. For this offence he was sentenced to seven days’ imprisonment.”

1891 Census

34, Digbeth – OLD STILL INN

- [1] *Thomas Hanbury* (35), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Sarah E. Price* (28), barmaid, born Walsall;
- [3] *Kate Baxter* (22), domestic servant, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *Oscar Smith* (15), ostler and general servant, born Clifton, Worcestershire:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/1/1894

“Re *William Dixon* and *Thomas Dixon* (trading as *William Dixon* and Son), Lower Hall Lane, Walsall, saddlers’ tool manufacturers.

The public examination of these debtors took place at the Walsall Bankruptcy Court yesterday – before Mr. Registrar Clarke – Mr. H. H. Jackson appearing for the bankrupt Thomas, and Mr. E. Evans for the bankrupt *William Dixon*.

The statement of affairs showed liabilities £847 14s 8d, of which £775 0s 1d was expected to rank for dividend, and a deficiency of £336 3s 1s. The business belonged to the late Thomas Dixon, who left it to his sons, the bankrupts *William* and *Thomas Dixon*, on certain conditions. Thomas retired in 1887, and the bankrupt *William* traded alone until October last, when he took into partnership Thomas, who brought in £300, which had been given to him by his wife, whom he married in the same month. In November the elder bankrupt was convicted at Leicester of a criminal offence with a girl under thirteen years of age. Then creditors pressed the firm, and in the end a petition was filed. The bankrupt *William* attributed the failure to the loss of a large Government order, bad trade, costs and imprisonment consequent on his conviction, and costs in connection with patents. The younger bankrupt attributed it to interference with the business in consequence of the conviction of his father and pressure of creditors. The bankrupt *William* took the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, paying £400, and in 1885 assigned the lease to a purchaser, who paid him £1,200 for stock, fixture, license and lease. The examination was adjourned till the 8th February.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1895

“Together with three ‘pals,’ Charles Hall, bricklayer, New Road, Rushall, went into the OLD STILL, Digbeth, on Saturday evening at a quarter to eleven to have a drink. He ordered four glasses of ale, and soon after they had entered the house, the barmaid asked a man who was in the bar if one of the men in the room was intoxicated. One of Hall’s pals considered she meant him, and Hall, according to *Thomas Hanbury*, the landlord, who charged Hall with having been quarrelsome and disorderly and refusing to quit, became very abusive, and although he (*Hanbury*) asked him to quit declared he would not. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended Hall, and took objection to the wording of the summons as his client could not be ordered out unless he was drunken and violent. Witnesses were called by defendant, and they stated that defendant had not been asked to quit, and had only retaliated on offensive words being used towards him by the landlord. A fine of 5s and costs was imposed.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1896

“Bertha Smith (20), domestic servant, was charged with having stolen 5s 6d, the property of her employer, Mr. *Thomas Hanbury*, landlord of the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth. Mr. *Hanbury* said that prisoner came into his service on Monday, the 1st inst. On Saturday, noticing that some money which he had put away in a drawer behind the counter was missing, he marked, at midnight, ten half-crowns, seven florins, and eleven six-pences. In the morning he found that one marked half-crown and two unmarked sixpences were missing, and after communicating with Detective-inspector Cliffe and Detective Clarke he missed a marked florin also. During Sunday afternoon, when prisoner went out, the officers met her on Park Street, and brought her back. Witness accused her of stealing the money, and though she denied the offence, stating that she had not even enough money to pay her fare to Bloxwich, she afterwards commenced to cry, and produced a half-crown and florin which were stitched in the hem of her dress. Cliffe stated that when he apprehended the prisoner she confessed to taking the two coins, and asked Mr. Hanbury to forgive her. Prisoner now asked to be forgiven, as that was her first offence. Asked if her father would be bound over for her behaviour, she said she was not at present on good terms with him, and did not think he would risk his furniture for her. She was put back for a time, and ultimately the case was adjourned for two months to enable her to go to the home provided for her by the Church of England Court Missionary (Mr. Davis).”

Walsall Advertiser 8/10/1898

“William Stoker (34), a miner, of no fixed abode, appeared in the dock on a charge of begging for alms at the OLD STILL, Digbeth. Evidence was given by Mr. *Hanbury*, the landlord, that the prisoner came in about five minutes to ten o’clock at night, and solicited alms. When told to go he took no notice, but commenced an oration, which he continued till about ten minutes past ten. Witness sent for the police and gave the man in charge. A fine of 5s and costs, or seven days’ imprisonment, was imposed.”

Walsall Observer 8/9/1900

“Edward Hughes, 15, Long Acre Street, was summoned for being disorderly on licensed premises, and with refusing to quit, on Saturday September 1st. *Thomas Hanbury*, OLD STILL, Digbeth, said that at 10.25 on Saturday night, the defendant was using bad language in the vaults. The waiter rebuked him, and defendant took off his coat and wanted to fight him. The man used obscene language. Percy Davis, the waiter, and Police-constable Robinson (23) also gave evidence. Defendant pleaded not guilty, and the magistrates inflicted a fine of 10s and costs, or 14 days.”

1901 Census

Digbeth – OLD STILL

- [1] *Thomas Hanbury* (45), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] Sarah E. Price (38), manageress, born Walsall;
- [3] William Worrall (18), ostler, born Walsall;
- [4] Matilda Healey (20), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Lichfield Mercury 26/8/1904

“William Roberts, of Rushall, employed at the OLD STILL HOTEL, Digbeth, Walsall, on Monday fell to the ground and began bleeding from the nostrils. He was at once sent to the hospital, but expired on the way. It is believed he burst a blood vessel while laughing.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/12/1904

“At the Walsall Police Court on Wednesday, a miner named Martin Lyons (44), 1, Bellfield Row, was brought up on a charge of being drunk and incapable in Lower Hall Lane on December 13th. Police-constable Jones (66) deposed to finding prisoner on the premises at the rear of the OLD STILL, Digbeth, in a drunken condition. Prisoner said he had only just come out of hospital, and said he had ‘a spot of beer to warm him.’ Prisoner was discharged with a caution.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/4/1908

“Andrew Baron (32), a sailor, was fined 40s and costs for refusing to quit the OLD STILL HOTEL, Digbeth, and assaulting the landlord Mr. *Thomas Hanbury*. On Tuesday evening the prisoner went into the smoke room of the OLD STILL hawking flowers. He was ordered out but would not go. Mr. *Hanbury* put him out, but in the passage the man kicked him.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/12/1909 - Advert

“Youth about 19; live in; make himself generally useful; substantial references required.
Apply, OLD STILL, Digbeth, Walsall.”

1911 Census

34, Digbeth

- [1] *Thomas Hanbury* (55), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Martha Hanbury* (39), wife, married 8 years, assisting, born Walsall;
- [3] *Albert Mottram* (21), servant, oddwork, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Polly Pratt* (21), general servant, born Bromwich, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Sarah Elizabeth Price* (48), barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1912

“*Samuel Deeley* (29), potman, OLD STILL, Digbeth, was charged with being drunk and disorderly, in Digbeth on Christmas night, and he failed to appear. It was decided to issue a fresh summons.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
OLD STILL, Digbeth, Walsall, 1s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 16/1/1915 - Advert

“To Horse Keepers and Farmers.
Several large cast-iron Roll Top Corner Mangers for Sale.
Apply, OLD STILL HOTEL, Digbeth, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
OLD STILL, Digbeth. £0 10s 2d.”

Walsall Observer 5/4/1924

“As a result of recent negotiations, the freehold licensed properties belonging to Messrs. Arthur Beebee Ltd, which include the DURHAM OX, Park Street; OLD STILL, Digbeth; THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road; Red Lion, Aldridge; MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street; GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street; the off license, 6, Camden Street; the brewery in Sandwell Street; and the lease of the FOX INN, Stafford Street, have been sold to the Highgate Brewing Co. Ltd, through Messrs. Fox and Harrison, FAI, of Walsall.”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“.....it was an Alehouse with stabling for four horses, described in the survey of 1925 as a very old property in fairly good repair, except the bathroom (adjacent to the Club House) the bath is worn out, and this room is quite unfit for use in its present condition, and water laid on. Living accommodation on the ground floor poor.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

OLD STILL, Digbeth.”

Cyril Vernon Sleigh – see also TANNERS ARMS.

Walsall Observer 4/11/1939

“‘We have given so many warnings that we have been instructed not to give any more, but to inform the police,’ was the statement made to the magistrates (Messrs. D. E. Parry and D. Jones and Mrs. Cresswell) by a warden giving evidence in one of a number of cases relating to breaches of the lighting regulations.....

Other defendants, each fined 10s, were.....

William Hutchinson (46), licensee of the OLD STILL, Digbeth.”

1939 Register

34, Digbeth

- [1] *William Hutchinson*, date of birth 28/12/1892, manager licensed house, married;
- [2] *Ellen Hutchinson*, dob 18/11/1892, manageress licensed house, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Freda D. (Hutchinson) Hollyman, dob 17/7/1925, not previously employed, single:

William Sheldon Hutchinson – see also GOLDEN LION.

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
OLD STILL HOTEL, Digbeth. £7 4s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

OLD STILL, Digbeth. £7 15s 0d.”

Herbert Thomas Postle – see also LEATHERN BOTTLE, Bloxwich.

It closed on 2nd April 1959.

It was demolished in April 1959.

The license was removed to the LEATHERN BOTTLE, Bloxwich.

OLD STORES

BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

The license was transferred to the ROYAL OAK.

OLD TROOPER

120, Harden Road, (22, Bloxwich Road), (22, (4), Harden), Leamore, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Hinks Badger, Lyerscote Manor, near Tamworth

Andrew Birch

Arthur Whitehouse, 17, Lichfield Street, Walsall

William Edgerton [1894]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 4th October 1963)

LICENSEES

Joseph Lea [18th century]

Samuel Barker [1813]

Charles James [1818]

James Beardsmore [1824]

Samuel Birch [1834] – [1842]

Joseph Mellor [1849] – [1878];

William Sharman [1881];

Andrew Birch [1881];

Samuel Ross [1891] – **1894**;

William Edgerton (1894 – 1932);
William Edward Edgerton (1932 – 1963);
Lilian Rebecca Edgerton (1963);
Alec Henry Snow (1963 – [1966])
Robert James Walker [1983]
Derek Henry Heighton [1987]

NOTES

4, Harden [1871]
22, Harden [1881], [1891]
120, Harden Road [1939]

OLD TROOPER [1824], [1860], [1868], [1871], [1894], [1908], [1911]
TROOPER [1813], [1830], [1841], [1842], [1851], [1856], [1858], [1860], [1861], [1877], [1895], [1897], [1902], [1909], [1923], [1942], [1944]
YE OLD TROOPER [1932], [1940]

Samuel Barker, victualler, TROOPER, Harden. [1813]

[‘The History and Directory of Walsall’ by Thomas Pearce 1813](#)

[“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Clubs..... Friendly Society, male, held at TROOPER, Harden, surgeon Mr. Adams.”](#)

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 14/6/1824 - Advert

“To Publicans and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, on the premises by Mr. Fairbanks, on Wednesday the 16th of June inst, the Licenses, Good-will, and immediate Possession of the House, Huckster’s Shop, part of the Household Furniture, all the very excellent Brewing Vessels, two capital Copper Furnaces, large Mashing tubs, sixteen very excellent iron-bound Barrels, Cooling Backs, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *James Beardsmore*, of the OLD TROOPER, of Harden, near Walsall, who is changing his residence; particulars of which will appear in catalogues, to be distributed.

The License, &c will be offered for sale precisely at ten o’clock in the morning, and, whether sold or not, the sale of the Household Furniture, capital Brewing Vessels, and other effects, will, without reserve, immediately take place.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/7/1844

“Thomas Wootton, of Walsall, is open to fight Thomas Butler, of the same place, or Isaac Russell, for £5 or £10 a side. His money is ready at the OLD TROOPER, Harden, near Bloxwich.”

Joseph Mellor = Joseph Mellors

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/9/1851

“*Joseph Mellor*, of the TROOPER, at Harden, was fined 2s 6d and costs for having had his house open at half-past twelve o’clock on Saturday night.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 17/1/1853

“The mile race between Thomas Pearce of Bloxwich and Thomas Lawrence of Harden, for £5 a side, came off last Monday, when, after a good race Lawrence won by about one yard. Lawrence says if Pearce is not satisfied he will run him again, the same distance, and for the same sum. He also says he will give George Lewis of Bloxwich 50 yards start in one mile, for £5 or £10 a side; or Thomas Perry of the same place, 40 yards start, like sum, same distance; or Thos. Kendrick of Rushall 25 yards start; or he will run any man in Walsall level for £5 or £10. Lawrence will be at *Joseph Mellor*’s the OLD TROOPER, Harden, tomorrow (Monday) night, from seven till nine o’clock, prepared to make any of the above matches.”

Birmingham Journal 5/7/1856

“An inquest was held on Tuesday, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, and a respectable jury, at the house of Mr. *Mellors*, the TROOPER INN, at Harden, near Bloxwich on the body of a young man named John Hall. It appeared from the evidence adduced, that deceased had been employed as a labourer at the ironworks of Messrs. Jones and Co, at Birchills; but on Saturday last he took a new occupation, that of fireman. During the night he had occasion to grease some parts of the engine. On going out of the engine house he trod on a cobble, which caused his foot to slip, in consequence of which he was precipitated down a flight of steps and fell head foremost on a cast-iron plate near the furnace hole, his right temple being severely lacerated. He was immediately removed to his father’s house at Harden, and medical assistance procured. This was of no avail; he shortly died.”

Walsall Free Press 7/4/1860

“About four o’clock on Saturday afternoon a man named William Evans, a collier, aged about 55, was found dead in a hovel, at

the Crimean Works, Coalpool, belonging to Mr. Stubbs, by the engineman of the works, who gave information to the police by whom the body was removed to the OLD TROOPER public house, Harden, where an inquest was held upon the body by A. A. Fletcher, Esq, on Tuesday last, at which the jury returned a verdict of Found Dead. It is supposed the deceased, who had been leading a life of vagrancy for some time past, and has been in delicate health, had gone into the hovel to shelter for the night, and that overcome by fatigue and disease, his death had been accelerated by the cold. He had been in his usual health the previous evening.”

1861 Census

Harden – The TROOPER

- [1] *Joseph Mellor* (44), licensed victualler, born Ashbourne, Derbyshire;
- [2] *Patience Mellor* (50), wife, born Cubley, Derbyshire;
- [3] *Joseph Mellor* (13), son, scholar, born Cubley, Derbyshire;
- [4] *Daniel Mellor* (12), son, scholar, born Harden;
- [5] *Joseph Mellor* (10), daughter, scholar, born Harden;
- [6] *Ann Snape* (38), sister, born Ashbourne, Derbyshire;
- [7] *Emma Harrison* (18), general servant, born Pelsall;

Walsall Free Press 12/7/1862 - Advert

“To Be Let, the Genteel Residence, Leamore House, Bloxwich, with garden and three acres of land. For further particulars apply to Mr. *Mellor*, OLD TROOPER INN Harden.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/10/1863

“Scarcely had the fire at the Workhouse been subdued, when three wheat ricks belonging to Mr. *Mellor*, landlord of the TROOPER INN, Harden, were discovered to be on fire. Information was given to the police, some of whom were promptly on the spot, as was also the Norwich fire engine, under the superintendence of Mr. Newman; but owing to the scarcity of water the fire could not be got under till the whole of the property of the rick yard – with the exception of the clover rick, which was removed – was destroyed. The ricks, which were insured in the Norwich Union Fire Office, are valued at £200. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.”

Walsall Free Press 24/8/1864 - Advert

“To Be Let, (entry at Michaelmas) the Family Residence, called ‘Leamore House,’ Bloxwich, containing Dining and Drawing Rooms, Four Bed Rooms, Attics, Domestic Offices, capital Stabling, Coach House, Garden, Paddock, &c. For particulars apply to Mr. *Mellor*, OLD TROOPER INN, Harden near Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/9/1868

“On Monday Absolon Law, aged 58, a miner, living at Coal Pool, was killed at Mr. Stubbs’ Crimean Colliery by the fall upon him of part of the wall of an engine-house. On Wednesday Mr. Fletcher held an inquest at the OLD TROOPER, Harden, when a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/4/1869

“*John (?) Mellor*, landlord of the TROOPER public-house Harden, pleaded guilty to having, on Sunday last, had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours, and was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 7/1/1871 - Deaths

“On the 1st inst, aged 63, *Patience*, the beloved wife of Mr. *Joseph Mellor*, of the OLD TROOPER INN, Harden, near Walsall; formerly of the Carr Farm, Cubley, Derbyshire; deeply regretted by family and friends.”

1871 Census

4, Harden – INN – OLD TROOPER

- [1] *Joseph Mellor* (55), widower, licensed victualler and farmer of 170 acres, born Ashbourne, Derbyshire;
- [2] *William Mellor* (26), son, born Ashbourne, Derbyshire;
- [3] *Joseph Mellor* (24), son, born Ashbourne, Derbyshire;
- [4] *Joseph Mellor* (20), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Daniel Mellor* (22), son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Hannah Toone* (17), servant, born Bloxwich;

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/3/1877

“George Tanner, labourer, Blakenall, was brought up on a warrant, charged with having in December 1875, stolen a bridle, and pair of hames and a pair of swingle-trees, of the value 13s, the property of Mr. *Joseph Mellor*, of the TROOPER INN, Harden. Mr. Chidley (from the offices of Messrs. Duignan and Co.) appeared for the prisoner. The articles were missed in the month named, and a search warrant having been obtained, articles which were identified as those stolen were found on the prisoner’s premises, on Thursday evening, by Sergt. Martin. The prisoner told the officer that he bought the articles from Mr. J. Hawkins, of Coal Pool, three or four years ago, but Mr. Hawkins, who was called as a witness, declared that he had never sold such things to the prisoner.

The prisoner, through Mr. Chidley, represented that the charge had been brought in consequence of a dispute between the parties as to the ley of a horse.

Eventually the Bench gave the prisoner the benefit of the doubt in the case, and discharged him.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/8/1878

“Daniel *Mellor*, son of the keeper of the TROOPER INN, Harden, was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days’ imprisonment in default, for having assaulted Charlotte Jones, the servant of his father. The defence was that he had merely put her out of the house by his father’s orders because she stayed out late.”

1881 Census

22, Harden – OLD TROOPER INN

[1] *William Sharman* (50), farmer (12 acres) and innkeeper, born Kidderminster;

[2] Sarah Sharman (40), wife, born Shropshire;

[3] Elizabeth Plowson (25), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

London Gazette 18/11/1881

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *William Sharman*, formerly of the OLD TROOPERS INN, Harden, Bloxwich, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Farmer, but now of the ROYAL ARTILLERY INN, Lower Lichfield-street, Willenhall, in the said county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. William Waldron, Solicitor, No.17, High-street, Brierley Hill, in the county of Stafford, on the 1st day of December, 1881, at three o’clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 16th day of November, 1881.

William Waldron, 17, High-street, Brierley Hill, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Walsall Observer 3/1/1885

“Inquests in Walsall by T. H. Stanley, borough coroner. On Saturday, at the OLD TROOPER, Harden, on the body of Charles Smith, two years old, whose parents reside at Coal Pool. The evidence showed that on Christmas Day deceased was missed from home about four o’clock in the afternoon, and a search which was made for him. About eight o’clock his dead body was found in the canal at Coal Pool. A verdict of Found Drowned was returned by the jury.”

Walsall Observer 31/1/1885

“On Monday, Mr. T. H. Stanley, Borough Coroner, held an inquest at the OLD TROOPER INN, Harden, on the body of George White, aged about three years, whose parents reside at Harden. Deceased was standing on Saturday afternoon, against a wall on the roadside, while a horse and cart were being turned round by it. The cart struck a portion of the wall, and it fell on the boy, who was so injured that he died a few minutes afterwards. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1891 Census

22, Bloxwich Road – OLD TROOPER

[1] *Samuel Ross* (44), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] Henry Edwards (45), brother in law, bridle bit maker, born Blakenall;

[3] Sarah Edwards (45), wife, born Bloxwich;

[4] Mary Edwards (15), daughter, general servant, born Blakenall;

[5] George Edwards (12), son, scholar, born Blakenall:

William Edgerton = William Egerton

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

“Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday.....

Mr. Craddock submitted plans for the rebuilding of the OLD TROOPER, Harden, stating that owing to colliery operations that old house had suffered, and it was thought desirable to rebuild the place in connection with street improvements in the locality. The Chief Constable raised the point whether the house was needed. The decision was deferred.....

The Bench deliberated in private for some time, and on their return into court announced that the sanction of plans of the OLD TROOPER INN, Harden, was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/12/1894

“Monday was a day specially appointed by the Bough Justices for the transfer of public-house licenses, &c. The Mayor (Councillor Noake) and Mr. G. Gill constituted the Bench.....

Mr. Elliot made an application for the sanction of certain alterations which it was proposed to execute on the licensed premises of the OLD TROOPER INN, Harden. The house, he said, had been injured by mining subsidences, and in repairing the defects it was proposed to effect certain structural improvements.

The Chief Constable, in opposing, said that the plans came before the annual licensing meeting in another form, and were then

rejected. As he then told the Bench, the simple fact was that it was really proposed to take the house down to the foundations and entirely rebuild it. The house was a very old one and had been falling down for many years before the mining operations commenced to affect it prejudicially. There were not more than 20 houses within a radius of 150 yards, and if the application made to the annual meeting had not then been brought forward he should have opposed the renewal of the license on the ground that it was not required. He asked the Bench to decline to the applicants a valuable property in place of the present worthless one. Mr. Elliot said he was entirely unaware from whom the Chief Constable obtained his information, which was entirely incorrect. The Chief Constable: I have it from the owners themselves, and I could not have it from a better authority. Mr. Elliot: It is intended to build as much as is necessary, and in the course of the operations to make these alterations. The Bench said the matter had been decided by the annual meeting, and they must decline to interfere.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The Chief Constable afterwards took objection to the license of the TROOPER INN, Harden, on the ground (1) that it was not required in the neighbourhood, (2) that plans not sanctioned by the magistrates had actually been carried out contrary to the wishes of the Bench, (3) that it was structurally altered so as not to be the same premises as were actually licensed in the first instance.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1895

“The adjourned licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Mr. Jesse Herbert said that he had been instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson to apply for the renewal of the license of the TROOPER INN, at Harden. The objection on the part of the Chief Constable was that plans for alterations to the premises, which had been carried out without having been sanctioned by the Bench, were of such a character that the nature of the house had been altered. The Chief Constable gave evidence as to certain applications which the Bench had refused to sanction, and put in plans showing that the front of the house had been completely altered, and that a building had been erected outside the licensed area.

Mr. Herbert, in support of the application, said that in 1893 Mr. *Egerton*, the landlord and freeholder, paid £1,350 for the premises, and altered the position of the porch for the purpose of having better control over his business. On September 28th, 1894, application was made to the Bench to enable him to make alterations in consequence of the dilapidations caused by Messrs. Starkey’s pits, a circumstance which was proved by the firm having paid for the rebuilding of the whole of the front of the house to keep the roof on – (laughter). The plans referred to by the Chief Constable were rejected by the Bench, and there were then two alternatives for Mr. *Egerton*. He must either allow the house to go to ruin, and thus forfeit his livelihood, or submit further plans. This course was adopted in December last, and although the plans did not change the character of the premises or enlarge the area of the licensed premises, but only kept the roof up, the magistrates would neither approve or reject them. There was no legal compulsion on any owner of a licensed area, but his client had done so in order to show the Bench what he intended doing. After some little discussion the Bench granted the application on condition that a block plan of the whole licensed premises be supplied to them showing that a pantry which had been objected to by the Chief Constable had been removed.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1897

“Last Saturday a smoking concert was held at the TROOPER INN, Harden, for the benefit of Mr. W. Fenton. Mr. Fenton was a member of Blakenall Brass Band. About ten months ago he had the misfortune to fracture his elbow and has been in the General Hospital, Birmingham, for nine months. He is now going to a Convalescent Home, and the returns of the concert were to aid him in going. Songs and solos (euphonium and cornet) were given, and a substantial amount was collected. The evening was closed with an earnest wish on the part of every one present for the speedy recovery of Mr. Fenton.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/10/1899

“On Monday evening at the annual dinner of the committee and friends of the Leamore and district Floral and Horticultural Society was partaken at the OLD TROOPER INN, Harden. The company numbered about 40, and after full justice had been done to the excellent repast placed on the tables by Host *Edgerton*, a very enjoyable smoking concert was given. Over this latter Councillor Cop presided, and the musical programme was contributed to by Messrs. W. Martin, J. Brown, S. Beebee, W. Hartle, D. Hedges, whilst the accompaniments were given by Mr. W. Martin.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/11/1899

“A capital company assembled on Saturday afternoon at the Jubilee Grounds, Harden, to witness the concluding stages of Mr. *William Edgerton*’s 135 Yards £7 10s pedestrian handicap. The twenty successful pedestrians left in from the preceding Saturday were re-drawn into four heats.....”

1901 Census

Harden Road – Tavern – OLD TROOPER

[1] *William Edgerton* (40), widower, licensed victualler, born Rushall;

[2] *William Edgerton* (7), son, born Pelsall;

[3] *Thomas Edgerton* (45), brother, coal miner, born Rushall;

[4] *Thomas Hinton* (15), visitor, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/4/1901

“*William Edgerton*, landlord of the OLD TROOPER INN, Harden, was summoned for unlawfully withholding certain property belonging to the Loyal Old Trooper Lodge No.7394 of the Independent Order of Oddfellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society,

to wit £3 16s 5d, a dispensation book, treasurer's book, box, minute book, and lecture board. Mr. A. J. Glover, of Wednesbury prosecuted on behalf of Herbert Thomas, one of the trustees of the society, and Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

Mr. Glover said that formerly the Loyal Old Trooper Lodge had its registered office at the house of the defendant, the OLD TROOPER INN, Harden. The summons was taken out under the Friendly Societies Act, 1896, and he wanted an order for the defendant to return the money and goods he held. Defendant was appointed treasurer of the lodge in 1896, and in 1898 he entered into a bond, which he was required to do so by the Friendly Society Act, in which he undertook to pay over all monies remaining in his hands and to assign and transfer all property belonging to the society to such person or persons as the said society or the trustees should appoint. The lodge was held at the defendant's house for two years, and it then became very badly managed. Instead of the meetings taking place in the club room they sometimes took place in the kitchen, and for 18 months there were only five meetings held at all. It seemed the defendant had a coursing ground in connection with his public house, and when there was any coursing on the society was practically ousted from its quarters, the people who attended the coursing using all the rooms of the house. Ultimately the district officers took the matter in hand, and they decided to remove the defendant as treasurer, and move the lodge to the BLACK HORSE INN, Leamore. It seemed that the defendant did not like the removal, and he became very awkward indeed. He was properly authorised by the district officers to deliver up any cash and books that belonged to the society, but he refused to do so, and when he (Mr. Glover) wrote to him upon the matter defendant did not answer his letters. He did not suggest there was anything fraudulent about what the defendant had done.

Mr. Jackson argued that if there were no fraudulent intent alleged the case was not of the court. That court was a criminal court and had no jurisdiction. He quoted the case of Barrett v. Markham, decided before Mr. Justice Wills. He (Mr. Jackson) explained that the lodge was held at the OLD TROOPER for a considerable time, and then, by a certain section of members it was removed to another public house. It was not removed in accordance with the rules of the society, and the majority of the members still wished for it to continue at the OLD TROOPER; and he had two of the trustees out of three to say that the removal was not made with their consent. Defendant would have been prepared to hand over everything belonging to the society if the removal had been made according to the rules of the society.

The magistrates concurred with Mr. Jackson that they had no jurisdiction, and therefore dismissed the case.

The Clerk (Mr. Newman) intimated to Mr. Glover that the magistrates were willing to state a case if he wished."

[At Walsall County Court in November, 1901, judgement was given for the defendant, *William Edgerton*, with costs.]

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

"The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Mr. Bill produced plans of certain alterations proposed to be done to the OLD TROOPER, and they were approved."

Walsall Advertiser 23/4/1904

"At Walsall Police Court, yesterday, William Pinson (33), bridle cutter, Bloxwich Road, was fined 20s and costs, with the alternative of going to gaol for two weeks, for stealing 3d from the till at the OLD TROOPER INN, Harden, on April 21st. Defendant leaned over the counter and abstracted the money when he thought no one was looking."

Walsall Advertiser 16/1/1909

"The Streets Committee. Your committee recommends that the offer of Mr. *Edgerton* of the TROOPER INN, Harden, to give up 366 square yards of land required for widening the portion of Harden Lane lying between Forest Lane and the TROOPER INN, and that opposite the inn at the corner of the road leading to Rushall, be accepted, and that the Borough Surveyor to be instructed to have the improvement carried out by men recommended by the Distress Committee, at an estimated cost of £60."

1911 Census

Harden – OLD TROOPER INN

[1] *William Edgerton* (51), widower, licensed victualler, born Rushall;

[2] William Edward Edgerton (17), son, barman, born Pelsall;

[3] Thomas Edgerton (55), brother, collier, hewer, born Rushall:

Walsall Observer 3/10/1914 - Deaths

"On July 26th, 1914, at Carterton N.Z., Josepha, wife of W. J. Lindop, of Bloxwich, and only daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. *Mellor*, the OLD TROOPER, Harden."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

OLD TROOPER INN, Bloxwich. £2 17s 8½d."

Walsall Observer 6/7/1918 - Missing

"Private *William Edgerton*, who formerly assisted his father at the OLD TROOPER INN, Harden, is posted as missing since May 27, when he was in action in France with the Yorkshire Regiment. A single man, now 25 years of age, he joined the Colours in April 1916, and after serving with a labour battalion was transferred to the Durham Light Infantry, and later to the Yorkshires. He went to France last autumn, was wounded, and a few weeks afterwards came to England. He returned to France last April."

Lichfield Mercury 17/8/1923

"Three miners, named George Herbert Harrison (19), Joseph Edwards (19), and Moses Harper (16), all of Heath End, Pelsall,

were, at Rushall, on Monday, committed to the Quarter Sessions for trial charged on remand with burglariously breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Herbert Harold Turner, timber merchant, Peolsford House, Pelsall, on the night of August 6th and stealing jewellery, money, and other property, total value £61 12s.

Evidence was given that Mr. and Mrs. Turner had been away from home for the week-end, and on returning on the morning of the 7th inst. Mrs. Turner noticed that the catch had been forced off the front window. She communicated with the police, who found the premises in a state of confusion, the drawers having been ransacked and the contents strewn about the floor. Jewellery and other property was missing, and also £6 in money. The latter included three gold coins, and one of the prisoners was alleged to have afterwards got change for two sovereigns off *William Edgerton*, landlord of the TROOPER INN, Harden, Bloxwich. The only clue which the police obtained was a button which was found in the house, and when Pc Bourne visited Harper's house he noticed that a jacket belonging to Harper had a button missing similar to the one in the possession of the police. Harper at first denied the charge, but subsequently he and Harrison pleaded guilty, and Edwards when told he helped to raise the window remarked: 'If you have chucked a sponge up I might as well give in'.

PCs Bourne and Rushton afterwards accompanied Harrison to a plantation near Peolsford House, and when some bracken was removed some of the stolen property was discovered. Other articles were found at Harper's house.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who defended Harper and Harrison, urged that the prisoners had respectable homes and it seemed to be a case of 'silly bravado.' He suggested that prisoners had not realised the seriousness of their conduct, and that it was in their favour that they had made a clean breast of it.

Harper and Harrison were admitted to bail. Harrison was further charged with breaking into the Church Schools, Pelsall, in November last, and stealing articles of value 25s. He was sent to trial on this charge also."

Lichfield Mercury 19/10/1923

"Staffordshire Quarter Sessions. Moses Harper (16), George Herbert Harrison (19), and Joseph Edwards (19), all miners, pleaded guilty to burglariously breaking and entering the dwelling house of Herbert Harold Turner, at Pelsall, and stealing jewellery, etc, of the value of £61 12s. Harrison also admitted breaking into the Church of England School at Pelsall between November 3rd and 5th, 1922, and stealing a quantity of articles, the property of the Staffordshire County Council.

Harper, who admitted a previous conviction for larceny at Walsall on December 23rd, 1921, promised to turn over a new leaf, and he was placed on probation.

Harrison, who also admitted breaking into the Grove Colliery Company offices at Norton Canes on November 25th, 1922, also promised amendment, and he was placed on probation.

Edwards, who admitted a previous conviction at Walsall on May 27th, 1920, for shop-breaking, when he was sent to a Borstal Institution for three years and released on license last year, was ordered to remain in custody pending arrangements being made for his return to a Borstal Institution for 12 calendar months."

thebloxwichtelegraph.com

"The TROOPER public house was licensed to Joseph Lea in the 18th century and in 1774 the Amicable Friendly Society had 110 male members at this inn. Early in the 20th century it was described as having a fine Georgian fireplace and grate, this was removed at Christmas 1925 and the old TROOPER closed in March 1930. A new inn of the same name opened the next day, but has since been demolished."

It closed on 26th March 1930.

YE OLDE TROOPER opened the following day.

William Edgerton died on 8th December 1931.

Walsall Observer 7/10/1939

"'It's a funny thing that A.R.P. wardens had been round for six nights before and not one of them had complained,' said *William Edgerton* (47), licensee of the OLDE TROOPER INN, Harden, against whom it was alleged by Police-constable Davies that lights were showing through three large windows at the rear on the night of September 9.

Edgerton was fined 10s."

1939 Register

120, Harden Road

[1] *William E. Edgerton*, date of birth 23/6/1893, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Lilian R. Edgerton*, dob 17/5/1895, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[4] *Amy Smith*, dob 10/8/1864, retired, widowed;

[5] *Amy E. (Roe) Morris*, dob 8/5/1915, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

OLD TROOPER INN, Harden, £6 16s 9d."

Walsall Observer 4/10/1941

“For their annual outing, a party from YE OLDE TROOPER INN, Harden, accompanied by the licensee Mr. *W. Edgerton*, had an enjoyable trip to Bridgnorth on Sunday.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Edgerton*, the TROOPER, Harden. £0 16s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
TROOPER, Harden. £11 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
TROOPER INN, Harden, Bloxwich. £7 18s 0d.”

London Gazette 18/10/1983

“*Walker, Robert James*, residing at and carrying on business from YE OLDE TROOPER, Harden Road, Leamore, Bloxwich, Walsall, in the metropolitan county of West Midlands, as a Tenant Publican, lately residing at 46 Oak Crescent, Leamore, aforesaid, formerly residing at The RED LION, 2 Green Lane, Leamore, aforesaid, previously residing at 14 Green Lane, Leamore aforesaid and previously residing and carrying on business as a Plastering Contractor from 12 Twyford Grove, Oaklands Estate, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, in the aforesaid metropolitan county.

Court - Walsall.

Date of Filing Petition - 10th October 1983.

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

London Gazette 14/5/1987

“*Heighon, Derek Henry*, unemployed, residing and lately carrying on business at YE OLDE TROOPER, Harden Road, Leamore, Walsall, in the metropolitan county of West Midlands, as a Tenant Publican.

Court - Walsall.

Date of Order - 10th February 1987.

Nature of Order made - Bankrupt discharged.”

OLD VINE

Bradford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Black Country Bugle 25/2/1999

‘Fur Fanciers Link With Old Walsall Pub’ – letter from Carol and Dave Bishop

“We are trying to complete the history of a local rabbit club known as Walsall Fur Fanciers, but in the past was for some time known as Walsall Domestic Rabbit Club.

We have managed to establish that the club was in existence in 1924, we believe that some of the shows were then held in an upstairs room in a public house in Walsall called the OLD VINE in Bradford Street.”

OLD WHEATSHEAF

28, (18), (22), (21), Birmingham Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Henry Brooks, factor, The Terrace, Walsall
Mr. Sherriff, Brace Street, Walsall
Misses Lovatt

LICENSEES

Thomas Woodward [1858] – [1865]
John Glover [1868] – [1870]
William Palmer [1871] – **1873**);
John Bolt (**1873** – [1876];
William Smith Dutton [1881] – **1897**);
Mary Jane Dutton (**1897** – **1899**);
James Townsend (**1899** – **1904**):

NOTES

21, Birmingham Street [1858], [1861], [1868], [1870], [1871], [1881], [1891]
22, Birmingham Street [1897]
18, Birmingham Street [1903]
28, Birmingham Street [1901]

OLD WHEATSHEAF [1869], [1902]
WHEATSHEAF [1871], [1876], [1884]

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

Thomas Woodward, beerhouse, 21, Birmingham Street. [1858]
Thomas Woodward, beer retailer, Birmingham Street. [1861]

Walsall Free Press 22/9/1860

“Several parties were summoned by Mr. Clarke, the town surveyor, for not having complied with the regulations, directing the fixing of down spouts. Prosecutor stated that notices had been served on the parties thirteen or fourteen months ago.
Thomas Woodward, Birmingham Street. all similarly dealt with, a week being allowed them to have their spouts fixed, and in the meantime the parties paying the costs of the present proceedings, 5s 6d each.”

1861 Census

21, Birmingham Street
[1] *Thomas Woodward* (45), iron founder employing 5 men, born Walsall;
[2] Sarah Woodward (43), wife, born Walsall;
[3] James Glover (22), son, saddler, born Walsall;
[4] Eliza H. Hirs (?), (19), house servant, born Tipton:

T. Woodward, beer retailer, 1, Birmingham Street. [1864], [1865]

John Glover, beer retailer, 21, Birmingham Street. [1868], [1870]

London Gazette 19/3/1869

“*John Glover*, of the OLD WHEAT SHEAF INN, Birmingham-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper and Saddle Maker, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 16th day of March, 1869, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 14th day of April next, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Messrs. Dinguin, Lewis, and Lewis, of Walsall, are the Solicitors acting in the bankruptcy.”

London Gazette 14/5/1869

“*John Glover*, of the OLD WHEATSHEAF INN, Birmingham-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper and Saddle Maker, adjudicated bankrupt on the 16th day of March, 1869. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 5th day of May, 1869.”

1871 Census

21, Birmingham Street – WHEAT SHEAF

- [1] *William Palmer* (41), publican and brass dresser employing 2 boys, born Walsall;
- [2] *Maria Palmer* (39), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Palmer* (17), son, brass dresser, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ellen Palmer* (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Jane Palmer* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Clara Palmer* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Harry Palmer* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Frank Palmer* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/9/1876

“*John Bolt*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Birmingham Street, was fined 20s and costs for having supplied beer to men in his house at twenty minutes past eleven o’clock on Sunday morning.”

1881 Census

21, Birmingham Street

- [1] *William Dutton* (44), fitter, born Walsall;
- [2] *Harriett Dutton* (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Harry Dutton* (18), son, brass castor, born Walsall;
- [4] *Harriett Dutton* (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Sarah Jane Dutton* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Arthur Dutton* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Ellener Dutton* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] *Minnie Adie Dutton* (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/4/1884

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *James Nend*, painter, Peal Street, and *Sarah Cooper*, New Street, were sentenced to three months’ imprisonment each with hard labour for having stolen two watches and chains, the property of *William Dutton*, keeper of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Birmingham Street. The evidence showed that the male prisoner stole the articles from a bed room whilst engaged in painting the house, and that the female prisoner afterwards sold the watches to the prosecutor’s brother.”

1891 Census

21, Birmingham Street – OLD WHEAT SHEAF

- [1] *William Dutton* (54), fitter, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary J. Dutton* (44), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Arthur Dutton* (16), son, filer, born Walsall;
- [4] *Eleanor Dutton* (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Minnie A. Dutton* (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Harold E. Dutton* (9), son, born Walsall:

Evening Star 31/1/1882

“On the 21st inst, *Henry Hill* (49), of Peel Street, left his house to go to a club at the OLD WHEAT SHEAF INN. At 11.15pm he came home and complained of having fallen down and hurt his ribs. He was seen by *Dr. Hubbard* who ordered him to bed. On Saturday last, his wife helped him out of bed and he fell down and never spoke again, but died shortly afterwards. On the 21st he had a quarrel with a man named *Millett*, and was seen on the ground with *Millett*.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1897

“Wednesday was a special transfer day at Walsall and the following licenses were transferred.....

OLD WHEAT SHEAF, Birmingham Street, Executrix and co-Executrix of *William Smith Dutton* (deceased), to *Mary Jane Dutton*.”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

“The OLD WHEATSHEAF Sick and Dividend Society held their annual general meeting at the OLD WHEATSHEAF, Birmingham Street, on Tuesday. A goodly muster of members turned up.....”

1901 Census

28, Birmingham Street

- [1] *James Townsend* (64), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary J. Townsend* (53), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Ellen Woodward* (18), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 19/7/1902 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction on Monday, July 28th.....

The whole of the Valuable Freehold Property, in one Lot, comprising the very Old-Established Home-Brewing Beerhouse, known as the OLD WHEAT SHEAF INN, Birmingham Street, Walsall, in the occupation of *Mr. James Townsend* on an annual tenancy,

at a yearly rental of £32.

The House contains four Rooms on the Upper Floors, and on the Ground Floor, Tap Room and Bar Parlour, with good Cellarage, together with spacious Brewhouse with Tap Water laid on.

The House does a good trade all the year round, and whether to Brewers or Persons wanting to brew on their own account this Sale affords a genuine opportunity to acquire a thoroughly good Freehold Home Brewing Beerhouse.

Together with the Six Dwelling Houses adjoining.....

Also two Sets of Two-Storey Workshops and a One-Storey Shop.....

The S. S. Water is laid on, and there are the usual out-offices.

The Property comprises a very extensive area.....”

[Biddings commenced at £400, and eventually they rose to £1,250, at which figure the lot was withdrawn.]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Whilst *James Townsend*, the elderly landlord of the OLD WHEAT SHEAF, Birmingham Street, was in the box, the Court was provided with rare fun. Asked if he held the license, he said, ‘I hold the license, but my wife her’s the landlady. It was her license first, and then it was put into my name.’

Mr. Loxton: What rent do you pay? – £32.

The rent was risen twice last year. How was that? – Her (the landlady) wanted to sell the house (laughter).

Has she always dropped the rent back again? – No.

How many rooms are there – two down and four up (laughter).

What do you call two down? – Well the kitchen and the smoke room; will that do you? (laughter).

If there was not a license, would they be a parlour and a kitchen? – Yes.

The rent was raised on purpose to sell the house? – On purpose to make it better; she had never spent a penny on the house the six years I have been there, nor the previous owner for 24 years (laughter).

Have you any other business? – I have some property of my own, and I have an outdoor license, but I’ve got no money there (roars of laughter).

As far as you are concerned you do not attach much value to the license? – Not a great deal (still more laughter).

The renewal of the license was adjourned. The Bench giving notice of objection in open court on the ground that the license was not required, that the premises were not structurally adapted, and the tenant to be required to satisfy the Bench as to its value.”

The license was refused at the Brewsters’ Session in 1904.

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1904

“The adjourned annual brewster session were held on Tuesday.....

OLD WHEATSHEAF Closed. Mr. Bill who appeared for the owners (Misses Lovatt) complained of the action of the tenant, *James Townsend*, in appearing before the magistrates on licensing day without any warning to the owners, and making wild statements likely to convince the Bench that the house was no longer required. Among other things he said the rent had been raised twice in one year, which was utterly false. The house was worth £32, and was the only means of subsistence its owners had. Miss Lovatt had been to see *Townsend* with reference to his statements to the magistrates, and he had told her that he would do all he could to do her a bad turn. The magistrates refused to renew that license.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/4/1904

“In connection with the recent Walsall Brewster Sessions, there were this week six appeals at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions against the decisions of the borough magistrates in refusing the renewal of licenses.....

James Townsend, tenant of the OLD WHEAT SHEAF INN, Walsall, appealed against the decision of the Walsall borough justices not to renew the license, the ground of objection being that the house was not of sufficient annual value.

Mr. Plumptre and Mr. Lewis were for the appellants, and Mr. Disturnal appeared for the respondents.

Mr. Hickton estimated the value of the house at £13 3s, on the basis of the landlord paying the rates. The gross estimated rental was £20, and the rateable value was £16.

Mr. Powell, for the appellants, assessed the value of the house at £18 4s, and Mr. Bewlay placed the value of the premises at £15 12s, the tenant paying the rates.

Miss Lovatt, the owner of the house, stated that the rent was raised a short time before the property was offered for sale.

The Court dismissed the appeal, with costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/7/1904

“An application was made by Mr. F. Bill for the issue of a distress warrant against *James Townsend*. Mr. Bill explained that *Townsend* formerly held the license of the OLD WHEAT SHEAF, Birmingham Street, which had now been taken away, and at the Brewster Sessions an order was made by the magistrates for Messrs Hickton and Farmer to make a valuation of the premises. The Act required that the cost of such valuation should be paid by the licensee, but *Townsend* had so far refused to pay the amount, which was £3 3s.

Townsend now said he thought it was most unfair that they should take his living away and then make him pay for what he had not

ordered to be done.

The warrant was made, but *Townsend* paid the amount before leaving the court.”

ONE MAN AND HIS DOG

7, Turnberry Road, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Tiffany Louise Bartlett [2023] manager

NOTES

[2000]

It was refurbished c.2009.

Express & Star 22/3/2021

“Pubs group Marston’s has issued a list of pubs set to reopen in the Black Country on April 12th. In the Express & Star circulation area this takes in 93. Due to coronavirus restrictions they will only be able to accommodate customers in outdoor areas including beer gardens and seated areas. To accompany table service, Marston’s has introduced an online ordering system called ‘Marston’s Tap’. The online platform is available across the majority of Marston’s pubs for guests to use. Bookings are being accepted and guests can reserve a table via each pub’s website. Wolverhampton-based Marston’s has an estate of around 1,400 pubs across the UK and not all in England are able to reopen in April due to not having an outdoor space.....

ONE MAN AND HIS DOG, Bloxwich.”

[2023]

ORANGE TREE

20, Wolverhampton Road (71, Wolverhampton Street), (Wolverhampton Row) / Hollyhedge Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Nightingale

Richard Sherratt (acquired in April 1885 for £750 with adjoining cottage)

Emma Sherratt

City Brewery Co. (Lichfield) Ltd.

Ind Coope and Allsopp (leased)

Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Sycamore Taverns (acquired in 1992)

Punch Taverns

LICENSEES

Edward Comins [1836]

Thomas Hidges [1848]

Horatio Hefford [1860] – [1861]

John Davis [1864] – [1866]

James Nightingale [1868] – [1881];

John Davis [];

Richard Sherratt [] – **1889**;

Mrs. Emma Sherratt (1889 – [1896]);
Miss Mary Cornfield [1897] – 1902);
Charles Thompson Marsh (1902);
Mrs. Rose (Marsh) Turner (1902 – 1910);
Alfred Benton (1910 – 1911);
Frederick Sidney Walmsley (1911 – 1924);
George Stanley (1924 – []
James Vaughan (1930 – 1953);
Joseph Nash (1953 – 1958);
Edward Albert Kimberley (1958);
Leslie Spinks (1958 – 1959);
John Scott (1959 – [1966]
Arthur Hurley []

NOTES

71, Wolverhampton Street [1871]
20, Wolverhampton Road [1891], [1901], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a refreshment license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/5/1836

“*Edward Comins*, of the ORANGE TREE, Wolverhampton Lane, was fined 40s and costs, for keeping open his house on Sunday, and permitting tipping therein during divine service.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/3/1848

“Joseph Newman was arraigned on a charge of stealing from the person of Ann Millard a sixpence, her property. The prosecutrix stated that she lived as servant with her brother-in-law, *Thomas Hidges*, keeper of the ORANGE TREE public-house, on the Wolverhampton road from Walsall, and was returning along the highway from Bilston to Walsall, between two and three o’clock on the afternoon of the 3rd of January last. She passed three other men on the footpath, and was then overtaken by the prisoner, the other two remaining behind. He laid his hand on her shoulder, and asked for some money. She said she had none; and he replied that he would have some whether she had or not. She gave him sixpence, so that she might be allowed to pass, and then ran home. The prisoner and his companions called at her relation’s house soon afterwards begging, and he was then taken into custody.

In her cross-examination by Mr. Meteyard, who defended the prisoner, the witness stated that Newman did not ask for alms, and say he had had nothing to eat during the day. She gave him the sixpence because she was frightened, and he would not let her pass without money.

The brother-in-law of the prosecutrix apprehended the prisoner and asked him why he had stopped his relation. He said he had only done so to ask her for a penny, having had nothing to eat for four days. Witness handed him over to the police, to whom he at once gave up the money. On being searched nothing was found on the prisoner, but on one of his companions, who was discharged by order of the magistrates, between 20s and 30s were found.

Mr. Meteyard urged that the indictment must fall, as there was not sufficient violence or threatened violence to substantiate the charge of highway robbery, and the offence, if anything, only amounted to assault.

The Chairman left it to the jury to determine whether they were satisfied, under the circumstances of the case, that the woman, stopped by one of the three men, was really and truly put into such a state of fear that she had in consequence parted with her money against her inclination, and under the impression of further violence.

The jury, after some deliberation, acquitted the prisoner.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/7/1848 - Advert

“Public House At Walsall.

To be Sold, and entered upon immediately, the Licenses and Possession of, and also the Brewing Utensils and Stock of Ale, in that excellent well-accustomed roadside Public-House, called the ORANGE TREE, in Wolverhampton Road, close to the town of Walsall. The house has a large Club Room, and good Stabling, and there is also an ample supply of hard and soft water. Apply to Mr. Wilkinson, Solicitor, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 12/11/1859 - Advert

“Walsall. To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that excellently arranged Retail Public House, called the ORANGE TREE. The premises are replete with every convenience for carrying on an extensive business, and from its contiguity to the roads leading to Wolverhampton, the Pleck, Wednesbury, and the Birchills, an opportunity like the present rarely occurs, the stock, brewing vessels, (which are all new) and fixtures, to be taken at a valuation which will not exceed one hundred pounds. For particulars apply to John Osbourn, Auctioneer, 52, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.

N.B. the proprietor having other engagements is the sole cause of leaving.”

Horatio Hefford = Horatio Heffrid

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....

Horatio Hefford, Wolverhampton Lane. Refused.”

Horatio Hefford, beer retailer, Wolverhampton Road. [1861]

1861 Census

Wolverhampton Road – ORANGE TREE INN

[1] *Horatio Hefford* (48), brewer, born Derbyshire;

[2] Sarah Hefford (48), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Martha Clements (86), mother in law, widow, born Shropshire;

[4] Mary Roden (52), nurse, born Staffordshire;

[5] Elizabeth Tubb (19), house servant, born Wyrley, Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861

“The business of the general licensing day then commenced. There were seventeen applications.....

Horatio Hefford, ORANGE TREE, Wolverhampton Road, applied for a license. Mr. Wilkinson supported the application, and pointed out that although the ORANGE TREE was within 150 yards of the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, the landlord of the latter (Mr. Nightingale) had signed a memorial in favour of granting a license, because the additional business which would be brought to the house by the license would not be of a local character, and would not interfere with the trade of the locality. Refused.”

John Davis = John Davies

Walsall Free Press 13/8/1864

“Amelia Buffet was charged with having wilfully and maliciously broken five panes of glass, the property of *John Davis*, landlord of the ORANGE TREE beerhouse, Wolverhampton Road. It appeared that she had, on Sunday afternoon, visited the house in question in search of a man with whom she cohabited, and, having found him there, she made use of some abusive language, where upon she was turned out, and, on getting into the street, she broke the windows.

The Bench ordered the defendant to pay 2s 6d, the cost of the glass, and 2s 6d fine and costs.

Defendant showed a wound on her right arm, which she said had been caused by the landlady stabbing her with a fork. On her left arm were several bruises and an abrasion of the skin, which she stated were caused by the landlord throwing her down.”

Walsall Free Press 29/10/1864

“On Thursday afternoon, the borough coroner, A. A. Fletcher, held an inquest, at the ORANGE TREE public-house, upon the body of Robert Taylor, butty miner, aged 43. It appeared, from the evidence, that deceased returned from his work in his usual health, about half-past ten, telling Mrs. Taylor to call him for dinner. Shortly after he lay down, Mrs. Taylor had occasion to go upstairs, and, hearing her husband making a peculiar noise, she went to his bedside and found him in a dying state, and before medical aid could be procured, life was extinct.

The Jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

Mr. Matthews, from the office of Mr. Wilkinson, applied on behalf of the following parties.....

John Davies, ORANGE TREE, Wolverhampton Road Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/7/1866

“On Monday last, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Borough Coroner, held an inquiry at the ORANGE TREE beerhouse, Wolverhampton-row, touching the death of Enoch Smith, 13 years of age, a son of parents living at Parkfield-terrace. On Saturday afternoon, the deceased, who was employed at the establishment of Mr. Stanley, saddler, Mountrath-street, left work early, and went with a companion, named Thomas Yates, to bathe in the canal at Bentley. He had been in the water but a few minutes when he showed symptoms of distress, and accordingly his companion endeavoured to draw him to the bank, but failed, nearly losing his own life in the attempt; and before other assistance could be obtained the unfortunate lad was drowned. The body was not recovered until about half-an-hour afterwards. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. Glover appeared to support the application of Mr. *John Davis*, landlord of the ORANGE TREE beerhouse, Wolverhampton Road.

Mr. Glover contended that the house, which was called a ‘model beerhouse,’ was in every way suitable for a victuallers’ house, and as it was on the high road between Walsall and Wolverhampton, should be licensed. Refused.”

James Nightingale = James Nightingall

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/10/1870

“A young man, who described himself as Thomas Davis, hawker, Dudley, was charged with having stolen two coats, value £2, the property of Mr. B. Benjamin, clothier, Digbeth, and one coat, value £1, the property of Mr. J. L. Stevenson, clothier, High Street. The evidence went to show that on Saturday afternoon the prisoner, accompanied by a woman, entered Mr. Benjamin’s shop, and after looking at several coats, selected one, which he directed to be put aside for him, and paying 1s as a deposit, promised to call again between 6 and 7 o’clock. Soon after they had left two coats were missed, and the police having been communicated with, Acting-sergeant Proffit traced the prisoner and his companion to the ORANGE TREE public house, Wolverhampton Lane, and as he entered saw Davis hand a shawl and a bundle to the woman, who endeavoured to conceal the latter. The officer seized it, however, and found it contained the two missing coats and a third, which had been stolen from the shop of Mr. J. Stevenson, under precisely similar circumstances, the same afternoon. The woman escaped while the bundle was being examined. The prisoner was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment for each offence, making twelve months’ in all, and Proffit was commended by the Mayor for his prompt detection of the prisoner.”

1871 Census

71, Wolverhampton Street – ORANGE TREE

- [1] *James Nightingale* (36), innkeeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Phoebe Nightingale (32), wife, born Lichfield;
- [3] Patience Nightingale (67), mother, born Biddulph, Warwickshire;
- [4] Georgina Jones (9), niece, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] William Mayo (61), boarder, labourer, born Wednesfield:

James Nightingale, beer retailer, Wolverhampton Road. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/3/1876

“*James Nightingale*, ORANGE TREE, public house, was fined 10s and costs for having permitted drunkenness in his house. The defence was that the defendant had been called away from home suddenly, and had been obliged to leave the house in the charge of an inexperienced person.”

1881 Census

Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *James Nightingale* (46), widower, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Patience Nightingale (80), mother, annuitant, born Bedworth, Warwickshire;
- [3] Patience Jones (10), niece, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Alfred Hogan (12), nephew, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Sarah Sanders (20), domestic servant, born Norton, Staffordshire:

James Nightingale – see also ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

1891 Census

20, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Emma Sherratt* (60), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Wingham, Kent;
- [2] Sarah Sherratt (24), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [3] Mary Emma Ganderton (18), general servant, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 23/1/1895

“Edward Eason (32), painter, of no fixed abode, was charged with begging in the public streets. Police-sergeant 5 (Curtis) said that on Tuesday he watched prisoner enter several shops begging. He ultimately went into the ORANGE TREE public-house and asked for a half-pint of fourpenny ale. He was ordered out, but refused to leave, and witness accordingly arrested him. He then became so violent that it took three policemen to get him to the police station. Prisoner denied that he was begging, and he was discharged on promising to leave the town forthwith.”

Mrs. *Emma Sherratt*, beer retailer, 20, Wolverhampton Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 16/10/1897

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....
New Members..... Miss *Mary Cornfield*, ORANGE TREE INN, Wolverhampton Street.”

1901 Census

20, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Mary Cornfield* (35), unmarried, beer retailer, born Walsall;

- [2] Daniel Cornfield (32), brother, born Walsall;
- [3] Samuel Cornfield (28), brother, iron worker, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah J. Brown (26), sister, born Walsall;
- [5] Hannah Rogers (25), sister, born Walsall;
- [6] Herbert Cornfield (20), brother, born Walsall;
- [7] William Marlow (21), lodger, labourer in iron works, born Darlaston;
- [8] Tom Brown (7), nephew, born Willenhall;
- [9] Philip Rogers (25), brother in law, iron works, born Walsall;
- [10] Evelyn M. Rogers (2 months), niece, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 7/2/1903

“A young man named Alfred Ayers, 109, Wolverhampton Street, was charged on a warrant with stealing a bicycle worth £4 10s, the property of Thomas Mumford, of 85, Raleigh Street, on July 10th last. Prosecutor gave evidence to the effect that on July 10th he went into the ORANGE TREE INN, Wolverhampton Road, and left the bicycle in the passage. Prisoner was in the house, and after a time asked him to lend him his machine. Prosecutor refused to do so, and went into another room. When he came back his bicycle had disappeared, and the prisoner was not found.

Ernest Gore said that on July 10th he met prisoner near the FULLBROOK TAVERN in West Bromwich Road. He had the bicycle in his possession, and offered to sell it to witness for a sovereign. Witness offered him 15s, and eventually gave him 10s on account, taking a receipt for it. The next day witness’s father handed the machine over to the police.

Detective Smith said that prisoner had left the town after selling the bicycle, but had returned the previous day and given himself up.

Prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sent to gaol for a months’ hard labour.”

Mrs. *Rose Marsh*, beer retailer, 20, Wolverhampton Road. [1904]

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905], [1906]

Walsall Advertiser 26/9/1908

“Societies Of Miniature Rifle Clubs, Birmingham And District League.....

The first delegate meeting will take place on Thursday next, the 1st inst, at the club house of the chairman, the ORANGE TREE, Wolverhampton Road.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1909

“The friends of Mr. ‘Teddy’ Green assembled at the ORANGE TREE, Wolverhampton Street, on Tuesday evening, to wish him good luck on his return to Canada, after a holiday over here. There was a goodly muster, and refreshments were supplied, whilst an enjoyable musical programme was gone through.”

Rose Marsh married a Mr. Turner in 1909.

1911 Census

20, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Alfred Benton* (50), boiler smith, born Blakenall Heath;
- [2] *Mary Ann Benton* (51), wife, married 26 years, born Blakenall Heath;
- [3] *Harold Benton* (25), son, boiler smith, born Blakenall Heath;
- [4] *Nellie Wilmore* (22), daughter, married, housewife, born Blakenall Heath;
- [5] *Benjamin Wilmore* (23), son in law, clerk, LNWR, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Colin Harrold Benton Wilmore* (4 months), grandson, born Rolling Mill Street, Walsall;
- [7] *Jane Ellen Hough* (15), domestic servant, born Blakenall Heath:

Walsall Advertiser 10/1/1912

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held last Thursday.....

Mr. *Frederick S. Walmsley*, ORANGE TREE INN, Wolverhampton Road, was elected member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1917

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *F. S. Walmsley*, ORANGE TREE INN, Wolverhampton Road.....”

Walsall Observer 20/10/1917

“Friendly rivalry, the outcome of a vegetable show at a neighbouring house, accounted for the magnificent sum of £3 15s being obtained at the ORANGE TREE INN, Wolverhampton Road, this week by a similar effort. Thanks are due to Mr. J. Bastard, hon. secretary of the Reeds Wood Allotments, and many customers for the zeal displayed. All through the war parcels and cash have been despatched to the men at the Front, and from this amount many more will be sent at intervals.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
ORANGE TREE, Wolverhampton Street. £0 17s 3½d.”

Walsall Observer 17/5/1924

“When, at Walsall Police Court on Monday, the license of the ORANGE TREE, Wolverhampton Road, was transferred from *Frederick Sidney Walmsley* to *George Stanley*, the Chief Constable (Mr. G. H. Ballance) reminded the magistrates that a year ago he objected to *Stanley* holding a license owing to ‘certain reports’ made to him (the Chief Constable). He now thought that having been kept out of business for fourteen months, *Stanley* had been sufficiently punished for any indiscretion he had committed and he, therefore, offered no objection to the present transfer. ‘It is a very severe punishment’ agreed the presiding magistrate (Mr. W. Abbotts).....”

Lichfield Mercury 8/9/1933

“Falling from some scaffolding at the Goodyear factory, Bushbury, Frank Owen (30), of the ORANGE TREE INN, Walsall, broke both his forearms, cut his chin and bruised his face.”

A full license was transferred from the COMMERCIAL, Station Street, in May 1937.

1939 Register

Wolverhampton Road

[1] *James Vaughan*, date of birth 3/11/1868, licensed victualler, married;
[2] *Ada M. Vaughan*, dob 27/5/1881, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
ORANGE TREE, Wolverhampton Road, £5 5s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
ORANGE TREE INN, Wolverhampton Road. £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
ORANGE TREE INN, Wolverhampton Road. £4 10s 9d.”

Arthur Hurley was married to Ivy.

[2007]

Express & Star 6/5/2017

“More than 25 calls were made to West Midlands Fire Service about the blaze at the ORANGE TREE in Walsall earlier today. Firefighters from Walsall Central, Bloxwich and Willenhall attended. It is believed the pub, which stands on the ring road and closed in 2009, is regularly used as a shelter by the homeless.
A fire service spokesman said: ‘We attended a fire in a derelict public house – which was in the first floor and roof space.’
Crews were called at 11.45am. They left the scene around two hours later. Fire crews are set to revisit the pub this afternoon as they investigate how the blaze started.”

PARK TAVERN

43, Broadway North, WALSALL

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd. [1992]
Allied Domecq

LICENSEES

Miss Sue Yardley [2009] manager

NOTES

It was originally a tennis club.
It became a night club.

It opened as a pub in the 1970s.

Sandwell Evening Mail 6/7/1992

“They’re the pubs that YOU think are the best in the Midlands – and now they’re all in the running for our prestigious Midland Town and Country Pub of the Year.....

The *Evening Mail* has teamed up for the contest with the Midland Counties Brewers’ and Licensed Retailers’ Association, to raise a toast to the very best of our region’s pubs. Now it is up to the judges, who face a huge task choosing the two winners from the enormous entry. They’ll be looking for service and standards of comfort demanded by today’s discerning pub-goer. And they will be awarding marks for another important ingredient of a successful pub – the part it plays as a hub of social life in the community.....

PARK TAVERN, Broadway North, Walsall.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 2/10/1992 - Advert

“Cheers! Have a free drink on us.

Cheers! Here’s your chance to have Another drink Free on the *Evening Mail*. We’ve got thousands more Free pints to give away and the toast of the Midlands is once again Ansell’s! Yes, it’s Free Beer time again at over 100 selected Ansell’s houses throughout the Midlands. Thousands of *Evening Mail* readers toasted the August Bank Holiday with our last two-pints-for-the-price-of-one opportunity. Now, for the next seven days, we are delighted to repeat the chance. You can enjoy a sparkling glass of beer or lager – or a generous measure of wine – Absolutely Free – when you buy an equivalent drink. Simply cut out the coupon below, fill in your name and address and take it along to any of the listed venues.....

Walsall: PARK TAVERN.”

Sue Yardley’s partner was Steve.

[2012]

Closed [2013], [2014]

Demolished.

Housing was built on the site. [2016]

PARKBROOK

434, Wolverhampton Road, (434, Park Brook), Park Brook, WALSALL

OWNERS

George Harper
Thomas Meddings
John Hand
Messrs. Cooper and Sons, solicitors, Uttoxeter
Brewers’ Investment Corporation Ltd.
Edwin Jones
Mary Ann Fox
John Lord, The Brewery, Short Acre, Walsall (acquired in 1925)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

David Matthews [1865]
Joseph Russell [1868]
Walter Bowring [] – (1869)
George Harper [1871] – 1873);
Thomas Meddings (1873 – [];
John Hand [1878];
Thomas Hands [1882]
Joseph Lowe [1887] – 1896);
Harriet Lowe (1896 – 1898);
George Leverton (1898 – 1899);
Mrs. Mary Ann Fox (1899 – 1912);
Walter Sanders (1912 – 1919);
Hannah Sanders (1919 – 1920);
Amos Burrows (1920 – [] manager
Caroline Burrows (1933 – 1938)
Douglas Morton Critchley [1939] – 1941);
James Watson (1941 – 1947);
Ernest Thickett (1947 – [1958]
John Henry Tolley (1982 – [2011]

NOTES

434, Wolverhampton Road [1891], [1940]
434, Park Brook [1901]

It was originally the BRIDGE. [1865], [1868], [1869], [1872], [1900], [1901], [1911], [1912], [1918], [1920], [1938], [1940], [1944], [1975]

JOLLY COLLIER. [1873], [1882]

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Gazette 22/12/1865

“*David Mathews*, landlord of the BRIDGE beerhouse, Park Brook, was fined 20s and costs, for having had his house open for the sale of beer on Sunday last, between the hours of eleven and twelve (noon), at which time Police-constable Keats found thirteen men and women with six cups of beer in them.”

Walsall Free Press 22/2/1868

“*Joseph Russell*, landlord of the BRIDGE INN, Park Brook, pleaded guilty to having had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours on Sunday last, and was fined 5s and costs.”

Walter Bowring = Walter Bowering

Birmingham Daily Post 25/6/1869 - Advert

“Found at Parkbrook, a Brown Cart Mare, from 15 to 16 hands high. White scar on forehead, two dark fore legs, and two white hind legs.

Apply *W. Bowering*, BRIDGE INN, Parkbrook.”

Walsall Free Press 24/7/1869

“On the night of Tuesday, or morning of Wednesday last, the dwelling-house of Mr. *Walter Bowring*, landlord of the BRIDGE INN public-house, Park Brook, was broken into, and a cash-box containing £17 in gold and £3 in silver, stolen therefrom. An entrance was effected by breaking open the cellar door. There are certain circumstances connected with the robbery which lead to the hope that the whole affair will be speedily disclosed. Mr. *Bowering* has offered a reward for the apprehension and conviction of the offender or offenders.”

London Gazette 21/9/1869

“*Walter Bowring*, at present lodging at the NELSON INN, Dudley-street, Birmingham, Labourer, previously of the BRIDGE INN, at Park Brook, in the borough of Walsall, Beer-house Keeper and Dealer in Scrap Iron, and formerly of Bloxwich, in the said borough of Walsall, Dealer in Earthenware and Scrap Iron, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 14th day of September, 1869, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 7th day of October next, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, at the said Court. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Messrs. Duignan, Lewis, and Lewis, of Walsall, are the Solicitors acting as the bankruptcy.”

1871 Census

Park Brook

- [1] *George Harper* (59), beerhouse keeper, born Codsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Harper (37), wife, born Newcastle on Tyne;
- [3] George H. Harper (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary A. Hanby (40), servant, born Lizard, Shropshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/8/1878

“*John Hand*, the BRIDGE INN, Park Brook, applied for a license to sell wine on the premises of his beerhouse. Granted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/4/1882

“*Thomas Hands*, the JOLLY COLLIER, Parkbrook, was fined 20s and costs for having his house open before 12.30 on Sunday, twenty-three persons having been found there at an earlier hour.”

London Gazette 1/6/1883

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of a Bankruptcy Petition against *John Hands*, of the BRIDGE INN, Parkbrook, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beer Retailer and Grocer and Provision Dealer, and lately of the BLACK COCK INN, Guns-lane, West Bromwich, in the said county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper.

Upon the hearing of this Petition this day, and upon proof satisfactory to the Court of the debt of the Petitioner, and of the trading, and of the act or acts of the Bankruptcy alleged to have been committed by the said *John Hands* having been given, it is ordered that the said *John Hands* be, and he is hereby, adjudged bankrupt.

Given under the Seal of the Court this 28th day of May, 1883. By the Court, F. F. Clarke, Registrar.

The First General Meeting of the creditors of the said *John Hands* is hereby summoned to be held at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on the 18th day of June, 1883, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and that the Court has ordered the bankrupt to attend thereat for examination, and to produce thereat a statement of his affairs, as required by the statute.

Until the appointment of a Trustee, all persons having in their possession any of the effects of the bankrupt must deliver them, and all debts due to the bankrupt must be paid, to the Registrar. Creditors must forward their Proofs of Debts to the Registrar.”

Joseph Lowe was fined 10s and costs, on 25th January 1887, for Sunday trading.

1891 Census

434, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Joseph Lowe* (34), shopkeeper, born Bilston;
- [2] Harriett Lowe (34), wife, born Nuneaton;
- [3] Mary Ann Lowe (9), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Selena Lowe (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] John Thomas Lowe (15 months), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Charles Lowe (3), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Thomas James (55), lodger, waggoner, born Ironbridge, Shropshire:

Joseph Lowe, beer retailer and shopkeeper, 434, Wolverhampton Road. [1896]

Harriet Lowe was charged costs, on 21st January 1896, for being open during prohibited hours.

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against. Beer Retailers.....

Harriet Lowe, BRIDGE INN, Parkbrook, February 21st, 1896, keeping her licensed premises open during prohibited hours, to pay costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/10/1896

“About 10.30 on Sunday morning information reached the Bentley Police Station that a young woman had been found in the canal. Police-constable Slater went to the spot indicated and found that a girl named Lucy Rowlinson (19), of 35, Regent Street, Walsall, was lying exhausted upon the towpath. The officer, being a member of the St. John Ambulance Association, at once took the necessary steps to assist her resuscitation, and with the assistance of some persons living near the spot he succeeded in his efforts. It seems that a man named Thomas Lunn, who lives at Five Ways, Cannock, was walking alongside the canal towards James Bridge to visit friends when he heard screams. He went in the direction from whence they came, and there found the girl on the water. He quickly divested himself of the major portion of his garments and jumped in to the rescue. He succeeded in clutching her just in time to prevent drowning, and brought her to the bank. Meanwhile another person ran to the police station, and Police-constable Slater, after bringing the girl round, took her to the BRIDGE TAVERN, Parkbrook, where she had a change of clothing. Her explanation of the affair was that she caught her foot and slipped into the canal; but she refused to state what had

brought her at Bentley so early in the day, though she declared that at the time of the accident she was walking in the direction of her house.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/7/1897

“There was a very satisfactory sale of property held at the STORK HOTEL, and conducted by Messrs Watkins, Powell, and Wood, last Tuesday evening. The properties submitted for auction were as follows.....

The freehold public-house, known as the BRIDGE INN, Park Brook, Wolverhampton Road. The house which is fully licensed, is let at an annual rental of £25. Also the freehold cottage adjoining, producing £9 2s per annum. The land contains an area of 822 square yards. Bidding commenced at £600, but with competition the lot was sold for £1,160.”

Mary Ann Fox was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

434, Park Brook – Public House – BRIDGE INN

[1] *Mary A. Fox* (30), innkeeper, born Walsall;

[2] Florence Jackson (25), cousin, assistant in bar, born Rushall:

Mrs. *Mary Ann Fox*, beer retailer, 434, Wolverhampton Road. [1912]

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

BRIDGE INN, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, 6s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

BRIDGE INN, Parkbrook. £2 14s 1d.”

It was rebuilt in 1939.

The full license from the LEATHERN BOTTLE, Church Hill, was transferred to here on 4th May 1939.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

John Lord’s houses.....

BRIDGE INN, Wolverhampton Road.”

1939 Register

Wolverhampton Road – BRIDGE INN (2 of 3)

[1] *Douglas Morton Critchley*, date of birth 17/7/1880, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Sybil Walker (Critchley) Martin, dob 7/3/1909, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Watson*, BRIDGE INN, Parkbrook. £0 16s 4d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BRIDGE INN, Parkbrook. £3 14s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

BRIDGE INN, Parkbrook. £1 11s 0d.”

It was renamed PARKBROOK. [1999]

Express & Star 16/6/2007

“Green-fingered publican *John Tolley*, whose pub was once as well known for its vegetable shows as its pints is celebrating 25

years behind the bar at the watering hole. He took over the PARKBROOK, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, in 1982 and has become a popular figure. In its early days the pub branched out from food and drink and became a meeting place for vegetable growers across the borough to swap ideas and show produce. The pub held frequent vegetable shows and items such as onions, potatoes and turnips were sold off for charity. The last show was in 1989 after numbers dwindled following the deaths of several of the regulars but Mr. *Tolley* is hopeful it could be relaunched in the future. He said, 'I am a keen vegetable grower and if I am not in the pub pulling pints then I am in my allotment at the back of the pub. The Parkbrook used to hold regular shows until 1989. Many of the older people have died now but there is a resurgence in popularity of vegetable growing and it would certainly be great to bring the shows back.'

This evening the pub will be packed with family and friends throwing a party for the landlord to celebrate his 25 years in charge and his 65th birthday, which fell on Tuesday. He became landlord at the old BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street, in 1975 and then took over at the PARKBROOK in 1982. He lives with his second wife Margaret and has two children, two grandchildren and stepchildren."

[2017]

PARKFIELD TAVERN

26, (37), Pleck Road, (Parkfield Terrace), (Pleck Lane), (Union Road), WALSALL

OWNERS

Mills and Son, chain makers, Pleck, Walsall [1880]

Benjamin Thickett

Lord Bradford (ground landlord)

John Boys

Mrs. Marshall, 19, Elwood Street, Walsall

Henry Kirby

William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased) [1933]

LICENSEES

William Boden [1861] – [1870]

Mrs. Jane Boden [1869] – **1891**;

Henry 'Harry' Kirby (**1891 – 1911**);

Phoebe Jane Kirby [1911] ?

Edward Chatwin (**1911 – 1921**);

Ernest Smith (**1921 – 1923**);

Robert William Skeldon McGill (**1923 – 1924**);

Thomas Leeson (**1924 – 1925**);

Annie Leeson (**1925** – []

William Arthur Cox (**1926 – 1927**);

Benjamin Thickett (**1927** – []

NOTES

Pleck Lane [1861], [1873]

Union Road [1868]

37, Pleck Road [1871]

26, Pleck Road [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911]

PARKFIELD HOUSE [1865]

It was an ante 1882 beerhouse.

[County Advertiser 23/10/1858 - Advert](#)

"Economy in Brewing.

Thomas Mees, Boiler Maker, Bell Works, Brierley Hill, begs to call attention to the superiority of his Wrought-iron Brewing Boilers, over those of either copper or cast-iron; being one-third less the cost of copper, and more durable than either. Cast-iron boilers are made hot-blast, cinder iron, are very liable to burst from expansion and contraction, or from having cold water put into

them when hot, and also by frosty weather. The wrought-iron boilers are made of the best charcoal iron, from 20 to 200 gallons each, or larger if required, are worked at 25 per cent less cost in fuel and labour; and if erected by an experienced mason will last for twenty years.

These Boilers may be seen in use at.....

PARKFIELD INN, Walsall.....”

William Boden = William Bowden

1861 Census

Pleck Road – PARKFIELD INN

- [1] *William Boden* (40), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Jane Boden* (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] John M. Boden (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Seamor Bird (25), boarder, labourer, birthplace unknown;
- [5] Sarah Marigold (15), servant, born Lichfield:

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861 - Advert

“Important Sale. Walsall Foreign. Long Leaseholds, Producing at low rents £424 per annum.

Capital Public House, PARK FIELD INN, and 40 Houses and Retail Shops adjoining, well situated, fronting to the Pleck-road, called Park Field Terrace; also 7 Houses and Pipe Manufactory, in Bridgeman Street.....

Lot 1. All that substantial and well-arranged Inn or Public House, known as the PARK FIELD INN, in the occupation of Mr. *Boden*, pleasantly and most eligibly situated on the Pleck-road, near the junction of the Wolverhampton turnpike road and the Birmingham canal, and in the midst of numerous iron works and manufactories; the house contains entrance hall, capital tap room, with handsome bow windows, bar, parlours, excellent smoke room, a capital lodge room, and suitable bed rooms, capital brewery and malt room over, 4 excellent cellars, stabling for 4 horses, entire yard, and other conveniences for carrying on a large trade; water is laid on from the South Staffordshire Water Works.....

Mr. *Boden*, of the PARK FIELD INN, will show the various lots.”

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861

“The business of the general licensing day then commenced. There were seventeen applications.....

Mr. John Potter appeared in support of Mr. *Boden*, proprietor of the PARK HILL TAVERN,[sic] Pleck Lane. The necessity of a victualler’s license in that quarter was urged by Mr. Potter, but the Bench was of opinion that the accommodation in that respect was ample, and refused the license. The Bench had been informed by Mr. Cater that 116 cases of drunkenness had occurred in the borough during the year, and expressed its opinion that no license ought to be granted except under most absolute necessity.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....

William Boden, PARKFIELD INN, Pleck Road.” [Refused]

W. Boden, beer retailer and pipe maker, Pleck Lane. [1865]

Walsall Free Press 29/8/1865 - Notice

“If Edward Handley, the Younger, Hinge Filer, of James’ Foundry, does not redeem the Duplicates left at Mr. *Boden*’s, PARK-FIELD INN, in three days, they will be redeemed, and sold to defray expenses.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

William Bowden, PARKFIELD HOUSE, Pleck Lane applied personally for licenses, but their applications were refused.”

Walsall Free Press 9/9/1865

“The Adjourned Licensing day. Before T. Hazledine (Mayor), H. Highway, J. Shannon, W. Ward, S. Stokes, P. Potter, and J. B. Anderson, Esqs.....

Mr. Glover renewed the application on behalf of Mr. *Boden*, of the PARKFIELD TAVERN beer-house, Pleck Lane. Mr. Glover in making the application said he did not request the bench to abandon the principle they had hitherto adopted, because he considered that not only was his client a fit and proper person, and the house a suitable one for a public-house, but the locality was one requiring a public-house. The application was refused.”

Walsall Free Press 21/10/1865 - Advert

“To Coal Merchants, Manufacturers, and Others.

To Be Sold By Private Contract, Seven valuable Leasehold Houses, situate in the best part of Wolverhampton Street, being Nos.50 to 57 inclusive, with all the Wharfs, Stabling, Offices, and Sheds. Very centrally situated for business of any description.

For particulars, and to treat, apply to John Boys, Bridgeman Street; or *William Boden*, PARKFIELD INN, Pleck Road, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....
Mr. *Boden*, beerhouse keeper, Pleck road, did not appear.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1866

“The annual Special Sessions for the consideration of applications for victualling licenses took place yesterday at the Guildhall.....
In all there were sixteen applications for new licenses, three of which were acceded to.....
William Boden, Parkfield Terrace, Pleck Road, had given notice of his intention to apply, but did not do so.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/8/1867

“Yesterday being the day for granting publican's licenses, the magistrates met at ten o'clock.....
Mr. Mathews applied on behalf of *William Boden*, beerhouse-keeper, Parkfield Terrace, Pleck Lane. Application refused.”

William Boden, beer retailer, Pleck Lane. [1868], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 29/5/1869

“*Jane Boden*, landlady of the PARKFIELD INN, Pleck Lane, was charged with having her house open during prohibited hours on Sunday last. As the license had not been transferred to the defendant the case was dismissed.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday applications for new licenses for the sale of spirits.....
Jane Boden, landlady of the PARKFIELD INN beerhouse, Pleck Lane, applied in person for a license for her house, which she and her late husband have occupied for nine years.
The Mayor announced that the Bench had decided not to grant any new licenses this year.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1870

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....
There were eight applicants for new spirit licenses.....
Jane Boden, the PARKFIELD INN, Pleck Road, did not appear.....
The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and after having been absent about half an hour they returned, and announced that they had decided to refuse all the applications, though they had come to this decision with much regret in some instances.”

1871 Census

37, Pleck Road – PARKFIELD INN

- [1] *Jane Boden* (49), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] John M. Boden (18), son, born Walsall;
- [3] Henry Boden (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] John Ball (52), visitor, publican, born Lane Hall, Staffordshire;
- [5] William Pickering (32), visitor, collier, born Shropshire;
- [6] Lucy Pickering (15), domestic servant, born Shropshire;
- [7] Charles Clarke (14), ostler, born Walsall:

Mrs. *Jane Boden*, beer retailer, Pleck Road. [1872]

Walsall Free Press 30/8/1873

“At the annual licensing meeting, held at the Guildhall, yesterday.....
Jane Boden, beerhouse keeper, Pleck Lane, applied for a victualler's license; but, as she had neglected to advertise, her application could not be entertained.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1874

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall took place yesterday, at the Guildhall.....
Mr. Gillespie applied for a license on behalf of Mrs. *Boden*, beerhouse keeper, Pleck Road. He said the house was largely frequented by boatmen and others who required spirits, and had been kept by the applicant and her late husband for fourteen years without complaint. Attached to it was stabling for fourteen horses. An influentially signed memorial in favour of the application was put in. Refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/8/1880 - Notice

“To the overseers of the Poor and the Chief Constable of the Borough of Walsall, in the County of Stafford; and to all whom it may concern.
I, *Jane Boden*, Widow, Retail Brewer, now residing at the Pleck Road, in the County of Stafford, and for six months last past having resided at the same place, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the General Annual Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the Guildhall, in the said Borough, on the Twenty-seventh day of August next ensuing, for a license to sell exciseable Liquors by retail, to be drunk or consumed in the House or Premises thereto unto belonging, situate at the Pleck Road aforesaid, in a certain Street or Place there, called Pleck Road, and now rented by me of Messrs. Mills, and now in my occupation and which

hath not been kept or used as an Inn, Alehouse, or Victualling House, within three years preceding the day of the date thereof, and which I intend to keep as an Inn or Alehouse, or Victualling House.

Given under my hand this 14th day of July, 1880.

Jane Boden.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/9/1880

“The usual licensing session took place at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Friday.....

Jane Boden, PARKFIELD INN, The Pleck, applied for a victualler’s license Refused.”

1881 Census

26, Pleck Road

- [1] *Jane Boden* (56), widow, beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] John Boden (27), son, traveller, born Walsall;
- [3] Henry Boden (18), son, clerk in office, born Walsall;
- [4] Hannah Boden (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] John Ball (58), widower, brewer, born Lane Head;
- [6] William Boys (60), brother, labourer, born Wednesbury;
- [7] Elizabeth Boys (60), wife, born Bilston;
- [8] Frederick Barnall (22), boarder, labourer, born Tewkesbury;
- [9] Kate Wootton (23), servant, born Bloxwich:

Evening Star 30/3/1882

“On Tuesday afternoon the borough coroner (Mr. A. A. Fletcher) held an inquest at the PARKFIELD TAVERN, Walsall, upon the body of Hannah Mutt (56), whose death has been reported in the Star.

A verdict of Natural Causes was returned.”

Evening Star 24/5/1882

“On Tuesday an inquest was held at the PARKFIELD TAVERN, Walsall, upon the body of Margaret Burgin (64), widow, late of 50, Pleck Road, Walsall, who died suddenly at about two o’clock in the morning of Monday last. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased had been suffering from rheumatism, and up to about a month ago was attended by Dr. Willmore’s assistant. For the last few days she had been confined to her bed, and died on Monday morning. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/3/1890

“On Monday evening at the GEORGE HOTEL, Mr. H. C. Powell, of the firm of Watkins & Powell, sold 11 lots of property.

Lot 1 was the free beerhouse known as the PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road, Walsall, occupied by Mrs. *Boden*, at a rental of £35. The property is leasehold for a term of 99 years from 25th March, 1857, and is subject to an annual ground rent of £5. The first bid was £500, which was eventually raised to £1,150.....”

1891 Census

26, Pleck Road – PARKFIELD TAVERN

- [1] *Henry Kirby* (30), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Phoebe Kirby (30), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Lilly Kirby (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Alice Malcolm (18), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Henry Kirby, beer retailer, 26, Pleck Road. [1896], [1904], [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 5/9/1896

“The Borough Coroner (Mr. T. Howard Stanley) held an inquest on Tuesday afternoon at the ENGINE INN, relative to the death of Frederick Rammell (37), key filer, of 21, Wolverhampton Road, who died suddenly on Sunday evening. The evidence was to the effect that deceased went to the PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road, shortly before seven o’clock on Sunday evening. He had a pint of ale there and was afterwards taken ill. He appeared to be in a fit, and efforts were made to bring him round by the landlord, *Harry Kirby*, and others. As deceased did not recover he was taken into the yard, but was by that time dead. Dr. Hubbard was sent for and he saw deceased, and it was the doctor’s opinion, judging from the appearance of the body, that death was due to the rupture of a vessel in the brain.

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

Walsall Observer 23/6/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last, at the house of Mr. *Henry Kirby*, PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road, Walsall.....”

1901 Census

26, Pleck Road

- [1] *Henry Kirby* (40), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Phoebe J. Kirby* (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Lily Kirby* (13), daughter, born Cirencester, Gloucestershire;
- [4] *Hilda Whitehouse* (6), niece, born Heath Town;
- [5] *Lizzie O'Neal* (21), domestic servant, born Brierley Hill:

Walsall Advertiser 16/11/1901

“On Saturday evening there was a large gathering of employees of the firm of John Russell and Co., Alma Tube Works, at the PARKFIELD TAVERN Pleck Road, when a wedding present of a handsome oak sideboard was made to Mr. H. H. Murray (the foreman of the Lapweld Department). Mr. Joshua Richards and Mr. J. Spencer spoke of Mr. Murray's long connection with the firm, and the high esteem in which he was held by all. Mr. Murray suitably replied. A long programme of music was gone through afterwards, to the evident enjoyment of all present.”

Henry Kirby was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 15/3/1902

“An interesting event took place on Saturday last at the PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road, where a large number of workmen employed at the Cyclops Ironworks met for the purpose of presenting Mr. A. Gretton a token of respect and esteem in which he was held, on the occasion of his marriage. Previous to the presentation those present sat down to a splendid repast provided in fine style by Mr. and Mrs. *Kirby*, to which full justice was done. Mr. H. Wilkes was voted to the chair, and in very eloquent terms explained the object of the gathering, which he was pleased to note had had such satisfactory results. He detailed at some length the connection of Mr. Gretton with those present, and in asking Mr. R. Edwards, manager of the works to make the presentation, wished Mr. and Mrs. Gretton long life and prosperity. Mr. Edwards, in making the presentation, said it afforded him much pleasure, as he knew what had been subscribed had been given to show the esteem in which Mr. Gretton was held, and so successful had been the result that he was proud to ask Mr. Gretton to accept a magnificent sideboard which bore the following inscription: ‘Presented to Mr. A. Gretton by the officials and workmen of the Cyclops Ironworks on the occasion of his marriage.’ As a further token of the esteem in which he was held he asked his acceptance of a set of vases and a parcel of cutlery for his good wife, and hoped they would both long be spared to enjoy the blessings which he hoped would be showered upon them. Mr. A. Gretton in response, said it was the happiest day he had ever spent when he realised that they had honoured him by such a practical appreciation of their esteem, and he heartily thanked all on behalf of his wife and himself for their kind consideration. He should ever look upon those gifts as the most valued treasures he possessed. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. R. Edwards for making the presentation, and an enjoyable evening was brought to a close with the singing of Auld Lang Syne.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

Walsall Advertiser 5/5/1906 - Advert

“Important Sale By Auction of Valuable Beerhouse, The PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road, and Two Blocks of Houses, in Queen Street, Walsall.

Walter Hughes F.A.I. is instructed to offer for Sale by Auction at his Property Mart, The Bridge, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 29th May, 1906, at Seven pm, By Order of the Executors of the late Julie Marshall.

Lot 1. The valuable Free Home-Brewing Public House, known as the PARKFIELD TAVERN, now and for many years in the occupation of Mr. *Henry Kirby*, and held by him under a quarterly tenancy at the very low rental of £70 a year.

Leasehold for 99 years from 25th March, 1857, at an apportioned ground rent of £5 5s 10d.

Possession, 29th September next.....”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1911

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Henry Kirby*, PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road, Walsall.....”

1911 Census

26, Pleck Road

- [1] *Henry Kirby* (50), born Walsall;
- [2] *Phoebe Jane Kirby* (50), wife, married 25 years, license holder, born Walsall;
- [3] *Lucy Selby* (23), niece, born Cirencester, Gloucestershire;
- [4] *May Flynn* (16), niece, drapery assistant, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 12/9/1914

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last....

It was decided to hold the next Monthly Meeting of the Executive Committee at the house of Mr. *Henry Kirby*, PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road, on Thursday, 8th October.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall

Branch).....

PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road, Walsall, 19s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road. £1 4s 3½d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/8/1934

“The Licensing Justices, sitting as the Compensation Authority, confirmed the decision of the Licensing Committee, and scheduled the licenses of the PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road, and the VINE INN, Blue Lane West, for compensation. The renewals of the licenses were opposed by the police on the grounds of redundancy.”

It closed after compensation of £2,400 was paid in 1934.

PAUL PRY

14, Church Street / Peel Street / New Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Westwood, spring hook maker, Oxford Street

Highgate (Walsall) Brewery Co. Ltd. [1910]

LICENSEES

Elizabeth Read [1834] – [1835]

Thomas Brown [1841] – [1842]

James Dixon [1845] – [1850]

William Oakley [1851]

Thomas Bates [1858] – [1881];

Charles Jones [] – 1887);

David Read (1887 – 1900);

Walter Bertram Denham (1900 – [1901];

Ada May Ford [] – 1902);

William Horton (1902 – 1906);

James Scott (1906 – 1908);

Francis George Barnfield (1908 – 1909);

William Joseph Owen (1909 – 1912);

Robert Ratcliffe (1912 – 1915);

George Whitbrook (1915 – 1923);

Frank Trawford (1923 – 1925);

James Harris (1925 – 1926);

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/12/1841 - Advert

“PAUL PRY, Walsall.

To Be Let, and the Stock and Fixtures to be taken to at a fair valuation, (coming in will not exceed £250).

The excellent and well-accustomed Public House and Liquor Shop, situated in Church Street, Walsall, now in full business, and may be entered upon immediately. It has been successfully carried on by the present proprietor and his family for upwards of twenty years, and is now being disposed of in consequence of the proprietor retiring from the public business.

For particulars apply to John Wood, Auctioneer and General Agent, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton; or on the premises.”

London Gazette 26/4/1850

“Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Lancashire, at Liverpool, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 6th day of May next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.

In the Matter of the Petition of *James Dixon*, formerly of High Street, Walsall, Staffordshire, Licensed Victualler, Wine and Spirit Merchant, and Cattle Dealer, then of the same place, Licensed Victualler, Wine and Spirit Merchant, Cattle Dealer, Toll Collector,

and Butcher, then of Upper Rushall-street, Walsall aforesaid, Butcher, Cow keeper, and Toll Collector, afterwards of the PAUL PRY, Church-street, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, Retailer of Wines and Spirits, Cowkeeper, Milkman, Cattle Dealer, and Collector and Contractor of Tolls, then of Upper Rushall-street aforesaid, Pork Butcher, Provision Dealer, Cowkeeper, Milkman, Cattle Dealer, and Collector and Contractor of Tolls, then of the same place, Pork Butcher, Provision Dealer, Cattle Dealer, and Collector and Contractor of Tolls, and now of the same place, out of business.

Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 10th day of May next, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.”

1851 Census

Church Street

[1] *William Oakley* (45), victualler, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;

[2] *Mary Oakley* (54), wife, born Bentley:

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... applications for renewal of old licenses, and the granting of new ones.....

In the following cases the applications were suspended for further consideration.....

On the application of the Chief-constable, *Thomas Bates*, of the PAUL PRY, New Street; Sarah Craddock, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Wolverhampton Lane, and William Earp, of the LEATHERN BOTTLE, were added to the list of suspended applications.”

1861 Census

14, Church Street

[1] *Thomas Bates* (54), publican, born Shenstone, Staffordshire;

[2] *Eliza Bates* (50), wife, born Burntwood, Staffordshire;

[3] *William Bates* (27), son, brewer, born Lichfield;

[4] *Henry Bates* (17), son, plater, born Lichfield;

[5] *Arthur Bates* (15), son, scholar, born Lichfield:

Walsall Free Press 5/5/1866 - Advert

“For Sale, a new first-class Engine, Boiler, Shafting, Pulleys, &c, &c.

Apply, next door to the PAUL PRY, New Street, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/2/1868

“Slater of Walsall will run Sergeant of the same place 100 yards, with three yards start, for £5 a side. Money ready at *Bates*’s, PAUL PRY, Walsall.”

1871 Census

14, Church Street

[1] *Thomas Bates* (64), publican, born Sandon, Staffordshire;

[2] *Eliza Bates* (56), wife, born Ingestrie [*Ingestre*], Staffordshire;

[3] *Arthur Bates* (25), son, gas fitter, born Lichfield;

[4] *Ann M. Bates* (13), niece, scholar, born Whittington, Staffordshire;

[5] *Eliza A. Bates* (5), boarder, scholar, born Brittlehampton, Worcestershire:

Walsall Free Press 9/9/1871

“John Scully was charged with having, on the 24th of June last, assaulted Mr. *Thomas Bates*, landlord of the PAUL PRY public-house, Church Street. The prisoner and another man named Millony – who was sentenced to one months’ imprisonment for assaulting complainant – came to the PAUL PRY in company with two women, and the latter having commenced to quarrel complainant ejected them, and on his doing so Millony and prisoner struck him and kicked him, and so injured him that he was compelled to keep to his bed for some time, and was attended by Mr. John Burton, surgeon. The Bench sentenced the prisoner to pay a fine of 40 and costs; or, in default, to be imprisoned for one month with hard labour. In this case Mr. Bill appeared for the prosecution.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/7/1876

“On Thursday, at the PAUL PRY INN, Church Hill, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, concluded an inquiry into the circumstances connected with the death of Patrick Murty, one of the two men who were killed at the Forest Colliery last week. The evidence, and also a statement made by Mr. J. P. Baker, Government Inspector, who was present, showed that the fall of coal which killed the men was due to a fault which could not have been discovered by the workmen. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned. Mr. Hemmings, the manager of the colliery, represented the proprietor Mr. T. Checkley.”

1881 Census

14, Church Street – PAUL PRY

[1] *Thomas Bates* (74), publican, born Hixon, Staffordshire;

- [2] Eliza Bates (69), wife, born Ingestry [Ingestre], Staffordshire;
[3] Lucy Wooton (17), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Blackcountryman (Spring 1971)

'Old Walsall Pubs' by Alan Brockhurst

“The first time I was conscious of pubs as such was when I was taken as a very small toddler, to visit a relative who had fallen on hard times and kept the PAUL PRY in Peel Street. This was a dreadful pub in what was probably Walsall’s slummiest area, where the blankets on the lodging-house back yard washing lines bore such legends as “Stolen from Mary O’ Bryan’s”. The women brought all sorts of containers for their men’s Sunday beer and I remember asking my mother: “Why does that lady fetch the beer in a tea-pot?””

David Read = David Reay

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of *David Reay*, the PAUL PRY, Church Street. Refused.”

1891 Census

14, Church Street – PAUL PRY INN

- [1] *David Read* (41), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
[2] Emily Read (41), wife, born Wales;
[3] Elizabeth Read (20), daughter, barmaid, born Wednesbury;
[4] Gertrude Read (18), daughter, barmaid, born Wednesbury;
[5] David Read (14), son, harness maker’s apprentice, born Wednesbury;
[6] Albert Read (12), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
[7] Florence Read (9), daughter, scholar, born Wednesbury;
[8] Pamela Read (7), daughter, scholar, born Wednesbury;
[9] William Read (4), son, born Wednesbury:

David Read – see also LYNDON HOUSE.

1901 Census

14, Church Street

- [1] *Walter B. Denham* (31), saddle manufacturer and beer retailer, born Walsall;
[2] Annie K. Denham (29), wife, pub, born Walsall;
[3] Edwin B. Denham (0), son, born Walsall;
[4] Annie Burrowes (19), general domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 28/3/1903

“Frank *Horton* (11), of the PAUL PRY INN, Church Street, Arthur Bolton (11), 7-court, Dudley Street, and William Taylor (8), 29, Dudley Street, were brought up on a charge of sealing seven pigeons, worth 5s 3s, belonging to William Tipper, hairdresser, of 15, Peal Street, on 21st March.

Complainant identified the bird produced as his property. He last saw them safe with a number of others in his pen. On Sunday he discovered that the pen-door had been forced and the pigeons stolen. To reach this the thieves would have to climb a high wall. Detective Burrell said that he saw *Horton* and Bolton offering a pigeon for sale at Mr. Everiss’s shop in Stafford Street. He asked them where they had obtained it, and they said they had found it in Dudley Street. He made enquiries, and in consequence arrested *Horton* at Bath Street Schools.

The Chief Constable stated the Bolton had been to truant school.

Taylor was discharged, and the other prisoners were sentenced to receive six strokes with the birch rod.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

William Joseph Owen, PAUL PRY, Church Street....

The owners, the Highgate (Walsall) Brewery Company, and the licensee, *W. J. Owen*, were represented by Mr. Hodgkinson.

Inspector Ballance said that the population in the vicinity was rapidly decreasing, and there were four other licensed houses close to the PAUL PRY.

Answering Mr. Hodgkinson, Inspector Ballance said the house was in good condition, and well conducted. Proceeding Mr. Hodgkinson said that the house was licensed before 1872, and it was being surrounded by a dense population.

Mr. J. A. Fletcher (director of the Brewery Company), said the average takings were about £12 per week. They sold about 261½ barrels of draught ale alone in a year, but there was very little spirits sold, about £1 worth per week. They were not giving double measure at the house, but they were giving a good measure. They were surrounded by home-brewing houses, and they were obliged to give more than they liked. They had spent £120 in putting the house in a thorough state of repair.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1910, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

PAUL PRY, Church Street. Alehouse. Licensee *William Joseph Owen*.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1910

“A meeting of the Licensing Justices was held on Tuesday morning.....

Mr. R. J. Lawrence applied for the renewal of the license of the Walsall Brewery Company's house, PAUL PRY, Church Street. In this case he said the question was one of differentiation. There were three other houses close to, the BLUE PIG, the DUKE OF YORK and the WHITE SWAN, and the PAUL PRY compared very favourably with the other houses.

Henry Farmer, architect (of Messrs. Hickton and Farmer), said he had examined the premises. It was a fully licensed house, and the three rooms used for drinking purposes were good ones. The house was in good order, and it was the best house of the four in structure, size, and rateable value. The whole of the four houses were within a radius of 130 yards.

Mr. W. J. Fletcher, manager of the Walsall Brewery Co., said the takings for last year were £593 10s. The trade was on the upgrade. They gave extra measure, but did not give the ‘long pull’ as was given in some cases.

Henry Joseph Owen, licensee and manager, spoke to the increase in trade, and the house being well conducted.

The decision will be announced later.”

1911 Census

14, Church Street – PAUL PRY

[1] *William Joseph Owen* (37), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] Ellen Owen (38), wife, married 6 years, assisting in business, born Aston, Warwickshire;

[3] Marrison Owen (2), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] William Bernard Joseph Owen (1), son, born Walsall;

[5] Francis Louisa Starky (15), general servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 8/7/1911

“Geo. Houghton (32), of no occupation, 32, Dudley Street, was charged with breaking a plate-glass window, the property of *William Owen*, the landlord of the PAUL PRY, Church Street, thereby doing damage amounting to £2, on Saturday.

Prosecutor stated that at 6.30pm on the date named prisoner entered the bar and asked for some beer but as he was drunk he refused to serve him. Prisoner then went outside and smashed a window with his crutch.

Prisoner who pleaded guilty, said it was the first time he had ever done such a thing in his life.

The Chief Constable said the prisoner had been for some time in the town with a card in front of him saying he was a miner and had been injured. He had been begging and depended on charity.

Prisoner, who said he was a native of Nottingham, offered to pay the damage at so much a week.

The Chairman said it was serious offence and prisoner would have to go to gaol for a month.

Before being removed to the cells prisoner asked what would become of his wife and two children was informed that the police would see to them.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/10/1914

“Thomas Smith (40), labourer, of 18, Watery Lane, was charged with obstructing the footway in New Street by standing thereon, on October 12th; also with having been quarrelsome and disorderly on the licensed premises, the PAUL PRY, in Church Street, with having assaulted the landlord, *Robert Ratcliffe*, and with having wilfully damaged two plate glass windows, to the extent of £5, the property of *Robert Ratcliffe*.

Mr. *Ratcliffe* said he ordered the defendant out on account of his quarrelsome conduct, and the defendant then assaulted him, bruising his arm and leg.

Smith: Did you strike me first? – Prosecutor: No.

Did you strike me afterwards? – Yes; I have to look after myself.

Defendant: I should not have interfered with him if he had not interfered with me. He started kicking me like a horse, and now has charged me with beating him! I would have beaten him could I have got at him.

Asked if he were guilty or not guilty of the charge of doing wilful damage, defendant said ‘Yes. He would not come out. He was like the Germans, so I tried to shell him out.’ (laughter).

The Chief Constable said there were seventy previous convictions against defendant, chiefly for drunkenness, assault, and bad language. At Glamorgan in January this year he was sentenced to three months’, and in 1913 had two months for assaulting the police. On another occasion he received a heavy sentence for assault on the police, and had been convicted of aggravated assault and theft.

The Bench sentenced Smith to four months’ hard labour in all.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

PAUL PRY, Church Street. £1 1s 9½d.”

Walsall Observer 10/5/1924

“Sitting at Walsall Guildhall on Wednesday, Messrs. A. Jagger, H. Hands, A. Brockhurst, and S. Sanders were occupied for a considerable time with a case in which *Frank Trawford*, licensee of the PAUL PRY public house, Church Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on April 17th. Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson appeared for defendant, who pleaded not guilty.

Police-sergeant Baker gave evidence that at 9.10pm on Thursday, April 17th, he and Police-constable Jones visited the PAUL PRY. On entering the front bar they saw a man named Morris sitting with his back to the counter, on which he had a pint glass, half filled with ale. Morris was drunk, and witness asked defendant: ‘How long has this man been here?’ Defendant replied, ‘Oh, about two hours,’ and witness called his attention to Morris’s condition, and told him he had better not serve the man with any more beer. Defendant, however, did not ask Morris to leave and made no attempt to remove him, and as he was ‘properly drunk’ and incapable of taking care of himself, witness took him to the police station. Afterwards he returned to the PAUL PRY, and saw defendant, who said, ‘I have not served this man, but my wife has, and I don’t think he was drunk.’

In cross-examination by Mr. Hodgkinson, witness admitted that when he first saw Morris he did not say anything to the landlord, but went to the back of the premises. As he was returning to the front bar, he heard Morris making ‘nasty remarks’ about the police, saying, ‘There are the men we have to find money for, to go into public houses.’

Mr. Hodgkinson: If he had not made this unfortunate remark about the police, you would not have realised that anything was wrong?

Witness: Oh, yes. I intended to report it, but I should not have locked him up, but for his nasty remarks. Morris, he added, had a difficulty in standing on his legs, and would have fallen down the steps outside if witness had not held him.

How did you judge the man was drunk?

He did not want any judging. You could see it perfectly well. In fact, he was drunk in the afternoon, at twenty minutes to five, when I saw him in Park Street.

Why didn’t you interfere then?

Because I had no authority. He was simply drunk, not helpless, and not interfering with anyone.

Police-constable Jones, giving corroborative evidence, said Morris could not walk straight, and looked drunk and drowsy.

Further evidence that Morris was drunk when he arrived at the police station was given by Police-constable Marston and Chief Inspector Cooke.

Defendant, in the witness box, denied that Morris was drunk. The man entered the house between 7 and 7.30 on the night in question, being then quite sober, and all he was served with amounted to three pints of ale. At 8.45, Police-sergeant Jones and a constable entered and inspected the premises. Morris was in the bar then, and they saw nothing wrong. When Sergeant Baker called twenty-five minutes later he said nothing until after Morris had passed the remark already mentioned, and then he said, ‘Landlord, if I were in your place, I would not fill this man any more beer.’ Witness replied, ‘Right you are, sir’, while Morris stood up, and said, ‘Sergeant, if I have done anything wrong I will drink up my beer and go.’ Morris thereupon drained his glass, and the sergeant remarked to witness ‘Do you know this man was drunk in Park Street at three o’clock?’ Witness answered, ‘That’s nothing to do with me; he’s not drunk now,’ and Morris also declared that he was sober. He then left, followed by the police officers and went down five steep steps without any assistance.

Questioned by Mr. Hodgkinson, witness added that Morris was a peculiar man, being talkative, and having a loud voice.

Charles Welton, miner, 2, Hollyheadge Lane, who was in the PAUL PRY on the night in question, said Morris was not drunk, although ‘he had a tongue that ran away with him.’

Asked by the Chief Constable what he himself had had to drink, witness said he did not know.

The Chief: You don’t keep count?

Witness: No, sir, never. Further pressed, he said he had six or seven half pints. ‘I never drink a pint at a time,’ he added.

William Henry Moore, 1, New Street, another customer at the PAUL PRY, also gave evidence that Morris was sober.

Addressing the magistrates, Mr. Hodgkinson pointed out that for the landlord and his wife it was a serious case, on which their livelihood depended. He emphasised that when Sergeant Jones and a constable called at the house they saw nothing wrong, and asked how the landlord could be expected to see what two police officers could not see. Regarding Sergeant Baker’s evidence, he suggested that the only conclusion the Bench could draw was that he at first intended that the licensee should get rid of the man, after which nothing would have been heard of the matter. Overhearing Morris’s reflections on the police, however, he was ‘drawn into thinking the man was drunk.’

After a private consultation, the Bench decided on a conviction, and fined *Trawford* £5.

Mr. Hodgkinson thereupon asked the Bench to intimate that, if the police did not object, there would be no objection to defendant continuing to hold the license.

The Clerk: It is a rather delicate thing to request the magistrates. It is a matter for the discretion of the Chief Constable entirely.

The Chief Constable: Yes; I think it will make him doubly careful in future.

Pleading not guilty, John Morris (54), labourer, 1, New Street, was afterwards tried on the charge of being drunk on licensed premises, and after Sergeant Baker and Police-constable Jones had repeated their evidence, the Bench imposed a fine of 5s.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/6/1926

“The Licensing Justices on Wednesday refused to renew the licenses of the PAUL PRY, Church Street and scheduled the houses for compensation.....

With regard to the PAUL PRY, Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson urged that the increase in trade justified its existence.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority in 1926.
It closed on 30th October 1926.

PEACOCK

17a, (18), (17), (15), Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Storer Beveridge, The Mill, Milna___, Kinross
George Worrell
Thomas Smith, corn dealer, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Whittaker [1862]
Thomas Vass [1864] – [1865]
Charles Ingram [1867] – **1869**);
George Ingram (**1869** – [1870]
Thomas Brough [1871]
Thomas Smith [1872] – [1880];
George Worrell [];
William Price [1883];
John Lockley [];
John Parkes [];
James Dickens [1886] – **1890**);
Robert Drury (**1890** – **1893**);
Edgar Evans (**1893** – **1898**);
William Henry Lowe (**1898** – **1900**);
George Harry Share (**1900**);
Thomas Pedley (**1900** – **1902**);
Isaac Genders (**1902** – **1925**); manager
William Turley (**1925** – **1929**);
John Rogers (**1929** – **1939**);
Harry Harvey (**1939**);

NOTES

15, Lower Rushall Street
17, Lower Rushall Street [1868], [1870], [1871], [1892], [1896], [1904]
18, Lower Rushall Street [1891], [1901], [1908]
17a, Lower Rushall Street [1911], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932]

Walsall Free Press 21/12/1867

“*George Ingram*, landlord of the PEACOCK public house, was charged with having, on Sunday last, had his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours, namely between nine and twelve o’clock.
Martin Finneron and John Hoy, who had been convicted on Monday last for being drunk and disorderly on the day in question, proved that they procured the drink from the defendant’s house.
Mr. Glover, who appeared for the defendant, called Charles Glover, case-harness maker, who said, before nine o’clock on Sunday morning, he saw the two last witnesses in the street. They were both drunk and disorderly. About twelve o’clock, or soon after, he saw them fighting in Lower Rushall Street.
Mary Gately, servant to defendant, said she saw Hoy and Finneron in the entry leading to the house; but she did not see them in the house, and they could not have been in without her seeing them. They asked her to let them in, but she refused. No drink was filled that day before one o’clock.
Finneron was here re-called, and said it was the mistress who filled the ale to him.
Hoy was next re-called, and said Mr. *Ingram* let him in and filled one pint of ale, and Mrs. *Ingram* the other. He was in the house before Finneron went in. He saw the servant girl, Mary Gately, cleaning up the house when he went in.
The Bench considered the case proved, and sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 10s and costs.”

1871 Census

17, Lower Rushall Street

[1] *Thomas Brough* (43), contactor and victualler, born Gnosnell, Staffordshire;

[2] Sarah Brough (45), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Ann Morgan (20), servant, born Cannock Chase, Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 29/11/1873

“Mary Williams, for having been drunk and disorderly on Tuesday last, and having broken a pane of glass, valued 6d, the property of Ann *Smith*, landlady of the PEACOCK public house, Lower Rushall Street, was ordered to pay a fine of 5s and costs, in addition to 6d, the value of the glass, or in default to be imprisoned for 14 days.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/12/1875

“*Thomas Smith*, the PEACOCK, Lower Rushall Street, was summoned for having permitted drunkenness in his house on Sunday, the 19th inst, but the majority of the Bench thinking there was a doubt in the case it was dismissed, the police being at the same time commended for having brought it forward.”

Thomas Smith was also a corn dealer. [1880]

Evening Express 3/1/1881

“John Kelly, Bott Lane, who had been drunk and refused to quit the PEACOCK public house, Lower Rushall Street, on the 28th ult, when requested, and who failed to answer to the charge, was fined 40s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for one month.”

Lichfield Mercury 9/11/1883

“At the Guildhall, on Wednesday, *William Price*, of the PEACOCK INN, Lower Rushall Street, was summoned for having had his house open during prohibited hours on Sunday last. Mr. C. A. Loxton defended.

The charge was proved by Acting-sergeant Mercer, whose evidence was to the effect that between eight o'clock and twelve he saw twenty-seven persons go to the side door of the defendant's house, and be supplied with liquor. The defence was that the defendant was not aware of what was going on.

A conviction for a similar offence in November having been put in against the defendant, he was fined £5 and costs. The Bench also giving him to understand that they considered it the worst case of the kind ever to come before them, and if he appeared again on a like charge his license would be endorsed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/12/1886

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *James Dickens*, the PEACOCK INN, Lower Rushall Street, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises, on the night the 18th. Mr. J. N. Cotterell appeared for the defence, police-constables Skidmore and Cross proved the case, and stated that a man whom they found in the house was so drunk that he fell down whilst leaving the premises. This was denied by the defendant and his wife. The Bench imposed a fine of 40s and costs, Mr. Holden remarking that there had been very heavy perjury somewhere.”

James Dickens was fined £5 and costs, on 14th January 1887, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 16/6/1888 - Advert

“Preliminary Advertisement.

Freehold Properties in Richmond Street, George Street, and Lower Rushall Street.

Messrs. Watkins & Powell are instructed to Sell by Auction, in July (by order of the Mortgagees).....

Lot 3. The Old-Licensed Public House, known as the PEACOCK INN, Lower Rushall Street, with the Three Houses adjoining, being Nos. 14, 15, and 16 Lower Rushall Street, and Cottages, Workshops, and a large piece of Land at the rear of the whole estimated to produce £76 18s per annum.....”

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1890 - Advert

“PEACOCK INN, Lower Rushall Street.

Robert Drury, late Police Inspector.

Begs to inform his numerous friends that he has taken to the above house, which is undergoing alterations for the convenience of customers.

John Jamieson & Sons' Irish Whisky; And Roderick Dhu Scotch Whisky Supplied in either Cask or Bottle.

Ales, Wines, Spirits Guaranteed of the Best Quality.”

Lichfield Mercury 26/9/1890

“While three men were engaged in moving a large brake out of the PEACOCK HOTEL yard into Bell Street they were overpowered by the vehicle, which ran with considerable force across the street. The pole of the vehicle, which came into contact with the door of the house opposite, was broken off, and the door was smashed in. Two children who were sitting on the doorstep had a narrow escape, as had a man and woman who were passing at the time.”

1891 Census

18, Lower Rushall Street – PEACOCK INN

- [1] *Robert Drury* (61), victualler, born Loysweedon, Northamptonshire;
- [2] *Alice Drury* (36), wife, born Burghill, Herefordshire;
- [3] *Frederick Drury* (18), son, tailor, born Walsall;
- [4] *Emily Drury* (17), daughter, machinist, born Walsall;
- [5] *Edith Drury* (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *John Drury* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Nellie Drury* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] *Edwin Drury* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [9] *Albert E. Fasey* (17), boarder, tailor, born Kingswinford:

Walsall Advertiser 31/12/1892

“.....before the magistrates on Wednesday as a result of the Christmas festivities. *George Careless*, Church Street, and *Mary Ann Connolly*, Freers Yard, were charged with being drunk and disorderly outside the PEACOCK INN, Rushall Street, on Tuesday night. *Careless* had been convicted eleven times previously, and *Connolly* nineteen times, and *Mr. Taylor* (Chief-constable) said that the latter was one of the worst characters in the town. The man was fined 10s and costs or 14 days, and the woman 20s and costs or 21 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/6/1893 - Advert

“To Let, PEACOCK INN, Lower Rushall Street; Free Old-licensed House; immediate possession.
Apply, *Watkins, Powell & Wood*, Auctioneers, 28, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Dudley Herald 15/1/1898 - Advert

“To Brewers, Licensed Victuallers, Capitalists & others.

Important Sale of Fully-licensed Properties in Walsall, Bilston, Moxley, and Tipton.

To be Sold by Auction by Messrs. *Bill & Son*, on Monday the 24th day of January, 1898 at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, at Six for Seven o'clock in the evening.....

Lot 4. All that well-accustomed Freehold Fully-licensed Public House known as the PEACOCK INN, situate in Lower Russell Street, Walsall, now let to *Mr. Edgar Evans*, at the very inadequate rental of £30, together with Four Retail Shops adjoining, being numbered 14, 15, 16, and 17, in Russell Street, and producing together a gross annual rental of £48 2s, and also the large yard, with stabling and blacksmith's shop at the rear, producing a further rental of £11 per annum, the whole property thus producing a gross annua rental of £89 2s. There is sufficient land at the rear to build 15 to 20 houses thereon.”

Thomas Pedley was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in November 1900.

1901 Census

18, Lower Rushall Steet – PEACOCK INN

- [1] *Thomas Pedley* (28), licensed victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary J. Pedley* (26), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Alice M. Pedley* (2), daughter, born Staffordshire:

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910

“The pretty village of Alrewas was made the rendezvous of a party which went from the PEACOCK INN, Lower Rushall Street, on Sunday, for their annual outing. The journey was made by break, Alrewas being reached via Blake Street, Shenstone, and Lichfield. Arrangements had been made by *Mr. Isaac Genders*, manager of the PEACOCK, and an excellent dinner was served at the Crown, to which the party did full justice. At the conclusion of the repast several toasts were proposed, after which the party broke up and amused themselves in various ways until tea time. After tea the journey back was undertaken, and Walsall reached about 9.30, after a most enjoyable day.”

1911 Census

17a, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Isaac Genders* (47), manager of ale house, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Emily Ann Genders* (44), wife, married 26 years, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Laura May Genders* (19), daughter, general servant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Jane Gertrude Genders* (16), daughter, purse preparer, born Walsall;
- [5] *Gladis Ida Genders* (12), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [6] *Ethel Emily Genders* (5), daughter, school, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 9/11/1912

“A meeting with the object of forming a Walsall detachment of the National Reserve was held at the PEACOCK INN, Lower Rushall Street, on Thursday evening. Mr. *Genders* (host) presided over a good attendance and urged those present to become members and also get others to join.....”

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1912

“John Hammerton (29), caster, 4, Penkridge Street, was charged with doing damage to a plate glass panel in the door of the PEACOCK INN, Lower Rushall Street, on Christmas Day. *Isaac Genders*, landlord of the PEACOCK INN, stated that on Christmas night, a few minutes to 10 o’clock, he was at the front door, when prisoner and several others came up. Prisoner entered the house, and asked for a bottle of stout. Witness would not serve him and asked him to leave, but he refused, and witness, with the help of several customers, ejected him. A minute later a window in the door was smashed, and witness saw prisoner’s fist come through, a piece of glass striking witness and cutting his cheek.

Kate Cockayne gave similar evidence and Police-constable Donlan spoke to arresting prisoner who made no reply to the charge. Prisoner now pleaded guilty, but said it was an accident. He was fined 5/- including costs and ordered to pay the damage.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... PEACOCK INN, Lower Rushall Street. £0 17s 6d.”

It closed at 2pm on 9th February 1939.

The license was transferred to the DILKE ARMS.

Walsall Observer 11/2/1939

“The annual licensing day, held at the GUILDHALL, on Thursday.....

In connection with the opening of the DILKE ARMS, a new house in Aldridge Road, the magistrates made a final order transferring thereto the full license of the PEACOCK, Lower Rushall Street, the license being taken over from *John Rogers* by *Harry Harvey*, who was also granted a music and singing license for the use of gramophone and wireless.”

Check HEN AND CHICKENS.

PEACOCK

Peal Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Smith [1835] – [1845]

NOTES

William Smith, retailer of beer, Peal Street. [1835]

PHAETON

Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Flewitt [] – 1833)

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/9/1833 - Deaths

“On the 7th instant, after three days’ illness, of fever, Mr. *Joseph Flewitt*, of the PHAETON public house, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, aged 42; on the same evening, Mary, his wife, also aged 42, leaving five orphans to lament their loss. It is a remarkable fact that this is the third case at Walsall, within twelve months, of a man and his wife dying on the same day. The two former cases occurred in September last, during the prevalence of cholera.”

PHEASANT

7, Windmill Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Henry Moseley, Caldmore Road, Walsall
G. Whitehouse, 12, Mellish Road, Walsall
Nicholas Roper, Lichfield Street, Walsall
Lichfield Brewery Co. Ltd.
William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1918]
Ind Coope and Allsopp (leased from 12th January 1936)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)

LICENSEES

Benjamin Stokes [1841] – [1845]
Mrs. Sarah Stokes [1849] – **1853**);
Joseph Beebee (**1853** – [1861]
William Burton [1862] – [1865]
Mrs. Julia Burton [1868] – [1881];
William Henry Burton [1885] – **1887**);
Harry Glover (**1887** – **1889**);
Frank Barber (**1889** – **1894**);
Thomas William Taylor (**1894** – **1900**);
Stephen Dawson (**1900** – **1901**);
Samuel ‘Sam’ Holmes (**1901** – **1906**);
Thomas Smith Poppleton (**1906** – **1907**);
Mrs. Jessie Poppleton (**1907** – **1908**);
Edward Pynor (**1908** – **1913**);
Thomas Burdett Lowe (**1913** – **1917**);
Eliza Lowe (**1917** – **1918**);
Thomas Burdett Lowe (**1918** – **1920**);
Reginald Henry Hill (**1920** – **1925**);
Arthur Tinsley (**1925** – **1927**);
Mrs. Frances Ford (**1927** – **1965**):

NOTES

Tokens were issued from here.

1841 Census

Windmill Street

- [1] *Benjamin Stokes* (45), victualler and plater, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Sarah Stokes* (40), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *William Stokes* (16), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Henry Stokes* (13), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Juley Stokes* (5), born Staffordshire:

1851 Census

Windmill Street

- [1] *Sarah Stokes* (50), victualler, born Walsall;

- [2] Mary Stokes (30), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [3] William Stokes (24), son, journeyman miner, born Walsall;
- [4] Julie Stokes (15), daughter, at home, born Walsall;
- [5] Thomas Brook (9), grandson, scholar, born Walsall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/1/1853

“On Wednesday, the license of the PHEASANT, in Wind Mill Street, was transferred from *Sarah Stokes*, widow, to Mr. *Joseph Beebee*.”

Joseph Beebee was also a harness maker. [1861]

1861 Census

7, Windmill Street – PHEASANT INN

- [1] *Joseph Beebee* (33), publican, and harness maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Beebee (31), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Alice Beebee (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Joseph Beebee (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Ann Stokes (18), house servant, born Wyrley:

Birmingham Daily Post 29/12/1864 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold and Copyhold Properties, in the Borough and Foreign of Walsall, in the County of Stafford. To Be Sold By Auction by John Osbourn (by direction of the Trustees of the Will of the late Mr. *Joseph Beebee*, deceased).....
 Lot 6. All that Freehold Old-Licensed, well-built, and good accustomed Public-House, being No.7, known by the sign of the PHEASANT, containing good Tap Room, Parlour, Bar, back Kitchen, large Club Room, two Sleeping Rooms, two Cellars, Brewhouse, Malt Room, Pump, Cistern of Soft Water, with Piggeries, and other Out-buildings, large Yard, Marble and Skittle Alley thereto belonging, situate in Windmill Street, Windmill, in the Foreign of Walsall, and containing, including the site of the building 396 square yards or thereabouts, together with Right of Way and Passage for all purposes whatsoever, upon over and along the Entry belonging to Lot 7, which leads to Windmill Street to the back of the said Premises, and which said premises are now in the occupation of *William Burton*, at the yearly rent of £19.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/12/1867

“On Saturday afternoon Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the PHEASANT INN, Windmill, on the body of Henry Clinton, aged 73, labourer, who on Thursday night went to bed in his usual health, and the next day, about eleven o'clock, was found dead in bed. The jury after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Old Age and Infirmary.”

1871 Census

7, Windmill Street – PHEASANT INN

- [1] *Julia Burton* (55), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Zillahan Bates (24), daughter, married, born Walsall;
- [3] Edith N. Burton (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] Ada B. Burton (16), daughter, pupil teacher, born Walsall;
- [5] Henry Bates (28), son in law, silver plater, born Walsall;
- [6] Thomas Bates (4), grandchild, born Walsall;
- [7] Edithe Bates (2), grandchild, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

“Municipal Election.....

On Thursday evening two meetings, in favour of Mr. Grant's candidature, were held – one at the DOLPHIN, George Street, and one at the PHEASANT, Windmill Street. On arriving at the PHEASANT Mr. Grant and his friends found not only the club-room densely packed but the street in front of the house crowded.....”

1881 Census

7, Windmill Street

- [1] *Julia Burton* (62), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Charles Perry (45), son in law, agricultural labourer, born Gaily [*Gailey?*], Staffordshire;
- [3] Jane E. Perry (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [4] Edward Perry (16), son, clerk in iron warehouse, born Walsall;
- [5] Zillah Perry (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Julia Perry (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] George H. Perry (9), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 27/6/1885

“Grand Independent Order of Caledonian Corks. On Wednesday last the officers and members of lodge 488, held at Bro. *Burton*'s the PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, opened a new lodge at Bro. Whitehead's NEW INN, Wednesbury Road. A large number

of members from the different lodges of the town were present, and assisted in the ceremony. Some new members were also initiated.....”

Frank Barber was fined 20s and costs, on 29th September 1889, for permitting drunkenness.

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1890

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, Henry Grosvenor, West Bromwich Road, was brought up on remand charged with having assaulted Police-sergeant Marshall and Police-constable Brough. The evidence was to the effect that the officers heard a smashing of glass at the UNION INN, Windmill, and on going towards the house they met the prisoner who furiously attacked them. They got Mr. *Barber*, of the PHEASANT INN, to put his horse in the trap and take Grosvenor to the police station, and when he arrived there he was so violent that he had to be strapped down on the ambulance stretcher.

The Bench imposed a sentence of fourteen days’ imprisonment, without hard labour.

‘All right, sir,’ said the prisoner, as he went below.”

1891 Census

7, Windmill Street – PHEASANT INN

[1] *Frank Barber* (35), publican, born Walsall;

[2] Ann M. Barber (28), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Emily Rushton (13), servant, born Walsall;

[4] Albert Kirk (36), boarder, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1893

“Yesterday Mr. Stanley, coroner, held an inquest at the PHEASANT INN, The Windmill, on the body of Elizabeth Murray, 37, warehousewoman, of the same locality, the wife of Hugh Murray. It seemed that on Saturday night the woman’s husband went home very drunk and demanded sixpence from his wife, who had gone to bed ill. In consequence of his behaviour she left the house, wearing only a skirt and a cloak, carrying her other garments under her arm, but returned about two o’clock. Then her husband became very wild and abused her, also continuing his abuse and ill-treatment throughout the following day. On Monday the woman died, and Dr. Lynch, who had for some time attended her for bronchitis and palpitation of the heart, refused a certificate. It transpired that the deceased earned 12s a week, and her daughter, aged 12, 3s per week. The husband and father, though able-bodied, had not worked for two years, and it was said that he was almost always drunk, the money being obtained from charitably-disposed people on the representation that his wife and children were starving. The couple had been separated eight times, and on one occasion the man was away for 15 months. Asked why he had deserted his family since his wife’s death, he said it was because the neighbours had drummed him out of the neighbourhood. Dr. Lynch said death had resulted from a combination of shock and pneumonia.

The jury expressed a wish to return a verdict of Manslaughter, but the Coroner advised them that the evidence would not legally sustain such a verdict, and in the end a verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned, coupled with a strong censure of the husband.

The Coroner in conveying it, told him that he was morally responsible for the death of his wife.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

“*Thomas William Taylor*, PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, appeared for a music and singing license for Mondays and Tuesdays. The license was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/2/1895

“On Friday evening week the annual dinner of the employés of Mr. W. Winstance, builder and contractor, was held at the PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street. The number that sat down (132 workmen and friends) did ample justice to the good things provided, and after the cloths were removed, and the usual loyal toasts observed, Mr. Winstance, in a few well-chosen words, proposed the health of ‘Those who had subscribed towards the dinner.’ In the course of his remarks Mr. Winstance reminded those present that this was their 21st annual dinner, and that the firm had therefore attained its majority. He complimented the men on the assiduity they had displayed in their work during the last twelve months, and read them a letter from a Walsall gentleman for whom they had done considerable work during the year. This gentleman, he was proud to say, had not been approached, or in any way asked to contribute towards the dinner, and yet he had sent a cheque for three guineas, and in his letter expressed himself that he had never seen a more punctual, or steadier lot of men than those who had worked so honestly and so well on his premises. Needless to say, that this toast was received in a most enthusiastic manner and drunk heartily with musical honours. During the evening, many capital songs were given and received in a most hearty manner, Mr. J. W. Lord ably officiating at the piano, and the proceedings closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *T. W. Taylor*) for the splendid manner in which they had in every way catered for the comfort and enjoyment of the company assembled there that evening. The next day (Saturday) about 70 workmen assembled at midday to regale themselves upon the soup and cold meats left from the previous night. Again harmony was indulged in, and a comfortable and enjoyable afternoon spent by everyone present.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/10/1897

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *T. W. Taylor*, PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street.”

Walsall Observer 10/3/1900

“The Loyal Caledonian Corks (lodge 488) held their annual super on Tuesday night, st Bro. *T. W. Taylor*’s PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 30/3/1901

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Members..... *Samuel Holmes*, PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street.”

1901 Census

Windmill Street – The PHEASANT INN

- [1] *Samuel Holmes* (32), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Ann Holmes (32), wife, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [3] Sydney J. Holmes (10), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Samuel E. Holmes (8), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Horace H. Holmes (5), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 3/10/1903

“On Thursday a most enjoyable evening was spent at the PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, when over 80 sat down to a capital spread provided by the genial host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Sam Holmes*. Mr. W. Rushton was afterwards voted to the chair, with Mr. Stanton in the vice-chair. Some capital songs were rendered, and the singing of the some of the artistes evoked great applause. Before the meeting was brought to a close, the Chairman in very suitable terms, proposed, ‘The heath of the Host and Hostess,’ which was most enthusiastically received. Mr. *Holmes* suitably replied. Mr. Kendrick ably officiated as accompanist.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“On Monday afternoon last a football match for the benefit of William Hicken (who has been ill for a long time and unable to follow his employment) took place between teams representing the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, and the PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street. The match was played at Weston Road, on the ground of L. and N.W. Football Club, who had kindly lent the field for the occasion and resulted in a win for the PHEASANT by 7 goals to 2. The versatile *Sam Holmes* officiated as referee. For the winners Edkins and the brothers Smith played well in their respective positions, and at the back Baker and Chapman were a tower of strength to their side, the latter in particular frustrating many promising attacks of the opponents. After the match both teams adjourned to the PHEASANT, where a most enjoyable evening was spent. It is expected that a substantial sum will be handed over as there was a good gate.”

Samuel Holmes – see also LAMP.

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... Mr. *Thomas Poppleton*, PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street.”

1911 Census

7, Windmill Street

- [1] *Edward William Pynor* (36), publican, born Wednesbury;
- [2] Matilda Pynor (26), wife, assisting in business, born Tipton;
- [3] Lottie Ingram (19), sister in law, assisting in business, born Tipton;
- [4] Louisa Maria Phillips (21), domestic servant, born Tipton;
- [5] Florence Maud Walters (13), visitor, born Walsall;
- [6] Beatrice Annie Pynor (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Freda Pynor (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 22/11/1913

“The sixty-first annual general meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday of last week.....

New Members..... *Thomas Lowe*, PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street.”

Walsall Observer 23/1/1915 - Advert

“9 Strong Store Pigs for sale.

Apply, PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/6/1916

“*Thomas Lowe*, licensee of the PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, was charged with assaulting James Ryan, 2 Court, Birmingham Street on June 3. The complainant alleged that on the date named, he went into the defendant’s house and had half a pint of

ale. He wanted to sing a song, and the landlord threw him out and punched him 'like a madman.' He fell on the pavement and became unconscious. Since then he had been under the doctor. The defence was that the man was told to go, but he did not do so and tried to 'cadge' drinks from customers. The landlord put him out of the house, and in the street Ryan took a running kick at him and he pushed him to one side defending himself. Ryan fell, and whatever injury he suffered was the result of the fall. The case was dismissed."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street. £0 19s 0d."

Walsall Observer 19/10/1918 - Advert

"Wednesday and Thursday Next, 23rd and 24th, October, 1918.

Under instruction from Messrs. W. Butler & Co., Ltd., Springfield Brewery, Wolverhampton, Leonard C. Philpot will Sell by Auction the Brewing Plants and Utensils at the following Licensed House, viz.:

EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.

FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, Walsall.

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, Walsall.

WISEMORE TAVERN, Wisemore, Walsall.

PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, Walsall.

Comprising 11 Steel and Iron Boilers, various sizes from 100 to 250 gallons, 7 large Oak Mash Tuns, 6 Mash Rules, Malt, Shovels, Copper, Lead and Iron Piping, Brass and other taps, Wooden Platforms, 6 large Cooling Vats, 6 Copper Refrigerators (by Potterton and Keyte), 6 Troughs, 2 Copper Sparges, 2 Copper Attemperators, 6 Hop Backs, 50 casks (various sizes from 36 to 120 gallons), 8 Barm Tubs, 6 Large Fermenting Vats, 2 Underbacks, Rotary Pump and Piping, 2 Avery's Weighing Machines (4cwt and 3cwt), Pulley Rope, and Sundry Utensils.

Order Of Sale

Wednesday, October 23rd

EAGLE INN, 10.30 prompt.

FOUNTAIN INN, 12 prompt.

WALSALL ARMS, 1.30 prompt.

Thursday, October 24th

WISEMORE TAVERN, 10.30 prompt.

PHEASANT INN, 12 prompt.

On View, 9 o'clock, Morning of Sale. No catalogues.

Further particulars from the Auction and Valuation Offices, Midland Bank Chambers, The Bridge, Walsall."

Reginald Henry Hill – see also PRINCE OF WALES.

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

"Asking for the renewal of the licenses of the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street; and the WHITE LION, Portland Street, Mr. Frank Cooper stated that both houses were owned by Ansell's or one of their subsidiary companies and if the licenses were renewed he would give an undertaking that within the current licensing year a scheme would be submitted for dealing with the licenses by way of removal of one and the surrender of the other. If that undertaking were fulfilled, the justices would be able to merge two licenses into one, but if the undertaking were not carried out, no opposition would be raised to both licenses being on the 'object-ed' list next year.

The two licenses were renewed on this undertaking, as were the licenses of the PHEASANT, Windmill Street; and the FOUNTAIN, Bott Lane; subject to somewhat similar undertakings.

Mr. Cooper, for the owners attached considerable importance to the PHEASANT and if the VILLAGE went there could be no question about the PHEASANT being necessary. If the justices preferred it, however, the brewery company would deal with the PHEASANT and the FOUNTAIN in the same way as the VILLAGE and the WHITE LION, all being in the same ownership."

Walsall Observer 13/5/1939

"At the PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, on Tuesday evening, Mr. W. Preston presented the members of the PHEASANT team the cup and gold medals won by them as champions of the Walsall and District Bagatelle League, and an extra medal, hung on a gold pin, to Mrs. Ford, the hostess, in recognition of her services to the team and the league. Mr. Hill, the Secretary of the League presided, and congratulated the team on winning sixteen of the twenty games played. The recipients of the medals were Messrs. A. Dawes, S. Bond, G. Aulton, W. Tiezise, S. Williams, A. Adams, and L. Smith. Mr. Preston was thanked by Councillor Kavanagh, and a vote of thanks accorded to Mrs. Ford for her hospitality, on the proposition of Mr. Aulton. Most of the teams in the League were represented and there are good prospects for the success of next season."

1939 Register

7, Windmill Street

[1] *Frances Ford*, date of birth 19/6/1892, licensed victualler, widowed;

[2] *Albert E. Ford*, dob 13/5/1918, assembler, aero work, single:

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street. £0 17s 6d.”

The license was referred to the Compensation Authority on 18th March 1965.

PIGEON

Bullocks Row, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Daniel Keyte [1856] – [1857]

Skyte [1864]

NOTES

[1851]

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/12/1856

“Charge Of Uttering Forged Bank of England Notes.

At the Guildhall a young man named Edwin *Keyte*, brother to *Daniel Keyte*, who keeps the PIGEON beerhouse in Bullock’s Row, was charged with the above offence. Mr. Joseph Archer, the landlord of the GREEN MAN, prosecutor, deposed that about half-past seven on the Saturday night a man, who is not in custody, went to his house and asked for five pipes, six papers of tobacco, and six quarts of ale. He said the ale was for the workmen of Mr. Murray, cabinet maker, Digbeth, and that it was foot-ale, or what is paid for by a man newly employed. In payment he presented a note, purporting to be a £5 Bank of England note. He left, taking the change, but the prosecutor feeling doubts as to the genuineness of the note, sent William Horton, locksmith, who was sitting in the kitchen, to follow the man and see where he took the ale to. Horton saw him pass up Dudley Street, where he was joined by the prisoner, to whom, on meeting a policeman, he handed the bottle. They proceeded at a rapid pace to the PIGEON, kept by the brother of the prisoner, when the latter put the bottle in the yard through some broken palings, and witness saw *Daniel Keyte*, the landlord, bring it from inside the yard into the house. *Joseph Keyte*, another brother saw the witness looking and nodded to Daniel, who then concealed the bottle. The witness stated that considerable effort was employed to prevent him seeing anything that occurred, and ultimately seven men, including the man who had fetched that ale and *Daniel Keyte*, left the house together, going along the Birmingham Road, the witness returning to inform Mr. Archer what he had observed.

Mr. Blackburn, cashier of the Walsall branch of the Birmingham Bank, proved that the note produced was a forgery, as well as two others which were in court. A forged note, bearing the same number as one of these, had recently been offered to him. The signature to £5 Bank of England notes was now lithographed, which, of course, rendered it more easy of imitation.

Mr. Cater, superintendent of police, applied for a remand for a week, which was granted, though opposed by Mr. Wilkinson on the part of the prisoner. Bail, however, in £20 each, two securities, was accepted.

Joseph Keyte, a younger brother of the prisoner, was then placed at the bar, on the charge of passing a forged note of a similar description to Mrs. Ellen Cooper, of Digbeth, butcher, on the same night.

Mr. Cater said he was prepared to complete this case; but Mr. Wilkinson, who said he was retained for the prisoner, said the latter had only been taken into custody that morning, and had had no time to prepare his defence.

The prisoner was remanded till Wednesday, remaining in custody meanwhile.”

AND

“Charge Of Uttering Forged Bank of England Note.

On Wednesday, before W. Thomas (Mayor), J. Shannon, W. Ward, and C. Greatrex, Esqrs., *Joseph Keyte*, remanded from Monday on this charge, was again brought up. Mrs. Ellen Cooper, butcher, of New Street, deposed that on Saturday night a man went to her shop and purchased some steak, tendering a £5 note, purporting to be a Bank of England note, in payment. After he left she discovered the note to be a forged one, and gave information to the police, which at once led them to conclude that the prisoner was the man. On being asked, however, if she could identify him, she looked at him, said he was very much like him, but thought the man was taller, and began to weep, saying she would not like to go against any man’s child. Her daughter was called, but she went further, and said she was pretty certain the prisoner was not the man, and accordingly *Keyte* was discharged.

The Mayor said the magistrates were unanimously of the opinion that the case had been tampered with.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 20/12/1856

“Edwin *Keyte*, a young man remanded from the previous Monday, on the charge of being concerned with passing a forged £5 Bank of England note to Mr. Joseph Archer, the GREEN MAN, Dudley Street, on the night of the 6th inst., surrendered to his bail on Monday last. The Superintendent of Police said that he had been unable to obtain any additional evidence to that given on the former occasion, and the Bench, not deeming that sufficiently conclusive, discharged the accused.”

Walsall Free Press 7/2/1857

“Town Council, Quarterly Meeting

The Clerk stated a letter had been received from Mr. Duignan, clerk to the Union representing the great increase of a certain degrading disease, and its natural consequence of poverty; mention the bad character of the BELL, in Church Street, and the PIGEON in the Ditch, and calling their attention to the suppression of these nuisances. Mr. Cater was called in, and explained the difficulty connected with the interference of these house, they, generally taking care to keep within the limits of the law.”

Birmingham Journal 22/4/1857

“At the Guildhall, on Monday last, before the Mayor, and W. Ward, J. Shannon, F. B. Oerton, and H. Highway, Esqs., a man named George Reynolds was charged with passing a counterfeit £5 Bank of England note at the ALMA TAVERN, Paddock Lane, on the 29th of last November. Mr. Blackburn having proved that the note was counterfeit, Agnes and Mary Ann Bird, and their father, the proprietor of the tavern, spoke to the uttering, and the two formers positively identified the prisoner. Police-sergeant Dackus stated he took the prisoner into custody on Thursday morning last in the PIGEON beer-house. Mr. Sill for the defence, denied the identity of Reynolds had been satisfactorily shown; adding, that at all events there was not the slightest proof of a guilty knowledge in the transaction on his part. The Bench, however, decided that a case had been made out for a jury, and the prisoner was remanded for a week, that the Bank authorities might be corresponded with on the subject of a prosecution. Sergeant Dackus, who took Reynolds so cleverly, has another case against him, which will be tried today (Wednesday.)”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/4/1857

“In November last, a man named *Keyte* were charged with being concerned in passing a forged Bank of England note, but discharged, the evidence against him being insufficient. At about the same time a forged note was passed at the ALMA public-house, Paddock Lane, under a similar excuse, that of getting some ale for some workmen. The man who passed it gave his name as John Lloyd. The man could not be found at the time, but Sergeant Dackus having received information went on the previous Thursday to the PIGEON beerhouse, kept by *Daniel Keyte*, brother of the accused in the former case, and found the prisoner asleep in bed. The witness awoke him, told him he was a police-officer, and charged him with being concerned, some three or four months before, in passing forged notes in Walsall. The prisoner replied that the officer must be mistaken, and when at the police station he averred that he had not been in Walsall for eight months, and added, ‘You’ll have to find out the date when the notes were passed.’ Two of the daughters of the prosecutor positively identified the prisoner as the man who uttered the forged notes, as did a man named Morton, who wrote the name then given by the prisoner upon the back of the note.

Mr. Sill having cross-examined the several witnesses, addressed bench, and argued that, even supposing there was no mistake as to the identity of his client, no other spurious notes had been traced to his possession, and there was, therefore, no proof of uttering with a guilty knowledge.

The bench remanded the prisoner for a week, to enable the police to communicate with the authorities of the Bank of England.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/5/1857

“George Reynolds, remanded last week, on the charge of passing a forged Bank of England note for £5 to Mr. William Bond [sic], publican, in Paddock Lane, in payment for ale, was charged with passing another forged note of the same bank and same amount on the night of 6th December last, at the OLD GREEN MAN, George Street, kept by Mr. Archer. Some suspicions were entertained as to the truth of his story, and he was followed and seen, on meeting with Edward *Keyte*, brother of the landlord of the PIGEON beerhouse, to hand the ale to him. *Keyte* was afterwards apprehended on it being found that the note was bad, but was discharged for want of evidence. The present prisoner was apprehended at the PIGEON beerhouse, on the 16th April, as previously stated, after being missing from the neighbourhood since December. Several witnesses positively identified him as the man who passed the forged note, the note itself having been marked on being found to be bad shortly after its receipt. The prisoner was remanded for a week to await communication with the authorities of the Bank of England.”

[At the Staffordshire Summer Assizes - George Reynolds was sentenced to 10 years’ penal servitude.]

AND

“Edward *Keyte* was brought up by sergeant Dackus, on the charge of being concerned with George Reynolds in passing a forged Bank of England note at the GREEN MAN, on the 6th December last; but it appearing that there was no further evidence against the prisoner than that adduced in December, that he took the bottle of ale which Reynolds had given the note in payment for from the prisoner, he was discharged.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/10/1857

“The quarter sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall, on Thursday

Daniel Keyte, landlord of the PIGEON beerhouse, and Ann *Keyte*, his aunt, were indicted for keeping a brothel. The prisoners pleaded not guilty. The evidence, however, was considered conclusive, and a verdict of guilty was returned. The learned Recorder deferred passing sentence till next sessions, and the prisoners were bound over to appear at that time.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/10/1857

“*Daniel Keyte*, landlord of the PIGEON beer-house, and *Ann Keyte*, his aunt, were charged with keeping a brothel. The defendants pleaded not guilty. Mr. Hill prosecuted, and Mr. Motteram was retained for the defence. Mr. Hill, in opening the case, observed that whatever accusation might be brought against the laws of England, that of hypocrisy as regarded the sin of fornication could not, as there was no punishment inflicted for that infraction of the moral code by the laws of the country. But there must be moderation in all things, Mr. Hill continued, and notwithstanding the state of the law, people must not be allowed to keep such houses as the prisoners were charged with keeping, to the annoyance of the public, and the detriment of the public morality. He then called Elizabeth Rawlings, Mrs. *Keyte*’s niece, who deposed that she was a prostitute, and had exercised her profession in the PIGEON for six years, paying Mrs. *Keyte* in the proportion of one fourth of her earnings. Ellen Haywood gave similar evidence. Both women lived in houses belonging to Mrs. *Keyte*, and were especially retained by the defendants for the purpose of prostitution. Police-constable Darling spoke as to the character of the PIGEON. Mr. Motteram and the Recorder having addressed the Jury, a verdict of guilty was returned against both defendants, who were called upon to enter into their own recognisances to appear at the next Sessions to receive sentence.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/2/1864

“W. Skyte of Walsall will fight F. Evans of Willenhall, at catch weight, for £25 or £50 a side. Money ready at *Skyte*’s PIGEON INN, Walsall.”

PLASTERERS ARMS

Upper Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mark Maley [1851] – [1852]

NOTES

1851 Census

Rushall Street

- [1] *Mark Maley* (28), plaisterer, born Ireland;
- [2] Elizabeth Maley (20), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] James Carsley (12), nephew, errand boy, born Walsall;
- [4] Ann Butler (21), servant, born Ireland:

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/9/1851

“*Mark Maley*, of the PLASTERERS ARMS, Upper Rushall Street, was fined 10s and costs for suffering disorderly conduct and drunkenness in his house on the 27th August last.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/8/1852

“Samuel Nightingale, *Mark Maley*, and James Fisher were charged by the police with having their respective public-houses open at improper hours, and were severally fined 5s each and costs.”

London Gazette 8/5/1855

“Whereas a Petition of *Mark Maley*, formerly of Upper Rushall-street, Walsall, Staffordshire, Licensed Victualler and Plasterer, then of Saint Paul’s-row, Walsall aforesaid, then of Bissell-street, then of Lancaster-street, then of Tower-street, then of Old Cross-street, and then of John-street West, all in Birmingham, Warwickshire, and afterwards and now of James-street, Ryecroft, Rushall, Staffordshire, Plasterer, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Mark Maley*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Mark Maley* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 18th day of May instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Mark Maley*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke, Clerk of the said Court, at his office, in Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

PLOUGH

47, Cemetery Road, (58, Field Street), Summer Row, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

John Cornfield, farmer, Bloxwich
John Timmins
Mrs. Mary Somerfield, Cemetery Road, Bloxwich [1910]
Lichfield City Brewery Co. (leased)
Ellen Brookes (acquired in 1912)

LICENSEES

Arms [1846]
[G Arm \[1849\]](#)
Ann [1856]
J Green [1867]
William Wootton [1871]
Mrs. Ann Wootton [1872];
James Taylor [];
Henry Smith [1881]
John Timmins [] – **1887**;
Philip Wootton (**1887 – 1898**);
William Thomas Hooker (**1898 – 1900**);
John T Smith (**1900 – 1907**);
William Bernard Street (**1907 – 1912**);
Charles Mansfield (**1912 – 1913**);

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/8/1846

“The Oddfellows Wolverhampton Unity. On Monday, the 3rd instant, the brothers belonging to the ‘Good Design Loyal Lodge,’ No.18, Walsall district, held their first feast day at the house of host *Arms*, the PLOUGH INN, Bloxwich, great credit being due to the host for the good and substantial dinner provided. Brother Luke Head, V.G. and honorary member, presided, and his unassuming and courteous conduct as chairman elicited the greatest approbation from every brother present. This society only commenced on Monday, December 8, 1845, and its rapid advance in so short a time, numbering upwards of seventy members, has surprised even the most sanguine of its founders. Its success is to be attributed to the judicious appointment made by brother Richard Lyney, Grand Master, at the opening of the lodge, brother Luty, P.G. to preside over the lodge for six months. The hilarity of the evening was kept up with many appropriate speeches and loyal toasts and songs, until a late hour, when the brothers separated, all wishing to meet each other on their next feast day, in 1847.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/1/1847

“On Monday, the 28th December, 1846, the brothers belonging to the Good Design Loyal Lodge, No.18, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (W.U.), celebrated their first anniversary, and partook of a good and substantial dinner, at the PLOUGH INN, Bloxwich, the same being a free gift of the worthy host. Upwards of eighty of the brethren partook of the repast, the chair being ably filled by brother William Smith, V.G. and the vice-chair by brother Brewster, P.G and secretary. After the usual loyal toasts of ‘The Queen,’ ‘His Royal Highness Prince Albert,’ and ‘His Royal Highness Albert Prince of Wales’ were drunk, the health of many of the brothers were drunk with due honours, and ably replied to in appropriate speeches, and several of the brothers favoured the company with some excellent songs. The hilarity of the evening was kept up until ten o’clock, when the brothers retired to their homes with expressions of cordiality and satisfaction at the day’s doings. It is somewhat worthy of remark that this society can boast of greater progress made in so short a time than any other society in the parish of Bloxwich, having more than doubled its numbers in the course of a year.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/8/1849

“On Monday last, the members belonging to the Good Design Loyal Lodge, No.18 (Walsall District), eighty in number, and twenty-five visiting friends, sat down to a sumptuous entertainment, consisting of the roast beef of Old England and numberless dainties, provided by their much respected host, Mr. *G. Arm*, at the PLOUGH INN, Bloxwich.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/1/1855

“The members of No.18 Lodge, Wolverhampton Unity, held at the PLOUGH INN, Bloxwich, have presented a subscription of £1 12s to the Patriotic Fund.”

Birmingham Journal 9/8/1856

“On Monday the members of the Good Design Lodge, No.18, held their eleventh annual anniversary at the PLOUGH INN, Bloxwich. At twelve o'clock a procession was formed, headed by the officers, and a banner, provided for the occasion by P.G. Goldsby. They walked round the village, accompanied by the Bloxwich Brass Band, under the direction of Mr. J. Gee. When the procession reached the National School, they were joined by the members of the Church of England Female Friendly Society, who led the way the remaining portion of the journey to the Parish Church. The service at the church was performed by the Rev. Mr. Williams. The procession returned to the lodge house, where a sumptuous dinner was provided by the respected host and hostess. After dinner the usual loyal toasts were given with enthusiasm, and also the health of the Rev. Mr. Williams and Mr. C. Somerville, M.D., and Titus Somerville, Esq., who had kindly favoured them with his company. The health of the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Ann, was drank with loud cheers. A vote of thanks was given to the worthy secretary, P.G.M. Hayward, for his exertions on this and other occasions. A number of choruses from Handel, Haydn, and others were performed. Also a choice selection of songs, &c.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/1/1867

“W. Morris of Bloxwich will take eight yards start of Goodried of Goscote in 130 yards, for £10 a side. The match can be made on Monday night, at *J. Green's*, PLOUGH AND HARROW, Bloxwich.”

William Wootton was also an awl blade maker. [1871]

1871 Census

58, Field Street – PLOW INN

- [1] *William Wootton* (34), awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Ann Wootton* (35), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Jane Wootton* (16), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Lucy P. Wootton* (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Eliza Wootton* (4), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich:

Mrs. *Ann Wootton*, beer retailer, Summer Row, Bloxwich. [1872]

1881 Census

47, Cemetery Road – PLOUGH

- [1] *Henry Smith* (37), brewer, born Shustoke, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Jane Smith* (36), wife, born Hill Top, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Henry F. Smith* (16), son, coal miner, born Walsall;
- [4] *Frank Smith* (14), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Ellen Smith* (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *George Smith* (7), son, born Walsall;
- [7] *Samuel T. Smith* (5), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *Julia Smith* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] *Rose Smith* (1), daughter, born Coal Pool:

1891 Census

47, Cemetery Road

- [1] *Philip Wootton* (38), bit filer and publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Sarah Wootton* (32), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Harry Wootton* (22), brother, stone mason, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Rebecca Clewley* (18), sister in law, born Bloxwich:

Philip Wootton, beer retailer, Summer Row. [1896]

John T. Smith was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

47, Cemetery Road – PLOUGH INN

- [1] *John Smith* (46), beerhouse keeper, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Martha Smith* (42), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Lizzie Smith* (18), daughter, draper's assistant, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Floris Smith* (15), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Martha Smith* (13), daughter, born Pelsall;

- [6] John Smith (12), son, born Pelsall;
[7] Minnie Smith (10), daughter, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

John Smith, PLOUGH INN.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/11/1906

“To the strong wind *John Smith* (17), PLOUGH INN, Bloxwich, attributed the fact that his cycle lamp had gone out on the night of the 14th inst. He was ordered to pay costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

In the case of the PLOUGH, Bloxwich, Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the lessees (the Lichfield City Brewery Co.) and the tenant (Mr. *Bernard Street*), and Mr. Enoch Evans for the owner (Mrs. Mary Somerfield).

Mr. Walter Hughes said the property comprised four bedrooms, tap room, living room, outer kitchen, cellar, coal-house, and out-buildings, and was in good average condition. He valued it at 6s 6d a week, the tenant paying rates.

Mr. Tomlins estimated the net annual value at £16 net, and added that there was a garden at the rear. He also mentioned that there was a small grocer’s shop near to, considerably inferior as a property to the PLOUGH, let at £14 10s net per annum.....

Adjourned, plans to be deposited”

1911 Census

47, Cemetery Road

- [1] *William Bernard Street* (39), coal miner (hewer), born Cannock;
[2] Rosannah Street (34), wife, married 14 years, born Rugeley;
[3] John Charles Street (12), son, school, born Rugeley;
[4] Doris Street (9), daughter, school, born Rugeley;
[5] Winnifred Street (5), daughter, school, born Rugeley:

Charles Mansfield, beer retailer, 47, Cemetery Road. [1912]

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

The following were the notices of objection (Compensation Clause).....

NEW INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Hy. Mellor).

SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Jacob Williams).

NELSON, Church Street, Bloxwich. (Jos. Wall).

STAG, Field Street, Bloxwich. (Jane Tolley).

PLOUGH, Cemetery Road, (*Charles Mansfield*).

RISING SUN, Park Road, Bloxwich, (Charles Orgill).

STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, (Charles Ernest Perry).

BEEHIVE, New Street, Bloxwich, (Benjamin Hughes).”

AND

“The Court re-assembled yesterday (Friday) morning.....

In the case of the PLOUGH, Bloxwich, Mr. H. H. Jackson represented the owners, the executors of the late J. W. Brooks, and the tenant Mr. *C. Mansfield*.

Inspector Pritchard again gave evidence and said that the landlord was a miner and worked regularly. Witness had visited he house fifteen times in ten weeks chiefly in the evening, and found a total number of customers of 88, or an average of about six per visit.

Charles Mansfield, the tenant, said he had occupied the house only 14 months, but had not had a single complaint against him. He worked regularly as a miner, but if he wished he thought he could make a good living on the house alone.

Mrs. *Mansfield* said they had a lot of travellers during the day, and people who went to the Cemetery called for their meals.

Mr. Loxton: Where do the travellers go to, the Cemetery? (Laughter.) – Witness: It is a very long way from our house to the next licensed house.

Mr. Joseph Stokes said he had lived in Bloxwich all his life and he thought the PLOUGH was a very useful and well-conducted house.

Mr. Jackson pointed out that the house was the last one in Bloxwich when leaving the town. The neighbourhood was not congested and the class of trade was good. He thought that if the house was retained it could not possibly do any harm, and for a certain class of trade it was very necessary.....

Having retired, the Bench announced that the licenses of the STAG and the STORES would be renewed for this year, but might be

considered at some future date. The remaining six houses would be referred to the compensation authorities.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 7th February 1913.

Walsall Advertiser 31/5/1913

“The principal meeting of the Compensation Authority for the Borough of Walsall was held on Tuesday morning at the Guild-hall.....

The PLOUGH, Cemetery Road, Bloxwich, has been also referred to the Compensation Authority. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the owners, the executors of Mr. J. W. Brookes deceased, and the licensee, Mr. *Charles Mansfield*. This was a ‘free’ house, let at £26 a year. In 1912 the barrelage was 126.

Mr. Farmer, architect, in the witness box, said the house was on the road from Bloxwich to Pelsall, and Blakenall, and on the road to the Cemetery.

The Chairman: There is not much traffic on that road. – Witness: People don’t go beyond the Cemetery (laughter).

The Chairman: They don’t need any licensed houses beyond it at any rate (laughter). – Witness: The Cemetery is quite a rendez-vous. People like to visit the dead (laughter). People like to live near cemeteries. The license was refused.”

Compensation was paid.

It closed on 6th September 1913.

PLOUGH

Blue Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Bates [1834] – [1835]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Bates, retailer of beer, Blue Lane. [1835]

PLOUGH AND HARROW

Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Lynex [1818]

PLUMBERS ARMS

31, (14), Littleton Street West, (14, Upper Lyttleton Street West), (14, (Upper) Littleton Street) / Garden Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Matthew Allen, saddler's ironmonger, Station Street, Walsall
Mrs. Allen, Vicarage Place, Walsall (later at Adam Road)
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

James Jordan Potter [1852]
Simcox [1852]
William Davis [1856]
Thomas Glover [1857] – [1859]
William H Griffiths [1861]
John Hayward [1864] – [1883];
Benjamin Hayward [];
William Utting [] – **1886**;
George Evans (**1886 – 1893**);
Samuel Westwood (**1893 – 1904**);
Charles John James (**1904 – 1906**);
Mrs. Emma (James) Evans (**1906 – [1932]**)
Cyril James []

NOTES

14, Upper Littleton Street [1861]
14, Upper Lyttleton Street West [1864]
14, Littleton Street [1871], [1881], [1891]
14, Littleton Street West [1872], [1896], [1901]
31, Littleton Street West [1904], [1908], [1932]

It was originally the SLATERS ARMS.

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/1/1852 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by H. Farrington, at the house of Mr. Job Wilkes, the OLD STILL, Digbeth, on Wednesday, the 14th day of January, 1852, at five o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions.

Lot 1. All that substantially built Public House called the SLATERS ARMS, well situated in Upper Littleton Street. The House contains entrance hall, bar parlour 14ft 6in by 11ft 6in, tap room, or kitchen, 15ft by 12ft 6in, four good bed rooms, cooking kitchen and brewhouse, good cellaring 40ft by 12ft, piggeries and out-offices, excellent pump of water, and walled yard 50ft by 30ft, in the occupation of Mr. *James Potter*; estimated rental £20 a year.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/3/1852 - Advert

“To be Peremptorily Sold by Auction, by Mr. Farrington, at the house of Mr. William Payne, the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, Walsall, on Monday, the 15th day of March, 1852, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to such conditions as will be then and there produced, all that well and substantially new built Public House, called the SLATERS ARMS, well situated in Upper Littleton Street, Stafford Street, Walsall, with entrance hall, large bar parlour, good tap room, a kitchen and four bed rooms, cooking kitchen, brewhouse and good sized cellaring, excellent pump of water, piggeries, out-buildings, and appurtenances thereto adjoining and belonging, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Simcox*.

The above Premises are very desirable, being situated in the very best part of Littleton Street, where the road has been made, at a great cost, by the proprietor to the satisfaction of the Commissioners, and the gas introduced to the extent of the property, and are Leasehold for a term of 99 years from the 25th of March, 1847, subject to an apportioned ground rent of £1 17s 6d per annum. Applications to treat by Private Contract may be made to Messrs. Smith and Son, Solicitors, or Mr. Farrington, Surveyor, all of Walsall.”

Birmingham Journal 4/6/1853 - Notice

“In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

In the Matter of the Petition of *James Jordan Potter*, formerly of the Wolverhampton Lane, Walsall, Staffordshire, Slater, then of Upper Littleton Street, Walsall aforesaid, Slater and Beer House Keeper, afterwards and now of Upper Littleton Street aforesaid, Slater, an Insolvent Debtor. Notice is hereby given, that the Court will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, on Friday, the 17th day of June, 1853, at half-past nine o'clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shown to the contrary.”

Birmingham Journal 9/8/1856 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by John Osbourn, on Thursday next the 14th of August, at six o'clock in the evening, at the BUILDERS

ARMS, Wisemore, Walsall, subject to conditions then to be read, all that very desirable and well-built Retail Public House, called the SLATERS ARMS, now in the occupation of *William Davis*.....”

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....
Thomas Glover, Littleton Street. Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers’ licenses.....
Thomas Glover, Littleton Street, Walsall. Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 25/6/1859

“A somewhat complicated case came before the attention of their worships. Caroline Bradley charged Ann Fitch with having assaulted her on Saturday last; *Thomas Glover* charged Caroline Bradley with wilfully breaking a pane of glass; and Elizabeth Glover charged Caroline Bradley with an assault. Mr. Ebsworth appeared for the defence. The two women were well dressed and tolerably good looking; but it appeared from the evidence that their tempers and conduct were far from being amiable. Bradley stated that on Saturday night she went to the house of *Glover*, who keeps the SLATERS ARMS, in Littleton Street, and there saw John Brough, who was playing at cards. She asked him to come out, and this seemed to annoy Ann Fitch, who thereupon struck her (Bradley), and used some very improper language. Bradley, however, admitted that she was at the time very much disposed to inflict chastisement upon Fitch. The young man Brough gave some brief testimony of a confirmatory nature, substantiating to some extent the evidence of complainant. In support of the other charge, Elizabeth Glover was called and sworn. She stated that Bradley was requested to leave the SLATERS ARMS on the night in question; that she refused to do so, used some very violent and filthy language, and finally committed an assault upon her and Fitch. A man named Haitley confirmed this statement, and added that he saw Bradley wilfully break a pane of glass in one of *Glover*’s windows. Bradley said that she broke the window by accident, she having aimed a blow at the head of her sweetheart, who dexterously ducked his head, and her fist consequently went through the window. The magistrates dismissed the charge against Fitch, and ordered Bradley to pay 20s and costs, or in default one month’s imprisonment with hard labour.”

Walsall Free Press 29/12/1860 - Advert

“To Be Let, that first-class Beer House, the SLATERS ARMS, situated in Upper Littleton Street, Walsall, brewing nine bushels per week. Stock and fixtures to be taken at a valuation. The present proprietor is leaving in consequence of having taken an old-licensed house. For further particulars apply to W. Horobin, Auctioneer and Valuer, 33, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

1861 Census

14, Upper Littleton Street – SLATERS ARMS

- [1] *William H. Griffiths* (42), publican, born Oswestry;
- [2] *Sophia Griffiths* (34), wife, born Bath;
- [3] *John Griffiths* (2), son, born Hill Top, West Bromwich;
- [4] *Ellen Griffiths* (9 months), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *George Reeves* (40), lodger, born Bristol:

John Hayward = John Haywood = John Heywood

John Hayward, beer retailer, 14, Upper Lytleton Street West. [1864]

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....
Mr. Matthews, from the office of Mr. Wilkinson, applied on behalf of the following parties.....
John Hayward, PLUMBERS ARMS, Littleton Street Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/12/1866

“*John Haywood*, landlord of the PLUMBERS ARMS, Littleton Street, and his son James were charged with having assaulted John Upton. In this case the father and the complainant were playing at cards for ale and cigars, when a dispute arose and complainant left, and as he was leaving he said to the landlord, ‘It is the first time I have been in your house, and it will be the last for the manner in which you have insulted me.’ On his making this observation the landlord knocked him down. Complainant drew his knife, and threatened to defend himself with it. Thereupon he was knocked down and kicked by the landlord and his son. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, ordered the defendant, *John Haywood*, to pay a fine of £5, including costs, or in default to be imprisoned for two months. The charge against James *Haywood* was dismissed.”

John Hayward, beer retailer, 14, Littleton Street West. [1868], [1872]

1871 Census

14, Littleton Street – PLUMBERS ARMS

- [1] *John Hayward* (49), bootmaker, born Cheltenham;

- [2] Helen Haywood (48), wife, birthplace not known;
[3] James Haywood (26), son, bootmaker, born Cheltenham;
[4] Harry Haywood (24), son, plumber, born Cheltenham;
[5] Richard Haywood (22), son, bootmaker, born Cheltenham:

London Gazette 22/3/1881

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John Haywood*, of the PLUMBERS ARMS, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beer Retailer and Boot and Shoe Manufacturer.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Charles Adshead Loxton, of the Bridge, Walsall, Solicitor, on the 1st day of April 1881, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.....

C. A. Loxton, the Bridge, Walsall, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

1881 Census

14, Littleton Street – Beerhouse

- [1] *John Hayward* (59), married, bootmaker and publican, born Cheltenham;
[2] William Riley (26), bootmaker, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1883 - Deaths

“On the 4th inst. *John Heywood*, of the PLUMBERS ARMS, Littleton Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/2/1884 - Advert

“Beerhouse (good). To Let, PLUMBERS ARMS, Littleton Street, Walsall. Respectable neighbourhood; near large works. Rent £25. Seven years' lease. Doing a brewing a week. In the same hands 20 years. Death of proprietor cause of leaving. In-coming about £200.

Apply on premises.”

1891 Census

14, Littleton Street

- [1] *George Evans* (39), brown saddler and publican manager, born Walsall;
[2] Florence Evans (34), wife, born Walsall;
[3] Eliza Bradley (13), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 16/6/1900 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable Girl, about 16, to sleep out.
Apply PLUMBERS ARMS, Littleton Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/11/1900

Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *Charles John James*, PLUMBERS ARMS, Littleton Street West..... elected members of the society.”

1901 Census

14, Littleton Street West

- [1] *Samuel Westwood* (60);
[2] Eliza Jane Westwood (66), wife;
[3] Joseph Bebb (31), son in law;
[4] Mary Bebb (29), daughter;
[5] Arthur Bebb (4), son;
[6] Agnes Bebb (10), niece;
[7] Matilda Rounds (10), granddaughter:
[No other details are given.]

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1903

“Last night week the employees of Messrs. Nicklin and Schoefield, Station Street, were entertained at the PLUMBERS ARMS, Littleton Street, by Mr. Charles Nicklin in celebration of his marriage. An ample repast was served by the host and hostess, and the remainder of the evening was spent in social harmony.....”

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

“Walsall Air-Gun League.

The first annual meeting of the above was held at the CRITERION, Stafford Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smallwood presided, and there was also present Messrs. Hicken (EAGLE), G. Smith (OLD KINGS ARMS), Powell (TANNERS ARMS), *E. James* (PLUMBERS ARMS), McDonald (CRITERION), Cliffe (GOLDEN EAGLE), Hunt, E. Towe (treasurer), and Mason (secretary).....

The undermentioned clubs with power to add to their number, were elected to the League for the forthcoming season: The WHITE HART (Walhouse Street), TANNERS ARMS, OLD KINGS ARMS, EAGLE, PLUMBERS ARMS, CRITERION, GOLDEN EAGLE, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, OAK, and DUKE OF YORK.
There was no other business of public interest.”

1911 Census

Littleton Street – PLUMBERS ARMS

- [1] *Emma James* (38), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Cyril Charles James (10), son, school, born Walsall;
- [3] Elias John Martin (39), brother in law, saddler, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Polly Martin (40), wife, married 13 years, assit in business, born Bloxwich:

Emma James married a Mr. *Evans* on 18th August 1914.

The license was surrendered on 8th February 1939.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN

147, (146), (144+145), Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Charles Ridding
Mrs. C. Ridding
Thomas Jeffries
Edgar Evans, brewer, Perry Barr
C. C. Walker
Frank Myatt and Co. [1924]
Grigg and Brettell Ltd.

LICENSEES

Charles Ridding [1858] – [1872];
Thomas Jeffries [1881] – 1889);
William Banks (1889 – 1894);
George Walker (1894 – 1897);
Cornelius Cox (1897 – 1899);
Alfred Stephen Holland (1899 – 1900);
Joseph Stackhouse Snr. (1900 – 1903);
Samuel Cattell (1903 – 1904);
Enoch Hodgkins (1904 – 1906);
Charles Timmins (1906 – 1907);
Harry Brannidge (1907 – 1908);
Enoch Evans (1908 – 1909);
Henry William Glaise (1909 – 1911);
Henry Wood (1911 – 1914);
Martin Egan (1914 – 1916);
Mary Egan (1916 – 1920);
James Blower (1920 – 1922);
Thomas Walter Richards (1922 – 1924); manager
George Henry Dawkins (1924 – 1927);
Charles Henry Wellings (1927 – 1929);
George Henry McDivitt (1929 – 1930);
Dorothy McDivitt (1930 – 1931);
Herbert Spooner (1931 – 1939);
Stanley Lewis Clark (1939 – 1940);
Frank Wilson (1940 – 1941);
Arthur Gwilt Middleton (1941);
May Middleton (1941 – 1943);
Florence Leah (McGrath) Mole (1943 – 1952);

Stanley Evans (1952);
Marshall Grahame Heeley (1952 – 1955);
Norman William Mansell (1955 – 1956);
William Henry Chancellor (1956 – 1957);
William Small (1957 – 1958);
Mildred Georgina Holloway (1958 – 1959);
George Edward Morris (1959 – 1960);
Albert Henry Cook (1960 – 1964);
Albert Daniel Peace (1964);
Gwendoline Alice Perry (1964 – [1966])
Albert Grazier (1969 – [] manager

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Charles Ridding = Charles Redding

C. Ridding, beerhouse, 146, Stafford Street. [1858]

Charles Ridding, beer retailer, 146, Stafford Street. [1860]

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers’ licenses.....

Charles Ridding, Stafford Street, Walsall. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....

Charles Ridding, Stafford Street. Refused.”

1861 Census

146, Stafford Street – Public House, No Sign

[1] *Charles Ridding* (58), chain burnisher and maker (3 men + 2 boys), and retail brewer, born Bloxwich;

[2] Ann Ridding (40), wife, housewife, born Walsall;

[3] Charles Ridding (21), son, chain burnisher and maker, born Bloxwich;

[4] Ann Maria Ridding (17), daughter, apprentice to dress making, born Bloxwich;

[5] Mary Ridding (12), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[6] Charlotte Ridding (10), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[7] Emma Ridding (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[8] Henrietta Ridding (1), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[9] Charles Starkey (20), apprentice chain maker, born Stonnal, Staffordshire;

[10] John Breviton (10), apprentice chain maker, born Birmingham:

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/8/1862

“This was the day for granting the annual licenses to victuallers, and for hearing applications from beerhouse keepers for victuallers licenses.....

The application of *Charles Ridding*, Stafford Street was refused.”

Charles Ridding, beer retailer, 146, Stafford Street. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....

Charles Ridding, PRESIDENT LINCOLN INN, Stafford Street.” [Refused]

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

Charles Ridding, PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street applied personally for licenses, but their applications were refused.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. Mathews applied in behalf of Mr. *Charles Ridding*, landlord of the PRESIDENT LINCOLN beerhouse, Stafford Street. Application refused.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday applications for new licenses for the sale of spirits.....

Charles Redding, beerhouse keeper, Stafford Street, applied for a license personally, and presented a written document, in which he stated that he and his ancestors had been resident in Walsall for upwards of 100 years, and none of them had ever been bankrupts, paupers, or felons, and he had been soliciting the bench either personally or through professional gentlemen for a license for some time.

The Mayor announced that the Bench had decided not to grant any new licenses this year.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1870

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

There were eight applicants for new spirit licenses.....

Charles Ridding, the PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street.....

The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and after having been absent about half an hour they returned, and announced that they had decided to refuse all the applications, though they had come to this decision with much regret in some instances.”

1871 Census

146, Stafford Street

[1] *Charles Ridding* (67), chainmaker employing 2 men and 2 boys, and beer seller, born Bloxwich;

[2] Ann Ridding (51), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Emma Ridding (15), daughter, general servant, born Walsall;

[4] Henrietta Ridding (12), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Amy Ridding (7), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Edward Brazier (15), apprentice to chain making, born Walsall;

[7] Henry Davis (12), general servant, born Walsall:

Charles Ridding, grocer and beer retailer, 144+145, Stafford Street. [1872]

See also SPORTSMAN.

Birmingham Daily Post 18/7/1873

“Yesterday afternoon, at the PRESIDENT LINCOLN beerhouse, Stafford Street, Mr. Fletcher, Coroner, held an inquest on the body of Mrs. Jane Mercer, aged 52, who died on Tuesday evening from the effects of a fight sustained by her while endeavouring to make peace between a drunken couple named Brannon. At the outset of the proceedings the Coroner read the following letter: ‘St. Peter’s Vicarage, Walsall, July 17, 1873.

Dear Sir. If I had not had cemetery duty this afternoon, I should have endeavoured to have seen you this afternoon at the inquest. It ought to be clearly understood what really hastened the poor woman’s death. There is no doubt that it was the disgusting and abominable conduct of the drunken couple living opposite. The infamous behaviour of the persons referred to was witnessed by crowds of persons, and was a public scandal. The next door neighbour is at present confined to her bed in consequence of what occurred on Tuesday evening, and another neighbour came to me this morning utterly distracted by the event and by the continued drunkenness and annoyance of these evil persons; and I should be thankful if, in the course of your official duties, you could find a proper opportunity of giving due prominence to the circumstances I have put before you.

I am, dear sir, your faithfully. James Bradley.’

The Coroner said that from the enquiries he had himself made, he had ascertained that it was indeed a most disgusting and abominable case. If it could be shown that, as Mr. Bradley had stated, the conduct of these parties had hastened the death of this poor woman, he could deal with them himself, but that, he feared, could not be done. They deserved severe punishment, however, and he would transfer Mr. Bradley’s letter to the chief superintendent, for him to lay before the magistrates.

Two witnesses were examined, namely, Mary Jane, wife of John Brotherton, and Sarah Jones, niece of deceased. Their evidence bore out the statement already published in the *Post*, showing that between five and six o’clock, a Mrs. Smith, living on the other side of the street, fetched Mrs. Mercer to her aid in putting a stop to a quarrel which was going on between a married couple named Brannon, stating that if the man could be got out of the house the woman might be induced to go to bed. The deceased crossed the road directly, and on going to the door of Brannon’s house, said to the man, ‘Come out.’ The man was the on the sofa, and the woman was at the foot of the stairs nearly naked, with a lock of her hair in her hand which she was endeavouring to throw at her husband, but Mrs. Smith was standing before her, and preventing her. Both the man and the woman were drunk. Directly Mrs. Mercer had spoken to the man, she uttered an exclamation of surprise or pain, and turned back to her own house, leaving her niece, who had accompanied her, and who had got Brannon out of the house. Before reaching her home she was gasping for breath, and holding her hand to her side, and directly she got in-doors she asked to have her clothes loosened and the widow opened, and called for water, at the same time exclaiming, ‘I shall die.’ Everything which could be done for her under the circumstances was done, but in less than an hour she expired. It was stated that she had been called to the Brannons several times before, and she had acted the part of a mother to the children of the intemperate pair.

The Coroner expressed a wish to have Mrs. Smith before him, but was told that she was keeping to her bed in consequence of the scenes of Friday night; and moreover, that she could give no further evidence than had already been laid before the Jury. He then stated that the evidence would not implicate the Brannons, who, there could be little doubt had been the cause of the poor woman’s death, and said that Mrs. Mercer had for some time been suffering from heart disease, and that consequently a little excitement was likely to bring on an attack of that from which she had died, viz, apoplexy. Under these circumstance, he thought the

only course open to the Jury was to return a verdict of Death from Natural Causes. The Jury returned a verdict accordingly.”

1881 Census

146, Stafford Street – PRESIDENT LINCOLN

- [1] *Thomas Jeffries* (39), beer retailer and bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [2] Ann M. Jeffries (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Jeffries (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Anne Jeffries (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Jane Jeffries (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Beatrice Jeffries (3), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 26/1/1889 - Advert

“Valuable Public House Property, Stafford Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Watkins & Powell, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, by Order of the Executors of the late *Charles Ridding*, on Tuesday, the 19th day of February, 1889, at Seven o’clock in the evening precisely, and incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society.

All that well established Beerhouse situate in Stafford Street, Walsall, known at the PRESIDENT LINCOLN, now in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Jeffries*, as yearly tenant, at the rental of £17 per annum. And also the Three Messuages adjoining, being Nos.143, 144, and 135 Stafford Street, Walsall, occupied by Mr. Charles Ridding, photographer; Mrs. Mary Harris, provision dealer; and Mr. William Bird respectively, at rentals producing £31 4s per annum. Also the Shopping (including Casting Shop) in the rear of the premises, estimated to produce an annual rental of £10; or a total rental for the whole Property of £58 4s.

The above Property is Freehold, and contains 3,101 square yards or thereabouts, is walled in and has a gateway approach to the back.

There is a considerable quantity of Land unbuilt upon, which will be suitable for the erection of Shopping, or for the enlargement of the premises in connection with the PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

The Land immediately in front of the Property extending therefrom 8ft 6in is sold with the Property, and the Public House may be materially improved by extending it over the same.

The property is supplied with the South Staffordshire Water.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneers, Bridge Street, Walsall; or to Mr. J. W. Phillips, Solicitor, 13, Old Square, Birmingham.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

William Banks, the PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street, asked for a license for music and singing on Saturday and Monday evenings. Refused.”

1891 Census

145, Stafford Street – PRESIDENT LINCOLN

- [1] *William Banks* (56), boot maker and inn keeper, born Bilston;
- [2] Sarah Ann Banks (51), wife, born South Brent, Somersetshire;
- [3] Sarah Ann Banks (18), daughter, born Walsall:

George Walker, beer retailer, 146, Stafford Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday....

Plans were submitted by Mr. Pearman-Smith for re-building and extending the PRESIDENT LINCOLN beerhouse, Stafford Street. It was proposed, it was stated, to re-construct the house, but there would be no increased drinking compartments.

Mr. McCardle (instructed by Mr. J. F. Addison) and the Chief Constable opposed. Mr. H. E. Lavender, architect, in answer to a question said he thought the licensed area would be slightly increased.

Mr. Loxton: It would be a new building.

The Bench did not sanction the plans in this case, but intimated that if applicant applied for a new ‘on’ beer license on the plans, and surrendered the present license, the justices would be prepared to consider the application.”

The license was surrendered on 24th September 1897 at the adjourned licensing day, and a new license, not to carry the privileges of the old license, was granted.

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1898

“Joseph Robinson alias Spink (24), miner, 66, James Street, was charged with stealing a silver watch and chain, value 25s, the property of Ed. Stokes, of 38, Stafford Street. Complainant said that he had a quarrel with a man outside the PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street on Saturday night. He fetched his coat and waist coat off. After the disturbance he missed the watch and chain. In consequence of what he had been told he asked defendant if he had got the watch. Prisoner replied that if he had he would not give it to him.

Elizabeth Yates, 138, Marlow Street, said that there was a large crowd of people outside the PRESIDENT LINCOLN on the date named. She picked up a watch from the ground, and asked several men if it belonged to them. One man she asked snatched it from her. She could not swear prisoner was the man.

Alfred Coley, carter, of Stafford Street, said that he saw the last witness pick up the watch, and ask several persons if it belonged to them. She also asked defendant if it was his property, and he took it from her.

The Chief Constable applied for a remand for a week which was granted.

Prisoner was allowed bail, himself in £20 and two sureties of £10 each.”

1901 Census

146, Stafford Street

[1] *Joseph Stackhouse* (54), innkeeper and haulier and cab proprietor, born Pelsall;

[2] Ruth Stackhouse (52), wife, born Tipton;

[3] Fanny L. Stackhouse (23), daughter, born Brownhills;

[4] Mary E. Stackhouse (22), daughter, machinist, born Pelsall;

[5] James E. Stackhouse (19), son, haulier, born Brownhills;

[6] Alice M. Stackhouse (18), daughter, born Brownhills;

[7] George E. Stackhouse (13), son, born Brownhills:

Walsall Advertiser 12/7/1902

“John Duffy (17), stableman, 20, James Street, was charged with being found on enclosed premises, to wit, 38, Portland Street, for an unlawful purpose. George Perry, 39, Portland Street, said that on Sunday he saw the prisoner down Mr. *Stackhouse*’s stable yard, but though he followed him he was unable to find him. He afterwards saw him return, carrying a bag, and informed Mr. *Stackhouse* (the owner of the stables) what he had seen.

Joseph Stackhouse, of the PRESIDENT LINCOLN INN, Stafford Street, and owner of the stables in question, said that the prisoner had been in his employ as a horse driver, but had been discharged by him. Supposing him to be on the premises, as Mr. Perry (the last witness) had told the magistrates, he had no right whatever to be there.

Police-constable Thomas Williams said he was called to 38, Portland Street, by Mr. *Stackhouse*, and he went in search of the prisoner and arrested him in James Street. Prisoner when charged with being on Mr. *Stackhouse*’s premises, said, ‘I only had some grass.’ Sentenced to 14 days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/10/1903

“*Joseph Stackhouse*, PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street, was summoned for allowing a horse to stray in High Street, Bloxwich, on September 18th. Police-constable Donlan gave evidence, but it was proved that under the circumstances defendant was not responsible and the case was dismissed.”

Joseph Stackhouse – see also SPORTSMAN.

Samuel Cattell, beer retailer, 146, Stafford Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1904

“Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith made an application for the temporary transfer of the license of the PRESIDENT LINCOLN INN, Stafford Street, from *Samuel Cattell* to *Enoch Hodgkins*. *Hodgkins* said he was going in as manager, but if he found the business was satisfactory he would become a tenant. Answering Dr. Lynch, the outgoing tenant said he had been receiving 25s a week wages, and he was leaving because he found it did not pay.

Dr. Lynch: Then you do not think the house is needed in the neighbourhood?

Mr. Pearman-Smith said he did not consider it fair to put those questions.

Dr. Lynch: I have a perfect right, under the Licensing Act to ask such questions.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said that there was another question – he was not at liberty to state what – why the present tenant was leaving the house.

Alderman Dean: I don’t doubt that there will be another change. It was to be expected when tenants were paid 25s a week.

The application was granted, subject to the applicant becoming a tenant when the transfer was confirmed at the Brewster Sessions.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/12/1906

“Charles Henry Walker, described as a bricklayer, aged 33, of Lewis Street, pleaded guilty to stealing twopence, the money of *Charles Timmins*, landlord of the PRESIDENT LINCOLN INN, Stafford Street. On Saturday afternoon at about 4.30 defendant went into the bar of the Inn and called for half-a-pint of ale. For over an hour he stood over this, and meanwhile the landlady, Mrs. *Timmins*, had served other customers, one of whom had only given her a new penny, which was the only one in the till. Shortly afterwards the landlady, returning to the bar, saw the defendant with his hand in the till, and calling her husband, he found that he had a new penny, and two half-pennies in his hand. Fined 10s and costs or 14 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/12/1908

“Thomas Russon (23), caster, Penkridge Street; John Peach (26), bricklayer, Little Street; Edward Dutton (26), tube welder, Barrack’s Lane, Bloxwich, were charged with stealing 14 fowls belonging to John Chamberlain, farmer, Blakenall. The men were

together at Dutton's house on Saturday night when the fowls were missed. Mrs. Dutton said that she heard one of them say they had got some fowls. On the night of the 28th November it seemed prisoners went into the PRESIDENT LINCOLN public-house, Stafford Street, and asked the landlord if he could do with a couple of fowls. He at first said 'No,' but after consulting his wife bought a couple for 2s. The heads and legs identified as of fowls belonging to Mr. Chamberlain. Detective Lloyd had found a trail of feathers from Mr. Chamberlain's farm to Dutton's house, and said Peach's trousers were covered in blood. In all 30 fowls had been stolen from this farm. Peach was sent to gaol for 14 days, and the other two prisoners for a month each."

1911 Census

Stafford Street – PRESIDENT LINCOLN

[1] *Henry Wood* (66), coal miner, hewer, born Uttoxeter, Staffordshire;

[2] *Maria Wood* (53), married 2 years, born Walsall;

[3] *Lily Heeley* (19), servant, born Bloxwich:

Henry Wood, beer retailer, 145, Stafford Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.... PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street. £0 12s 3½d."

Walsall Observer 31/5/1924

"On a legal point, the magistrates at the Walsall Guildhall, on Tuesday, declined to grant a temporary transfer of the license of the PRESIDENT LINCOLN INN, Stafford Street, from *Thomas Walter Richards* to *George Henry Dawkins*.

Mr. Frank Cooper, who made the application on behalf of the owners, Messrs. Frank Myatt Ltd, brewers, Wolverhampton, said *Richards* had been manager of the PRESIDENT LINCOLN from October 1922, and since Christmas there had been complaints of shortage in the stocks. No deductions would be made in his wages, but *Richards* voluntarily put money in the till to make up the shortage. When the stocks were taken on Tuesday of last week, a certain barrel was pointed out as being full of beer. The stock-taker, on making tests, was not satisfied with the beer on tap, and on indicating that he was going down the cellar to tap the barrel, the licensee left him, and the wife then admitted that the barrel only contained water.

The wife, from the body of the Court, remarked, 'We were obliged to do it.'

'That was a thing which no brewery could stand,' added Mr. Cooper. 'They have not only their own property to consider, but have to protect the public, and Messrs. Myatt took the risk of immediately stopping this man and telling him he would no longer be allowed to sell. Another man was then put in charge of the house.'

Mr. T. A. Smith (presiding magistrate) asked whether it was intended to prosecute *Richards*.

Mr. Cooper said the point was being considered, but for the moment they were concerned purely with the transfer. *Richards* still had his furniture in the house and had been living there as well as the substitute.

Richards' wife continued to interrupt, and was warned to desist. She, however, made several other interjections and was ultimately turned out of Court.

Harold Whitehouse, of Newhampton Road East, Wolverhampton, stocktaker for the firm, told how he drained the barrel and found it contained nothing but water. Previously the barrel did not seem to have been tapped, and was apparently in the same condition as when delivered. *Richards* was £4 16s short in his stocks after reasonable allowances had been made for 'tops and bottoms.'

John Francis Myatt, managing director of the firm said *Richards* admitted in the office of the house manager Mr. Goldby, that he had put water in the barrel, and that he had done it before. In order to protect the public, witness gave instructions that someone else should be put in charge, and that if necessary the house should be closed. 'We cannot tolerate people robbing us,' added witness, 'and we cannot tolerate people who are disloyal. We get enough attacks on the trade generally without this sort of thing. One of the difficulties in preserving discipline in Walsall is that we have to give three months' notice, but we have always totally observed it.' He added that there had been no complaints about the quality of their beer. *Richards* pleaded with him to overlook the matter, and said he had been a fool, but would behave himself in the future. 'But I had a duty to do,' added witness, 'and walked out of the room in disgust.'

Mr. A. V. Haden (for the defence): Did you say to your house manager, 'Take immediate possession, turn this man and his belongings into the street and take proceedings against him?'

Witness: No I did not say that. That was one of our difficulties. We do not throw people into the street. We have to tolerate them, and are very lenient, but there are limits.

Asked if the company made any allowance for waste from tops and bottoms, witness said they were always taken into account. Pressed to give details of percentages etc, witness said he was unable to do so, but these could be obtained from the house manager.

In reply to further questions, witness said, 'We are out to do our duty, and I am not here to be attacked.'

The Magistrates' Clerk: Please answer the questions and don't make long speeches. You ought to be used to that sort of thing by now.

Witness admitted that two or three years ago a circular was sent out stating that no allowance would be made to tenants off their accounts. These did not apply to managers because they had only the goods to sell. He added that the company made allowances to tenants.

Mr. Haden said *Richards* complained that owing to receiving no allowance for wastages he was unable to make both ends meet. He went into the house at a wage of £2 10s per week.

The Clerk: And rates, taxes, gas and coal, would make another £1. With a wage of £3 10s a week, is there any justification for him robbing his employer?

Mr. Haden, replying, said that the point of the case that owing to no allowances being made for wastages, *Richards* had had to contribute substantial sums out of his own wages. The time arrived when he could not find the money, and with the object of gaining time, he admitted, he filled the cask with water.

Mr. T. A. Smith said it appeared the case must be tried on the point of whether the man was a thief or not.

The Magistrates' Clerk said the real point was whether *Richards* should be turned out without notice. The justices had laid it down previously that there should be either three months' notice or three months' wages, and the brewery company in this case desired to get rid of the man at once.

Mr. Smith (to Mr. Haden): Your case is that when *Richards* could not find the money he found the water?

Mr. Haden said he would like the Court to be definitely satisfied that an allowance was made for wastage. *Richards* was smarting under a grievance, and had only been able to keep the place going with a struggle.

The Magistrates' Clerk said that whenever transfers were applied for he always asked the ingoing licensee if he was satisfied with the agreement. One clause in *Richards*'s agreement was that he should sell the goods in exactly the same strength, quality, and condition as they were supplied.

Mr. Haden submitted that in spite of the foolish way in which *Richards* acted, he was entitled to have been treated differently by the brewery company having regard to the whole of the circumstances, and should have received reasonable notice or money in lieu of notice.

Mr. Cooper: In other words, you do not hesitate at blackmail?

Mr. Haden: It is far removed from blackmail. Although *Richards* was engaged at 50s a week, he had only been in the house ten months when his wage was reduced to 40s.

Mr. Loxton: He agreed to it. Why did he not come to me if he was not satisfied?

Mr. Haden said the brewery company had suggested that in order to improve the trade a longer pull should be given. As recently as a fortnight ago, the house manager, Mr. Goldby, saw *Richards*, and his wife, and in the course of conversation the remark was made, 'We hear nothing about stocks these days,' and the answer was, 'No, and we don't want to.' The manager then said the house was satisfactorily conducted. *Richards* had no desire to deceive the public. 'You cannot sell water for beer,' he added, 'not even in Walsall.'

Mr. F. T. Cozens (magistrate): He has admitted selling watered beer already.

Mr. Haden denied that *Richards* had admitted watering the beer. He simply filled a cask with water in order to gain time to obtain £4 short in the stock.

Richards in evidence, said that on the day he took the house over a 'pack of hooligans' broke in and stole stout, etc, for which the brewery company called upon him to pay £8 7s 6d or quit. Later, the secretary, Mr. Taylor, apologised, after hearing the circumstances under which the charge was made. He agreed to accept the 10s reduction in wages because he was told that otherwise he would have to go.

Asked if he had any other circular authorising him to give the long pull *Richards* said 'All the papers were destroyed by Mr. Goldby and Mr. Whitehouse while I was away last Wednesday.'

The Chief Constable (Mr. G. H. Ballance) said it was an offence to give the long pull, and he would like to see any circular authorizing it.

The Clerk: I should think that a firm of brewers would be sufficiently wide awake not to put that in print.

Mr. Cooper: You may take it there was no such instruction. It was the reverse.

Mr. Smith (to witness): Why did you agree to give the long pull? Why did you not say 'It is an offence and I dare not do it'?

Witness: I was their servant.

Continuing witness said that he lost 15s a week on the waste.

Mr. Smith: One would have thought you would have said 'I cannot stand this. I will chuck the job.'

Witness: It was the housing question that caused me to hang on.

Mr. Smith: Had Mr. Myatt power to throw you into the street?

Mr. Haden: He has pretty well done it.

Continuing, witness said the new people took over the house on Wednesday, and he kept away because he was upset and feared that if Mr. Myatt carried out his threat he (*Richards*) would lose his reason. He afterwards returned to his wife at the house.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cooper, *Richards* admitted that he had received a circular definitely telling him not to give the long pull. A verbal instruction was given before the circular was issued.

The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. R. E. Loxton) said the real point of the case was what right had the owners to apply for temporary authority without giving *Richards* proper notice. Section 87 of the Licensing Act gave them that right in certain circumstances, such as a man having been convicted or committed a felony. *Richards* had never been convicted, therefore the brewery company had no power under that section. The only other point on which they could apply was as to whether the premises had been given up by the holder of the license. If a man had done wrong between himself and his employers, that was not ground for getting him out of the house under the terms of the agreement, but only by an action for ejection. It was purely a question of the transfer of the license with which the Bench that morning were concerned, as governed by the Licensing Act. Possession of the house was entirely another matter, and did not occur within the jurisdiction of that Court.

Mr. Cooper submitted that *Richards* had admitted he had deserted the premises, and the brewery company had no alternative to put a substitute in. Because they allowed *Richards* to keep his furniture there he had not given up possession and now wanted money to get out.

The Clerk: It is a wrong thing to tamper with the beer, but I can't find anything in the Licensing Act that gives power to grant a transfer purely on that question.

Mr. Cooper argued that the Bench could grant a transfer owing to the incapacity of the person who held the license arising from illness or other infirmity. It had been held that the words 'or other infirmity' might include cases of misconduct.

Mr. Haden, on the other hand, denied that the man had voluntarily given up the license. He was told to clear out and being upset, went to some friends at Birmingham. His wife and belongings were left in the public house, and he afterwards returned to find that somebody else had taken possession. The brewery company had tried to wrest the premises from him, but he had declined to go.

Mr. Cooper: Under the terms of the agreement we might have thrown him into the street if we had desired to act harshly.

The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and on returning, Mr. Smith said the case had been boiled down to purely a question of law. The Bench had decided they had no jurisdiction as to possession, and they were compelled to object to this transfer.

Mr. Cooper then recalled that some time ago the same Bench had a case before them in respect of the GLOBE INN and Mr. Tench then appeared for the Managers' Association. Although there was no question of misconduct, the transfer was granted.

Mr. Smith said they could not hear anything further in the matter and added, 'I suppose the brewery company have their own remedy some other way'."

Walsall Observer 12/7/1924

"Judge Grants Ejectment Order. 'I have never heard of such a thing. The man had been dismissed. What right does he consider he has to stay there?', asked Judge Tebbs, when, at Walsall County Court, on Thursday, Messrs. Myatt's Brewery Ltd, applied for an ejectment order against *Thomas Walter Richards* at present residing at the PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street, Walsall, of which he was formerly manager. The case was a sequel to proceedings which were recently heard before the Walsall magistrates, who were of opinion that the law would not permit them to grant a temporary transfer of the license to the new manager. In consequence of this difficulty, it was stated on Thursday, the house had been closed. Mr. F. Cooper appeared for the applicants, and Mr. A. V. Haden for the respondent.

Mr. Cooper explained that *Richards* was appointed manager of the PRESIDENT LINCOLN in 1922 at a wage of 50s a week, in addition to coal, gas and rent. In October last year the amount of defendant's remuneration was by mutual agreement reduced to £2. On May 20 this year the company's stocktaker visited the house and was shown in the cellar a barrel which apparently had been interfered with and which was included in the stock. In taking samples of beer the stocktaker was not satisfied with one of the qualities, and decided to tap the barrel referred to, which was supposed to contain the same quality as the unsatisfactory sample he had taken. Defendant went to fetch a tap, but did not return, and his wife went to the stocktaker and informed him that the barrel was filled with water.

Defendant later admitted this, and at the brewery the next morning expressed his regret and asked for it to be overlooked. The house manager, however, was instructed to dismiss defendant and obtain possession of the premises; and a new licensee found. Unfortunately for the brewers, under the Licensing Act, 1910, no license should be transferred without the application of the present licensee except in case of death, incapacity through illness, or through the licensee giving up possession. An application was made at the Walsall Police Court on May 27, but the Bench could not see their way clear to accede to it. The company had another manager in the house, which had had to be closed because they were not in a position to sell.

Mr. Haden said the defendant had never been made any allowances for wastages in his beer, and the result was that every week he got slightly behind with his stock.

His Honour: He has been discharged; what right does he consider he has to stay?

Mr. Haden: If your Honour considers his conduct has been corrupt _____.

His Honour: I shan't consider his conduct at all. He has been dismissed, and if you have any right of action you can take proceedings.

Tom Bentley Golby, 63, Walsall Road, Willenhall, house manager for the company, gave evidence as to dismissing defendant.

Mr. Cooper asked for an order to take effect by Monday so that he could apply for the transfer on Tuesday.

His Honour announced that the order would be made to take effect on Monday, and that a warrant would be enforceable immediately if it were not complied with."

Walsall Observer 19/7/1924

"Walsall magistrates (Mr. F. T. Cozens presiding) on Tuesday granted a protection order in respect of the PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street, which had been closed for some time because the license could not be transferred on account of the licensee's objections.

Making the application on behalf of Messrs. Myatt's Brewery Ltd, Mr. F. Cooper reminded the Bench that when he made a previous application, on May 27, they held that they could not legally grant an order because the sitting licensee was still in possession of the premises. The case was before Judge Yebbs in the County Court last week, however, and an ejectment order was granted to take effect by midnight on Monday. The tenant, *Thomas Walter Richards*, had made no attempt to move and his goods and chattels had been ejected that (Tuesday) morning, so that he no longer had possession. In these circumstances Mr. Cooper asked for a protection order to be granted to *George Henry Dawkins*, the in-going tenant.

Dawkins stated that he had lived on the premises since May 21 and was going in as manager.

Contending that the Brewery Company had not complied with their agreement, *Richards* opposed the application.

Answering the clerk, he said he did not have a chance to state the facts concerning his dismissal at the County Court, and Mr.

A. V. Haden, who had previously acted for him, explained that His Honour Judge Tebbs took the view that if *Richards* had been wrongfully dismissed that was a subject for separate action.

Mr. Cooper pointed out that although *Richards* had been given 40 days notice of the County Court proceedings, he had not made any counter-claim of any kind and had taken no steps in regard to any right he might have.

Richards: I had no money to take proceedings; they beggared me.

Mr. Cooper said he objected to such a statement. *Richards* was not a tenant or he might have understood it. He was a manager, in receipt of a regular weekly wage, and was not beggared.

As stated, the magistrates granted the application.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst, the justices referred the following houses for compensation.....
PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street.”

Rugeley Times 22/7/1939

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers Society, held on Thursday, at ROUGH HAY TAVERN, Darlaston, there was a good attendance of members.....

Stanley Lewis Clark, PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street were elected members of the society.”

1939 Register

147, Stafford Street

[1] *Stanley L. Clark*, date of birth 18/2/1912, licensed victualler, manager, married;

[2] *Joan E. Clark*, dob 19/9/1918, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 13/4/1940

“Bound over for six months and ordered to pay 11s 6d costs for committing a breach of the peace by fighting in Stafford Street, April 6, Frederick James Thurstance (32), lorry driver, 13, Gower Street, was stated to have created, with two companions, a disturbance in the PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street, because the licensee refused to serve them after ‘time’ had been called. Ejected with the assistance of Police-constable Cunningham, Thurstance began fighting with another man and became still more violent when arrested. Accused denied that he was one of the two men engaged in the fight.”

Walsall Observer 2/11/1940

“‘There seems to be a growing custom among women of this town to take a shoe off and use it as a small club,’ declared Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson, at Walsall Police Court on Wednesday, appearing for two of the parties concerned in cross-summonses relating to trouble between a number of Rycroft relatives.

Lucy Tapper, 7, Farm Street, and her uncle Harry Jones, were summoned for assaulting Thomas Dunn, 14, Proffitt Street; Lucy Tapper and her sister, Joan Hilda Dunn, also of 7, Farm Street, were summoned for wilfully damaging seven panes of glass in the windows at Thomas Dunn’s home, Joan Hilda Dunn and her mother-in-law, Elsie Dunn (wife of Thomas Dunn) cross-summoned each other for assault; and Thomas Dunn was summoned for assaulting Lucy Dunn. Mr. Hodgkinson appeared for Thomas and Elsie Dunn.

Occurring on the night of October 19, the trouble began in the PRESIDENT LINCOLN public house, Stafford Street, where (said Mrs. Elsie Dunn) Mrs. Tapper referred to her sister wanting the address of her (Mrs. Elsie Dunn’s) son. Witness did not reply and Mrs. Joan Dunn then ran out of the smoke room and struck her a blow that knocked her to the floor. In Leckie Road, as she was going home, Joan Dunn again knocked her down, and struck her with the heel of her shoe about her back. Later the same night Mrs. Tapper and Joan Dunn, accompanied by their uncle (Harry Jones) went to witness’s house, where seven panes were broken by the women. Witness also alleged that Mrs. Tapper struck her (Mrs. Elsie Dunn’s) husband with the heel of her shoe and that Joan kicked her husband while he was on the floor.

Thomas Dunn corroborated this latter part of his wife’s evidence.

Joan Dunn stated that she only pushed her mother-in-law in the PRESIDENT LINCOLN after her mother-in-law had called her an offensive name. As she and her sister were going home, Mrs. Dunn attempted to strike her. She avoided the blow, but her mother-in-law then hit her, after which ‘they had a fight but fought fair.’

Mrs. Tapper corroborated this story and said Thomas Dunn jumped at her and knocked her to the ground.

The magistrates (Mrs. Hutchins, Mr. F. W. Evans and Dr. F. G. Layton) dismissed the summonses against Thomas Dunn and his wife, and fined Jones, Mrs. Tapper and her sister 10s each. In addition, Mrs. Tapper and Joan Dunn were ordered each to pay 4s for the damage to the windows.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

Mr. Gordon Hawley appeared for the Holt Brewery Co. Ltd., Birmingham, and the licensees of the COTTAGE INN, Harden Road; RED LION, Blue Lane; CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street; PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street; and GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Blakenall – John Cockbill, Howard Freeman, Sidney Canner, *May Middleton* (now of 39, Caledon Street), and Bertram Albert Stone (now of 80, Hollemeadow Avenue). Mr. Hawley said the purchase of coal at these houses had always been left to the licensees, and the brewery company would have no reason to be suspicious that the permitted amounts were being exceeded. Moreover, as far as the licensees were concerned, in all the cases except one the coal was delivered without being specifically ordered, and the trouble would have been avoided if the merchants had refused to deliver without the requisite permits, which the licensees could have obtained if they had applied for them.

Stone was fined £2, the other licensees £1 each, and the brewery company 10s in each case.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street. £10 18s 4d.”

Florence Leah McGrath married a Mr. *Mole* in 1950.

A full license was granted on 4th February 1960.

George Edward Morris – see also HOPE AND ANCHOR, GREEN MAN, STARTING GATE, SIR CHARLES NAPIER, and CROWN AND CUSHION.

Walsall Observer 11/7/1969

“The new manager at the PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street, Walsall, is Mr. *Albert Grazier*, who was previously at the WAGON AND HORSES, Church Street, Oldbury.”

Closed

It became a shop. [2006]

PRETTY BRICKS

5, (6), John Street, (St. John Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Bramhall, Bentley, near Walsall

George Holden, Ryecroft Street, Walsall

Mrs. Fanny Nicklin

Showells Brewery Ltd. [1902]

Ind Coope and Allsopp (leased from 29th June 1935)

Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)

Tap and Spile (acquired in 1993)

Black Country Traditional Inns (acquired in 2011)

LICENSEES

David Stanley [1838] – [1845]

Joseph Noake* [1849] – [1850]

John Noake* [1851] – [1857]

Joseph Noake* [1853] – [1861]

Mrs. Emma (Noake) Sartain [1859] – [1865]

William Sartain [1865] – [1870]

James Nicklin (1870 – [1880];

Mrs. Fanny Nicklin [1881] – 1895);

Job Toon (1895 – 1896);

Rosannah Toon (1896 – 1898);

Fanny Nicklin (1898);

Caesar Augustus Llewelyn Jenkyns (1898 – 1899);

Robert Brownlee Hayes (1899);

Samuel Holmes (1899 – 1901);

Joseph White (1901);

Arthur Edward Cliffe (1901 – 1902);

Sarah Hollyhead (1902 – 1903); manager

Thomas Higgins (1903 – 1905);

Charles Mills (1905 – 1909);

James Howard Biddulph (1909 – 1910);

Edward Egan (1910 – 1922);

David Walker (1922 – 1929);

Percy Machin Meeke (1929 – 1935);
John Walker (1935 – 1936);
Harry Thomas Brooks (1936 – 1937);
Frederick Charles Jacques (1937 – 1938);
Ernest Frederick Draper (1938 – 1939);
Albert Edward Winkles (1939);
Harold Cooper (1939 – 1946);
Edward Brown (1946 – 1947);
Frederick Davies Boydell (1947);
Frank Mayo (1947 – 1948);
William Fletcher (1948 – 1951);
John Bernard Crump (1951 – 1952);
John Leslie Edgerton (1952 – 1955);
Mary Ann Mason (1955 – 1956);
Audrey Evelyn Preece (1956 – 1962);
Frederick Archibald Bent (1962 – 1966);
Leslie Archibald Bent (1966 – []
Cyril Whittingham [1983]
David J C Davies* [1993]
John Davies* [1994] – [2003]
Anthony Inns [] – 2006);
Mick Gull (2006 – []
Susan Ann Gull [2007]
John Horton []
Kim Langford []
Lucy Rushton [2012] – [2014]

NOTES

St. John Street [1841], [1851]
5, St. John Street [1858]
6, John Street [1860]
5, John Street [1864], [1865], [1896], [1908], [1912], [1940]

It was originally the NEW INN.

It was known locally as the “Pretty Bricks”.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 9/7/1838 - Advert

“Eleven Lots of valuable Freehold Building Land, near Stafford Street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford.

By Farrington and Son.

To be Sold by Auction, on Monday next the 16th day of July inst. at the house of Mr. *Stanley*, the NEW INN, John Street, Walsall, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced – the remaining Lots of very eligible Freehold Building land, situate in John Street, near Stafford Street, pleasantly and conveniently situated in a healthy and increasing part of Walsall, being Lots 1, 2, 3, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, having excellent frontages of eleven yards each to St. John Street and Hambridge Lane, leading to Lichfield, and containing about 300 yards each.

The above lots are staked out, and will be entitle each purchaser to a Vote for the Southern Division of the County.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneers, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/2/1841

“Thomas Sergeant, of Walsall, and Thomas Forster of Darlaston, are to run six score yards tomorrow, at 11 o’clock, for £5 a side, at the NEW INN, St. John Street, Walsall.”

David Stanley = David Standley

1841 Census

St. John Street

- [1] *David Standley* (40), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Henrietta Standley (35), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Joseph Standley (13), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Ann Standley (11), born Staffordshire;
- [5] David Standley (9), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Terasa Standley (7), born Staffordshire;

[7] Ellen Standley (4), born Staffordshire;
[8] William Read (15), ms, born Staffordshire:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/12/1842

“Joseph Webb, the Gornal antelope, is, we are informed, willing to run any man two miles, for from £25 to £100. He can be heard anytime at *David Stanley*’s, NEW INN, St. John Street, Walsall, where the first deposit will be made. No offer will be accepted for a less sum than £25, nor less distance than two miles. (Why did not Webb accept some challenges which have recently appeared in our paper? – Ed.)”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/5/1848 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, by T. Franklin. On Wednesday, the 17th day of May, 1848, at the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, Walsall, at 7 o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced.

Lot 1. All that newly-erected Freehold old-licensed road side Public House, known by the sign of the SPORTSMAN, with good sleeping rooms, capital club room, dry cellaring, stable, shopping, private yard, and convenient out-offices, situate in Stafford Street, and now in the occupation of Mr. Wm. Ridding; also the house adjoining, situate in Stafford Street, and now in the occupation of Mr. S. Durnal.

Lot 2. All those six Freehold Messuages or Dwelling-Houses, situate in Stafford Street, now in the occupation of Messrs. Childlow, Baker, Ramsell, Deeley, and Littlely.

Lot 3. All that well-arranged old licensed Public House called the NEW INN, situate in St. John Street, Walsall, with two excellent club rooms, good sleeping rooms, extensive cellaring, brewhouse, stabling, shopping, piggeries, soft water cistern, with lead pumps, and convenient out-offices, now in the occupation of Mr. *D. Stanley*.....”

* possibly the same person

John Noake was married to *Emma*.

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/12/1853

“Walsall Petty Sessions.

Joseph Noake, of the NEW INN, John Street, was fined £1 and costs, for having their houses open after twelve o’clock on Saturday night.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/3/1854

“On Wednesday, *Joseph Noakes*, landlord of the NEW INN, John Street, was fined 10s and costs for resisting the police in entering his house when there were customers in it after licensed hours.”

The license of *Joseph Noakes* was suspended on 31st August 1854, having been convicted three times.

Walsall Free Press 5/12/1857

“The attention of the court was occupied a considerable time today in investigating charges brought against publicans for allowing gaming in their houses, contrary to the tenor of their licenses, the information in each case was laid by Police-constable Batchelor.

John Noakes of the NEW INN, John Street was the first defendant. The officer deposed that on Monday, the 23rd instant, he went to the house of the defendant, where he found four men playing at cards. He remained and saw two games played for two quarts of ale, which was brought in by the landlord, who was told by the losing parties to put it down to them. Mr. Duignan, who defended, cross-examined the witness, who said that he was not dressed in his police uniform, but had on a jacket, a cap, and an apron, and looked very much like an honest workman. Mr. *Noakes* was in the room all the time they were playing, but he could not swear the he (defendant) knew they were playing for ale. Mr. Duignan submitted that from the officer’s own statement there was no evidence to convict. The charge, as stated in the summons, was that the defendant had knowingly suffered gaming in his house by permitting card playing for ale, but they must prove that the landlord knew that they were playing for a stake, for if this was not the case, card playing was allowed. The evidence of the officer was conflictive, and not such as his client should be convicted upon. Moreover, he could call witnesses to prove that no stake whatever was played for. The defendant was called and denied the correctness of the officer’s statement, as also did the two men whom it was alleged were engaged in the game. The mayor said the evidence of the officer was certainly very contradictory, and the case must be dismissed, but so far as he was concerned, he should do all he could do to put a stop to the practice of card playing for money, as many families in the town no doubt had to suffer severely from such evil practices.”

Walsall Free Press 9/7/1859

“Francis Morris, a man of about forty years of age, was charged with having on the 23rd April, unlawfully uttered a counterfeit half-crown. Mr. Hill Prosecuted. *Emma Noakes*, who lives at the NEW INN, John Street, stated that the prisoner came to her house at ten o’clock on the night in question and called for a pint of beer and some tobacco, and paid for it with a sixpence, which she took and put by in a place by itself. He went again in about half an hour afterwards, called for some more beer, and tendered a half-crown in payment, which she took, and gave him the change. In few minutes, she sent for him back and told him he had given her a bad sixpence and a bad half-crown. He asked her to give him the money back; but she sent for a policeman and gave him in charge. After hearing the evidence of police-constable Ferris, by whom the prisoner was apprehended, police-sergeant Martin,

by whom the prisoner had been searched, and Charles Sheppard, jeweller, who proved that the coins produced, viz, two sixpences and a half-crown, were bad. The learned Recorder having summed up, the jury, after a brief deliberation, returned a verdict of guilty, and the prisoner, who was undefended, was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour."

1861 Census

5, John Street – NEW INN Public House

[1] *Emma Noake* (39), widow, victualler, harness maker, born Coaremore, Shropshire;

[2] Joseph Noake (18), son, harness maker, born Walsall;

[3] George Noake (16), son, harness maker, born Walsall;

[4] Ellen Noake (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] David Noake (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Clara Noake (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Emma Noake was also a harness maker. [1864], [1865]

Emma Noake married *William Sartain* in the 1st quarter of 1864.

Walsall Free Press 24/12/1864

"Samuel Mason was charged with having, on Tuesday last, stolen a canary bird, value 30s, the property of William Cooper, landlord of the WHITE LION public-house, Portland Street. From the evidence it appeared that the prisoner and some others came to prosecutor's house on Tuesday morning, and after having something to drink, the prisoner went into the back premises, and returned a few minutes later and stated that there had been an accident at Mr. Brewer's pit. Mr. Cooper and all the other parties in the house, with the exception of a little girl, ran out to see what had occurred. On returning, Mr. Cooper was met by the girl, who told him that the prisoner had stolen one of the best of the canaries. Mr. Cooper thereupon seized the prisoner, who was endeavouring to pass the girl, and took him back to the house, and on searching him found the bird in his right hand pocket. The bench after hearing the evidence sentenced prisoner to one months' imprisonment.

The prisoner was further charged with having stolen two candlesticks, the property of *Emma Noake*, of the NEW INN, John Street. Mrs. *Noake* identified the candlesticks, after which Ann Robert, servant at the NEW INN, said that on Tuesday forenoon, between eleven and twelve o'clock, the prisoner called and had a pint of ale. The candlesticks were in the room when he was there, and were missed after he left.

Police-constable Smallwood said that about three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, he found the prisoner in Mr. Cooper's house, in Portland Street, with the candlesticks in his possession. Prisoner said he had made them about nine months' ago. Mr. Cooper, landlord of the WHITE LION, said the prisoner came to his house and offered the candlesticks for sale. Afterwards, when searching the prisoner for his (witness's) bird, he found the candlesticks in his pockets. The bench after hearing the evidence, sentenced the prisoner to two months' imprisonment."

William Sartain = William Sartin

Walsall Free Press 15/7/1865

"Thomas Bird, NEW TOWN TAVERN; John Perry, WHITE LION, High Street; Joseph Phillips, The ALBION, Wolverhampton Lane; Thomas Hall, WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street; *William Sartin*, NEW INN, John Street; and John Holder, CROSS GUNS, Birchills, were charged with having had their houses open during prohibited hours on Sunday last. Holder was fined 10s and costs, *Sartin* 6d and costs, Hall 6d and costs, and Perry 1s and costs. The cases against Messrs. Bird and Phillips were dismissed."

Walsall Free Press 9/10/1869

"*William Sartin*, landlord of the NEW INN, John Street, was charged with having assaulted his wife, *Emma Sartin*. On the application of the complainant, the case was adjourned till the 17th instant."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/12/1869

"On Saturday afternoon, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Coroner, for the borough, held an inquest at the NEW INN Public-house, John Street, upon the body of Thomas Jackson, aged 63, a miner. It appeared that while deceased was at work, on Tuesday last, in a pit at Green Lane Colliery, a brick from the side of the pit shaft fell upon his head and killed him.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally Killed; but as the 'butty', when informed of the state of the shaft, had set a man to repair it, instead of informing Mr. Baker, the owner, the jury told Mr. Baker, who was in attendance, that in their opinion the 'butty' was not qualified for the situation he held."

William Sartain was also a currier. [1870]

Walsall Free Press 4/6/1870

"On Wednesday afternoon, A. A. Fletcher, Coroner for the Borough, held an inquest at the NEW INN, John Street, upon the body of John Cordell, aged 51, a miner, who resided in Portland Street. It appeared from the evidence that deceased was at work all day on Tuesday, and returned home about 6-30pm, apparently in his usual health; but, he had scarcely finished his supper, when he fell from his chair and expired before medical aid could be procured. The only witness examined was Mr. Sophia Cordell, the widow of the deceased, and the jury, after hearing her statement, and the summing up of the Coroner, returned a verdict of Death from

Natural Causes.”

The present building was erected in 1871.

1871 Census

5, John Street

- [1] *James Nicklin* (31), collar maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ellen Nicklin* (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Emma Jane Nicklin* (7 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Emma Swinbourn* (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1881 Census

5, John Street – NEW INN

- [1] *Fanny Nicklin* (40), widow, victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *James Nicklin* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [3] *Emma J. Nicklin* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Evenson* (71), mother, former greengrocer, born Aldridge:

1891 Census

John Street – NEW INN

- [1] *Fanny Nicklin* (51), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Emma J. Nicklin* (20), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] *James Nicklin* (14), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Evenson* (81), mother, widow, born Aldridge;
- [5] *Charles Evenson* (46), brother, collar maker, born Walsall;
- [6] *Phoebe Bennett* (19), domestic servant, born Lancashire;
- [7] *George H. Webb* (24), brewer, born Cambridgeshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/2/1896

“*Harper v. Toon*. In this case, which was heard before a jury, Joseph Harper, horse-clipper and salesman, Fourteen House Row, Orlando Street, sued *Job Toon*, licensed victualler, of the NEW INN, John Street, for £50 for personal injuries sustained, as was alleged, through the defendant having negligently left a load of coal in the yard of his licensed premises on a dark night. Mr. J. N. Cotterill appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Vachell (instructed by Mr. E. Evans) for the defendant. The plaintiff’s case was that as he was crossing the yard at the defendant’s house on the 21st of November, about six o’clock at night, he fell over a load of coal, fracturing a rib and receiving other injuries which had kept him from following his occupation during the most profitable period of the year, and which would probably keep him idle for another six weeks. For the defendant, it was denied that there was any negligence on his part. A verdict for the plaintiff for £15 and costs was given.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1898 - Notice

“Re *Rosannah Toon*, Deceased.

Notice Is Hereby Given that all persons having any Claims or Demands upon or against the Estate of *Rosannah Toon*, late of the NEW INN, John Street, Walsall, Licensed Victualler, deceased, are hereby required to forthwith send in particulars thereof to the undersigned.

Dated this 26th day of February, 1898.

Stanley and Jackson, 35, Bridge Street, Walsall, Solicitors to the Administrator.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/1/1899

“An application was made by Mr. W. Joel Cooke for sanction to alterations to the NEW INNS, John Street. The suggested alterations were to remove existing bay windows, which were an obstruction, and to put in flat windows. The entrance hall would be removed from the centre to the side. the two rooms would also be converted into one, which would be easier of supervision by the licensee.

Application granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Samuel Holmes, NEW INN, served 11 children.

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Walsall Observer 22/12/1900

“An inquest was held on Monday afternoon, at the NEW INN, John Street, by Mr. T. H. Stanley, in reference to the death of Minnie Violet Degville, an infant, whose parents live in Portland Street, and who died from the effects of a pin scratch. Mary Louisa Degville, the wife of Thomas Degville, of Railway Row, Portland Stret, deposed that on Tuesday morning her child was taken with sickness and diarrhea, and in the evening she took it to Dr. O’Meara, who prescribed. On Friday morning a neighbour, Mrs. Phillips, drew her attention to a mark under the deceased’s chin, which looked like the scratch of a pin. On Friday night Mrs. Phillips took the child to Dr. McKinsty, whom ordered the place to be poulticed. Next day she noticed that the mark had gone black, and she sent for Dr. O’Meara, who first saw the child. He came at eleven o’clock on the Saturday morning, but the child died the same afternoon at a quarter to three. She did not remember scratching the child, but on the Monday she fastened a wrap on deceased with an ordinary pin, as she could not find a safety pin. Mrs. Phillips, the neighbour, also gave evidence. Dr. O’Meara stated that on the Tuesday he prescribed for sickness and diarrhea. On Saturday morning, when he again saw the child, his attention was drawn to what was apparently a pin scratch. The front of the neck was inflamed, and in the centre there was a patch of gangrene as large as a shilling. The glands were also swollen. He was of opinion that the child was suffering from blood poisoning, the result of the scratch, and that death was due to syncope, resulting upon the blood poisoning. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/2/1901

“On Thursday evening Mr. and Mrs. *Joseph White*, of the NEW INNS, John Street, late steward and stewardess of the Walsall Conservative Club, were presented with a splendid timepiece, with suitably engraved plate, subscribed for by the members of the club (and supplied by Messrs Sheppard Bros.), as a mark of the appreciation in which their services were held. Mr. T. Hawker (the chairman of the club), in making the presentation, eulogised very highly the services of Mr. and Mrs. *White* to the club, especially commenting upon the remarkable cleanliness in which the club had been kept by them, and the efficient way in which they had discharged their various duties. He also expressed regret of the members that Mr. and Mrs. *White* had left them, and said he was sure he was only voicing the feelings of all when he wished them success in their new undertaking. Added testimony to the excellent services of Mr. and Mrs. *White* were also given by Mr. W. Bailey and Mr. R. B. Sutton; and subsequently a smoking concert took place, the company being hospitably entertained by Mr. Hawker.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/3/1901

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....
New Members..... *Joseph White*, NEW INN, John Street.”

1901 Census

5, John Street

- [1] *Joseph White* (29), public house manager, born Coalpool;
- [2] Emma White (28), wife, born Brownhills, Staffordshire;
- [3] Edward N. White (5), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Vincent H. White (3), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Phyllis E. White (6 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Polly Turner (14), visitor, born Banbury;
- [7] Fred Turner (17), visitor, born Banbury;
- [8] Alice Turner (13), visitor, born Banbury;
- [9] Walter Turner (15), visitor, born Banbury;

Sarah Hollyhead = Sarah Hollingshead

Walsall Advertiser 26/4/1902

“A respectable looking young man named John Galliar, 52, North Street, was summoned for assaulting Jane Connor, 58, Long Acre Street, on April 14th.
Complainant said she went into the NEW INN, John Street, when the defendant, who was in the house, insulted her and used bad language. When she turned to go away, he struck her several times in the face, and blackened her eye.
The defendant’s case was that because he would not pay for a drink for the woman, she struck at him with a jug and that he only knocked up the jug.
Mr. Ballance (Acting Chief Constable) said that this woman was the wife of the man Connor, who was charged (in another case) with breaking the man Haywood’s jaw. A boy named Alfred Cozens, was next called to prove he was passing the NEW INN, when he saw the defendant strike the woman Connor several times.
Mr. Loxton (magistrates’ clerk) here asked whether there were no more witnesses. Where was the landlady? Here there was a big row and the only witness was a boy. The magistrates adjourned the case for a week for further witnesses to be called.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/4/1902

“William Connor, 37, miner, of 66, Long Acre Street, was charged with inflicting grievous bodily harm on John Haywood, of 247, Pleck Road, on April 14. The evidence was that whilst the prosecutor was sitting in the NEW INN, John Street, the prisoner came

into the room, walked up to him, and struck him a blow on the jaw which smashed the bone and left him unconscious for nearly an hour. The prosecutor did not know Connor and had never spoke to him. The prisoner said that he had struck Haywood in mistake for a man named Gillear, who had insulted and struck his wife. The prisoner was committed to the next Quarter Sessions, bail being granted, the prisoner in £20 and two sureties of £10 each.”

[At the Quarter Sessions in June 1902, William Connor agreed to pay compensation of £5, to be paid at 10s a week, and was bound over to come up for judgement when called upon.]

Walsall Advertiser 3/5/1902

“Jane Connor, of 56, Long Acre Street, married woman, charged John Gillear, of 52, North Street with assaulting her on the 14th April.

Complainant’s evidence was to the effect that while in the NEW INN, John Street, defendant struck her three times, and blackened her eye. She denied she struck Gillear with a jug.

A girl named Selina Jeffries said she saw defendant strike Mrs. Connor once in the face.

Miss *Hollingshead*, the daughter of the manageress of the NEW INN, said that she was in the bar while the quarrel took place, but she did not see complainant strike Gillear.

Defendant called three witnesses, all of whom agreed that he and Connor were having high words, but none of them saw any blows being struck.

The majority of the Bench considered that the defendant was proved guilty, and they inflicted a fine of 5s and costs, or seven days’ imprisonment.

This case, it may be remembered, had been adjourned from the previous week for further evidence.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/12/1908

“William Turner (38), labourer, Dudley Street; Patrick Curley (40), miner, 68, Burrowes Street; and William Connor (39), Long Acre, were charged with stealing a haddock, value 6d, the property of Mary Ann Jurdison, Stafford Street. It seemed on Monday night at 6.30, the prisoners went to Mrs. Jurdison’s shop, and whilst Connor was talking to the prosecutrix, Turner picked up a haddock and went off in the direction of Short Acre. The other two prisoners loitered about the stall, and Rushton sent a fellow employee after Turner.

Police-constable Lewis spoke to ejecting prisoners from the NEW INNS, John Street, ten minutes before the alleged robbery, and to arresting them. Turner, charged, said he purchased the haddock, and the other two denied any knowledge of the affair. Turner pleaded guilty, and said the other prisoners had nothing to do with the case. Connor and Curley were discharged, and Turner was sent to gaol for a month.”

1911 Census

5, John Street – NEW INN

[1] *Edward Egan* (31), licensed victualler, born Ballinasloe, Co. Roscommon;

[2] *Ellen Egan* (27), wife, married over 3 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[3] *Ellen Mary Egan* (9 months), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] *Dorothy Whitby* (15), servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
NEW INNS, John Street. £0 5s 0d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst.... the justices sanctioned alterations to the NEW INN, John Street, subject to the work being commenced within six months.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/6/1926

“At Walsall on Wednesday, *David Walker*, licensee of the NEW INN, John Street, was fined 20/- for having in his possession for use of trade 48 unstamped half-pint glasses. Evidence was given that 20 glasses were correct, nine deficient and 11 over measure. Mr. Jackson who defended, said the glasses were purchased for use at a supper. There was no intent to defraud.”

Harry Brooks = Harry Brookes

Harold Cooper married Nancy Thomas.

1939 Register

John Street – NEW INNS Public House (3 of 4)

[1] *Harold Cooper*, date of birth 2/9/1908, galvanizer, steel tube works, heavy work, married;

[2] *Annie M. Cooper*, dob 6/4/1914, public house manageress, married;

[3] *Alan W. Cooper*, dob 19/8/1934, at school, single;

Walsall Observer 19/10/1940 - Advert

“Pianist Wanted, at once, Saturday evenings.

Apply *Cooper*, NEW INN, John Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 4/1/1941 - Advert

“For Sale, Table Mangle, large size, £3, large Dog Kennel, 15/-.
Cooper, NEW INN, John Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.
Third List Of Subscriptions.....
NEW INN, John Street. £0 18s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
NEW INNS, John Street. £0 7s 9d.”

It had a folk club, which closed in 1968.

Walsall Branch of CAMRA was founded here in 1972.

It was refurbished in 1983.

David Davies’ partner was Joy Swinburne.

It closed in January 1994 for structural repairs and alterations.
It reopened on 17th March 1994 as the TAP AND SPILE.

*probably the same person

Sandwell Evening Mail 7/5/1994

“Down Your Local. TAP AND SPILE, Walsall.

John Davies and Joy Swinburne jointly run the ever-popular real ale pub now known as the TAP AND SPILE in Walsall’s John Street. They’ve been together for 12 years now and haven’t even got round to getting engaged, let alone married. ‘We’d rather travel and see the world than get married,’ says 33-year-old Joy ‘As much as we both love travelling, it’s rather nice to come home to our little back-street pub,’ she says.

The pub became part of the Tap and Spile chain of pubs in late 1993, providing *John* and Joy with the opportunity to bring back a varying range of exotic guest beers. The pub was closed for three months until recently while it underwent a £100,000 facelift. And *John*, aged 42, and Joy jumped at the chance to indulge their love of travel during its closure until Walsall FC boss Kenny Hibbitt officially reopened it last month.

John admits to being a novice in the pub trade, having been a carpenter and joiner all his working life until six-and-a-half years ago when he took over. Unlike *John*, his partner has known nothing other than the pub trade since an early age. Her parents ran the ACORN pub in Blackheath and later went on to run a hotel in Kington, where she met *John*. Trained at Halesowen Catering College, she says, ‘I worked as a chef there for a few years, then spent a summer season working on a floating hotel on the Brecon Canal.....’

Mick Gull was married to Sue.

See also LITTLETON ARMS

[2007]

It was renamed PRETTY BRICKS. [2008]

John Horton – see also FOUNTAIN.

It reopened as a Black Country Traditional Inns pub in 2011.

Kim Langford was married to Roy.

See also BLACK COUNTRY ARMS.

Lucy Rushton was married to Mark.

The folk club restarted in 2015.

[2023]

PRINCE (BLUCHER)

239, (230), Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Hadley, lock maker, 200, Stafford Street, Walsall
Great Haywood Brewery Co.
Chesters Brewery Co. Ltd, Manchester
North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd. [1901], [1902]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)
Admiral Taverns
Union Pub Co. (W&D) [2001]

LICENSEES

James Wiley [1818]
William Mason [1822]
Joseph Roper [1828] – [1848]
George Tonks [1849] – [1851]
Thomas Darby [1855] – [1873];
Stephen Griffin [1875] – [1876];
Emily E Ross [];
Walter Farmer [];
John Jordan [1881];
William Chamberlain [];
Richard Hall [] – **1889**);
Charles Taylor (**1889 – 1890**);
William Boys (**1890 – 1893**);
John Frederick Ford (**1893 – 1894**);
James Davis (**1894** – [1901]
Richard W E Dunn [1902] – [1904]
John Harry Brown [] – **1905**);
John Owen (**1905** – [1916]
Mrs. Emma Owen [1921]
Arthur Probert [1921]
Edward ‘Teddy’ Gilbert [] – **1931**);
Harold Hinton (**1931 – 1932**);
John Holland (**1932 – 1938**);
William Devey (**1938 – 1940**);
Arthur Abraham Cannings (**1940 – 1942**);
Harry Wood (**1942 – 1943**);
Robert Preston (**1943 – 1948**);
Albert Edward Jones (**1948 – 1950**);
Richard Henry Woodward Lakin (**1950 – 1952**);
Frank Dawkin (**1952 – 1958**);
Leonard Spencer Hopkins (**1958 – 1960**);
Francis Wright (**1960 – 1964**);
Christine Wright (**1964** – [1966]
[Samantha Angela Jones](#) []

NOTES

239, Stafford Street [1860], [1871], [1872], [1904], [1932], [1939], [1940]
230, Stafford Street [1868]

BLUCHERS HEAD [1822]

OLD PRINCE BLUCHER [1828], [1830]

GENERAL BLUCHER [1829]

PRINCE BLUCHER [1818], [1831], [1842], [1849], [1850], [1860], [1861], [1864], [1871], [1892], [1897], [1903], [1904], [1911], [1916], [1921], [1932]

BLUCHER [1837], [1848], [1850], [1855], [1857], [1861], [1862], [1872], [1876], [1890]

PRINCE [1940], [1942], [1996], [2004], [2006]

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1829

“On Tuesday evening week, about 6 o’clock, two men went into the house of Mr. *Joseph Roper*, the sign of the GENERAL BLUCHER, in Stafford Street, Walsall, supposed for the purpose of obtaining refreshment. In a short time afterwards Mr. *Roper*’s daughter thought she heard some noise on the stairs, and on going up to ascertain the cause, the door of Mr. *R.*’s bed-room was found fastened inside, and immediately a man (one of the two that entered the house as above stated) jumped from the window into the street, and escaped, taking with him, from a drawer which he had forced open, £40 in notes of different banks, and from ten to twenty sovereigns; also several tradesmen’s bills – the latter being the only property Mr. *Roper* can swear to. The other man was taken into custody, and underwent an examination the same evening at the Guildhall, but nothing could be elicited further than that his companion is a pig-jobber attending different markets, and that he (the prisoner) went to the GENERAL BLUCHER with the intention of drinking a cup of ale with him, not suspecting him to be of bad character. The man taken remains in Walsall prison, and it is said that his companion has been apprehended in Birmingham.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/9/1837

“William Hickman was committed to Stafford for six months to hard labour, for robbing the garden of Mr. *Joseph Roper*, of the GENERAL BLUCHER, Stafford Street.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/10/1848 - Died

“On the 9th instant, Mr. *Joseph Roper*, of the BLUCHER public-house, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

George Tonks was also a letter cutter and engraver. [1849], [1850]

Birmingham Journal 6/1/1855

“On Monday, *Thomas Darby*, BLUCHER INN, Stafford Street, was charged at the Guildhall with keeping his house open on the night of Sunday, the 24th ult, after ten o’clock. Defendant pleaded guilty, and said it rained hard, and when shutting-up time came, his customers could not leave. He was fined 20s and expenses.”

Birmingham Journal 11/3/1857

“Thomas Cox was charged on Monday at the Guildhall, with uttering two counterfeit florins. Elizabeth White, waiter in Gray’s liquor shop, deposed to receiving one from the prisoner on Sunday night in payment for a glass of gin, she giving the prisoner change. The girl identified the prisoner and the florin. The other florin was attempted to be passed in the BLUCHER INN, Stafford Street, the same evening, but it was detected by the landlord, *Thomas Darby*, who secured the prisoner and gave him into custody. 19s in silver, and 2s 2½d in coppers, were found on him. Mr. *Darby* identified the florin offered to him by the prisoner. Police-constable Babb, who searched the prisoner, said that he told him he was a tailor, on tramp, and until he was searched denied that he had any money in his possession. The prisoner was remanded, in order to allow time for communication with the Mint authorities.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 10/2/1861

“R. Craddock of Bloxwich will run S. Bateman of Wolverhampton 300 or 400 yards, for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready at *T. Darby*’s, the BLUCHER, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

1861 Census

Stafford Street – PRINCE BLUCHER

- [1] *Thomas Darby* (33), brush maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Emma Darby* (27), wife, born Shrewsbury;
- [3] *Daniel Darby* (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ann Darby* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Samuel Darby* (4), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mary Ann Darby* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *John Darby* (9 months), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *Mary Newman* (17), niece, house servant, born Walsall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/3/1863

“F. Bolton of Walsall will run Kettle of Willenhall 100 yards if he will give him a yard start, or two in 120, for £5 or £10 a side. By calling at *T. Darby*’s, PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street, any night next week a match can be ensured.”

Thomas Darby was also a brush maker. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

239, Stafford Street – PRINCE BLUCHER INN

- [1] *Thomas Darby* (43), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Emma Darby* (37), wife, born Shrewsbury;
- [3] *Ann Darby* (16), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] *Samuel Darby* (14), son, caster, born Walsall;
- [5] *John Darby* (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Joyce Darby* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Robert Darby* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Florence E. Darby* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] *Phoebe A. Darby* (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [10] *Mary Conolly* (17), domestic servant, born Ireland:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 4/1/1873

“*J. Craddock* of Walsall will run *T. Dalton* of Spring Hill, for £5 a side. Money ready at *T. Darby*’s, PRINCE BLUCHER INN, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/7/1873

“*Mr. Cotton*’s bitch of Manchester and *Mr. Hawkin*’s Rose of Walsall run, for £10 a side, on handicap terms, at the Royal Oak Grounds, Burnt Tree, Dudley Port, on Aug 9. *Mr. T. Darby*, of the BLUCHER INN, Stafford Road, Walsall, stakeholder.

Stephen Griffin was fined 10s and costs, on 31st December 1875, for Sunday trading.

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session..... The licenses of the undermentioned were renewed with cautions, viz:

Stephen Griffin, BLUCHER INN, Stafford Street In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Rycroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

1881 Census

Stafford Street – PRINCE BLUCHER Public House

- [1] *John Jordan* (25), licensed victualler, born Ronsham, Oxfordshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Jordan* (30), wife, born Redborough, Gloucestershire;
- [3] *Margaret E. Jordan* (2 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Selina Malcolm* (14), domestic servant, born Cannock:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses The following applied in person *William Boys*, the BLUCHER INN, Stafford Street. Refused.”

1891 Census

239+240, Stafford Street

- [1] *William Boys* (26), publican’s manager, born Walsall;
- [2] *Hannah Rose Boys* (24), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Henry Boys* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ann Hicklin* (13), servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1897

“The Diamond Jubilee.....

There was a brilliant gas device in front of the Science and Art Institute; whilst among the inns, the PRINCE BLUCHER, in Stafford Street, was a capital show, among its adornments being a device in arms, the use of which young men of proper calibre can speedily be schooled after the requisite consultation with the recruiting sergeant.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/12/1897

“A correspondent furnishes us with a somewhat remarkable instance of an accidental meeting of veterans which occurred one noon this week in Walsall. The PRINCE BLUCHER INN, Stafford Street, happens to be the headquarters for local recruiting for the Royal Marines and the Navy, and it was here that first one veteran and another dropped in for a midday libation, until within a few minutes the company numbered six veterans, two still serving and the remaining four no longer counted on the strength of her Majesty’s forces, though all willing and able to respond to any call should the country’s needs require further test of patriotism. Of these six one was an ex-colour-sergeant, four sergeants, and one private, all having served with the Royal Marines or Infantry. Their united service amounts to 147 years, and there is scarcely a part of the world but some or other had visited on duty – the Mediterranean, the White Man’s Grave, West Indies, the Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean, the Mauritius, East, and West, and South Africa, from Colon to Venezuela in South America, Newfoundland, Labrador, the Brazils, the Pacific stations, Australia, Demer-

ara, Jamaica, Rio de Janeiro, China, and so on. One ex-sergeant claimed to have made the longest voyage in the shortest time that was ever accomplished by our men-of-war – from Plymouth to Rio, with but one call, at the Canary Islands; 6,000 miles in six weeks! Of active service too, they had seen a share, for they mustered six medals, and one of these had three clasps recording four engagements in Egypt and the Soudan. Among the six veterans also were 23 good conduct badges. And what is more pleasant to record, the four not now serving are all in good positions, and three of them have a useful little pension atop their weekly earnings in civil life. We offer no apologies for once more reiterating the fact that, comparatively, Staffordshire is regarded as the foremost soldiering county in England. And certainly Walsall can claim to have furnished its fair quota to this patriotic distinction.”

1901 Census

239, Stafford Street

- [1] *James Davis* (48), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Sissey Davis* (48), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Harry Davis* (19), son, gas fitter’s apprentice, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *James Davis* (17), son, general mechanic’s apprentice, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Walter Davis* (14), son, grocer’s errand boy, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Emily Davis* (15), daughter, dressmaker’s apprentice, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Alfred Davis* (11), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *Sydney Davis* (9), son, born Walsall;
- [9] *Rupert Davis* (8), son, born Walsall;
- [10] *Mary Massary* (9), visitor, born Plymouth:

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for the renewal of the license of the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street, to which the Chief Constable objected on the ground that it was not required and was not structurally adapted.

Police-sergeant Jones gave evidence on behalf of the police. He said the house was not structurally adapted, and was not required. The BELL AND CUCKOO was only 50 yards away, and 20 yards further away was the FOX and IVY HOUSE; the SARACEN’S HEAD and the KIMBERLEY RESTAURANT were also close too.

Replying to the Chief Constable, the witness said the house in its present state was not fit for habitation.

Police-sergeant Haycock was also called. He said the house was an old one and requires re-constructing. The rooms were spacious but the back portion seemed extremely limited. In its present condition the house was not fit for use as a licensed house.

Mr. Loxton: Can you give evidence to the magistrates to show them that the license should not be renewed? – No, sir, I cannot.

The Chief Constable: Can you give evidence to show the state of the back of the premises? – The rooms at the back are very bad; they want re-constructing.

Mr. Loxton: Are the premises in such a state as to reasonably answer the requirements of the public using the house? – I have no doubt that people would complain.

Mr. Loxton: Can you tell the magistrates that the premises are in such a state that the ordinary member of the public who visited them would say ‘these premises are not fit for me to go in?’ – No, sir; I could not say that.

The license was renewed.....

The PRINCE BLUCHER. Mr. H. H. Jackson made application on behalf of the North Worcestershire Brewery Company as owners, and Mr. *James Davis*, as tenant, for the provisional grant of a license for new premises to be erected on the site of the present inn in Stafford Street. Mr. Jackson said there was not an inch of new ground to be used, whilst on the other hand a considerable area of ground would be given up. The house needed to be structurally adapted to the requirements of the neighbourhood. The drinking area of the premises at present was 95 square yards, but on the proposed new building only 69 yards. The present area of the premises was 826 square yards, but the new area of the premises would be only 318, a decrease of 508 square yards.

Mr. Stanley [Walsall temperance party] objected on the ground that this would be a new house.

The application was sanctioned.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/10/1901

“The Street Committee reported. The following plans have been approved.....

North Worcestershire Brewery Co. Ltd., rebuilding the PRINCE BLUCHER INN, Stafford Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/9/1902

“An order was made declaring final the provisional grant of the license of the PRINCE BLUCHER INN, Stafford Street, on an undertaking being given that the land behind the house not included in the licensed area should be cut off by an unclimbable wall. The application was made by Mr. Bolton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle (October 1902)

“Mr. Boulton (Stourbridge) applied for an order to declare final the provisional grant of the license to sell on premises known as the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street. The application was granted subject to a piece of land from the back being cut off from the licensed premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/2/1903

“On Thursday a meeting of the supporters of the Walsall Football Club was held at the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street,

to consider the advisability of forming the club into a limited liability company, in order to place the organisation on a sound financial basis. There was good attendance, over which the President (Mr. J. West) presided. He explained that at present there was a small debt of about £60 on the club, but with the team playing so well he felt that the debt could easily be wiped off. When that was done he did not see why they should not form a company, and when this came about there was no reason they should not regain admission to the Second Division of the League.

After some discussion it was resolved that the names of those present who were willing to take shares in a limited company should be taken by the secretary and a further meeting called at a date to be decided upon.

It was stated that it was proposed to form a company with a capital of £250, and that the players were willing to be transferred from the present committee to the company. It was eventually resolved to form a sub-committee to carry out the scheme, with 1,000 shares at 5s each."

Walsall Advertiser 7/3/1903

"On Tuesday the adjourned annual licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall, when the Court was crowded.....

On behalf of *Richard W. E. Dunn*, of the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street, Mr. Boulton (Messrs. Harward and Co, Stour-bridge), applied for a dancing, singing and music license. An application was made at the licensing meeting, and on that occasion a musical society, which it is proposed to form, had not been established. It was intimated by their worships that the application might be renewed when the society was formed. That society had now been established under the name of the 'Walsall Apollo Musical Society,' and the rules drawn up.

The chief constable objected to dancing being carried on in a public house.

Mr. Boulton said the notice was served in the usual form, but he did not apply for dancing.

The Chief Constable: Then I have no objection."

John Harry Brown – see also NEW INN, RED LION, NEW STATION, THREE CUPS.

Walsall Advertiser 30/1/1909

"George Lynex (18), carpenter, living at the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street, was seen by Police-constable Ashby riding a bicycle on the footpath in Ablewell Street, on the forenoon of the previous Wednesday, when half the path was fenced off through the opening of the Mond gas mains. Defendant said he only rode a short distance on a side street. Ordered to pay costs (4s)."

Indenture 28/10/1909

"All That public-house situate in Stafford Street Walsall aforesaid known as The BLUCHER together with the bowling green occupied therewith which premises were formerly described as All that messuage or public house (formerly 2 messuages) situate in Stafford Street Walsall aforesaid and known as The BLUCHER And Also the outbuildings yard and appurtenances thereto belonging and occupied therewith. And Secondly all the range of shopping in the yard at the rear of The BLUCHER And Also the yard in which the said range of shopping stands part of which range of shopping formerly consisted of 8 dwelling-houses."

1911 Census

239, Stafford Street

[1] *John Owen* (41), licensed victualler, born Rushall;

[2] *Emma Owen* (40), wife, married 15 years, assisting in the business, born Walsall;

[3] *George Lymer* (19), brother in law, carpenter, born Walsall;

[4] *Sarah Hatton* (18), general servant, born Brierley Hill:

Walsall Advertiser 21/12/1912

"In connection with the PRINCE BLUCHER Sick and Dividend Society, Stafford Street, a dividend of 8/- per member, two nights and card has been declared. The balance sheet showed receipts £145 15s 2d, and expenditure £71 3s 2d, and a balance was left in hand of £15 8s. The LAMP TAVERN Society, Stafford Street, paid a dividend of 10/-, two nights and a card. While at the Caledonian Corks, FOUNTAIN INN, Long Street, the amount was 3/9."

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

"The annual general meeting of the PRINCE BLUCHER HOTEL Sick and Dividend Club, Stafford Street, was held on Tuesday evening. The secretary presented his report, which showed the total income to be £118 2s 10d and expenditure £49 19s 4d, which is an increase on last year's total of 3s 6d. The membership at the commencement of the year was 105, but 42 have since lapsed. The Borough Member (Sir Richard Cooper, Bart.) is an honorary member. During the year £38 7s 6d has been paid away in death and sick money. The balance in hand is £6 0s 8d. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, Mr. T. Myring; vice-president, Mr. T. Atkins; secretary, Mr. W. Aulton; treasurer, Councillor G. W. Warner.

The Women's Death and Dividend Club in connection with the PRINCE BLUCHER HOTEL held their meeting on Monday evening, when the sharing was announced at 13s 9d per member. The receipts amounted to £237 13s 5d, and expenditure £30 5s 3d, while the membership of the club is given at 266 – an increase of 31."

Edward Gilbert – see STAG, Bloxwich.

[1939 Register](#)

[239, Stafford Street \(4 of 5\)](#)

- [1] *William Devey*, date of birth 7/12/1892, publican, married;
- [2] *Edith Devey*, dob 3/9/1895, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *William Devey*, dob 15/10/1916, plasterer, heavy work, single;
- [4] *Clifford Devey*, dob 23/10/1922, polisher, heavy work, single;

Walsall Observer 16/12/1939

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held at the HAME MAKERS ARMS INN, Blue Lane West, on Thursday.....

Mr. *William Devey*, PRINCE INN, Stafford Street was elected member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

PAYNE’S WINE VAULTS, High Street, £3 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 10/5/1941

“Well-known for many years as a licensee in Walsall and Birmingham, Mr. *John Harry Brown* died on Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Cronin, of the FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, with whom he had resided since he retired about eight years ago. He was in his 79th year, and had been ill for about a month.

Eldest son of John Brown, a well-known Walsall cricketer, who for twelve years headed the town club’s batting averages (and who had at times played with or against some of the most famous men of his time, including the Graces, Parr, Minn and Daft), the late Mr. *Brown* himself, like several of his brothers, took an active part in the game and assisted the town club.

He left the currying trade to take his first licensed house, the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street, and among other Walsall licenses he held were those of the NEW INNS and the CUPS HOTEL, Park Street. He had been at the latter before his retirement and it was while he was there that his wife died eleven years ago. He had been a member of both the Walsall and Birmingham licensed victuallers’ societies. He leaves six sons and a daughter. The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery on Thursday.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

PRINCE, Stafford Street. £2 2s 6d.”

Robert Preston- see also HAMEMAKERS ARMS and FORGE AND FETTLE.

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

PRINCE INN, Stafford Street. £4 10s 9d.”

Leonard Spencer Hopkins – see also QUEENS HEAD.

Samantha Angela Jones, 10 Grace Road, Tividale, unemployed, lately residing at 16 Greenhill Road, Dudley, and lately carrying on business as the GEORGE, Birmingham Road, Oldbury, the BULLS HEAD, Birmingham Street, Oldbury, the OAK AND IVY, Oxford Street, Bilston, the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Sandwell Street, Walsall, the PRINCE BLUTCHER, Stafford Street, Walsall, the ROYAL OAK, Daw End Lane, Rushall, and the SPRING MEADOW, Halesowen Road, Old Hill, filed for bankruptcy in the County Court at Dudley on 1 March 2016.

[2017]

PRINCE OF WALES

145, High Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Starkey

John Holland, pawnbroker, High Street, Bilston

J. Foster Esq.

Mrs. Brooks, High Street, Bloxwich

Anne James, Stafford Street, Walsall [1925]

William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased) [1925]
Punch Taverns [2005]
Kenny Wallas

LICENSEES

William Starkey (Snr.) [1861] – [1868]
Joseph Banks [1872]
Charles Dunn [1877] – **1899**;
William Mason (**1899 – 1901**);
George Deans (**1901 – 1905**);
Albert Herbert Price (**1905 – 1915**);
Robert Henry Price* [1907] – [1908]
Robert Herbert Price* [1909] – [1912]
Benjamin Shakespeare (**1915 – 1922**);
William Jones (**1922 – 1933**);
Richard Hamer (**1933 – 1938**);
Mrs. Susan Louisa Hamer (**1938 – 1946**);
Samuel Smith (**1946 – 1965**);
Edward Todd (**1965 – 1966**);
John Lewis (**1966 – []**)
Kenny Wallace (**2010 – []**)

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

William Starkey (Snr.), baker and beer retailer, Bloxwich. [1861], [1868]

1861 Census

PRINCE OF WALES

- [1] *William Starkey* (40), baker, master employing 4 men and 1 boy, and publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Maria Starkey (42), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] John Starkey (14), son, baker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] William Starkey (12), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Sarah Starkey (11), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Henry Mill (47), servant, baker, born Giberalter (sic):

Walsall Free Press and General Advertiser 23/12/1865

“*William Starkey*, landlord of the PRINCE OF WALES (beerhouse), Bloxwich, pleaded guilty to having had his house open during prohibited hours on the night of the 11th inst, and was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Joseph Banks, beer retailer, High Street. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1877

“The annual licensing session for the borough of Walsall took place yesterday, at the Guildhall.....

The applicants for full licenses..... *Charles Dunn*, the PRINCE OF WALES, High Street, Bloxwich, supported by Mr. Gillespie. Refused.”

1881 Census

145, High Street

- [1] *Charles Dunn* (50), bricklayer, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] Eliza Dunn (50), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] Eliza Dunn (21), daughter, dressmaker, born Brierley Hill;
- [4] Clara Dunn (17), daughter, dressmaker, born Brierley Hill;
- [5] Ephraim Dunn (19), son, bricklayer, born Brierley Hill;
- [6] Alice Dunn (15), daughter, born Dudley;
- [7] Charles Dunn (13), son, scholar, born Dudley;
- [8] Annie Dunn (11), daughter, scholar, born Dudley;
- [9] James H. Dunn (9), son, scholar, born Brierley Hill:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Mr. Stanley applied for *Charles Dunn*, the PRINCE OF WALES, Bloxwich for a music and singing license on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday evenings. Refused.”

1891 Census

145, High Street

[1] *Charles Dunn* (63), beerhouse keeper, born Brierley Hill;

[2] Eliza Dunn (60), wife, born Brierley Hill;

[3] Clara Dunn (27), daughter, born Brierley Hill;

[4] Annie Dunn (20), daughter, born Brierley Hill;

[5] James Dunn (18), son, brush maker, born Brierley Hill:

Charles Dunn, beer retailer, 145, High Street. [1896]

George Deans = George Dean

1901 Census

145, High Street

[1] *George Deans* (62), publican, born Wombourne;

[2] Elizabeth Deans (62), wife, born Bridgnorth;

[3] Richard Deans (17), son, born Hednesford;

[4] Harriet Richards (28), daughter, born Chase Town;

[5] James Richards (29), son in law, moulder, born West Bromwich;

[6] Lucy Clarke (19), general servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1901

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last Mr. *George Dean*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Bloxwich was elected member of the society”

Walsall Advertiser 26/4/1902

“*George Dean*, landlord of the PRINCE OF WALES, High Street, Bloxwich, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises, and for serving a drunken man named John Humphries, with intoxicating liquor on April 11th.

The prosecution was conducted by the Town Clerk. He stated that at ten o’clock on the morning of the date named Inspector Marshall noticed a man come out of the PRINCE OF WALES INN. He was drunk, and nearly fell into the gutter. He went inside, and found another man in the bar who was also very drunk. The man he pointed out to the landlady, who said he and the other had been ordered to leave the house. At this point the landlord came in, and made a statement to the inspector to the effect that the men had been supplied in his house before he noticed their condition. Later, he saw they were drunk, and took the liquor from them, ordering them out. He left the house for a time, and had just come back. He (the Town Clerk) wanted to impress on the licensed trade that it was their duty to satisfy themselves of the sobriety of anyone who came into their houses and asked to be supplied with drink. Every protection was given by the law to licensed persons. They could refuse to admit to their premises anyone who was in liquor, and they could eject a man who would not leave.

Inspector Marshall, Sergeant Cattermole, and Police-constable Edwards gave evidence as to the condition of the men in the PRINCE OF WALES.

Mr. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) who defended, said his client had kept licensed houses for 33 years, without complaint, and on this morning there was nothing whatever about the two men to lead him to believe there was anything the matter with them, and he supplied them with a quart of ale. It was only when the quart was nearly finished that he noticed something about one of the men which was suspicious, and he at once took the jug away and told them to leave the premises. He (Mr. Jackson) contended that the defendant’s statement to the police absolutely vindicated his conduct in the matter, because he told the police that when he served the quart he saw nothing the matter with them. The landlord said now that these men were not drunk, that although they no doubt had had drink, they were perfectly right and straight.

Frank Fryer (a painter who was at work on the premises adjoining the PRINCE OF WALES INN) was then called to prove that both men were sober when they left the house.

Cross-examined by the Town Clerk, he admitted that they had had sufficient drink, but he still contended that they were not drunk. Henry Brierley (another witness) was also called.

The magistrates considered the case proved, and fined the landlord 10s and costs; they also fined Humphries, for being drunk on licensed premises, 10s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *R. H. Price*, PRINCE OF WALES, Bloxwich.....”

* probably the same person

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Robert Herbert Price*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, High Street, Bloxwich.....”

1911 Census

145, High Street

- [1] *Robert Herbert Price* (47), beer retailer, born Denbigh, North Wales;
- [2] *Sophia Annie Price* (44), wife, born Bushbury;
- [3] *Dorothy Gladys Price* (17), daughter, school, born Swindon, Wiltshire;
- [4] *Sarah Ann Herbert Price* (76), mother, widow, born Exmouth, Devon:

Robert Herbert Price – see also ROYAL EXCHANGE.

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

PRINCE OF WALES, Bloxwich, 5s 10d.”

Walsall Observer 1/1/1916

“At the Guildhall on Friday of last week, *Benjamin Shakespeare* was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, the PRINCE OF WALES, High Street, Bloxwich, of which he is the licensee, on December 10. Mr. F. Cooper appeared for the defendant, and pleaded not guilty.

Police-constable Allden stated that at 9pm on the date in question, as he was going off duty, he called at the PRINCE OF WALES and ordering half a pint of ale, was served by the landlady. Whilst he was standing at the bar window the defendant came to him. He was very drunk and excited. When he saw witness he said, ‘You’re a —— policeman,’ and challenged him to fight. Witness tried to persuade him to be quiet, but defendant took up a fighting attitude and struck him in the mouth. He was eventually taken to the kitchen, and witness told the landlady he should report him.

Mr. Cooper: Have you ever had any meals at this house? – No.

Nothing? – I may have had a little bit of bread and cheese.

Have you been extremely friendly with the defendant? – We have been friendly, but not extremely friendly.

Have you been out on trips with him? – Yes, once.

You had a whole day together once? – No, half a day.

Have you often been at the house? – No, not often.

Did Inspector Haycock tell you not to go often? – No.

Did you go into the kitchen when you had ordered a drink and speak to Mrs. *Shakespeare*? – No.

Have you ever ‘larked’ with the defendant? – We have cracked jokes together.

Have you ever sparred with one another in a friendly way? – No.

I put it to you that what really happened was that you and the landlord were ‘larking’ together in the passage. In a friendly sort of way you sparred at one another, and the landlady came out and said to you, ‘Stop that damn foolery and clear off’? – No. she asked him to go to bed.

According to your story, he was obviously drunk to anyone? – Yes.

Inspector Haycock gave evidence that at 9.30 last night, and in the company of Sergeant Woolley, he went to the premises. Defendant usually closed at 9.30, but on some days of the week he kept open until 11pm for the sale of non-intoxicants. On this occasion, however, the house was in complete darkness, with the exception of a light in the bedroom, and it was then only 9.40. He knocked three times, but there was no response. About four days afterwards the defendant came to the police office and said it was all a mistake and that he was only ‘larking’ with the policeman, as they had done before.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cooper, Inspector Haycock said he knew nothing at all against the defendant, and he had never seen him the worse for drink. He called at the house once a week. When he visited the house on this occasion he did not go to the back premises, as there was no means. He knocked sufficiently loud for anyone on the premises to have heard him. He agreed it was possible that people did knock at public house doors after they were closed.

The Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton): There has been a question asked about Allden whether you have cautioned him about being at this place? – I visited this house once and found the officer there. He was not in uniform.

The Clerk: What I want to know is whether there has been anything in the conduct of this officer that has caused you to caution him? – No.

Mr. Cooper: You went to this public house once and saw Allden there. Did you tell the licensee not to have Allden on the premises? – I told the wife not to serve any police officer at all without asking whether they have got permission.

Has Allden to your knowledge used this house frequently?

The Clerk: He had a right to.

Mr. Cooper: I am not suggesting he has not.

Allden, recalled, was asked by the Mayor what were the particular signs of drunkenness he noticed.

The officer replied that the defendant was swaying about and very excited. He was also unsteady in his gait. He could not speak clearly.

Mr. Cooper, addressing the magistrates, said it was a serious matter for a licensee to be before them on a charge of that sort. With regard to the evidence of Allden, to put it at its height, he had the defendant under observation for one minute in the passage, and

came to the conclusion he was drunk because he swayed about. The defendant had held this and other licenses without previous complaint. On the day in question the only intoxicating liquor he had was three bottles of stout. He went to the Fleur de Lis at Norton, kept by a relative, to see the meet of the Staffordshire hounds. He returned home at 7.30 in the evening, and from that time until the house closed at 9.30 he was talking to his customers. It was perfectly true there was some 'larking' in the passage, but the defendant showed not the slightest signs of drunkenness. It was apparent from Allden's evidence that he was perfectly well acquainted with the man.

The defendant gave evidence confirming the statement of his solicitor. He said that since Police-constable Allden had been stationed at Bloxwich he had been a regular caller at his house. He had had meals with his wife and himself on nine or ten occasions. When he returned home on that particular night he was waiting upon customers and conversing with them until 9.30. Allden came in about 9.35 in plain clothes. He (defendant) joked with him in the passage and asked him if he could do a sharp round, and they did the same as they had done many times before. There was no hard hitting. His wife told them to stop their foolery, and got between them. The policemen went out. He never said anything to him (defendant) about being under the influence of drink. The Chief Constable: You can see that this officer reported the case at great personal risk. Why should he report you if you had not done anything? – I don't know why he should have done.

Recalled, Police-constable Allden said he always paid for what beer he had at the house. He did have a bit of bread and cheese there occasionally.

Corroborative evidence was given by Eliza *Shakespeare*, wife of the defendant, who said her husband was not under the influence of drink, and the officer made no such suggestion.

In reply to the Mayor, witness said there were not many days but what Allden came to the house. He paid for his drinks, but had food as a friend.

Walter Thomas Adams, High Street, Bloxwich, said he went into the PRINCE OF WALES about 8.15 and came out at nine. There was not the least suspicion of drink about the landlord.

The Chief Constable: A man can get drunk in half an hour.

Witness: I don't think so, sir. I never knew one yet. (Laughter).

Henry Walton, William Jarvis, and Chas. Edward Holt also swore that the defendant was not drunk.

After a private deliberation the Mayor said the magistrates had come to the conclusion that there was some doubt in the case, and therefore the defendant would have the benefit of the doubt. The case would therefore be dismissed.'

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/8/1923

"Two women of the gypsy class, Clara Smith (55), of no fixed abode, and Ida Smith (47), of Drafton Street, Leicester, who was stated to be the mother of seventeen children – were charged with stealing £9, by means of a trick, from Elizabeth *Jones*, of the PRINCE OF WALES INN, High Street, Bloxwich, on June 29. Mr. H. Lenton Lester, who appeared for the accused asked that the hearing might be adjourned, and applying for bail said the husband of Ida Smith had brought to court the deeds of a house for which he had paid £650. The Chief Constable (Mr. G. H. Ballance) also mentioned that the police had £24 belonging to the accused, who were remanded for a week on bail."

[When the matter came to trial, the case was dismissed, the prosecutrix being told she was a very foolish woman and a very unreliable witness on whose evidence it would be unfair to convict anybody.]

It was rebuilt in 1928.

1939 Register

143, High Street – Inn

[1] *Susan L. Hamer*, date of birth 20/8/1885, licensee, widowed:

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Hamer*, PRINCE OF WALES, Bloxwich. £3 11s 0d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

PRINCE OF WALES, Bloxwich. £1 16s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

PRINCE OF WALES INN, High Street, Bloxwich. £2 8s 1d."

Richard Hamer was married to *Susan*.

A full license was granted on 8th February 1951.

[2017]

PRINCE OF WALES

13, (9), Portland Street / 9, Red Lion Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Ann Whitney and Mrs. Marshall, Station Street, Walsall
William Downing, maltster, Smethwick [1895], [1908]

LICENSEES

William Witney [] – **1857**);
David Smith (**1857** – [1858]
William Foster [1860] – [1861]
Elizabeth Sharp [1861]
Mrs. Mary Ann Sharp [1862] – [1870]
Thomas Bowater [1872];
Emma Bowater [1873] ?
Charles Gnosill [1875] – **1887**);
Sarah Gnosill (**1887** – **1888**);
Frederick Thompson (**1888** – **1889**);
Theodore Douglas Grice (**1889** – **1897**);
Harriet Grice (**1897** – **1898**);
Job Daniel (**1898** – **1907**);
Mrs. Maria Edwards (**1907** – **1908**);
Cornelius Paul (**1908**);

NOTES

9, Red Lion Street [1858], [1860]
Red Lion Street [1862], [1864], [1865]
9, Portland Street [1872]
13, Portland Street [1881], [1891], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908]

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 12/2/1859 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that old-licensed Public-House, the PRINCE OF WALES, situate in Portland Street, and now doing a good business. The Stock and Fixtures to be taken to at a valuation. For particulars apply to John Osbourn, Auctioneer, 52, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall. N.B. The present proprietors are leaving solely on account of health.”

1861 Census

Portland Street – PRINCE OF WALES Public House
[1] *Elizabeth Sharp* (66), widow, victualler, born Longdon, Staffordshire;
[2] *Mary Ann Sharp* (27), daughter, born Milford, Staffordshire;
[3] Louisa Archer (20), daughter, married, born Milford, Staffordshire;
[4] Jane Charles (20), visitor, born Milford, Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/7/1862

“*Mary Ann Sharp*, beerhouse-keeper, Red Lion Street, who was charged before the magistrates with having on Sunday, the 29th ult, had her house open for the sale of beer, admitted she had filled beer to two men, who represented to her that they had come from Birmingham. The officer who proved the charge said he found the men in the back yard with black eyes, and swollen faces and all more or less drunk. Besides these there were four men in the petty and in the wash-house in a similar condition. Defendant, who stated the yard in question was a public yard, and that the parties seen there had not been to her house, was sentenced to pay a fine of 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 19/11/1864

“Martin Scully was charged by Police-constable Bishton with having been drunk and disorderly, on Tuesday morning last, in

Portland Street. The constable said that, at a quarter to three o'clock on the morning in question, he heard a great disturbance in Blue Lane. On proceeding to the spot, he found the prisoner drunk, shouting, and fighting with another man, and advised him to go home. Prisoner refused, and was therefore taken into custody. On his way to the station, the prisoner tripped the officer up, who then used his staff.

Police-constable Stevens and Fellows and a man named Johnson corroborated.

William Kendrick, bricklayer, said that he had been at supper at the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, on Monday evening, and left between two and three o'clock on Tuesday morning. The prisoner was there, tipsy. After they left, prisoner got to fighting with another man. Shortly after, Bishton came up, and said to the man who was fighting with prisoner, 'What is the matter Jack?' who replied, 'Oh, we have only been having a scrap or two.' The policeman made use of some low language, and told the man to give it to the prisoner and he would help him. The officer afterwards ordered the prisoner off, and struck him on the back of the neck. Other policemen then arrived.

Two other persons named Horton and Atkins, also witnessed the affair.

James Atkins, junior builder, said the prisoner was drunk, when taken into custody, resisted, and then the officer struck him on the top of his head.

The Chief-superintendent said that the witness, Kendrick's statement that the man, Horton, saw the officer strike the prisoner, was false, for, on Tuesday, he saw Horton at Birmingham, who denied seeing the policeman use any violence to the prisoner.

The Mayor said the Bench had listened very attentively to the evidence, and had given it their careful consideration. It appeared that the prisoner and his friends had endeavoured to charge the police with dereliction of duty, but had failed. In all cases of this nature coming before them they would deal more severely than if the truth had been spoken. Prisoner would have to pay a fine of 10s and costs, or be imprisoned for 21 days."

Walsall Free Press 16/2/1867

"Alfred Saunders and John Keeling were charged with having, on the 15th of December, assaulted Charles Kendrick. In this case Mr. Glover appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Mathews for the defendants. Mr. Glover, after stating the circumstances under which the assault had been committed, called and examined his client, from whose evidence it appeared that on the night in question as he was going to the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, he saw the prisoners strike a man, named Newton, and knock him down. Complainant, on seeing it, said, 'I'll not stand that any longer,' and went to Newton's assistance. Thereupon Saunders struck him (complainant) on the mouth, and asking who had done it, Saunders said, 'It was I.' Complainant then took off his coat and asked for the man who had struck him, when he saw Saunders running towards him. At the moment some one struck him on the head, and rendered him insensible. He was then taken home, and attended by Dr. Kelyt till about within a week since; and in consequence of his inability to attend to give evidence, the case had been adjourned from time to time.

The next witness, Hannah Harris, corroborated the complainant's evidence, and said that she saw the prisoner Keeling strike complainant with a weapon about half a yard in length having a knob on the end of it.

Dr. Kelyt described the nature of the wounds, which appeared to have been inflicted by a sharp instrument. One of the wounds was five inches in length, and penetrated to the bone. The injuries were very serious in nature, and not at all like such as would be inflicted by a fall on the street.

This being the case for the complainant Mr. Dale who had taken over the case for Mr. Mathews (who, with Mr. Glover, was called to attend a case in the County Court), called and examined Mrs. Leadbetter, Thomas Baker, and Mr. H. Saunders (the prisoner's brother); and the bench, after hearing the evidence on both sides – that for the defence being very conflicting – sentenced Saunders to a pay a fine of 40s and costs, or to be imprisoned for one month, and Keeling to two months' imprisonment without the option of a fine."

Walsall Free Press 6/8/1870 - Advert

"To Be Let, the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street.
Apply on the Premises."

Walsall Free Press 27/5/1871 - Advert

"To Be Let, the PRINCE OF WALES Public-house, Portland Street.
Apply on the Premises; or to Mrs. Whitney, 335, Lichfield Street."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/10/1872

"*Thomas Bowater*, of the PRINCE OF WALES beerhouse, Portland Street, with selling ale at ten minutes to twelve o'clock on the night of the 14th inst, and the charge being proved, was fined 20s and costs."

Birmingham Daily Post 12/7/1873 - Advert

"To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. William Davis, on Tuesday, the 29th day of July, 1873, at the house of Mr. Stackhouse, the LAMP TAVERN INN, Stafford Street, Walsall, at 6 o'clock in the evening, all that well-built and conveniently-arranged Freehold Old-Licensed Inn called the PRINCE OF WALES, situated at the corner of Portland Street and Red Lion Street, in Walsall, in the occupation of Mrs. *Emma Bowater*, at an annual rental of £19.

The House comprises a Bar and Liquor Shop, Tap Room, Parlour, two Kitchens, large and commodious Brewhouse, four Bed Rooms, Malt-room, good Cellaring, and Appurtenances.

Also, all those Five Dwelling Houses, being Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14, in Red Lion Street, and adjoining the above, in the respective occupations of Lees, Johnson, Saunders, Wright, and Hussey....."

Walsall Free Press 6/9/1873

“On Thursday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the PRINCE OF WALES public-house, Portland Street, upon the body of a female child, aged one month, the daughter of William Portsmouth, who on the 31st ult. had been found dead in bed. From the evidence of Mr. Moore, surgeon, who had made a post mortem examination of the body, it appeared the child had been suffocated; but as there was no evidence to show how it had been suffocated the jury returned an open verdict of Found Suffocated.”

Charles Gnosill = Charles Gnosall

Midland Counties Evening Express 21/5/1875

“*Charles Gnosall*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Portland Street, was summoned for selling liquor in his house after midnight on Wednesday night. Mr. Rhodes defended. Police-sergeant Bailey swore that at the time named he looked through the window and saw the defendant’s wife supply a woman named McCann with beer. There seemed to be some misunderstanding as to the time by the defendant, an extension of half an hour having been allowed that night, and the case was dismissed.”

1881 Census

13, Portland Street – PRINCE OF WALES

- [1] *Charles Gnosill* (33), collar maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Gnosill (34), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Phoebe Gnosill (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Frederick Gnosill (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Charles Gnosill (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Wille Gnosill (3), son, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/6/1883

“On Monday Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Portland Street, on the body of John Phillips, 52, a waggoner in the employ of Mr. A. G. Boys, timber merchant, Bradford Street. It seemed that on Saturday the deceased was delivering a load of wood at the Patent Shaft Company’s Works, Wednesbury, when the horse jumped round, partially detaching the shafts, which fell and caused the animal to kick and plunge and run away. The deceased held by the horse’s head as long as he could, and then he fell and the wheels of the waggon passed over his back. He afterwards got upon his knees without help, and after brandy had been given to him he was taken home and died whilst being lifted out of the cart in which he was carried. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Theodore Douglas Grice = Thomas S. Grice

1891 Census

13, Portland Street

- [1] *Thomas S. Grice* (32), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Harriet J. Grice (29), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sidney Grice (9), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Leonard Grice (8), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Henry Grice (6), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Nellie Grice (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Emily Hartley (21), barmaid, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 5/1/1895

“They say it is better to be born lucky than rich and certainly in some degree this saying was true in regard to *Theodore Grice*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Portland Street, who was allowed to leave the court on payment of one shilling and costs, the fine inflicted upon him for opening and selling drink during prohibited hours. Police-constable Cowley said he saw at 5.40am on December 24 three men enter defendant’s public-house, and when he went into the house all were drinking. Mr. Jackson who appeared on behalf of *Grice*, pleaded guilty to selling and opening, but said it was purely a question of time. However, the Bench held that the constable had proved the case, and the fine as above mentioned was inflicted.”

AND

“Out of the last case arose the charges brought against Martin Durkin, 10, Railway Street, and John Flynn, 3, Railway Street (the third man not being summoned), of being on licensed premises during prohibited hours. The cases were dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The following is a return of licensees who have been proceeded against during the year ending August 30th, 1895.....

Theodore D. Grice, PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, for having kept his licensed premises open during prohibited hours on January 4th, fined 1s and costs.....

Objections were also lodged against *Theodore Grice*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Portland Street on the grounds (1) that *Grice*

was fined 10s and costs on June 15th, 1888, for keeping open during prohibited hours, (2) that he was on January 4th, 1895, further fined 1s and costs for a like offence, (3) that he was not a fit and proper person to hold a license, and (4) that the license was not demanded by the requirements of the neighbourhood.....

In the case of *Grice* which was taken first, Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared in support of the landlord. Mr. J. N. Cotterell represented Mr. Downing, who is the owner of the house. Mr. Jackson, referring to the objections raised by the Chief, stated that the first conviction in 1888 was when his client held the license of the OAK INN, Hall Lane, so that he considered it most unfair now that the magistrates had granted *Grice* a transfer of another license that that offence should again be brought up against him. With regard to the second conviction, it was shown that his client was guilty of having opened his house too early in the morning owing to his clock being wrong. As to the general objection that the house was not required in the neighbourhood, he submitted that it had been in existence for 33 years, and was very well patronised, showing that it was required. The applicant paid £450 to enter the house, and surely the magistrates would not take his living away from him on such a mere pretence. In answer to Mr. Cotterell, he said that under the lease the owner could require *Grice* to give up the house at any time, but the very fact that the owner expressed himself satisfied with the tenant he thought was a point in his client's favour. The license was renewed with a caution."

Walsall Advertiser 8/1/1898

"*Harriet Grice*, landlady of the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Portland Street, was charged with selling drink during prohibited hours, and also with failing to admit Sergeant Ballance on his demanding admittance; and Samuel Groves, 124, Portland Street, and Henry Russell, of 88, Whitehouse Street, were charged with being on licensed premises during prohibited hours. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended, and Mr. J. N. Cotterell watched the proceedings on behalf of Mr. Downing, the owner of the house. It seemed that at 1.15am on December 20th Police-sergeant Ballance saw a light in the PRINCE OF WALES INN. He got the assistance of Police-constable Woolley, placed him at the gate leading to the back, and then knocked several times at the front door. Mrs. *Grice* came to the gate from the back, and asked what was wanted. She was told there was a sergeant and a constable who wanted admission, but she went away without making any remark. They then waited about five minutes, and had to climb the wall to get to the back. They found the back door open and walked in, but they found no one downstairs. In the room where they had seen the light were empty jugs and glasses, which had evidently contained ale. They heard shuffling upstairs and went there. They found Mrs. *Grice* in a bedroom with her apron on, drunk, and they discovered the two men hiding in a closet near the clubroom. Mrs. *Grice* said they were friends of hers staying for a week. Russell said they 'were trying to get out of the way to save any bother; be lenient with her; she is a poor widow.' Police-constable Klopke was sent to watch, and at 2.30 he saw Groves leave. When they asked to be let out Mrs. *Grice* said she would not let them go until they told who had put them on, and she then told them to get out the same way as they came in, but Russell got the key and let them out. The Chief Constable pointed out the law in regard to refusing admission to the police, and said that the fact that the men hid themselves was presumptive evidence that the men were not there for a proper purpose.

In defence, Mr. Jackson said that on the night of the 19th December Mrs. *Grice* went to a party at Mr. Russell's, who was paying his attentions to Mrs. *Grice*. Shortly before one o'clock in the morning she returned to her own house in the company of Groves and Russell. The son let them in and then went back to bed. They had not been in the house above ten minutes when the police came. Mrs. *Grice* went out to them, and said 'Wait a moment I will fetch the key out of my son's bedroom.' She left the back door open, which showed that there was no intention to keep out the police, but the police would not wait for them. It was all very well for the police to say they waited five minutes, but neither of them took the time, and sometimes half a minute would seem a long time. The young men hid themselves because they were frightened and did not know how the law stood. He thought the Bench would say that the police had reasonable ground for going to see why there was a light, but that the explanation was to their satisfaction.

Alderman Lindop: They would not both be suitors of the landlady (laughter).

Mr. Jackson: One goes to take the lady home and the other to chaperone. You quite see the etiquette of it (laughter).

Mrs. *Grice* gave evidence practically bearing out the opening of her counsel. Cross-examined by the Chief Constable, she said Mr. Russell did not let the police out – they went the same way they came, over the wall. She went to the party about ten minutes past eleven, in company with Samuel Groves and Henry Bailey. She left by the side gate and her son locked the gate after her. When she got back she rattled the gate and her son came down to let them in. At the party there were Mr. Russell's four sisters, Bailey, Groves, and Mr. and Mrs. Hopley. The men went into the cupboard because she was afraid when they said it was the police. What she told the police was that she had invited Russell for a week and that Groves had come to see them home.

Henry Russell was next called for the defence, and corroborated the last witness.

Cross-examined by the Chief Constable: He did not see the officers leave. He did not see them go out of the back gate, and he did not let them out.

The Chief Constable warned the witness to be very careful, for he had other officers.

The question was repeated, but witness adhered to his answer, and said he did not get the key for anyone. There were no jugs or glasses on the table. Witness said he called the attention of the sergeant to the fact that there were no glasses or liquor about, and he replied that that was all right.

Chief Constable: I am compelled to believe that this man has come here to commit perjury.

Mr. Jackson objected to this remark.

Witness, replying to further questions from the Chief Constable, said he left the house a few minutes after the police.

Chief Constable: Then if Mrs. *Grice* says you left at nearly eight o'clock in the morning she is wrong? – Witness: No, I am wrong, she is right.

Chief Constable: And are not you mistaken about letting the officers out? – Witness: No.

The Chairman pressed the witness to speak the truth and admit that he let the officers out if it was so.

Witness, however, still adhered to his statement.

Chief Constable: This is becoming too common a thing here. I am bound to treat these witnesses as hostile. I place implicit reliance on my two witnesses.

Mr. Jackson: Police officers are not infallible.

Chief Constable: And unfortunately your witnesses are not Mr. Jackson. We see too much of it now.

Groves was next called, and in answer to questions he said he got away upstairs because he was frightened.

Chief Constable: Another frightened Walsall man (laughter).

Witness, in cross-examination, said Mrs. *Grice* was sober, but excited. There was no jugs or glasses on the table, and they had not anything to drink since they went into the house. He could not say whether Russell let the officers out – he did not see them.

W. Hopley, who was the party referred to, said defendants were there also and were perfectly sober when they left.

The Bench retired to consider their verdict, and on returning they fined Mrs. *Grice* £5 and costs for failing to admit the police.

The other cases would be withdrawn of payment of costs. The license would not be endorsed.

Chief Constable: I should like to make application, if I can corroborate the officers, and I think I can, for a summons of perjury against the witness Russell, on the question of the glasses on the table, and the statement that Russell did not let the officers out of the house, if you think it material to the suit.

The Chairman: There is too much evidence given in that box that we cannot believe. We think the Chief is quite justified in asking for the summons, and we shall grant him a summons if he had got sufficient evidence.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

“The annual licensing meeting for the county borough of Walsall was held in the Guildhall on Wednesday forenoon.....

Since the 27th August, 1897, 5 licensed victuallers have been proceeded against, 4 of whom were convicted, viz.....

5th January, *Harriet Grice*, PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, fined £5 for failing to admit the police.”

Job Daniel = Job Daniels

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1898

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *Job Daniels*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Portland Street, was elected a member of the society.”

1901 Census

13, Portland Street

[1] *Job Daniel* (37), private brewer and innkeeper, born Walsall;

[2] Mary Daniel (35), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Nelly Heath (20), domestic servant, born Walsall;

[4] Minnie Lynex (18), barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1901

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week, at the house of Mr. *Job Daniels*, the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Portland Street.....”

J. Daniel was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“On Monday afternoon last a football match for the benefit of William Hicken (who has been ill for a long time and unable to follow his employment) took place between teams representing the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, and the PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street. The match was played at Weston Road, on the ground of L. and N.W. Football Club, who had kindly lent the field for the occasion and resulted in a win for the PHEASANT by 7 goals to 2. The versatile Sam Holmes officiated as referee. For the winners Edkins and the brothers Smith played well in their respective positions, and at the back Baker and Chapman were a tower of strength to their side, the latter in particular frustrating many promising attacks of the opponents. After the match both teams adjourned to the PHEASANT, where a most enjoyable evening was spent. It is expected that a substantial sum will be handed over as there was a good gate.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/4/1904

“Frank Edwards, 133, Portland Street, pleaded guilty to being drunk on the licensed premises of the PRINCE OF WALES INN, on April 2. *Job Daniels*, the landlord, pleaded not guilty to a charge of permitting drunkenness. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended *Daniels*. Inspector Pritchard said he and Police-constable Grainger visited the PRINCE OF WALES on the night in question, and found Edwards in the vaults, drunk. The landlord, who was in the bar, said the man had only been in the place a minute, and he was going to send him out.

Edwards was fined 5s and costs, the other charge being dismissed with a caution to *Daniels*.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of Florence Abigail, the beloved child of *Job* and *Mary Daniels*, of the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, who died November 8th, 1903.

Sweet little flower, nipped in the bud, to memory ever dear.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/6/1905

“Arthur Mercier, James Street, was summoned for misbehaving himself in Portland Street, on the 29th May, and also using obscene language towards Minnie Lynex, at the same time and place. Mr. F. J. Adison prosecuted.

The complainant said she was the sister of Mrs. *Daniels*, whose husband kept the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Portland Street and that she lived there. Mercier was for some time employed as a brewer at the house, but was dismissed from the employment on account of his conduct, and since that time he had been a continual annoyance to them. When the public-house was closed on the date named she went on an errand up the street, a man in their employ named Perry accompanying her. On coming back she saw defendant misbehaving himself near their house, and she called him a ‘dirty hound,’ where upon he commenced to use filthy language towards her and she had to go into the middle of the road to get away from him or he would have struck her. Her sister and her nephew came out, and defendant pulled his jacket off to fight her nephew, and he again struck at her (witness), and she would have ‘had it’ had she not bent her head.

In answer to questions put by defendant complainant denied that her sister struck him.

Dr Lynch: Was the man drunk? – Witness: No, sir, he could see me.

Mr. E. A. Loxton (deputy clerk): Was he the worse for beer? – Witness: He had had beer, but he knew what he was doing.

The Clerk: I suppose you mean he was not blind drunk? – Witness: Yes, sir.

James Perry, stated that he was an assistant at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, and that on the night in question, accompanied Miss Lynex on an errand. On coming back he saw the defendant misbehaving himself on the step of the PRINCE OF WALES INN, and on Miss Lynex speaking to him he began to use very bad language towards her.

Mrs. Ada Bate, sister of the complainant, stated she was in the bar ‘washing up’ after closing time on the night in question, when she heard the defendant using very bad language towards her sister. She could recognise his voice as she knew him well and she saw him when she came out, when he was again cursing her sister.

Arthur Thomas corroborated.

Defendant said he was drunk and did not know anything until the next morning.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) said the defendant had been before the court seven times previously.

Fined 10s and cost in each case or 14 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

Notices of objection (compensation clause) had been served on five license holders, on the ground that the licenses were not required.....

The first was the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, occupied by *Job Daniel*. Mr. Norris Foster appeared for the owners, Messrs. Downing, maltsters, and Mr. Jackson represented the occupier.

Chief-inspector Ballance gave evidence that there were five other licensed houses within 122 paces of this one, and a population between them of only 280 persons over 16 years of age. It was an old house, but very clean inside. The club-room stairs were dangerous, and the out-building old and dilapidated.

The case was adjourned to give notice of objection also on the ground of structural unfitness.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

There was objection to the renewal of the license of the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street (Mr. *Job Daniel*, occupier) by the Chief Constable, on the ground that it was used by betting men, &c, but the Bench renewed the license with a caution. Mr. Morris Foster (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson) appeared for the owner (Mr. Downing) and occupier.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/5/1907

“Bankruptcy Cases. At the Walsall County Court, on Thursday, before Mr. Registrar Clarke.....

Job Daniels, the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, Walsall, licensed victualler, whose statement showed liabilities expected to rank for dividend £588 10s 1d and assets estimated at £10 12s 4d. Mr. Addison, for the debtor, put in a medical certificate that he was suffering from nervous prostration and the loss of memory, and the examination was adjourned to a date to be fixed.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1907

“Applications for the transfer of licenses were granted as follows.....

PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, from Sam Wells Page (trustee of the estate of *Job Daniel*), to *Maria Edwards*.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/11/1907 - Advert

“PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, Walsall, full-licensed, home-brewing corner Public-house, tied for malt only; six years’ lease; goodwill, plant, fixtures, stock, &c, for immediate disposal.

Apply, A. C. Fraser Wood, Auctioneer, 28, Bridge Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1908

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough took place at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

A temporary authority was renewed of the license of the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, to *Cornelius Paul*, an objection by the Bench to the continuance of the license being adjourned to the adjourned sessions.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 18th February 1908.

Walsall Advertiser 29/2/1908

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall.....
The Bench proceeded to hear notices of objection which had been taken by the licensing justices to the renewal of six licences.....
PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street. Mr. Norris Foster represented all parties interested in the above license, and Chief Inspector Ballance repeated his previous evidence as to the requirements of the neighbourhood. The house was formerly frequented by bookmakers or betting men, but there had been no complaints of late.
Mrs. *Maria Edwards*, who had held the license six months prior to a few weeks ago, said the rent was £80 a year, and the takings were not sufficient to pay expenses, though perhaps that was partly owing to her not understanding the business.
Cornelius Paul, the present occupier, said his total takings since November 29th last were £53, up to last Saturday.
The license was referred to the Compensation Authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/6/1908

“A full bench of magistrates sat on Wednesday morning to hear applications for renewals and to fix compensation for closed houses.....
In the case of the PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street, Mr. Norris (instructed by Shakespeare and Company, Birmingham) announced the compensation (£300) would be accepted and the house closed.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1908 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1904. Notice as to sending in claims to be treated as persons interested in licensed premises.
The County Borough of Walsall.
Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area having decided at their principal meeting on the 3rd day of June, 1908, and the 5th day of June, 1908, to refuse the renewal of the Licenses of premises specified below.....
The PRINCE OF WALES, Portland Street. Alehouse. Licensee *Cornelius Paul*. Registered Owner Messrs. Downing.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1908 - Advert

“PRINCE OF WALES INN, Portland Street, Walsall.
Important to Licensed Victuallers, Refreshment House Keepers, Clubs, and others.
Mr. A. C. Fraser Wood, F.A.I. (Watkins, Powell, and Wood), is favoured with instructions to absolutely realise by Auction on Tuesday, June 23rd, 1908 (in consequence of the extinction of the license of the above house), the whole of the Useful Public House Fixtures And Fittings, including Grained and Varnished Seating, Partitions and Screens; 19ft Panelled Counter, 4-pull Beer Machine, with piping and connections; Brass and Copper Muller, zinc-lined Wash-up Sink, Painted Bar Fixtures, Painted China Spirit Barrels, Drinking Tables, Chairs, Stools, and Benches, Pewter Measures and Dripper, Jugs and Glasses, and Sporting Prints &c; together with the complete Brewing Plant, comprising 160 and 85 gallon Steel Boilers, Cooling Vats, Copper Refrigerator, Fermenting Vats, Store Casks, and other Plant; also the Stock-In-Trade, including well-known brands of Whiskies, Clarets, Cordials, Champagnes, Ports, Cigars, Cigarettes, &c.
Sale to commence at 11 o'clock precisely.
Auctioneer's Offices, 28, Bridge Street (adjoining the STORK HOTEL), Walsall.”

The license was extinguished on 9th October 1908.

PRINCE OF WALES

34, Queen Street / Short Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

George Smith, IRISH HARP, Long Street, Walsall
Mrs. Julia Marshall [1880]
Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, Bath Road [1902]
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased) [1915]
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired on 1st May 1936)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Bailey [1865]
John Marshall [1866] – [1873];
Mrs. Julia Marshall [1880] – **1902**;

George Smith (1902 – 1908);
Louisa Lilian Smith (1908);
Samuel Frederick Smith (1908 – 1911);
Mrs. Emma Smith (1911 – 1915);
Ernest Smith [1914] ?
Albert ‘Bert’ Atherton (1915 – 1916);
Benjamin Fawkes (1916 – 1925);
Reginald Henry Hill (1925 – 1950);
Alfred William Prosser (1950 – 1952);
Frank Evans (1952 – 1954);
John Thomas Westwood (1954 – 1958);
Lucy Nickless (1958 – 1965);
Frederick William Cresswell (1965 – [1966])
Barry Goodwin [1969]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.
Mr. Matthews, from the office of Mr. Wilkinson, applied on behalf of the following parties.
John Bailey, PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street Granted.”

Walsall Free Press 16/12/1865 - Advert

“Re *J. Bailey*, in the Court of the Queen’s bench.
Sale at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street, Walsall.
To Be Sold By Auction, by J. Osbourn, on Tuesday next, December 19th, 1865 (under an Execution from the Sheriff), all the Household Furniture, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *John Bailey*.
Sale to commence at Ten o’clock in the Morning, conditions as usual.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/11/1866

“Mr. *Marshall*, landlord of the PRINCE OF WALES public-house, Queen Street, has reported to the police that on Wednesday evening last a bedroom in his house was entered and £50 stolen from a drawer therein. The catch of the window is broken off, and there are some suspicious marks on the lead adjacent to the window. The drawer seems to have been opened by means of a skeleton key.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 2/3/1867

“On Thursday afternoon Mr. A. A. Fletcher, coroner for this borough, held an inquest at the PRINCE OF WALES public-house, Queen Street upon the body of Sarah Redgate, aged 18 months. It appeared that about one o’clock on Tuesday afternoon the deceased was taken out by her aunt – a younger sister of her mother’s – and about three o’clock was brought back again. When she returned the mother was about to put her to the breast, when deceased dropped her head upon her mother’s shoulder and expired before medical aid could be procured.
The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

John Marshall, beer retailer, 34 Queen Street. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

34, Queen Street

- [1] *John Marshall* (40), brush maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Julia Marshall* (39), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Marshall (19), son, brush maker’s apprentice, born Walsall;
- [4] Ann Brown (19), general servant, born Walsall:

1881 Census

34, Queen Street – PRINCE OF WALES

- [1] *Julia Marshall* (49), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Sirle (?) (20), domestic servant, born Chester:

Evening Star 24/1/1882

“This afternoon, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, held an inquest at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street, upon the body of John Marshall (30), a shoemaker, who resided at 182, Queen Street, and who committed suicide on Wednesday last under circumstances already reported in these columns.

Emily Reynolds, wife of the deceased, was the only witness called, amongst other evidence stated that the deceased frequently had his meals whilst at work, and since he had a slight stroke about two years ago had sometimes behaved very strangely. He had often expressed a wish to die and go to heaven, but never referred to committing suicide. After recapitulating the circumstances connected with his death, she added that to her knowledge, no men of the deceased's family had ever suffered from insanity, neither had he himself been confined in a lunatic asylum. She was not benefitted in any way from his death. A verdict of Insanity was returned."

1891 Census

34, Queen Street – PRINCE OF WALES

- [1] *Julia Marshall* (59), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Julia Marshall* (16), granddaughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [3] *Elizabeth Marshall* (15), granddaughter, housework, born Walsall;
- [4] *Annie Marshall* (4), granddaughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Annie Thompson* (21), general servant, born Wednesbury;

Walsall Advertiser 19/6/1897

"Mr. T. H. Stanley, coroner, held an inquest at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street, relative to the death of Sarah Hughes (65), widow, of 181 Queen Street, who died on Tuesday morning from the effects of a fall downstairs. From the evidence adduced it appeared the woman went to bed about eleven o'clock on the evening of June 8th, but went downstairs again for the purpose of fastening the door. While doing so she fell from the top of the stairs to the bottom. Dr. McKinstry was sent for, and found the woman suffering from fractured ribs and a broken forearm. The injuries thus received were the primary cause of death. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death. The Coroner remarked that all such houses ought to be provided with hand-rails."

Walsall Advertiser 9/12/1899 - Advert

"Wanted, a respectable servant.
Apply, Mrs. *Marshall*, PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street."

Walsall Observer 15/12/1900

"On Thursday evening, at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street, a supper was given to celebrate the coming of age of Mr. *Fred Marshall*. About fifty guests sat down....."

1901 Census

34, Queen Street – PRINCE OF WALES

- [1] *Julia Marshall* (70), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *John Marshall* (24), grandson, carpenter, born Walsall;
- [3] *Frederick Marshall* (21), grandson, lithographer, born Walsall;
- [4] *Clara Marshall* (18), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Frank Marshall* (16), grandson, buckle maker, born Walsall;
- [6] *George Marshall* (12), grandson, born Walsall;
- [7] *Amy Skeels* (22), barmaid, born Northampton;
- [8] *Lucy Myatt* (29), domestic servant, born Brownhills;

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission..... Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....
G. Smith, PRINCE OF WALES."

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904

"*George Smith*, landlord of the PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, was summoned for permitting card playing for money upon his licensed premises on October 29th. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) defended. Police-constable Ayres said that in company with Police-constable Bell, both in plain clothes, he visited the defendant's house and remained there from 9pm to 10.20. He heard someone propose a game of cards, and four men named Pinches, Henstock, Marshall, and Devey sat down at a table, one of them remarking 'For a quart.' Defendant himself produced the cards and cribbage board. They were playing at whist and counting 'honours.' Marshall and Devey lost, and the former put down a shilling and called for a quart of ale. This was supplied by the landlady, and Devey afterwards passed 6d over to his partner, telling him to take 3d. Marshall, however, had no change, and he passed it to Henstock, asking him to take 2d which he owed him for 'honours.' The landlord was in the bar the whole of the time, and he must have seen what was going on. At the conclusion of the game he called defendant from the room and told him who they were and what they had seen. He said, 'My God, this is not a case against me, but I will be candid with you.' Witness said, 'But you gave them the cards and the cribbage board and knew they were playing for quarts.' He replied 'I know.'
Cross-examined by Mr. Jackson, witness said he did not know that one of the men was drinking whisky, and consequently could

not have been playing for beer. He saw coppers thrown on the table, but could not say by whom they were picked up. Police-constable Bell corroborated.

Defendant said previous to going to the house two years ago he had been employed for seventeen years by Messrs. Brace, Windle, and Blyth. So far as he knew neither money nor ale was played for. Devey was drinking whisky, and at the conclusion of the game a man named Thomas Davis fetched a quart of ale, and collected 2d from each of the others three players.

Thomas Davis gave evidence bearing out this part of the statement.

Devey, Marshall, and Pinches denied that money or ale was played for.

The Bench imposed a fine of £5 and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The renewal of the license to *George Smith*, PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, was also objected to.

The Chief Constable explained that the man was fined £5 and costs for allowing gaming on his premises on October 29th, 1904.

The Chief Constable said the place had been under special observation since the offence but he had no further complaint.

Mr. Jackson applied for the renewal. He said the applicant had always borne a good character, and had been in the employ of one firm, previous to taking the house, a great number of years. The offence complained of was card playing, when it was alleged the men were playing for beer. It was the first time he had slipped, and the house had been in the family’s hands for a good number of years, and hoped that it would be still. The house had been well conducted ever since without complaint.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/5/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

A funeral donation of £10 was voted to the representative of the late Mrs. *Julia Marshall*, who joined the society on 1st October, 1878.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *S. F. Smith*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street, Walsall.....”

1911 Census

34, Queen Street – PRINCE OF WALES INN

[1] *Samuel Frederick Smith* (48), victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Emma Smith* (37), wife, married 16 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[3] Ernest Smith (26), son, victualler’s son working at home, born Walsall;

[4] Emily Smith (23), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Herbert Smith (15), son, electrical fitting maker, born Walsall;

[6] Leonard Smith (12), son, school, born Walsall;

[7] Ivy Smith (9), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] Vera Smith (4), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 15/4/1911 - Deaths

“On the 13th inst, at the PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, *Samuel Frederick*, dearly beloved husband of *Emma Smith*; aged 48 years.”

1911 Probate

“*Samuel Frederick Smith*, of the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street, Walsall, Staffordshire, died 13 April 1911. Probate Lichfield 23 May to *Emma Smith*, widow, and Archibald Wilkes Yardley, brewer. Effects £1,366 8s 4d.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1911

“The Walsall Transfer Sessions were held on Monday.....

PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, from the Executors of *Samuel Frederick Smith*, deceased, to *Emma Smith*.”

Samuel Frederick Smith – see also GOATS HEAD.

Walsall Advertiser 28/6/1913

“A well-known local licensed victualler passed away at his residence, the OAK INN, Green Lane, on Tuesday night in the person of Mr. Frederick Marshall. Deceased who was only 33 years of age, succumbed to a long and painful illness. He leaves a widow and four children to mourn his loss. Mr. Marshall was the second son of the late Mr. and Mrs. *Marshall*, of the PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, and has been closely associated with the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Association for some considerable time. He had always given a helping hand in needy cases, and was greatly respected in the licensed trade. The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery yesterday (Friday) and among the numerous wreaths received were those from the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ and the Highgate Brewery Company.”

Walsall Observer 28/3/1914

“Samuel Hopkins, of 145 Queen Street, was summoned for being disorderly on the licensed premises of the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street, on March 15th, and refusing to quit when requested. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the licensee, *Ernest Smith*, and Mr. F. A. Platt for the defendant.

Mr. Jackson remarked that he should not keep the magistrates more than five minutes.

Mr. Halford: I never dread lawyers; they are so very pleasant and gentlemanly.

Alderman Clare: And well they might be, when they have something to get.

Mr. Jackson: I am afraid most of us are ‘on the get’; it is the same amongst all classes.

Mr. Jackson went on to explain that at nine o’clock on the night in question the defendant went to the house and commenced shouting and using bad language. The landlord requested him to leave, but he refused to do so, and the police were sent for. Before they arrived, however, Hopkins took his departure. The defendant had that morning apologised for his conduct, and under the circumstances he (Mr. Jackson) would leave the case with the magistrates.

Mr. Platt said the defendant did not attempt to justify his foolish conduct, but he had expressed his regret in the fullest sense of the word.

The magistrates dismissed the case on payment of the costs.”

Walsall Observer 2/10/1915 - Adverts

“*Bert Atherton*, having taken the PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, will be pleased to see old friends.”

AND

“PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street, Walsall.

Tuesday, 12th October, 1915, at Eleven.

Leonard C. Philpott has received instructions from the Lessees (Messrs. W. Butler & Co. Ltd., Wolverhampton) to Sell by Auction, without reserve, upon the Premises, as above, the Excellent Brewing Plant, consisting of 200-gallon Steel Boiler, 80-gallon Boiler, 10-Bushel Mash Tun, Copper Pump, 3 Fermenting Vats, Large Wood Cooler, 2 Atemporators, 7 Ale Casks, 100, 80, and 60 gallons; 28in Copper Refrigerator, by Keyte; Platform Weighing Machine (Avery), to weigh 4cwt; 3 Underbacks, Barm Tub, Mash Rule Sieve, and other Useful Brewing Utensils.

Further particulars may be had at the Auctioneer’s Offices, Midland Bank Chambers, The Bridge, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 24/11/1917

“Disturbances alleged to have followed a public house argument on military matters were described at the Guildhall yesterday, before Messrs. E. J. Shaw, and T. A. Smith. Walter Hitch, 2, Frederick Street and Ernest Sheldon, a discharged and disabled soldier, Portland Street, were summed for assaulting Frank Middleton, 17, Francis Street, and Arthur Middleton, 84, Regent Street. Mr. Jackson appeared for the complainants, and Mr. F. J. Addison defended.

Mr. Jackson explained that the complainants were brothers, Frank being a caster, and Arthur being a private in the South Staffs, who had been to the front twice, and was now wounded. On November 7 complainants were in the PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, but there was no controversy at all between them. Arthur Middleton went into the yard, and on returning to the front of the public house found his brother lying on the ground, being brutally assaulted by the defendants, who were kicking him. Arthur went for a policeman, but failed to find one, and as he was returning to the public house he met his brother in Navigation Street. Frank was terribly knocked about. Arthur decided to take him home. On the way defendants overtook them and assaulted Arthur, one hitting him in the ear, and the other in the mouth, while Sheldon kicked him in the eye while he was on the ground. Mr. Jackson submitted that it was a case of grossly aggravated assaults, committed without provocation.

Both complainants gave evidence, and Mr. Addison’s cross-examination suggested that Arthur had a dispute with a sergeant-major (Hitch’s brother), who disputed he was at Loos and Festbert, and that he afterwards gave him a ‘good hiding.’ Both complainants denied these suggestions. Private Middleton, who was wearing hospital blue, and said he was on leave from Lichfield, added the sergeant-major only asked witness what battalion he was in, and witness told him. He also said that when looking for a police officer he met one constable who said he could not leave his beat, although witness told him his brother was being kicked to death. Hitch told the magistrates that in the public house there was a dispute between Pte. Middleton and witness’s brother, the sergeant-major, as to battles at which Pte. Middleton fought, and outside Pte. Middleton struck the sergeant-major, and a fight followed. Frank Middleton then struck witness, and he retaliated. Complainants then ran away, as witness and Sheldon were on their way home they found complainants waiting for them. Pte. Middleton ‘went for’ Sheldon, and his brother attacked witness.

Mr. Addison: There then was quite a scrap? – Witness: Yes, a fair fight.

Mr. Jackson: You and Sheldon seem to have come out of the fight wonderfully well. – Witness: Yes.

Mr. Jackson: Neither of you was injured – No.

Sheldon gave similar evidence, and suggested that complainants were the worse for drink.

Other witnesses were called on both sides, and the Bench, after a private consultation, decided to convict defendants of what they considered disgraceful assaults. Sheldon, who had been previously convicted of assault and other offences, was sentenced to two months’ hard labour, and Hitch to six weeks’ hard labour.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street. £1 11s 8½d.”

Benjamin Fawkes = Benjamin Fewkes

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/8/1923

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 16th inst. at the house of Mr. *Benjamin Fewkes*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street, Walsall.....”

1939 Register

34, Queen Street

[1] *Reginald H. Hill*, date of birth 30/6/1882, licensee tenant, public house, married;

[2] Rosa R. Hill, dob 16/4/1888, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Jean R. (Hill) (Prosser) Hatton, dob 24/10/1920, tailoress, single;

[4] Joyce H. (Hill) Flynn, dob 21/4/1929, at school, single:

Walsall Observer 30/11/1940

“That yard at the back of the PRINCE OF WALES, Queen street, was the scene during the summer of some delightful children’s entertainments. Mr. *R. H. Hill* is following up the useful work then done for war funds by getting his customers at the inn to subscribe to the Coventry relief effort. He has sent a first cheque for £5 to the mayor of Coventry to be used ‘for any purpose which in your judgement will do most good.’ The first cheque may not be very large but the spirit behind it is splendid.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street, £1 14s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Hill*, PRINCE OF WALES. £1 1s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street. £1 1s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

PRINCE OF WALES INN, Queen Street. £5 0s 3d.”

Reginald Henry Hill – see also PHEASANT.

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....

PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 30/5/1969

“The first meeting of Walsall Compensation Committee since 1966 will next month consider the cases of three public houses for which the licensing justices have decided not to renew licenses. The houses are the BARREL, Horton Street, Darlaston; the PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, Walsall, and the BUTTS INN, Butts Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 20/6/1969 - Notice

“County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given that the compensation authority for the above area having decided at their principal meeting held on the 12th day of June 1969, to refuse the renewal of the license of the premises specified below, all persons claiming to be interested in the said premises for the purpose of the payment of compensation under the said Act are required to send to the compensation authority notice of their claims before the 21st day of July, 1969.....

PRINCE OF WALES, Queen Street, Walsall. Publican’s Old on-license. Licensee, *Barry Goodwin*. Registered Owners, Mitchells & Butlers.”

PRIORY

52, (47), Park Street / Priory Yard, WALSALL

OWNERS

The Misses Robbins, Caldmore Road, Walsall
Richard Henry Elwell, Horsham, Sussex
North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd. (leased) [1901]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (leased) [1909]
Highgate Walsall Brewery Ltd.
Mr. Robert Holyland
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1948)
Fretwell Properties Ltd.

LICENSEES

David Hawkins [1849] – [1858]
Mrs. Susannah Hawkins [1860] – [1861]
John Hawkins* [1864] – [1865]
John Tipping ‘Tippy’ Hawkins* [1868] – [1870]
James A Froggatt [1869] – [1871]
Thomas Penzer [1872] – [1873];
James Fielding [1875];
Samuel Fenn [1876];
Ross Cattnach [1877] ?
Joseph Rose [1880] – [1885];
Maria Rose [] – **1887**);
John Colling Cooke (**1887 – 1888**);
Annie Lees Cooke (**1888 – 1889**);
Maria Rose (**1889 – 1891**);
William Ross Catternach (**1891 – 1893**);
Charles Francis Brown (**1893 – 1898**);
Edwin James Diver (**1898 – 1902**);
Mrs. Alice Diver (**1902 – 1909**);
Peter Cameron Gordon (**1909 – 1914**);
Lucy Ellen Sorge (**1914 – 1915**);
Arthur Cresswell (**1915 – 1928**);
Lily Walker (**1928 – 1929**);
James Bolton (**1929 – 1950**);
John Edward Earp (**1950**);
Leo Sydney Hill (**1950 – 1952**);
Eric Wood (**1952 – 1957**);
Leslie Melbourne Morley (**1957 – 1958**);
David Edwin Smith (**1958 – 1960**);
William Riley (**1960 – 1961**);
Thomas Quinton Lewis (**1961** – [1966])

NOTES

47, Park Street [1858], [1861], [1864], [1871], [1873]
52, Park Street [1891]

CITY OF LONDON [1850], [1858], [1860], [1868], [1871], [1873]
WINE AND SPIRIT VAULTS [1864], [1865]
PRIORY HOUSE HOTEL [1875], [1877], [1881]
PRIORY HOTEL [1880], [1881], [1939]
PRIORY INN [1885]
PRIORY HOTEL and Dining Rooms [1911]
PRIORY Commercial Hotel [1904], [1912]
YE OLDE PRIORY HOTEL

The original house was owned by the Elwell family.

Mary Elwell, PRIORY, Park Street. [1813]

David Hawkins, wine and spirit vaults, Park Street. [1849], [1850]

1851 Census

Park Street

- [1] *David Hawkins* (51), wine and spirit merchant, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Susannah Hawkins* (41), wife, born London;
- [3] *Susannah Hawkins* (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *John Hawkins* (11), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Ann Hawkins* (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Amelia Webster* (20), servant, born Stourbridge;
- [7] *Mary Cordwell* (16), servant, born Walsall:

David Hawkins was also a wine and spirit merchant. [1858]

1861 Census

47, Park Street

- [1] *Susannah Hawkins* (52), widow, spirit merchant, born London;
- [2] *Jane Hawkins* (25), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ann Hawkins* (19), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Docker* (22), house servant, born Lutton, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Ann Gibson* (20), house servant, born Nottingham;
- [6] *John J. Gibson* (21), son, scholar, born Walsall:

* possibly the same person

John Tipping Hawkins, spirit vaults, 47, Park Street. [1868]

John Tipping Hawkins beer retailer, 47 Park Street. [1870]

Walsall Free Press 12/12/1868 - Advert

“CITY OF LONDON WINE VAULTS, Park Street, Walsall.

Important Sale Of First-Class Vintage Wines.

Messrs. Farrington & Son beg to announce that they are instructed by Mr. *John T. Hawkins*, who is leaving the above premises, to offer by Auction as above, on Friday next, the 18th December, 1868, at Two for Three o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions: about 70 dozens of first-class Vintage Port Wines in bottles, pints and ½-pints, most of which was bottled by Mr. *Hawkins*' late father, and will be sold in lots to suit purchaser; 30 dozens of Champagne, and about 50 dozens of excellent Sherry Wines. Samples tasted at the Sale.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 17/4/1869 - Advert

“Important Sale Of Grocery, Shop Fixtures &c, at Digbeth, Walsall.

Messrs. Farrington and Son are instructed to Sell by Auction (without reserve) on Tuesday and Wednesday Next, the 20th and 21st days of April, all the Capital Stock of Grocery, Shop Fixtures, Furniture, and Effects of Mr. *J. A. Froggatt*, who had given up the Grocery Business and removed to the CITY OF LONDON WINE VAULTS, Park Street, consisting of about half a ton of choice Young Hyson Gunpowder, and Conou Tea and Tea Dust, Coffees, Chicory, Spices, Starch, Mustard, Toilet and other Soaps, Rice, Pickles, Sugars, Currants, Tea and Tobacco Papers, Black and White Pepper, Figs, Raisins, Soda, Tapioca, Sago, Corn Flour, Foreign and British Wines, Sussex and Belgian Hops, capital Shop Fixtures, large brass Hopper, Coffee Mill, Stand Scales, Tea Mill, Show Bowls, Sugar Tray, strong Trap, Grocer's Delivery Cart, Harness, five-year-old Chestnut Mare, 14½ hands, very steady. Also, useful Household Furniture, consisting of mahogany Loo Tables, Chiffonier, mahogany Chairs, Chimney Glass, Carpets, Timepiece, birch and iron Bedsteads, Mattresses, feather Beds, Washstands and Tables, Glass, and other useful Effects. Particulars in catalogues, to be had at the Office of the Auctioneers, The Bridge, Walsall. Sale to commence at half-past Ten each morning. Conditions as usual.”

It later became a rooming house [1871]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 10/1/1871

“*John Tippy Hawkins*, formerly landlord of the CITY OF LONDON public-house, Park Street, was charged with having on Friday last, assaulted Mrs. *Froggatt*, the present landlady of the house in question; and also with breaking a pane of glass, value 1s. It appeared that about seven o'clock on Friday evening, the defendant went to complainant's husband's house, and after making threats to her, stating what he would do to her husband, he threw a glass of liquor over her. About three o'clock next morning he returned and threw a piece of cinder through one of the bed-room windows. For the first offence defendant was fined 5s and costs, and for the second, 10s and costs in addition to the value of the pane of glass 1s.”

1871 Census

47, Park Street

- [1] *James A. Froggatt* (38), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

- [2] Elizabeth Froggatt (38), wife, born Shropshire;
- [3] Elizabeth W. D. Froggatt (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] James A. P. Froggatt (7), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Eleanor G. Froggatt (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Heyson(?) (19), servant, barmaid, born Stafford;
- [7] Elizabeth Adams (21), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/7/1871

“At the Guildhall on Monday, *James A. Froggatt*, of the CITY OF LONDON INN, Park Street, was charged with having had his house open at 25 minutes past one o’clock on Friday morning, when a police officer found three men and three women drinking at the bar and the landlord and one or two other men playing at cards in the parlour. Mr. Glover appeared for the defence, pleaded that it was entirely through an oversight that the house was open after one o’clock. The Bench imposed a fine of 10s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1871

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions. This session took place at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

Mr. Glover then applied for the renewal of the licenses of the undermentioned, whose licenses were suspended on licensing day.....

J. A. Frogatt, the CITY OF LONDON, Park Street. Granted.”

It originally was an Alehouse with no sign. [1872]

London Gazette 7/12/1875

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *James Fielding*, of the PRIORY HOUSE HOTEL, Park-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

Edward Broadhurst Scholefield, of Wednesbury, in the county of Stafford, Auctioneer, has been appointed Trustee of the property of the debtor. All persons having in their possession any of the effects of the debtor must deliver them to the trustee, and all debts due to the debtor must be paid to the trustee. Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must forward their proofs of debts to the trustee.

Dated this 24th day of November, 1875.”

Post Office Directory 1876 - Advert

“Commercial Hotel & Restaurant, PRIORY HOUSE, Park Street, Walsall.

One Minute’s Walk From The Railway Station.

Samuel Fenn, Proprietor.

An Ordinary At One O’Clock Daily, 2/-

Tea, Coffee, Chops, Steaks, At Any Time.

Well-Aired Beds.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/3/1877

“The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

A six-days music license for dinners, bona-fide parties, and similar gatherings was granted to Mr. *Ross Cattnach*, of the PRIORY HOTEL.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/4/1877 - Advert

“Housemaid and Waitress (combined) Wanted; one who understands her duties.

Apply, PRIORY HOUSE HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/12/1880 - Advert

“Ribbed Glass. About 500 Panes, 15 inches by ¾ inch thick; price 2½d each.

Address, S. J., PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street.”

Evening Express 6/1/1881 - Advert

“Wanted, at once, a good Plain Cook.

Apply PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall.”

1881 Census

47, Park Street

[1] *Joseph Rose* (35), innkeeper, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Mariah Rose* (45), wife, born Tipton;

[3] *Ann L. Doughty* (19), daughter, unmarried, barmaid, born Tipton;

[4] *William W. Doughty* (17), son, hinge maker, born Tipton;

[5] *Fl___y Doughty* (11), daughter, scholar, born Tipton;

- [6] Henry W. Hempson (22), visitor, born Hardwick;
- [7] Sarah Wilson (21), waitress, born Wolverhampton;
- [8] Eliza Baker (29), cook, born Walsall;
- [9] William Clark (48), visitor, labourer, born Rushton;
- [10] William Clark (22), cellar man, born Rushton:

Evening Star 2/1/1882

“On Saturday night the second annual railway carters’ dinner, promoted for the encouragement of kindness to their horses, took place at the PRIORY HOTEL, where nearly 100 of the carters and their friends sat down to an excellent repast. The chair was taken by Mr. W. H. Duignan.....”

Evening Star 13/1/1882 - Advert

“Wanted, at once, a good plain Cook.
Address Mrs. *Rose*, PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 14/3/1885

“Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (Garrick Lodge). On Monday evening last the above lodge having been removed from the PRIORY HOTEL, was reopened at Bro. Charles Spicer’s, the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, by Prime Donellan, PGP of Walsall, with a numerous and excellent gathering of primes and brothers of the Order, after which the evening was spent in conviviality.....”

Walsall Observer 25/4/1885

“Court Perseverance (No.4230) will hold their next meeting at the PRIORY HOTEL Court, that being the newly selected Court house.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/6/1885

“On Monday night the anniversary of Court ‘Perseverance,’ Ancient Order of Foresters, was held at the PRIORY INN, Park Street, Walsall, under the presidency of Councillor Wheway. After ample justice had been done to the repast provided by Host *Rose*, the Chairman proposed the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, which were loyally responded to. The Chairman, after proposing the toast ‘The Court Perseverance,’ delivered an address, taking the name of the Court as his theme. He hoped each member would adopt the word ‘perseverance,’ as his motto through life. The growth and prosperous position of the Court showed that perseverance was a characteristic of it, for he learned that there were funds in hand amounting to more than £1,900, being nearly £6 10s per member. Mr. Davis, the secretary, responded, and gave many interesting particulars of the history and present position of the Court. Mr. Frakes, the District Treasurer, in replying to the toast of ‘The District,’ stated that there were in the district 1,763 members, and that Court and District funds amounted to £11,000, of which more than £5,000 had been invested with the Walsall Corporation, that which a safer investment could not be found. Other speeches followed, and the remainder of the meeting was passed in a convivial manner.”

Lichfield Mercury 4/9/1885

“On Monday the Walsall Poultry and Fancy Pigeon Show held a show of young fancy pigeons at the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street. The birds divided into seventeen classes, and some promising birds amongst those shown.”

John Colling Cook – see also [SPRING COTTAGE, Holtshill Lane](#).

1891 Census

52, Park Street – PRIORY HOTEL

- [1] *William R. Cattenach* (42), hotel keeper, born Aberdeen;
- [2] *Elizabeth Roads Cattenach* (34), wife, born Coningsby;
- [3] *William R. Cattenach* (11), son, scholar, born Hull;
- [4] *Albert R. Cattenach* (10), son, scholar, born Hull;
- [5] *Barbara M. Cattenach* (6), daughter, scholar, born Goole;
- [6] *Margaret Bradbury* (48), cook, born Gnosall;
- [7] *Annie Bradbury* (24), general servant, born Walsall;
- [8] *Lucy Robinson* (23), waitress, born Ellesmere;
- [9] *Charles Braddy* (23), boots, born Colchester;
- [10] *Arthur Withnall* (16), waiter, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1896 - Advert

“Conservative League Jottings.
‘Lord Randolph Churchill’ Lodge will meet on Monday next at the PRIORY HOTEL at 8.30, when very important (Thornton) business will be discussed.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/6/1896 - Deaths

“On the 17th inst, Annie, wife of *Charles Francis Brown*, PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, aged 27 years.”

Edwin James Diver = Edward J. Diver

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Then the magistrates also want to know if you can report to them during the sitting of this meeting as to the accommodation provided by the GEORGE HOTEL, the STORK, the DRAGON, the PRIORY, NEW INNS, the WOOLPACK, and the QUEENS?the Chief Constable said he was then in possession of the information asked by the Magistrates with reference to the bedroom accommodation at the hotels. At the GEORGE HOTEL there were nineteen beds for commercials. The two large rooms at that hotel, formerly used for balls, &c, had been converted into eight bedrooms and a bathroom, and no plans had been submitted for the alterations. At the PRIORY there were six bedrooms for accommodation, five at the DRAGON, three at the QUEENS, but there was no bedroom accommodation at the STORK, NEW INNS, and the WOOLPACK Hotels.....

Mr. Loxton announced that the hotel licenses would be renewed with the exception of the GEORGE.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1900

“Walsall Railwaymen’s Supper. The above was held on Thursday night at the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, when about fifty of the Walsall Station staff belonging to the various departments sat down to a substantial supper, catered for by Mr. *E. J. Diver* in an excellent style. After doing ample justice to the good things placed before them, the men settled down for an evening’s enjoyment.....”

Walsall Advertiser 14/4/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members... Mr. *E. J. Diver*, PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/4/1900

“For a considerable period, the Star Minstrels, a new troupe, have been rehearsing at the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, and they made their initial bow before the public on Monday evening at the Temperance Hall, where they again appeared on Tuesday. Each night the place was crowded, and many were unable to obtain admission. The corner men engaged are the original ‘Little Tim,’ from the Standard Theatre Pantomime, and Geo Lester, late of The Moore and Burgess Minstrels, so that nothing was lacking in this respect. All round, however, the troupe, which numbers 30, was a decided success, the jokes were smart and ripe, the choruses and solos capital, and the company is to be congratulated on so admirable a debut. That they have a fair prospect before them may be judged from the fact that two-thirds of the numbers were encored.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/9/1900

“Walsall Early Closers’ Football Club. The annual general meeting of this club was held on Wednesday at the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street. There was a numerous attendance.....”

Sporting Life 10/1/1901

“Mr. J. H. Ellis, the honorary secretary of the Birmingham Licensed Victuallers’ Billiard League, has favoured us with an advanced copy of the entries for this year’s competition. All the best known men in the Midlands have signified their intention of taking part in the tournament, which promises to furnish better sport than in any previous year.....

E. J. Diver, PRIORY HOTEL Walsall.”

1901 Census

PRIORY HOTEL

- [1] *Edward J. Diver* (40), hotel manager, born Cambridge;
- [2] *Alice Diver* (33), wife, hotel manageress, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Nora Diver* (4), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Clara Beasley* (36), relative, school mistress, born Muggleton, Shropshire;
- [5] *Ellen M. Carrick* (19), chambermaid, born Brewood;
- [6] *Emma Robottan* (20), kitchen maid, born Wednesbury;
- [7] *Agnes Smith* (42), cook, born Cheltenham;
- [8] *Elizabeth Pritchard* (23), waitress, born Meny Head, Cornwall;
- [9] *John James* (24), boots, born Chester;
- [10] *Dora Stonley* (20), nurse, born Birmingham;
- [11] *Ethel Jones* (23), barmaid, born Aspull, Lancashire;
- [12] *Kate Harrison* (20), barmaid;
- [13] *George S. Sydenham* (34), visitor, theatrical manager, born Liverpool:

Wednesbury Leader 30/11/1901

“At Walsall Police Court on Monday, Mr. Thompson, solicitor, Dudley, applied on behalf of the North Worcestershire Brewery Company for a temporary transfer of the license of the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, from *Edwin J. Diver*, the well known

Warwickshire county cricketer, to his wife, *Alice Diver*. Mr. Thompson said the circumstances under which he made the application were that Mr. *Diver* had disappeared, having left home on the 12th inst, and having since that date made no communication whatever with the wife, who herself had not the slightest idea that he was going away. The only information she had as to his whereabouts was from a gentleman who was at the hotel on the previous day, and who stated that Mr. *Diver* was seen at Queens Town to go aboard a boat bound for New York. That was all that was known concerning him. He had certainly acted in a most disgraceful manner, as he had left his wife and child entirely without means, and they were liable to be turned out into the street at any moment. Under these circumstances he asked that for the present, at any rate, the license should be transferred to Mrs. *Diver*, who had had considerable experience in the trade, and had taken charge of the house during her husband's absence through crick-eting and other engagements, always he believed, with perfect satisfaction.

At the request of the Bench that there should be sworn evidence of the facts narrated, Mrs. *Diver* was called and corroborated Mr. Thompson's statement. Her husband gave her no information at all that he was going away.

In answer to Mr. Thompson, she said it was a fact that he was in pecuniary difficulties, but questioned by the magistrates, she said, as far as she knew, there was no process or judgement summons against him likely to interfere with his liberty.

Acting Chief Constable Ballance stated that he did not object to the transfer, but he should object to Mr. *Diver* coming back and managing the house.

Mrs. *Diver*, questioned on this point, said she would not allow her husband to live at or take part in the management of the house if he came back at any time.

The Bench then granted the application."

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

"Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople's Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.

PRIORY HOTEL (per Mrs. *Diver*). 2s 1d."

Walsall Advertiser 23/6/1906

"Walsall And District Football League. The annual meeting of the above league was held at the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, on Wednesday evening."

Walsall Advertiser 21/1/1909

"In the Divorce Division, on Monday, before Mr. Justice Dean, Mrs. *Alice Diver*, of the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall, petitioned for the dissolution of her marriage to *Edwin James Diver*, a professional cricketer, (stated to be residing at Newport Mon.), on the ground of his desertion and adultery.

Mrs. *Diver* stated that the marriage took place on 21st November, 1894, at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham. Afterwards they lived at Smethwick, and then at the PRIORY HOTEL, Walsall, of which she is now manageress. Her husband left her in November 1901, and had never since returned. He had never asked her to join him, or offered her a home, and has not supported her in any way. The last communication she received from him was shortly after he left Walsall, when he wrote asking her to intercede for him with his late employer. She became aware of his whereabouts some months ago. There were two children of the marriage, but only one survived, and that child, Norah, was with her. Her husband had never made any claim for the custody or to take charge of the child. Misconduct would be proved against him with a Mrs. Ellen Williams.

Mrs. Williams stated that she was willing to give evidence, and said that she went through the ceremony of marriage with Samuel Williams, a journalist, but she afterwards discovered he was a married man, and he deserted her. She met a man named *Edwin Diver* about three and a half years ago. Afterwards he called upon her at Riverside, New Usk Road, Newport, and intimacy took place between them. Mr. *Diver* had visited her on other occasions.

Mr. Reynolds, managing clerk to the petitioner's solicitor, said he saw the respondent at Newport Athletic Ground, and served him with the divorce papers, and he then said it would be absurd to deny the charges.

His Lordship granted a decree nisi with costs, and the custody of the child to the petitioner."

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

"Billiard Licenses were approved of in the cases of.

Peter Cameron Gordon, PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street."

Walsall Advertiser 9/4/1910

"The annual conference in connection with the Central Divisional Council of the National Federation of Hairdressers was held at the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, on Thursday afternoon last week."

Walsall Advertiser 28/1/1911

"Thomas Russell, Royal Marine Light Infantry, Lichfield, was summoned for assaulting David Benjamin Jones, on Jan 17. Defendant pleaded guilty, 'under great provocation.' Complainant, who is employed at the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, stated that on Tuesday night the defendant was in the hotel and struck him on the nose, making it bleed. There was a scuffle and defendant used his feet freely.

Mr. *Gordon*, the licensee of the PRIORY HOTEL, corroborated, stating defendant, besides striking the complainant, also kicked him in the ribs.

Detective-sergeant Burrell stated that he saw a crowd outside the PRIORY HOTEL. The complainant was bleeding from a wound on the nose and complained of having been kicked by the defendant. The latter refused to give his name and address.

Defendant said the complainant had orders ‘to chuck him out of the hotel, and I struck him as any Britisher would do.’ He added that he had been twenty years in the Service and never had a case against him. Fined 2s 6d and costs, or seven days.”

1911 Census

The PRIORY

- [1] *Peter Cameron Gordon* (40), hotel keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Frances Susannah Gordon* (37), wife, married 14 years, born St. Ives, Huntingdonshire;
- [3] *James Cameron Gordon* (13), son, school, born Walsall;
- [4] *Gladys Kate Gordon* (11), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [5] *Frances Muriel Gordon* (10), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [6] *Agnes Smith* (47), unmarried, servant, hotel cook, born Wednesbury;
- [7] *Nellie Birch* (23), servant, hotel waitress, born Walsall;
- [8] *Clara Venables* (18), hotel chambermaid, born Dudley Port;
- [9] *Charles Cliffe* (19), hotel boots, born Walsall;
- [10] *Kate Emery* (29), hotel barmaid, born Walsall;
- [11] *Nellie Hill* (28), hotel barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 2/5/1914

“Those who suffer with their eyes will be interested in the announcement that Messrs. Jahangir & Sons, Indian eye specialists, of Berry Street, Wolverhampton, will visit the PRIORY COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall, every Saturday, commencing May 9th. Further details, together with recent local testimonials, will be found on Page 1.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1914

“An application was made to plans regarding improvements at the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street. A solicitor appearing in support of the application said it was proposed to adapt an old shop which had become somewhat derelict, and make an alteration which would be a great public improvement and would contribute to the rates of the town. The application was granted on condition that a gate was kept locked, except at certain times.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall, 12s.”

Walsall Observer 7/9/1915

“We regret to record the death of Mr. *Peter Cameron Gordon*, who was exceedingly well known in Walsall, particularly during the period he kept the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street. Latterly he had been at the TROCADERO, Wolverhampton, and it was there he passed away, at the early age of 43, after an illness extending over eight months, though he had been in indifferent health for the last two years. He was the second son of the late Mr. James Gordon, and an old boy of Queen Mary’s School. Before going to the ‘PRIORY’ he was with Messrs. John Wheway and Son for twenty-four years. The funeral that took place at Wolverhampton on Wednesday, was attended by many relatives and friends, and a large number of wreaths were sent.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/3/1916

“Lighting Order Prosecutions..... *Arthur Cresswell*, proprietor of the PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street. Fined 20s.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street. £0 15s 6d.”

Bilston and Willenhall Times 21/4/1928

“The PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall, was sold by Alfred W. Dando and Co, at a public auction at the Grand Hotel, Colmore Row, Birmingham, on Thursday for £5,000.”

Walsall Observer 14/1/1939

“Mr. Robert Holyland.....bought the PRIORY HOTEL about eight years ago.”

1939 Register

Park Street – PRIORY HOTEL

- [1] *James Bolton*, date of birth 7/5/1890, hotel manager, married;
- [2] *Polly Sankey Bolton*, dob 5/12/1882, hotel manageress, married;
- [3] *Leslie Jepson Guest*, dob 16/8/1906, assistant hotel manager, married;
- [4] *Irene E. Guest*, dob 8/1/1912, waitress, married;
- [6] *John Gorman*, dob 24/6/1920, cellarman, single;

- [7] Joseph E. Gorman, dob 4/2/1915, barman, single;
- [8] Jane Nicholls, dob 9/5/1919, chambermaid, waitress, single;
- [9] Ivy (Sawbridge) Trumpeter, dob 13/11/1908, barmaid, single;
- [10] Bridget (Shine) Cooper, dob 8/10/1914, barmaid, single;
- [11] Eva (Horden) (Pinson) Bate, dob 30/3/1918, barmaid, single;
- [12] Lucy Smith, dob 14/10/1884, assistant cook, widowed;
- [13] Dorothy (Evans) Hill, dob 26/8/1923, housemaid, single;
- [14] Fanny (Commies) Kemmies, dob 5/8/1893, stillroom maid, single;
- [15] Jack Patrick Connell, dob 17/3/1900, chef, married;
- [16] Thaddeus Cyril Allsop, dob 31/5/1906, engineer's representative traveller, manufacture of road traffic signs and ARP material, single;
- [17] Herbert Bruce Harris, dob 18/12/1867, saddlery hardware manufacturer, married:

Walsall Observer 27/4/1940 - Advert

“Barmaid Required for evenings.
Apply, PRIORY HOTEL, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street, £6 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 10/5/1941

“Mrs. Frances Susannah *Gordon*, widow of Mr. *Peter Cameron Gordon*, who for some years kept the PRIORY HOTEL, Walsall, died at Bridgnorth on Wednesday at the age of 69. Mr. and Mrs. *Gordon* left Walsall to take the TROCADERO HOTEL, Wolverhampton, and since Mr. *Gordon*'s death in 1917 his widow has been the Proprietress of the Falcon Hotel, Low Town, Bridgnorth. She had been in failing health since the death of her younger daughter, Mrs. J. Milton, wife of a well-known Birmingham sportsman. She had also lost her son, Cameron, who was in the licensed trade at Wolverhampton. Her surviving daughter, Mrs. F. R. Cooksey, resides at Parlors Hall, Bridgnorth. The funeral takes place today (Saturday).”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
PRIORY HOTEL, Park Street. £5 17s 2d.”

It was modernised in 1969 at a cost of £20,000.

It closed in August 1984.

It was being used as a sports shop. [1999]

PUDDLERS ARMS

Little Street, Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Heath []

NOTES

London Gazette 23/11/1869

“*John Heath*, of Deadman’s-lane, Birchills, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Puddler, previously thereto of No.2, Far-rington’s-buildings, Stafford-street, Walsall aforesaid, a Puddler, previously thereto of the WHITE LION, Birchills aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, Provision Dealer, and Puddler, and previously thereto of the PUDDLERS ARMS, Little-street, Birchills

aforsaid, Retail Brewer, Provision Dealer, and Puddler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 17th of November, 1869, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 10th day of December next, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall. is the Official Assignee, and Mr. John Glover, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

PUMP

Digbeth, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Wright [1813] – [1854]

Mrs. Humphreys [1856]

NOTES

PUMP TAVERN [1849]

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Wright, retailer of beer, Digbeth. [1835]

Birmingham Journal 6/7/1844

“At the Town Hall, on Monday, before Howard Fletcher, Esq, Mayor, and A. Adams, Esq, Henry Hill, servant at the PUMP TAVERN, Digbeth, was charged by Frederick Crompton with stealing a pair of boots, of the value of 2s 6d, his property. The complainant is owner of a small butcher’s shop in Digbeth, but resides at Aldridge. The shop was locked as usual on Saturday night last, and the key left at the prisoner’s master’s house, by which means he (Hill) gained entrance, and stole the boots. The prosecutor declined to press the charge, and the prisoner was discharged.”

1851 Census

Digbeth

[1] *Joseph Wright* (68), widower, licensed victualler, born Sutton Coldfield;

[2] Elizabeth Meedham (73), sister, widow, born Sutton Coldfield;

[3] Isaiah Morgan (17), groom, born Much Wenlock, Shropshire;

[4] Ann Aulton (16), house servant, born Stonnall, Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/5/1854 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold and Leasehold Houses, Public House, and Premises, in Walsall and Wolverhampton.

To be Sold by Auction, by G. Allin, at the OLD STILL in Digbeth, in Walsall, on Monday, the 29th of May instant, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced.

Lot 1. All those two Dwelling-Houses, with Stable and other Outbuildings, and a Plot of Land lying at the back thereof, situate in Digbeth, in Walsall, bounded on the north side by premises belonging to Mrs. Clements, and on the south by premises belonging to Mr. Thurstan, and which said houses are in the occupation of *Joseph Wright* and Battersby. The premises comprised in this Lot are eligibly situated in one of the principal streets, and contain in by admeasurement 465 square yards or thereabouts. The house occupied by *Joseph Wright* is an old licensed Public-House, called the PUMP TAVERN. To the back of the said premises there is a right of road through an entry fronting Digbeth.....”

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day for the renewal of old licenses and considering the application for new ones, there was a full attendance of magistrates All the old licenses were renewed excepting those of Mrs. *Humphreys*, the PUMP TAVERN, Digbeth, who had made some alterations in her house which induced the bench to consider that it did not contain sufficient accommodation.”

QUEEN CAROLINE

Butts, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Clarke [1835]

QUEENS HOTEL

71, (35), Station Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Richard Thomas, coalmaster, Bloxwich
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Thomas [1861]
Richard Thomas Snr.* [1862] – [1865]
Richard Thomas* [1868] – [1870]
Dennis Proctor [1871] – [1872];
Henry Thomas [];
Sarah Ann Thomas [1881];
Richard Thomas [];
William Pettifer [];
William Neville [] – **1887**);
George Crump (**1887 – 1888**);
Mrs. Sophia Matilda Crump (**1888 – 1895**);
George Willis (**1895 – 1896**);
Enoch Watkiss (**1896**);
Arthur Grose (**1896 – 1897**);
John William Lynforth (**1897 – 1903**);
Joseph James Brown (**1903 – 1906**);
John James Grew (**1906 – 1907**);
John Thomas Griffiths (**1907 – 1912**);
William James Howard (**1912 – 1929**);
Joseph Seagar (**1929**):

NOTES

35, Station Street [1871]
71, Station Street [1881], [1891], [1911]

QUEENS ARMS

QUEENS HOTEL [1861], [1881], [1896], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1932]

QUEENS HEAD HOTEL [1900]

* possibly the same person

1861 Census

Station Street – QUEENS HOTEL

[1] George Thomas (23), son, QUEENS HOTEL, born Alrewas, Staffordshire;

[2] Mary Ann Thomas (21), sister, born Bloxwich;

[3] Mary Thomas (14), niece, born Bloxwich;

[4] Ann Parten (17), servant, born Pains Lake, Shropshire;

[5] Henry Thomas (16), brother, farmer, born Bloxwich:

Birmingham Daily Post 14/1/1863

“The annual dinner, given to the members of the Bloxwich Rifle Corps, by the officers, came off on Monday night, at the house of Mr. *Thomas*, the QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, when a repast of excellent quality was served up by the worthy host. Captain Strongitharm presided.....”

Richard Thomas was also a farmer and colliery master. [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/12/1869 - Advert

“Wanted, at Christmas, a good General Servant, who understands Plain Cooking. Good character required. Apply, QUEENS HOTEL. Bloxwich.”

Walsall Free Press 25/3/1871

“On Wednesday afternoon, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, upon the body of Thomas Horton, aged 16, son of Thomas Horton, miner, Station Street. From the evidence it appeared that on Sunday last deceased and two other boys were amusing themselves by hoisting one another up and down in a bucket used for the taking up of materials to be used in refining at one of the furnaces; and that deceased when about eight yards from the ground, fell out of the bucket and was so injured he died on the following day. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1871 Census

35, Station Street – QUEENS HOTEL

- [1] *Dennis Proctor* (63), innkeeper, born, Blackburn, Lancashire;
- [2] Anne Proctor (62), wife, born Stoke on Trent;
- [3] Catherine Evans (22), general servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Free Press 25/1/1873

“On Tuesday evening a meeting was held at the QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of getting the chapelry of Bloxwich separated from the borough of Walsall. The meeting, which had been convened by circular, was numerously attended. After a lengthened conversation, in the course of which it was the general opinion that it was desirable the chapelry of Bloxwich should be separated from the borough of Walsall – seeing the trades of the two places were so different, and the interests of the inhabitants not identical – it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. E. J. Stanley, seconded by Mr. Philip Starkey, that a public meeting should be held in the Music Hall, Bloxwich, to consider the desirability of taking the necessary steps for effecting a separation of Bloxwich from Walsall – the meeting to be held next Monday evening.”

1881 Census

71, Station Street – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Sarah A. Thomas* (34), widow, licensed victualler, born Hatherton;
- [2] Frederick H. Thomas (10), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Emma G. Thomas (9), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Ada M. Thomas (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Edgar E. Thomas (6), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Thirza J. Thomas (4), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Elizabeth Thomas (15), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 17/10/1882 - Advert

“QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich.

To Be Sold By Auction (under a distress for rent) On Wednesday Next, October, 18th, 1882.

The whole of the Public House Fixtures and Effects, together with a large quantity of very superior Household Furniture, comprising Mahogany, Telescope Dining and other Tables; Mahogany, Hair-seated, Crown-back, Kitchen, and Bed Room Chairs; Birch and Iron Bedsteads, Mahogany Washstands, Dressing Tables, Mahogany Chest upon Chest, capital 6-motion Beer Machine, Spirit Fountain, with Taps and Drippers complete, Tap Counter, with Zinc Top; quantities of Spirits, glass and earthenware, capital ‘White-chapel’ Dog Cart, quite new, suitable for a cob 14 hands; large Cooking range, Washing and Wringing machines, Gas Fittings, Chamber Appendages, Kitchen Requisites, and numerous other Effect; and a quantity of Drapery and Clothing.

The House and Premises to be let with immediate possession.

Sale to commence at half-past Ten o’clock prompt.

Catalogues may be had on application at the Auctioneer’s Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1884

“Conservative League..... ‘Thomas’ Lodge. A well-attended meeting of this lodge was held at the QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, on Thursday evening, under the presidency of the Master of the Lodge. Short addresses were delivered by Bros. R. B. Sutton and W. P. Banks; and Bro. Joseph Horton, a railway employé, spoke on the Employer’s Liability Bill, pointing out the hardship that would be inflicted on his class if they were not allowed to contract themselves out of the Bill. The health of Councillor W. C.

Littler, who was present, was drunk with musical honours. The next meeting of the Lodge will be held on Thursday, 18th inst.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 9/11/1889 - Advert

“Wanted, a good strong Girl, 18 to 20, from country preferred.
QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Mr. Stanley for *Sophia Matilda Crump*, the QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, applied for a music and dancing license for the large club room, and for a music and singing license for a small room on the premises. Refused.”

1891 Census

71, Station Street

- [1] *Sophia Matilda Crump* (49), widow, licensed victualler, born Blakenall;
- [2] George William Crump (27), son, commercial clerk, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Sarah Marshall (26), married, daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [4] Harry Crump (22), son, engineer's draughtsman, born Wednesbury;
- [5] Annie Crump (19), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [6] Maria Crump (16), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [7] Richard Marshall (25), son in law, assistant schoolmaster, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Richard G. W. Marshall (2), grandson, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Reginald C. H. Marshall (3 months), grandson, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Phoebe Asson (21), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

Walsall Advertiser 22/12/1894

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society was held on Thursday.....
New Members..... Mrs. *Sophia Crump*, QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1895

“William Wright (26), miner, 19, Alfred Street, Bloxwich, who was charged with having been drunk and disorderly in Station Street, Bloxwich, on April 13th, was so violent on the night in question that the magistrates, after hearing the evidence, decided not to discharge him although it was his first appearance.

Inspector Alden said he tried to persuade him to come peaceably out of the QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, but he would not, and became so violent that he had to be carried out. He then commenced to fight, and eventually had to be thrown to the ground and handcuffed.

‘I only had a drop of beer’ pleaded the prisoner, but the chairman retorted, ‘It must have been a good drop.’
He was fined 5s and costs, or 7 days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/8/1895

“Charles Taylor (35) watchmaker, no fixed abode, was charged on remand for that he being a bailee of a certain watch belonging to Joseph Loundes, contractor, 91, Station Street, did convert the same to his own use.

Complainant said that on a certain day in September or October, 1894, he was in the QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, and saw the prisoner there. In a conversation with him it was arranged that prisoner should call at his house to repair a watch.

The Chief Constable: Is the number of your watch the same as that of the watch produced? – Witness: Hardly. Some time ago I took it to Mr. Heitzman's, Bloxwich, and the number he gave me is slightly different to the one on the watch (produced). I think the number 1 has been missed by Mr. Hietzman.

Mr. Holden: Has the number 1 been erased? – No.

Witness continued his evidence stating the prisoner fetched the watch and he had seen him several times and asked about it, but it had not been returned. Prisoner told him that there was something the matter with it which he could not himself manage, and that he had sent it away to be repaired. On Thursday week he went to Hednesford, and there saw the watch in a pawnshop and identified it.

In reply to Mr. Corbett, witness said he did not wish to press the charge.

Julia Loundes, wife of Joseph Loundes, deposed to the prisoner calling at her house for a watch. She could not swear that the watch produced belonged to her husband but it was like it. She did not hand over the watch to the prisoner the first time, but complied with the request the second visit. She had on many occasions asked him for the watch, but could not get it, he making the same excuse to her as he did to her husband.

Annie Maria Bickley, manageress, and daughter of Thomas Vaughan, pawnbroker, Cannock Road, Hednesford, stated that on September 22nd, 1894, she received the watch (produced), which was pawned in the name of Arthur Evans, West Cannock Road, Hednesford. She believed it was the prisoner who pledged the watch. She had certainly seen him in her shop. On August 1st Inspector Cliffe and Joseph Loundes came to her shop and asked for the watch (produced), which Loundes thought was his.

Police-sergeant Gibbs, stationed at Cannock, said that on April 19th he arrested the prisoner on another charge. In his possession he found a bunch of keys. On April 20th the prisoner told witness he had a box at his lodgings in Reeves Street, Bloxwich. He gave him the key to the box, and told him he would find some pawntickets in it, and that among them there would be one with

reference to the case for which he then had him in custody. Witness searched the box and found ten pawntickets, and among them was the ticket (produced) on which the present charge was based. He showed prisoner the tickets at Cannock Police Station the same day, and he said he would make a clean breast of it. He would tell the officer to whom the other watches, for which he had the pawntickets belonged. He thought 'they will not do anything at me if they get the watches back.' He said the ticket (produced) was for a watch he had pledged belonging to a man named Loundes, of Bloxwich.

The second charge against Taylor was having converted to his own use between November and December of the last year a watch, value 30s, belonging to John Dockhouse, chequer, employed by the L. and N.W.R., at Bloxwich, and residing at 24, Church Street, Bloxwich.

Complainant said that on November 24th, 1894, he gave the watch (produced) to the prisoner to be repaired. On December 24th he saw the prisoner, and asked him for his watch. Taylor said he had sent to Coventry for some new wheels, which he wanted to put into the watch, and had not yet been supplied with them. He never returned the watch. He saw his watch in a pawnshop in Shaw Street where he was taken by Inspector Cliffe.

By Mr. Cobett: He did not want the man punished if he could get his back.

Ernest Herrick, partner in the firm of Cordwell and Herrick, pawnbrokers, Shaw Street, deposed to having, on December 10th, received the watch (produced) into pledge from the prisoner. On the 31st of last month he showed it to the last witness, who identified it was his property.

Police-sergeant Gibbs said prisoner admitted to him to whom the watch belonged.

The third charge was similar to the previous ones. The watch in this case belonged to William Fereday, miner, 120, Parker Street, Bloxwich, who said he gave the prisoner a silver Geneva watch to repair in December 1894. He asked him sometime afterwards when the watch would be finished, and he answered that he had had to take it to Birmingham to have a new spindle put in. He had not yet received the watch, which he valued at 10s. He next saw it on July 31st, when he visited Cordwell and Herrick's pawnshop, in company with Inspector Cliffe.

Ernest Herrick deposed to the watch (produced) having been pledged at his shop on January 11th by prisoner, he advanced 5s on it. Police-sergeant Gibbs gave similar evidence to that given in the previous charges.

Mr. Holden, who officiated as chairman in place of the Mayor, who had retired, said prisoner would be sent to the next Quarter Session for trial.

Mr. Corbett said it seemed to him a case of great persecution for his client to be charged on the present offences, when he had practically expiated his crime. He had been three months in solitary confinement awaiting the Cannock Sessions, and was then committed to one month's hard labour. On gaining his discharge he was immediately arrested and brought to Walsall. The different items on which the charges of that morning were based were very small, and the watches were to be replaced, so that he would ask the Bench instead of allowing bail to bind the prisoner over in his own recognisances to appear for trial. He had no doubt his client would have less punishment than the police wished he should have (the Chief Constable: We did not wish him to have any.) There is another little charge against prisoner, and I hope the Chief Constable will not drop on him as soon as he comes out of gaol.

The Chief Constable: I don't object to bail, but I think Mr. Corbett is aware of the practice of the Court. I have merely proved the case and have offered no evidence.

The bail as previously was allowed."

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

"The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The following is a return of licensees who have been proceeded against during the year ending August 30th, 1895.....

Sophia Crump, QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, for having kept her licensed premises open during prohibited hours on November 28th, 1894, dismissed.....

Other objections were against Mrs. *Crump*, QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, and in this instance proceedings were pending for the infringement of the license."

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1895

"*Sophia Crump*, QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, was summoned yesterday for permitting drunkenness on the 25th ult. Mr. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) defended. Police-sergeant Marshall stated that he visited the house and found a man there drunk with a jug before him. Police-constable Cook corroborated; but Mr. Jackson called the defendant and other witnesses, who denied that the man was drunk and the case was dismissed."

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1895

"The adjourned licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Owing to a criminal proceedings against Mrs. *Crump*, of the QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, having been decided in her favour the Chief Constable now withdrew his objection to the renewal of her license, which was forthwith granted."

Walsall Advertiser 23/11/1895

"Re *Sophia Matilda Crump*, the QUEENS HEAD, Station Street, Bloxwich. Public examination. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) attended on the bankrupt's behalf.

The statement of affairs showed liabilities £354 12 6d, of which £332 6s 2d was estimated to rank for dividend, and assets £180 12s 3d, leaving a deficiency of £151 3s 11d. The bankrupt's late husband, Mr. *G. Crump*, formerly a postmaster at a branch office at King's Hill, Wednesbury, carried on business at the QUEENS HOTEL from March 1887, to January, 1888, when he died. His wife continued the business until October 21, when, being pressed by creditors, she consulted her solicitors, and by their advice

filed her petition. She attributed her failure to taking her husband's business, which was insolvent, and bad trade. Adjourned until the 27th instant to close."

Walsall Observer 14/4/1900

"A smoking concert was held by the Court Royal George, Bloxwich, on Thursday evening, at the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, for the purpose of making a presentation to two of their members.

Mr. J. Benton, who has been secretary for 23 years, and Mr. W. Lees, who had been treasurer for the same number of years....."

John Lynforth = John Linforth

1901 Census

71, Station Street

[1] *John Linforth* (48), publican, born America (British);

[2] Helena Linforth (34), wife, born Lane Head;

[3] Cecilia Linforth (14), daughter, born Bilston;

[4] Bernard Linforth (6), son, born Willenhall;

[5] Winefrede Linforth (4), daughter, born Lane Head:

1911 Census

71, Station Street – QUEENS HOTEL

[1] *John Thomas Griffiths* (38), publican, born Bloxwich;

[2] Sarah Scholfield Griffiths (37), wife, married 15 years, assisting in business, born Wednesbury;

[3] Lilian Irene Griffiths (14), daughter, apprentice dressmaker, born Walsall;

[4] Gains Charles Griffiths (13), son, school, born Walsall;

[5] John Stephen Griffiths (11), son, school, born Walsall;

[6] Archibald Henry Griffiths (8), son, school, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, 2s 7½d."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich. £1 3s 0d."

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 7th March 1929.

The license renewal was refused on 27th June 1929.

It closed on 31st December 1929.

QUEENS

Norton Road / Victoria Road, (Brownhills Road), Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Ghilkes (1869 – [1871])

Thomas Lunt [1881]

John Dorsett [1890] – 1909);

Mrs. Hannah Dorsett (1909 – [1914])

Rowland D Massey [1932]

Bernard James Smith [1939]

Samuel Charles Holland [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

It was originally the QUEENS.

QUEENS HOTEL [1871], [1881], [1896], [1900], [1908], [1912], [1932], [1940]

1871 Census

Brownhills Road – QUEENS HOTEL

- [1] *John Ghilkes* (46), labourer at forge, born Grandbrogh, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Jane Ghilkes* (39), wife, born Kings Bromley, Staffordshire;
- [3] *William Ghilkes* (25), son, labourer at forge, born Grandbrogh, Warwickshire;
- [4] *Mary Ghilkes* (16), daughter, general servant, born Norton, Staffordshire;
- [5] *John Ghilkes* (13), son, coal miner, born Ogle Hay, Staffordshire;
- [6] *Jabex Ghilkes* (5), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] *Thomas Ghilkes* (2), son, born Pelsall;
- [8] *Alfred Marshall* (23), lodger, coal miner, born Galey, Staffordshire:

John Ghilkes – see also RAILWAY.

1881 Census

QUEENS HOTEL

- [1] *Thomas Lunt* (49), licensed victualler and beer agent, born Sutton Coldfield;
- [2] *Sarah Lunt* (43), wife, born Essington;
- [3] *Charles Thomas Lunt* (24), son, engine fitter, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Mary Jane Lunt* (22), daughter, hotel waitress, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Sarah Ann Lunt* (21), daughter, hotel waitress, born Pelsall;
- [6] *Frederick George Lunt* (17), son, railway clerk, born Pelsall;
- [7] *William Richard Lunt* (12), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [8] *Arthur Edward Lunt* (10), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [9] *J___ Arnold Lunt* (7), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [10] *Edith Lizzie Lunt* (5), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [11] *Ethel Maud Lunt* (8 months), daughter, born Pelsall:

Thomas Lunt – see also RAILWAY.

Birmingham Daily Post 23/10/1885

“The General Election..... A meeting was held at the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, in which Mr. Wiggins attended and addressed. Mr. J. H. Bullock presided over a large audience, and a resolution was passed similar to the meeting at Rushall.”
[In favour of the candidature of Mr. Wiggins, Liberal Candidate for the Handsworth Division.]

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

“The following publicans were granted one hour’s extension on Monday, October 6th, on the occasion of Pelsall wakes *John Dorsett*.”

1891 Census

Station Road – QUEENS HOTEL

- [1] *John Dorsett* (40), publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Hannah Dorsett* (33), wife, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
- [3] *John Dorsett* (14), son, scholar, Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Mary Dorsett* (11), daughter, scholar, Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Eliza Dorsett* (8), daughter, scholar, Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
- [6] *Thomas Dorsett* (3), son, Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
- [7] *Catherine Dorsett* (11 months), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [8] *Eliza Marklew* (18), general servant, born Pelsall;
- [9] *Sarah Eaden* (17), general servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/11/1899

“Mr. H. A. Pearson (County Coroner) held an inquest on Monday morning at the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, touching the death of *Samuel Willdig* (17), errand boy, formerly of Ash Tree Road, Pelsall. On Thursday night, about 10.30, the brother of the deceased found him hanging with a strap round his neck in an outhouse suspended from a beam. He was quite dead, and his boots were off. Deceased went home from work about 5.30 in the evening, had his tea as usual, and appeared all right. He went out again at 6.30, and was not seen alive again. No cause could be assigned for the rash act, and a verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind was returned.

A Juryman mentioned a rumour was current that deceased had been plagued by other boys, who had told him they would take him off for a soldier.

Police-constable Snow, however, stated that he had not heard of such a report.”

Walsall Observer 3/3/1900

“Albion Cricket Club. The annual dinner of this club was held at the club house, the QUEENS HOTEL, on Monday last, when over thirty sat down to an excellent repast, served by the host, Mr. J. Dorsett.....”

Walsall Observer 11/8/1900

“Manchester Unity of Oddfellows. On Tuesday last the members of the St. Michael’s Lodge of the Bescot Bridge District held their twenty-fourth annual dinner and march to church. The members met at their headquarters, QUEENS HOTEL, and headed by the Victoria Brass Band marched to the old Parish Church, where an excellent address was given by the Rev. R. W. Southwell, after which the village was paraded, and despite the rain a capital attendance of members was present. The dinner took place at the QUEENS HOTEL.....”

1901 Census

Station Road

- [1] John Dorsett (50), public house keeper, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Hannah Dorsett (45), wife, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
- [3] John Dorsett (24), son, bricklayer, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
- [4] Mary Dorsett (21), daughter, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
- [5] Eliza Dorsett (17), daughter, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
- [6] Thomas Dorsett (13), son, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire;
- [7] Kate Dorsett (10), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [8] Annie Dorsett (7), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [9] Florence Dorsett (6), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [10] Fanny Bull (19), domestic servant, born Pelsall:

Lichfield Mercury 30/10/1903

“Mr. H. A. Pearson, district coroner, held an inquest on Tuesday morning at the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, touching the death of Jenny Eveson (5), daughter of William Eveson, postman, Slate Row, Pelsall, who was fatally burned last Saturday. Mr. Snape was foreman of the jury.

Annie Eveson, mother of the deceased identified the body. About mid-day on Saturday witness went to a neighbour’s house leaving deceased in charge of a sister, aged nine. A few minutes afterwards a neighbour came to tell her deceased was on fire. The flames were extinguished with a coat and Dr. Wolverson was summoned. Deceased died next day. There was a guard at the fire. Another daughter informed witness that deceased lit a piece of paper and set her clothing on fire.

Sarah Ann Eveson, sister of the deceased, stated that she was coming across the common and heard a scream. She ran to the house and saw deceased in flames, which she extinguished with a coat.

Eliza Eveson (9), another sister gave evidence that deceased was left in her charge. Deceased pushed a paper bag through the guard and lit it at the fire, and set her clothing on fire. Witness screamed for her mother.

PC Milner gave evidence as to making enquiries.

Dr. Davies, of Pelsall, stated that the deceased was extensively burned about the lower part of the body. The cause of death was shock due to the burns sustained.

The Coroner, in summing up, said it was a very sad case. They had heard there was a fire guard, and the evidence seemed very straightforward. He thought their verdict would have to be Accidental Death. The jury returned a verdict accordingly.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/6/1904

“On Monday last Messrs. Winterson and Sons offered for sale by auction, at the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, a freehold messuage and shop and six cottages, situate at Pelsall, and let a rentals amounting to £64 2s 8d. The property was sold to Mr. Stokes for £650.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/9/1908

“The District Coroner (Mr. Gerald C. Lewis) held an inquiry at the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, on Wednesday morning, concerning the death of a miner named Walter Arms, of Church Street, Pelsall, who was injured at the Pinxton Colliery, Alfreton, Derbyshire, on January 23rd last. Mr. Madew (general manager) appeared for the Pinxton Collieries Ltd.

It was stated by Jane Arms, mother of the deceased, that her son returned home from Derbyshire about three weeks ago. He had been in the Nottingham Hospital about three months as the result of an accident, and since his return home he had been under the care of Dr. Trevor.

James Meredith, a collier employed at the Pinxton Colliery, stated that he was working in the same section of the pit when the accident occurred in January last. It was his (witness’s) duty to test the roof, and it was examined that morning prior to the accident. The deceased, in company with some other men, started to proceed along the workings to get their lunch when a piece of rock about ½cwt in weight gave way and alighted on the back of Arm’s head. There was no warning of the fall.

Dr. Edward Fitzgerald Trevor stated that Arms had been under his care for about three weeks and was suffering from a fracture of the spine, and also an immense bed sore on the lower part of his back. Death, in his opinion, was due to fracture of the spine and septic absorption from the bedsores.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and Mr. Madew, manager of the Pinxton Colliery, expressed the sympathy of the officials with the relatives in their bereavement. Mr. Madew added that twenty years ago he was connected with the Pelsall Collieries and it was no doubt owing to his connection with the collieries at Pelsall that this man came to work in Derbyshire.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/5/1909 - Deaths

“On the 5th inst, at his residence QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, *John Dorsett*, aged 58 years.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/5/1909

“The Rushall bench on Monday granted a temporary transfer of the license of the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, from *John Dorsett*’s executors to *Hannah Dorsett*, on the application of Mr. S. Grundy Newman.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/7/1909

“On the application of Mr. S. A. Newman, the Rushall Bench on Monday granted the full transfer of the license of the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, from the executors of the late *John Dorsett* to Mrs. *Hannah Dorsett*.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/10/1909

“Cricket Club. It would appear, in view of the fact that the old Albion club has been lying dormant for the past two seasons, that cricket in Pelsall has long since died away. However, through the instrumentality of Mr. Jas. Harrison and Mr. Jas. Edwards a meeting was held at the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, on Saturday evening to consider if the old club could be revived and judging by the keen enthusiasm manifested in the proceedings, it is obvious that there is still a great deal of interest taken in the good old national sport. Mr. E. Breeze who occupied the chair said it was a pity that Pelsall Cricket should have been allowed to temporarily fade away. The name of Pelsall Albion was known throughout the whole district, and he did not see why they could not for next season secure a team equal to any of the past. Mr. W. J. Rowley, who is one of the oldest members of the club said that no team could exist without enterprise, and it behoved everyone to do his utmost, then he was confident that the club if they decided to have one could not help but be a huge success.

It was then unanimously decided that the old club be revived, Mr. George Breeze being elected captain, whilst Mr. Charles Hodson was selected as vice-captain; Mr. Leonard Dilkes was appointed match secretary. The meeting was then adjourned until Tuesday next, the 19th inst. The majority of the old players are available, and it is hoped with the assistance of young members, to maintain the high standard of cricket, which has always been expected from Pelsall.”

1911 Census

Pelsall – QUEENS HOTEL

- [1] *Hannah Dorsett* (56), licensed victualler, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] Thomas Dorsett (23), son, bricklayer, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] Annie Dorsett (17), daughter, assistant in business, born Pelsall;
- [4] Florence Dorsett (16), daughter, assistant in business, born Pelsall;
- [5] Alice Cartwright (19), general servant, born Bilston:

Walsall Advertiser 4/4/1914

“The good fellowship and brotherly feeling that exists among the mining fraternity generally was strikingly demonstrated on Tuesday evening, when a benefit concert, organised by a few of his friends, was held at the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, for the benefit of Mr. James Taylor, who, unfortunately, met with an accident whilst working at the Wyrley (Harrison’s) Sinking Colliery in July of last year, and has been unable to follow his employment since. There was a large company present, and what is more gratifying, there is every indication that a handsome sum will be handed over to Mr. Taylor. Mr. W. H. Brownbridge presided. A capital musical programme had been arranged, to which Master Duce (pianist), Messrs. S. Deeley, Cliff, and Francis (soloists), F. Moore, and Williams (comedians) and last, but by no means least, the Brownhills Glee Party, contributed. Their items included ‘The Jolly Smith,’ ‘The Comrades’ Song of Hope,’ and ‘The Soldier’s Farewell.’ A duet, ‘The Battle Eve,’ was also given by Messrs. Cliff and Bradbury.

At the close the chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the artistes and Mrs. *Dorsett* (licensee) for so kindly lending the room, and this was carried unanimously. The chairman was also thanked for presiding.”

Lichfield Mercury 21/11/1924

“On Saturday evening a special meeting of members of Court Excelsior, No.445, A.O. Foresters, Walsall district, was held at the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall. Bro. W. Sanders presided over a good attendance, which included several District officials. During the business transacted, the Court Secretary (Bro. H. E. Williams) submitted the valuation report received for the last five years ending in 1923, which showed a relative solvency of 21s in the £; this was received with much satisfaction. Bro. C. Wootton, D.C. Ranger, said he had a pleasing duty to perform, and that was to make a presentation to their much-respected Bro. H. E. Williams of a past District Chief Ranger’s ribbon and certificate. The recipient briefly responded. During the evening light refreshments were partaken of. A vote of thanks was accorded the District officers and the chairman. The meeting terminated with the singing of ‘Auld Lang Syne.’ It may be stated that the court was opened in August, 1864, and the present secretary’s father, Bro. Williams, held the same position for a period of 38 years.”

Lichfield Mercury 23/10/1925

“Brownhills And District Air-Gun League.....

Pelsall OLD HOUSE AT HOME (away) defeated Pelsall QUEENS HOTEL (home) by 215 to 194.”

Lichfield Mercury 21/12/1934

“Brownhills And District Bagatelle League.....

With the first half of the completion completed, the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, head the table by games average only over Rose Villa W.M.C., Brownhills, with the Elms, Brownhills, two points behind.”

Evening Despatch 21/2/1939

“*Bernard James Smith*, licensee of the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, was fined £10 and seven guineas costs, at Rushall today for selling intoxicants at 3.10am on 22 January, and ordered to pay 4s on each of the two summonses of selling at 2.30am and aiding abetting two men in consuming.

Ellen *Smith*, his wife, was fined £1 and 4s costs, and Mary Shorthouse, of back Crescent, Queen Street, Chasetown, was ordered to pay 4s costs for aiding and abetting the sale.”

1939 Register

Norton Road – QUEENS HOTEL

[1] *Samuel C. Holland*, date of birth 15/3/1901, publican, own account, and coal miner, hewer below, married;

[2] *Daisy E. Holland*, dob 22/2/1903, assistant in public house, married;

[4] *Lucy M. (Blower) Ray*, dob 30/10/1922, domestic servant, single;

[5] *Samuel Ganderton*, dob 23/6/1903, coal miner, hewer below, single:

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/2/1940

“At Aldridge and Rushall General Licensing Sessions on Monday.....

All the licenses were renewed with the exception of the QUEENS HOTEL, at Pelsall, consideration of which was adjourned until March 11.”

Walsall Observer 18/8/1945

“I am satisfied that this unfortunate occurrence was brought about, not by any carelessness or negligence, but by the fact that the girl’s view was screened by the lorry and trailer parked outside the QUEENS HOTEL. She meant to go to Walsall, and it is clear that when she heard the Sheffield ’bus approaching she thought it was travelling to Walsall and rushed out from behind the lorry, meaning to run over the road and round the Cenotaph to the Walsall ’bus stop.’ These comments were made by the District Coroner (Mr. Frank Cooper) at an inquiry at Rushall Police Station on Tuesday, concerning the death of Margaret Lloyd (aged 20), of 84, Ash Tree Road, Pelsall.

Her father, Josiah Lloyd, of the same address, said that on Friday, August 10th she left home at about 10 o’clock, meaning to go to Walsall. At 12.30 he learned she had met with an accident.

Thomas Barnard, of ‘Woodland,’ Allens Lane, Pelsall, said that at about 11.45 on August 10th, he was a passenger on a ’bus travelling from Bloxwich to Sheffield. As the ’bus approached the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Road, he noticed a brewer’s lorry and trailer parked outside. The ’bus began to slow up for the stop about 25 yards beyond the hotel, as it was passing the trailer the driver jammed on his brakes and the ’bus stopped almost immediately.

Witness said that when he got out of the ’bus he saw that a girl was pinned under the near side of the front of the ’bus. The driver had to reverse in order to release her. As far as he could see the driver was in no way to blame for the accident.

Alfred Henry Snape, of 1, Station Road, Pelsall, said he was in his shop when his attention was attracted by the screech of brakes and a woman’s scream. He ran out to see what was the matter and saw a girl lying pinned under the front near side of a single decker ’bus, travelling to Sheffield. He directed the driver to reverse the vehicle.

Daisy Ellen Holland, of the QUEENS HOTEL, Pelsall, said that she was looking through a front upstairs window at the time of the accident. She saw the girl walking past the trailer as a single decker ’bus was approaching from behind at moderate speed. As the ’bus was passing the end of the trailer the girl ran from the pavement, as if making for the Walsall ’bus stop, and was knocked down by the ’bus. In her opinion the driver could not possibly have avoided the accident.

Sidney Smith, of 38, Station Road, said he was standing by the Sheffield ’bus stop, just behind the QUEENS HOTEL, when he saw the girl dash from behind the trailer. When she got clear she saw the approaching ’bus and hesitated for a moment, but was unable to avoid it.

Dr. W. W. McCullough said that Miss Lloyd had been employed by him as a maid for over two years. She died about three minutes after he was called to the scene of the accident from shock due to multiple injuries.

In recording his verdict of Accidental Death, the Coroner said, ‘I am satisfied that there was no negligence of any kind on the part of the driver’.”

It was renamed the BLOCK AND CHOPPER. [2003], [2005]

It was renamed QUEENS. [2007]

Express & Star 26/4/2019

“A hair salon aimed at serving low income families will close as part of a Walsall pub’s expansion plans. Marston’s wants to expand the QUEENS in Norton Road in Pelsall, to make it ‘a facility the village can be proud of.’ But the proposal, which was approved by Walsall Council’s planning committee, will result in the loss of Kand Hair which operates in part of the overall building owned by the brewery.

Salon owner Greg Lake told members that there were no available premises in the area for them to move to and closure will result in the loss of three jobs. Mr Lake, who has operated from the premises for seven years, said, ‘I don’t feel there is any need for this

extension as the pub is never full apart from on carnival day or on New Year's Eve. The application says they are trying to create more kerb appeal by unifying the building. We have no objection to renovating the front but moving my business will put my employers on the dole.'

As part of the renovations, Marston's will install a bay window to the front where the hair salon currently sits to give the building a uniformed look. Representatives for Marston's told the committee that CCTV has been installed to the building as a response to anti-social behaviour happening in the area. They said, 'It is a pub that is in growth. We want to make the pub bigger and better and invest in a tired building and make it a facility the village will be proud of.'

Express & Star 22/3/2021

'Pubs group Marston's has issued a list of pubs set to reopen in the Black Country on April 12th. In the Express & Star circulation area this takes in 93. Due to coronavirus restrictions they will only be able to accommodate customers in outdoor areas including beer gardens and seated areas. To accompany table service, Marston's has introduced an online ordering system called 'Marston's Tap'. The online platform is available across the majority of Marston's pubs for guests to use. Bookings are being accepted and guests can reserve a table via each pub's website. Wolverhampton-based Marston's has an estate of around 1,400 pubs across the UK and not all in England are able to reopen in April due to not having an outdoor space.....
QUEENS, Norton Road, Pelsall.'

[2021]

QUEENS HOTEL

30, Station Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Mary Loseby
Northampton Brewery Co. [1904], [1910]
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired on 31st August 1936)
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Gastlow [] – **1858**);
John Loseby (**1858** – [1862]
Mrs. Mary Loseby [1864] – **1886**);
Joseph Henry Jeffries (**1886** – **1888**);
Charles Francis Brown (**1888** – **1894**);
William Jenkins (**1894** – **1895**);
Alfred Ashwin (**1895** – **1904**);
Ernest Grimes (**1904** – **1905**);
Fred Short (**1905** – **1906**);
Edgar John Palmer (**1906** – **1921**); manager
Clement James Jones (**1921** – **1924**);
George William England (**1924** – **1925**);
Arthur Henry Harris (**1925** – **1930**);
Herbert Charles Hancock (**1930** – **1932**);
William Richard Billson (**1932** – **1934**);
Joseph Herbert Taylor (**1934** – **1936**);
Charles Morris (**1936**);
Albert Edwards (**1936** – **1937**);
David Davis (**1937** – **1938**);
Richard Rushton (**1938**);

NOTES

QUEENS HEAD [1858]
QUEENS HOTEL and Commercial House [1858]
QUEEN INN [1865], [1868], [1872]

It was situated opposite the railway station.

Joseph Gastlow = Joseph Gostlow

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 25/1/1858

"In Re *Gostlow*, Walsall, victualler.

A meeting for the last examination of the bankrupt. His debts amounted to £1,150 11s 11d, of which he is deficient £527. It appears from his examination by Mr. Reece that he had kept the Ratcliff Arms Inn, at Wolverton, and that he also kept the Laurence Sheriff's Arms, at Rugby, from whence he removed to the QUEENS HOTEL, at Walsall. When living at Wolverton his wife saved £400 unknown to him, which she deposited with the Newport Pagnell Saving's Bank, in the name of herself and her children. He drew that money, spent £120 in the purchase of coal-waggons, and returned the rest to his wife, who again resumed her saving habits unknown to the bankrupt; and on occasion she told a Mr. George Mills, of Newport Pagnell, a farmer, that if her husband wanted to borrow £300 from him he might lend it, and she could repay him out of the money at the Bank. In this manner the transaction between him and Mr. Mills which formed the ground of suspicion, occurred. After answering a few unimportant questions, the opposition was abandoned, and the bankrupt was allowed to pass."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/6/1858

"On Wednesday, A. A. Fletcher Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the QUEENS HEAD, Station Street, on the body of Charles Blakewell, aged 32, who had been accidentally killed on the railway about 300 yards from Bescot. The deceased, who was rather tipsy at the time the accident occurred, had left Walsall in company with a person named Spittal, and was walking along the portion of the South Staffs Railway between Dudley Junction and Bescot, about a quarter to ten o'clock, when the train due at Bescot Junction at 9.30 came up behind them, and when it was within a few yards of them deceased became alarmed, and in endeavouring to get out of the way of the train left the 'six foot' (the space between the two lines of rails) upon which he and his companion were walking, and getting on the railway, was knocked down by the engine, and the train passed over him causing instantaneous death. The deceased who resided at West Bromwich is a forgerstriker by trade, and has left a wife and four children, the oldest of whom is about 9 years of age. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death. No blame can be attached to the engine driver, who signalled before coming round the curve to which the deceased and his companion were walking....."

London Gazette 15/6/1858

"In the Matter of *Joseph Gostlow*, of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, Dealer and Chapman, a Bankrupt. I Hereby give notice, that the creditors who have proved their debts under the above estate, may receive a First Dividend of 4s 3½d in the pound, upon application at my office, as under, on Tuesday, the 15th of June, 1858, or on any subsequent Tuesday, between the hours of eleven and three of the clock. No Dividend will be paid without the production of the securities exhibited at the time of proving the debt. Executors and administrators will be required to produce the probate of the will or the letters of administration under which they claim.

Frederick Whitmore, Official Assignee, No.19, Temple-street, Birmingham."

Walsall Free Press 26/6/1858 - Advert

"Cricket Match. Dudley v. Walsall.

On Monday, the 28th instant, at the Play Ground, Chuckery. Wickets to be pitched at 10 o'clock, a.m. Dinner at the QUEEN'S HOTEL, Station Street, Walsall, at half-past seven.

We shall be glad of as many members and friends to dine as can make it convenient.

R. Beardsall and G. Bayley, Hon. Secs."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 14/8/1859

"To be shot for, at *John Loseby's*, QUEENS HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, Aug 30, four splendid home-fed pigs, 30 members, at 10s each; the first to take two pigs, second one, and third and fourth half one each. To shoot at three birds each, gun ¾in bore, 1¾oz shot, 21 yards rise, double guns 1½oz of shot, 19 yards rise, 60 boundary. The shooting will take place on Chuckley Cricket Ground, Walsall. The best blue rocks will be provided by Darby. Shooting to commence at one o'clock."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 25/9/1859

"R. Thomas is backed to travel on foot 70 miles in 12 hours, Mr. Rocke of Wolverhampton having taken a bet of £15 to £10 that he completes the distance in the given time. The match to come off tomorrow (Monday). To start from the EARL GREY, Walsall Street, Wolverhampton, to the QUEENS HOTEL, Walsall, to and fro till the distance is complete."

1861 Census

Station Street

[1] *John Loseby* (44), hotel proprietor, born Wymondham, Lancashire;

[2] *Mary Loseby* (52), wife, born Rutland;

[3] *Mary Loseby* (22), daughter, born Rutland;

[4] *Annie Ellen Loseby* (16), daughter, born Nottingham;

[5] *John Brown* (29), son in law, billiard marker, born Rugby;

[6] *Elizabeth Brown* (18), daughter, born Nottingham;

[7] *Annie Ellen Brown* (1), granddaughter, born Walsall;

- [8] Hannah Bryan (28), niece, dressmaker, born Rutland;
[9] John Longdon (42), lodger, commercial traveller, born Bristol;
[10] Henry Walker (28), lodger, commercial traveller, born Bristol Carth, Gloucestershire;
[11] Frederick Loseby (28), brother, general servant, born Wymondham, Lancashire;
[12] Hannah Stokes (20), house servant, born Walsall:

London Gazette 24/9/1861

“*John Loseby*, late of the QUEENS HOTEL, Station-street, Walsall, Staffordshire, out of business. In the Gaol of Lichfield.”

London Gazette 4/10/1861

“*John Loseby*, late of the QUEENS HOTEL, Station-street, Walsall, Staffordshire, in lodgings, out of business, previously of the QUEENS HOTEL, Station-street, Walsall aforesaid, Hotel Keeper, formerly of the same place and business, and also licensed to let out Horses and Gigs to Hire.”

Mary Loseby = *Mary Coseby* = *Mary Losely*

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/7/1864

“Staffordshire Summer Assizes.....

John Corns, 21, described as a veterinary surgeon, was indicted for having assaulted Samuel Pattin, on the 10th of May last, at Walsall, and stolen from his person £7; the indictment setting forth that the prisoner had pressed the prosecutor’s throat. Mr. Ainstie conducted the prosecution, and the prisoner was defended by Mr. Best.

The prosecutor, who is a miner, living at Rycroft Hill near Walsall, deposed that on the day in question he was drinking at various public-houses, and according to his own account, he was drunk. He had seven sovereigns in a leathern bag in an inner waistcoat pocket. In the course of the evening he got into a row, in which he lost his cap. He afterwards went with a man named Joseph Reynolds to the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, Walsall, where he had more to drink. In the yard of this house he spoke to Reynolds as to the loss of his cap, and Reynolds wanted him to give him half a crown, which he refused, but offered 1s if he would recover prosecutor’s cap, and Reynolds said, ‘Your billycock is all right.’ He afterwards went with Reynolds down Marsh Lane, and when near Edge’s public-house he was attacked and knocked down, and Corns grasped him by the throat, another man held him down, and Reynolds took the bag out of his pocket. They then went away, but the prisoner returned and put prosecutor’s hat on his head. He said he saw the three men stand against the wall after the robbery, and that he went past them to the public-house, got some men from there, and went back and found prisoner standing there. He said he saw the three men who robbed him; but a man, who left the house with him, could see no one until they got round the corner, when they found prisoner, who denied having anything to do with the matter, but said Reynolds had the money. He did not offer to go away. A number of men, who were in the public-house when prosecutor ran there and said he had been robbed were called. They all acknowledged that they were tipsy. They spoke to the prosecutor saying Corns had held him while he was robbed. The prosecutor denied that he had any recollection of having charged an abandoned girl, named Ellen Bellingham, with having taken the £7; but, for the defence this girl, with whom the prosecutor had been for an improper purpose, swore that prosecutor accused her of stealing £7 from him near the QUEENS HOTEL, and a number of persons who came out of the QUEENS HOTEL at the time spoke to this accusation. The prosecutor stated that the £7 was restored to him by Moses Millington, a friend of the prisoner. A number of witnesses spoke to the prisoner’s good character, and the jury found him not guilty.

The Judge who had remarked on the sad state of drunkenness which appeared to prevail among the parties who had been called, strongly urged the prisoner for the future to avoid positions rendering him liable to such charges.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/3/1866

“Staffordshire Lent Assizes.....

Michael Conroy, 23, labourer, was indicted for having feloniously wounded Thomas Stokes with a knife, on the 9th December, at the borough of Walsall, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm. Mr. Motteram prosecuted. Prosecutor was drinking at the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, Walsall, and a row occurred between prisoner and a man named Howe respecting the merits of stirrup polishing. Prosecutor said the prisoner did not know anything about stirrups. Prisoner said, with an oath, ‘He would very soon show him; if he said much he’d put one in him.’ A fight took place between them, when prosecutor suddenly felt himself stabbed in the hip. Prisoner ran away, but was pursued and given into custody. The accused urged in defence that he was first assaulted by prosecutor, and when going away was hustled and knocked about by his companions. He then took out his knife, and threatened to stab anyone that approached him. He struck out wildly, and hit Stokes on the hip.

Mr. F. P. Palmer, surgeon, examined the wound, which though serious was not dangerous, as the progress of the knife was stopped by the hip bone.

The jury found the prisoner guilty of unlawfully wounding, and he was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

Walsall Free Press 30/6/1866 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Hotel And Premises, known as the QUEENS HOTEL, Opposite the Passenger Station of the South Staffordshire Railway.

Mr. H. Farrington, is instructed to Offer by Public Auction, at the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS, Park Street, on Tuesday, the 3rd of July, 1866, at Six o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions then to be produced.

The recently erected and handsome Freehold Building & Premises, No.30, known as the QUEENS HOTEL, directly opposite the

Passenger Station, in Station Street, in the occupation of Mrs. *Mary Loseby*.

The House contains on the ground floor: an elegant and lofty Wine and Spirit Shop 25ft 6in by 15ft 9in, Entrance Hall, Commercial Room 21ft by 15ft 9in, Smoke Room 14ft 9in by 14ft 3in, Parlour 15ft by 12ft, all 12ft 9in in height; on the first floor: a noble Assembly Room or Billiard Room 88ft by 21ft, two lofty Bed Rooms, Store Closet and Water Closets; on the second floor: five spacious Bed Rooms and Closets; the Cooking Kitchen with Brewhouse and Room over are detached, approached by an awning and there are all necessary Out-offices and four excellent arched Cellars, and two Wine Cellars, together with the large Court and Stable Yard, pump of excellent water, Stabling and Loft over, and Coach-house.

The valuable site at present occupied by the Stabling &c, might with great advantage be used for erection of Retail Business Premises, and the Stabling might be erected on land at the back, with the entrance from the new made Road.

The above property has a frontage of 24yds 1ft to Station Street, and 21yds 3in to a Street just formed, leading to Navigation Street and Marsh Lane, and contains an area of 619 square yards or thereabouts.

For plans and further particulars apply to Mr. C. Beaton, Solicitor, Victoria Buildings, Temple Row, Birmingham, or to the Auctioneer, Walsall."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/4/1869 - Advert

"Wanted, a good Billiard marker.

Apply, QUEENS HOTEL, Walsall."

The Era 30/10/1870 - Advert

"Geo. Ginnett is prepared to treat with First-class Male and Female Equestrians, Clowns, Acrobats, Gymnasts, &c, for the Winter Season.

Address, QUEENS HOTEL, Walsall."

1871 Census

30, Station Street – QUEENS HOTEL

- [1] *Mary Loseby* (64), widow, innkeeper, born Chipsham (?), Rutland;
- [2] Eliza Harding (55), visitor, born Birmingham;
- [3] Maria Bonet (20), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [4] Francis Harvey (55), billiard marker, born _____ wick, Norfolk;
- [5] Maria Hartell (18), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [6] Thomas Peniston (18), domestic servant, born Saxby, Leicestershire:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/9/1873

"The committee of the Walsall Cottage Hospital beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following contributions that have been received up to yesterday from the Licensed Victuallers and beersellers.....

Mrs. *Loseby*, QUEENS HOTEL, £1 17s."

Lichfield Mercury 14/1/1879

"On Saturday, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest, at the QUEENS HOTEL, Walsall, on the body of Mr. George Dunn, aged 41, one of the officials of the Cannock Chase Colliery Company, who was killed at Walsall Railway Station, on Thursday, 17th inst. A letter from Mr. Monckton, Rugley, produced, was to the effect that as deceased was running to reach a particular carriage, he was thrown under the train owing to his left shoulder coming into contact with a person on the platform; but, according to the testimony of a witness who was called, he had actually got his foot on the step of the carriage when he fell. It was stated that he was of sober and regular habits, and it may be added that he was well-known and much respected. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

1881 Census

Station Street – QUEENS HOTEL

- [1] *Mary Loseby* (73), widow, licensed victualler, born Rutland;
- [2] Joseph H. Jeffries (31), son in law, saddler, born Walsall;
- [3] Annie E. Jeffries (33), daughter, born Nottingham;
- [4] Jane James (44), widower, house keeper, born Walsall;
- [5] Thomas _____? (26), billiard marker, born Lancashire;
- [6] Alice Wilson (15), general servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/5/1882

"Yesterday, Mr. Fletcher (coroner) held an inquest at the QUEENS HOTEL, Walsall, on the body of a young woman who dropped dead in the Walsall Railway Station on Tuesday afternoon, and who in the meantime had been identified as Eliza Lester, alias Johnson of Hednesford. At the time of her death, she was on her way home from the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned."

Walsall Advertiser 18/8/1888 - Advert

"Wanted, a smart Lad as Billiard Marker, and to make himself generally useful in the house.

Apply, QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, Walsall."

Charles Brown was fined 40s and costs, on 24th November 1890, for selling intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours.

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Mr. W. L. Stanley, on behalf of *Charles Francis Brown*, the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, applied for a music and singing license for Friday evenings for a room upstairs ordinarily used as a billiard room. Refused.”

Charles Francis Brown – check SADDLERS ARMS, 30, Station Street.

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893 - Advert

To Let, with immediate possession, the QUEEN’S HOTEL, Station Street, Walsall.

For further particulars, apply Messrs. Watkins, Powell & Wood, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/11/1897

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Alfred Ashwin*, QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Then the magistrates also want to know if you can report to them during the sitting of this meeting as to the accommodation provided by the GEORGE HOTEL, the STORK, the DRAGON, the PRIORY, NEW INNS, the WOOLPACK, and the QUEENS?the Chief Constable said he was then in possession of the information asked by the Magistrates with reference to the bedroom accommodation at the hotels. At the GEORGE HOTEL there were nineteen beds for commercials. The two large rooms at that hotel, formerly used for balls, &c, had been converted into eight bedrooms and a bathroom, and no plans had been submitted for the alterations. At the PRIORY there were six bedrooms for accommodation, five at the DRAGON, three at the QUEENS, but there was no bedroom accommodation at the STORK, NEW INNS, and the WOOLPACK Hotels.....

Mr. Loxton announced that the hotel licenses would be renewed with the exception of the GEORGE.”

1901 Census

30, Station Street

- [1] *Alfred Ashwin* (37), hotel keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Kate Ashwin (32), wife, born Rugby;
- [3] Joseph A. Ashwin (13), son, born Leicester;
- [4] Doris G. Ashwin (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Caroline Gilbert (22), barmaid, born Great Bridge;
- [6] Gertrude Gilbert (18), barmaid, born Great Bridge;
- [7] Francis Stanley (18), general servant, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1901

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Alfred Ashwin* The President reported that the picnic on Thursday (4th July) to the Cotswolds was entirely satisfactory, and was self supporting. The society was to be congratulated on the successful arrangements for so large a gathering.”

Alfred Ashwin was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1904

“An application was made by Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) for a temporary transfer of the license of the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, from *Alfred Ashwin* to *Ernest Grimes*. Mr. Jackson said he thought it was only fair he should tell the magistrates that at his last house, the Granby Arms, Nuneaton, Mr. *Grimes* made an error of judgement and was fined £2 and costs for permitting drunkenness. He had testimony from the police of Nuneaton as to the manner in which he had conducted his house during the three years previous to his conviction. The company (Northampton Brewery Company) owned both houses, and he thought it was sufficient to show their trust in Mr. *Grimes* that they were willing to have him as occupier of another of their houses.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) said he had a letter from the Nuneaton police bearing out Mr. Jackson’s statement. It seemed that the Brewery Company at the time of the conviction determined to make an example of *Grimes* and so gave him notice.

The transfer was granted.”

[This was confirmed on 31st May, 1904]

Walsall Advertiser 4/6/1904

“Transfer Day.

Mr. Jackson in applying for the transfer of the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, which was temporary granted a short time ago from *Alfred Ashwin* to *Ernest Grimes*, repeated the statement he then made to the magistrates. He explained that the in-going tenant, who had paid £500 for valuation, had previously held the license of the Granby Head, Nuneaton, where owing to an error of judgement on the part of a barmaid, he was fined £2 and costs for permitting drunkenness. It was an unfortunate circumstance, but he had a testimonial from the police at Nuneaton to the effect that the man had held the license for three years without complainant up to the time of the conviction, and they said that, had he applied for a renewal, it would have been granted; but the brewery company determined to make an example of him, and gave him notice to quit. This house belonged to the same company, and the tenancy was one of £80 a year. Granted.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905]

Edgar John Palmer was fined 20s and costs, on 29th April 1907, for suffering gaming.

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“The hotel was described in 1910 as being an alehouse with 4 Public rooms, Vaults, 2 Smoke rooms and Billiard room, there is also a sitting room, living room/kitchen, across the yard are a Brewery stores and offices with stabling for 3 horses. The whole place is very untidy and not in the condition expected for a Hotel of this class.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

The case of the QUEENS HOTEL was next taken. Mr. H. H. Jackson appearing for the Northampton Brewery Co, the owners, and Mr. *Edgar John Palmer*, the manager.

Chief-inspector Ballance, after describing the accommodation, &c, said the place was untidy and not in a proper condition for a hotel of that class. It was the biggest house of the four in Station Street, but he thought it did the least trade. Apparently it was not carried on as a first-class hotel at the present time. There were 14 bedrooms, but only three of them were used.

In reply to Mr. H. H. Jackson, witness said the building was the best in the street.

Mr. Jackson gave the figures showing the value of the premises, and submitted that it was the best house in the street; there was no long pull, there was no music, and the average takings amounted to £25 per week. In no way did any house in the street compare with the QUEENS HOTEL. The trade was a very quiet and unassuming one, and there could be no objection to it. In fact, it was so quiet that they had apparently deceived Inspector Ballance, and that was the sort of trade that was wanted. With regard to the bedrooms, they would very much like to let them out but nowadays commercial travellers would not stop in Walsall. They preferred to go to Birmingham. With regard to the trade, in 1907 the average was 198 barrels, in 1908 it was 182, an in 1909 it was 175. In addition 369 gallons of spirits were sold in 1907, 401 in 1908, and 343 in 1909, while 354½ dozen pints of bottled beer were disposed of in 1907, 740½ in 1908, and 667 in 1909. From October 1st to January 28th the takings averaged £24 10s per week. *Edgar John Palmer*, the licensee, stated in evidence that the figures given by Mr. Jackson related to the trade done in the house only.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

The Magistrates decided to renew the licenses of the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, and the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, and the VICTORIA, Lower Rushall Street.”

1911 Census

80, Corporation Street

[1] *Edgar John Palmer* (48), brewer’s manager, Northampton Brewery Co, born Ipswich;

[2] *Jemima Palmer* (40), wife, married 19 years, born Walsall;

[3] *Alan Palmer* (18), son, brewer’s clerk, Northampton Brewery Co, born Walsall;

[4] *Wilfred Palmer* (9), son, school, born Walsall;

[5] *Vincent Palmer* (8), son, school, born Walsall;

[6] *Lewis Palmer* (6), son, school, born Walsall:

[Though the address is not the pub, it is probably the right person.]

Walsall Observer 20/11/1915 - Advert

“To Let, Northampton Brewery Offices, 30, Station Street, Suitable for stock or show room.

E. J. Palmer, QUEENS HOTEL, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street. £1 0s 0d.”

Lichfield Mercury 12/11/1926

“The story of a midnight attack on a young woman was told to the Rushall magistrates on Monday, when *Patrick McKeown* (33), miner, 405, Huntingdon Terrace, Hednesford, pleaded guilty to maliciously causing bodily harm to *Miriam Charles* (21), 10,

Council Houses, Rushall.

Miss Charles, who is a grocer's assistant, stated that about 11.50 on October 28th she was returning home from Walsall. When within a few yards of the Rushall Churchfields she heard someone behind her. On looking round she saw a man. When within a few yards of the Navvies' Bridge she again turned round, and was hit on the head. She fell, and when she screamed the man put his hand over her mouth. While struggling with him she took a bottle from him. She screamed again, and a policeman came on the scene.

Dr. J. Stirling, of Sheffield, said the girl had a wound at the back of the right ear about an inch long, and penetrating the whole thickness of the scalp. She lost a considerable amount of blood. He thought that what she was wearing saved her from more serious injury.

Joseph John Froggatt, farm labourer, Spout Lane, Walsall, stated that as he was going to Rushall McKeown spoke to him near the Walsall Arboretum, saying he wanted a night's 'doss,' and asking if witness knew a cemetery with white stones in it, and a white gate. Witness told him there was one at Ryecroft. McKeown left him at Cambridge Lane. Prisoner had had some drink, but he was not drunk.

Arthur Henry Harris, licensee of the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, Walsall, said that about 9.30pm on October 28th McKeown left the house with a bottle of stout. He returned about 10.40 and asked for a night's lodgings. When refused he went away.

McKeown was arrested at his home by Police Inspector Clarke, and when charged he replied, 'Well, I will be straight about it. I plead guilty. I was under the influence of drink when I left the QUEENS HOTEL. I wandered about the town and drank a bottle of beer. After being refused lodgings I wandered about the town until I got to where the girl was. She was in front of me. I overtook her, and I know no more until I hit her with the bottle. She screamed, and I ran up the bank and lay under the hedge. Afterwards I went to Bentley Common. I hope the girl is not the worse for it.'

McKeown expressed his sorrow, and said he would not have done it had he been sober. 'I can't remember doing the job, so it's no use me telling lies,' he added.

Accused had two convictions for drunkenness, and Inspector Clarke stated that McKeown was of a violent nature when under the influence of drink. He had worked at about fifteen collieries, but he did not remain long at any of them.

The Chairman (Mr. E. H. Barnett) said young people must be protected, and McKeown would have the maximum punishment – six months' hard labour. The police were to be congratulated on having traced the man."

Albert Edwards – see also CROWN AND CUSHION.

It closed on 5th May 1938.

The license was transferred to the COALPOOL TAVERN.

QUEENS HEAD

140, (110), Church Street / Field Road, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

George Ross

Mrs. Mary Maria Ross

Adam Harper, chartermaster, Wolverhampton [1881]

City Brewery (Lichfield) Co. Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Ross [1857] – [1872];

Mrs. Mary Maria Ross [];

Adam Harper [1881] – 1907);

John Smith (1907 – 1922);

Cyril Charles James (1922 – 1923); manager

John Richard Holden (1923 – 1935); manager

Arthur Sydney Draper (1935 – 1942);

Henry Charles Cooper (1942 – 1956);

Leonard Spencer Hopkins (1956 – 1958);

Frank Dawkin (1958 – [1966]

Mrs. Sandhu [2015]

NOTES

110, Church Street [1881]
140, Church Street [1901], [1939]

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....
George Ross, Bloxwich. Granted.”

Walsall Free Press 14/8/1858

“*George Ross*, landlord of the QUEENS HEAD Public-house, Bloxwich, was fined 5s and costs for having on Sunday last kept his house open, during prohibited hours, for the sale of drink.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... The following parties were then called over, and as they came for their licenses, were duly cautioned individually.....

George Ross, of the QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich, who, on the 11th instant, had been fined 1s and costs for a similar offence.”
[selling drink on a Sunday during prohibited hours]

George Ross was also a bridle bit maker. [1860]
He was described as also a bit maker. [1861]

1861 Census

Bloxwich – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *George Ross* (48), bitt maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Ann Maria Ross (49), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Jane Ross (20), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Ann Maria Ross (16), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Eliza Ross (15), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Mary Ann Ross (7), daughter, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 27/4/1861

“On Friday last an accident occurred in a coal pit of the Hatherton colliery, belonging to W. F. Fryer, Esq, which resulted in the death of a young man named James Steel, a miner, working in the pit. On the morning of the day in question, deceased was following his usual avocation in the pit, when a mass of coal fell upon him, causing (it is supposed) instant death. The body was dug out quickly, but life was quite extinct. An inquest was held at the QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich, on Tuesday last, when a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

George Ross was described as a stirrup maker. [1864]
He was described as a bit and stirrup maker. [1865]
He was described as a bridle bit maker. [1868], [1870], [1871]

1871 Census

Church Street – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *George Ross* (58), bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Mary A. Ross (59), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Mary A. Ross (17), daughter, born Bloxwich:

Adam Harper was the son of Adam Harper of the FOUR CROSSES, Leamore, Bloxwich.

1881 Census

110, Church Street – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Adam Harper* (33), charter master, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Jane Harper (32), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Elizabeth F. Harper (10), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Ellen Harper (9), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Jane Harper (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Catherine Harper (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Adam Harper (5), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Florence Harper (3), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [9] George H. Harper (2), son, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Arthur J. Harper (7 months), son, born Bloxwich;
- [11] Emma Jane Holden (21), boarder, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [12] Jane Rawson (19), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 14/10/1882 - Register of Sales

“Wednesday, October 18th. Sale of Public House, Fixtures, Household Furniture, &c, at the QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich, at 10.30am.”

Walsall Observer 4/4/1885

“.....Mr. Thomas Farrington has received instructions from the executors of the late Mr. *George Ross*, to offer the following Property by Auction, at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Church Street, on Monday, 13th April, 1885.....

Lot 1. The Valuable, Freehold, Old-licensed Public House, known as the QUEENS HEAD situate in Church Street (corner of Field Street), Bloxwich, in the occupation of Mr. *A. Harper*, at the annual rent of £36. The House contains Liquor Vaults (27ft by 12ft), Smoke Room, Club Room (36ft by 15ft), two Kitchens, Brewhouse, four capital Cellars, Malt Room, four Bedrooms; Yard, Stable, Piggeries, and gateway entrance into Field Street.....”

Lichfield Mercury 18/5/1888

“At the Petty Sessions, on Wednesday, *Adam Harper*, landlord of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Bloxwich, was summoned for making a wrong entry in his brewing book on the 22nd February.

An Excise officer at Bloxwich deposed to the quantity of wort and the taking of samples for analysis.

Charles Henry Burge, analytical chemist to Somerset House, gave evidence as to the result of the analysis, which showed that the wort contained 2.9 of sugar, which would give 44lbs for the quantity brewed, whereas defendant had put the quantity at 12lbs.

The Bench inflicted a penalty of £5 and costs.”

(Short

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

Adam Harper, of the QUEENS HOTEL, Church Street, Bloxwich, applied for a music license for Thursdays and Saturdays, from 7.30 to 10.30pm. The landlord was represented by Mr. H. H. Jackson, who informed the magistrates that a club of Oddfellows, numbering some 140, met at his client’s house, and they wanted a little music when they held their concerts. There was no special object for the license to be granted for Thursdays, except that the shops closed early, and Mr. *Harper* was often applied to for a room wherein to hold a smoking concert. Bloxwich, he believed, was musical (laughter), but they were deficient in music licenses.

In reply to Mr. Brewer, Mr. Jackson said the house would absolutely be restricted to members of the Oddfellows lodge.

On the advice of the Bench, Mr. *Harper* withdrew the application as regard Thursdays.

The Chief Constable did not oppose the application for Saturday.

The application, as amended, was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing session for the borough of Walsall were held in the Guildhall yesterday.....

Mr. Jackson, on behalf of Mr. *Adam Harper*, licensed victualler, QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich, applied for a singing and music license for the QUEENS HEAD, for alternate Monday evenings, when the Foresters Royal George Court of Miners (5194), hold their meetings. He already had a license for alternative Saturdays, when a lodge of the Oddfellows assembled. Granted.”

Walsall Observer 21/7/1900

“On Monday night a dinner to bid farewell to Councillor Littler, who is leaving England next month for New Zealand, was given at the QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich, and was provided and served in a way which reflected credit on Mr. *Harper*, the landlord.....”

Walsall Observer 11/8/1900

“Last night a meeting of the local miners was held at the QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich, when Councillor B. Dean presided over a large attendance, supported by Messrs. Jordan, Venables, Edwards and Lane (treasurer).

The Chairman, in opening the meeting, traced the advantages that had been made in their trade since 1888, and also spoke of matters which took place before that date, especially commenting on the fluctuation of miners’ wages. Since that time things had been more settled, and that was due to better organization of the men, and the combination which had taken place among the miners in all parts of the kingdom.....”

1901 Census

140, Church Street

- [1] *Adam Harper* (54), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Jane Harper (53), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] George Harper (21), son, solicitor’s clerk, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Arthur J. Harper (20), son, manufacturer’s clerk, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Emma Harper (17), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Ernest W. Harper (16), son, carpenter’s apprentice, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Edith M. Harper (14), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Frederick N. Harper (12), son, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Howard Harper (11), son, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Gwendoline Harper (9), daughter, born Bloxwich;

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

Mr. A. Harper, QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich. 7s 11d.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/9/1909

“Mr. R. A. Cooper had this week given further proof that he has the interests of the workers of Walsall at heart by allowing himself to be initiated an honorary member of Lodge 55 of the loyal Caledonian Corks, and Court 5104 of the Ancient Order of Foresters. The former ceremony took place on Monday evening at the RED LION HOTEL, Bloxwich, while his introduction to Court 5104 took place at the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Bloxwich, on Tuesday night.....”

[R. A. Cooper was a Unionist politician, in January 1910 he was elected as a Member of Parliament for the Borough.]

1911 Census

Church Street – QUEENS HEAD

[1] *John Smith* (56), publican, born Pelsall;

[2] Martha Smith (53), wife, married 34 years, born Walsall;

[3] John Smith (22), son, chemist, born Pelsall;

[4] Minnie Smith (20), daughter, barmaid and assisting in business, born Pelsall;

[5] Ernest Smith (8), son, born Bloxwich;

[6] Sarah Maria Edmonds (20), servant, born Essington:

Walsall Advertiser 9/3/1912

“The Coal War. Great Struggle Still Proceeding.....

Notices were issued stating that strike pay would be paid as follows (on the production of contribution card): Thursday, March 14th, Sheffield, SPRING COTTAGE INN, at 11am; Walsall Wood, WHEEL INN, at 2pm; Brownhill, Crown Inn, at 5pm; Friday, March 15th, Pelsall, STATION INN, at 11am; Bloxwich, QUEENS HEAD INN, at 2pm; Lane Head, BRITISH OAK INN, at 5pm; Saturday, March 16th, Newton, Malt Shovel Inn at 11am.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/3/1912

“Strikers in the Walsall Wood, Rushall and Sheffield neighbourhood looked forward to their first strike pay with evident concern. There is no doubt the men are beginning to feel the pinch of wageless weeks and although they picked up a good haul the Saturday before last the coffers this week have begun to run low.

The first distribution of strike pay by the Pelsall and District Association took place on Thursday at Ted Clark’s SPRING COTTAGE INN, Sheffield. The time fixed was eleven o’clock, but before that hour a large crowd of miners has assembled. A few minutes after eleven, when the officials drove up, there could not have been less than 1,500 or 2,000 men waiting for their pay. Some of them had to wait a good time too, for it was close on half-past three in the afternoon before the last striker received his allowance. Fortunately the weather was fine – indeed, it was a bright spring day. The young strikers – the pit boys – with some of their seniors, whiled away the time at marbles, but generally the men were content to smoke pipes (with need it to be said, and occasional slaking of the thirst), and quietly chat together. The peculiar part about it all – at least that which impresses the stranger, is that the men discuss practically every other topic imaginable with the one exception of the unrest!

The paying out was conducted in a smooth and business-like manner, the men entering the room where it was carried out in the order of their respective lodges. They were commendably orderly and the crowd gradually diminished, the strikers making a move off as soon as they had received their money. Each man received 15/- and the few boys who had to be paid 7/6. The officials present included Messrs. H. Smith (president), Mr. Smith (vice-president), T. Riley (secretary), and R. Burgess (treasurer). Mr. F. J. Dean (miners’ agent) was in London.

One of the officials explained that the ordinary strike pay is 10/- a week, but it was thought that it would be to the interests of the men if they were paid 15/-, as they have been at play since last Saturday week. The strikers came from all parts of the area covered by the association, although most of them belonged to Rushall, Sheffield and Walsall Wood.

From what could be gathered the men are not in such ‘high feather’ as they were this time last week. There are signs of a weakening in their determination, which goes a long long way to show that they would welcome a settlement. It was stated by one of the miners that in the early part of the week 20 or 30 non-unionists approached the manager of the Aldridge Colliery, and asked to be set at work, but were refused. In spite of the fact that the association has 4,000 members, there are non-unionists here and there and they must undoubtedly be reduced to an impecunious position. One of the miners expressed the opinion that after ‘this yer job’ is over the unionists will refuse to be reconciled to so many of the men remaining outside their union. The unionists evidenced that they appreciated their strike pay, small though it is compared to with an ordinary week’s money, but, in spite of reserve, many of them showed that they were a little anxious as to their prospects should the struggle be prolonged. Some of the men turned up at the venues in their Sunday best and one or two even wore collars and ties.

Later in the day there were ‘payings out’ at the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, and at Brownhills. Yesterday (Friday) miners received pay at the STATION INN, Pelsall; the QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich; and the BRITISH OAK, Lane Head. Today (Saturday) money will be paid put at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Newton.

It is stated that if a settlement is effected and the miners start work at once they will receive pay from the strike funds for the odd days they have been out.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich, 5s 3d.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/9/1915

“At the Police Court on Tuesday, *John Smith*, QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich, was summoned for selling whiskey which had been diluted beyond the statutory limit on July 27th. Mr. V. Crooke (assistant Town Clerk) prosecuted.

Evidence was given by Mr. A. T. Hubble, inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, to the effect that on the date in question he purchased three quarters of a pint of whiskey for which he paid 2s 3d. A portion of it was sent to the Borough Analyst, whose certificate was to the effect that there was adulteration to the extent of 3.2%. There was no notice in the bar informing customers that the spirits sold there were adulterated nor did the defendant make any statement at the time of purchase.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jackson witness admitted he asked for a bottle to put the whiskey in and that the defendant went and washed one. He saw the bottle before the whiskey was put in, however, and it was then practically dry.

For the defence Mr. Jackson said he had to plead guilty to the technical offence, because he could not refute the analyst’s certificate. When they considered that the adulteration was only 3.2 it was almost infinitesimal, and it would be absurd that such a slight adulteration was done with the object of obtaining profit.

What happened was that Mr. Hubble asked for a bottle in which to put the whiskey, and defendant washed one out. It was impossible to get all the water and moisture out, and he submitted that there would be almost sufficient to account for the adulteration of 3.2. The defendant had kept licensed houses in Walsall for 23 years, without a single complaint, and he, Mr. Jackson, suggested that the case would be met by the payment of costs.

The Bench ordered the defendant to pay the costs.

Mr. Jackson remarked that the persons who drank that particular whiskey would not get so excited as otherwise they might have done, so perhaps after all, the adulteration was a blessing in disguise.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

QUEENS HEAD INN, Church Street. £1 16s 7½d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/6/1927

“Bloxwich Carnival Committee held their annual charity carnival on Saturday, in aid of local hospitals, and in spite of heavy showers the effort was very successful.

For the first year a carnival queen was selected by public vote, and Miss Edna *Holden*, daughter of the licensee of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Bloxwich was chosen.....”

Walsall Observer 16/12/1939

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held at the HAME MAKERS ARMS INN, Blue Lane West, on Thursday.....

Mr. *Arthur S. Draper*, QUEENS HEAD, Church Street, Bloxwich was elected member of the Society.”

1939 Register

140, Church Street (2 of 3)

[1] *Arthur S. Draper*, date of birth 11/5/1880, publican, married;

[2] *Ellen F. Draper*, dob 19/1/1879, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

QUEENS HEAD, Church Street, Bloxwich, £3 5s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Draper*, QUEENS HEAD, Church Street. £1 6s 3d.”

Frank Dawkin – see also PRINCE.

Walsall Observer 3/2/1967

“The Staffordshire finals of the *News of the World* Individual Darts Championship of England and Wales will be held at Bloxwich Memorial Club, Harrison Street, Bloxwich, at 7.30pm on Monday next, February 6.....

The eight players taking part are.....

George Wolley (QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich).....

The winner will receive a Philips Twin Turbo fan heater, the runner up a Sunbeam pop-up toaster, the semi-finalists will get Kodak Instamatic cameras and all the finalists will get a set of *News of the World* darts.”

Demolished
It was rebuilt c.1970.

Express and Star 26/7/2008

“.....The price of the QUEENS HEAD, Church Street, Walsall, dropped by £150,000. It is advertised as having a ‘busy, mixed use area’ and ‘two good sized trading areas’.”

Mrs. *Sandhu* was married to Amrik.

[2017]

QUEENS HEAD

Blakenall Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Wooldridge [1902]

QUEENS HEAD

153+154, Green Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Reay [1871]

NOTES

1871 Census

153+154, Green Lane – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Thomas Reay* (65), publican, born Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Reay* (58), wife, born Gloucestershire;
- [3] *Susannah Moulder* (4), granddaughter, born Walsall:

QUEENS HEAD

16, Hill Street / Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Stanley, 14, Hill Street, Walsall

LICENSEES

Sarah Eagles [1818] – [1822]
Joseph Moore [1822]
Hannah More [1828] – [1830]
Robert Westwood [1834] – [1842]
Edward James [1845] – [1849]
Mrs. Frances Hart [1849] – [1850]
Edwin Roper [1850] – [1873];
Mrs. Bridget Ann Roper [1881] – 1891);
Moses Lawton (1891 – 1893);
William John Roberts (1893 – 1912);
Mary Ann Roberts (1912 – 1913);
William Rollins (1913 – 1915);
Mrs. Hannah Rollins (1915 – 1920);
Edward Andrew Noake (1920 – 1921);
Arthur Shearyn (?) (1921 – 1922);
John Vincent Crowther (1922 – 1923);
Harry Hill (1923);
Arthur Cyril Ward (1923 – 1925);
James Warburton (1925 – 1926):

NOTES

QUEEN CAROLINE [1818], [1822]
QUEENS HEAD [1854], [1858], [1860], [1861], [1908], [1912]
ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD [1851], [1861], [1865], [1873], [1897], [1898], [1901], [1902], [1905], [1907], [1914], [1915], [1918], [1922], [1926]

Wid. *Eagles*, victualler, Hill Street. [1813]

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Lodges.....

Benevolents Union, held at QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street, supposed number 30 or 40, instituted 1809, surgeon Mr. Woollatt, secretary Jerry Newman.”

AND

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Clubs.....

Friendly Society, male, held at QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street.”

AND

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Additional Friendly Societies, known by the name of Gift Societies.....

A Gift, or permanent fund, held at QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/11/1834 - Died

“On Sunday last, at Walsall, aged 74, Mrs. *Sarah Eagles*, formerly landlady of the QUEENS HEAD, public house, Hill Street, in that town.”

1841 Census

Hill Street

[1] *Robert Westwood* (45), victualler, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Hannah Westwood* (55);

[3] *Mary Westwood* (19), fs, born Staffordshire:

London Gazette 13/4/1849

“Whereas a Petition of *Edward James*, at present, and for fourteen days now last past, residing in Lodgings, in Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, and being out of business and employment, and for four years and upwards previously thereto, residing at a house called or known by the name or sign of the QUEENS HEAD, in Hill-street, in Walsall aforesaid, there carrying on the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, and for three years previously thereto at a house in Ablewell-street, Walsall aforesaid, called or known by the sign of the MINERVA, there also carrying on the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Edward James*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Edward James* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 30th of April instant, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Edward James*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. William Cotterill, Clerk of the said

Court, at his offices, in Bridge-street, Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/12/1850

“On Wednesday, *Edwin Roper*, of the QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street, was fined 5s and costs for having had his house open on Sunday morning.”

1851 Census

Hill Street

- [1] *Edwin Roper* (33), curb maker and licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Maria Roper (45), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William Stephenson (25), son, boot and shoe maker, born Walsall;
- [4] Catherine Stephenson (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] William Brady (15), apprentice curb maker, born Burton on Trent:

1861 Census

16, Hill Street

- [1] *Edwin Roper* (43), victualler, maltster, born Walsall;
- [2] Johanna Roper (39), wife, born London;
- [3] Diana Harvey (22), house servant, born Alrewas, Staffordshire:

Edwin Roper was also a maltster. [1864], [1865]

In February 1865 *Edwin Roper* was fined £50 for failing to keep his brewing records correctly.

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/8/1868

“On Thursday Mr. A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, held an inquest at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Hill Street, on the body of Mary Turner, aged 33. It seemed that at about one o’clock on Wednesday morning the deceased got out of bed, and sitting down by the bedside complained of a pain in her chest, and almost immediately expired. Verdict Died from an Attack of Apoplexy.”

Walsall Free Press 29/10/1870 - Advert

“Municipal Election.

Burgesses Of The Bridge Ward, Be Early At The Poll, on Tuesday Next, Nov. 1st, and Plump for Wedge.

The Opposer of all Extravagant Expenditure of Public Money.

The Committee will be held at Mr. *E. Roper*’s, QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street, at Half-past Seven o’clock, on Monday Evening next.

Charles Jones, Chairman.”

1871 Census

16, Hill Street – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Edwin Roper* (53), maltster and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Johannah Roper (50), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary Jane Wooley (22), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1881 Census

16, Hill Street

- [1] *Ann Roper* (56), widow, licensed victualler, born Shildon, Potteries, Staffordshire;
- [2] Jane Hill (17), domestic servant, born Darlaston:

Walsall Advertiser 21/4/1883 - Advert

“House and Shopping To Be Let, Caldmore Road.

Apply, QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street.”

1891 Census

16, Hill Street – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Bridget A. Roper* (67), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary McDonough (18), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/12/1896

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society held on Thursday Mr. *William Roberts*, OLD QUEENS HEAD INN, Hill Street, was elected to the Executive Committee.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1897

“Mary Fahy, married, was charged with being drunk, disorderly, and refusing to quit the QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street. Mr. T. H. Stanley prosecuted. It seemed the defendant went into the house on Monday evening week, commenced bawling and creating a

disturbance, because the landlord, *William John Roberts*, would not allow her to remain. He had to put her out. A witness named Arthur Smith corroborated the landlord's testimony.

Defendant said she left the house as soon as asked to go. She had gone to fetch her husband, whom she heard was drunk. Her daughter Ellen corroborated.

A mistake, it transpired, had been made in charging defendant with being drunk, instead of merely refusing to quit, and she was let off with a warning."

Walsall Advertiser 11/12/1897

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

It was decided to hold the next meeting at the house of Mr. *William J. Roberts*, ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street, on Thursday, Jan 13, at seven o'clock."

Walsall Advertiser 13/8/1898

"The annual money club supper was held at Mr. *Roberts's*, ORIGINAL QUEEN'S HEAD, Hill Street, on Monday evening last, when about 44 members sat down to a most substantial repast, provided by the host and hostess, which was highly appreciated by the members and friends present, who passed a pleasant and sociable evening."

1901 Census

16, Hill Street

[1] *William J. Roberts* (32), brewer and beer retailer, born Wednesbury;

[2] Mary A. Roberts (30), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] William E. Roberts (9), son, born Walsall;

[4] Ada Roberts (23), sister, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1901

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *William John Roberts*, ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD INN, Hill Street....."

W. John Roberts was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 18/1/1902

"The annual supper in connection with the £5 club at the QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street, was held on Monday evening, when about 40 members sat down to an excellent repast served by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *W. Roberts*. After full justice had been done to the good things provided, Mr. Cherrington was voted to the chair, and Mr. Davis to the vice-chair. The following enjoyable programme was gone through: Recitation, the Chairman; song, 'Jacks Yarn,' the Vice-chairman; banjo and violin duet, Messrs. Heath and Hurlston; song, 'When you're up in the World,' Mr. Dilkes; song, 'Must you' (encore, 'Don't Apologise'), Mr. Sid Stanley; song, 'Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep,' Mr. Smart; banjo and violin duet, Messrs. Heath and Hurlston; song, 'Who'll buy my Lavender,' the Chairman; song, 'There is a Flower that Bloometh,' Mr. Astins; song, 'One of his Sunday pals,' Mr. Dilkes; song, 'How I saved my Life,' Mr. Sid Stanley; song, 'Little Brown Jug,' Mr. Brookes; song, 'The Red, White, and Blue,' Mr. Roberts, sen.

The Chairman proposed a toast to the host and hostess for the manner in which they had catered for the company, to which the host suitably replied."

Walsall Advertiser 14/1/1905

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Executive Committee at the house of Mr. *William John Roberts*, ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD INN, Hill Street, Walsall, on Thursday, February 9th."

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

QUEENS HEAD. The objection to this house was the structural unsuitability, evidence of which was given by Inspector Ballance. Mr. Wilcock appeared for the occupier, *William John Roberts*. He said it had always been a respectable house and the trade had always been carried on on good lines.

In reply to Mr. Loxton, Mr. Wilcock said he had not submitted any plans as he thought they were not necessary.

Mr. Loxton said the Bench were of the opinion that they ought to see a plan.

Mr. Wilcock agreed to submit one."

Walsall Advertiser 6/5/1905

"John Goode, (18), labourer, of 14, Dudley Street, was charged with refusing to quit the ORIGINAL QUEEN'S HEAD, Hill Street, on the 24th ult, and also with using bad language. According to the evidence of *William John Roberts*, landlord, and his wife, defendant went into the house on the afternoon named, drunk, and was refused beer and ordered out. Instead of going out he struck the landlady. The landlord twice ejected him, and Police-constable Stanley came on the scene, when defendant used bad

language.

Defendant sobbed violently during the case, blaming the landlord for his position, and threatening him.

He had been several times previously convicted, his offences included gaming at Lincoln races; and he was fined 10s and costs or 14 days. He went below.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/6/1907

“William Winter (28), labourer, Hill Street, was charged with assaulting *William Roberts*, landlord of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street, and also refusing to quit.

Mr. Gilbert H. Bailey (Stanley and Jackson) stated that on June 11th defendant, who was a ‘ne’er do weel,’ went into the inn whilst drunk; the landlord refused to serve him, and ordered him out, but instead of going he struck the landlord.

Fined 10s and costs, or 14 days.”

1911 Census

16, Hill Street

[1] *William John Roberts* (42), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Mary Ann Roberts* (40), wife, married 12 years, licensed victualler, born Birmingham:

Walsall Observer 12/12/1914

“Private John Lines (29) (2nd South Staffords) came through the retreat from Mons with out injury, and had several marvellous escapes in the trenches at the Aisne, but during the fierce fighting round Ypres a comrade stated that he saw him fall. That the wound proved fatal is evident from the War Office communication which Mr. *W. Rollins*, of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD INN, Hill Street, received on Monday, stating that his step-son, Private Lines, was killed in action on October 30. Particularly as a capable all-round athlete, the deceased soldier was known by many townspeople. As a boy he was connected with Rooney’s stables at Hednesford at the same time as several well-known racing men, such as Tom Dixon and Alf Newey. Enlisting when he was in his teens, he went to South Africa six weeks later to join the South Staffords, and was engaged on block house duty during the latter part of the Boer war. Altogether he served three years abroad, and left the colours some eight years ago. Last employed at Barling’s, Pleck Road, he was on holiday at Streethay when war was declared. He was among the first to leave England with the Expeditionary Force, and in a letter from the trenches said that in the present war he had seen more real warfare than he ever witnessed during the three years in Africa. Private Lines was an enthusiastic bird fancier, being a member of the local society, and often secured prizes at their shows.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/10/1915 - Deaths

“On the 13th inst, at ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street, *William Rollins*, aged 60 years.”

AND

“The death took place on Wednesday of Mr. *William Rollins*, licensee of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street. Mr. *Rollins*, who was aged 60, was very well-known in football circles throughout the Midland and in some other parts of the country. For some years he was a First League referee, in which capacity he officiated at a large number of important matches. He was also vice-president of the Walsall Football Association, his lengthy connection with which was commemorated by the possession of a long service medal. Before going to the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Mr. *Rollins* held the license of the WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street, and the Grove Tavern, Great Barr, and for nearly nine years he had been a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street. £1 4s 5d.”

Edward Andrew Noake = Arthur Noakes

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1922

“Annual Licensing Sessions.....

There were also objections, to the renewal of the licenses chiefly on the ground of redundancy of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich; ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street; FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street; VINE, Blue Lane; WOODMAN, Blue Lane; and VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street; and it was announced that the applications in respect of these houses would be considered at the adjourned sessions on March 2nd.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/6/1926

“The Licensing Justices on Wednesday refused to renew the licenses of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; and scheduled the houses for compensation Mr. G. Hawley (solicitor) said the matter was considered four years ago, and the license was renewed on condition that certain repairs were carried out. They were done at a cost of £600.”

It was closed for Compensation on 30th October 1926.

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle’s references in last week’s Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remem-

bers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKESPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

QUEEN STREET TAVERN

87, (87+88), (97), Queen Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. George Gilbert, widow, Birchills, Walsall
Thomas Green, farmer, Wyrley
John Kite
Mrs. Kite, Long Street, Walsall
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1914]

LICENSEES

John Villers [1872];
John Kite [1881] – **1890**);
Richard Harris (**1890 – 1899**);
Mrs. Annie Harris (**1899 – 1915**);
David James Kite (**1915 – 1916**);
Alice Kite (**1916 – 1918**);
David James Kite (**1918 – 1919**);
Frank Smith (**1919 – 1920**);
Arthur Turner (**1920 – 1922**);
William Powell (**1922 – 1924**);
Thomas Healey (**1924 – 1929**);
John Dorsett (**1929**);
Ernest Higgins (**1929 – 1931**);
Albert Edwards (**1931 – 1938**);
Mrs. Ada Edwards (**1938 – 1951**);
Harold Green (**1951 – 1959**);
Colin Derek Harris (**1959 – 1962**);
Norman George Moir (**1962 – 1964**);
Henry McBeth Fairfull (**1964 – 1966**);
Clive Barry Rogers (**1966**);
John Thomas Tew (**1966 – []**)

NOTES

97, Queen Street [1881]
87, Queen Street [1891], [1901], [1939]
87+88, Queen Street [1940]

It was originally an unnamed beerhouse.

It had a beerhouse license.

John Villers, beer retailer, Queen Street. [1872]

1881 Census

97, Queen Street – QUEENS TAVERN
[1] *John Kite* (33), beer seller, born Netherton;
[2] Ann Maria Kite (33), wife, born Woodside [Dudley]
[3] Sarah Kite (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[4] David Kite (3), son, born Walsall;

[5] Maud Marle (64), mother in law, born Oldbury:

1891 Census

87, Queen Street – TAVERN

- [1] *Richard Harris* (39), publican, born Leominster;
- [2] *Annie Harris* (39), wife, born Scotland;
- [3] George Harris (3), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Ann Lawson (70), mother in law, widow, living on her own means, born Birmingham;
- [5] John E. Matthews (13), nephew, scholar, born Leominster;
- [6] Emily Harris (16), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [7] Elizabeth Hawker (68), visitor, living on her own means, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Post 21/4/1892

“Yesterday Mr. T. H. Stanley (coroner) held an inquest at the QUEEN STREET TAVERN, Queen Street, on the body of Susan Hunt (86), widow, of 80, Queen Street, who died on Sunday from the effects of injuries received on the previous Friday, through falling downstairs. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Richard Harris, beer retailer, 87-88, Queen Street. [1896]

1901 Census

87, Queen Street – Tavern

- [1] *Annie Harris* (46), widow, beer retailer, born Scotland;
- [2] George Harris (13), son, born Walsall;
- [3] Nellie Harris (19), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] Annie Harris (10), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Ann Lawson (79), mother, widow, living on own means, born Birmingham;
- [6] Thomas Lawson (21), nephew, barman, born Hereford:

Mrs. *Annie Harris*, beer retailer, 87-88, Queen Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 16/4/1904

“A charge of assault was brought by a widow named Elizabeth Wilson, of 82, Queen Street, against Harry Green, of 47, Countess Street. Mrs. Wilson was represented by Mr. T. H. Stanley (Stanley and Jackson), and Mr. J. Armstrong defended. The case for the complainant was that on April 5th, while she was in the QUEEN STREET TAVERN for the purpose of fetching some beer, Green came out of the smoke room and asked to have a glass of bitter. She refused, upon which he remarked: ‘Do you mean to say you have done with me?’ and then kicked her on the thigh, causing a big bruise. Mrs. Wilson bore out this version of the affair, and said she always thought Green to be a perfect friend. Mr. Armstrong: Has he made you presents? – Not that I know of. Mr. Armstrong: Boots? – No. She had, she said, had a drink with him, but denied that she had been in the habit, when she wanted him, of sending to the public-house and tapping at the window. She had parties of friends at her house occasionally, but she denied she had grumbled at Green for refusing to attend her card parties. She knew that he had a very good berth under the Midland Railway Company. Mr. Armstrong, for defendant, said there had been certain relations between complainant and defendant, with which he need not trouble their worships, but it was necessary to say that he stayed at her house on several occasions till five or six in the morning. Mrs. Wilson strongly denied this. Mr. Moseley asked Mr. Armstrong to state what he meant when he referred to ‘certain relationships’ between the parties. Mr. Armstrong hoped the magistrates would not press the question. Mr. Moseley: Well the magistrates will draw their own conclusions. Mr. Armstrong then went on to say that his client had been anxious to break off his association with the woman, and she came to the house and called him ‘a dog.’ There were other words, and the end was that she fell down on the step. A policeman came up and was asked to take Green into custody, but refused. Green was called, and positively denied that he kicked the woman. Mr. Stanley pressed the defendant to make it clear what was the association between him and Mrs. Wilson. Mr. Armstrong (for the defendant) said he would put it no higher than this, she had become too attentive and he wanted to break it off. In reply to Alderman Brownhill, defendant said he was a leading hand-fitter under the Midland Railway Company. He was fined 20s and costs or 21 days’ imprisonment.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/5/1904

“Joseph Walker, 11, Sun Street, was summoned for being found drunk on the licensed premises of the QUEEN STREET TAVERN on May 17th, the landlady, *Annie Harris*, for whom Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith appeared, being also summoned for permitting drunkenness and supplying drink to an intoxicated person. Police-sergeant Nunn said that in company with Police-constable Woolley he visited the QUEEN STREET TAVERN on May 17th, and there found the man Walker sitting at a table drunk. He had a partly filled glass at his side. He called the attention of the

landlady's son to his condition, and he in reply said he could see how he was then, but that he seemed all right when he went in. Walker denied being drunk, and offered to get up and walk. When he did so, however, he went across the room with a staggering gait.

Police-constable Woolley corroborated, and said that he accompanied the man home to see whether he had given the right address. On the way he twice nearly fell down.

Mr. Pearman-Smith, in addressing the magistrates, urged that the man was not drunk, or if he was his drunkenness was not observed by the people who served him with beer. He was sorry that a member of the Walsall Police Force had acted as Police-constable Woolley had. The latter had admitted that he saw the man who he believed to be drunk come down the street and enter the house. He had always impressed on policemen that it was their duty to prevent crime on all occasions, but this policeman waited and allowed the publican to be entrapped before he moved a step in the matter. Mrs. *Harris*, who was not in the house at the time, said she had held licenses in the town for 15 years, and never before had a complaint made against her.

Evidence was also given by her son who was left in charge. He said that he was not in the bar when the man entered. When he returned, Walker, who was sitting at a table called for half a pint of ale and a pipe. He certainly did not appear to be drunk. He denied he could see how the man was when his attention was called to him by the police.

In the case of Mrs. *Harris* a fine of 10s and costs was imposed, Walker being fined 5s and costs."

Walsall Advertiser 17/2/1906

"A labourer named Frank Reay (21), no fixed abode, was charged with stealing two fowls, valued 6s, the property of Benjamin Croft, on the 3rd inst.

Andrew Hobbs, a goods guard, in the employ of the L&NWR Company, and residing at 126, Queen Street, stated that on Saturday, the 3rd inst. prisoner came to the QUEEN STREET TAVERN and offered two fowls for sale. He told witness he could have them if he would give him the price of a drink more than what he would give for them. Witness purchased them for 3s, and asked the prisoner if they were his own property. He said they were, and also wrote a receipt as follow: 'Received from George Blake (a false name) two fowls, for which no other person had any claim.' Witness subsequently gave him 3s 4½d, but next day he heard the complainant (Croft) had lost some fowls. He therefore went and saw him, and he identified the fowls as his property. Benjamin Croft, 47, Long Street, said the fowls were stolen from his pen between Saturday and Sunday. He had eight fowls, and on Sunday found two were missing.

Detective Lloyd deposed to arresting prisoner, and when charged he said 'It is no use me saying anything.'

The Chief Constable said accused had left home and got into the company of thieves, but the present was the first time he had been caught.

The mother of the prisoner said she did not know why her son would not stay at home. Her husband had been very much depressed about the accused's behaviour.

Fined 40s and costs or 14 days. The chairman remarked that he had given the option of a fine to give his parents the opportunity of relieving him from going to prison."

Walsall Advertiser 13/10/1906

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mrs. *Annie Harris*, QUEEN STREET TAVERN, Queen Street."

Walsall Advertiser 19/9/1908

"Thomas Hewlett, 117, Queen Street, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, the QUEEN STREET TAVERN, on the 5th inst. Police-sergeant Sheppard (4) saw the defendant stagger into the house, and on following him found him by the bar window. The landlady was telling him he would have no drink there, and with some difficulty he managed to get him home. A fine of 2s 6d and costs, or seven days, was imposed."

Walsall Advertiser 30/1/1909

"Thomas Bunce (27), caster, Wednesbury Road, Pleck, was placed in the dock charged with (1) being drunk and disorderly on December 16th; (2) drunk on licensed premises, QUEEN STREET TAVERN, on Dec. 16th; and (3) with persistent cruelty to his wife, Amy Bunce, who applied for a separation order.

Police-sergeant Woolley stated that at 11.25pm on the 15th defendant was in Wednesbury Road, drunk and shouting bad language. There were several people about at the time. Fined 5s and costs or seven days.

The second case was adjourned sine die, as the officer engaged was on the sick list.

In the third case, prisoner's wife, Amy Bunce, gave evidence to the effect that they had been married nearly five years, and there were two children. On the night of December 14, at 11.30, her husband came home helplessly drunk, and because she would not call one of the children downstairs he ran at her with a knife. On several previous occasions he had struck her and bruised her.

Prisoner had been giving her £1 a week, out of which she had to find his tobacco. He earned £1 1s per week, but could make it up to 30s by overtime. She obtained an order in 1906 for 7s per week, but she went back to him. She now asked for 10s per week.

Defendant said his wife's statements were false.

An order was made for 8s per week."

1911 Census

Queen Street – QUEEN STREET TAVERN

[1] *Annie Harris* (56), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Perth, Scotland;

- [2] Annie Marion Harris (20), daughter, assisting in business, born Walsall;
[3] George Lawson Harris (23), son, cinematograph operator, born Walsall;
[4] Maud Evans (22), domestic servant, born Essington, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1911

“A case was heard at the Walsall Police Court yesterday (Friday), before Mr. W. E. Blyth (presiding), Councillor S. M. Slater, and Mr. A. D. Cozens, in which George Lawson *Harris*, of the QUEEN STREET TAVERN, Queen Street, was summoned for driving a motor cycle in Lichfield Street at a speed dangerous to the public on the 5th July.

The Chief Constable said that in consequence of complaints as to the speed of motor cycles in the town he had had to take action. Police-sergeant Lloyd said that on July 5th he was on duty in Lichfield Street in company with Detective Ayres. They were each stationed at the end of a measured quarter of a mile and had stop watches. He saw the defendant driving a motor cycle with a side car attached, in which a friend was riding. He was going up the street and the stop watch showed that he was travelling at the rate of over 24 miles an hour. There were five or six vehicles about at the time, ten or a dozen cyclists and hundreds of people, as the Territorials were parading at the time.

Detective Ayres said in his opinion the defendant was travelling at a speed dangerous to the public. There was a good deal of traffic about at the time.

Defendant said he was not travelling more than 15 or 16 miles an hour, but the Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. Loxton) pointed out that it was not a question of speed, but as to whether there was a danger to the public.

A witness for the defence, in the person of the young man who rode the side-car was called, but the Bench imposed a fine of 60s and costs, the Chairman stating that if any case of this kind came forward again the fines would be heavier.”

Mrs. *Annie Harris*, beer retailer, 87-88, Queen Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 20/2/1915

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last week.....

Mr. *David James Kite*, QUEEN STREET TAVERN, Queen Street, Walsall, was unanimously elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1917 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of William Poole, who died December 30th, 1915, at Edinburgh. Fondly remembered by his Mother and Family, QUEEN STREET TAVERN, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
QUEEN STREET TAVERN, Queen Street. £2 13s 9³/₄d.”

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

“....by 1914, when *David Kite* was a tenant at £65 per annum. In 1925 *Thomas Healey* was the manager 'the stable being used as a coal house', and the Public Bar was 27'3" x 12'3" x 9'1", Smoke Room 12' x 10'4" x 9'1" with an outdoor.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/4/1924

“John Parkes, caster, 11, Rolling Mill Street, was summoned for selling tickets in a lottery 'not being such as is authorised by the Lottery Act, 1823, or any other Act of Parliament.' The Chief Constable (M. G. H. Ballance) pointed out the envelopes, containing tickets on which were printed the names of 66 football teams, were sold at 3d each. Each ticket bore two numbers, and if the team correspondingly numbered scored more goals than the other two, the holder of the ticket received £8.

Police-sergt. Lavender spoke to visiting the QUEEN STREET TAVERN on the evening of March 22, and on seeing the defendant with a bundle of envelopes in his hand. He admitted he was selling the football tickets, but added 'It is all right. I am selling them on the credit system.' Asked if he had anything to say, defendant replied 'It is only a lottery, the same as it is for the hospital.' He added that he had bought hospital tickets which was exactly the same, and he thought it was quite legal.

Mr. S. E. Loxton, magistrates' clerk: We are not trying the hospital today – Witness: It is quite the same.

The Chief Constable told the magistrates defendant was an agent for a bookmaker, but this Parkes denied.

The Chief Constable: 'B. G.' (the initials on the envelopes) are not your initials. We know who 'B. G.' is – Defendant: I have the tickets from a friend of mine in Birmingham.

The Clerk: If they do happen to spot the winner you don't pay over the money, do you? – Defendant: Certainly I do.

A fine of £5 was imposed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/12/1925

“While attending the Roman Catholic Church on Sunday morning, Walter Francis Pope (72), of the QUEEN STREET TAVERN, died suddenly. He was a chief clerk when he retired ten years ago from the service of the G.W.R. Co., after 37 years service. At the inquest, on Tuesday, Dr. J. O'Brien stated that death was due to heart failure, caused by the exertion of climbing the hill, and verdict to that effect was returned.”

Walsall Observer 14/10/1939 - In Memoriam

“*Edwards*. Treasured memories of *Albert* (Bert), the dearly beloved husband of *Ada*, who passed away to rest Oct. 12, 1938, late

of the QUEEN STREET TAVERN.
*We look back with tender memories.
On the path that he once trod.
We bless the years we called him ours.
And leave the rest to God."*

1939 Register

87, Queen Street

[1] *Ada Edwards*, date of birth 14/3/1878, beerhouse manageress, widowed;

[2] *Albert T. Edwards*, dob 16/9/1921, electrician, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

QUEEN STREET TAVERN, Queen Street, £5 0s 0d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

QUEEN STREET TAVERN, Queen Street. £2 0s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

QUEEN STREET TAVERN, Queen Street. £3 14s 5d."

A full license was confirmed on 6th May 1948.

Harold Green died in 1959.

Closed

It became a café. [2001]

RAILWAY

502, (506), (242), Bloxwich Road / Broadstone Avenue, (Walsall Road), (1, Sandy Lane), Leamore, (3, Broadstone), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Thomas Pickin, Stubbers Green, near Aldridge

Mrs. Ross, Oakwell End, West Bromwich

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1919)

LICENSEES

Thomas Ross Snr. [1851] – [1871]

Thomas Ross Jnr. [1868] – [1872];

Thomas Bass [] – **1873**;

Samuel Ross (**1873**);

Joseph Downes (**1873** – []

George Arm [1876]

Charles Arm [1876]

Samuel Ross [];

Joseph Downes [1880] – [1881]

Henry Simmons [] – **1886**;

Edward Towe (**1886 – 1895**);

John William Hayward (**1895 – 1896**);

Joseph William Ross (**1896 – 1897**);

Mrs. Elizabeth Ross (**1897 – 1902**);

Daniel T Parker (1902 – 1906);
Joseph Turner (1906 – 1917);
Nellie Cole (1917 – 1920);
William Henry Bladen (1920 – 1925);
Harry Haden (1925 – 1956);
Harry Haden Jnr. (1956 – [1966])

NOTES

Walsall Road [1861]
3, Broadstone [1871]
1, Sandy Lane [1881]
242, Bloxwich Road [1891]
506, Bloxwich Road [1901]
502, Bloxwich Road [1939], [1940]

1851 Census

Turnpike Road

[1] *Thomas Ross* (33), beer seller, born Bloxwich;
[2] Ann Ross (30), wife, born Bassett, Staffordshire;
[3] Samuel Ross (4), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
[4] Sarah Ross (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[5] Sarah Moore (18), house servant, born Pelsall;
[6] William Anderson (25), lodger, traveller in silks, born Veeses on the Rwoon, France:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/1/1856

“T. Perry of Bloxwich will walk Thomas (the Salopian), or Ashton of Denton seven miles, if they will give him one minute start in six score, for £10 or £15 a side; or he will walk Yates of Nottingham, Collins of Manchester, or Bassett, Allen, Newman, Hotine, or Diamond (all of London) seven miles for £25 a side. A letter addressed to Perry at *T. Ross*'s, RAILWAY INN, Broadstone, Bloxwich will be attended to.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/8/1860

“*Thomas Ross*, a publican, residing at Bloxwich, was summoned for having his house open during prohibited hours on Sunday afternoon last. The constable stated that on visiting the house on the day in question he found several persons assembled therein. The wife of defendant, who appeared, stated that the company were her friends from Bilston and Pelsall. The Bench considering the offence did not come within the meaning of the statute, dismissed the case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/9/1860

“At the Petty Sessions, on Monday, before H. Highway, Esq, the following persons were summoned for having unjust measures in their possession.

Thomas Ross, jun., RAILWAY INN, Broadstone, Bloxwich, fined 1s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 22/9/1860

“The activity of the inspector of weights and measures in detecting, and the magistrates in punishing, this species of offence, cannot be too highly commended. Perseverance in such a course will not fail to result in the breaking up and suppression of a system of swindling too prevalent in our neighbourhood, by which the poorer classes are openly and shamefully defrauded.

We have to record the convictions of four offenders in this class. *Thomas Ross*, jun., RAILWAY INN, Broadstone, four unjust measures. All the parties were fined 1s and costs, and cautioned.”

1861 Census

Walsall Road – RAILWAY INN

[1] *Thomas Ross* (43), publican, born Bloxwich;
[2] Ann Ross (40), wife, born Walton, Staffordshire;
[3] Samuel Ross (14), son, awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
[4] Sarah Ross (11), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
[5] Ellen Ross (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
[6] Hannah Ross (2), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
[7] Martha Day (14), house servant, born Rugley [Rugeley]:

Thomas Ross Snr. was also an awl blade maker. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 19/2/1868

“*Thomas Ross*, landlord of the RAILWAY INN, Broadstone, for having his house open for the sale of beer at 11.30 on Sunday last,

was fined 1s and costs, as this was his first offence.”

London Gazette 12/10/1869

“Notice is hereby given, that *Thomas Ross*, of the RAILWAY INN, Broadstone, Bloxwich, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, has left in the office of the Chief Registrar of the Court of Bankruptcy, Quality-court, Chancery-lane, London, a list of his debts and liabilities, and a statement of his property and credits, as required by the Bankruptcy Amendment Act, 1868.

Dated this 9th day of October, 1869.

Bower and Cotton, No.46, Chancery-lane; Agents for Abraham Baker, Walsall, Solicitor for the person registering the Deed.”

1871 Census

3, Broadstone

- [1] *Thomas Ross* (53), innkeeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Ann Ross* (50), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Samuel Ross* (23), son, awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Ellen Ross* (19), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Charles Ross* (11), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *June Ross* (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session..... The licenses of the undermentioned were renewed with cautions, viz:

Charles Arm, RAILWAY HOTEL, Bloxwich (for whom Mr. Glover appeared) In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Ryecroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

Joseph Downs = Joseph Downes

1881 Census

1, Sandy Lane – RAILWAY INN

- [1] *Joseph Downs* (58), innkeeper and coal miner, born Shropshire;
- [2] *Drusilah Downs* (58), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Sarah Watson* (17), general servant (domestic), born Bloxwich:

1891 Census

242, Bloxwich Road – RAILWAY INN

- [1] *Edward Towe* (35), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary Anne Towe* (31), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Edward J. Towe* (10), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Lydia Towe* (7), daughter, scholar, brn Bloxwich;
- [5] *Howard Towe* (6), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Alice Towe* (4), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Louisa Starkey* (17), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1895 - Advert

“RAILWAY INN, Leamore (Close to Birchills Railway Station).

Walter Hughes is instructed by Mr. *Edward Towe*, who is leaving, to Sell by Auction, upon the Premises as above, on Thursday, 14th March, at Twelve o'clock punctually.

Nineteen Store Pigs, Two Sows in Pig, and a Gilt in Pig; also Pig Troughs, Cart Shed, nearly new Rustic Gig, made by Barton, with Lamps and Cushions complete; Set of Silver-plated Cob Harness, Set of Pony-size Harness, nearly new Malt Crusher, two Wheel Barrows, a nearly new Strong Cart, Two Useful Traps, and other Effects.

May be seen prior to and morning of sale.

Further particulars may be had from Mr. *Edward Towe*, RAILWAY INN, Leamore; or of Walter Hughes, Auctioneer and Valuer, 79, Park Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against. Licensed Victuallers.....

John William Hayward, RAILWAY INN, Broadstone, March 13th, 1896, permitting drunkenness, fined 10s and costs.

The Chief Constable said that *Haywood* had since removed from his premises, and therefore he withdrew all objection to the renewal of the license of the house.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/1/1897

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *J. W. Ross*, RAILWAY INN, Leamore, Bloxwich, was elected member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/2/1899

“On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich, respecting the death of John Jervis (65), labourer, of 310, Bloxwich Road, who died suddenly on Saturday. The evidence was that deceased was left in the house by his son, who went to Walsall, and two hours afterwards was found lying dead on the hearth. In the opinion of Dr. O’Mearn, who was called in, death was probably due to syncope. Verdict, Death from Natural Causes.”

1901 Census

506, Bloxwich Road – RAILWAY INN

[1] *Elizabeth Ross* (37), widow, licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;

[2] Jane Harrison (17), domestic servant, born Wednesbury;

[3] Mabel M. Parker (10), visitor, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 14/1/1905

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... Mr. *Daniel Parker*, RAILWAY INN, Leamore.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/9/1906

“The Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest at the RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich, on Monday, respecting the death of a little boy, named Vaughan Ellsee Cresswell, aged 2 years 7 months, residing with its parents at 488, Bloxwich Road.

Mrs. Cresswell said she was the wife of Frederick W. Cresswell, schoolmaster. At about 3 o’clock on the 11th September she was in the back kitchen doing some washing, and deceased and another child aged 4 years were along with her. There was an empty tub between her and the children, and she put some hot water out of the copper into it. She then turned to the copper to put some clothes in it, when she heard a splash. As she turned round and saw the baby in the hot water in the tub. She grasped the child and afterwards took its clothes off, when she found it was badly scalded about the arms and shoulders. She sent for Dr. Berry.

Questioned by the Coroner, witness said the child must have stood on a stool which was near and overbalanced himself.

Dr. Berry said that about 3pm on the date named he was summoned to see the child. He found it suffering from scalds. He attended to the scalds and also called on Wednesday and Thursday. On Friday morning he examined the scalds and found they were making rapid progress. At 3.30 on the same afternoon he was again called to deceased. He found that a collapse had set in. In spite of treatment the boy died half-an-hour later. He made a post mortem examination and found that both arms and arm pits, back, whole of the neck, and back of head were scalded. He attributed death to collapse following the shock from the scald. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/1/1907

“Jack Wilson, 67, Leamore Lane, and James Cooper, Green Lane, were summoned for being drunk and disorderly in licensed premises, RAILWAY INN, Leamore, and refusing to quit when requested.

Mr. H. H. Jackson prosecuted, and explained the defendants went into the house, and when the landlord refused to supply them, they began to use bad language, and Cooper stood on the counter to strike the landlord. Both men refused to leave the house, and Cooper struck an old man named Cockin. He should ask for a heavy penalty, as landlords had enough to look after without men who created such disturbances.

The landlord and Mr. Cockin gave evidence in support of these statements.

Cooper, who did not appear, had five previous convictions, and was fined £3 and costs, or one months’ hard labour, and Wilson 40s and costs or 21 days’ hard labour.”

1911 Census

Broadstone – RAILWAY INN

[1] *Joseph Turner* (36), publican, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Mary Turner (29), wife, married 7 years, assisting in the business, born Wolverhampton;

[3] Nellie Gwen Turner (7), daughter, school, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Annie Bayley (19), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 9/5/1914

“John Henry Carter (31), labourer, 95, Weston Street, was charged with breaking a window at the RAILWAY INN, Leamore, doing damage to the amount of 5s, on Thursday.

Mary *Turner*, wife of the licensee, said that at 8.20 on Thursday night prisoner came to the bar and asked for a pint of ale. He was under the influence of drink and witness refused to serve him, telling him he ought to go for a walk. He then became very abusive and used vile language. She threatened to send for the police, but he said he did not care for them, and meant to be locked up. When she put him outside he tried to strike her, but she slammed the door. Shortly afterwards he pushed his feet through the smoke room window.

Prisoner, who expressed his regret, was ordered to pay for the damage, and fined 2s 6d and costs, or seven days’ hard labour.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
RAILWAY INN, Leamore. £0 17s 10½d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1922

“Annual Licensing Sessions.....

There were also objections, to the renewal of the licenses chiefly on the ground of redundancy of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich; ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street; FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street; VINE, Blue Lane; WOODMAN, Blue Lane; and VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street; and it was announced that the applications in respect of these houses would be considered at the adjourned sessions on March 2nd.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 2nd March 1922.
It was renewed.

1922 – “generally dilapidated especially at the rear.”

Plans for rebuilding were accepted in 1923.

1939 Register

502, Bloxwich Road (2 of 3)

[1] *Harry Haden*, date of birth 28/11/1890, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Rosina Haden*, dob 24/12/1892, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
RAILWAY INN, Broadstone, Leamore. £1 15s 0d.”

Lichfield Mercury 2/1/1948

“Darts. National Championship Area E, Midland Counties Section F. Semi-final.

The Trooper (Wall) v. RAILWAY INN (Leamore).

The above match will be played at the Trooper (Wall) on Tuesday next at 2.30pm. The competition rules, with a throw of 8 feet, will govern the match.”

[2017]

RAILWAY TAVERN

Norton Road, Upper Common, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Wilding [1857] – [1862]

William Lewis [] – **1863**);

Isaac Cooper (**1863** – []

John Starkey [] – **1867**);

Alfred Stokes (**1867** – **1871**);

Caleb Thomas Hill (**1871** – **1873**);

William Rushall (**1873** – []

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/9/1855

“At the annual licensing meeting for the parishes of Aldridge, Bentley, Pelsall, Walsall Wood, and Rushall, held at the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, Pelsall, on Wednesday, the licenses of the Anchor Inn, Aldridge, was refused, and the licenses of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall, the SWAN INN, Pelsall, and the GEORGE AND DRAGON, were suspended until the adjourned meeting on the 27th of September.”

Thomas Wilding = Thomas Willdeg = Thomas Willdigg = Thomas Widig

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/10/1857

“*Thomas Wilding*, of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall, was fined £2 and costs for a similar offence [keeping his house open during illegal hours on the day of humiliation], and was warned that a repetition of his offence would lead to the withholding of his license.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Thomas Wilding, licensed victualler, RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall, was fined 10s and costs, for having four unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859

“A Special Petty Sessions was held at Brownhills on Friday last, before C. Forster, Esq, MP, and the Rev. G. H. Fisher, when the following persons were fined for having in their possession unjust weights and measures, on the information laid by Mr. Inspector Tullett, Inspector for the South Staffordshire district.....

Thomas Wildig, RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall, unjust weights, 5s and costs.”

1861 Census

Norton Road – RAILWAY TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Willdigg* (43), victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Mary Willdigg* (42), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Richard Willdigg* (19), son, coal miner, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Mary Willdigg* (11), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Elizabeth Willdigg* (9), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [6] *George Willdigg* (7), son, born Pelsall;
- [7] *Thomas Willdigg* (5), son, born Pelsall;
- [8] *John Willdigg* (2), son, born Pelsall:

Walsall Free Press 5/4/1862

“*James Millwood*, aged about ten, who had several times been convicted of petty thefts, was charged with having stolen one shilling, the property of Mrs. *Wildig*, RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall. It appeared that while Mrs. *Wildig* was in the back room, she heard some one in the shop which adjoins the public-house, and on going into the shop she saw prisoner, and knowing his character, she examined the till and discovered one shilling gone, whereupon she charged the boy with stealing it. A first he denied, but seeing she was determined not to let him escape, he threw the shilling on the counter. Mrs. *Wildig* then sent for an officer and gave him into charge. The lad who appeared to be of weak intellect, was remanded in order to admit of inquiry to be made.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/4/1863

“*John Snape*, better known by the sobriquet as ‘The King of Pelsall,’ who has figured frequently in this and other courts, was summoned upon a charge of being drunk and disorderly in the RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall, on Easter Monday night, and also with assaulting police-constable Williams in the execution of his duty. From the evidence it appeared that there had been a ‘house warming’ at the RAILWAY TAVERN, where a sheep had been roasted; and there were grand doings, which were kept up with great spirit and the utmost harmony till about twelve o’clock at night, when *Snape* arrived and initiated a general disturbance. After a prolonged attempt he was expelled, but soon effected a second entrance, and called upon his son to assist him. He was then put out by a policeman, whom he struck several times. For being drunk and disorderly he was fined 40s and costs, or seven days’ imprisonment; and for the assault on the policeman was fined £3, with £1 6s 3d costs, or fourteen days’ imprisonment.”

London Gazette 7/7/1863

“*William Lewis*, of Pelsall, in the county of Stafford, Innkeeper and Miner, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 12th day of June, 1863, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination, and make application for his Discharge, will be held before the Judge of the said Court, on the 29th day of July instant, at the Court-house, Goodall-street, Walsall, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid, being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. *Frederic F. Clarke*, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Messrs. *Barnett, Marlow, and Barnett*, of Walsall, are the Solicitors acting in the bankruptcy.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/9/1863

“Yesterday was the annual licensing day for the Rushall division of the county.....

On the application of Mr. *Wilson* (from the office of Messrs. *Barnett, Marlow, and Barnett*), the license of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall, was transferred from *William Lewis* to *Isaac Cooper*.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/10/1863

“County Court.....

William Lewis innkeeper and miner, RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall, came up for his discharge, supported by Mr. *Dale* (from the office of Messrs. *Duignan, Lewis and Lewis*) and opposed by Mr. *Glover* on behalf of the creditors’ assignee. Mr. *Glover* applied

for a still further adjournment to give the assignee an opportunity of enquiring in to the truth of certain information which had reached him as to an alleged misappropriation of the bankrupt's property. Eventually the examination was further adjourned until the 18th of November.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/10/1867

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Tuesday, the license of the RAILWAY TAVERN, was provisionally transferred from *John Starkey* to *Alfred Stokes*.”

Walsall Free Press 15/8/1868

“At the Rushall petty sessions, on Thursday last, *Alfred Stokes*, landlord of the RAILWAY INN, for having on Sunday, the 26th day of July last, had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours, was fined in the mitigated penalty of 1s and costs. It was his first offence, and at the time of its committal he was from home, his wife was ill in bed, and the beer sold by a nurse who was in attendance of Mrs. *Stokes*, who was ignorant of the requirements of the law.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1868

“Rushall, Tuesday. Adjourned Licensing Meeting.....

Of the holders of existing licenses *Alfred Stokes*, RAILWAY INN, Pelsall, were cautioned.”

1871 Census

19, Upper Common – RAILWAY TAVERN

[1] *Alfred Stokes* (25), licensed victualler, born Blakenall, Staffordshire;

[2] Mary A. Stokes (28), wife, born Princes End;

[3] Alfred Stokes (3), son, born Pelsall, blind from weakness;

[4] Sarah R. Stokes (6 months), daughter, born Pelsall;

[5] Mary A. Heath (18), general servant, born Brownhills:

RAILWAY

18, Station Street, (Railway Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. F. Eglington

Downing and Son, Smethwick

J. Lawton (leased)

Showells Brewery [1904]

LICENSEES

Charles Brown [1851] – [1858]

John Boonham [1858]

Walter Heaps [] – **1860**;

George Purkis (**1860** – [1861])

William Wilson [1861] – **1865**);

James Harding (**1865** – **1866**);

Ann Johnson (**1866** – [])

Michael Hall [1868] – [1870]

William **Brereton** [1871] – [1872]

Thomas Hedges [1872] – [1873];

Mrs. Ann Hedges [];

Samuel Tonks [1881];

Mrs. Rhoda Tonks [];

William Tonks [] – **1889**);

John Lawton (**1889** – **1904**);

Albert Ernest Hibbell (**1904** – **1905**);

John Owen (**1905** – **1906**);

George Henry Rooke (**1906** – **1907**);

Frederick James Westwood (**1907**);

James Rowley (**1907** – **1910**);

Isaac Billingsley (**1910** – **1912**);

Frank William Roberts (1912 – 1913);
George Astbury (1913 – 1914);
John Cotton (1914 – 1924);
George Albert James (1924 – 1927);
George Astbury (1927 – 1928);
James Loynes (1928 – 1932);
Albert George Thomas Brant (1932 – 1935);
Walter Henry Barnett (1935 – 1937):

NOTES

Railway Street [1862]

COMMERCIAL INN [1861], [1871], [1872], [1881], [1885], [1891], [1892], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1909], [1910], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1925], [1932]

RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL INN [1858], [1861], [1862], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

RAILWAY INN [1880]

COMMERCIAL HOTEL [1890], [1894], [1900], [1904], [1905], [1907], [1918], [1924]

COMMERCIAL RAILWAY [1933]

1851 Census

Station Street

[1] Charles Brown (28), unmarried, victualler, born Aston, Birmingham;

[2] Harriet Brown (63), mother, born Birmingham;

[3] John Jackson (12), nephew, errand boy, born Walsall;

[4] Ellen Williams (20), servant, born Aldridge:

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

"In 1855 the street was described as having 'a long range of neat, uniform buildings, mainly private houses but including the large RAILWAY COMMERCIAL INN."

AND

"There was a Public Bar, two Smoke Rooms and a Club Room, with stabling for 13 horses let to the North West Railway Co., two Bedrooms for the licensee and 17 bedrooms on the third which were described in the mid thirties as 'not fit for use'."

Charles Brown was also a car proprietor. [1858]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/1/1858 - Advert

"Loans (from £50 to £500), repayable in three years, by quarterly instalments, in connection with Life Assurance.

Apply to Mr. W. Palmer, Agency Superintendent for the Consolidated Assurance Company, of 45 Cheapside, London, who attends as under.

At 13, St. James's Square, Wolverhampton, Mondays and Wednesdays.

At the RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL INN, Walsall, Tuesdays.

At the WOOLPACK INN, Dudley, Saturdays.

Postal Address –13, St. James's Square, Wolverhampton."

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/11/1858

"John Boonham, landlord of the RAILWAY INN was fined 5s and costs, for having in the afternoon of Sunday last kept his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/12/1858

"On Tuesday evening, at the RAILWAY HOTEL, an inquest was held before the Borough Coroner, on the body of Richard Butcher, a man formerly employed at the Walsall Railway Station. On Saturday last the deceased went up with a train from Walsall to Bloxwich merely for curiosity, and returned with a goods train. When this train was going down the incline between the Birchills station and the junction of the Cannock branch the man fell on the side of the truck, his clothes got entangled with a wheel, and after being carried round once or twice, he was thrown with his head upon the rail, and a number of trucks passed over it, crushing the poor fellow's head in a most frightful manner, and of course causing instant death. The guard of the train gave information to some platelayers who were at work near the spot, who immediately conveyed the body to the RAILWAY HOTEL, Walsall. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned by the Jury. The deceased was about 19 years old, and had asked in church on the previous Sunday with a view to his marriage. The accident was evidently the result of his own reckless conduct. While the train was in motion he went from the waggon he was riding in, over the top of some loaded waggons to the engine and back again, and is supposed to have been in the act of attempting to apply the break to the waggon he was in when the accident occurred."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 11/4/1859 - Advert

“Walsall. To Cab Proprietors and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by John Osbourn, Tomorrow (Tuesday), April 12, at the RAILWAY COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, Walsall – two useful grey Carriage Horses, Car, Brougham, Dog-cart, double and single Harness, Posting Saddles, and other effects belonging to Mr. *John Boonham*, who is giving up the Car Business.

The whole are in first-rate condition, and will be sold without the slightest reserve.

Sale to commence at two o'clock in the afternoon, under the usual conditions.”

London Gazette 13/9/1859

“Whereas a Petition of *John Boonham*, formerly of Station-street, Walsall, Staffordshire, Licensed Victualler, and licensed to let out Post Horses, Saddle Horses, Cars, Carriages, Gigs, and other Vehicles, for Hire, and then and now of No.31, Frederick-street, Walsall aforesaid, in lodgings and out of business, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *John Boonham*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *John Boonham* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 28th day of September instant at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *John Boonham*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Walsall Free Press 21/1/1860 - Advert

“*Walter Heaps*, Building Contractor, Station Street, Walsall.

All kind of Building repairs punctually attended to.”

AND

“RAILWAY COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street.

Walter Heaps, respectfully informs his friends and the public that he has gone to a great expense in erecting a Grand American Bowling Saloon, which is now open to the Public.

To subscribers on Thursdays and Fridays.”

Walsall Free Press 28/1/1860 - Advert

“RAILWAY COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, Walsall.

Annual Ball.

Walter Heaps, begs respectfully to inform his friends and the public that his Annual Tea Party And Ball, Will take place on Monday, January 30th, 1860, when the presence of any friend will be esteemed a favour.

A Full Quadrille Band Will Be In Attendance.

Gentlemen's Tickets 1s 6d. Ladies, 1s.”

Walter Heaps, RAILWAY, Station Street, and *George Purkis*, RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL, Station Street, appeared in the same 1861 Directory.

Walter Heaps was also a builder. [1860], [1861]

Walsall Free Press 7/7/1860

“Mr. W. H. Duignan applied, on behalf of Mr. *Perkiss*, for a transfer of license. It appeared that the application had, on a former occasion, been refused, in consequence of a report that had appeared in the newspapers – to the effect that the applicant, while tenant of the Coach and Horses public-house, Newport, Monmouthshire, had been fined £1 and costs, for having permitted disorderly characters to assemble in his house – having come under the notice of the bench. After giving a brief but very satisfactory history of the applicant's previous life, Mr. Duignan showed that – although the applicant had been fined, as was stated in the report, and that the decision of the Newport magistrates had been confirmed by the Court of Queen's Bench, yet he had not been guilty of the charge preferred against him, and had only been convicted through the neglect of his attorney, who failed to point out to the bench that Mr. *Perkiss* was entirely ignorant of the character of the parties found in his house; and the attorney not having raised this objection in the lower court, where it would have been relevant, it could not be sustained in the superior courts, which had no power to deal with the facts of the case. Mr. Duignan having produced the report in the *Law Journal* in support of his statement, the Bench consented to grant the transfer. The license transferred is that of the RAILWAY HOTEL, at present held by Mr. *Walter Heaps*.”

William Wilson = William Williams

1861 Census

18, Station Street – COMMERCIAL INN

[1] *William Wilson* (56), licensed victualler, born Swineshead, Lincolnshire;

[2] Sarah Wilson (49), wife, born Swineshead, Lincolnshire;

[3] George Wilson (25), son, steam sawyer, born Swineshead, Lincolnshire;

[4] Ann Wilson (27), daughter in law, born Hickling, Nottinghamshire;

[5] Spindin Mingole (35), son in law, merchant, born Corfu, Greece;

- [6] Ann Mingole (24), daughter, born Swineshead, Lincolnshire;
[7] William Wilson (21), son, steam sawyer, born Swineshead, Lincolnshire;
[8] Maria Wilson (13), daughter, scholar, born Swineshead, Lincolnshire;
[9] Sarah Wilson (11), daughter, scholar, born Swineshead, Lincolnshire;
[10] Elizabeth Wilson (6), daughter, scholar, born Nottingham;
[11] William Mason (65), lodger, widower, traveller, birthplace unknown:

London Gazette 11/10/1861

“*Walter Heaps*, late of No.3, Vicarage-place, Walsall, Staffordshire, in lodgings, out of business, previously thereto of Caldmore, Walsall aforesaid, in lodgings, out of business, previously thereto of the SANDWELL HOTEL, High-street, Westbromwich, Staffordshire, Hotel Keeper, and Licensed to let out Horses and Vehicles to hire, previously thereto of No.84, Navigation-street, Walsall aforesaid, in lodgings, out of business, previously thereto of the RAILWAY COMMERCIAL INN, Station-street, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Builder, previously thereto of No.18, St. Paul’s-row, Walsall aforesaid, in lodgings, Builder, previously thereto of Farringdon-street, Walsall aforesaid, Builder, previously thereto of No.21, Ablewell-street, Walsall aforesaid, Builder, previously thereto of Essex-terrace, Intown-row, Walsall aforesaid, Builder, having a workshop and premises at Bridge-street, Walsall aforesaid.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1863, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o’clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *Wilson*, RAILWAY INN.”

Walsall Free Press 19/11/1864

“George Hampton was charged with having on the night of Tuesday last, stolen two drinking glasses, the property of Mr. *W. Wilson*, landlord of the RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street. The prisoner, who had been at supper at that inn on the evening in question, was seen by the landlord to leave the house with the glasses in his possession, and was detained till Police-constable Dobbins, who was sent for, arrived. On the officer’s arrival, the prisoner said he supposed if he paid for the glasses it would be all right. Mr. *Wilson* replied he had had too many stolen to do so. The prisoner, who elected to be tried by the bench, was sentenced to 21 days’ imprisonment.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/12/1865

“Julia Collins, a respectably-dressed female, was charged with having in the early part of July last stolen a quantity of bed linen, the property of Mr. *James Harding*, landlord of the RAILWAY HOTEL, Station Street, and with having in the latter part of the same month stolen a counterpane, a sheet, a table cloth, and toilet cover, the property of Mr. John Young, landlord of the TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth. The prisoner, in company with a man whom she represented to be her husband, had lodged for about a fortnight at each place, and after she left these articles were missed. The prisoner, who pleaded guilty to each charge, was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 30/12/1865

“Two Days Grand Match. On Wednesday and Thursday last Mr. *Harding*’s hostlerie was crammed with sportsmen from far and near, responding to the announcement of a handsome bullock to be shot for, the conditions being 20 members at a guinea, 5 birds each, 1oz of shot, bore unrestricted, competitors handicapped from 16 to 22 yards, the winner to take the bullock or £20 on paying the second best £2 and the third £1. Owing to the over-filling (33 contended) the terms were rendered somewhat more liberal, namely, first prize £21, second £5, third £2, with £5 expended on a spread. Upwards of 2,000 persons were present, and it was by far the most important event of the kind that has happened in Walsall. . . .”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1868 - Advert

“Charles Dearn, Respectfully begs to inform the inhabitants of Walsall, and the public generally, that (after being a Cab Driver for Mr. H. Mills, of this town for several years) he has purchased Horses And Cabs for himself, and hopes to share their patronage and support, assuring them that he will try to merit the same.

Horses & Dog Traps Kept For Hire.

COMMERCIAL INN Stables, Station Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/5/1870 - Advert

“COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, Walsall. To be Let, the above first-class Old-Licensed House, near the Railway Station, with every convenience for doing a large trade; Lock-up Yard, and Stabling for twelve horses.

Apply on the Premises, or to W. Horobin, Auctioneer and Valuer, Walsall.”

1871 Census

18, Station Street – COMMERCIAL INN

- [1] *William Brereton* (32), licensed victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] *Alice Brereton* (34), wife, born Liverpool;
- [3] *John F. Brereton* (9), son, born Cubitt Town, Middlesex;
- [4] *William G. Brereton* (6), son, born Cubitt Town, Middlesex;
- [5] *Albert E. Brereton* (5), son, born Bow, Middlesex;
- [6] *Henry T. Brereton* (3), son, born Cubitt Town, Middlesex;
- [7] *James A. Brereton* (1), son, born Cubitt Town, Middlesex;
- [8] *Mary Allines* (18), domestic servant, born Bilston:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1871

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions. This session took place at the Guildhall, yesterday.....
The undermentioned applied in person for the renewal of the licenses which were suspended on licensing day.....
William Brereton, the COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street. Granted.”

Walsall Free Press 23/12/1871 - Advert

“Birmingham & Walsall Brown Saddlers’ Trade Protection Society.
A Special Meeting of the above Society will be held on Wednesday, December 27, at Half-past Seven o’clock, at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street (in consequence of the Temperance Hall being engaged) to consider the Reply to the Masters of the Circulars issued by the Operative Saddlers.
Delegates from Birmingham will attend.
Non-Society Men are especially requested to be present.”

William Brereton – see also CASTLE, Bilston.

Thomas Hedges was married to *Ann*.

Walsall Free Press 15/11/1873 - Advert

“RAILWAY COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, Walsall.
To Be Sold By Auction by *John Osbourn*, at the Yard as above, the following Valuable Effects, belonging to the Estate of the late *Mr. Thomas Hedges*, deceased, comprising Four Useful Coal Carts, sundry Harness, Two Chaff Engines, Chaff Box, Malt Crusher, Cart Seat, two very strong Hot-water Apparatus, Two large gilt lettered Window Boards, Case of Birds, 3,000 Old Bricks and Sundries. Also a very superior Brown Carriage Mare, rising five years old, quiet to ride or drive.
Sale to commence at Two o’clock. Usual conditions.”

1881 Census

- 18, Station Street – COMMERCIAL INN
- [1] *Samuel Tonks* (72), innkeeper, born Walsall;
 - [2] *Rhoda Tonks* (67), wife, born Bloxwich;
 - [3] *Henry Tonks* (49), son, brewer, born Walsall;
 - [4] *Emma Ankrett* (16), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Samuel and *Rhoda Tonks* – see also GREEN DRAGON.

Walsall Observer 11/4/1885

“Ancient Order of Foresters. Walsall District. The quarterly meeting of the above was held at the COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, last Wednesday, Bro. E. Luty, District Chief Ranger, presiding.....”

Walsall Advertiser 5/10/1889 - Advert

“COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, Walsall.
Unreserved Sale of Brewing Plant, Hops, Furniture, &c.
To Be Sold By Auction by Messrs. *Watkins & Powell*, on Monday Next, October 7th, without reserve – the superior Brewing Plant, situate as above, comprising excellent 120-gallon Copper Boiler, 70-gallon Wrought Iron Boiler, 18-bushel Mash Tub, Hop Press, Cooling Vats, Fermenting Vats, Casks and Barrels, Copper-bottomed Sieves, and other Plant; together with 3 Pockets of Hops (Kent 1883), and upwards of 200 gallons of Ale. Also a quantity of useful Household Furniture.
Sale to commence at 11 o’clock.
Auctioneer’s Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. *J. Brewer*, *E. T. Holden*, *J. Thorpe*, *W. E. Blyther*, and *J. Lindop*, and Captain *Brooks*, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard.....
Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by *Mr. Gillespie*) applied, on behalf of *John Lawton*, COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, for a license for singing on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday nights, in connection with club meetings.....
The Bench retired for about half an hour, and on their return the Magistrates’ Clerk read the decisions.....
Granted. *John Lawton*, COMMERCIAL HOTEL, on Mondays and Saturdays, from 7.30 till 10.30.”

1891 Census

18, Station Street – COMMERCIAL INN

- [1] *John Lawton* (23), hotel proprietor, born Edgmond, Shropshire;
- [2] Florence Ann Lawton (23), wife, born Linslade, Buckinghamshire;
- [3] Anne E. Meakin (28), servant, Chartley;
- [4] James A. Jones (24), servant, born West Bromwich:

Walsall Advertiser 20/8/1892

“On Sunday evening last a meeting of the employés of the L&NW Railway Company was held at the COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, for the purpose of forming a football club.....”

Walsall Advertiser 26/8/1892

“The Walsall L&NW Railway Football Club. On Tuesday evening last a general meeting of the members of the above club was held at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, for the purpose of completing the appointment of officers for the ensuing season.....”

Walsall Advertiser 3/12/1892

“Walsall Polytechnic Cycling Club. The annual dinner in connection with the club was held on Saturday evening last at the headquarters, COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, when about 50 sat down to dinner, and its number was considerably augmented after the cloths were drawn.....”

Walsall Advertiser 4/8/1894

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The forty second annual meeting of the members of this society was held on Thursday at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 20/4/1895

“Ancient Order Of Foresters. On Saturday last the half-yearly meeting of the Walsall and District, was held at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street. The meeting was opened by the D.C.R., T. J. Egan.....”

Walsall Advertiser 5/9/1896

“Isaiah Greaves (14), labourer, was charged in custody with having stolen a live guinea-pig.

Mr. *John Lawton*, landlord of the COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, said the guinea-pig produced was his property, and worth 5s. He missed it from his saddle room on Saturday noon. He subsequently accompanied Detective Harper to Mr. Hitch’s shop, where he recovered possession of it.

Polly Bates, domestic servant, spoke to missing the animal, and Alfred Hitch, hairdresser and bird dealer, Stafford Street, said that on the 28th ult. prisoner offered him the guinea-pig. He did not want it, but subsequently gave him the 3d he asked for it. He had no doubt the prisoner was the lad.

Detective Harper said that from enquiries he had made he apprehended prisoner and charged him with the theft. He said ‘Why don’t you have the other lad as gave me it as well, Ben Davis, of Renwick Terrace.’

The lad’s father gave him a good character, and the Bench discharged him on promising never to steal again.

The Mayor told Hitch that if people were not so ready to buy things for a few coppers there would be fewer thieves in the world.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1899

“On Thursday evening the Mayor entertained the cabmen of the town to dinner at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, when over a score of them sat down to a first class spread, provided in good style by Mr. and Mrs. *Lawton*, the host and hostess. The Mayor (Councillor Clare) presided, and he was supported by the Town Clerk.....”

Walsall Observer 10/2/1900

“Court ‘Philanthropist’, No.2763, AOF. The meeting of this society held on Monday last, at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, was of an interesting character.

After the usual formal business was transacted, the Chief Ranger (Bro. F. Roberts) presented to Bro. Hilliard, the immediate PCR, a framed certificate and neck-ribbon in recognition of the services he had rendered to the Court during his term of office.....”

Walsall Observer 21/4/1900

“Ancient Order of Foresters, Walsall. On Saturday afternoon the half yearly meeting of this above district was held at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, under the presidency of Bro. J. H. Webb, DCR.....”

[*John Lawton* was elected to the office of relieving officer for the district at this meeting.]

Walsall Observer 14/7/1900

“Walsall Branch of the Typographical Society. A quarterly meeting of this branch was held at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, on Monday evening. Mr. Macduff (president) was in the chair, and there was a goodly attendance of members.....”

1901 Census

18, Station Street

- [1] *John Lawton* (32), licensed victualler, born Newport, Shropshire;
- [2] Florence A. Lawton (32), wife, born Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire;
- [3] May B. Lawton (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary Bates (36), general servant, born Stafford;
- [5] Lucy Farmer (25), barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 27/4/1901

“Typographical Society. The Walsall branch held its annual meeting at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, last week, Mr. Macduff, the president, being in the chair.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/6/1901 - Births

“On the 12th inst, the wife of *John Lawton*, COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, of a daughter.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/4/1902

“Ancient Order of Foresters, Walsall District. The half-yearly meeting of delegates was held at the registered office, the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, on Saturday afternoon last, under the presidency of the District Chief Ranger (Bro. G. F. Bird).....”

Walsall Advertiser 5/4/1902

“*John Lawton*, of the COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, was granted a music and singing license for Wednesday, April 23rd, on the occasion of a smoking concert to be given for the purpose of providing a summer treat for the Juvenile Foresters at Sutton Park.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

George Rose, TIGER INN and *John Lawton*, COMMERCIAL HOTEL.....

The chief difficulty with which the licensees of the TIGER, Wisemore, and the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, were confronted were as to back entrances to their premises. The license of the TIGER was renewed on the undertaking by Mr. F. Cooper (representing the owner) that a small gateway should be closed; and in regard to the COMMERCIAL HOTEL (represented by Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman) the Bench intimated that unless an undertaking was given that the doorway from the yard was built up, and a water closet provided objection would be taken.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Thursday.....

In the case of the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, Mr. Norris Foster, barrister (instructed by Messrs. Shakespeare and Co, Birmingham) and Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman and Mr. Jackson (solicitors) appeared respectively for the owners, lessees, and tenant (Mr. *J. Lawton*).

Mr. Newman said if the magistrates objected to the passage to Navigation Street, which was simply a back door, then the same objection applied to the other hotels and nine-tenths of the houses in the town. Look at the injustice that would be done to the owners and tenant of this house. The trade done through this door with Navigation Street and Frederick Street was of the greatest consideration of the house – the trade done in Station Street, was a minor consideration. A lease, fourteen years of which was unexpired, had been entered into, and was based upon the amount of trade done at the house. To stop up this way meant to take away the trade from the house, and the living from the tenant.

Mr. Loxton (magistrates’ clerk) argued that the objections raised by the magistrates was not against the legitimate trade, but because the doorway was used by bad characters.

Notices of objection to be served, the case to be heard at the adjourned licensing sessions.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street. In regard to this license, adjourned from a previous hearing, Mr. Loxton said he proposed to serve notices of opposition for renewal, and it would perhaps serve the convenience of the parties to have the matter heard before the adjourned licensing day, March 1st.

It was agreed that the matter be tried on a day to be fixed next week.

Mr. Grundy-Newman, for the licensee (Mr. *J. Lawton*), said there was a report in a local paper last week that the objection was not against the legitimate trade of the house, but because the back-door way was used by bad characters. He never said that doorway was used by bad characters, and he was sure the learned Clerk would bear him out that he (Mr. Loxton) never argued that; and as the matter was still sub-judice it would be well for the inaccuracy of the report to be corrected.

Mr. Loxton said that for once the reporters had been caught napping; the report was not correct.”

Albert Hibbell was married to Anne.

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

With regard to the renewal of the license of the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, Mr. Norris Foster (instructed by Messrs. Shakespeare, Birmingham), appeared for the landlord, Messrs. Downing, and Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman for the lessees, Messrs. Showell & Co.

Mr. Loxton said that the orders made by the justices last year had not been carried out.

Mr. Grundy-Newman said the alterations had been carried out within a month after the order, and he thought there must have been some misunderstanding on the matter. If they would point out to him what had been left undone, he would see to it.

The Chief Constable bore out this statement and also another witness.

The Bench renewed the license.

Mr. Grundy-Newman: Who will pay the costs? – Mr. Loxton: If Mr. Newman raises that point I will ask the magistrates to reserve their decision (laughter).”

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Members..... *James Rowley*, COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....

The London And Provincial Yearly Dividing Friendly Society, held at the COMMERCIAL INN, Station Street, has this year declared a dividend of £1 per member. As usual 5s of that amount has been added to the members’ death money, and on Tuesday evening the members each received the remaining 15s.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

In the case of the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, Mr. Maddocks, of Birmingham (instructed by Messrs. Shakespeare & Co.), and Mr. S. A. Grundy Newman, appeared for the owners (Messrs. Dunne), the lessees (Showells Brewery Co.), and the tenant (*James Rowley*).

Chief-inspector Ballance stated that Station Street contained two alehouses and two beer-houses. The population of the street and courts was 83 persons over sixteen years and 10 under, and there were 18 occupied houses and 18 factories and workshops. It was a fully licensed house and contained four public rooms and a living room downstairs, and a sitting room and six bedrooms upstairs. With regard to the class of business, it had been frequented by a lot of young people, but he believed that had been stopped of late, and the trade was now mostly with the working classes.

Cross-examined by Mr. Maddocks: As compared with the STAR AND GARTER, the COMMERCIAL had an advantage in size, and with regard to position it had an advantage over the QUEENS, which was side by side with the SADDLERS HOME. The license was absolutely clean, and in that respect they had an advantage over another house in the same street. He did not think it was doing as good a trade now as it was some years ago.

Replying to an observation by Mr. Maddocks, Mr. Loxton said the Justices had no intention of taking the license away without compensation, and the question was whether it should be referred for compensation or not.

Mr. Tomlins (Wolverhampton), called by Mr. Maddocks, stated that the Brewery Company had given him figures showing that the value of the trade done in 1907 was £758, in 1908, £805, and in 1909 £832, while the barrelage for the same years was 177½, 151, and 174½ respectively, and the sale of wines and spirits £155, £219, and £208 respectively.

James Rowley in reply to a question by the Magistrates’ Clerk as to whether the long pull was given, stated that certain percentages were given.

Mr. Maddocks, addressing the Bench, submitted that he had to answer only the objections set out in the notice, and three of those had gone, viz, that the premises were structurally unsuitable, that they were not of the requisite annual value, and that the nature and class of the business carried on was not such as to justify the renewal of the license. The licensee, when he was brought to the Court to defend his living, was entitled to know on what grounds it was said his license was not required, but he (Mr. Maddocks) was at a loss even then to know what objections he had to meet. In his opinion the evidence of Inspector Ballance disposed of all objections against the house. He could not say that the takings had decreased, that the population had decreased, and he could not differentiate the COMMERCIAL in the slightest degree from any other house in the street. He quite agreed that if the Magistrates came to the conclusion that every house in the street ought to be taken away they could do away with the COMMERCIAL, but if they admitted that some houses were required, and they had to admit that because he understood that no notice of objection had been served in respect of the STAR AND GARTER, the COMMERCIAL could not be differentiated against. Apart from the legal aspect of the case, he submitted that the evidence of Inspector Ballance showed that the house was required. He stated that the house was conducted properly, that latterly young people had been stopped going in, and that the people who used the house were the labouring classes. On the figures before them the house did more business last year than in the previous year, and he contended that it was not one of those houses that came within the category that ought to be removed from the register. It was a live house, and was doing a substantial trade.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....
The Magistrates decided to renew the licenses of the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, and the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, and the VICTORIA, Lower Rushall Street.”

1911 Census

18, Station Street

- [1] *Isaac Billingsley* (48), widower, victualler's manager, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Floss Billingsley* (18), daughter, barmaid, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Alfred Billingsley* (16), son, harness trade errand boy, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *Samuel Billingsley* (14), son, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *Gladys Billingsley* (8), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [6] *Alice Maud Billingsley* (4), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [7] *Ivy Olive Billingsley* (1), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [8] *Maria Smith* (16), domestic servant, born Darlaston:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, £0 16s 11½d.”

Walsall Observer 2/8/1924

“.....The Bench also inspected the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, and on the application of Mr. Frank Cooper, sanctioned plans for the provision of lavatory accommodation for women etc, Mr. Phillips remarking that the application was granted without prejudice to further action.....”

George Albert James = George Albert Jones

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/8/1925

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 13th inst at the house of Mr. Samuel Birch, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention.....
Mr. *George A. Jones*, COMMERCIAL INN, 18, Station Street, elected member of the society.”

It closed on 7th May 1937 and the license was removed to the ORANGE TREE.

RAILWAY

Victoria Road, (Station Road), Highbridge, (High Bridge Row), Pelsall, WALSALL

It has been brought to our attention that the Godfrey maps show the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL at Highbridge and a PH on Victoria Road, the existing RAILWAY pub. So there are two pubs in this entry. To be addressed.

OWNERS

Sudbury
Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

Charles Quest [1855] – **1858**)
Waldron Ladbury [1859] – 1861)
William Ladbury [1861]
Samuel Collins [1863]
Samuel Wiggin [] – **1863**)
Samuel Wiggin [1868] – **1869**);
John Ghilks (**1869** – [1881]
Jane Ghilks []
Finney [1885]
Thomas Lunt [1889] – **1902**);
Joseph Marklew (**1902** – **1904**);
Mary Maud Marklew (**1904**);
Thomas Marklew [1904] ?
Austin Peter Aspinall (**1904** – [1912])

Mrs. Eva Aspinall [1924] – [1940]
Thomas Henry ‘Tom’ Osbourne [2007] – [2012]

NOTES

Station Road [1891]

RAILWAY COLLIERY INN [1860], [1868]

RAILWAY HOTEL [1861], [1869], [1900], [1939], [1940]

RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL [1855], [1856], [1858], [1861], [1863], [1881], [1882], [1884]

RAILWAY INN [1891], [1893], [1899]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/1/1855

“At a meeting of the Magistrates on Tuesday, C. Forster, Esq, MP, R.C. Chawner, E. Scott, and W. E. Jones, being present, it was resolved that for the future the Petty Sessions should be held on alternate Saturdays at Mr. *Quest*'s, the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, Pelsall (instead of the BUTTS INN, Walsall, on Tuesday, as heretofore), such being the central point of the district.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/9/1855

“At the annual licensing meeting for the parishes of Aldridge, Bentley, Pelsall, Walsall Wood, and Rushall, held at the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, Pelsall, on Wednesday, the licenses of the Anchor Inn, Aldridge, was refused, and the licenses of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall, the SWAN INN, Pelsall, and the GEORGE AND DRAGON, were suspended until the adjourned meeting on the 27th of September.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/7/1856

“An inquest was held on Monday, at the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, Pelsall, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, on the body of Joseph Smith, a boatman, 45 years of age, who lived at Birmingham. On the previous Friday morning about seven o'clock, the deceased arrived at High Bridge, from the direction of Birmingham; he stopped at High Bridge wharf, when he appeared to be in good health, and gave orders to a man named Frank Whitby, a boat loader, to load an empty boat which he had brought with him. Shortly after this the deceased fell down into the empty boat, and lay at the bottom on his back. Assistance was speedily on the spot, and the head of the deceased was raised, but he gasped twice and then expired. Mr. McBride, surgeon, Ogle Hay, gave it was his opinion the deceased's death was occasioned by a rupture of a vessel upon the brain, and that such rupture was produced by natural causes. A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.”

Birmingham Journal 18/11/1857

“At the County Petty Sessions, at Brownhills, on Tuesday last, before R. C. Chawner and W. Harrison Esqs, James Meachin and George Bench, colliers, Brownhills, were charged with inciting a breach of the peace, by using insulting language towards Mr. *Charles Quest*, of the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, Pelsall, such was accusing him of murdering his wife. They were ordered to find sureties to keep the peace.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/2/1858

“On Tuesday night Mr. *Charles Quest*, landlord of the RAILWAY HOTEL, Pelsall, died suddenly, and in consequence of rumours which prevailed respecting the cause of his disease it was deemed advisable to request the coroner to hold an inquest. Accordingly T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, commenced an inquest on Friday last. It was proved that on the night before his death the deceased had a scuffle with a man named Bridget, and sustained a slight injury on his nose; that on Tuesday evening he was intoxicated and left the bar, saying he would go and have a lark by taking from a party of men some mutton which they had ordered without his knowledge. He went into the kitchen, tasted the mutton, and afterwards went to the back door where he fell down, and expired shortly after eleven o'clock. The inquest was adjourned for a post mortem examination by Mr. Somerville, of Bloxwich, who on Tuesday (yesterday), reported that the deceased had Died from Apoplexy.”

Birmingham Journal 25/9/1858 - Advert

“Pelsall Wake.

The above Wake will be held on Land adjoining the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, Pelsall, on Monday, October 4th, and the following days, when the Land will be thrown open free of charge, for Shows, Stalls, &c. &c., when the Sports will commence.
A Wheelbarrow Race.

A Foot Race.

Swarming the Pole for a Leg of Mutton.

Two young Women grinning through a Collar for a new Gown.

Two old Women in a Bag Race, for £5, who are now training at Hednesford.

And a variety of other amusements.”

Waldron Ladbury = Waldron Ledbury = Waldon Ladbury

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859

“A Special Petty Sessions was held at Brownhills on Friday last, before C. Forster, Esq, MP, and the Rev. G. H. Fisher, when the following persons were fined for having in their possession unjust weights and measures, on the information laid by Mr. Inspector Tullett, Inspector for the South Staffordshire district.....

Waldron Ladbury, RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, Pelsall, unjust measures, 3s and costs.”

1861 Census

Highbridge Row

- [1] *Waldron Ladbury* (45), victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Ladbury (43), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] Eliza Sarah Ladbury (20), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [4] Fanny Louisa Ladbury (16), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [5] Selina Ann Ladbury (14), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [6] Sarah Ladbury (10), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [7] Waldron Ladbury Jnr. (6), son, born Pelsall;
- [8] Alice Ladbury (4), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [9] Charles Ladbury (2), son, born Pelsall;
- [10] Frederic Ladbury (1 month), son, born Pelsall;
- [11] John Machin (19), servant, born Pelsall;
- [12] Harriett Swan (25), general servant, born Pelsall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/4/1861

“A shocking attempt to murder a child took place at Pelsall, on Wednesday. About nine o’clock in the evening of that day Harriet Swan, a young woman of 25, who has for the past ten weeks been employed at the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, complained of illness, and went to the back premises, where she remained so long that Miss Sudbury, the daughter of the proprietor, went in search of her. She did not for the moment find her, but hearing a child cry her suspicions were excited, and she brought her mother to the spot. The woman Swan was then seen throwing bricks and stones into a deep ashpit, where, upon examination being made, an infant was found, covered with ash and refuse. It was still alive, but had been injured upon the head by the missiles thrown at it by its unnatural mother. The woman was at once taken into custody, but she still remains at the hotel, her weakness precluding her removal at present. She was to have left Mr. Sudbury’s service on Wednesday week.”

Walsall Free Press 1/6/1861

“Several summonses were heard before the justices this day, for infringement of weights and measures regulation of the district ‘C’ of South Staffordshire. All the summonses were preferred in the name of William Tullett, inspector of weights and measures for the district.....

Waldron Ladbury, RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, five measures. Fined 5s and costs. In each of the above cases the costs amounted to 12s.”

Walsall Free Press 2/11/1861 - Advert

“Great Foot Race.

This Interesting Match between Baggott, of Bloxwich, and Richardson, of Walsall, for £5 aside, is fixed to take place on Ground near the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, Pelsall, on Monday next, November 4th, 1861, to start at two o’clock precisely.

N.B. A Handicap will take place at three o’clock between several well-known pedestrians on the same ground.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/9/1863

“Yesterday was the annual licensing day for the Rushall division of the county. The magistrates on the Bench were Messrs. J. E. Bealey, W. Harrison, and D. Bloomer. Before hearing the applications for new licenses and those for the renewal of old ones, the Bench called those publicans whose names were down on the black list.....

Samuel Collins, RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, High Bridge, Pelsall was next called.

Inspector Price, after referring to the recent disgraceful proceedings which took place at the applicant’s house, where, it will be remembered, a woman named Brice was grossly assaulted, said he hoped their worships would not renew the certificate of license to the applicant, whom he considered an unfit person to have one.

The Bench suspended the applicant’s license for a month.”

Samuel Wiggin = Samuel Wiggan

Walsall Free Press 3/10/1863

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions on Tuesday last It being adjourned licensing day.....

Samuel Wiggan, landlord of the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, at whose house a woman, named Brice, was grossly assaulted by his son and three other men, who for the offence were sentenced to fifteen years’ penal servitude, was refused a certificate of license, and was recommended by the bench to betake himself to some other calling.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey and B. Bloomer, Esqs, the following applications for new licenses were made.....

Mr. Travis of West Bromwich, applied on behalf of *Samuel Wigg*, RAILWAY COLLIERY TAVERN, High Bridge Row, whose license was taken from him three years ago in consequence of a gross outrage committed upon a female, on *Wigg*'s premises, in which *Wigg*'s son was one of the offenders.

Mr. Travis, after referring to the occurrence, said that his client having been deprived of his license for three years, had been sufficiently punished for the matter, as he was not personally a participator in it. Since that time the house had been kept by his client as a beerhouse; and he (Mr. Travis) would appeal to the police as to the manner in which it had been conducted.

The Bench said that after the disgraceful conduct which was proved to have taken place on the occasion referred to, they did not think the applicant a fit and proper person to have a spirit license; and further they were of the opinion that a licensed house was not necessary there."

John Ghilks = John Gilks = John Jilkes = John Gelkes

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/12/1869

"John Green, for refusing to leave when requested to, at the house of *John Gilks*, the RAILWAY HOTEL, Pelsall, was fined 5s and costs, or seven days' imprisonment."

Walsall Free Press 17/12/1870

"At the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, Abel Jones and Rose Bullock were each fined 2s 6d and costs, for having refused to leave the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL; and Thomas Bullock was fined 5s and costs for having assaulted the landlord, *John Ghilks*."

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/1/1872

"A woman named Ellen Greenhouse was convicted of having assaulted *John Jilkes*, of the RAILWAY HOTEL, Pelsall, and refusing to leave his house when requested to do so. For the first offence she was fined 5s and costs, and for the last 2s 6d and costs."

Walsall Free Press 4/10/1873

"Two publicans, named Carry Fox, of the FREE TRADE public house, and *John Gilks*, of the RAILWAY COLLIERY beerhouse, applied for an extension of time on the nights of Monday and Tuesday next, it being Pelsall wake. The applications were granted."

Lichfield Mercury 30/11/1877

"At the Lichfield County Police Office on Tuesday, a young man named T. Holloway, who said he came from Nottingham, was charged by Superintendent Hill with uttering a base florin to Mrs. Blackhurst, beerseller, Pelsall, on the 21st of November. The prisoner went to the prosecutrix's house and had half a pint of ale for which he gave the coin and received 1s 10½d change. He was also charged with attempting, on the same day, to pass a second bad florin to Miss Lester, shopkeeper, Pelsall, in payment for some cheese. In this case the prosecutrix returned the coin to prisoner, who then gave her a good one. He was also charged with uttering a base florin to Mrs. *Ghilks*, beerhouse-keeper, Highbridge, on the same day, in payment of a pint of ale. The prisoner had a companion with him, and on being told the coin was bad they ran away. The prisoner was, however, captured by a man named Clare, although his companion escaped. Police-constable Walker produced four coins which the prisoner had passed to different persons at Pelsall, which were proved by Mr. Charles Thorneloe, silversmith, Lichfield, to be counterfeit.

The prisoner was remanded for a week.

On the day of the prisoner's apprehension he caused considerable excitement in Brownhills by attempting to escape. He ran about half a mile, pursued by Police-constable Walker and a general cry of 'Stop thief' before he was overtaken."

Lichfield Mercury 10/9/1880

"The annual meeting for licensing business took place at Rushall Police Court on Tuesday.....

There were two applications for old licenses, made by *John Ghilks*, beerhouse-keeper, Pelsall, and George Miner, beerhouse-keeper, Proffitt Street, Ryecroft. In the last named case Mr. Glover opposed on behalf of five owners of neighbouring houses. Both applications were refused."

1881 Census

Pelsall – RAILWAY INN

[1] *John Ghilks* (56), innkeeper, born Grandsbrough, Warwickshire;

[2] Jane Ghilks (49), wife, born Lichfield;

[3] Julia Ghilks (15), daughter, born Walsall Wood;

[4] Thomas Ghilks (12), son, scholar, born Pelsall;

AND next entry

[5] John Ghilks Jnr. (22), head, coal miner, born Pelsall;

[6] Sarah J. Ghilks (23), wife, born Pelsall;

[7] Julia Ghilks (11 months), daughter, born Pelsall;

[8] William Ghilks (34), brother, coal miner, born Pelsall:

[Grandsbrough is possibly Grandborough, about 5 miles S of Rugby.]

Evening Express 21/9/1881

“Jane *Gelkes*, landlady of the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, High Bridge Row, Pelsall, was fined 40s and costs for being drunk in her own house, and also with being drunk and disorderly on the highway on the 30th inst.”

Evening Star 26/1/1882

“A petition has been filed in the Walsall Bankruptcy Court on behalf of *John Ghilks*, of the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, Highbridge, Pelsall, beer retailer and grocer and provision dealer, with liabilities estimated at £365, and assets not ascertained. Mr. C. A. Loxton, Walsall, is the solicitor in the matter.”

Walsall Observer 16/5/1885

“On Saturday evening the first anniversary supper of the No.2 Lodge of Pelsall (Loyal Caledonian Corks Sick and Dividend Society) was held at the house of Bro. *Finney*, the RAILWAY INN. The vicar of Pelsall (Rev. J. C. Spencer) presided.....”

Lichfield Mercury 6/9/1889

“On Monday evening a goodly gathering assembled at the RAILWAY HOTEL, Pelsall, when a complimentary dinner was given to Mr. Dallas, who for some time has laboured at Pelsall, and whose services have been generally esteemed. An excellent dinner was served by Mr. *Lunt*, the landlord.....”

1891 Census

Station Road – RAILWAY INN

- [1] *Thomas Lunt* (59), licensed victualler and agent, born Sutton Coldfield;
- [2] Sarah Lunt (54), wife, born Essington;
- [3] Sarah A. Lunt (26), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [4] Ernest E. Lunt (18), son, clerk, born Pelsall;
- [5] Edith Lunt (15), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [6] Howard Lunt (13), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [7] Ellen Mason (17), domestic servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 21/10/1893

“Pelsall Notes. I hear that Mr. James Moore, late Station Master of Pelsall, who has lately been appointed Station Master at Brownhills, was last week made the recipient of a purse of gold at a supper given in honour of him, at the RAILWAY INN, Pelsall. I regret that I do not have particulars to hand.”

Lichfield Mercury 10/2/1899

“*T. Lunt*, landlord of the RAILWAY INN, Pelsall, applied for an extension of hours on the 16th inst, from 10 to 12pm, the occasion being an annual dance. The application was granted.”

Walsall Observer 28/4/1900

“Pelsall Parish Council The members then adjourned to a dinner given by the Chairman and vice chairman, which was held at the RAILWAY HOTEL, all the councilors and one or two friends being present.....”

1901 Census

Victoria Road

- [1] *Thomas Lunt* (69), wine merchant, born Sutton Coldfield;
- [2] Sarah Lunt (63), wife, born Essington;
- [3] Sarah A. Lunt (38), daughter, household assistant, born Pelsall;
- [4] Edith L. Lunt (24), daughter, household assistant, born Pelsall;
- [5] Ethel M. Lunt (20), daughter, cycle manufacturer’s clerk, born Pelsall:

Thomas Lunt – see also QUEENS HOTEL.

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1902

“A temporary transfer of the license of the RAILWAY INN, Pelsall, was granted from *Thomas Lunt* to *Joseph Marklew*.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... *A. Aspinall*, RAILWAY INN, Pelsall.”

1911 Census

Pelsall – RAILWAY HOTEL

- [1] *Austin Peter Aspinall* (38), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Eva Aspinall (37), wife, married 11 years, assisting in the business, born Walsall;
- [3] Amy Brown (14), general servant, born High Heath, Pelsall:

Walsall Observer 20/12/1924

“There was a large attendance of members of the Watkin Binns’ Lodge of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, at the RAILWAY HOTEL, Pelsall, on Wednesday evening, when two members were raised to the second degree.....”

Walsall Observer 27/12/1924

“Although it has been in existence for only a year, the RAILWAY HOTEL Sick and Dividend Society, Pelsall, has been very successful, and at the first annual share-out on Monday evening, dividend amounting to £20 9s 6d was paid to 29 men, and there is a balance to commence the next year.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

“At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....
Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....
For repairs and alterations of structure.....
RAILWAY INN, Victoria Road.”

1939 Register

Victoria Road – RAILWAY HOTEL

[1] *Eva A. Aspinall*, date of birth 7/12/1873, licensed victualler, widowed;

[2] *Ivy F. (Ingrý) Brannon*, dob 4/1/1922, domestic servant, single:

The pub closed on 28th May 2012, for two months, after a dispute between *Tom Osbourne* and Enterprise Inns about the rent. A campaign of support from customers was held on Facebook.

It reopened on 15th July 2012.

[2017]

RED COW

Goscote Road, (Allens Lane), (Pelsall Lane), Heath End, Rushall, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Dixon [1894]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Cooper [] – **1861**);
Joseph Dixon (**1861** – [1871]
Job Dixon [1883]
Joseph Walter Dixon [1888]
John Dixon [1890] – **1894**);
William Ford (**1894** – **1905**);
Enoch Bickley (**1905** – [1921]
Jabez Martin [1924] – **1925**)
Frank Bernard Smith [1932] – [1940]
Daniel Harrison [1940]
F Smith [1941] – [1945]

NOTES

It was known as the LETTERS. [1862]
OLD RED COW [1868]

1861 Census

Pelsall Lane, Rushall
[1] *George Cooper* (27), victualler, born Pelsall;
[2] *Elizabeth Cooper* (21), wife, born Pelsall;
[3] *Esther Cooper* (1), daughter, born Pelsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 10/7/1862

“At the county Petty Sessions on Tuesday, Joseph Holland, puddler, was charged with having, on the 11th ult, behaved in a grossly indecent manner in the presence of Mrs. Ellen *Dixon*. Complainant is the wife of Mr. *Joseph Dixon*, of the RED COW INN, Pelsall, and it was shown that the defendant had, for the purpose of annoying and insulting her, behaved in the manner described. He was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment, with hard labour.”

1871 Census

Heath End – RED COW

- [1] *Joseph Dixon* (47), licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] Ellen Dixon (57), wife, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] Mary J. Dixon (26), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [4] Mary J. Hall (6), granddaughter, scholar, born Rushall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/9/1883

“Rushall Petty Sessions..... in the case of *Job Dixon*, of the RED COW, Heath End, there had been two convictions, and the license would be withheld for a month.”

Lichfield Mercury 8/7/1887

“On Monday an inquest was held at the RED COW public house, Heath End, by Mr. Thorneycroft, on the body of George Hall, aged one year and seven months, who was killed on the level crossing there on Friday last. The evidence showed that as the child was crossing the line it stumbled, and before it could be extricated a train ran over it and killed it.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, but added a rider to the effect that in their opinion a bridge should be erected, as about six hundred persons crossed and re-crossed the five lines every day, and there was much shunting going on.

The Coroner declined to receive any presentment that the jury made to the effect that the state of the crossing showed gross negligence on the part of the company, as he ruled that that would be a verdict of manslaughter. The foreman of the jury said they would have returned that verdict if it had been against an individual, but they did not see how they could against a company.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/10/1888

“At the Rushall Police Court, yesterday, *Joseph Walter Dixon*, keeper of the RED COW INN, Pelsall, was summoned for assaulting Samuel Alfred Heeley, head master of the National School at the same place. It seemed that the defendant’s son, a boy of between five and six years of age, was in the infant department of the complainant’s school, and for some piece of misconduct was put in the corner with the blackboard before him. The defendant, on hearing of this, went to the school, and caused great uproar, challenging the complainant to come out and fight, and at last swinging him round violently. The defendant was fined 5s and costs, Mr. James telling him that he must have left his senses at home to behave in such a way. The defendant said that after that remark he would withdraw a summons which he had taken out against Heeley for assaulting the boy. He was reminded that he would have to pay certain court costs in respect of this case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/12/1888

“Yesterday, at the RED COW INN, Heath End, Mr. Hooper (coroner) held an inquest on the body of a child, nineteen days old, the offspring of Elizabeth Kimberley, aged twenty-four.

The evidence showed that on the night of the 1st inst the woman and her father, a labourer, living at Aldridge, went to the house of a man named John Webb, at Heath End, and there the woman was taken in labour and delivered of a child, being attended by a midwife named Mary Maria Jukes, who was rather hurriedly fetched. The child appeared healthy for nearly a fortnight; then blotches and blister-like sores began to appear about its body, which increased until Thursday last, when the child died. On the morning of that day the mother, by the advice of a person living near, took it to a doctor, who ordered her to take it back at once and undress it, it being then in a dying state, and when he called later in the day he told her that she was a filthy mother, and refused to give a certificate. The mother said the services of a doctor were not obtained before because she could not go out to fetch one, and no one else would go for her; but she admitted that she never asked anyone to go, and Webb’s daughter said that had she been asked she would have gone, and when the mother went she lent her one of her shoes.

Kimberley told the court that the father of her child was a young man who went for a soldier eight months ago, but two witnesses deposed that whilst in bed she told them that her own father was the father of her child. She also told the court that this was her second child, the first having been buried in the garden of her father’s house at Aldridge by the instructions of a police-constable stationed in that village.

Webb swore that he had no idea that the woman was coming to his house, and, being at work, did not know anything about her being there till some hours after the child had been born. His own wife left him two years ago to live with another ‘bloke’, and Kimberley’s father had since the confinement asked if she should stay to keep house for him, but he had not had anything to say about that.

The Coroner, in summing up, said it seemed to him to be a very shocking case from beginning to end, and from the condition of the child it was evident that the mother must have been suffering from disease. He had never seen anything so bad as the child’s condition in the whole course of his experience. The child seemed to have been properly fed, but there certainly had been great neglect in not getting a doctor, and although the mother seemed to be of weak intellect, that did not excuse the neglect. Whether there was sufficient to support a criminal charge was doubtful, but he would adjourn the enquiry for a post mortem if the jury thought fit. As to the former child he did not believe that any constable would give such instructions as had been alleged, but he

would communicate with the chief constable, who would, no doubt, have the matter enquired into.

The jury found that the child died from disease, and that death was accelerated by want of medical treatment and care on the part of the mother.

Four of the witnesses could not sign their names, one of the four, a young woman aged 18, never having been to school, and another, aged 16, did not know the nature of an oath. Four of the jurors also were unable to sign the finding.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

“The following publicans were granted one hour’s extension on Monday, October 6th, on the occasion of Pelsall wakes *John Dixon*.”

1891 Census

Goscote Road, Heath End – RED COW INN

- [1] *John Dixon* (49), licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] Sarah Dixon (42), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Frances E. Dixon (15), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [4] Leonard C. Dixon (12), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Jessie S. Dixon (10), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Joseph W. Dixon (7), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [7] Sydney H. Dixon (6), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [8] Harold C. Dixon (3), son, born Rushall;
- [9] Horace E. Dixon (1), son, born Rushall;

Walsall Advertiser 29/10/1892

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, Sarah *Dixon*, of the RED COW INN, Pelsall, was summoned by her husband, *John Dixon*, the landlord, for being drunk on their licensed premises. Mr. *Dixon* appeared, and pleaded guilty on behalf of his wife. He said they had a quarrel, and Mrs. *Dixon* took some drink afterwards, and he thought he would give her a warning, and summoned her. A fine of 10s and 8s 6d costs was inflicted, and the Bench informed complainant that if he desired to be rid of his wife for seven days all he had to do was to refuse to pay the money. This suggestion evidently opened possibilities which had not been contemplated, and complainant paid the fine and costs with the utmost promptitude.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1894

“Matthew Rounds, miner, Heath End, was charged with refusing to quit the RED COW INN, Pelsall, on the 22nd inst. The landlord, *John Dixon*, said he ordered the defendant out, but he stayed ten minutes afterwards. Defendant said he went out as soon as he was ordered, and went off home. Fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/3/1894 - Advert

“To Brewers, Innkeepers, and Others. Monday, April 2nd, 1894.

Mr. J. H. Bullock, having received instructions from the Executors of the late *Joseph Dixon*, will offer for sale by Public Auction, on the above date, at the RED COW INN, Heath End, Pelsall, at 6.30 in the evening precisely, subject to conditions incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society.

Lot 1. All that substantially-built, commodious and conveniently-arranged Fully Licensed Public House, well known as the RED COW INN, situate at Heath End, near Pelsall, in the Parish of Rushall, containing Bar Room, Tap Room, Smoke Room, Sitting Room, Pantry, four Bedrooms, and a Club Room, 54 feet by 14 feet; two excellent Cellars, perfectly drained, one 30 feet by 14 feet, and the other 14 feet square and 6 feet 3 inches high, with two entrances; passage through house into spacious yard, having suitable entrance gates and brick-built boundary wall, three-stall Stable, with Loft over, Pig Styes, and all other necessary offices. Well of very good drinking water and large soft water cistern. The whole occupies an area of 404 square yards or thereabouts, and has been in the hands of the present tenant, Mr. *John Dixon*, for many years. Possession will be given on completion of the purchase if desired.....”

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1895

“An extension of one hour was granted to Mr. *Ford*, landlord of the RED COW, Heath End, Pelsall, by the Rushall Bench, in consequence of a supper connected with the Oddfellows’ Friendly Society taking place at his house tonight.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/10/1895

“At the Petty Sessions on Monday, *William Ford*, licensed victualler, applied for an extension of one hour the same evening, the occasion being Pelsall wake. The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1896

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, Matthew Round, of Heath End, who had been several times previously convicted, was fined 20s and costs for being drunk on and refusing to quit the premises of *William Ford*, of the RED COW INN, Pelsall, on March 28th.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/5/1897

“At Rushall Police Court on Monday, *William Ford*, of the RED COW INN, Heath End, Pelsall, was summoned for assaulting

William Chatband, carter, Heath End, Pelsall, on the 26th April. Complainant stated that at 2.30pm on the date named he was going towards Pelsall Station with a horse and cart, when he met the defendant who accused him of ‘running his beer down’, and immediately afterwards hit him a blow beneath the eye. He then ran away up the lane, and complainant could not catch him. He denied that he was drunk.

The defence was that defendant was drunk and attacked the defendant, who merely acted in self-defence. After hearing two witnesses for the defence, the Bench dismissed the case.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/9/1899

“*William Ford*, of the RED COW INN, Heath End, Pelsall, made application to the Rushall Bench, on Monday, for a certificate of exemption from vaccination for his child. Applicant stated that his objections were on the ground that he believed vaccination to be detrimental to the health of the child.

Mr. James: We cannot get into your conscience to see whether your objection is a real one or not, and we are bound to take your statement, however much we may disagree with you.

Mr. E. T. Holden: I suppose when someone in the neighbourhood has small-pox you will get the exemption removed.

Applicant: Very questionable, sir.

Mr. Holden said he remembered the time when he was a youngster to see people covered with small-pox indications, but they did not see anything of that kind now, and he asked why that was so.

Dr. Cooke remarked that the advantages of vaccination were well known to the savages on the West Coast of Africa, and they would run after a doctor and go on their knees imploring him to vaccinate them.

Applicant: That doesn’t alter my conviction at all.

Dr. Cooke: I didn’t expect it would. It is not worth anything.

Applicant: It may be just worth as much as anybody else’s.

Dr. Cooke: I am sorry for the child.

Mr. James: You have to pay 3s as a salve for your conscience.

Applicant: Oh, willingly.”

Walsall Observer 1/9/1900

“On Tuesday evening last 58 of the people of Heath End, Pelsall, who are over sixty years of age, together with the widows of the village, were entertained to an excellent meal at the RED COW INN, Pelsall, and afterwards a musical entertainment was provided.....”

1901 Census

Heath End – RED COW INN

[1] *William Ford* (42), licensed victualler, born Hollington, Derbyshire;

[2] *Mercy E. Ford* (41), wife, born Walsall Wood;

[3] *William C. Ford* (21), son, coal miner loader, born Pelsall;

[4] *Lily Ford* (18), daughter, barmaid, born Pelsall;

[5] *Harmer Ford* (16), son, colliery labourer, born Pelsall;

[6] *Olive Ford* (15), daughter, general domestic, born Pelsall;

[7] *Walter Ford* (13), son, general dealer’s clerk, born Pelsall;

[8] *Evelyn Ford* (10), daughter, born Pelsall;

[9] *Howard Ford* (8), son, born Pelsall;

[10] *Mercy E. Ford* (6), daughter, born Rushall;

[11] *Beatrice M. Ford* (4), daughter, born Rushall;

[12] *Ambrose R. Ford* (1), son, born Rushall:

Walsall Advertiser 14/4/1906

“The monthly meeting of the meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *Enoch Bickley*, RED COW INN, Heath End, Pelsall.”

1911 Census

Rushall – RED COW INN

[1] *Enoch Bickley* (38), publican, born Pelsall;

[2] *Lucy T. Bickley* (36), wife, married 14 years, born Pelsall;

[3] *Alfred C. Bickley* (12), son, school, born Pelsall;

[4] *Hector H. Bickley* (10), son, school, born Pelsall;

[5] *Clara Edwards* (15), domestic servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Observer 5/5/1917 - Advert

“Smart Turnout for Sale; brown Cob, 14 hands, warranted sound and pass all traffic. No dealers need apply.

E. Bickley, RED COW INN, Pelsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1921

“The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....

All the licenses would be renewed with the exception of.....

RED COW, Heath End.....

In these cases, alterations were necessary, and the Bench would defer consideration until they had visited the premises and inspected the plans.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/3/1921

“*Enoch Bickley*, licensee of the RED COW INN, Rushall, was charged with permitting gambling on his premises on Feb 26. Mr. A. J. Glover prosecuted for the police and Mr. J. Wylie, barrister (instructed by Messrs. S. Pearman-Smith & Sons), defended. Mr. Glover stated that two constables who had served in the Army disguised themselves as ex-Service men, and associated with those who frequented the house. They were in the smoke room, where eight men were playing ‘tippit’, first for threepence, afterwards for sixpence, and eventually a shilling a corner. One of the constables was invited to join in, but did not do so. It was alleged that both the landlord and the landlady saw what was taking place, and that the former was at the table collecting jugs to be re-filled when the losers were paying money to the winners. Later, Inspector Willis, Sergt. Dale, and another constable came to the room, and one of the disguised constables, PC Wright, then made a report to him. Questioned by the Inspector about gaming, *Bickley* made no reply, but his wife said they did not know the men were gambling.

PCs Wright and Miller, the Inspector, and Sergeant gave evidence.

For the defence Mr. Wylie said *Bickley* had been licensee of the house for 16 years without any previous charge. He criticised the action of PC Wright in posing as an injured soldier and exciting sympathy (as a result of which a subscription was taken for him, the money, amounting to between 6s and 7s, being afterwards handed to a blind man).

Defendant, his wife, and four other witnesses denied that gambling took place.

The Bench considered the case fully proved, and imposed a fine of £5 with two guineas special costs.”

Lichfield Mercury 17/2/1922

“The Annual Licensing Sessions for the Rushall division were held on Monday.....

Notice of objection had been served to the renewal of the license of the RED COW INN, Heath End, Rushall, on the ground that the premises had been ill-conducted The licenses were renewed with the exception of that of the RED COW INN.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/2/1923

“The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....

Complaints had been made regarding the inadequate living accommodation provided for licensees at public houses, and the justices felt that the necessary steps should be taken to remedy this. There was also a need for better sanitary accommodation. The justices had considered the question of an alteration in the hours of opening on Sundays, but had decided that there should be no change.....

All other licences in the area were renewed, and the Bench approved plans for structural alterations to the RED COW INN, Pelsall, which Mr. F. Cooper intimated would be carried out.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/4/1925

“An inquest touching the death of *Jabez Martin* (50), licensee of the RED COW INN, Pelsall, who died on April 12 at the Burntwood Mental Hospital, was held by Mr. S. W. Morgan, district coroner, on Thursday afternoon. Mrs. *Martin* said her husband was taken ill last Wednesday week, with a kind of fit, and he was attended by Dr. Stirling, and on Sunday he was removed to the Mental Hospital. Her husband was not a heavy drinker, and she had never seen him the worse for drink. He had complained of an assault which was committed upon him five or six months ago, when someone threw a spittoon at him in the bar, catching him on the forehead. The deceased refused to take proceedings against the man who assaulted him. Dr. G. F. Cobb, assistant medical officer at Burntwood Mental Hospital, said he made a post-mortem examination, and found a small cerebral haemorrhage on the right side of the head at the back. There were also all the signs of chronic alcoholism, and death was due to this cause, combined with exhaustion, following upon delirium tremens. A verdict was returned in accordance with the medical evidence.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

“At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....

Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....

For repairs and alterations of structure.....

RED COW, Heath End, Pelsall.”

Lichfield Mercury 4/2/1938

“Well-known in the village as a bowler of many outstanding performances, Mr. John Edward Breedon, a member of the Pelsall Cricket Club was married on Saturday afternoon to Miss Mary Jane Harvey Given away by her father, the bride wore a gown of ivory satin beaute, with wreath of orange blossom and tulle veil After the ceremony a reception was held at the RED COW HOTEL, Pelsall, where a large number of friends was present.”

1939 Register

Allens Lane – RED COW INN

[1] *Frank B. Smith*, date of birth 15/1/1896, licensee, married;

[2] *Lily Smith*, dob 26/3/1898, bar assistant, married;

[3] Frank D. Smith, dob 10/10/1920, clerk, leather trade, single:

Walsall Observer 3/8/1940

“At Blakenall Parish Church, on Saturday, Miss Doris Irene Albutt was married to Mr. Bernard Thomas *Harrison*, only son of Mr. and Mrs. *Daniel Harrison*, of the RED COW INN, Pelsall the hymns ‘The Voice that breathed o’er Eden’ and ‘O perfect love’ were sung. Given away by her father, the bride wore a dress of white lace with a veil and orange blossom, and her bouquet was of red roses.”

Walsall Observer 11/10/1941 - Personal

“Congratulations and best wishes to Frank (RAF, VR), only son of Mr. and Mrs. *F. Smith*, RED COW INN, Heath End, Pelsall, who attained his 21st Birthday, 10th October. All our love. Mon and Dad.”

Walsall Observer 8/8/1942 - Marriages

“On Aug. 4, 1942, at St. Michael’s Church, Rushall, by Rev. F. G. Addenbrooke, Frank Dennis Smith, RAF, only son of Mr. and Mrs. *F. Smith*, of RED COW INN, Heath End, to Mary E. Hall, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Hall, of 37, Portland Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 15/4/1944 - Acknowledgments

“Mrs. Noble and Family, GEORGE AND DRAGON, Rushall, sincerely thank all kind friends for floral tributes and sympathy: Mr. and Mrs. *Smith*, RED COW, Heath End, Mrs. Rufford, Mr. Cooper, MINERS ARMS, Mr. and Mrs. Martin and Family, Mrs. Duffy and Nora, and Customers of GEORGE AND DRAGON.”

Walsall Observer 22/9/1945

“Neutralising Luftwaffe Among those who help to maintain signals communications for the wing which is doing this all-important job is a Pelsall man, L.A.C. Frank Dennis *Smith*, whose parents keep the RED COW INN, Heath End.....”

Two teams from here competed in the Shropshire, Staffordshire and Derby division of The People National Darts Teams Championship of England and Wales in 1952/3.

[2012]

It was converted into housing. [2015]

RED LION

Bloxwich Road, (4, Broadstone), (2, (4), Green Lane), (Walsall Road), (High Street), Leamore, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Thomas Sheldon
Charles Froggatt, Park Street, Walsall
John Marshall
Elizabeth Marshall
John Thompson, Burton [1891]
Bloxwich Brewery [1901], [1922]
William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1930]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Devey [1828] – [1830]
Josiah Clewes [1841] – [1850]
John Marshall [1851]
Josiah Clews [1854] – [1861]
Simeon Bird [1862] – **1865**)
Josiah Clews [1867] – [1870]
Jesse Thomas Clews [] – **1870**);
John Marshall (**1870** – [1877]);
Isaac Goodread [1881]
John Marshall [];

Mrs. Elizabeth Marshall [] – 1888);
George Cuper (1888 – 1890);
George Mellon (1890);
Elizabeth Marshall (1890 – 1891);
Thomas Collins (1891 – 1893);
Walter Pinfold (1893 – 1894);
George Adrian Slim (1894 – 1895);
Charles Henry John Marshall (1895 – 1896);
Thomas George Kimber (1896 – 1897);
William Booker (1897 – 1901);
William Charles Athersmith (1901 – 1904);
William Henry Bratt (1904 – 1922);
Henry Thomas Guy (1922);
Eli Thomas Bales (1922 – 1924);
John Smith (1924 – 1929);
William Thorpe (1929 – 1933);
David Alfred Broughton (1933 – 1936);
Mrs. Olive Nellie Satchwell (1936 – 1944);
Joseph Westwood (1944 – 1956);
Richard Sidney Manwaring (1956 – [1966])

NOTES

Walsall Road [1841], [1842], [1850], [1864], [1870], [1872]
2, Green Lane, Leamore [1871]
4, Broadstone [1881]
4, Green Lane [1891]
High Street [1901], [1911], [1932], [1940]
Bloxwich Road [1902]

Josiah Clewes = Josiah Clews

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/12/1841 - Advert

“Lot 5. All that old-established Public House, situate at Bloxwich, aforesaid, known by the sign of the RED LION, with the stable and other outbuildings, yard, garden and croft, thereto belonging.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/9/1844

“An inquest was held on Monday last, at the RED LION, Bloxwich, on the body of John Pearson, miner, who came to his death under the following circumstances. The deceased with ten other men, was at work in a pit belonging to Mr. Dexter at the Birchills, on Saturday morning last, when near two tons of stone suddenly gave way, burying the unfortunate man beneath it. He was speedily dug out and carried to the mouth of the pit, where he shortly afterwards expired. Verdict Accidental Death.”

John Marshall was also a miner. [1851]

Josiah Clews = Josiah Clewes = Josiah Clew

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/2/1854

“Sarah Cockayne, a married woman, was fined 10s and costs, for an assault on Mr. *Josiah Clewes* the landlord of the RED LION, at the Brick Hills. Defendant, finding her husband playing cards in plaintiff’s house, burned the pack; and upon the landlord attempting to expel her from the house, she bit and otherwise assaulted him.”

1861 Census

Green Lane – RED LION

- [1] *Josiah Clews* (52), victualler, born Oddingley, Worcestershire;
- [2] Elizabeth Clews (53), wife, born Kempsey, Worcestershire;
- [3] Diana Clews (15), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Josiah J. Clews (13), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] William H. Clews (11), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] John Meanley (30), visitor, buckle maker, born Walsall;
- [7] Harriet Warrinder (20), general servant, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Edward Monk (40), agricultural labourer, born Shenstone, Staffordshire;
- [9] Thomas Williams (45), visitor, gentleman, born Shrewsbury;

Walsall Free Press 27/4/1861

“Catherine Story was charged with uttering counterfeit coins, at Bloxwich.

Harriet Warren was the first witness. She deposed that she was employed as a servant at the RED LION, Bloxwich. On Sunday week prisoner came to the house, and in payment for a pint of beer, tendered a half-crown which witness afterwards found out to be a bad one. On Saturday last prisoner came again to the RED LION and tendered another bad half-crown. Witness could swear to the identity of the prisoner, and also to the two bad pieces of money. The first piece was marked with A, and the other with V. They were marked by the police. Prisoner had no questions to ask this witness.

Mrs. Elizabeth *Clew* deposed that she was the landlady of the RED LION. She saw prisoner in the house on Saturday night week, and afterwards ascertained that she had passed off a bad half-crown on the servant, Harriet Warren. She was able to identify the coin, which she handed over to Sergeant Martin. On Sunday last prisoner came again, and tendered another bad half-crown. Witness detected it, and charged her with being a passer of bad money. She did not say much in reply, and as she left the house witness persevered in following her until she had ascertained where she lived. On Sunday night she returned to the RED LION, when Sergeant Martin took her into custody.

Sergeant Martin said that, from information he received, he went on Sunday, to the RED LION, and while there prisoner came in with her husband. He arrested her on a charge of passing bad money, and agreed to wait until her husband brought her bonnet and shawl, before he took her away. The husband returned with some others, and prisoner endeavoured to pass him some money. In doing so she dropped half-a-crown, which was, however, a good one. A fight between witness and the husband then ensued, the object of which was evidently the rescue of the prisoner. The case was remanded to Thursday next.”

AND

“Michael Story, the husband of the prisoner in the forgoing case, was charged by Sergeant Martin with obstructing the police in the discharge of their duties. The cause and the nature of the case were deposed to by Sergeant Martin and Mrs. *Clew*. Defendant denied having assaulted the constable. Fined 10s, or seven days’ imprisonment, the Bench expressing its determination to protect the police in the discharge of their duties.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/5/1861

“Insolvents. At the County Court, on Saturday, before Sir W. B. Biddell, Bart., the following insolvents were heard on their petitions. on re *Josiah Clews*, formerly of the RED LION INN, Bloxwich, jeweller. Mr. Ebsworth applied that this insolvent might pass his first examination. There was not any opposition, and the hearing was passed....”

London Gazette 24/5/1861

“In the Matter of the Petition of *Josiah Clews*, formerly of the RED LION INN, Bloxwich, Staffordshire, Licensed Victualler, Farmer, and occasionally Carter, then and now of the same place, Farmer, an Insolvent Debtor.

Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon at the said Court, on the 20th day of June next, at ten o’clock in the forenoon, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.”

Simeon Bird was also a butcher. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 28/1/1865 - Advert

“RED LION INN, Near the Toll Gate, Bloxwich, near Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Horobin, on Wednesday next, February 1st, 1865, the Licenses of the above Inn; also the Fixtures, 4-Pull Beer Machine, Brewing Vessels, 21 Prime Ale Casks, 100 Gallon Copper Boiler and Fittings, Household Furniture, Gas Fittings, and other effects, belonging to Mr. *S. Bird*, who is leaving.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock.”

Walsall Free Press 2/3/1867

“*Isaiah [sic] Clews*, landlord of the RED LION beerhouse, Bloxwich, was fined 5s and costs for having had in his possession six unjust earthenware measures.”

London Gazette 12/1/1869

“*Josiah Clews*, in lodgings at the house of Josiah Thomas Clews, of the RED LION INN, Bloxwich, in the county of Stafford, Farmer, formerly of the RED LION INN, Bloxwich aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Farmer, adjudicated bankrupt on the 10th day of October, 1868. A Dividend Meeting will be held on the 21st day of January instant, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/2/1869

“At the Guildhall, on Thursday, *Josiah Clews*, late of the RED LION INN, Bloxwich, a bankrupt, was charged, under the 221st section of the Bankruptcy Act, and at the instance of Mr. F. F. Clarke, Registrar of the Walsall County Court, that, on the 10th of October, 1868, and after he had been adjudicated a bankrupt, he did, with intent to defraud his creditors, conceal certain of his property viz, household furniture, beds, bed linen, potatoes, wine, spirits, farming implements, and other effects, of the value of £10, and upwards, and fraudulently omitted from his schedule the said property.

Mr. Dale in opening the case, said the prosecution had been ordered by the Judge of the County Court, at the instance of the official assignee. The defendant filed his petition on the 10th of October last, and was adjudicated a bankrupt on the same day. He then represented that he had nothing to hand over to his creditors, all his furniture and effects having been sold under distress for rent shortly before; and that he was lodging with his son, who had succeeded him in the inn, a circumstance which in itself

was sufficient to create suspicion. The three days' statement contained a similar declaration, and the first execution, which took place on the 27th October, passed over without the bankrupt stating that he had any property concealed. On the contrary, he signed a declaration that he had no household goods under his control. On the 10th November certain information reached Mr. Clarke which induced him to send a messenger to a cottage at the back of the house in which defendant was living, and there found a considerable quantity of the defendant's household furniture and other property, to the value £30. On the following day the bankrupt was examined again at the County Court, and again he stated that a day or two before his bankruptcy the landlord, Mr. C. Froggatt, put the bailiffs into his house and sold his furniture and effects. The presumption was, however, that the furniture and other articles in the cottage were concealed there for the purpose of defrauding his creditors, and hence the prosecution.

Mr. Forster then proved taking the bankrupt's statement as mentioned above, and sending a bailiff to take possession of the goods found in the cottage.

Mr. Froggatt gave evidence in support of the charge, and Mr. George Bailey, auctioneer, deposed to having sold the goods by auction by the order of the Court, and to their having realised £20.

The defendant after having received the usual caution said: 'I am quite innocent of the things being moved.' He was committed for trial at the next Assizes, but was admitted to bail."

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869 - Advert

"To Be Let, and may be entered upon at Michaelmas next, the RED LION INN Public-House, near the Toll Gate, Bloxwich. Apply to Chas. Froggatt, 12, Park Street, Walsall."

1871 Census

2, Green Lane – RED LION INN

[1] *John Marshall* (40), miner and licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] Elizabeth Marshall (40), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Thomas Marshall (15), son, brush maker, born Bloxwich;

[4] Jane Marshall (10), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[5] Esther Bicknell (10), cousin, scholar, born Birmingham;

[6] John Marshall (8), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[7] Richard Marshall (5), son, born Bloxwich;

[8] Elizabeth Marshall (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[9] Emma Birch (18), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 17/2/1872

"A match has been made and articles signed between Mr. Starkey's dog Tricks and Mr. Jones's bitch Lill (both of Bloxwich) to run 200 yards, for £10 a side, to give and take two and a half yards to the pound. £5 a side is now down in the hands of Mr. *Marshall*, RED LION INN, Bloxwich, who is the final stakeholder. They run on March 11."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/4/1874

"Alexandra Park Recreation Grounds, Rood End, near Oldbury.

The above beautiful grounds, which are available from all parts of England, being situated within a few minutes' walk of Oldbury, Spon Lane, and the Smethwick stations on the Stour Valley Railway, and Westbromwich, Smethwick Junction, and Rood End stations on the Great Western Railway (Rood End in particular, being only 300 yards distant), are reopen to the public, and the proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Bradley, respectfully announce that they will give £15 to be contested for in an All England Foot Race, distance 135 yards, on Saturday and Monday, April 18 and 20. First prize £10, second £4, third £1. Entrance 1s 6d, no acceptance, to be declared on or before Tuesday, April 14. Wednesday morning's letters will be in time. All entries to be made at the grounds, or at any of the following places.....

Marshall's, RED LION INN, Bloxwich.....

Betting and gambling strictly prohibited. No one allowed to run unless in proper costume."

Sporting Life 13/10/1877

"Cross Keys Running Grounds, Hednesford.

Messrs. Birch and Bullock will give £10 to be run for in a 135 yards all-England foot handicap on Hednesford Wakes, Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 29 and 30 – first prize £8, second £1 10s, third 10s. Entrance 1s, no acceptance. Entries to be made to.....

Mr. *John Marshall*, RED LION INN, Bloxwich."

1881 Census

4, Broadstone – RED LION

[1] *Isaac Goodread* (36), licensed victualler, born Bilston;

[2] Lucy Goodread (34), wife, born Blakenhall;

[3] William Goodread (11), son, scholar, born Blakenhall;

[4] Charlotte Goodread (7), daughter, scholar, born Blakenhall;

[5] Isaac Goodread (5), son, scholar, born Blakenhall;

[6] Lucy Goodread (3), daughter, scholar, born Huntington, Staffordshire;

[7] Albert Goodread (6 months), son, born Huntington, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 20/8/1881 - Advert

“Walsall Amateur Florist Society.

A Meeting of the above Society will be held at the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, at 8 o'clock, on Monday Next; Thursday, RED LION, Bloxwich Road; Friday, SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Palfrey.

Any person desiring to tender for Refreshments, please send tender in by 6 o'clock on Monday next, August 22nd, to the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street.

H. C. Bowen, Hon. Sec.”

Evening Star 21/6/1882

“Yesterday Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the RED LION INN, Bloxwich, on the body of Matthew Selvey (32), brick-layer, Church Street, who was killed on Monday, at Messrs. G. and R. Thomas's Hatherton Furnaces. The only witness examined was James Westwood, bricklayer, who deposed that he, the deceased, and another man were engaged on Monday in raising the stack at the furnaces, and about one o'clock the deceased and the third man were let down to dinner, witness remaining at the top, it being his duty to go up first and come down last. When the deceased was about halfway down the bowk passed him which was being sent up to bring witness down, and deceased gave it a forcible push, causing it to sway backwards and forwards violently as it ascended and to strike the scaffolding and displace the principal plank, which fell endwise on the deceased's head, killing him instantaneously.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/8/1890

“The annual licensing sessions for Walsall borough were held yesterday.....

Mr. Cotterell applied for permission to rebuild and improve the RED LION, Bloxwich, which was in a dilapidated condition. The application was adjourned until the adjourned licensing day on the 24th September, complete plans to be deposited in the meantime.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1890

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions. The business from the annual licensing session last week took place at the Guildhall yesterday.... Mr. Cotterell submitted plans for an extension of the RED LION INN, Bloxwich, and said that his client was willing to give up the right of selling on the grounds attached to the house.....

The Bench after a long deliberation in private.....

Granted that relating to the RED LION INN, subject to all communication between the house and the running ground being cut off.”

1891 Census

4, Green Lane – RED LION INN

[1] *Elizabeth Marshall* (59), widow, manager of RED LION, born Bloxwich;

[2] Clara Marshall (19), daughter, dressmaker, born Bloxwich;

[3] Alfred Marshall (16), son, painter, born Bloxwich;

[4] Noah W. Symonds (27), son in law, widower, brush maker, born Willenhall;

[5] Sarah Ann Martin (22), boarder, bridle stitcher, born Bloxwich;

[6] Elizabeth Bryan (13), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Charles Henry John Marshall – see also RED LION, Walsall.

Walsall Advertiser 5/10/1899 - Advert

“To Let, the RED LION INN, Bloxwich; old licensed house, with capital running ground; immediate possession.

Apply to John Thompson & Son, Limited, Burton-on-Trent.”

London Gazette 17/1/1893

“Receiving Orders. *Thomas Collins*, the RED LION INN, Leamore, Bloxwich, Staffordshire, Licensed Victualler.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/8/1897

“The 45th annual general meeting of the members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *William Booker*, RED LION INN, Walsall Road, Bloxwich, was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 14/4/1900

“The old RED LION at Leamore was the scene of a friendly and cosy gathering last Monday evening. An excellent supper was provided by Mr. and Mrs. *Booker*, and ample justice was done to the good things which constituted the spread. After the removal of the cloth, the company settled down to spend a pleasant evening in a little harmony. Mr. H. Harper was unanimously voted to the chair, and Mr. T. Selvey to the vice chair.....”

1901 Census

High Street – RED LION INN

- [1] *William Booker* (53), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Elizabeth Booker (52), wife, born Essington;
- [3] Annie M. Booker (10), daughter, born Luton, Hertfordshire;
- [4] Annie Wootton (21), general servant, born Bloxwich:

William Booker – see also ROBIN HOOD, Willenhall.

It was the headquarters of Bloxwich Strollers FC. [1902], [1910]

Walsall Observer 31/5/1902

“On Monday night a dinner was held at the RED LION HOTEL, Leamore, Bloxwich, in connection with the Bloxwich Strollers Football Club to celebrate the winning of the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton, and Bilston Cups by them during the past season.....”

Walsall Advertiser 2/7/1904

“On the application of Mr. J. N. Cotterell, occasional licenses were granted to Mr. A. Gormley for the Walsall Polytechnic Charity Sports, and also to the sports of Walsall Excelsior Cycling Club. Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for an occasional license for *William Henry Bratt*, RED LION, Bloxwich, at the Conservative sports next Monday. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/7/1904

“A collier named Bryan McNamara, living at 18, Dawson Street, Blakenall, was summoned at the Walsall Police Court on Wednesday to answer a charge of being drunk on the licensed premises of the RED LION, Bloxwich, on July 4th. Inspector Marshall deposed to seeing the man leave the house in a drunken condition, and upon making enquiries he found that he had been turned out by the landlord, who had refused to supply him with drink. A fine of 10s and costs was imposed.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/10/1905

“Works Hospital Football Competition.....”

A dinner was held on Saturday at the RED LION HOTEL, Bloxwich, in connection with Messrs. Bunch and Son’s football club, when the medals for the runners-up in the above competition were presented to the team. Mr. Herbert Bunch was in the chair. The dinner was excellently served by Mr. *W. H. Bratt*. The Chairman gave the toast of ‘His Majesty the King,’ and referred to His Majesty as an ambassador of peace.....”

Walsall Advertiser 22/12/1906

“James Arms, 43, Field Street, Bloxwich, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, RED LION, on the 10th inst. Police-constable Gibbs (54) deposed to seeing defendant in a drunken condition after he had stopped him from going into the ROSE AND CROWN. Mr. Clare remarked that defendant put the licensee in a very funny position by entering his house. Defendant was put on his good behaviour for three months.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....”

Mr. Jackson applied for a music license for Saturdays for Mr. *William H. Bratt*, RED LION, Bloxwich, for the purposes of a lodge of Caledonian Corks, and the Chief Constable did not object. The Bench granted the application up to 10.30pm, on account of it being for Saturdays.”

Walsall Observer 6/3/1909

“Caledonian Corks. The third anniversary dinner of Lodge 55 of the Walsall District was held at the RED LION HOTEL, Leamore, on Monday evening, when about forty sat down to an excellent repast, provided by the Host and Hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *W. H. Bratt*) in their usual style.....”

Walsall Advertiser 13/3/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last, at the house of Mr. *W. H. Bratt*, RED LION INN, Green Lane, Leamore, Walsall, Mr. R. Anson, Daw End (President), was in the chair, and there was a large attendance.....”

Walsall Advertiser 25/9/1909

“Mr. R. A. Cooper had this week given further proof that he has the interests of the workers of Walsall at heart by allowing himself to be initiated an honorary member of Lodge 55 of the loyal Caledonian Corks, and Court 5104 of the Ancient Order of Foresters. The former ceremony took place on Monday evening at the RED LION HOTEL, Bloxwich, while his introduction to Court 5104 took place at the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Bloxwich, on Tuesday night.....”

[R. A. Cooper was a Unionist politician, in January 1910 he was elected as a Member of Parliament for the Borough.]

1911 Census

High Street – RED LION INN

- [1] *William Henry Bratt* (42), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;

- [2] Lucy Bratt (40), wife, assisting in business, born Bloxwich;
[3] Lucy Bratt (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Bloxwich;
[4] May Bratt (9), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[5] Jennie Chamberlain (20), bar general servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1912

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week at the house of Mr. *William Henry Bratt*, RED LION INN, Green Lane, Leamore.....”

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1912

“The newly formed Thursday Football Club played their first home match on their new ground (RED LION ground, Bloxwich), before an interested crowd.....”

Walsall Advertiser 16/11/1912 - Letter to the Editor

“Walsall Thursday F.C.

Sir. In respect of certain rumours which have been much talked of in connection with Mr. *W. H. Bratt*, RED LION, Bloxwich Road, and the above club, it is the wish of the Thursday F.C. Committee that no blame be attached to any official at the club, as we have at no time made payments for the use of the RED LION Ground.

I have also permission from Mr. *Bratt* to say that never, during any season, had he accepted payment from any club whatever for use of the ground.

The rumours in question are entirely without foundation. Trusting nothing more will be heard of same, and that whoever commenced this unpleasantness will kindly allow Mr. *Bratt* and myself to conduct our business unmolested.

Yours obediently, W. P. Woodyatt, Hon. Secretary.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/3/1913

“The first general meeting of the Walsall and District Bowling League was held at the RED LION HOTEL, Leamore, on Tuesday. A good number of representatives from the clubs attended. Mr. W. F. A. Thomas was elected the first president, and a very long list of vice-presidents was proposed. Mr. J. Hudson was made secretary, and Council to consist of two representatives from each club was also chosen. For the first season it was decided to limit the number of clubs to form the League. The following were elected: Leamore, GLOBE, ALEXANDRA, Pleck Liberal and Amery Unionist. The applications of the other clubs will, therefore, stand over until next season. The fixture list will also be arranged at the next meeting, and the rules will then be drawn up.”

Walsall Observer 18/4/1914

“The annual sports of the Walsall Harriers’ Athletic Club on Saturday last, at the RED LION Grounds, Bloxwich, attracted a very small attendance. At the time advertised for the start only 30 people were on the ground – counting the police and an ice cream boy – and at no time were there many over a hundred or so present.....”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

RED LION, Leamore, 8s 10½d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

RED LION, Leamore. £1 12s 11½d.”

1939 Register

RED LION HOTEL

[1] *William H. Satchwell*, date of birth 8/3/1879, brass caster, married;

[2] *Olive N. Satchwell*, date of birth 9/4/1879, publican, married:

Walsall Observer 28/11/1942 - Advert

“Wanted, Youths, 14 to 17, to learn Brass Instruments (provided). Leamore district preferred.

Apply, Sunday, Dec. 6 to Band Room, back of RED LION, Leamore, 10.30am to 12.”

Olive Nellie Satchwell was fined £10, on 3rd July 1944, for selling intoxicating liquor otherwise than during the hours permitted.

Walsall Observer 24/3/1945 - Personal

“Mrs. *Westwood*, RED LION INN, Leamore, wishes to thank all Customers concerned for the very nice gift they made to her on the occasion of their successful pantomime outing.”

Richard Sidney Manwaring – see also ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

Closed [1990s]

It was converted into business premises. [2005]

RED LION

11, Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Hugh Barlow [1822] – [1835]
John Osbourn [1841] – [1842]
Joe Osbourne [1844]
Mrs. Mary Osbourne [1845]
Samuel Yardley [1849] – [1851]
James Yardley [] – **1853**;
Edward Newton Mason (**1853** – [1854]
John Wood [1858]

NOTES

OLD RED LION [1822], [1828], [1834]
RED LION [1845], [1850], [1858]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/12/1843 - Died

“On the 9th instant, at the advanced age of 78, Mr. *J. Osbourn*, of the RED LION, Ablewell Street, formerly a currier in the borough.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 28/1/1844

“Charles Davis, of Westbromwich, wishes to inform Wright Earp, of Wolverhampton, that he will fight him for £10 a side at 8st 4lb. His money is ready at any time at the RED LION, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 17/3/1844

“Holden and Harris. The fifth and last deposit between these men has been made at Mr. *Osbourn*’s RED LION, Walsall, when the toss for ground was won by Harris; The ‘office’ as to ‘the where’ will be given at the RED LION, Ablewell Street; the WIND-MILL, Walsall; or at the Royal Oak, Ashted Row, Birmingham, tomorrow (Monday).”

[The fight for £15 a side came off on Tuesday, 19th March, 1844, before between two to three thousand people and after 45 rounds in 50 minutes George Holden was declared the winner.]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/6/1844

“George Holden, of Walsall, will fight Horridge, of Manchester, at 8st 7lb for from £25 to £50 a side. His money is ready at the RED LION, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 16/6/1844

“Joseph Hunt, of Walsall, will match his red bitch against any other in England for from £25 to £50 a side, at 13lb weight, and go anywhere to contend, provided expenses are paid. He has also an 18lb or 18½lb dog, that he will back for £10 a side; or a 31lb dog for £5 a side. The money is ready at the RED LION, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/1/1853

“On Wednesday, the license of the RED LION, Ablewell Street, was transferred from *James Yardley* to *E. N. Mason*, tailor.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/4/1854 - Died

“April 19, Ann Maria, aged 6 years; and on the 20th, Horatis Ferry, aged 5 years, children of Mr. *Edward Newton Mason*, of the RED LION INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/5/1854 - Died

“May 17, Walter, aged nearly eight years, son of Mr. *E. N. Mason*, of the RED LION INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall; and on the 19th, Frederick, aged about three years, another son of Mr. *Mason*, and the fourth child lost within a month.”

Walsall Free Press 29/5/1858

“Mr. Wilkinson, solicitor, applied on behalf of Mr. *Wood*, landlord of the RED LION Public-house, Ablewell Street, for a transfer of his license to a house in Navigation Street, to which he is about to remove in consequence of his present house being about to be pulled down in order to allow certain improvements to be made upon the Methodist Chapel. Mr. Wilkinson having explained at some length the law upon the subject, the application was granted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/5/1858

“The RED LION INN, Ablewell Street, having been taken down, the magistrates transferred the license to a house in Navigation Street.”

It closed in 1858.

A Wesleyan chapel was built on the site.

Lichfield Mercury 27/4/1906

“Staffordshire Stories by Frederick William Hackwood.

In 1643 soon after the outbreak of the great Civil War.....

The Queen fixed her headquarters and spent the night at a hostelry in Ablewell Street, described by Miss Strickland as ‘an antique house which in the present century was called the RED LION INN.’

The RED LION in Ablewell Street, on the site now occupied by a Wesleyan Chapel, is still well remembered as a commodious double-fronted brick house with stone dressing, of a very ordinary type common to the early Stuart period.....”

RED LION

173, Blue Lane (East), WALSALL

OWNERS

William Russell
Mrs. Frances Russell
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Russell [1868] – **1904**);
Mrs. Frances Russell (**1904 – 1913**);
Frances Gertrude Wilson (**1913 – 1923**);
Doris Ruby Wilcox (**1923** – []
Howard Freeman [1939] – [1943]
Cyril Vernon Sleigh [1944]
Edwin Jones [1945]

NOTES

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/10/1868

“Old J. Gibbs of Walsall will run E. Drayton of Darlaston 120 yards if he will give him two yards start; or J. Turner of Darlaston with four yards in the like distance. Either match for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready at *W. Russell's*, RED LION, Blue Lane, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/1/1870

“Royal Oak Grounds, Burnt Tree, Dudley. J. Russell of Walsall will run J. Wisdom 120 yards if he will allow a yard start, for £5 a side. Money ready at *W. Russell's* RED LION, Blue Lane, Walsall.”

1871 Census

173, Blue Lane

[1] *William Russell* (34), chain manufacturer, born Walsall;

- [2] *Frances Russell* (24), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] John Russell (9 months), son, twin, born Walsall;
- [4] Frank Russell (9 months), son, twin, born Walsall;
- [5] Anne Smith (19), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Cooper (9), niece, born Walsall;
- [7] Isaac Lockley (14), chainmaker's apprentice, born Walsall;
- [8] Ellen Russell (22), visitor, machinist, born Walsall:

William Russell, chain manufacturer and beer retailer, 173, Blue Lane East. [1872], [1904]

Walsall Free Press 6/12/1873

“John Russell, chain maker, Dudley, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the RED LION beer-house, Blue Lane. Fined 5s and costs.

Henry Beebee, chain maker, Dudley, was fined 10s and costs for refusing to quit the same house.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1874

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall took place yesterday, at the Guildhall.....

The undermentioned persons applied for wine licenses.....

William Russell, beerhouse keeper, Blue Lane East. Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

“Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

William Russell, beerhouse keeper, Blue Lane, applied for a wine licence Granted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/2/1876

“On Wednesday, at the Guildhall, *William Russell*, the RED LION, beerhouse, Blue Lane East, was fined 5s and costs for permitting drunkenness in his house on Saturday night; it being stated by Mr. Highway, who presided, that the penalty would have been heavier but for the good character which the defendant had previously borne.

Robert Somers and John Hogan, two men who were drunk in the house on the night in question, were fined 10s and costs, or 14 days' imprisonment, and were censured for having brought a witness to swear falsely as to their condition.”

1881 Census

173, Blue Lane East – RED LION INN

- [1] *William Russell* (44), chain maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Frances Russell* (34), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Jane G. Russell (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Thomas Russell (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Matthew H. Russell (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Maria Grissall (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1891 Census

172+173, Blue Lane East – RED LION

- [1] *William Russell* (54), chain manufacturer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Frances Russell* (44), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Jane G. Russell (19), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] Thomas Russell (17), son, collar maker, born Walsall;
- [5] Walter H. Russell (15), son, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [6] Garnet W. Russell (8), son, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [7] George Danne (15), nephew, harness maker, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 27/4/1895

“*William Russell*, landlord of the RED LION INN, Blue Lane East, was charged with having been drunk on his own licensed premises. He was defended by Mr. J. N. Cotterell.

Detective Harper said that about 7.45pm on Thursday, the 18th inst, in the course of enquiries, he visited, along with PC Bott, of Moxley, defendant's house. He asked Mrs. *Russell* if he could see him, but she answered ‘I would rather you did not see him; can't I do as well?’ As witness was returning from the back yard defendant stood by the back door very drunk. He subsequently revisited the house accompanied by PS Curtis, charged *Russell* with the offence, and told him he should report him.

PC Bott corroborated.

Mr. Cotterell in his defence, explained that his client had been brewing all the previous day, and, being naturally very tired, was lying down in the private room when the detective asked for him. The reason Detective Harper did not charge him on the first visit, was, he submitted, because he was doubtful as to the state of the man, and that it would be best to get a brother officer to see defendant. Mr. Cotterell laid significance on the fact that the sergeant had not been called. He also mentioned that his client had kept the house for 34 years, and had only one complainant made against him, that occurring some twenty years ago.

Davis Newman, the secretary of a club held at the house, said he had never seen defendant worse for beer, although during the

twenty years he had had constant communication with him.

Mr. Bartlett, hop merchant, Bull Ring, Birmingham, said he called on defendant regularly during the last 25 years, and had always found him 'infinitely more sober than the majority of publicans.'

Mrs. *Russell* gave evidence in support of Mr. Cotterell's statement. She was quite certain her husband was not drunk. Defendant was also sworn, and denied that he was drunk.

The Bench said they were not prepared to convict, and therefore must dismiss the case."

Walsall Advertiser 24/8/1895

"On Monday afternoon Mr. T. Howard Stanley (coroner for the borough) held an inquest at the RED LION INN, Blue Lane East, on the body of Caroline Lees (68), wife of Thomas Lees, stirrup ironmaker, 4 house, 6 court, Blue Lane East, who died last Saturday morning from the loss of blood through the breaking of a blood vessel.

Thomas Lees identified the body as that of his wife, whom he said had for some time been suffering from a bad leg, and had been attended by Dr. McHardy. He left the house on Saturday morning at 5.30 to go to work at Mr. Frost's, Fieldgate. He left his wife in the kitchen asleep on the sofa. About 11.30 the same morning his son brought him word that his wife was dead. Only a little grandchild, who was living with them, was left in the house with his wife. Deceased was insured. She has not been able to get about for some time. She slept downstairs.

John Lees, a grandchild, stated that he got his breakfast at eight o'clock on the morning in question, and soon afterwards left the house. He left his grandmother lying on the sofa.

Margaret Lees, wife of Thomas Lees, 30, Blue Lane East, brass-dresser, deposed to her little daughter, Nellie, going to the house of deceased, who was her mother, about 9.30, and immediately returning with the exclamation that her grandmother was lying back in the kitchen. Witness was alarmed, and immediately went to the house, and saw her mother lying in a corner of the room doubled up. There was a great amount of blood on the front and back kitchen floor, and also bloody footmarks were plainly visible between the two kitchens. She was dead. Witness went for Dr. Shore.

Dr. Shore said he visited the deceased, whom he found quite dead. He made an outward examination, and said that in his opinion she had practically bled to death from the bursting of a blood-vessel in the left leg. There was a tremendous quantity of blood on the front kitchen floor, and he thought deceased would not have time to call for help, for she would have bled to death in a very short time.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned by the jury."

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

"The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The following is a return of licensees who have been proceeded against during the year ending August 30th, 1895.....

William Russell, RED LION INN, Blue Lane East, for having been drunk on his own licensed premises, dismissed."

Walsall Advertiser 7/8/1897

"Mr. Stanley, Coroner, held an inquest on Thursday afternoon, at the RED LION INN, Blue Lane, relative to the death of Joseph Tuft, aged six, living in Birchills Street. It seemed that the boy, along with others, was playing cricket, but they quarrelled and separated. Deceased and some others went to the canal side, and whilst reaching into the water deceased fell and drowned. A youth named George Jones got him to the side of the water, but he was quite dead. His mother and another woman gave evidence to hearing some boys saying that deceased was pushed in because he would not let another boy have his innings, but the coroner told the jury there was nothing to support this statement. Verdict, Found Drowned."

Walsall Observer 18/8/1900

"*William Russell*, landlord of the RED LION INN, Blue Lane, was summoned for permitting drunkenness, and also for supplying intoxicating drink to a drunken person, and a man named Michael Jurdon, of Brighton Terrace, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises.

Mr. E. A. Cotterell (Messrs. J. N. and E. A. Cotterell) appeared for the defence.

The Chief Constable personally gave evidence, and stated that on the 4th of this month he went round in company with Detective-sergeant Haycock and Detective Burrell visiting public houses, and about ten minutes to eleven he entered the RED LION INN, and in the passage near the tap room noticed a man named Jurdon leaning against a wall very drunk. He asked him how long he had been there and he replied, 'A goodish while.' He also asked him what he had had to drink and he replied he had had a pint of ale for threepence, and he could get that anywhere. He called for the landlord, and a woman he believed to be Mrs. *Russell* said, 'He will get nothing to drink here,' or 'He will get nothing more to drink here,' but witness was not sure which she said. Mr. and Mrs. *Russell* afterwards ordered him to leave.

Detectives Haycock and Burrell gave similar evidence.

Mr. Cotterell for the defence stated the circumstances under which the man Jurdon came to be in the house were that at about 9.30pm he went into the RED LION INN in connection with the money club, and paid his subscription. Part of the arrangement was that when a member paid his subscription he should be entitled to a pint of beer. He left just before ten o'clock, and on his way out enquired if his wife had left the jug for the supper beer. The landlady said, 'No' and he then said he would go out and enquire for his wife. The second time he came in he simply asked if his wife had been in, and he was not supplied with any drink at all, in fact he was simply asking the question at the bar when the Chief Constable and his officers came in. He contended it was very hard on a publican if he was to be convicted simply because a man came in to his bar window under the influence of drink, but his defence was that the man was not drunk, and had only one glass of ale and a glass of whisky all the night.

The man Jurdon was then called, also the landlord and landlady.

The magistrates announced that the cases against *Russell* would be dismissed, and that the majority of the Bench had decided to dismiss the case against Jurdon also.”

1901 Census

173, Blue Lane East – RED LION INN

- [1] *William Russell* (64), publican and chain maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Frances Russell* (54), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Russell (27), son, horse collar maker, born Walsall;
- [4] Walter Russell (24), son, currier of leather, born Walsall;
- [5] Garnett Russell (18), son, currier of leather, born Walsall;
- [6] *Gertrude Wilson* (19), niece, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

In the case of the RED LION, Blue Lane East, Mr. J. N. Cotterell appeared for Mrs. *Frances Russell*, the owner and holder of the license, which he explained, had been taken out by her husband for more than forty years.

Mr. A. J. Llewellyn stated that in his opinion the property, unlicensed, was worth £22 per annum, the tenant paying rates. The accommodation included entrance hall, bar, tap room, smoke room, two sitting rooms, and the usual out offices, a club room, and five bedrooms. There were also several buildings at the rear.

The Magistrates’ Clerk then intimated that the objection to the house was on the question of structure as well as to value, and eventually the case was referred to the adjourned sessions, Mr. Cotterell intimating that any alteration required by the Justices would be immediately carried out.....

Adjourned, but intimation that the magistrates would be prepared to renew under certain undertakings.”

1911 Census

Blue Lane East – RED LION

- [1] *Frances Russell* (64), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Frances Gertrude Wilson* (29), niece, domestic help, born Walsall;
- [3] Doris Ruby Wilcox (14), niece, milliner, born Walsall:

Mrs. *Frances Russell*, beer retailer, 173, Blue Lane East. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 2/8/1913 - Deaths

“On the 30th ult, at the RED LION, Blue Lane East, *Frances*, widow of the late *William Russell*, aged 66 years. Funeral 12 o’clock Monday next, Ryecroft Cemetery.”

Walsall Observer 7/2/1914 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of our dear father, *William Russell*, late of the RED LION, Blue Lane East, who died February 7th 1904.”

Walsall Observer 14/2/1914

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Miss *Frances Gertrude Wilson*, RED LION INN, Blue Lane East, was unanimously elected a member of this society.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
RED LION INN, Blue Lane East. £1 7s 10d.”

A wine license was granted pre 1921.

1939 Register

173, Blue Lane East – Public House

- [1] *Howard Freeman*, date of birth 20/8/1897, public house manager, married;
- [2] Ethel M. Freeman, dob 9/6/1892, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Pamela D. M. (Freeman) Bradley, dob 5/11/1936, under school age, single;
- [4] Catherine M. (Atkins) Jones, dob 30/9/1916, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 14/8/1943

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society held on Thursday at the RED LION, Blue Lane East, Walsall, Mr. C. W. Garfield (president) occupied the chair.....”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall

magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

Mr. Gordon Hawley appeared for the Holt Brewery Co. Ltd., Birmingham, and the licensees of the COTTAGE INN, Harden Road; RED LION, Blue Lane; CROWN AND CUSHION, Bridgeman Street; PRESIDENT LINCOLN, Stafford Street; and GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Blakenall – John Cockbill, *Howard Freeman*, Sidney Canner, May Middleton (now of 39, Caledon Street), and Bertram Albert Stone (now of 80, Hollemeadow Avenue). Mr. Hawley said the purchase of coal at these houses had always been left to the licensees, and the brewery company would have no reason to be suspicious that the permitted amounts were being exceeded. Moreover, as far as the licensees were concerned, in all the cases except one the coal was delivered without being specifically ordered, and the trouble would have been avoided if the merchants had refused to deliver without the requisite permits, which the licensees could have obtained if they had applied for them.

Stone was fined £2, the other licensees £1 each, and the brewery company 10s in each case.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

RED LION INN, Blue Lane East. £10 2s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 25/11/1944

“On the application of Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson, Walsall magistrates (Messrs. F. Cliff Tibbits, Fred Evans, and H. Shermans, and Mrs. E. A. Brockhurst) on Wednesday granted an appeal aid certificate to *Cyril Vernon Sleigh*, of the RED LION, Blue Lane. Mr. Hodgkinson stated that Mr. *Sleigh* desired to appeal against the penalty of £70 imposed on him recently in a prosecution for selling after hours (but not against the conviction) and he had not the means to proceed. An appeal now was considerably more costly than it used to be, as owing to the shortage of counsel their fees had gone up ‘considerably more than for the humbler branch of the profession to which I belong’ added Mr. Hodgkinson. In the ordinary way, the cost would be at least £35, but under the appeal aid certificate it would not be anything like so much.

Giving evidence of his means, Mr. *Sleigh* said he was under notice to leave the RED LION in consequence of the conviction. He was working and earned £5 and £6 a week, but he had no money available for an appeal.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/12/1944

“On an appeal by Mr. *Cyril Sleigh*, licensee of the RED LION, Blue Lane, Walsall, a fine of £70 imposed on him by the magistrates for selling intoxicants after hours was reduced to £30 at the Walsall Sessions yesterday.”

Walsall Observer 20/1/1945

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....

New members..... Mr. *Edwin Jones*, RED LION, Blue Lane East.”

The license was surrendered.

It closed in December 1960.

RED LION

20, Navigation Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Fisher, Alrewas [1861]

Mrs. Harriet Sheldon, Walsall Road, Wednesbury [1872]

Edwin James

Ann Maria James

Bloxwich Brewery [1910]

William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1923)

LICENSEES

J Walker [1858]

William Fisher [1859] – [1870]

Michael Hall [1871] – [1873];

John Parkes [1880] – [1881];

William Griffiths [] – **1888**;

Edwin James (1888 – 1906);
Mrs. Ann Maria James (1906 – 1910);
Edwin Jones (1910 – 1922);
Harry Thomas Guy (1922 – 1924);
Arthur Dawson (1924 – 1939);
William Smith (1939 – 1954);
Joseph Heeley (1954 – 1961);
Thomas Scott Hodge (1961):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

J. Walker, beerhouse, 20, Navigation Street. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 26/11/1859 - Notice

“The Public are respectfully informed that a Lodge of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, (Leeds Unity), called the ‘Hather-ton Lodge,’ has been opened at the house of Mr. *William Fisher*, known as the RED LION, Navigation Street.
Any Person of good health, under the age of Forty, may become a member by applying to the Host.
Entrance Fee, Five Shillings, until the Ninth of January next.
Walsall, November 22, 1859.”

1861 Census

20, Navigation Street – RED LION

- [1] *William Fisher* (36), victualler, born Alrewas, Staffordshire;
- [2] Hannah Fisher (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William E. S. Fisher (3), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 27/2/1864

“On Friday night, a labourer named Thomas Silvester, aged 74, who lodged at the RED LION, Navigation Street, died suddenly. At half-past eight he partook of his supper, and then appeared to be in excellent health. At nine o’clock he retired to bed, and about eleven o’clock was taken suddenly ill, and expired after about five minutes.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/8/1866

“Charles [sic] *Fisher*, landlord of the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, was fined 2s 6d and costs for having refused to admit Police-constable Benton into his house on the 23rd July.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/2/1870

“On Saturday last Mr. A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, held an inquest at the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, on the body of Julia Kirk, aged 19, brass dresser. The evidence went to show that on the preceding Wednesday deceased was delivered of a child, but the midwife who was in attendance upon her, being unable to remove the afterbirth, asked some one of the family to fetch a surgeon. Deceased’s mother started to get a parish note, but being lame she could not walk as fast as could be wished, and by the time she reached the surgery of Mr. Palmer, that gentleman had gone out, but his son at once went in quest of him. Unsuccessful attempts were afterwards made to find another surgeon, and it was half-past twelve before Mr. Palmer reached the house. In the meantime the umbilical cord had been broken, owing to the nurse holding or pulling it, while the poor woman was tossing about in great pain, and the latter lost much blood. Mr. Palmer, however, removed the afterbirth and stopped the haemorrhage, and also did all that was possible in other ways to avert fatal consequences, but without success, the woman expiring between two and three o’clock. The jury found that deceased died in consequence of inability on the part of the midwife, and not being able to procure medical attendance in proper time.”

1871 Census

20, Navigation Street – RED LION INN

- [1] *Michael Hall* (59), publican, born Melton [Melton Mowbray?], Leicestershire;
- [2] Mary Hall (57), wife, born Kenilworth, Warwickshire;
- [3] Jane Hall (21), daughter, born Kenilworth, Warwickshire;
- [4] Thomas Hall (19), son, born Kenilworth, Warwickshire;
- [5] Alice Desborough (15), domestic servant, born Peterborough, Northamptonshire:

Walsall Free Press 8/2/1873

“On Tuesday evening the Railway employés held their annual supper in the RED LION public house, Navigation Street, where an excellent repast was served up in a style highly creditable to Mr. *Hall*’s establishment. The room was tastefully decorated with flags, banners, and devices. There were also several mottoes which, as they differed from those usually seen in such places, are worthy of notice. On a red ground, in beautifully shaded white, with initial green letters, were the words, ‘Blessed is he that

provideth for the sick.' On the opposite side of the room, on a white ground, in red letters, also delicately shaded were the words, 'God bless the Cottage Hospital.' Another motto was, 'The comforter is come.' The chair was occupied by Mr. Fearn....."

Birmingham Daily Post 20/1/1881

"Yesterday, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the RED LION public-house, Navigation Street, on the body of Eliza Heap (22), the finding of whose lifeless body in the canal had already been reported in the *Post*. After hearing the evidence of Annie Arkwright, one of the deceased's companions, and Acting-sergeant Mercer, who found the body, the jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned."

1881 Census

20, Navigation Street – RED LION INN

- [1] *John Parkes* (32), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah R. Parkes (23), wife, born Chil _____ Coton, Warwickshire;
- [3] Margaret A. King (14), domestic servant, born Penkridge:

Walsall Advertiser 13/1/1885 - Advert

"For Sale, Pony, Trap, and Harness. Reason for selling, no further use.
Apply, *J. Parkes*, RED LION, Navigation Street."

Walsall Advertiser 28/7/1888 - Advert

"To be Sold, cheap, Drawing-room Suite; compelled to sell on account of want of room; quite new.
E. James, RED LION INN, Navigation Street."

Walsall Advertiser 4/8/1888 - Advert

"To be Sold, cheap, Dining-room Suite; compelled to sell on account of want of room; quite new.
E. James, RED LION INN, Navigation Street."

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1889 - Advert

"Rowland's New York Circus, Top of Park Street, one minute's walk from Railway Station, Walsall.....
Friday, May 31st. Benefit of the National United Order of Free Gardeners. Extra Attractions, under the Distinguished Patronage of His Worship the Mayor (Samuel Russell, Esq); His Worship the Mayor of Wednesbury (Wilson Lloyd, Esq, JP); F. Davies, Esq, and other Honorary Member of this Order.
The Rycroft Brass Band will be in attendance and play in the arena. The Members will assemble at Bro. *James's*, the RED LION, Navigation Street, about 6.30 and after parading Bradford Street, will march up to the Circus."

Walsall Advertiser 24/12/1889 - Advert

"Lost, on Tuesday, Pug Pup, answers to the name of 'Nap.'
Any one returning the same to *E. James*, RED LION INN, Navigation Street, will receive reward."

Walsall Advertiser 26/4/1890

"Walsall Typographical Society. The members of this society held their annual dinner on Monday last, at the society house, RED LION INN, Navigation Street. The President of the branch, Mr. T. C. Edwards (*Advertiser* office), occupied the chair....."

Walsall Advertiser 12/9/1896

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Edwin James*. RED LION INN, Navigation Street, Walsall....."

Walsall Advertiser 18/10/1890

"We are requested to state that, at a fully representative meeting of the Liberal Association of The Pleck Ward, held at the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, on Tuesday evening, Mr. Walter Hughes was by a unanimous vote adopted as the Liberal candidate in the coming contest for The Pleck Ward."

1891 Census

20, Navigation Street

- [1] *Edwin James* (36), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Ann James (29), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Clara James (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Clara Partridge (18), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 19/12/1891 - Advert

"Handsome Bay Cob, with black points, 14.1, 5 years old; fast and fine action; suit doctor. Veterinary examination permitted.
Owner no further use for it. Very cheap.
E. James, RED LION, Navigation Street, Walsall."

Walsall Advertiser 24/9/1892

“The Free Gardeners.

On Monday evening last, the anniversary dinner of ‘Good Samaritan Lodge,’ No.992, of the above Order was held at the house of Bro. *E. James*, RED LION INN, Navigation Street, between 40 and 50 members and friends being present.....”

Walsall Advertiser 14/9/1895

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last, at the house of Mr. *Edwin James*, RED LION INN, Navigation Street, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 31/10/1896

“Yesterday afternoon an inquest was held by Mr. T. Howard Stanley (borough coroner), at the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, touching the death of John French (63), of 61, Navigation Street, greengrocer. On Thursday, the 22nd inst, he sustained some slight injuries owing to being thrown out of a trap while being driven into Birmingham, and on Saturday morning as he was alighting from a trap in a yard in which his warehouse is situate in Bradford Street, he fell on a beam. He did not at the time imagine that he was much hurt, but his injury turned out more serious than at first anticipated, one or two of his ribs being fractured, and penetrating the lungs. He was attended by Dr. Oliver, but died on Wednesday last from inflammation of the lungs, caused by broken ribs, and the jury returned a verdict accordingly.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/5/1897 - Advert

“Two Brewings of Grains (weekly) to be disposed of.
James, RED LION, Navigation Street, Walsall.”

Edwin James was president of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society. [1900], [1902]

Walsall Observer 22/9/1900

“Free Gardeners. On Monday evening last, there was a large muster of the members and friends of Good Samaritan Lodge, at the RED LION, Navigation Street, for the purpose of making presentations to two past masters of the lodge, Bros. Holmes and Osbourne.....”

1901 Census

20, Navigation Street – RED LION HOTEL

- [1] *Edwin James* (47), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Ann M. James (39), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Clara S. James (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Hannah Arblaster (18), barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1902

“The first meeting of the newly-elected Executive Committee of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the president, RED LION INN, Navigation Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *Edwin James*, the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, and there was a good attendance.....”

Walsall Advertiser 10/6/1905

“On Saturday morning Mr. T. H. Stanley (Borough Coroner) held an inquest at the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, relative to the death of James Swain (68), of 31, Marsh Street, a bricklayer’s labourer. Mrs. Swain said that on April 29th her husband was very ill with vomiting and pain. In the early morning of June 1st she noticed he was worse, and he gradually became unconscious and died. She sent for a doctor as soon as she possibly could. Dr. O’Meara said the man was dead when he arrived, and he formed the opinion the he had died from colic acting on a weak heart and causing syncope. Verdict, Death from Natural Causes.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1906

“The monthly meeting of the meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday, at the house of Mr. *Edwin James*, RED LION INN, Navigation Street, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 22/9/1906 - Deaths

“On the 16th inst, at his residence, RED LION, Navigation Street, Walsall, *Edwin James*, in his 53rd year. Deeply mourned by all. Mrs. *James* desires to express her heartfelt thanks for the kind sympathetic messages she had received in her bereavement, and wishes to thank those who have rendered such an impressive tribute to her late husband’s memory.”

AND

“By the death of Mr. *Edwin James*, landlord of the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, the licensing trade in this district has lost one of its most respected members and able advocates. Mr. *James* had been in failing health for some six or seven years, a victim of lung troubles, and it was largely due to the tender nursing of a devoted wife that he was able to resist the enemy so long. For two or three weeks, however, it became evident that the end was fast approaching, and he passed quietly away on Sunday morning.

By trade the deceased was a printer, and for some years a most valued first-hand on the staff of the *Walsall Advertiser*. In his younger days he was a thorough athlete, being one of the best sprinters in the Midlands; and he more than once took part in the then noted Sheffield handicaps. He entered the licensing trade in July, 1888, and joined the Licensed Victuallers' Association on becoming the tenant of the house he had occupied since, and of which he ultimately became the owner. In the following year his personality had already marked him out as one destined to be a leader, and he was elected to the committee and appointed junior auditor, succeeding to the treasurership in 1890. In 1894, on the death of Mr. George Maund, he was elected President, with Mr. William Brown as vice-president. This post he occupied for the following nine years, and proved a fearless advocate in defence of what is considered in the 'trade' as its rights. During his presidency he had always a sensible, well-thought speech to make at the annual banquets, usually coupled with a little dry humour that was inherent in the man; and there is no doubt his presidential term added much to the dignity and importance of the association. This the members recognised tangibly in October 1898, when, at the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, they marked their esteem for him by presenting him with a marble clock, with engraved panel, and to Mrs. *James* a lady's Morocco hand bag, with silver monogram. He retired from office in August, 1903, owing to failing health, and nominated a successor in Mr. John Boys. On his retirement he was presented with a handsomely-illuminated address. He leaves a widow and one daughter.

The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery on Thursday and was largely attended.....”

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1910

“Some fifteen applications for the transfers of public houses were made to the justices, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....

Temporary transfers had previously been granted and in all cases the full transfer was sanctioned, the Chief Constable making no objection.....

RED LION, Navigation Street, (executors of the will of the late *Ann Maria James*) to *Edwin Jones*.”

1911 Census

20, Navigation Street – RED LION

- [1] *Edwin Jones* (30), licensed victualler, born Brownhills;
- [2] Lavinia Jones (29), wife, married 6 years, born Brownhills;
- [3] Edwin Jones (5), son, born Brownhills;
- [4] Violet Lavinia Jones (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Eva Shingler (15), general servant, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Advertiser 29/6/1912

“The members of the ‘Good Samaritan’ Lodge (No.992) in connection with the Bilston, Walsall and Cannock District of the National order of Free Gardeners assembled at their headquarters, the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, on Monday evening.....”

Walsall Advertiser 27/7/1912

“William Wright (25), hawker, of no fixed abode, and Joseph Mansell (17), hawker, of 9, Portland Street, appeared in the dock charged with stealing a bicycle value £3, the property of Charles Martin licensee, of Bridgtown Tavern, Bridgtown, near Cannock, on Wednesday Jul. 17th.

Prosecutor stated that at 3 o'clock on the day mentioned he went into the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, leaving his bicycle in the yard. He had a drink and eventually got into conversation with the two prisoners, and treated them to half-a-pint of beer each. They left before he did and when he went for his machine it was missing.

Annie Sophia Hill, dealer in cycle accessories, etc, of 14, Lower High Street, Wednesbury, stated that on the night of the Wednesday in question the two prisoners entered her shop and asked her to buy the cycle for ‘a quid.’ She refused, and becoming suspicious gave information to the police.

Police-sergeant Harris (stationed at Wednesbury) deposed to going in search of the two men, who had been described by the previous witness. He eventually found them in the GLOBE INN, and upon telling them that they answered the description of two men who had been trying to sell a bicycle, Mansell replied, ‘I know nothing about it,’ while Wright replied, ‘I bought the machine last week and I wanted to sell it.’ Later witness found the machine at a lodging house locked up in a room.

Both prisoners pleaded guilty, and Wright, who had several previous convictions for felony, was given the maximum sentence – six months' hard labour – and Mansell, who promised to keep out of trouble in future was put on probation for six months.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

RED LION, Navigation Street. £0 12s 6½d.”

Walsall Observer 22/7/1918 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of my dear mother, *Ann Maria James* (late of the RED LION, Navigation Street), who died on June 18, 1910. *To memory ever dear.* Clara.”

Walsall Observer 26/4/1924

“At a meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Provident Society, held at the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, Walsall, Mr. T. Hawker (President) in the chair, the following were elected.....”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“.....by 1925, the self contained yard had a small lawn, fowl pen and pig sty, the Public Bar was 14’ x 9’6” x 8’8” with a Tap Room, Smoke Room and Bar Parlour.....”

Rugeley Times 22/7/1939

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers Society, held on Thursday, at ROUGH HAY TAVERN, Darlaston, there was a good attendance of members.....

William Smith, RED LION, Navigation Street were elected members of the society.”

1939 Register

20, Navigation Street (3 of 4)

[1] *William Smith*, date of birth 24/9/1903, coal miner, heavy work, married;

[2] Annie (Smith) Marshall, dob 10/11/1899, bar general, married;

[3] Beryl (Smith) Horton, dob 26/9/1920, office clerk, house furnisher’s shop, single;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

RED LION, Navigation Street, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 27/9/1941 - Personal

“Congratulations to Beryl, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *Smith*, RED LION, Navigation Street, Walsall, on attaining her 21st birthday, 26th September. Best wishes.

Husband, Mom, Dad, Jack.”

Walsall Observer 11/4/1942

“He had been frequenting billiards halls and dog racing tracks, and no doubt he owes his present position to excessive gambling,’ stated Superintendent Raybould at the Walsall Police Court on Wednesday, of John Edward Sutton (18), of 5, Newbold Street, when charged with stealing £25 belonging to his uncle, Winston Wellington, and also with stealing a wristlet watch, valued at £2 15s, the property of John William *Smith*, of the RED LION, Navigation Street. He pleaded guilty to ‘having some of the money’, and also to the second charge, and asked for six other cases to be taken into consideration. He was sent to gaol for three months. Wellington stated that he missed £25 from a wallet in his suit case when he was living at 5, Newbold Street, and Sutton, when asked about it, offered to repay £10 at a rate of 10s a week if he kept it out of the hands of the police.

Detective-constable Jukes said Sutton, when arrested, had £9 in his possession, and he stated that he had won £6 of it on a dog at Wolverhampton. He denied that he had stolen £25, but admitted taking £10 over a period of three weeks.

Smith said he missed his watch from the pocket of his overcoat after it had been hanging in a billiards hall near to where Sutton was sitting.

It was stated that Sutton, who was sent to approved school in 1935 and discharged on a license in 1939, was earning an average wage of more than £4 a week. The other offences which he had admitted included the theft of three cycles, overcoat from outside a shop in Wolverhampton, pants, vest, etc. from a market stall. All those articles had been recovered.

The magistrates (Mrs. Dewhurst and Mr. A. E. Hurst) made an order for the £9 found on Sutton to be handed to Wellington.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

RED LION, Navigation Street. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

RED LION INN, Navigation Street. £5 5s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/3/1945 - Personal

“Mr. and Mrs. *Smith* and Daughter, RED LION, Navigation Street, wish to thank all Relatives, Friends and Customers, for their enquiries and sympathy, and wish to say that their son, John, is now well on the way to recovery.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 30th March 1961.

£4,950 Compensation was paid on 22nd September 1961.

It closed on 31st December 1961.

RED LION

69, (32+33), (33), (32), Park Street, Townend, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Whitehouse
Henry Highway, Sutton Road, Walsall [1872]
Henry Vernon Jessop, druggist, Walsall [1881]
Mary Holden
Robinson's Brewery, Burton on Trent [1894], [1901]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries (acquired in 1903)

LICENSEES

John Sheldon [1798] – [1801]
John Smith [1813]
John Sheldon [1818] – [1830]
Thomas Hutchinson [1832] – [1835]
W Lates [1839]
William Nightingale Jones [1841] – [1842]
Samuel Cleobury [1845] – [1850]
Thomas Southan [1851] – [1852]
Benjamin Southan [1852]
Thomas Braddard [] – **1857**);
Thomas Cook (**1857 – 1866**);
George Middleton (**1866** – []
H Highway [1866]
Edward Middleton (**1866** – []
James Bradbury Holt [] – **1868**);
John Holden (**1868 – 1885**);
Mary Holden (**1885** – []);
Joseph Jelley (**1885 – 1888**);
John Fowler (**1888 – 1889**);
Thomas Charles Cooper (**1889 – 1892**);
Claud Hammond Cooper (**1892 – 1894**);
Edmund Nagington (**1894 – 1896**);
Charles Henry John Marshall (**1896**);
Richard Frederick 'Fred' Morris (**1896 – 1899**);
Edmund Nagington (**1899**);
Frederick William Palfrey (**1899**);
Thomas Jones (**1899 – 1901**);
Christopher Keeling (**1901 – 1902**);
Ernest Arthur Hennessy (**1902 – 1903**);
Albert Ernest Hibell (**1903 – 1904**);
Harry Bramidge (**1904 – 1906**);
Valentine Joseph Gunter (**1906 – 1907**);
John Harry Brown (**1907 – 1909**);
Frederick Harry Brown [1908] ?
Frank Cocken (**1909 – 1912**);
William Cyrus Hodges (**1912 – 191_**);
Annie Maud Hodges (**191_ – 1916**);
Frederick Lord (**1916 – 191_**);
Lucy Alice Lord (**191_ – 1918**);
Thomas Alfred Tarry (**1918 – [1921]**);
Thomas McCloud [] – **1920**);
James Loynes (**1920 – 192_**);
Arthur Bouchier Pilsher (**192_ – 1926**);
William Hobson (**1926 – 1928**);

Edward Webster (1928 – 1929);
Thomas Purton Cole (1929 – 1948);
Frank Evans (1948 – 1952);
Roy Rossiter (1952 – 1954);
Thomas Melvin Price (1954 – 1957);
Graham Owen Green (1957 – 1958);
George Ferguson Gillmore (1958 – 1959);
Harold Yates (1959 – 1964);
Arthur James Bytheway (1964 – [1966])
Ted Stuart [1981]
Ian Maullin [2007]

NOTES

32, Park Street [1860], [1861], [1872]
33, Park Street [1868], [1870], [1881]
32+33, Park Street [1871], [1873]
69, Park Street [1891], [1892], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1921], [1932], [1939], [1940], [2005]

RED LION HOTEL [1934]

A carrier left here on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for Birmingham.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/10/1798 - Advert

“Freehold. To be Sold by Auction, by Randle Walker, on Monday the 8th day of October, 1798, between the hours of Two and Four o'clock in the Afternoon, at Mr. Smith's, The GOLDEN CUP, on Park Street, Walsall, subject to Conditions then to be produced.

Lot I. All the Messuage or Tenement, consisting of a Cellar, Kitchen, Shop, and three Lodging Rooms, situate in Park Street, in Walsall, in the Occupation of Mr. Joseph Platt, at a yearly rent of £5 6s.

Lot II. All the Messuage or Tenement, adjoining the above Premises, known by the RED LION, consisting of three exceeding good Vaults, Kitchen, Parlour, and back Kitchen, five Lodging Rooms, a Pump of excellent Water, Brewhouse, and Chamber over the same, with an entire Yard, in the Occupation of Mr. *John Sheldon*; also a small tenement adjoining, in the Occupation of Mr. Thomas Ketland, together at a yearly rent of £18.

The Premises are under Lease, herein, four years are unexpired at lady Day next.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/3/1830 - Died

“On the 13th instant, Mrs. *Sheldon*, wife of Mr. *John Sheldon*, of the RED LION, public-house, Park Street, Walsall.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 16/7/1832 - Advert

“Sale at the GEORGE, Park Street, Walsall, By J. Farrington.

To be Sold by Auction, on the premises on Thursday next, July 19, all the excellent Household Furniture, capital brewing utensils, well seasoned ale casks, sow in pig, two capital carts, and a variety of other effects belonging to Mr. *Hutchinson*, who has taken to the RED LION INN.

Sale to commence at ten precisely.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/8/1832 - Died

“On Wednesday last, at Walsall, after a severe illness, Mr. *John Sheldon*, late of the RED LION INN, Park Street, in that borough, aged 60.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1839 - Advert

“The RED LION INN, Park Street, Walsall.

To Be Disposed Of, The Goodwill, Licenses, and Immediate Possession, of the above well-established Public House, most desirably situated in Park Street, Walsall, and now carried on by Mr. *W. Lates*, who is leaving on account of other engagements.

The above is an excellent opportunity to persons about to commence in the public business, as the premises are in excellent condition, and are well situated for doing a good in and out door trade; the house is situated in the principal thoroughfare to Wolverhampton and Stafford.

The Stock and Furniture to be taken to at a fair valuation.

For particulars apply to Farrington and Son, appraisers and general agents, Walsall, if by letter, post paid.”

1841 Census

Park Street

[1] *W. N. Jones* (25), publican;

[2] Maria Jones (15);

- [3] John Jones (5), born Staffordshire;
[4] William Jones (3), born Staffordshire;
[5] George Jones (1), born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/1/1842 - Advert

“Walsall. The RED LION INN, Park Street.

To Be Disposed Of, the Licenses and Possession of the above old and well-established Inn, in the occupation of Mr. *Jones*, who is leaving the town. The coming-in easy.

The above is an opportunity which seldom offers in obtaining so good a situation in the Public Business, being in the principal thoroughfare of Walsall.

For particulars, apply to Mr. *Jones*, the proprietor, or to H. Farrington, Auctioneer and Appraiser, Walsall.”

Birmingham Journal 14/2/1846

“On Wednesday, at the Guildhall, a complaint was made against *Samuel Cleobury*, of the RED LION, Park Street, by Police-constable Woolley, for having kept his house open beyond the time allowed. The officer stated that he visited defendant’s house at one o’clock on the morning of the 23rd ult, and saw eight or nine men there, several of whom were fighting, causing a great disturbance also in the neighbourhood. Nearly the whole of the company as well as the landlord were intoxicated. *Cleobury* was fined 15s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/1/1852 - Advert

“H. Farrington respectfully announces that he has received instructions from the executors of the late Mr. James Whitehouse to Offer by Public Auction, the second week in February, the following very valuable Estates in Walsall.....

Park Street. All that old-established and well-frequented Inn, known as the RED LION, in the occupation of Mr. *Southan*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/3/1852 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Henry Farrington, by direction of the Trustees of the will of the late Mr. James Whitehouse, deceased, at the NEW INN, Park Street, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 16th day of March, 1852, at five o’clock in the afternoon.....

Lot 37. All that old and well-frequented Inn, known as the RED LION, situate in Park Street, Walsall, being one of the best business streets in the town, and near to the South Staffordshire Railway Station, and now occupied by Mr. *B. Southan*.

The above contains a large Bar, Tap-room, good Parlour, Kitchen, Brewhouse, and malt-room over, good Cellars, excellent Lodge-room, five good Bed-rooms, Pump of Water, Stables, Piggery, and other conveniences.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1852

“*Benjamin Southan*, keeper of the RED LION public-house, Park Street, and Charles Kitson and Aaron Clansey, two butty miners, were charged with stealing £9 from the person of Thomas Bonehill, shopkeeper, in the house of the former prisoner, on Tuesday morning. From the evidence it appeared that on Monday night, a little after 11 o’clock, Bonehill went to *Southan*’s house, and shortly afterwards commenced playing at cards, and continued doing so for several hours. They played at ‘all fours,’ and the stake for the last game was as much as £1 18s, which Bonehill won. The other parties then commenced quarrelling with him. The prisoner Kitson kicked the chair from under him, Clansey dragging him into the passage, and put his hand in his (Bonehill’s) pocket, and robbed him, and the landlord during the time put out the gas. The case lasted upwards of four hours. Mr. W. H. Duignan was engaged for the prosecutor, and Mr. Wilkinson for all the prisoners. The magistrates thought there was a prima facie case made out, and committed the prisoners for trial at the borough sessions.”

[At the Borough Sessions, in November, 1852, all the defendants were acquitted.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/7/1854 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately that excellent and well-known Old Licensed Inn, the RED LION, situate in Park Street, Walsall, the principal thoroughfare through the town, and close to the Railway Station. The Proprietor having other engagements is the sole cause of his leaving.

The Valuation, including Premium, will be about £200.

For particulars, apply to John Osbourn, auctioneer, Walsall.”

Thomas Cook = Thomas Cooke

Walsall Free Press 31/10/1857

“*Thomas Cook*, landlord of the RED LION INN, Park Street, remanded from last week upon a charge of allowing card-playing in his house, again came up. Mr. W. H. Duignan, who appeared for him on the former occasion, informed the Bench that he desired to withdraw his plea of not guilty, and pleaded guilty; but as information had not been laid by the police, but by an informer, who would receive half the fine, he trusted the Bench would not allow it to be a very beneficial speculation for him. A penalty of 5s was inflicted.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... The following parties were then called over, and as they came for their licenses, were duly cautioned individually.....

Thomas Cooke, RED LION, Park Street, for having permitted card playing in his house, and for which he had on the 28th of Octo-

ber last been fined 5s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 27/11/1858

“About ten o’clock, on the morning of Tuesday week, James Pearce, spur-fitter in the employment of Mr. Eglington, Park Street, went in company with several of his shop-mates to the RED LION, Public-house, Park Street, and remained there drinking till five o’clock in the afternoon, at which time Pearce, who was very tipsy, requested to be supplied with Port wine, which however the landlady, seeing the state he was in, refused to fill; but she having occasion to leave the tap-room, Pearce seized the opportunity and helped himself to half-a-pint of rum, and then to three half-quarters of gin; but while in the act of drinking the gin he fell insensible upon the floor and was conveyed home, and remained in that state till Wednesday morning, when he expired. Mr. Pitt, surgeon, who made a post-mortem of the body, found the brain had been so injured by excessive drinking as to cause death. On the Friday following, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Coroner of the Borough, held an inquest upon the body of the deceased at the NAGS HEAD public-house, Rushall Street, at which the jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Excessive Drinking.”

Walsall Free Press 12/3/1859

“*Thomas Cook*, landlord of the RED LION Public-house, Park Street, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours on Sunday last; but as it appears that one of the parties seen in the house was a soldier who was billeted with Mr. *Cook*, and the other a party from Birmingham, the case was dismissed.”

1861 Census

32, Park Street – RED LION

- [1] *Thomas Cook* (46), victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Ann Cook (47), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Thomas Cook (21), son, saddle maker, born Walsall;
- [4] John Cook (15), son, plater’s apprentice, born Walsall;
- [5] John Osborn (40), brewer, born Walsall;
- [6] Maria Newton (19), domestic servant, born Liverpool;
- [7] Robert Barlow (21), lodger, professor of music, born Norwich;
- [8] James Pewford Clarke (31), lodger, surveyor, born St. Lidwells, Devonshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/10/1861

“At the Police Court, on Monday, Elizabeth Blewitt and William Ruffles were charged with having uttered counterfeit coin. On Saturday night last the female prisoner went to The TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, asked for some drink, and tendered in payment a florin, which afterwards proved to be base. Mrs. Brown, the landlady, not suspecting anything, gave her the proper change, and ten minutes afterwards the prisoner again went to the same place, and called for some drink to which she was served by the husband of Mrs. Brown. This time she tendered a half-a-crown. On examination Mr. Brown discovered that the coin was not a good one, and he sent for the police. Mr. Brown told the prisoner that the half-a-crown was bad, and she said, ‘Is it? I’ll take it back to those who gave it to me.’ He kept the half-crown, and the prisoner went away, but came back in a few minutes afterwards, bringing a shilling, which also proved to be bad. In the meantime Detective Harrison and Police-constable Simmons arrived, and she told them she had the money from a house in Talbot Yard, where she would take them. She took them there, and they found the male prisoner in the house. Detective Harrison searched him, and found some good money in his pocket; but while he was being searched he was observed to throw something away, which, when picked up was found to be a base half-crown. They were taken into custody, and conveyed to the police-station. From subsequent inquiries made by the police it was ascertained that the male prisoner had on the same night passed a counterfeit shilling at the house of Mr. *Cooke*, RED LION INN, Park Street. They were both remanded till Thursday, for the purpose of communicating with the Mint authorities.”

Walsall Free Press 28/2/1863

“*Thomas Cook*, landlord of the RED LION public house, was charged with having, on the 18th instant, suffered common prostitutes to assemble and remain therein. Mr. Matthews, who conducted the prosecution, after stating the circumstances of the case, called Acting-sergeant Shaw, from whose evidence it appeared that about a quarter to one o’clock on Wednesday night he visited defendant’s house, and found thirteen prostitutes sitting down in the room without having any refreshments before them. He, on seeing them, acquainted Mr. *Cook* with the character of his guests and he replied, ‘Oh, its holiday time, and market night.’ He then told the landlord he should report him, and then Mr. *Cook* turned the women out the Bench, after a short consultation, sentenced the defendant, who had been previously convicted, to pay a fine of 20s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 5/9/1863

“On Monday last, after the police business had been disposed of, the magistrates proceeded to consider the application for the granting of new licenses and the renewal of those already existing.....
On Mr. *Cook*, of the RED LION, Park Street, being called, the Mayor reminded him that there were four or five convictions against him, and stated in the event of another conviction, the license would be withdrawn.”

Walsall Free Press 7/10/1865

“*Thomas Cook*, landlord of the RED LION, Park Street; Henry Perkins, landlord of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street; and Mrs. Taylor, landlady of the SWAN AND PEAL, were charged with having had their houses open to entertain friends;

each was cautioned and ordered to pay costs.

The Mayor intimated that in all cases where victuallers require to keep their houses open beyond the time fixed by law, they should apply to the bench in petty session for a special license.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

The Chief Constable handed in the following report.....

A robbery of jewelry to a large amount was committed during the year at the house of Mr. *Thomas Cook*, Park Street. Part of the property was recovered, and a person convicted of the robbery. Mr. *Cook* was sued in the County Court by the person robbed for £50, the utmost sum he could recover in the court for compensation for the loss. The action was arranged.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual Sessions for the renewal of existing licenses, and the consideration of applications for new ones, was held at the Guildhall Assembly Room on Friday.....

The Bench refused to renew the licenses of *Thomas Cook*, the RED LION, Park Street.....”

Birmingham Journal 15/9/1866

“Adjourned Licensing Session. At this Session which was held at the Free Library.....

Thomas Cook of the RED LION INN, Park Street, applied through Mr. Glover, for the renewal of his license, which was refused at the recent Licensing Session. The application was refused.

Mr. Dale (from the office of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis, and Lewis) then applied for a license for the same premises on behalf of the landlord, Mr. *H. Highway*, who, he stated, cordially agreed with the decision of the Bench, but had no power over his tenant, who had the premises on a lease. He was advised to apply again at some future time.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/10/1866

“The adjourned Licensing Session for this borough was held on Monday, at the Free Library, Messrs. J. Brewer, jun. (Mayor) and J. W. Newman presiding.....

The license of the RED LION was also restored, on the application of Mr. Matthews, and granted to *Edward Middleton*, manager of the Finsbury Distillery.”

London Gazette 7/8/1868

“*James Bradbury Holt*, of the RED LION INN, Park-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 5th day of August, 1868, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 18th of August instant, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. Samuel Wilkinson, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Walsall Free Press 10/10/1868

“Walsall Police Court, Monday Mr. Glover applied to have the license of the RED LION, Park Street, transferred from Mr. *Holt* to Mr. *John Holden*, who has for some time been keeping the house for Mr. *Holt*.

Mr. Cater said he had no complaint to make in reference to the manner in which the house had been kept since Mr. *Holden* had been in it; but he wished to know whether or not Mr. *Holden* was the *John Holden* who, at the Penkridge petty sessions, had been bound over to keep the peace for having taken part in a prize fight.

Mr. Glover said it was true Mr. *Holden* had been bound over to keep the peace; but he was not present at, and did not take part in, the fight, but had been brought before the county justices by mistake, and, not wishing to disclose the name of the party for whom he had been mistaken, and who had paid all the costs incurred by Mr. *Holden*, he allowed himself to be bound over.

The Bench, after a few words of admonition to Mr. *Holden*, granted the transfer.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Yesterday, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Coroner for the Borough, held an inquest at the RED LION public-house, Park Street, upon the body of Ellen Wood, aged eight years, whose parents reside in Marsh Lane. From the evidence it appeared deceased, between five and six o’clock on the afternoon of Wednesday last, went to her mother for a piece of bread, and was not seen or heard of afterwards till about nine o’clock, when her dead body was found by a boatman, named Wm. Reeves, floating on the canal near to Navigation Street. The jury, after hearing the evidence returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 12/11/1870

“The veteran J. Gibbs of Walsall will stake £5 with Kendrick of Wednesbury or E. Wedge of Willenhall and take the same start as Wedge, viz, Kendrick scratch and Gibbs and Wedge four yards start; or Gibbs will take six yards start of F. Bolton in 100, or four yards of A. Bates or W. Crutchley in the same distance. Any of these matches can be made any night next week at *J. Holden’s*, the RED LION INN, Park Street, Walsall, for £5 or £10 a side.”

1871 Census

32+33, Park Street

- [1] *John Holden* (47), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Holden* (47), wife, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [3] *Ellen Holden* (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Louisa Locklea* (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Fanny Holden* (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Clara Holden* (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Eliza Holden* (10), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] *Albert Webster* (29), boarder, gear maker, born Walsall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 7/12/1872

“Halkin’s bitch *Rose of Walsall* and *Cotton’s Silk of Bloxwich* run 200 yards, for 315 a side on Dec 16. £10 a side is now down in the hands of Mr. *John Holden*, RED LION INN, Walsall, the stakeholder.”

Walsall Free Press 2/8/1873

“Spirit vaults, in Park Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Farrington & Sons, at the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, Walsall, on Wednesday, August 13th, 1873, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions.

The Freehold Old Licensed Public-House, called the RED LION INN, Park Street, Walsall, with the Brewhouse, Malt Room, Stable, Outbuildings, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, now in the occupation of Mr. *John Holden*.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. Duignan, Lewis, and Lewis, Solicitors, both of Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/4/1874

“Alexandra Park Recreation Grounds, Rood End, near Oldbury.

The above beautiful grounds, which are available from all parts of England, being situated within a few minutes’ walk of Oldbury, Spon Lane, and the Smethwick stations on the Stour Valley Railway, and Westbromwich, Smethwick Junction, and Rood End stations on the Great Western Railway (Rood End in particular, being only 300 yards distant), are reopen to the public, and the proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Bradley, respectfully announce that they will give £15 to be contested for in an All England Foot Race, distance 135 yards, on Saturday and Monday, April 18 and 20. First prize £10, second £4, third £1. Entrance 1s 6d, no acceptance, to be declared on or before Tuesday, April 14. Wednesday morning’s letters will be in time. All entries to be made at the grounds, or at any of the following places.....

Holden’s, RED LION, Walsall.....

Betting and gambling strictly prohibited. No one allowed to run unless in proper costume.”

Sporting Life 8/4/1876

“Alexandra Park, Rood End, Oldbury. Easter Holidays.

Mr. John Gumbley will give £13 to be run for in a 200 yards all-England dog handicap on Saturday and Monday, April 15 and 17 – first prize £10, second £2, third £1. Entrance 1s each, no acceptance. All entries to be made at the ground, or at.....

Mr. *Holden’s*, RED LION, Walsall.”

Sporting Life 13/10/1877

“Cross Keys Running Grounds, Hednesford.

Messrs. Birch and Bullock will give £10 to be run for in a 135 yards all-England foot handicap on Hednesford Wakes, Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 29 and 30 – first prize £8, second £1 10s, third 10s. Entrance 1s, no acceptance. Entries to be made to.....

Mr. *John Holden*, RED LION, Park Street, Walsall.”

Sporting Life 9/3/1878

“Alexandra Running Grounds, Bloxwich.

Mr. T. Marshall, jun, will give £7 10s to be run for in an all-England 150 yard dog handicap on Mondays, March 18 and 25 – first prize £6, second £1, third 10s. Entries 1s each. Entries to be made at.....

Mr. *John Holden’s*, RED LION, Park Street, Walsall.”

Black Country Bugle (February 1986)

Letter from Bob Wallis, Walsall

“.....the greatest fighting Staffordshire bull terrier who ever lived. The dog referred to was Pilot, bred in 1879 by *John Holden* of the RED LION his blood flows strongly in the present American Pit Bull Terrier.....”

1881 Census

33, Park Street

- [1] *John Holden* (57), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *M. Holden* (60), wife, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [3] *Eliza Holden* (20), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Lucy Chester* (22), visitor, dress maker, born Rodington, Shropshire;
- [5] *William Lockley* (35), farmer, born Rodington, Shropshire;
- [6] *Sarah Dugmore* (14), barmaid, born Willenhall;

[7] Kate Holden (13), visitor, draper's assistant, born Birmingham;

[8] G. Smith (28), brewer, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Observer 14/3/1885

“.....To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. J. U. Fellows, on Tuesday, the 31st day of March 1885.....

Lot 1. The Old-established Full-licensed Public House, known as the RED LION INN, situate in Park Street, Walsall, lately in the occupation of Mr. *John Holden*, deceased, and now in the occupation of his widow. The premises comprise Liquor Shop, Smoke Room, Kitchens, Five Bedrooms, large and convenient Cellars, Stable, &c, with a side road out of Park Street. The property is situate in one of the busiest parts of Walsall and at the junction of several important streets. The fixtures will have to be taken to by the Purchaser at a price to be fixed by the Auctioneer, which will be stated at the time of the Sale.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1888

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *John Fowler*, of the RED LION INN, Park Street, was summoned by the Chief Constable for selling without a license. Mr. J. N. Cotterell appeared for the defence.

The Chief Constable said the former tenant left on the 13th September, and the present defendant entered and sold for ten days before notice of application for a transfer was given. The defence was that the irregularity was due to a firm of Birmingham auctioneers, in whose hand all the business was left. The Chief Constable not pressing for a heavy penalty, the defendant was merely ordered to pay costs, and a temporary authority was given him.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/3/1890

“*Re Joseph Jelley*, Cannock, licensed victualler.

The public examination of this debtor, who was described as late of the Old Fallow Inn, Cannock, and lately residing at the RED LION INN, Walsall, took place at Walsall Bankruptcy Court, yesterday, before Mr. Registrar Clarke, Mr. E. Evans attending in the debtors' behalf. The financial statement showed liabilities of £148 0s 11d, and assets £1 5s.

In the course of the examination by the Official Receiver, the debtor said he was a sett-maker at quarries until 1885, when he took the RED LION INN, Park Street, Walsall, borrowing £130 to enable him to do so. He left there in October, 1888, and then took the Old Fallow Inn from Messrs. Blencowe. There he remained until the day when his petition was filed, when he gave up possession to Messrs. Blencowe. He had never been solvent since he began business, and had sold his furniture to pay for beer.

The examination was adjourned until the 16th April.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses *Thomas C. Cooper*, RED LION, Park Street. Refused.”

1891 Census

69, Park Street

[1] Claude A. Cooper (26), actor, born Melbourne, Australia;

[2] John Devins (23), barman, born Cornwall;

[3] Henry Wilson (23), barman, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 25/6/1892

“Charles Reynolds, Station Street, William Fincher, Field Gate, and Edward Hawkins, Thorpe Road, were summoned, the latter two for assaulting Harry Cooper, of the RED LION INN, Park Street, and Reynolds for being disorderly on the premises. Mr. H. H. Jackson prosecuted, and Mr. R. W. Gillespie defended.

The complainant said that Fincher and Reynolds were in his house on the evening in question, and wanted to bet witness that they would bring a pony into the place. Witness said he would not have it, but Reynolds went away, and in a short time returned with a pony, which he brought into the smoke room. The pony began to rear, and cause great disorder. Witness ordered the pony to be taken away, but Fincher encouraged Reynolds not to do so. Witness ordered Fincher out, and the latter struck him, after which he got him outside. Hawkins then came on the scene and belaboured the witness with an umbrella. Everything was quiet and orderly until the pony came in.

The defence was that the pony was taken out when complainant ordered, and that there was no disorder.

Fincher was fined 5s and costs, Hawkins was ordered to pay the costs, and the other cases dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/1/1893

“At the Guildhall yesterday, Mr. H. H. Jackson, on behalf of Mr. *C. Cooper*, the RED LION, Park Street, applied for a music, singing, and dancing license on Wednesday evenings from 8 till 10.30. He explained that the Black Hawk Minstrels, of which the applicant was a member, wished to practice at the house, and would have a room set apart for them which would be practically private, the general public not being admitted.

The Chief Constable said that the other applications of a like nature had already been refused. In the event of a license being granted there would be nothing to prevent the room being thrown open to the general public if the landlord was so disposed.

The Magistrates' Clerk made a similar statement, and the Bench refused the application.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/8/1894

“A meeting of the creditors of *Claude Hammond Cooper* and Harry Courtin Cooper, carrying on business in co-partnership at

the RED LION INN, 69, Park Street, Walsall, and subsequently at St. George's Hall, Walsall, as licensed victuallers was held on Wednesday at the Official Receiver's office. Mr. Enoch Evans appeared for the bankrupts. The statement of affairs showed gross liabilities £620 9s and assets £62, leaving a deficiency of £557 9s.

The Official Receiver in his observations stated: Prior to June, 1890, the bankrupt, *Claude Hammond Cooper*, followed his profession as an actor. In June, 1890, he went to manage the RED LION INN, Park Street, Walsall, for his father. In December, 1891, the father died, and the bankrupt *Claude Hammond Cooper*, was then joined by his brother, the other bankrupt, Harry Courtin Cooper, in partnership. He, prior to that date, had followed the profession of a vocalist at Naples. The father left a will bequeathing his estate to his four children. The bankrupts took the RED LION INN, with the goodwill and the utensils and stock as their share of their father's estate. It is a tied house, and was held under lease at a rent of £82 10s, but this amount was increased to £95 10s, in consideration of money spent on the house by the lessors. No fresh lease was executed when the bankrupts took the business over, nor any assignment of the one under which the father held the house. The bankrupts continued trading as licensed victuallers at the RED LION up to the time they filed this petition. In February, 1893, they took the refreshment bars at St. George's Hall, Walsall. They gave these up in May last, as they found they did not pay. On June 29 last, the bankrupts were served with a writ for £32, and 3 July they consulted their solicitor, who advised them to file their petition, which they decided to do. On the 6 July Mr. *Claude Cooper* called upon the landlords, Messrs. Robinson and Co, of Burton, and explained to them the position he and his brother were in. The landlords then gave him a warrant to distrain for £95 10s, a year's rent then due, and asked him to take it to Walsall and give to a bailiff to distrain. This he did, and the distress was levied on the 7 July. The landlord would not withdraw, as I did not guarantee the rent distrained for, and his bailiff is still in possession. On the 3 July an execution was levied on the partnership effects for £19 14s and paid out the same day. I am of opinion that an act of bankruptcy has been committed before the distress and that therefore the landlords were only entitled to distrain for half a year's rent. I am in negotiation with them as to this. The bankrupts attributed their insolvency to bad trade, loss from flood in the cellars, and heavy expenses in connection with the business. The only books they have are a day book and an incomplete cash book. The latter has not been kept for the last six months. The partnership deficiency is accounted as follows:

Net profit from business since July, 1903, £52; present deficiency, £557 9s, total, £609 9s; excess of liabilities over assets 14th July, 1893, £200; households expenses, £208; loss through bars at St. George's Hall, £105; loss through floods in wine cellars, £51 9s; cash paid to solicitor, £13; difference between cost and present and estimated value of assets, exceeding £32; total £609 9s. An amount of £21 included in the unsecured creditors of the private estate of *Claude Hammond Cooper* is this bankrupt's liability upon a guarantee given jointly with another person to secure a friend's banking account. This bankrupt accounts for the deficiency upon his private estate by the amount due under guarantee, £21; amount paid under the same during the past 12 months, £10 17s; total, £31 17s. The bankrupt, Harry Courtin Cooper, accounts for his deficit by the bad debts £4 4s 9d. The public examination was adjourned till to-day (Saturday)."

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

"The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

Transfer of the license of the RED LION, Park Street, from the Official Receiver to *Edmund Nagington* was confirmed."

Demolished

It was rebuilt in 1896.

Charles Henry John Marshall – see also RED LION, Bloxwich.

Walsall Advertiser 12/1/1901

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held at the house of Mr. Thomas Arrowsmith, NAGS HEAD, Upper Rushall Street.....

Mr. *Christopher Keeling*, RED LION HOTEL, Park Street, was elected a member of the society."

1901 Census

69, Park Street

[1] *Christopher Keeling* (37), licensed victualler, born Harborne;

[2] *Jessie Keeling* (39), wife, born Newcastle under Lyme;

[3] *Essie Watson* (19), niece, born Newcastle under Lyme;

[4] *William Sutton* (21), barman, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1901

"Mr. F. Bill applied for the license of the RED LION, Park Street, to be transferred to the widow of George [sic] *Keeling*. Granted."

Walsall Advertiser 5/10/1901

"*Jessie Keeling*, of the RED LION INN, Park Street, was summoned for assaulting *Ada Cole*, of 14, Long Street, on September 28. Mr. J. Armstrong prosecuted, and Mr. E. Evans defended.

Complainant said that she went to the RED LION on Saturday night at ten after eleven for her brother. Witness was first of all told he was not in the house, but he came up afterwards. Witness asked him to come home, and told him that a public-house was not a fit place for him after eleven o'clock at night. Upon that the defendant came up and told complainant that she would soon settle her, catching hold of her by the throat, and shaking her.

Cross-examined by Mr. Evans witness said that her brother has slept at the RED LION INN several times. Kate Littler said she was in company with the last witness when she went to the RED LION on Saturday but she was put out of the house. She, however, saw the defendant catch hold of the complainant by the throat and shake her. For the defence it was denied that there was any assault. The complainant's brother was courting the defendant's daughter and when the complainant came to the house she caused a disturbance. Christopher Cole (brother of the complainant) said that he was staying at the RED LION until he could get apartments. He denied his sister was assaulted. The Bench imposed a fine of 5s and costs."

Albert Hibell = Albert Hubbell = Albert Hivell

John Harry Brown – see also PRINCE, NEW INN, NEW STATION, THREE CUPS.

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

"Applications for transfer of licenses were heard in the Walsall Guildhall on Tuesday..... Mr. S. Grundy Newman applied for a transfer from *John Harry Brown* to *Frank Cocken* in respect of the RED LION, Park Street. The Chairman remarked that there had been six transfers since 1900 in connection with the RED LION. He asked Mr. Grundy Newman what was the explanation. Mr. Grundy Newman: I suppose the usual things happen – servants are promoted. The Chairman said his experience was that men did not want to stop in the places that did not pay. Mr. Newman remarked that that could not apply in this case. The Chairman said there should be some explanation when the houses changed hands as often as that. Mr. Newman: The only explanation I can give is that the servants have been promoted. The Chief Constable said the applicant was a respectable man. The application was granted."

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910

"The members of the Walsall District United Past Masters' Lodge, National Order of Free Gardeners, held their fourth annual dinner at the RED LION, Park Street, on Thursday evening, when about thirty sat down to a capital spread served up by the host and hostess *Cocken*. The chair was taken by Bro. W. Hobbins....."

1911 Census

69, Park Street

[1] *Frank Cocken* (26), hotel manager, born Walsall;

[2] *Beatrice Cocken* (24), wife, married 5 years, assistant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1912

"Mr. W. Bayliss presided at the adjourned Licensing session on Tuesday..... Mr. Jackson also applied for the transfer of the RED LION, Park Street, from *Frank Cocken* to *William Cyrus Hodges*, and in further discussion in the matter of agreements, Mr. Jackson said the ingoing tenant was only a manager and he was risking nothing. The Magistrates' Clerk replied that the Bench asked him to bring these points before them so that they could express their opinion upon them. The Magistrates' Clerk made some further remarks as to the determining of managers' licenses and Mr. Jackson argued that surely he was the person who ought to have the power to determine the engagement of clerks. The Magistrates' Clerk replied that the Bench could not take that question in the same light as clerks' agreements; they were engaged with licenses. Mr. Jackson: He is the servant of the company. – Mr. Loxton: Then you raise a very serious question which undoubtedly will have to be raised some time; that is how far their servants can hold licenses. Mr. Jackson remarked that he did not want to raise the point and he was not speaking with any disrespect for their Worships, but he questioned how far the Magistrates could go into all these points. Mr. Loxton: Hadn't you better raise it? – Mr. Jackson: I don't want to raise it. It takes money to settle all these points of law. I want to meet the Magistrates as far as I can..... The Magistrates retired and on their return into Court the Chairman said: the whole of the licenses are granted subject to the amendments being made."

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1915 - Advert

"Wanted, good strong General, age about 24; good references essential. *Hodges*, RED LION, Park Street, Walsall."

Birmingham Daily Post 1/12/1915

"Charlotte Williams (25), barmaid, was charged at Walsall, yesterday with stealing a quantity of lace and ribbon, a linen cloth, a sugar bowl, and other property, of the value of £2, and also a 10s Treasury note, belonging to *Ann Maud Hodges*, licensee of the RED LION INN, Park Street. Prosecutrix stated that accused had been employed by her for six or seven weeks. During the last month she had missed the articles mentioned in the charge and also money.

The accused when spoke to denied any knowledge of the matter, but on Wednesday night Detective-sergeant Burrell was called in, and found the missing property in her box. He also discovered a bag of coppers, three sovereigns, and the 10s note which had been missed from the cash register.

Accused now admitted having taken the articles found in her box, but denied having stolen any money.

Chief Constable Thomson said it was alleged that accused had committed thefts at another public-house in Walsall where she had been employed. In that instance, however, no proceedings were taken.

The accused was placed on probation for twelve months, on promising to go into a home and stay there.”

Walsall Observer 1/9/1917 - Roll of Honour - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of my dear husband, Private Henry Wilson, late of 131, Moat Road, for some years barman at the RED LION, Park Street, who was killed in action on August 26th, 1915.

Duty called him, and he was there.

To do his bit, his spirit brave.

His resting place is a hero's grave.

Fondly remembered by Wife and Children.”

Thomas Purton Cole was also the auditor for the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Provident Society. [1934]

Walsall Observer 7/1/1939 - Advert

“1938 Morris 8 for sale, in perfect condition.

RED LION, Park Street.”

1939 Register

69, Park Street

[1] *Thomas P. Cole*, date of birth 27/3/1887, manager licensed house, married;

[2] *Jane Cole*, dob 2/11/1885, manageress licensed house, housewife, married;

[3] *Raymond T. Cole*, dob 3/11/1915, piano and furniture dealer, single;

[4] *Mary V. (Cole) Jennings*, dob 22/7/1920, hairdresser, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

RED LION, Park Street, £8 8s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 10/5/1941

“Well-known for many years as a licensee in Walsall and Birmingham, Mr. *John Harry Brown* died on Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Cronin, of the FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, with whom he had resided since he retired about eight years ago. He was in his 79th year, and had been ill for about a month.

Eldest son of John Brown, a well-known Walsall cricketer, who for twelve years headed the town club's batting averages (and who had at times played with or against some of the most famous men of his time, including the Graces, Parr, Minn and Daft), the late Mr. *Brown* himself, like several of his brothers, took an active part in the game and assisted the town club.

He left the currying trade to take his first licensed house, the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street, and among other Walsall licenses he held were those of the NEW INNS and the CUPS HOTEL, Park Street. He had been at the latter before his retirement and it was while he was there that his wife died eleven years ago. He had been a member of both the Walsall and Birmingham licensed victuallers' societies. He leaves six sons and a daughter. The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery on Thursday.”

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

RED LION HOTEL, Park Street (Third donation). £0 19s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Cole*, RED LION, Park Street. £1 1s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

RED LION, Park Street. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the

more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

There were six summons against the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, Park Brewery, Wolverhampton, in respect of the FORGE INN, Pleck Road; RISING SUN, Green Lane; RED LION, Park Street; BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich Road; BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore; and HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane; and the managers of those houses, William Allport, Joseph Thomas Astbury, *Thomas Purton Cole*, Constance Mary Horton, Cyril Vernon Sleigh (now of Stafford Street), and Arthur Abraham Canning for aiding and abetting.

Mr. Cooper appeared for the brewery company and stated that it would be unfair and unjust if they were made to pay double the penalty imposed on the managers, as in the preceding cases, seeing that they had given specific instructions to all their managers that regulations must be strictly complied with and if they could not get sufficient coal for their purposes they should apply to the local Fuel Overseer for permits for extra supplies.

'I regard it as somewhat ungenerous on the part of Mr. Cooper to try to throw the blame on the poor managers,' said Mr. Hodgkinson, who pointed out that all the profits from the houses went to the brewery company and that the coal was not used for their own benefit but for the benefit of the public.

In these cases the brewery company was fined 10s in each case, and the other defendants £1 each except Horton who was ordered to pay £2."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

RED LION INN, Park Street. £0 10s 6d."

Lichfield Mercury 6/1/1950

"The formation of the new Walsall and District Cricket League will be decided upon at a meeting to be held at the RED LION, Park Street, Walsall, on Tuesday next at 7.45pm. The organiser is Mr. R. P. Mycock of 28, Coronation Road, Walsall Wood, and we understand that many clubs have signified their intention of joining the league."

Graham Owen Green was fined £15 plus £10 10s 0d Advocates fee for permitting his premises to be used for the purposes of betting, £15 for aiding and abetting William Tombs to use his premises for betting, and £3 for permitting public singing and music after hours, on 30th June 1958.

[2017]

REFRESHMENT ROOM

Walsall Railway Station, 25, Bradford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

London and North Western Railway Co.

LICENSEES

E W Fenton [pre 1859]

George H Wilkinson [1859] – **1865**);

James Wilkinson (**1865** – [1873];

Henry Taylor [1881] – **189**_);

Arthur Fitzroy Waters (**189**_ – **1910**);

Robert Herbert Glasspool (**1910** – **1915**);

James Bishop (**1915** – **1922**);

Samuel Walter Burleigh (**1922** – **1926**);

Robert Christopher Irwin (**1926** – **1927**);

Frederick George Evans (**1927** – **1929**);

Owen Glynne Roberts (**1929** – **1933**);

NOTES

It had a six-day license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/7/1855 - Advert

“South Staffordshire Railway. Tenders For Refreshment Rooms at Walsall Station.

Licensed Victuallers, and other persons, wishing to Tender for the supply of Ales, Wines, Spirits, and other Refreshments at the Walsall Station, on the South Staffordshire Railway, may obtain full particulars, with printed form of Tenders, and condition of tenancy, on application by letter, to J. D. Payne, General Manager, Walsall.

July 7th, 1855.

All Tenders must be sent in on or before the 1st of August next.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/8/1855

“The general annual licensing meeting is fixed for the 27th inst, and there are 27 fresh applications, including an application for the refreshment room at Walsall Station of the South Staffordshire Railway. We understand the Board of Inland Revenue have granted permission to open the rooms forthwith.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/2/1859 - Advert

“South Staffordshire Railway Refreshment Rooms.

George H. Wilkinson, for two years Lessee of the Dudley and Dudley Port Stations Refreshment Rooms, takes this opportunity of informing his Friends and the Public that in addition to the above he has now also become Lessee of the Walsall REFRESHMENT ROOMS, formerly conducted by Mr. *E. W. Fenton*.

G. H. W. assures the Public that at these different Establishments every accommodation shall be afforded.

First-class Wines, Spirits, Ales, &c, at moderate charges.

RAILWAY WINE VAULTS, Market Place, Dudley.”

Walsall Free Press 24/6/1865

“The following licenses were transferred.....

REFRESHMENT ROOMS, Railway Station, from the executors of the late *G. H. Wilkinson* to *James Wilkinson*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/9/1866

“Hezekiah Simmonds, a commission agent carrying on business at Birmingham and living at Birchills, was sentenced to one months' imprisonment for having assaulted Eliza Ann Sharman, one of the attendants at the refreshment-room at the Walsall Railway Station. The defendant did not appear. On the evening of the 20th ultimo the defendant and Mr. N. B. Jackson, solicitor, went into the first-class refreshment-room at the station, and rang the bell so violently that the complainant had to remonstrate with them and take the bell away. The defendant then reached over the counter, seized complainant round the wrist and attempted to draw her towards him, but she got away from him, and reproved him for his unbecoming conduct. Both the defendant and his companion then addressed her with gross and abusive language.”

1871 Census

25, Bradford Street

[1] *James Wilkinson* (31), wine and spirit merchant, born Dudley;

[2] Eliza A. Sharman (25), lodger, barmaid, born Kidderminster;

[3] Maria Sharman (22), lodger, barmaid, born Kidderminster;

[4] Martha Nicholls (14), lodger, barmaid, born Wednesbury;

[5] Harriet Dudley (19), domestic servant, born Dudley:

Walsall Free Press 24/5/1873

“On Monday last, during a cricket game between Birmingham and Walsall Cricket Clubs, Mr. *Wilkinson*, of the refreshment rooms at the Walsall Railway Station, who was in the Walsall team, by a singular accident in turning suddenly, jerked his leg and fractured the patella of his left leg.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

The Bench granted the following application for licenses to be assessed at one-third the maximum for compensation purposes, the licenses being auxiliary to other businesses.

By Mr. Smith, in regard of the London and North Western Railway Company's refreshment rooms.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“The case against a lad named Samuel Forester (15), of Reeds Wood Lane, who was last week remanded to the Workhouse on a charge of breaking and entering the L&NWR refreshment room on the station last week, was again brought up. The Chief Constable said it was a case for a reformatory school, as the boy was too old to be sent to an industrial school. The Bench ordered the boy to be sent to a reformatory school until he was 19 years of age.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/4/1913

“Mr. Mason applied on behalf of the London and North Western Railway for the sanction of the Magistrates to an alteration in the Refreshment Rooms at Walsall Station. The kitchen it was explained, was below ground level, was windowless and very inconvenient. It had been considered necessary to bring the kitchen up to ground level, and while they were doing so they thought it

advisable to make a small dining room. The accommodation before was hardly worthy of the town of Walsall. It was a matter entirely of the convenience of the public.
The application was granted.”

Walsall Observer 2/1/1915 - Advert

“Respectable boy, aged about 16 wanted.
Apply, Manageress, Refreshment Rooms, Walsall Station.”

It closed on 22nd May 1933.

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/6/1933

“The question of the closing of the refreshment rooms at the Walsall Railway Station has been under the consideration of the Walsall General Purposes Committee this week. It was reported in reply to a resolution of the Town Council that light refreshments should still be available to the general public at the railway station, the Company had replied that owing to a lack of patronage they had to be closed, and it was not possible to provide curtailed facilities. The Town Clerk was instructed to write again to the Company, pointing out that provision ought to be made by the Company for the supply of refreshments in the booking hall, or alternatively that they should allow some private caterer to have an opportunity to supply such refreshments.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/5/1934

“Walsall Chamber of Commerce.....

It was reported by Miss Verity (secretary) that the L.M.S. Rly. Co. had intimated that it could not entertain the idea of re-opening the refreshment room at the Walsall railway station, but that the question of letting the rights to sell refreshments there would be a consideration.”

RESTAURANT HOTEL

14, (66), (Upper) Bridge Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Francis W. Yates, Great Barr
Walsall Corporation (acquired on 25th September 1911)

LICENSEES

Egbert John Lambley [1871] – [1872];
Henry Walter Taylor [];
John George Parkes [];
John William Hildick [1881];
Charlotte Louise (Hildick) Griffiths [] – **1889**);
Elijah G Watkins (**1889 – 1897**);
William Albert Smith (**1897**);
Percy Claridge (**1897 – 1911**);
William John Hickman (**1911 – 1913**);
Betsy Jane Dexter Hickman (**1913 – 1928**);
Charles Frederick Godfrey (**1928 – []**)

NOTES

66, Bridge Street [1871]
66, Upper Bridge Street [1881]
14, Bridge Street [1911]

It had a wine license.

It was an eating house.

1871 Census

66, Bridge Street

- [1] *Egbert J. Lambley* (28), restaurant keeper, born Bath;
[2] *Frances Lambley* (43), wife, born Chard, Somerset;
[3] *Catherine Sturges* (28), waitress, born Wolverhampton;
[4] *Althea Jones* (18), cook, born Wyrley, Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 22/2/1873

“On Tuesday evening a meeting of the Hame Manufacturers’ Association was held at the RESTAURANT, Bridge Street. A lengthened discussion ensued in reference to the advance in the price of iron and coal, and the injurious effects which the advance in the price of raw materials was having upon the trade.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/5/1873 - Advert

“Shopwoman. A trustworthy business Person Wanted. No Sunday trade.
Lambley’s RESTAURANT, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

1881 Census

66, Upper Bridge Street

- [1] *John W. Hildick* (37), restaurant proprietor, born Walsall;
[2] *Charlotte L. Hildick* (32), wife, born Aldridge;
[3] *Francis Johnson* (25), cook, born Walsall;
[4] *Mary Pitchford* (21), house maid, born Oakengates, Shropshire:

It was described as a Refreshment House in the licensing register beginning in 1882.

John William Hildick died in the 1st quarter of 1884.

Charlotte Louisa Hildick married *Stephen Griffiths* on 10th June 1885.

Birmingham Daily Post 28/4/1890 - Advert

“Cook (good plain) Wanted.
Apply, *Watkins’s* RESTAURANT, 66, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/5/1890

“On Tuesday evening, the members of the Ambulance Corps connected with our local volunteers were invited to supper at the RESTAURANT, Bridge Street....”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/1/1891 - Advert

“Waitress Wanted, at once.
Apply, *Watkin’s* RESTAURANT, 66, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

1891 Census

14, Bridge Street

- [1] *Elijah Watkins* (35), restaurant keeper, born Heldon, Northamptonshire;
[2] *Ellen Watkins* (34), wife, born Bromley, London;
[3] *Vivian Watkins* (6 months), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] *Joseph E. Birch* (32), boarder, book binder, born Burslem, Staffordshire;
[5] *Flossie Needham* (16), boarder, born Luton;
[6] *John Harrold* (23), boarder, draper, born Scotland;
[7] *Elsie A. Harrold* (24), boarder, born Howley, Shropshire;
[8] *Annie Young* (19), barmaid, born Staffordshire;
[9] *Annie Edwards* (26), cook, born Wednesbury;
[10] *May Jones* (23), cook, born Dudley;
[11] *Lizzie Penson* (18), kitchenmaid, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 23/7/1892

“Walsall Cottage Hospital.

List of Workmen’s Collections received by Treasurer in 1892, up to July 16th.....

The RESTAURANT, Bridge Street. 1s ¼d.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1892

“The third annual meet of Walsall cyclists took place on Saturday last, and on the whole proved a very great success. The weather, unfortunately was not all that could be desired, and marred somewhat the enjoyment of the wheelmen. As usual, the muster took place at the Midland Goods Yard, and a large number of spectators assembled to witness the start, while the thoroughfares through which the riders were to pass were thronged by dense crowds.....

[About 220 riders set off shortly after 3pm and reached Lichfield shortly after 4pm where they had tea, speeches and prizes.]

The return journey was commenced at about half-past seven, but the home-coming was marred by a thunderstorm, which broke up the procession, and spoiled what would have proved a good entry into the town. The first batch arrived some time before nine o'clock, but it was quite ten o'clock before all had arrived.....

On Wednesday the officers of the meet and the joint committee supped together at *Watkins's* RESTAURANT, Bridge Street.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/11/1893 - Advert

“Wanted, at once, young Lady as Barmaid.

Apply, *Watkins's* RESTAURANT, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/10/1894 - Advert

“*Watkins's* RESTAURANT, 14, Bridge Street, Walsall.

Dinners from 12.30 to 2.30 daily.

E. G. Watkins, Proprietor.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against. Beer Retailers.....

Elijah Watkins, The RESTAURANT, Bridge Street, May 27th, 1896, supplying a drunken person, fined 10s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/9/1896

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday, before the Mayor (Councillor J. Noake), and Messrs. B. Beebee, S. Russell, and E. J. Shaw.....

Mr. Jackson also applied for the renewal of the license of *Elijah Watkins*, the RESTAURANT, Bridge Street.

The Chief Constable stated that Mr. *Watkins* was convicted in May last for supplying beer to drunken persons, the evidence for the defence was that the person in charge of the bar had no view of the whole premises. He now suggested that a sheet of plain glass be let into a screen, which at present shut off a portion of the second room.

Mr. Jackson said that the house was much used by business gentlemen, and if the screen were removed they would be seriously inconvenienced. The arrangement of mirrors was adequate to place the whole of the two rooms under complete surveillance, and if the screen were removed Mr. *Watkin's* trade would be practically ruined.

Mr. Taylor said he did not require the whole of the screen to be removed, and the Clerk (Mr. Loxton) said he was sure the matter would not be pressed, but in the case of further proceedings Mr. Jackson would not be able to set up the same defence again.

Mr. Jackson: I won't (laughter).

The Bench renewed the license.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/1/1897

The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *W. A. Smith*, the RESTAURANT, Bridge Street, Walsall, was elected member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/1/1898

“Yesterday, at the Guildhall.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson made application on behalf of Mr. *Percy Claridge*, of the RESTAURANT, Bridge Street, for sanction to plans for carrying out certain alterations. The plans provided for an increased bedroom accommodation by taking in rooms from the next house..... The Bench granted the whole of the applications with the exception of the one by Mr. *Claridge*, and said they could not see their way to allow that.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1900

“The presence of Imperial Yeomen in the town on Thursday, in their new Khaki and slouch hats (colonial style) was somewhat of a novelty, and in the evening three of them were entertained to a complimentary dinner at the RESTAURANT, Bridge Street, by a number of friends. The party mustered about 40, and a capital repast was served by Mr. and Mrs. *Claridge*, and thoroughly enjoyed.....”

Walsall Advertiser 14/7/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... *Percy Claridge*, the RESTAURANT, Bridge Street.”

1901 Census

14, Bridge Street

[1] *Percy Claridge* (30), restaurant keeper, born Coventry;

[2] *Ada Claridge* (30), wife, born Leamington;

[3] *Victor Claridge* (7), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Edith Hann* (21), barmaid, born Dudley Port;

[5] *Rose Pries* (20), waitress, born Bewdley;

[6] Emma Robinson (53), widow, cook, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 24/11/1906

“A refiner named Fred. Ingram (26), 17, Moseley Street, Birmingham, was brought up on a warrant charged with unlawfully obtaining the sum of 8s from Ada May *Claridge* with intent to defraud on the 23rd ult.

The Chief Constable explained that last month prisoner went to Mr. *Claridge*'s RESTAURANT in Bridge Street and obtained from Mrs. *Claridge* 8s, stating that some cleaning polish had been ordered by the master. He had evaded his arrest for a month, but was finally apprehended in Birmingham. In his possession he had bill-heads on which addresses were given as Manchester, Sutton near Rochdale, Blackpool, and two in Walsall. He asked for a remand to get to know something about the prisoner.

Prisoner: I don't want to be remanded. If I am not an honest business man I will consent to have my photograph in the papers (laughter).

Mr. Loxton: The magistrates are not photographers.

Mrs. *Claridge* was then called, and gave evidence to the effect that on the date in question prisoner came to the restaurant and brought some metal polish, which he said Mr. *Claridge* had ordered. She went to find her husband to ascertain if this statement was correct, but he was out, and after keeping prisoner for about half an hour, she paid him the 8s.

Mr. *Claridge* said he had never ordered any stuff from prisoner. He had never seen him before in his life.

Prisoner was remanded in custody for a week. He asked for bail but the Chief Constable objected.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1908 - Advert

“T. Boulter & Son, Shire Oak (Near Walsall), Brewers, Maltsters, Spirit & Hop Merchants.

Noted Home-Brewed Ales And Stouts.

Guaranteed Brewed From Pure Malt and Hops Only.

The SHIRE OAK INN, which is within ten minute's walk of Walsall Tramway terminus at Walsall Wood, has been thoroughly renovated, and an excellent Bowling Green put down.

An Entirely New And Up-To-Date Brewing Plant has been installed, ensuring that our Ales and Stouts are of the finest possible quality.

Our Ales are to obtained at the MINERS ARMS, Rushall.

FOUR CROSSES, Sheffield.

The RESTAURANT, Bridge Street, Walsall (Mr. *P. Claridge*'s).

THE STORES, Freer Street, Walsall.

The Swan, Stonnall.”

1911 Census

14, Bridge Street

[1] *Percy Claridge* (40), coal and beer merchant, born Coventry;

[2] Ada Mary *Claridge* (40), wife, married 19 years, assisting in business, born Leamington;

[3] Lionel Victor *Claridge* (17), son, apprentice to engineering, born Walsall;

[4] June Kate *Claridge* (10), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Jack Vernon *Claridge* (7), son, born Walsall;

[6] Edgar *Claridge* (5), son, born Walsall;

[7] Arthur Walter *Claridge* (3), son, born Walsall;

[8] Lucy Jefferey (22), servant, born Cannock;

[9] Jack Emmanuel My___ (25), servant, born Walsall:

W. J. Hickman = J. W. Hickman

Walsall Advertiser 18/11/1911

“The fifty-ninth annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New members..... Mr. *J. W. Hickman*, The RESTAURANT, Bridge Street.”

Walsall Observer 9/6/1917 - Deaths

“On June 2nd, Winifred Hilda Tranter, eldest daughter of Mrs. *Hickman*, the RESTAURANT, Bridge Street.

Her end was peace. No cards.

Mrs. *Hickman* and Daughter wish to thank all friends for sympathy expressed, and for floral tributes.”

South Staffordshire Times 3/9/1921

“At Walsall Police Court, on Wednesday, *Betsy Jane D. Hickman*, of The RESTAURANT, Lower Bridge Street, was summoned for selling intoxicating liquor during part of the time the licensed premises were required to be closed; and failing to admit the police when demanding to enter licensed premises; and against Michael Jones, Sandwell Street, and Harry Norman Houghton, South Street, for having been found on the licensed premises during part of the period when they were required to be closed. Mr. H. L. Lester defended. Evidence given by Inspector Lloyd showed that at 12.15am on Wednesday last he went to the restaurant, and on looking through the window saw the barmaid sitting at the far end of the bar, apparently she was talking to someone, and witness could hear the voices of two men. Witness knocked the door loudly and shouted ‘Police,’ but no one came to the door.

About five minutes later witness saw the barmaid creep quietly up some stairs leading from the bar into the passage, and later the two men followed up the stairs in similar fashion. Witness continued to knock the door for about a quarter of an hour, and Mrs. *Hickman* came to the front door and opened it. When asked why the door had not been opened before, Mrs. *Hickman* said she had been upstairs and had not heard the knocking. Witness told Mrs. *Hickman* he had seen two men on the premises, she replied that they had come to see the servant. On going to the underground kitchen witness saw two men and the servant - a girl named Bruce, of Pelsall - and on speaking to the men, Jones said, 'We have been invited here. We have been having a convivial evening with Bertha (the servant) before she gets married next week.'

Witness made enquiries and found there was no truth with regard to the girl getting married. On looking round the bar, where the two men had been sitting, witness found two empty stout bottles. After a private consultation Mrs. *Hickman* was cautioned on the first summons, which was dismissed, and fined 40s for failing to admit the police, and Jones and Houghton were each fined 20s."

[1924]

REVOLUTION VODKA BAR

Bridge House, Bridge Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[2005]

[2012]

RING OF BELLS

22, Hill Street, (Big Hill), WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. M. Collins, Green Bank, Birchfields
Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd.

John Stanton

E. Rowland, Cannon Street, Walsall

LICENSEES

Thomas Osbourne [1846] – [1853]

John Fleming [1858] – [1870]

William Jacombs [1871] – []

John Stanton [1881];

Arthur George Rawlings [];

Charles Henry Worley [] – **1886**;

Frank Blakemore (**1886 – 1888**);

Thomas Blackham (**1888**);

John Brown Walker (**1888 – 1894**);

Simeon Heath Jnr. (**1894 – 1897**);

Frank Hutchings (**1897 – 1898**);

NOTES

OLD RING OF BELLS [1856], [1891]

It had a beerhouse license.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/2/1846

“On Monday evening last George Holden of Walsall and Robert Smith of Stafford entered into articles at Mr. Omer Stokes’s, the LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS, Wisemoor, at the latter place, to fight on Monday, the 30th of March, for £100. £10 a side were placed in Mr. Stokes’s hands, and the remaining deposits are to be made as follows: Feb 23, £10 a side, at Mr. William Heath’s, the Prince Albert, Friars Street, Stafford; March 2, £10 a side at Wm. Ridding’s, the SPORTSMAN, Bloxwich Road, Walsall; March 9, £10 a side, at Wm. Winkles’s, the Castle, Hospital Street, Birmingham; and March 16, £10 a side, at *Thomas Osbourne’s*, the RING OF BELLS, Big Hill, Walsall. Neither man is to exceed 8st 9lb by eleven o’clock on the morning of fighting.”

[The ring was set up at various locations, but they were moved on. The fight took place two days later than planned and Holden won after 84 rounds.]

1851 Census

Hill Street

[1] *Thomas Osbourne* (43), spur maker, born Walsall;

[2] Harriet Osbourne (36), wife, born Pelsall;

[3] Ann Brown (18), servant, born Walsall;

[4] George Trawford (20), apprentice, born Walsall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 31/10/1852

“Burns and Jones. Mr. *Osborne*, of the RING OF BELLS, Walsall, has received £3 a side for this match for £15 a side, and a similar amount is to be forwarded to him next Tuesday. They run at Bloxwich on the 29th November, when Jones is to have four yards start.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/10/1853 - Deaths

“On the 6th instant, Mrs. *Osbourne*, aged 40, wife of Mr. *Osbourne*, landlord of the RING OF BELLS INN, Walsall.”

John Fleming = John Flemming

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 12/10/1856

“George Williams will run Charles Lawrence of Walsall 100 yards for £5 a side, or any sum he thinks proper; or he will run William Ward of the same place, the same distance, for £5 or £10 a side; or Joseph Johnson of Birmingham six score yards for the like amount. Either of these matches can be made at Mr. *John Fleming’s*, OLD RING OF BELLS, Walsall, any night next week.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 8/3/1857

“Pigeon Flying. John Buck of Walsall, having received forfeit from John Pen of Wednesbury, will fly his blue cock Goldfinger against John Charley of Westbromwich, 30, 40, or 50 miles on the London Road, for £10 or £15 a side, or he will fly the same pigeon against Mr. Wild’s or Mr. Brow’s of Birmingham, on the same terms, or any other within 10 miles of Walsall, to give and take time for the distance of flying, or each pigeon to be loosed the same distance from home. Money ready at Mr. *J. Fleming’s*, RING OF BELLS, Hill Street, or at Mr. Jas. Holden’s, MALT SHOVEL, New Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....

John Fleming, Hill Street. Refused.”

John Flemming, beerhouse, Hill Street. [1858]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 7/3/1858

“Gallant Contest between Henry Baylis and Daniel Keyte for £25 a side.

The contest between these men took place on Tuesday, and resulted in one of the gamest battles ever witnessed, the men in every round fighting in the most resolute and unflinching style. The combatants have not obtained any notable position among the celebrities of the P.R., Keyte making his debut, while his opponent has only had the advantage of contending some two or three times in the provinces for small stakes. Both our heroes are countrymen, hailing from the Hardware district, and the reason for bringing off the match in the London Ring was to ensure the contest being decided in a fair and honourable manner. In weight Baylis had considerable advantages over his opponent, being at least a stone the heavier, while Keyte was at least ten years his antagonist’s junior, he not being more than twenty-one. Baylis is a strong, powerful man, and about the nob bore the indication of some hard hitting. Keyte appeared to have taken the utmost care while in training to get himself in proper condition for the contest, and there can be no disputing that he was as well as a man could wish to be. Baylis was stated to be well up to the mark, but was not in anything like the superb fettle of his opponent. The ring on Tuesday was formed by the commissary on a well-known spot. The weather was intensely cold, and the ground covered with snow. The company was, perhaps, the most limited that was ever assembled at the ring’s side. Baylis, who lost the toss for corners, was seconded by Jemmy Welsh and John Grant, while Bill Hayes and Holden of Walsall did the polite for Keyte. By one o’clock the whole of the preliminaries had been adjusted.

No sooner had they put themselves into position than they went to work in the most resolute style, the counter-hitting being of the most desperate and telling description, and thus they fought until the round terminated in both going to grass. On being taken to their corners blood was claimed for Baylis, but on looking we found the 'ruby' was flowing from the nasal prominence of both, so that they were unquestionably equally entitled to the claim. In the ensuing rounds, ding dong was the order of the day. Severe and staggering exchanges, smashing and jaw-fixing counters, followed in quick succession; and what they lacked in artistic skill they made up for by the fearlessness of their attack, combined with their undaunted mettle. Both were lads of the truest feather, and certainly nothing in pugilistic doings could be more admirable than to see them, on the finish of every manly round, again coming up to renew the contest with increased ardour and determination. Every bout was right down hard two-handed fighting, the combatants, in some of the most spirited rallies we have ever witnessed, fighting in every part of the ring. Notwithstanding the game and courageous efforts of Baylis, he could not prevent his antagonist from taking a prominent lead; Keyte's superiority in youth appearing to rather qualify him for the wear and tear of this desperate encounter. So much had Keyte at one time got the battle in hand, that many round the ring, who are noted for being excellent judges, offered the odds of 2 to 1. Baylis unquestionably at this period of the battle was much distressed, and had it not been for the most careful nursing on the part of Welsh, seconded by his own indomitable pluck, he must have been vanquished. With bold and unyielding resolution, however, he kept still coming up at every fresh call of 'time', until at length he succeeded in turning the tide of battle in his favour. Keyte now wanted 'time', being in 'queer-street', and though his seconds did their utmost, they could not bring him round to himself. He, nevertheless, gallantly faced his opponent until the 64th and last round, when he received the finishing stroke by fairly being knocked out of time from a hit with the right: and thus terminated this rattling mill, occupying one hour and fifty minutes. Both men were, as may be imagined, heavily punished. Both the winner and the loser have, as boxers, gained the admiration of their friends, from whom they are entitled to every consideration. The money is to be given to Baylis, at Mr. *John Fleming's*, RING OF BELLS, Hill Street, Walsall, on Tuesday next."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/7/1858

"*John Fleming*, of the RING OF BELLS, Hill Street, Walsall, will fly a pigeon from Birmingham against John Birch for £10 a side, or will fly a bird from Weedon a home and home match, for £25 a side. Money ready any night next week at Mr. Osborne's, DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Windmill Street, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

"Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers' licenses.....
John Fleming, Hill Street, Walsall. Refused."

John Fleming, beer retailer, Hill Street. [1861]

1861 Census

22, Hill Street

- [1] *John Fleming* (35), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Fleming (34), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William Fleming (15), son, harness collar maker, born Walsall;
- [4] Harriet Fleming (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Mary Farnhill (20), visitor, born Meriday [Meriden?];
- [6] George Mole (20), visitor, tube socket maker, born Wednesbury;
- [7] Hannah Williams (22), visitor, brass dresser, born Walsall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 17/8/1862

"W. Springthorpe and C. Poley. These Walsall men continue to make good their various deposits for their 100 yards match, for £10 a side, which comes off at Aston Cross Grounds on Monday, Aug 25. A further deposit of £1 10s a side must be made at *Fleming's*, the RING OF BELLS, Walsall, on Monday, Aug 18, and the final on Saturday, Aug 23, at the final stakeholder's (Mr. Hawkes's), the THREE CUPS INN, Walsall."

John Fleming, retailer of beer, 22, Hill Street. [1862]

John Fleming, beer retailer, 22, Hill Street. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 23/6/1866

"Wm. Boston will give £6 10s to be run for in an All England 127 yards handicap on Wolverhampton Fair, Monday and Tuesday, July 9 and 10. First prize £5; second £1; third 10s. Entries of 1s and no acceptances, close on Monday, July 2. Entries to be made to Mr. Whiston, RED COW, Dudley Street; *Fleming's*, RING OF BELLS, Walsall; Rogers's CROSS KEYS, Bilston; Thompson's BUTCHERS ARMS, Tipton, or at the grounds."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/9/1866

"A match took place at Mr. *J. Flemming's* the RING OF BELLS, Walsall, on Aug 27, between Bishop's dog Ben and Foster's dog Billy, to destroy seven rats each, for £10. Bishop's dog destroyed his rats in forty-eight seconds, and Foster's dog in fifty-one seconds. The betting was 2 to 1 on Billy. The winning dog can be backed to destroy rats for pounds, once their weight, against any rough dog in England, for £5 or £10 a side. A match can be made any day at J. Smallwood's, the SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarren Street, Walsall."

Birmingham Daily Post 30/7/1868 - Died

“On the 25th inst, aged 44 years, Mr. *John Fleming*, of the OLD RING OF BELLS, Walsall; much respected.”

William Jacombs = William Jacobb

1871 Census

22, Hill Street – RING OF BELLS

- [1] *William Jacombs* (27), collar maker and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Harriet Jacombs* (21), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Samuel J. Jacombs* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Tierney* (14), domestic servant, born Walsall:

William Jacombs, beer retailer, 22, Hill Street. [1872]

William Jacombs was also a collar maker. [1880]

1881 Census

22, Hill Street – RING BELLS

- [1] *John Stanton* (41), harness maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ann Stanton* (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Caroline Stanton* (16), daughter, stitcher (saddler), born Walsall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Ann Stanton* (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *John Robert Stanton* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *John Stanton* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Fanny Stanton* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Alice Stanton* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] *Alfred Harry Stanton* (8 months), son, born Walsall:

Evening Express 11/11/1881

“*Eli Burns*, Hill Street, was charged with having, on Tuesday afternoon, assaulted *Ann Stanton*, landlady of the RING OF BELLS beerhouse, Church Hill, because he being in a state of intoxication, she refused to supply him with drink. He was fined 10s and costs, or twenty-one days’ imprisonment.”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1884

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions were held yesterday.....

the license of the RING OF BELLS, Hill Street, at present closed through the failure of the Cannock Brewery Company, Limited, who had had a lease of it, was temporarily granted to Mr. *Rollins*, Birmingham, agent for the owner.”

Charles Henry Worley was fined 10s and costs, on 14th April 1886, for selling liquor before 12.30 on a Sunday.

Birmingham Daily Post 21/1/1890 - Advert

“Beerhouse to Let, RING OF BELLS, Hill Street, Walsall. Valuable inventory, including brewing plant. In-going moderate.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/6/1890 - Advert

“Beerhouse (free) to Let, RING OF BELLS, Hill Street, Walsall. Apply, before 10am.”

1891 Census

22, Hill Street – OLD RING OF BELLS

- [1] *John B. Walker* (47), beerhouse keeper, born Lichfield;
- [2] *Mary Walker* (38), wife, born Jascell, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Alice Broadhurst* (16), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/7/1892 - Advert

“Free Beerhouse to Let. In-going moderate. Apply, at RING OF BELLS, Hill Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/8/1894 - Advert

“Free Beerhouse to Let; RING O’ BELLS, Hill Street, Walsall. Apply, RING O’ BELLS, Hill Street, Walsall.”

Simeon Heath Jnr., beer retailer, 22, Hill Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

“Mr. Whitlock, of Birmingham, said it had been his intention to make an application in respect of the RING OF BELLS, but after what had taken place with regard to the other application [LONDON BAR, High Street] he should not feel justified in inflicting himself upon the Bench. He had been in hopes that he might have induced them to come to the conclusion that the time had come when all had been sufficiently punished from the frauds of this man Everett, and that the various innocent people involved, including himself, might be allowed by the restoration of this license to get the advantage from the property which apparently could not be gained in any other way. They had done their best to fight out this interesting case, which had been raised by the Chief Constable, and had the pleasure of obtaining a decision at Stafford Quarter Sessions, and had paid very handsomely for it. He thought he was right in saying although there was plenty to be said against Everett, there was nothing whatever to be said against the conduct of any person who had held the license of the house, and he had been in the hopes that the license would be granted. Ultimately Mr. Whitlock agreed to make an application on Wednesday.”

AND

“The annual licensing meeting for the county borough of Walsall was held in the Guildhall on Wednesday forenoon.....

The Chief Constable gave notice of objection to the following licenses.....

The LONDON BAR, High Street, and the RING OF BELLS (both of which are closed) on the ground that the persons who last held the licenses were not the ‘real resident holders and occupiers’ of the houses, and that the licenses in consequence had become null and void held over for cause to be shown why they should be renewed.”

The application for a grant was refused on 6th June 1898, and was upheld on appeal.

It closed in 1898.

RISING SUN

46, Park Side, (46, Park Road), (46, Bullock Fold), (32, Little Green), (46, The Green), Short Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

John Plant, Wolverhampton Street, Bloxwich

J. E. Bealey Esq.

City Brewery Co. (Lichfield) Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Mason [1862] – [1872];

Mrs. Jane Mason [1881] – **1889**);

Joseph Robert Cole (**1889 – 189_**);

William Cox (**189_ – 1901**); [1891] – [1900]

Jonah Powell (**1901 – 1905**);

Charles Orgill (**1905 – 1913**):

NOTES

32, Little Green [1871]

46, The Green [1881]

46, Bullock Fold [1891]

46, Park Road [1901]

46, Park Side

It had a beerhouse license.

George Mason, retailer of beer, Bloxwich. [1862]

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/3/1864

“James Barton, was charged with having cut, with intent, Jesse Collier. The parties had been drinking together at the RISING SUN beerhouse, Bloxwich, and had quarrelled over a game of cards. Mr. *Mason*, the landlord of the house managed to part them, and got Collier out and conducted him about 15 yards on his way home. Afterwards he and the defendant met and fought, and in the course of the fight the prisoner struck complainant with a knife and nearly cut off his ear. The bench after hearing the evidence sentenced the prisoner, who received an excellent character from his employer, to a pay a fine of £5 including costs, or in default to be imprisoned for two months with hard labour.”

George Mason, beer retailer, The Green, Bloxwich. [1865], [1872]

George Mason, beer retailer, Bloxwich. [1868], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 19/2/1870

“*George Mason*, landlord of the RISING SUN, Bloxwich, for having on Monday night last, at 12.25, had his house open for the sale of beer. The charge having been proved by Police-constable Newbold. The defendant who had kept the house for nine years without any complaint having been preferred against him, was cautioned and discharged with paying costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/6/1870

“Matthew Silvey, a boatman, was charged with having burglariously entered the house of Mr. *G. Mason*, the RISING SUN beerhouse, Bloxwich, during the night of the previous Friday, and stolen therefrom copper and silver money to the amount of 10s. There was doubt in the case, of which the prisoner got the benefit and was discharged. He was convicted, however, of having, on the night of Sunday week broken into the dwelling house of Thos. Somerfield, awl blade maker, and stolen therefrom a pair of boots, which he was wearing at the time of his apprehension by Sergeant Martin. He was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment with hard labour on this charge.”

1871 Census

32, Little Green

[1] *George Mason* (47), beerhouse keeper, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;

[2] *Jane Mason* (49), wife, born Norton, Staffordshire;

[3] *Jane Cope* (26), boarder, born Essington, Staffordshire;

[4] *Martha Allen* (16), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;

[5] *George Whitehouse* (2), boarder, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/5/1873

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Trades’ Council took place on Tuesday evening at the RISING SUN, Bloxwich. A communication from the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades’ Congress, asking a contribution towards the objects of the committee, and another from the Labour Representation League asking the Council to take steps for the return of a working man’s representative to Parliament was referred to the Executive Committee. It was resolved to hold a demonstration on the second Monday in August, at some place yet to be fixed.”

1881 Census

46, The Green

[1] *Jane Mason* (58), widow, publican, born Essington;

[2] *Elizabeth Cope* (17), domestic servant, born Essington;

[3] *George Whitehouse* (12), nephew, born Bloxwich:

1891 Census

46, Bullock Fold – Public House

[1] *William Cox* (27), born Gloucestershire;

[2] *Mercy Cox* (26), wife, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;

[3] *Ann M. Cox* (3), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Charles Cox* (1), son, born Bloxwich:

William Cox, beer retailer, The Green, Bloxwich. [1896]

William Cox was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900, at the PARKFIELD TAVERN.

1901 Census

46, Park Road

[1] *William Cox* (37), publican, birthplace not known;

[2] *Harriet Cox* (30), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Amy Cox* (13), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Charley Cox* (11), son, born Bloxwich;

[5] *Alice Cox* (9), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[6] *Edith Cox* (7), daughter, born Bloxwich:

1911 Census

Bloxwich – RISING SUN

[1] *Charles Orgill*, (43), publican, born Mouse Hill, Pesall;

[2] *Annie Orgill* (43), wife, married 15 years, born Whittington, Lichfield;

[3] *Arthur Leonard Orgill* (14), son, caster’s help, lock and motor fittings manufacturer, born Mouse Hill, Pelsall;

[4] *Annie Orgill* (10), daughter, school, born Goscote, near Walsall;

[5] Charles Orgill (7), son, school, born Goscote, near Walsall:

Charles Orgill, beer retailer, 46, Park Road. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1912

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....
New Members..... *Charles Orgill*, RISING SUN, Park Lane, Bloxwich.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 7th February 1913.

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

The following were the notices of objection (Compensation Clause).....

NEW INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Hy. Mellor).

SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Jacob Williams).

NELSON, Church Street, Bloxwich. (Jos. Wall).

STAG, Field Street, Bloxwich. (Jane Tolley).

PLOUGH, Cemetery Road, (Charles Mansfield).

RISING SUN, Park Road, Bloxwich, (*Charles Orgill*).

STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, (Charles Ernest Perry).

BEEHIVE, New Street, Bloxwich, (Benjamin Hughes).”

AND

“The Court re-assembled yesterday (Friday) morning.....

RISING SUN, Park Road. Mr. H. H. Jackson also appeared in this case for the owners, the Lichfield City Brewery Company and the tenant Mr. *Charles Orgill*.

Inspector Pritchard stated that in Park Road there were two licensed houses. The house had been visited 16 times in ten weeks, and the customers averaged about five per visit.

In reply to Mr. Jackson witness said that the accommodation of the house was very good and quite fit for an on-license.

The tenant said he paid £18 per year rent, and all outgoings. He had occupied the house for seven years without complaint. He found it very necessary to carry on the occupation of pit banksman, but he did this also for the benefit of his health. Walking from Bloxwich to Norton there were no other licensed houses within four or five miles.....

Having retired, the Bench announced that the licenses of the STAG and the STORES would be renewed for this year, but might be considered at some future date. The remaining six houses would be referred to the compensation authorities.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/5/1913

“The principal meeting of the Compensation Authority for the Borough of Walsall was held on Tuesday morning at the Guildhall.....

The owner and licensee of the RISING SUN, Park Road, Bloxwich, the Lichfield Brewery Co, and Mr. *Charles Orgill* respectively, were represented by Mr. H. H. Jackson. The house was let at an annual rental of £18. The licensee worked as a pit-banksman, but could live on his licensed trade. The renewal of the license was refused.”

Compensation was paid.

It closed on 6th September 1913.

RISING SUN

30, Green Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

George Thornhill

William Middlebrook

Thomas Thornhill, Algernon Street, Walsall (later at 140, Wednesbury Road)

City Brewery Co. (Lichfield) Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1925]

LICENSEES

George Thornhill [1860] – [1865]

G Butler [1865]
George Thornhill [1868] – [1881]
William Middlebrook [1885] – **1895**);
David Noake (**1895 – 1925**);
Frederick Lord (**1925 – 1929**);
Ernest Heath (**1929 – []**)
Thomas Cleobury [1939] – [1940]
Cyril Vernon Sleigh [1941]
Joseph Thomas Astbury [1942] – [1943]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It had stabling for two horses, and four coach houses.

George Thornhill = George Thornhill

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.
G. Thornhill, Green Lane. Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861

“The business of the general licensing day then commenced. There were seventeen applications.
George Thornhill, Green Lane, applied through Mr. Wilkinson for a new license. Mr. Wilkinson described the commodious nature of the house of his client, and the populousness of the locality, but the license was declined.”

George Thornhill, beer retailer, Green Lane. [1861], [1864], [1865]

1861 Census

30, Green Lane

- [1] *George Thornhill* (35), bridle cutter and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Eliza Thornhill (34), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Helen Holland (18), domestic servant, born Ireland:

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.
George Thornhill, RISING SUN INN, Green Lane.” [Refused]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/3/1865

“Young Staples of Walsall will fight Young Mills of Wolverhampton at his own weight, or Fields of Birmingham, for £10 a side. Money ready at *G. Butler*’s, RISING SUN, Green Lane Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.
Mr. Matthews, from the office of Mr. Wilkinson, applied on behalf of the following parties.
George Thornhill, Green Lane Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.
Mr. Mathews applied on behalf of Mr. *George Thornhill*, beerhouse keeper, Green Lane. Application refused.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday applications for new licenses for the sale of spirits.
Mr. Glover applied on behalf of Mr. *Thornhill*, beerhouse keeper, Green Lane.
The Mayor announced that the Bench had decided not to grant any new licenses this year.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1870

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.
There were eight applicants for new spirit licenses.
George Thornhill, the RISING SUN, Green Lane.
The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and after having been absent about half an hour they returned, and announced

that they had decided to refuse all the applications, though they had come to this decision with much regret in some instances.”

1871 Census

30, Green Lane

[1] *George Thornhill* (45), bridle cutter, born Walsall;

[2] *Eliza Thornhill* (44), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Catherine Perkins* (20), general servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 31/10/1871

“*George Thornhill*, landlord of the RISING SUN public-house, Green Lane, and *Edward Donaldson* were charged with having assaulted *John Smith*, a mechanic. *Mr. Ebsworth* appeared for the complainant, and *Mr. Dale* (from the offices of *Duignan, Lewis and Lewis*) for the defendants. The complainant’s case was that on the previous Monday he and the defendants were playing at cards at *Thornhill’s* house, and the stakes were deposited in the hands of a man named *Starkie*. *Starkie* went away with the stakes, and on complainant complaining that he was being unfairly dealt, a row took place, and he was so severely assaulted by the defendants that he was unable to work for a week. An offer of 30s and a week’s wages was subsequently made to him to compromise the case. The defence was virtually that the complainant was disorderly and that he had to be turned out of the house, but with no more violence than was necessary. The defendants were fined 50s and costs, or one month’s imprisonment with hard labour, and the Mayor said he hoped the Chief of Police, after what had been said about card playing, would give his attention to the conduct of the defendant’s house.

The Chief Superintendent said he intended doing so, and if he thought there was a case he would take out a summons.

Mr. Dale said he hoped it would not be taken out before the Mayor; if it was he should most certainly protest against it being heard.

Mr. Ebsworth said he should hope, after such a remark as that, the Mayor would hear the case.

The Chief Superintendent said no doubt the Mayor, as a borough magistrate, would use the authority given him according to his discretion.

The Mayor expressed his surprise at *Mr. Dale’s* behaviour; and *Mr. Dale* replied that if the Mayor were a lawyer, he would know how wrong it was to make such a remark as he had done.

The Mayor interposed with another expression of surprise; and *Mr. Dale*, with some warmth, retorted with an intimation that the Mayor had exceeded his duty.

The Mayor rejoined that he could not sit there and hear such remarks; and, on *Mr. Dale* repeating some of them, he called upon the Chief Superintendent to keep order, and said he must require *Mr. Dale* to leave the Court if he did not conduct himself properly.

The Chief Superintendent appealed to *Mr. Dale* to restrain himself, and *Mr. Dale* responded to the appeal with exclamations, delivered with unabated warmth, ‘It is most disgraceful. (the Chief Superintendent: ‘*Mr. Dale! Mr. Dale!*’) I repeat it – most disgraceful.’

The Mayor said he was sorry *Mr. Dale* had forgotten himself; and *Mr. Dale* replied that he had not forgotten himself at all. There the matter ended.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/9/1876

“On Monday *Mr. Fletcher*, coroner, held an inquest at the RISING SUN INN, Green Lane, on the body of *Ellen Donaldson*, aged 32. The deceased had been living with *Mr. Joseph Eld*, hame manufacturer. On the 1st inst. she had been taken ill, and on the Sunday following she died, without having received medical assistance. Verdict, Death from Natural Causes.”

1881 Census

30, Green Lane

[1] *George Thornhill* (55), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] *Ann Thornhill* (59), wife, born Darlaston;

[3] *Mary Ann Pritchard* (28), general domestic servant, born Pensnett:

Walsall Observer 3/1/1885

“Wanted a General Servant, about 18.

Apply *Mrs. Middlebrook*, RISING SUN, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Lichfield Mercury 10/12/1886

“At the Brownhills Petty Sessions.

William Middlebrook, land lord of the RISING SUN, Green Lane, Walsall, was charged with furious driving. A witness named *Hassall* said he saw a person like defendant drive a pony and trap, but he would not swear it was him. No other witness gave evidence, and the Bench dismissed the case.”

[It was alleged he was taking part in a trotting race on a public road.]

Birmingham Daily Post 25/12/1886

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *William Middlebrook*, the RISING SUN beerhouse, Green Lane, was fined 10s and costs for permitting drunkenness on his premises on the 18th inst.”

Walsall Observer 24/9/1887

“Walsall Licensing Sessions

The adjourned annual licensing meeting was held yesterday, at the Sessions Court.....

Applications which had been adjourned owing to the tenants having been convicted during the past year.

The following were granted.....

RISING SUN, Green Lane.”

1891 Census

30, Green Lane – RISING SUN INN

[1] *William Middlebrook* (40), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Lucy Middlebrook* (34), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Rose D. Minchell* (20), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/5/1895

“A Pigeon Sweep was recently pulled off from Bromsgrove, distance 10 miles, to Mr. *Middlebrook*’s, RISING SUN INN, Green Lane. Eight member’s birds competed, and the entrance fee of 21s per member, together with a valuable silver cup and 42s, presented by Mr. *Middlebrook*, was divided into three prizes. The following is a list of the winners: First prize and cup, Mr. *Llewellyn*, velocity 1,164 yards per minute; second prize, Mr. *Porter*, 1,152 yards per minute; third prize, Mr. *Smith*, 1,062 yards per minute; fourth prize, Mr. *Birch*, 956 yards per minute; fifth prize, Mr. *Jackson*, 956 yards per minute; sixth prize, Mr. *Holmes*, 778 yards per minute. Others not timed out.”

David Noake = *David Nokes* = *David Noakes*

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1895

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last.....

New members..... Mr. *David Noakes*, RISING SUN INN, Green Lane.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/10/1896 - Advert

“Grains for Sale. Wanted, regular customers for three brewings a week.

Apply, *D. Noakes*, RISING SUN, Green Lane.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/4/1897

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr.

David Noake, RISING SUN INN, Green Lane Walsall.....

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The magistrates also want you to report to them at the next meeting with regard to the use of the THREE CUPS, in Park Street, and the RISING SUN, Green Lane. Whether these houses are being used solely for purposes under the Licensing Act.....

Mr. *Loxton* announced that the hotel licenses would be renewed with the exception of the THREE CUPS, and the RISING SUN INN.....

With regard the THREE CUPS HOTEL and the RISING SUN INN, the questions were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, and the clerk was directed to serve notices requiring the attendance of the licensees to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, and especially as to their houses being used for betting or other activities otherwise than purposes under the Licensing Act; and also for the licensee to show their adaptability for the carrying on of their licensed premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/9/1899

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The THREE CUPS and the RISING SUN. The renewal of the licenses of these houses had also been postponed, notice having been given for the Bench that the occupiers, Mr. *J. Russell* and Mr. *D. Noake* respectively, would be required to come and give evidence as to whether the house had been properly conducted, having special reference to gambling, and also whether they were a necessity.

Mr. *Disturnal* (instructed by Mr. *W. J. Pearman-Smith*) appeared on behalf of Mr. *Russell*; and Mr. *Plumptre* (instructed by Mr. *H. H. Jackson* on behalf of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Association) for Mr. *Noake*.

In regard to the THREE CUPS, Mr. *Loxton* said the Chief Constable had been requested to make a report on the conduct of the house.

The Chief Constable had a long report in front of him, but Mr. *Disturnal* at once rose, and argued that the applicant for the renewal of a license was entitled to have it renewed unless objection were made in proper form, and substantiated on evidence..... [There is then a lengthy discussion of legal matters.]

The justices then retired to consider the points raised, and after about three quarters of an hour’s deliberation they returned, and Mr. *Loxton* read out the decision as under.

With regards to the renewal of the license of the THREE CUPS and the RISING SUN, the magistrates having heard the arguments of Messrs. *Plumptre* and *Disturnal*, ruled the justices, having required the licensees to attend and apply for renewal, it is incumbent upon them to do so. At the same time, these are the first licenses brought up on notices until some affirmative evidence is given against them. Mr. *Taylor* can you give any evidence, or do you wish to ask for an adjournment?

The Chief Constable said he was not there to object, and had not given notice.....

The Chief Constable was next asked if could give any information in regard to betting at the RISING SUN, and he said he could not go further than say that some time ago a complaint was made that betting was going on in the locality through the medium of a man who was stationed outside. He cautioned Mr. *Noake*, who promised to look to the matter, and he had heard nothing more. He found that the man who had used the locality had not been employed by Mr. *Noake*.

Dr. Lynch: Is it the practice to give notice to a man committing an offence?

The Chief Constable said the man was not committing an offence so far as his license was concerned – the offence was outside. It had been his custom unless a matter was reported by his officers to send for persons and warn them. If an official report came in he did not stand between the report and the magistrates.

The Mayor said the magistrates had decided to renew both licenses.”

Walsall Observer 5/5/1900

“An inquest was held on Tuesday afternoon by the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley), at the RISING SUN, Green Lane, on the body of Jane Jinks (58), 41, Green Lane, who died on Sunday April 29th.

The evidence showed that on Thursday, March 26th, deceased and another woman named Pratt, who was staying with deceased, decided to sleep downstairs. Mrs. Jinks went upstairs to fetch some blankets, and when she had gone about half way up, she fell down, hurting her neck severely. Dr. Maitland was called in eight days later, and found that she was suffering from severe contusion of the muscles at the back of the skull, and ordered her to bed. The woman went to bed, but feeling better about a week later, she got up. The action of moving about caused an abscess on the base of the skull in close juxtaposition to the brain, and this broke on Friday April 27th. Death was due to inflammation of the brain caused by the abscess.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1901 Census

30, Green Lane

- [1] *David Noakes* (40), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Decima Noakes* (32), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] *David F. Noakes* (11), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Willie Noakes* (7), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Daisy Noakes* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Walter Noakes* (5), son, born Oldbury;
- [7] *Arthur Noakes* (2), son, born Birmingham;
- [8] *Emily Upton* (25), domestic servant, born Stonal [*Stonnall*], Staffordshire;
- [9] *Florence Powell* (13), domestic servant, born Birmingham;
- [10] *James Watmouth* (60), servant, labourer, born London:

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1901

“The Streets Committee.....

The following plans have, during the past month, been approved, subject to the usual conditions, viz.

The Lichfield Brewery Company; addition to the RISING SUN, Green Lane.”

David Noake was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

An objection to the renewal of the license of the RISING SUN (Mr. *David Noake*’s), Green Lane, was withdrawn.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/4/1905

“The Walsall Bridle Cutters’ Trade Protection Society (members of the Midland Leather Trades Federation, affiliated with the National Federation of Great Britain) held their quarterly meeting at headquarters, RISING SUN INN, Green Lane. The question of strengthening the society was raised. It was resolved to ask members of the trade to rejoin free of entrance fee for the next three months, subject to their not being allowed to come on the funds for the first twelve months. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to hold a general meeting of all bridle cutters at headquarters.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/11/1905

“A married woman named *Eva Jane Spicer* (45), 12, Intown Row, was summoned for obtaining 3 chemises, and 4 pairs of knickers, value 12s, by false pretences, from *Alfred Thomas Moore*, draper, 48½, Stafford Street, on the 20th inst.

Complainant stated that at 3.30 the day previous, the prisoner came into the shop, and speaking to his wife, said ‘Is this *Moore*’s, I have been requested to come to *Moore*’s as I can’t read.’ She then produced a note on the counter, and asked if they would send goods to Mrs. *Noake*, at the RISING SUN, Green Lane who had sent her, as she was busy and could not come, as she was preparing a supper. Prisoner said she used to help to clean for Mrs. *Noake* and run errands for her. His wife packed up the goods mentioned on the note and handed them to prisoner, who said the goods would be returned shortly. Prisoner then left the shop,

and shortly afterwards witness went down Stafford Street, and saw the prisoner go down Littleton Street, and that aroused witness's suspicion, as it was not the direction of Mrs. *Noake's*. He then followed prisoner to the PLUMBERS ARMS, and waited until she came out, and then she told him she had called for some money that was owing for cleaning. He (witness) then followed her to Mrs. *Noake's* and watched her go inside the house, and then he went home. About 6.30 in the evening the clothes had not been returned, and he (witness) went to Mrs. *Noake*, and asked her if she had sent anyone to his shop for the goods, and she said she had not. About ten o'clock the same evening he identified the woman who had had the things. The goods were value 10s. *Jessie Noake*, wife of the landlord of the RISING SUN INN, stated that at 4.15pm she was told she was wanted by the prisoner, and on going to the prisoner, who was in the passage, she said 'I want half-a-pint of ale,' and she replied that her son was in the bar, and went back into the kitchen. She did not write a note or send her for goods.

Detective Lloyd stated that he made enquiries as to this robbery, and visited the prisoner's house in Intown Row. He knocked at the door several times, but as no one came he eventually walked in. He looked round the front kitchen, and found the inner door was fastened, as if someone was behind it holding it. He then burst the door open, and found the prisoner behind with the parcel of clothing (produced) under her arm. He asked her how she obtained the parcel, and she said it was in the house when she came. He arrested the prisoner and brought her to the police station, but on the way prisoner bolted along Lichfield Street and then Tower Street, but he gave chase and caught her. When charged with stealing the goods prisoner replied 'I fetched the things from the shop, but I meant to take them back. No one sent me, and I wrote the note myself.' Prisoner was under the influence of drink at the time.

Prisoner said she was guilty, but did not mean to steal them.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) said he was holding a case back against prisoner, as the day previous she had attempted to obtain five boy's suits, value £2 16s 11d, but the goods were sent to the house where the prisoner stated she had been sent from, and it was found out. She has started her career in this way, and he thought it as well to nip it in the bud.

Sentenced to 15 days' imprisonment."

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

"There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....

The Chief Constable objected to the renewal of four other houses on the ground of the peculiar system of trade which they carried on, and those he referred to were; FORGE INN, Pleck Road; FORGE HAMMER, Rolling Mill Street; BOAT INN, Green Lane; and the RISING SUN. Continuing, the Chief Constable stated the landlady or landlord of the houses in question gave out checks to men who then hung about neighbouring works, and did business with the checks on a 10 per cent commission. It appeared that these men got 22s worth of checks for 20s, and they disposed of these checks to men who wanted beer but had no money. The men for a shilling's worth of checks each paid 1s 3d the next Saturday.

The Bench now ordered that the whole of the licenses mentioned should stand over until the adjourned licensing day."

Midland Counties Evening News 9/10/1909 - Advert

"Wanted, Good General, with character.

Apply Mrs. *Noake*, RISING SUN, Green Lane, Walsall."

1911 Census

RISING SUN INN

- [1] *David Noake* (58), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Decima Noake* (42), wife, married 22 years, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *David Frederick Noake* (21) son, assistant to self, born Willenhall;
- [4] *William Noake* (18), son, harness maker's clerk, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Walter Noake* (15), son, solicitor's clerk, born Oldbury;
- [6] *Daisy Noake* (14), daughter, assistant to self, born Walsall;
- [7] *Arthur Noake* (13), son, school, born Walsall;
- [8] *Sidney Noake* (8), son, school, born Walsall;
- [9] *Winifred Noake* (6 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [10] *Lilly Webb* (17), niece, born Reading, Berkshire:

David Noake, beer retailer, 30, Green Lane. [1912]

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 17th February 1913.

Walsall Advertiser 17/1/1914

"On Sunday the death took place at the Hospital Infirmary, Burntwood, of *Decima Noake*, wife of Mr. *David Noake*, licensee of the RISING SUN, Green Lane. Deceased, who was 45 years of age, contracted a severe cold about a month ago which brought on a most painful illness. She was a native of West Bromwich, but had lived at Walsall some twenty-five years, and had won the esteem of a very wide circle. The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery on Thursday....."

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

RISING SUN, Green Lane, Walsall, 8s 9½d."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
RISING SUN, Green Lane. £1 4s 10d.”

1939 Register

30, Green Lane (2 of 3)

[1] *Thomas Cleobury*, date of birth 1/10/1894, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Gladys Cleobury*, dob 26/9/1903, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 9/12/1939

“Hospital Darts Tournament.

Final To Be Played at the RISING SUN Next Wednesday Evening.

In one of the semi-finals of the Hospital Darts Tournament, G. Hall (Rushall Central) beat J. Davis (OLD HOUSE AT HOME) at the Ex-Servicemen’s Club on Wednesday night by two legs to one, but unfortunately the other semi-final could not be played as C. Hadland (Palfrey W.M.C.) is serving with H. M. Forces. His opponent, W. Till (CROWN AND CUSHION) therefore had a walk-over and automatically qualified to meet Hall in the final.

As it happens Till is due to join the Colours also next Friday and consequently the final has been fixed for Wednesday evening next at the RISING SUN, Green Lane, commencing at 8 o’clock. The winner will be presented with the trophy given by the proprietors of the *Walsall Observer*, and there will be prizes also for the runner-up and the beaten semi-finalist.”

[In the final, W. Till beat G. Hall by two legs to none.]

Walsall Observer 14/6/1941

“Two Walsall brothers, Leo Albert Bowater and Horace Henry Bowater, of 221, Pleck Road, summoned at Walsall Police Court yesterday, for assaulting *Cyril Vernon Sleigh*, licensee of the RISING SUN, Green Lane, were alleged to have punched and kicked their victim after one of them had thrown the contents of his beer glass into his face.

Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson, prosecuting, invited the magistrates, if they found the case proved, to deal with the man in such a way that protection would be given to licensees.

The case for the prosecution was that when *Sleigh* went into the bar of his house on the night of May 10 to call ‘Time,’ the Bowaters had their drinks before them. On being asked to ‘Drink up,’ Horace threw his drink into *Sleigh*’s face and punched him and when he fell to the floor he was kicked by both men. He had to receive medical attention. When the men were seen by Police-sergeant Rowe they did not deny the allegation that *Sleigh* had made against them.

Defendant’s version was that when *Sleigh* went to them in the bar he used filthy language to them and, as they had women with them, they protested. ‘I gave him a shove,’ said Horace, ‘and that is all that happened.’ Leo’s wife said that her husband had recently been discharged from the Army with shell shock. ‘Don’t you think he had done enough fighting without coming here to fight?’ she asked.

Horace Bowater, said to have a number of previous convictions for assault, was sent to gaol for 28 days and his brother was fined 40s. Leo protested that he wanted the same as his brother and asked to be sent down with him.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Astbury*, RISING SUN, Green Lane. £0 11s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 14/11/1942 - Births

“On Oct. 28, 1942, at Manor Maternity Hospital, to Lily (nee Ward), wife of *J. T. Astbury*, RISING SUN, Green Lane, Walsall. God’s precious gift, twin daughters (Lily and Mercy).”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

RISING SUN INN, Green Lane. £1 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

There were six summons against the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, Park Brewery, Wolverhampton, in respect of the FORGE INN, Pleck Road; RISING SUN, Green Lane; RED LION, Park Street; BLACK HORSE, Bloxwich Road; BUILDERS ARMS, Wisemore; and HAMEMAKERS ARMS, Blue Lane; and the managers of those houses, William Allport, *Joseph Thomas Astbury*, Thomas Purton Cole, Constance Mary Horton, Cyril Vernon Sleigh (now of Stafford Street), and Arthur Abraham Canning for aiding and abetting.

Mr. Cooper appeared for the brewery company and stated that it would be unfair and unjust if they were made to pay double the penalty imposed on the managers, as in the preceding cases, seeing that they had given specific instructions to all their managers that regulations must be strictly complied with and if they could not get sufficient coal for their purposes they should apply to the local Fuel Overseer for permits for extra supplies.

'I regard it as somewhat ungenerous on the part of Mr. Cooper to try to throw the blame on the poor managers,' said Mr. Hodgkinson, who pointed out that all the profits from the houses went to the brewery company and that the coal was not used for their own benefit but for the benefit of the public.

In these cases the brewery company was fined 10s in each case, and the other defendants £1 each except Horton who was ordered to pay £2."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

RISING SUN INN, Green Lane. £1 4s 0d."

It closed in December 1962.

RISING SUN

Hill Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Osbourn [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

RISING SUN

Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Midland Counties Evening Express 12/5/1875

"Rushall Friendly Society Case. Stephen Cooper, secretary of the friendly society which holds its meetings at the RISING SUN public house, was charged with having refused to pay Edward Teese, the sum of £13 10s, due at the death of Teese's wife, on the 11th January last An order for the payment of the amount and costs – including the solicitor's fee – was made, payment to be made in 7 days."

ROBIN HOOD

North Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Stanley [1841] – [1842]

ROCK STEADY EDDIE'S BAR

Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[2002]

[2023]

ROEBUCK

2, Upper Rushall Street / High Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Brown, victualler, New Street, Walsall
Eliza Pearman
Edwin Marlow
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Lea [1813] – [1822]

Sarah Lea [1828] – [1835]

John Lea [1841] – [1842]

John Randle [1845] – **1855**);

Maria Stone (**1855** – []

John Randle [1861] – [1873]

Richard Pearman [1880] – [1881]

Eliza Pearman [1888] – **189_**);

Edwin Marlow (**189_** – **1894**); [1891]

Mrs. Eliza Marlow [1895] (**1894** – **1900**);

Edwin Lawley [1892] ?

George Henry Muddiman (**1900** – **1903**);

James Archibald Goodall (**1903** – **1914**);

George Astbury (**1914** – **1916**);

Mary Ann Astbury (**1916** – **1919**);

George Astbury (**1919** – **1926**);

NOTES

Rushall Street [1822]

2, Upper Rushall Street [1860], [1861], [1862], [1881], [1891], [1908]

2, Rushall Street [1871], [1901]

Sarah Lea (nee James) was married to *John Lea*.
They were the parents of John Lea (b.1842) of the BRITISH OAK.

1841 Census

Upper Rushall Street

- [1] Sarah Lea Snr. (70), widow, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *John Lea* (20), maltster, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Sarah Lea* Jnr. (20), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Martha Dike (20), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Charles Sealy (25), ms, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/5/1841 - Died

“On the 7th instant, suddenly at the ROEBUCK, Walsall, Mr. John Howis, hardware dealer, of Burton-on-Trent.”

John Randle = John Randall

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/4/1848 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Dwelling-Houses And Building land, Blue Lane, Walsall.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. T. Franklin, at the ROEBUCK INN, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 17/9/1848

“Samuel Bird (alias Tranter) of Darlaston wishes to regain his laurels from Prescott of Walsall, and will make a fresh match for £10 or £20 a side. Money ready at the ROEBUCK TAVERN, Walsall.”

John Randle was also a carpenter. [1849], [1850], [1864], [1865]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/10/1850 - Deaths

“October 18, at an advanced age, *Sarah*, relict of the late Mr. *John Lea*, formerly of the ROEBUCK, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.”

1851 Census

Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *John Randle* (39), **widower**, victualler, born Wolverley, Worcestershire;
- [2] Sarah Randle (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] John Randle (12), **son**, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary Randle (10), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Eliza Randle (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary **Lightwood** (20), housekeeper, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/12/1853

“Walsall Petty Sessions.....

Rachel Dainty, a loose character, very troublesome to the police, was fined £1 and costs, for biting the face of Mary Ann Carter, in the ROEBUCK public house, on Sunday night; and she was ordered to find peace sureties, for threatening Harriet Lout.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/9/1854

“*John Randall*, landlord of the ROEBUCK, Upper Rushall Street, appeared before S. Lowe, Esq, Mayor, and F. B. Oerton, Esq, last week, to answer the complaint of the parish authorities for refusing to support his widowed daughter, Sarah Summers, now an inmate of the workhouse. It appeared that a short time since the woman had been brought before the Magistrates for attempting self-destruction, on which occasion it was proved that the defendant had used the most revolting language respecting his wretched daughter. The Mayor asked the defendant if he paid income tax; to which he replied that his taxes were very heavy, and that he had five other children, unable to earn anything, to support. The Mayor observed that the defendant had tacitly admitted that he paid income tax, and therefore he was evidently in a position to pay towards the maintenance of his own offspring. The Bench committed him for twenty-one days to hard labour.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... In the following cases the applications were suspended for further consideration.....

John Randle, of the ROEBUCK, Upper Rushall Street, who, on the 22nd of March last, had been fined 5s and costs for having permitted disorderly prostitutes to assemble in his house.”

1861 Census

2, Upper Rushall Street – The BUCK

- [1] *John Randle* (49), licensed victualler, born Wolverley, Worcestershire;
- [2] Eliza Randle (34), wife, born Great Barr;
- [3] Eliza Randle (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

- [4] Mary Ann Randle (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] Selina Randle (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] George Bibb (42), lodger, brewer, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 5/4/1862

“Joseph Starkey, charged by Police-constable Shaw with having been drunk and disorderly in Upper Rushall Street on the night of Sunday last, stated that he had been drinking in the ROEBUCK public-house from two o’clock in the afternoon, and had become intoxicated towards evening, when the landlord, Mr. *Randle*, behaved very badly to him. A soldier who lodges at the ROEBUCK, said prisoner came to the ROEBUCK and engaged a bed, and consequently a lodger. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced prisoner to pay a fine of 2s 6d and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/4/1863

“Lucy Beebee, a married woman, was charged with having, on Monday evening, stolen a sovereign, the property of Samuel Firm, of Darlaston. It appeared that the prosecutor and defendant had been at a party in the ROEBUCK public house, Upper Rushall Street, on the evening in question, and that, on the plate being handed round for the price of the supper, complainant pulled out a sovereign and defendant, on seeing it, said, ‘Give it me, and I will give it the waiter.’ The sovereign was accordingly given to the defendant, who refused to give it up. After hearing the evidence, the bench committed the defendant (who denied the charge) to take her trial at the quarter sessions for the borough, on the following day.”

[She was acquitted at the Quarter Sessions on 10th April 1863.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/1/1870

“On Sunday afternoon, Mr. J. *Randle*, who had arrived from Sheffield only the day before on a visit to his father, the landlord of the ROEBUCK INN, Rushall Street, was suddenly taken ill as he was about to start for a walk, and died in the course of a few minutes. Dr. J. Burton, jun, who saw him before he expired, having given a certificate, no inquest will be held.”

1871 Census

2, Rushall Street

- [1] *John Randle* (58), widower, carpenter, born Woverley [Wolverley], Worcestershire;
[2] *Eliza Randle* (22), daughter, born Walsall;
[3] *Selina Randle* (16), daughter, born Walsall:

1881 Census

2, Upper Rushall Street – ROE BUCK INN

- [1] *Richard Pearman* (30), publican, born Walsall;
[2] *Mary Jane Pearman* (32), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *John D. Pearman* (3), son, born Walsall;
[4] *Henrietta B. Pearman* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
[5] *Sarah Ann Booth* (17), general domestic servant, born Cheadle, Staffordshire;
[6] *Jacob Williams* (30), lodger, stone mason, born Swansea;
[7] *George Crews* (39), lodger, stone mason, born Torquay;
[8] *James Douglas* (24), lodger, baker, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 5/6/1888 - Advert

“To Be Let immediately, a Garden; upwards of 100 choice Rose Trees, near Chuckery Walk.
Apply to Mrs. *Pearman*, ROE BUCK INN, Walsall.”

1891 Census

2, Upper Rushall Street – ROEBUCK INN

- [1] *Edwin Marlow* (40), publican, born Walsall;
[2] *Eliza Marlow* (41), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Nelly Marlow* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[4] *John J. Marlow* (13), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 8/12/1894

“Monday was a day specially appointed by the Bough Justices for the transfer of public-house licenses, &c. The Mayor (Councillor Noake) and Mr. G. Gill constituted the Bench.

Mr. E. Evans applied on behalf of Mrs. *Eliza Marlow*, ROEBUCK INN, Upper Rushall Street, for the transfer of the license to her from her dead husband. He explained that her husband – the holder of the license – died on the 17th September. The license expired on the 10th October, but was renewed in his name. Letters of administration were subsequently taken out, but owing to the trouble and anxiety she was suffering the proper notices of the application for the transfer of the license were not given in time for the last transfer day.

The Chief Constable said he must oppose the application on the ground that there was no license in existence to be transferred. It expired on the 10th October, and the only course open to Mrs. *Marlow* under the circumstances to revive it was to apply at the transfer sessions on the 17th October. This she failed to do, and really the house should be closed now. It was undoubtedly very

hard upon her, but such was the effect of the Licensing Act, which, as he said on the previous Wednesday, contained more law than common-sense.

The application was adjourned until Wednesday in order that the law on the point might be looked up, the applicant being recommended to close her house in the meantime.

The Chief Constable then, on Wednesday, told the Bench (The Mayor and Alderman Lindop) that he did not propose to persist in his objection. He remarked, however, that in spite of the advice given by the Bench on Monday, Mrs. *Marlow* kept her house open, with the result that she had been reported, and would be summoned for having sold drink without a license.

The Bench agreed to transfer the license.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The following is a return of licensees who have been proceeded against during the year ending August 30th, 1895.....

Eliza Marlow, ROEBUCK INN, Upper Rushall Street, for having kept her licensed premises open during prohibited hours on April 19th, dismissed.”

Walsall Observer 10/2/1900 - Advert

“Wanted, good General.

Apply Mrs. *Marlow*, The ROEBUCK INN, Upper Rushall Street.”

Walsall Observer 18/8/1900

“*George Henry Muddiman*, of the ROEBUCK INN, Upper Rushall Street, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and with selling liquor to drunken persons, namely David Hinks and Charles Twaites; and David Hinks, 10, Limerick Yard, and Charles Twaites, 35, Whittimere Street, were charged with being drunk on licensed premises.

Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared to defend.

Inspector Williams said that at 9.40am he was in Lower Rushall Street, when he saw the defendants Hinks and Twaites with their arms around one another’s necks, going up the street. Witness visited the ROEBUCK INN, and found in the kitchen at the back the defendants Hinks and Twaites and a soldier. On the table was whisky and ale. Witness asked the landlord how he accounted for their presence, and pointed out that they were drunk, and he said he was upstairs and his daughter had supplied them. He also said that he knew that they had had too much to drink. Hinks and Twaites drank out of the ale jug in the presence of the landlord, who ordered them out. When they got outside they staggered about, but arrived at the station.

In answer to Mr. Jackson witness said that the outdoor department was a small window in a dark passage.

Mr. Jackson addressed the Bench, pointing out that the prosecution had not proved their case, and said that there was no necessity for him to bring evidence for the defence.

The magistrates after deliberation said that they considered that there was a case against the defendant. The defendant *Muddiman* said that he only took the place 24 hours before the two men entered. He was upstairs, and his daughter served them at a small window in a dark passage. The magistrates dismissed the case.”

1901 Census

2, Rushall Street – ROE-BUCK INN

[1] *George H. Muddiman* (49), publican, born Warwickshire;

[2] *Harriett Muddiman* (54), wife, born Kent;

[3] *George H. W. Muddiman* (15), son, carpenter, born Kent;

[4] *Edith H. Muddiman* (14), daughter, born Kildare, Ireland;

[5] *Mary Dutton* (62), sister, widow, domestic, born Kent:

James Goodall was fined £5 and costs, on 23rd September 1903, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Objections to the renewals to *James Archibald Goodall*, ROEBUCK, Upper Rushall Street, and *Frederick Paddock*, VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street were postponed to the adjourned meeting, to be held on March 1st.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

ROEBUCK INN. The application for the renewal of this license to the landlord, *James Archibald Goodall*, was made by Mr. Plumtree (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson).

An objection was raised by the Chief Constable on the grounds that *Goodall* was convicted by the magistrates in September last for permitting drunkenness upon the premises, and was then fined £5 and costs.

Inspector Ballance said within a radius of 250 yards of the house there were 30 full-licensed houses, six on-beer houses, and one off license. The nearest house, the HARE AND HOUNDS, was but 23 yards away. With regard to Rushall Street it had changed considerably during recent years, and many of the houses had either been condemned or pulled down.

Answering Mr. Plumtree, the house was a very old one and frequented by respectable customers. The defence of the landlord, when convicted in September last, was that the man was upon the premises without his knowledge.

Questioned by Dr. Lynch, he thought the number of licensed houses in the district was in excess of the requirements of the neighbourhood.

Mr. Plumtree said that with respect to the question of Dr. Lynch he must accept the inspector's statement as correct, but if they were to lessen the number of houses it was a matter for a good deal of consideration as to whether it should start at the oldest or the newest. They would agree the ROEBUCK was one of the oldest, and so far as he knew up to the time of conviction in September last, there had been no complaint whatever respecting the house. In that case the man went into the house, and, without the landlord's knowledge, drank the contents of two glasses of beer. The licensee was a man of the most respectable character, against whom there had been no previous complaints, and whose incoming to the house had paid £400 for the lease and valuation, and £57 for the stock, amounts which were the savings of a lifetime. In conclusion, he submitted that, in consequence of the respectability of the house, its license was still required.

The landlord and several persons residing in the vicinity were called by Mr. Plumtree, and testified to the manner in which the house was conducted. Decision deferred."

Walsall Advertiser 3/7/1909 - Advert

"Beerhouse, in thickly populated locality of Birmingham; doing steady, genuine trade. Holder's Ales. Six years' lease; all at £275.

Apply, ROEBUCK, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall."

1911 Census

2, Rushall Street

[1] *James Goodall* (35), publican, born Birmingham;

[2] *Elizabeth Goodall* (35), wife, married 12 years, assisting in business, born Birmingham;

[3] *Clara Goodall* (9), daughter, school, born Birmingham:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

ROEBUCK, Upper Rushall Street. £1 4s 2d."

George Astbury was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in April 1924.

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

"At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst.....

An application was made by Sir Reginald Coventry, L.C., for a provisional order for the removal of the license of the ROEBUCK, Upper Rushall Street, to premises proposed to be erected, at the junction of the New Ring Road and Westbromwich Street. Sir Reginald on behalf of the owners, Messrs. Mitchells & Butlers, Ltd, said the ROEBUCK INN, was scheduled for compensation, which would probably amount to £4,000 to £5,000, but, they were prepared to give this up, and also to pull down the FULLBROOK TAVERN, Westbromwich Road, so as to facilitate a much needed improvement.

Mr. A. V. Haden, opposed on behalf of the United Temperance Council, remarking that the Council believed that the real road to progress lay along the elimination of licenses rather than the transferring of licenses from one are to another. The magistrates sanctioned the application, conditional upon the FULLBROOK TAVERN being pulled down, that the ROEBUCK premises should not be converted into a club, and that the building of the new premises would be commenced within three months."

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/5/1925

"The adjourned licensing sessions for Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Monday, before a full Bench.....

The justices also confirmed the removal of the ROEBUCK INN, Upper Rushall Street, to premises about to be erected at the junction of the new ring road and Westbromwich Road. The Hon. Sir Reginald Coventry, who made the application, pointed out that Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers were giving up the ROEBUCK INN without compensation, and were also giving up the FULLBROOK INN in West Bromwich Road, which would enable the road widening to be carried out."

It closed on 18th October 1926, and the license was transferred to the NEW FULLBROOK.

ROMPING CAT

96, (95), Elmore Green Road (Victoria Road) / Clarendon Street, Sandbank, (Sott's Hole), (Short Heath), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Stackhouse

Thomas Stackhouse
William Powell
Mrs. Elizabeth Powell
William Dainty
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Union Pub Co. (W&D) [2001], [2004]

LICENSEES

William Stackhouse [1849] – 1875);
Thomas Stackhouse [1876];
William Powell [];
Mrs. Elizabeth Powell [];
William Dainty [1881];
Mrs. Betsy Dainty [1881] – 1890);
William Benton (1890 – 189_); [1891]
William Vale (189_ – 1896);
Mary Jane Vale (1896 – 1899);
Alfred Boot (1899 – [1912]
James Taylor [1923] – 1924);
George Wilfred Jones (1924 – []
David Griffiths [] – 1931);
Peter Edwin Perry (1931);
Godfrey Tomkins (1931 – 1933);
Samson Horney (1933 – 1934);
Harry Lawrence (1934 – 1936);
John Broome (1936 – 1939);
Job Tyler (1939 – 1941);
Frances Tyler (1941 – 1953);
Jack Bradford (1953 – 1955);
John Edward Lawley (1955 – 1959);
Colin Griffiths (1959 – 1960);
I Hanwood (1960 – [1966]

NOTES

95, Elmore Green Road [1891], [1901]
96, Elmore Green Road [1939]

It was originally the SANDBANK TAVERN.

It had a beerhouse license.

It had stables at the rear.

Grade II listed.

William Stackhouse, beer retailer, Sandpits, Bloxwich. [1849]
William Stackhouse, beer retailer, Sandbeds, Bloxwich. [1850]

1851 Census

Short Heath

[1] *William Stackhouse* (53), retail brewer, born Bloxwich;
[2] Jane Stackhouse (43), wife, born Bloxwich;
[3] Joseph Green (22), son in law, coal miner, born Bloxwich;
[4] Sarah Green (19), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[5] Jane Eliza Green (9 months), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;
[6] William Wild (29), lodger, coal miner, born Bloxwich:

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....
William Stackhouse, Bloxwich. Refused.”

W. Stackhouse, beerhouse, Bloxwich. [1858]

William Stackhouse, beer retailer, Bloxwich. [1861], [1868], [1870], [1871]

1861 Census

Short Heath

- [1] *William Stackhouse* (64), publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Jane Stackhouse (52), wife, born Brereton, Staffordshire;
- [3] Jane E. Green (10), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Sarah Ann Green (4), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Sarah Roberts (18), servant, born Wolverhampton:

William Stackhouse, retailer of beer, Bloxwich. [1862]

William Stackhouse, beer retailer, Short Heath, Bloxwich. [1865], [1872]

Walsall Free Press 30/9/1865

“*William Stackhouse*, beer-house-keeper, Bloxwich, was charged with having had his house opened for the sale of beer during prohibited hours, on Sunday, the 24th inst. The charge having been proved by Police-sergeant Martin, the defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 14/8/1869

“The New Beerhouse Act. *William Stackhouse*, landlord of a beerhouse at Sott’s Hole, Bloxwich, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours on Sunday, the 1st instant.

Police-sergeant Martin said at 9.45 on the morning in question he visited defendant’s house, and found the table smeared with drink. On the stairs he found a jug containing malt liquor, and on going up stairs he found Joseph Swift, miner, New Street, Bloxwich, behind the door smoking a pipe.

Defendant said the officer’s statement was about right, but he gave the beer to Swift for having got some herbs for him, and he told the old man to go up stairs for fear of the new Act.

Swift, who is 71 years of age, and who has been at work as a collier for 62 years, corroborated the defendant’s statement.

The defendant, who had been previously convicted, was fined 5s and costs.”

1871 Census

Sand Bank

- [1] *William Stackhouse* (74), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
 - [2] Jane Stackhouse (44), wife, housekeeper, born Bloxwich;
 - [3] Jane Green (20), granddaughter, general servant, born Bloxwich;
 - [4] James Farmer (45), boarder, labourer, born Bloxwich:
- [Is this a different Jane to before?]

Walsall Free Press 1/7/1871 - Advert

“To Be Let, a good Beerhouse, situate in a pleasant neighbourhood, the person is declining business. Incoming to suit the purchaser.

Apply to *William Stackhouse*, Sand Bank, Bloxwich.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/7/1875

“On Wednesday morning whilst Mr. *William Stackhouse*, beerhouse-keeper, of Elmore Green, was making some inquiries in the County Court, he fell down and expired almost immediately. Dr. Wilmore was called in, but of course his assistance was of no avail. The body of the deceased was removed to his residence.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/8/1876

“*Stackhouse v Reeves and others*. The plaintiff in this case, *Thomas Stackhouse*, a carter, living at Bloxwich, Staffordshire, sought to recover possession of certain premises which were properties of his deceased brother, *William Stackhouse*, to whom plaintiff claimed to be heir-at-law. Mr. Mellor, Q.C. and Mr. Dugdale were for the plaintiff, and Mr. Nathan for the defendants.

Part of the property in question is a freehold public house, land and premises, situated in Victoria Road, Bloxwich, leading from the church towards Wolverhampton. Plaintiff also sought to recover certain cottages which were in the possession of the defendants at the time of the death of the owner *William Stackhouse*, who died in 1875. The plaintiff said he immediately informed the defendants that he was his brother’s heir-at-law, and requested them to pay their rents to him for the future. This the defendants refused, and set up the title of Jane Sleet, who Mr. Mellor stated had been living with *William Stackhouse* as his wife. Mrs. Sleet, who was in possession of the public house at the time of *William Stackhouse*’s death, sold off everything in the house, disregarding the title of the plaintiff. Certificates of plaintiff’s birth, his brother’s birth, and the marriage certificate of their parents were handed in, after which the various tenants of the cottages deposed that they took their houses from the deceased *William Stackhouse*. His Lordship said he regretted that the action should have been defended, as there was no more doubt about the title of *Thomas Stackhouse* than in the Queen’s title to her throne. There was not a rag of defence from beginning to end, and he should give a verdict and judgement for plaintiff in all cases, but that which referred to Lovett’s cottage.”

1881 Census

95, Elmore Green Road – SAND BANK TAVERN

[1] *Betsy Dainty* (44), widow, publican, born Wirley [Wyrley?], Staffordshire;

[2] Fanny Gaskell (38), sister, born Wirley [Wyrley?], Staffordshire;

[3] Annie A. Boycot (14), servant;

Walsall Advertiser 23/9/1882 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Watkins and Powell (by order of the Mortgagees), at the QUEENS HOTEL, Bloxwich, on Monday, the 25th day of September, 1882.....

Lot 1. That Messuage or Dwelling-House, with Appurtenances, situate near the Sandbank, Bloxwich, used as a Beerhouse, and called or known by the name of the SANDBANK TAVERN, in the occupation of *Betsy Dainty*.....

The SANDBANK TAVERN is let to a most respectable tenant, at the yearly rent of £25, payable quarterly.....”

1891 Census

95, Elmore Green Road – SAND BANK TAVERN

[1] *William Benton* (32), coal miner and licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] Emma Benton (35), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Florence Benton (11), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[4] Lottie Benton (8), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[5] Fred Benton (4), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[6] William Benton (1), son, born Bloxwich:

William Benton, beer retailer, Sandbank. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

“The annual licensing meeting for the county borough of Walsall was held in the Guildhall on Wednesday forenoon.....

Mr. Disturnal (instructed by Mr. F. Bill) appeared in support of an application from *Mary Jane Vale*, the keeper of a beerhouse known as SANDBANK TAVERN, Green Road, for the provisional removal of the license to premises about to be erected at the junction of Eldon Road and Clarendon Street, Bloxwich. Mr. Disturnal said the present premises belonged to the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Limited. It was proposed to pull down the old house and build another a few yards from the site of the present premises. The reason for the application was that the corner of those streets, in the opinion of the authorities of the borough, was a very awkward one. At the instigation of the Streets Committee and the Borough Surveyor, an arrangement had been come to between the owners of the adjacent property and the Corporation under which certain lands were to be given up so as to make the streets wider. The present premises of the SANDBANK TAVERN were to be pulled down and rebuilt at the corner. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) opposed on behalf of Mr. W. H. Haycock, of the SPRING COTTAGE, and Mr. Addison said he opposed on behalf of Mr. Stanley [temperance movement].

Mr. Disturnal: The universal objector (laughter).

Mr. Addison: Not all together.

Mr. Loxton (justices' clerk): Oh it's perfectly fair.

Mr. Disturnal said he could not see what the reasons of the objectors were. It would be an improvement, and he had the opinion on that of the highest authority in the town viz, the Borough Surveyor. In addition they were having new premises built on the most approved lines, and the whole house conveniently arranged and built upon modern ideas. The new licensed area would be actually less than the old, so there was no extension of area. It would simply be moving the premises a few yards. The present licensed area was 470 square yards, and the area of the proposed new premises 320 yards, or 150 yards less. There was a further fact. He was instructed that the present SANDBANK TAVERN was an old-licensed beerhouse, licensed before 1869. The discretion of the Bench was therefore limited to four grounds only. With full knowledge of that fact they applied for the removal of the license, and the result would be that as soon as those new premises were licensed the magistrates would have full control, instead of only the limited control which they had at present; the magistrates in future would have absolute and unlimited control over the premises. If this application was granted it could never afterwards be said that the premises had been licensed since 1869. So that if on no other grounds he should have thought that the application would have been granted. It would be a public improvement there would be no increased facilities for drinking, there would be a less licensed area, and they would be giving the Bench and the police increased discretion over the premises.

Mrs. *Vale* was then put into the box, and she corroborated the statements of her counsel. Cross-examined by the Chief Constable witness said that at the rear of the premises there were some old cottages which had partly fallen down and which she claimed to be within the licensed area. As a matter of fact they were now down altogether. It was two years last June since they were let to her in one take. The houses were not on the premises. She did not remember them falling down. In her present house she paid £25 a year rent, and there were two rooms for the accommodation of the public. She had no idea what she would have to pay in rent on the new premises. She supposed they would be larger premises than the old ones. The house stood back from the road and was not a large public-house.

The Chief Constable: It appears to be a respectable cottage? – No answer.

Cross-examined by Mr. Addison, witness said the house was in a very tumble-down condition.

Re-examined by Mr. Disturnal, witness said that since she had been there they had had control over the whole area where the tumble down cottages were.

Mr. J. H. Hickton (Messrs. Hickton and Farmer, architects), was then called, and gave evidence as to the plans of the proposed new house. In cross-examination he said that the present premises wanted rebuilding, either on the old site or the adjoining one. The ground floor comprised a tap room, bar, sitting room, and kitchen. The superficial area of the old premises was 1,040 feet and the new building 1,128 feet.

The Chief Constable: The present building is a cosy cottage and the other will have a large bold gin palace front to it? – No.

The Chief Constable: Well, I don't know what you would call it. Supposing, as I contend, the area of the old cottages are not in the licensed area, how much would it reduce the licensed area? – Witness, after measuring the plan, remarked that the reduction would be 148 superficial yards.

In answer to Mr. Jackson the witness said there was plenty of room on the old site to erect the premises, but in giving up the land they would erect the public-house on a better site.

Mr. Loxton: That is to say it would be more exposed to supply the public needs? – Mr. Jackson: No, more valuable premises.

Mr. Hickton in reply to further questions, said the area of the present tap-room was 15ft by 14ft 6in, and the bar 15ft by 12ft. The proposed new bar would be 16ft by 12ft 6in, and the new smoke-room 15ft by 14ft 6in. In the bar, however, there would be a circular counter so that the drinking accommodation would be a little larger in the new premises than in the old. On the second floor there would be a small club room.

The Borough Surveyor was the next witness and he said the scheme was the suggestion of the Streets Committee of the Corporation, and he had assisted in forming it. The committee had been trying to deal with this corner since 1892. They now had an opportunity of doing what the Streets Committee had been desirous of doing since 1892. The negotiations had been conducted through Mr. Shaw, owner of part of the property, and who he understood was also connected with the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries. The improvement was most certainly required, and if the proposed buildings were erected as suggested it would carry out a decided improvement.

Cross-examined by the Chief Constable the Borough Surveyor said it was absolutely necessary that the old buildings should come down.

Mr. F. Bill said he was the solicitor to the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd, and he had had charge of the negotiations with the Corporation on the matter. The cottage at the extreme corner of the road upon land which was to be given up for the widening of the road belonged to Mr. Shaw and not the brewery company. If the present proposals were not carried out the arrangements between Mr. Shaw and the breweries company would fall through, and the cottage would remain.

The Chief Constable said he opposed this application because he thought it was not needed. No doubt in olden times the road opposite the present public-house was much more used. But now it was practically unused except for the purpose of tradesmen's carts going to the few houses in the vicinity, as people now going to Wolverhampton took a different road. In his opinion there was no need for the street improvement which was proposed. He contended that the improvement in the road could be carried without this license being removed. There were only 72 houses nearer to this licensed house than to any other, and he submitted there was no necessity to entertain the application.

Mr. Jackson submitted that the new erection would be different to the character of the old house, and he did not see why the house should be removed to premises which would be more valuable. There was no need for any further licensed house, and as there was plenty of room to re-build it on the old site, he opposed the removal.

Mr. Addison opposed on similar grounds, and that rightly or wrongly considered, the facilities in the town for obtaining drink were sufficient – a view which had been held by their Worship for several years. They now had an application which, from the evidence already given, would increase the facilities, and the premises would be better and more structurally adapted for the sale of drink than the tumble-down old place, which was uninviting, where as the new corner house would be put up on the most attractive lines.

Inspector Allen (in charge of the Bloxwich section) was the put in the box for the opposition, and gave it as his opinion that there was no need for the proposed removal of the license. Nor was there any need for any increased drinking facility. He also gave the distances which the house in question is from the nearest public-houses in various directions.

The magistrates reserved their decision in this and subsequent applications until all had been heard, when they retired to consider them together. On returning they intimated that they had decided to adjourn this application until the adjourned licensing meeting, in order that they might have an opportunity of viewing the place.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1898

“An application was made to remove the license of the SANDBANK TAVERN, Bloxwich, to a corner site. The case had been before the magistrates at the Licensing Day, and adjourned for the justices to inspect the place. Granted.”

Alfred Boot married Mary Jane Vale in the 2nd quarter of 1899.

Walsall Advertiser 29/9/1900

“Yesterday the adjourned Brewster sessions of this borough were held at the Guildhall.

Mr. F. Bill made application on behalf of *Alfred Boot*, beer retailer, Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich, for the provisional transfer of the license of the SANDBANK TAVERN, Bloxwich, to premises about to be erected. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) opposed on behalf of the owner and tenant of the SPRING COTTAGE, 90 yards away.

Mr. Bill explained that the house was situated on the corner of Clarendon Street and Elmore Green Road, where the road was very narrow, and the alteration to the premises would do away with the dangerous state of the road at that point as it was intended to set the house further back.

Application granted.”

At the Adjourned Annual Licensing Meeting, on 28th September 1900, the licensing committee sanctioned the removal of this license to premises about to be built. This was confirmed on 8th November 1900.

It was rebuilt in 1900.

Reopened

1901 Census

95, Elmore Green Road

- [1] *Alfred Boot* (43), coal miner and beerhouse keeper, born Netherton;
- [2] Mary Jane Boot (30), wife, born Princes End;
- [3] Emma Boot (18), daughter, born Netherton;
- [4] Wilfred Boot (16), son, coal miner, born Netherton;
- [5] Ada E. Vale (2), daughter, born Bloxwich:

Alfred Boot, beer retailer, Sandbank. [1904]

1911 Census

SANDBANK TAVERN

- [1] *Alfred Boot* (55), widower, publican, born Netherton;
- [2] William Ebdell Bilson (26), son in law, butcher's assistant, born Lane Head;
- [3] Emmeline Bilson (27), daughter, married 4 years, born Netherton;
- [4] Frank Ernest Vale (17), stepson, butcher's assistant, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Ada Elizabeth Vale (12), stepdaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Gladys May Boot (9), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] William Jordon Bilson (2), grandson, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Emma Bird (16), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Alfred Boot, beer retailer, Elmore Green Road. [1912]

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

SANDBANK TAVERN, Bloxwich, 3s 11d."

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1922

"Annual Licensing Sessions.....

There was an objection to the renewal of the SANDBANK TAVERN, Bloxwich, on the ground of a conviction against the previous tenant for supplying liquors during prohibited hours; but Mr. Cooper urged that the previous tenant had been punished by the magistrates and the Brewery Company, who dismissed him, and the license was renewed."

Walsall Observer 5/1/1924

"When at the Walsall Police Court on Wednesday, application was made Mr. Ernest Haden (of Messrs. Addison and Cooper), for the transfer of the license of the SANDBANK TAVERN, Bloxwich, from *James Taylor* to *George Wilfred Jones*. The Chief Constable (Mr. G. W. Ballance) said he thought the magistrates should know that the house had been closed throughout the festive season.

Mr. Haden: There has been some difficulty between *Taylor* and the brewery, and it is in consequence of that, we make the application for the transfer this morning.

Taylor, questioned by the Magistrates' Clerk, (Mr. S. E. Loxton) said he had been licensee and tenant of the SANDBANK TAVERN under an agreement with the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. Admitting he had been closed during the Christmas Holidays, he remarked, 'There has been a bit of disturbance between me and the agent, on account of the pricing of the beer.'

The Clerk: I suppose that was provided for in your agreement?

Taylor: No it wasn't. It's only a matter of the price of the beer. There is no ill-will at all.

The Bench granted a temporary authority to *Jones*."

Bilston & Willenhall Times 20/9/1924

"The Walsall magistrates, on Monday, agreed to a fortnight's adjournment in a case in which *George Wilfred Jones*, SANDBANK TAVERN, Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich, was summoned for being the holder of a license for the sale of intoxicating liquor by retail in his house and premises, knowingly did harbour on the premises Constable Arthur Wilkes during part of the time the constable should have been on duty, he not being there in the execution of his duty, on September 3rd; and for supplying intoxicating liquor to Constable Arthur Wilkes without authority of some superior officer on the same date, the constable being on duty."

Walsall Observer 4/10/1924

"How a Bloxwich police constable was found in a public house after licensed hours and during his duty hours, was told to the magistrates at Walsall Police Court on Monday, when *George Wilfred Jones* licensee of the SANDBANK TAVERN, Elmore Green Road, was summoned for (1) knowingly did harbour on his licensed premises Constable Arthur Wilkes during part of the

time for such constable being on duty, and not being there in the execution of his duty, and (2) supplying intoxicating liquor to Constable Arthur Wilkes, the said constable, being on duty, without the authority of some superior officer of the said constable. Appearing for defendant, Mr. Frank Cooper stated that the Chief Constable had agreed to proceed only on the second summons, and to that the defendant was prepared to plead guilty.

Evidence was given by Chief Inspector Cooke that, in company with Police-sergeant Lavender, he visited the SANDBANK TAVERN, Bloxwich, at 10.20 on Wednesday night, September 3, and found Police-constable Wilkes standing in a passage near the bar, talking to the landlord and his wife. He had a pint glass in his hand, and when witness asked 'What brings you here?' defendant intervened, 'He was passing and I asked him to have a drink.' Witness told defendant he had no business to supply after hours, and his wife then said, 'It was just on 10.' Witness told her, however, that it must have been later than that, as the constable did not leave Bloxwich police station until 10 o'clock. Witness added that the constable told him he was standing outside when the licensee asked him to have a drink.

Addressing the magistrates, Mr. Cooper said defendant had been a licensee only since January last, and, although the Bench might think it strange, he did not think he was committing an offence when he asked the constable to have a drink. Defendant bore an excellent character, and the owners of the house, the Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery Co, would very deeply regret if he had to give up the management on account of this offence.

Answering the Magistrates' Clerk, Chief Inspector Cooke said the constable had to go a few yards off his beat to enter the tavern, the public house being on one side of the street, and his beat on the other.

Announcing a fine of £5, the Chairman (Mr. S. B. Wheway) said the offence was very serious, and the Bench hoped the case would serve as a warning."

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

"At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst..... the following houses which had been objected to were renewed SANDBANK TAVERN, Bloxwich."

1939 Register

96, Elmore Green Road

[1] *Job Tyler*, date of birth 14/10/1891. Licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Frances Tyler*, dob 2/4/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Lavinia Tyler*, dob 4/4/1937, under school age, single;

[4] *May Hamblens*, dob 3/3/1918, press worker, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

SANDBANK TAVERN, Elmore Green Road, £5 0s 0d."

Walsall Observer 18/1/1941 - Deaths

"*Tyler*. Treasured memories of my dear husband, *Job*, who fell asleep Jan. 12, 1941.

He suffered patiently and long,

His hope was bright, his faith was strong.

We cannot Lord, Thy purpose see.

So sadly missed by his sorrowing Wife and son Billy (now serving in HM Forces).

Mrs. *Frances Tyler* and Son, of SANDBANK TAVERN, Bloxwich, sincerely thank the Doctor, all Relatives, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edwards, all dear Friends of Bloxwich and Walsall; Customers of the SANDBANK TAVERN and FOUR HORSE SHOES; the President and Members of the Licensed Victuallers, for sympathy in their sad bereavement; also Mr. Webb for funeral arrangements."

AND

"*Tyler*. In loving memory of our dear Brother, who passed away Jan. 12, 1941.

We never thought the end so near,

That we should loose a brother so dear.

Sadly missed by his loving brother Bill, sister-in-law Lizzie, and Family."

AND

"*Tyler*. In loving memory of our dear Brother, who passed away Jan. 12, 1941.

Peacefully sleeping, on God's golden shore,

He whispers, 'Do not grieve, my sufferings are o'er.'

Sadly missed by his loving sister Nance, brother-in-law Dick and Family."

AND

"*Tyler*. In loving memory of my dear Brother, *Job*, who passed peacefully away Sunday, Jan. 12, 1941.

You left behind an aching heart,

That loved you most sincere,

That never did nor never will

Forget you, brother dear.

Sadly missed by his sister Nellie, nephews Billy, Jim and Arthur."

Walsall Observer 8/2/1941

“At Walsall annual licensing session on Thursday, the justices approved the following license transfers.....
SANDBANK TAVERN, Bloxwich, from *Job Tyler* (deceased) to *Frances Tyler*.”

1941 Probate

“*Job Tyler*, of SANDBANK TAVERN, Elmore Green Road, Walsall, Staffordshire, died 12 January 1941. Administration Birmingham 3 February to *Frances Tyler*, widow. Effects £296 19s.”

Job Tyler – see also FOUR HORSE SHOES.

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SANDBANK TAVERN, Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich. £1 18s 6d.”

A full license was confirmed on 6th May 1948.

Jack Bradford – see also WHITE HORSE.

The name was changed to the ROMPING CAT on 7th March 1957.

It was listed in ‘The CAMRA National Inventory’ of pub interiors of outstanding historic interest.

It was refurbished in 2004.

Express & Star 22/3/2021

“Pubs group Marston’s has issued a list of pubs set to reopen in the Black Country on April 12th. In the Express & Star circulation area this takes in 93. Due to coronavirus restrictions they will only be able to accommodate customers in outdoor areas including beer gardens and seated areas. To accompany table service, Marston’s has introduced an online ordering system called ‘Marston’s Tap’. The online platform is available across the majority of Marston’s pubs for guests to use. Bookings are being accepted and guests can reserve a table via each pub’s website. Wolverhampton-based Marston’s has an estate of around 1,400 pubs across the UK and not all in England are able to reopen in April due to not having an outdoor space.....
ROMPING CAT, Elmore Green Road.”

[2021]

ROSE

Hall Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Willis [1847]

NOTES

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/2/1847

“Henry Mills will run Charles James, for £5 or £10 a side. His money is ready at Mr. *John Willis*’s ROSE INN, Hall Lane, Walsall.”

ROSE AND CROWN

55, Birchills (Birchills Lane) / Reedswood Close, (55, Birchills Green), (18, Old Birchills), (Upper Birchills), (Birchills Green), WALSALL

OWNERS

William Sheldon, GREAT WESTERN HOTEL, Wednesbury
Richard McGill
John Lord [1901]
Highgate and Walsall Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 11th August 1939) [1982]
Black Country Traditional Inns [2006]

LICENSEES

Bradbury John Dexter [1834] – [1870]
Mrs. Charlotte Mary Dexter [1871] – **1872**);
John Bradbury Dexter and Hannah Dexter [] – **1879**);
Richard McGill [1881] – **1886**);
John Hinkinson Sheldon (**1886 – 1891**);
Richard McGill (**1891 – 1892**);
William Edward Cooper (**1892 – 1901**);
George Edward Betteridge (**1901 – 1928**);
William Edward Holmes (**1928 – 1948**);
Ernest Joseph Mayo (**1948 – 1957**);
Harry Buttery (**1957 – 1958**);
Charles Green (**1958 – 1961**);
James Edward Clewley (**1961 – 1962**);
Colin Derek Harris (**1962 – 1964**);
Thomas Ernest Taylor (**1964** – [1966]
Jackie [2003] – **2005**);
Deborah J Humphreys (**2005** – [2007]

NOTES

Birchills Green [1849]
18, Old Birchills [1861]
Upper Birchills [1868]
55, Birchills Green [1891]
55, Birchills [1896], [1904], [1908], [1932], [1940]
55, Old Birchills [1901]

ROSE AND CROWN HOTEL [1939], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

It had stabling at the rear.

Ar's Birmingham Gazette 13/8/1827 - Advert

“To be Sold by private Contract, the Licences, Goodwill, and Possession of that old established and desirable Public House, the ROSE AND CROWN, situated at the Birch Hills, within half a mile of Walsall, in a very populous neighbourhood, and near to the wharf and extensive collieries in the foreign of Walsall, comprising three sleeping-rooms and spacious sitting-room upstairs, kitchen, bar, and pleasant parlour, good cellars, brewhouse, spacious yard and garden, with pump of capital water.

The usual effects to be taken to at a fair valuation.

N.B. The premises are very complete, and have lately been very much improved, and command a pleasant prospect of the town and neighbourhood.

For further particulars and to treat apply (if by letter, post paid) to E. Jukes, Land Surveyor and Auctioneer, Park Street, Walsall, or at his offices, Bath Street, Birmingham.”

Ar's Birmingham Gazette 13/10/1828 - Advert

“To be Sold by private Contract, the Lease, Licences, Goodwill, and Possession of that respectable Public House, with Stabling, Workshops, and three Acres of excellent Land, known by the sign of the ROSE AND CROWN, most delightfully situated at the Birchills, in the foreign of Walsall, commanding a pleasing prospect of the town and country around, being within half a mile of Walsall, in a populous neighbourhood, in the vicinity of extensive collieries and wharfs upon the branch of the Wyrley and Essing-

ton Canal.

There were six years and a half of the Lease unexpired at Michaelmas last, and the coming-in will be moderate. For further particulars apply (if by letter, post paid) to E. Jukes, Land Surveyor & Auctioneer, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Bradbury John Dexter = B. J. Dexton = John B. Dexter

Bradbury John Dexter was also a farmer. [1845]

Bradbury John Dexter, widower, cooper, married *Charlotte Mary Cooper*, age 17, spinster, on 27th January 1848.

1851 Census

Birchills

- [1] *Bradbury J. Dexter* (40), victualler, born Coliorton, Leicestershire;
- [2] *Charlotte M. Dexter* (30), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *John Bradbury Dexter* (3), son, born Birchills;
- [4] William Dexter (2), son, born Birchills;
- [5] Charlotte Mary Dexter (9 months), daughter, born Birchills;
- [6] Jane Green (13), general servant, born Birchills:

Birmingham Journal 8/10/1853 - Advert

“Freehold Inn And Other Dwelling Houses, together with Three Closes of Land, and Valuable Land Thereunder, situate at Birchills, near Walsall, Staffordshire.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Farrington, at a time and place to be named in next week’s paper, subject to conditions.

Lot 1. All that full-licensed and well-accustomed Inn or Public House, called the ROSE AND CROWN, with the Stables, Piggery, Yard, Out-buildings, Garden, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at Birchills, in the Foreign of the parish of Walsall, adjoining the road leading from Walsall to Birchills and Green Lanes, and now occupied by Mr. *J. B. Dexter*. And also, all those Ten several Messuages or Dwelling Houses, adjoining the above mentioned Inn or Public House, with Shops, Outbuildings and Yard, thereto belonging. And also all those Two Pieces Of Land, situate at the back of and adjoining the above described Dwelling Houses and containing by estimation Three Acres or thereabouts, now occupied by the said *J. B. Dexter*, bounded on one side by the Land of the Earl of Bradford.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

“An inquest was held on Wednesday last, at the house of Mr. *John Dexter*, the ROSE AND CROWN, Upper Birchills, on the body of Henry Tandy, a labourer, fifty-six years of age, who resided near St. Peter’s Church, Stafford Street. The deceased had been labouring under mental depression for some time, and on Monday morning rose at an unusually early hour, and went into the garden. Soon afterwards his body was found in the canal by a boatman, and, with assistance, was got out of the water, but it proved to be lifeless. Evidence was given that several members of the deceased man’s family had committed suicide, and the jury returned a verdict of Temporary Insanity.”

1861 Census

18, Old Birchills – ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *Bradbury John Dexter* (51), victualler, born Thringstone, Leicestershire;
- [2] *Charlotte Mary Dexter* (30), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *John Bradbury Dexter* (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] William Dexter (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Hannah Dexter* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Clara Dexter (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Sarah Dexter (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Robert Dexter (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Edgar Dexter (2), son, born Walsall;
- [10] Lizzie Dexter (10 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [11] Elizabeth Bullock (16), house servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 5/8/1862

“Yesterday afternoon an inquest was held before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, at the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Birchills, on the body of William Hastilow, aged 54, butty miner, who was killed on Friday last while at work in Mr. Sparrow’s field, Portobello. From the evidence adduced it appeared that a piece of stone, about 7cwt, had been raised by means of a block and tackle, and the deceased was engaged in guiding it to the wagon upon which it was to be placed, when the chain by which it was suspended broke, and the mass of stone fell upon the unfortunate man’s back. Death was instantaneous. The evidence showed that the occurrence was purely accidental, and a verdict to that effect was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/3/1863

“Richard Arnold was charged with assaulting William Butcher, at the Birchills, on Saturday night. It appeared that on that night a regular public-house row took place at the ROSE AND CROWN, Birchills, when defendant took a shovel and struck complainant

a violent blow in the face. Sentenced to pay a fine of 20s and costs, or one months' imprisonment."

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/2/1864

"On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Fletcher, Coroner for the Borough, held an inquest at the ROSE AND CROWN, Old Birchills, upon the body of Sarah Careless, aged 67, who died on the 7th instant from injuries received on the 30th ultimo under the following circumstances. On the night in question the deceased was sitting by the fire when her clothes accidentally caught fire. Her son, who was in bed, aroused by his mother's screams, rushed down stairs and extinguished the flames by throwing a bucketful of water upon the deceased, who, however, was so severely burnt that after lingering in great agony she expired on Tuesday morning. The jury after hearing the evidence returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/10/1864

"On Tuesday afternoon an inquest was held by A. A. Fletcher, coroner for the borough, at the ROSE AND CROWN, Old Birchills, upon the body of an engineman, named James Broom, who had been killed at the Bentley furnaces. The deceased had, contrary to the rules of the establishment, been oiling the machinery while in motion, and was caught by some of the wheels, drawn between them, and torn to pieces. The jury, after hearing the evidence returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/2/1866

"An inquest was held at the ROSE AND CROWN, Birchills, yesterday, before A. A. Fletcher, coroner, touching the death of Thomas Allen, son of a boatman, living at Birchills. It appeared that on Thursday last the lad had been sent along the canal side at Birchills with a pony, and that shortly afterwards the pony was discovered dripping wet coming along the canal bank by itself, and on the water being searched the body of the lad was found. An Open Verdict was returned."

Bradbury John Dexter died in the 4th quarter of 1870.

1871 Census

Birchills – ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *Charlotte M. Dexter* (41), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *John B. Dexter* (23), son, brewer, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Dexter* (22), son, fitter and turner, born Walsall;
- [4] *Hannah Dexter* (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Clara Dexter* (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sarah Dexter* (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Robert Dexter* (15), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *Edgar Dexter* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Lizzie Dexter* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] *Walter Dexter* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;

Charlotte Mary Dexter died in the 4th quarter of 1872.

The licensee was fined 10s and costs, on 29th March 1876, for Sunday trading.

Bradbury John Dexter (jun.) died in the 2nd quarter of 1879.

1881 Census

Old Birchills

- [1] *Richard McGill* (36), licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] *Betsy McGill* (33), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Robert McGill* (12), son, scholar, born Handsworth;
- [4] *John McGill* (10), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *Mary McGill* (7), daughter, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [6] *Hannah McGill* (6), daughter, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [7] *William McGill* (5), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [8] *James T. McGill* (10 months), son, born Walsall;
- [9] *Mary Whitehouse* (31), assistant, dressmaker, born West Bromwich;
- [10] *Elizabeth Johnson* (20), general servant, born Darlaston;

Lichfield Mercury 16/7/1886

"*John McGill*, of the ROSE AND CROWN, Birchills, was summoned for shooting a pigeon, value 7s 6d, on Saturday last. Evidence was given showing the defendant was seen to shoot the pigeon, which was wounded severely though not killed, and the Bench fined him 5s and costs, and ordered him to pay 7s 6d compensation."

John Hinkinson Sheldon was fined 20s and costs, on 2nd March 1891, for serving during prohibited hours.

1891 Census

55, Birchills Green – ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *Richard McGill* (45), turner and innkeeper's manager, born Dudley;
- [2] *Betsy McGill* (43), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *John McGill* (19), son, Patent Shaft works, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *Mary McGill* (17), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *Hannah McGill* (16), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [6] *William S. McGill* (15), son, Patent Shaft works, born Wednesbury;
- [7] *James T. McGill* (10), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/5/1891

“*Re Richard McGill*, the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Birchills.

At the Walsall County Court, yesterday – before his Honour Deputy judge Amphlett – Mr. Evans applied for a discharge of this bankrupt, who was adjudicated in January, 1888. The Official Receiver reported that the bankrupt had omitted to keep books, that he had continued to trade after knowing himself to be insolvent, and had contracted debts without reasonable expectation of being able to pay them.

The order of discharge was suspended for three months.”

William E. Cooper, beer retailer, 55, Birchills. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

William Cooper, ROSE AND CROWN, served 11 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under.....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

A full license was granted in September 1900.

Walsall Advertiser 29/9/1900

“Yesterday the adjourned Brewster session for the borough were held at the Guildhall.....

William Edward Cooper, of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Birchills Street, made application through Mr. H. H. Jackson for the provisional grant of a license in respect of his house to premises about to be erected. Applicant's contention was that the house was very old and wanted re-building.

Mr. Whiteley opposed on behalf of the Walsall Temperance party.

The matter was adjourned for a fortnight to enable the magistrates to visit the premises.”

At the Adjourned General Annual Licensing meeting held on 28th September 1900 the Justices sanctioned the Removal of the license to premises about to be erected in accordance with plans submitted and on the 2nd November 1900 the grant was confirmed.

Demolished

Rebuilt

The new building opened in 1901.

1901 Census

55, Old Birchills – ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *William E. Cooper* (31), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Alice Cooper* (27), wife, domestic, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Edward Cooper* (9), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Cooper* (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Violetta Hollyhead* (17), general servant, born Walsall;
- [6] *Thirza Mills* (18), general servant, born Tipton:

Walsall Advertiser 14/9/1901

“The Borough Coroner (Mr. T. Howard Stanley) held an inquest on Wednesday afternoon at the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, touching the death of *William Maybury* (46), of 171, Stafford Street. Deceased, who was formerly a fitter, had for some time occupied himself as a fishmonger and hawker.

From the evidence of his daughter, *Jessie Maybury*, it seems that deceased took some fish to sell at Birchills Flower Show, and he returned home in a cart at 11.15. He complained that some of his ribs were broken, and she went for Dr. P. A. Shore. He was not at home, so Dr. McKinstry was called in. Witness said her father blamed the keeper of a public-house at Birchills for his accident,

saying that he fell on the ground through there being no proper light, and the steps not being in proper order.

In answer to the Coroner, witness said there was some repairing going on at the premises.

William Edward Cooper, landlord of the ROSE AND CROWN, Birchills, said his premises were being rebuilt. On August 26th Maybury came to his house. He was quite sober, and was served with half-a-pint of ale. He went out and returned with his hand to his side, complaining that he had fallen on some planks outside the house. The planks had been placed there for some people to walk on, because there had been some heavy rain, and the drains were stopped up. Replying to the Coroner, witness said there was a lamp outside the house, which he himself had lighted.

Frederick Jas. Brown, caster, of Pargetter Street, saw the deceased in the ROSE AND CROWN and accompanied him outside, when he asked deceased if he would allow him to take him home. The man replied that he had only to go into Stafford Street, and went away.

Dr. McKinsty deposed that the man was suffering from broken ribs, and about the fifth day after the injury pneumonia supervened. The primary cause of death was pneumonia, and the secondary cause fractured ribs. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle (October 1902)

“A similar application [for an Order to declare final the provisional grant of the license to sell on the premises] was made by Mr. F. Bill in respect of the ROSE AND CROWN, Old Birchills.

The Magistrates’ Clerk intimated that in carrying out the building operations at the house there had been a deviation from the plans. The justices had, therefore, decided to adjourn the matter until the annual licensing meeting in the spring, for some explanation to be offered.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4], [1905]

George Betteridge, beer retailer, 55, Birchills. [1904]

1911 Census

Birchills – ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *George Betteridge* (48), carpenter, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Agnes Betteridge* (42), wife, married 12 years, born Rochdale, Lancashire;
- [3] *William Betteridge* (10), son, school, born Walsall;
- [4] *Maggey Clarke* (50), sister in law, widow, born Rochdale, Lancashire;
- [5] *Louisa Reynolds* (24), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1911

“Bowling. A new club has been started at the ROSE AND CROWN HOTEL, Birchills, but as the green has only just been laid down, it has been decided to defer the opening until Coronation week.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/9/1911

“Bowling. Slowly but surely the season is passing although a few clubs are keeping the ball rolling a little longer. Last Saturday, a new green was opened, surely a record.

The occasion was the opening of the green at the ROSE AND CROWN, at Birchills, which should have been opened on Coronation day, but the dry weather made it impossible, but not to be disappointed a friendly game was played last Saturday by a team picked from the Birchills Alexandra club, and a team picked from clubs round the district, and got together and captained by Mr. J. Betteridge. Considering the terrible heat that has been experienced, the green was looking in good condition, it is of good size and if looked after, should make a welcome addition to the greens in the town and district. The game was very enjoyable and ended in a victory for the Alexandra men, much to everyone’s surprise, but they played finely and fully deserved the victory.....”

Walsall Advertiser 17/1/1914

“*George Bettridge*, ROSE AND CROWN, Birchills, was summoned for selling brandy to a person under the age of 14, otherwise than in a corked and sealed vessel, in quantity less than one reputed pint. Mr. Frank Cooper defended.

Elizabeth Jones (13), of Rowley Street, said she was sent by Detective-sergeant Burrell for seven pennyworth of brandy to the ROSE AND CROWN, where a young woman served her and neither sealed the bottle nor asked the girl her age.

Sergeant Burrell, cross-examined, said defendant had kept the house for about twelve years, and there had been no complaint against him.

Mr. Cooper said the girl was served by an inexperienced relative, whom defendant employed on the death of his wife only a few days ago. Fined 20/- and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/2/1914

“The members of the London and Provincial Yearly Dividing Society (Birchills Lodge) held their annual supper and ‘smoker’ at the Lodge-room, the ROSE AND CROWN HOTEL, Birchills, on Monday, when about forty members and friends, sat down together with the Mayor, ex-Mayor, Bro. J. Clifford, C.B.R. (Birmingham) and Bro. J. Dent, ex-president of the District Council, Wednesbury, to partake of the good things provide by Bro. *G. Betteridge*.....”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall

Branch).....

ROSE AND CROWN, Birchills, £2 1s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

ROSE AND CROWN, Birchills. £1 1s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

John Lord’s houses.....

ROSE AND CROWN, Birchills.”

1939 Register

Old Birchills – ROSE AND CROWN HOTEL

[1] *William E. Holmes*, date of birth 8/10/1883, public house manager, married;

[2] *Amelia Holmes*, dob 13/5/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Emma R. (Holmes) Earp*, dob 23/10/1927, at school, single;

[4] *Sarah A. Shaw*, dob 10/4/1877, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 16/12/1939 - Advert

“The Old Birchills Sick, Death, & Dividend Society.

To-Night, at 6pm, we are paying our 962 members their Dividends of 17/6 per member, with two nights struck off their cards.

This Society is still open to enrol new members from the age of 16 to 50 years for healthy males. Our Benefits are: Death, member £5, member’s wife £2 10s, each member’s child £1; Sick Pay 10/- per week six weeks, 5/- per week six weeks. Any person who wishes to join can get all information from our headquarters, ROSE AND CROWN HOTEL, Birchills, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

ROSE AND CROWN INN, Old Birchills, £6 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

ROSE & CROWN INN, Old Birchills (Second donation). £2 15s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ROSE AND CROWN, Old Birchills. £2 3s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ROSE & CROWN INN, Old Birchills. £0 4s 7d.”

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn-Quiz. [1980]

Deborah J Humphreys was married to Gron.

[2017]

ROSE AND CROWN

Darlaston Road, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Sam Allen [1925]

NOTES

Black Country Bugle 24/2/2000

Letter from Roy Allen, Bentley

“.....my late granddad *Sam ‘Nipper’ Allen* used to be the licensee of. The pub was called the ROSE AND CROWN (or The Steps to some) and was on the Darlaston Road, Walsall. I believe he was the licensee for 46 years. My father, Joe was born there in 1925.....”

ROSE AND THISTLE

Wednesbury Road / 2, Caledon Street, (2, Regent Street), (Darlaston Road), Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

Sarah Parker [1861]

Samuel Middlebrook

Thomas Green Cleobury [1904], [1912]

Atkinsons Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Sarah Parker [1861] – [1862]

Samuel Middlebrook [1868] – 1898);

Thomas Green Cleobury (1898 – 1908);

James Cleobury [1908] ?

Abraham Smith (1908 – 1917);

Bertha Ann Smith (1917 – 1919);

Abraham Smith (1919 – 1926);

John Henry Hughes (1926 – []

John Henry Loynes [] – 1928);

Ernest Charles Williams (1928 – 1930);

John Cross (1930 – 1932);

Frederick Louis Dock (1932 – 1935);

Arthur Elias Alberrt William Hitch (1935 – 1937);

Frederick Ernest Preston (1937 – 1938);

George Sumner (1938 – 1939);

Mrs. Hilda Sumner (1939 – 1944);

George Adams (1944 – 1957);

Maynard Hodgkins (1957 – 1959);

Doris Malvina Hodgkins (1959 – 1967);

NOTES

2, Regent Street [1901], [1911]

2, Caledon Street [1940]

It was formerly known as the CROWN AND ANCHOR.

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/4/1858

“George Preece and Joseph Southwell were charged by Wm. Webster with having assaulted him at the ROSE AND THISTLE beerhouse, Pleck, on Monday night. It appeared a drunken row had taken place, in which Preece struck the complainant on the head with a bottle or a poker, it was not clear which, although the former was no doubt, the ultimate cause of the blow. Preece was fined 5s and the other defendant discharged.”

1861 Census

Regent Street – ROSE AND THISTLE Public House

- [1] *Sarah Parker* (67), widow, victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Thomas Beesley (15), grandson, clerk at iron works, born Lane Head;
- [3] Charles Beesley (13), grandson, scholar, born Lane Head:

Sarah Parker, retailer of beer, Pleck. [1862]

Samuel Middlebrook, beer retailer, Pleck. [1868], [1872]

1871 Census

Regent Street

- [1] *Samuel Middlebrook* (37), publican, born Rushall;
- [2] Jane Middlebrook (34), wife, born Rushall;
- [3] William Middlebrook (12), son, scholar, born Palfrey;
- [4] Martha Middlebrook (8), daughter, scholar, born Palfrey;
- [5] Samuel Middlebrook (5), son, scholar, born Palfrey;
- [6] James Middlebrook (2), son, born Palfrey:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/12/1871

“*Samuel Middlebrook*, beer-house keeper, at the Pleck, was charged with having refused admission to a police-constable. The facts of the case were simply these. Police-constable Stringer went to the defendant’s house at 11.30 on Sunday forenoon, having an overcoat on, which concealed his uniform, and requested to be admitted. The defendant came up to the officer and asked him what he wanted. The officer told him he was a police-constable, and wished to see what was going on inside the house. The defendant demanded to see the officer’s warrant card. The officer showed his uniform underneath the great-coat, and asked if that would not satisfy him. Defendant said he had been put on before by such a trick. Meantime, defendant’s wife opened the door, and the officer stepped inside, but was prevented going further by the defendant. Mr. Dale, who appeared for the defendant, contended that the officer had been ‘admitted’ as, by his own showing, on the door being opened he went in. This objection was sustained, and the case dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/4/1872

“*Samuel Middlebrook*, beerhouse keeper, the Pleck, was fined 20s and costs, for having had his house open after eleven o’clock at night.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/4/1872

“Nine men were fined 1s each and costs for having, on the 25th ult, been in the beerhouse of *Samuel Middlebrook*, the Pleck, during prohibited hours.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 10/8/1872

“J. Middlebrook of Walsall will run W. Kenderick (alias Mogg) 120 yards, for £10 or £25 a side, in six weeks from signing articles, and will give or take £1 for choice of ground. A match can be made at any time by calling at Mr. *S. Middlebrook*’s, ROSE AND THISTLE, Pleck, near Walsall. Middlebrook hopes that if this will suit Kenderick he will come to terms at once.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 26/7/1879

“Staffordshire Summer Assizes. Crown Court. (Before Mr. Justice Hawkins.)

Robert Fosborough Lines, 23, filer, was indicted for the wilful murder of a male child at Walsall, on the 26th April. He was further indicted for attempting to murder his wife at the same time and place. Mr. Neale prosecuted, and Mr. Darling defended. Prisoner, who seemed much affected at his position, pleaded not guilty.

In opening the case, Mr. Neale said that the facts were very simple and very painful. The prisoner was married to his present wife in October, 1878. On the 25th April she was confined, and the prisoner seemed to be of opinion that the child was not his, declaring that his wife must have been unfaithful prior to her marriage.....

Samuel Middlebrook, a beerhouse keeper, spoke to a conversation with the prisoner a few hours after the birth of the child. Prisoner said that the child could not possibly be his, and he had a good mind to throw them both out of the window. Witness was cross-examined with great severity as to whether the prisoner was drunk or sober at the time, Mr. Darling accusing the witness of caring more for his miserable beerhouse than for the life of the prisoner.....

His Lordship summed up. He said that if the prisoner attacked the child with a view to taking its life and killed it; or if he had intended to kill his wife, and killed the infant by mistake; or if he had intended to do grievous bodily harm to either his wife or child, and death resulted, in either case that was murder. He urged the jury not to consider the result of their verdict, but merely do their duty and leave the execution of their verdict to others.

After ten minutes deliberation the Jury found the prisoner guilty of 'wilful murder', but recommended him to mercy on account of the doubt as to the paternity of the child.

His Lordship having assumed the black cap, addressed the prisoner as to the cruel nature of his crime, and having warned him not to be buoyed up by any hope of pardon, passed sentence of death in the usual form.

Prisoner, who was accommodated with a seat during the trial, seemed utterly overcome and said nothing. His wife, who dressed in deep mourning, was in the precincts of the Court, was terribly affected on hearing that the sentence had been passed."

Staffordshire Sentinel 4/8/1879

"It will be remembered that Robert Forborough Lines was condemned at the recent Stafford Assizes for the murder of his male child at the Pleck, Walsall. Since his condemnation, a memorial in his favour has been presented to the Home Secretary, containing 5,659 signatures, including nearly all the clergy and Nonconformist ministers of Wednesbury, members of the Board of Guardians, School Board, &c. The Home Secretary, considering that there were some mitigating circumstance in the case, advised her Majesty to this effect, and a respite arrived at the County Prison on Sunday morning."

1881 Census

Darlaston Road – Beerhouse

- [1] *Samuel Middlebrook* (47), beerhouse keeper, born Rushall;
- [2] Jane Middlebrook (43), wife, born Rushall;
- [3] Martha Middlebrook (18), daughter, born Palfrey;
- [4] Samuel Middlebrook (15), son, saddler, born Palfrey;
- [5] James Middlebrook (12), son, scholar, born Pleck;
- [6] John Middlebrook (9), son, scholar, born Pleck;
- [7] Emma Middlebrook (6), daughter, scholar, born Pleck;
- [8] Henry Middlebrook (3), son, born Pleck:

1891 Census

Wednesbury Road – ROSE AND THISTLE INN

- [1] *Samuel Middlebrook* (56), publican, born Rushall;
- [2] Ann Middlebrook (56), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] John Middlebrook (20), son, polisher, born Walsall;
- [4] Emma Middlebrook (16), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [5] Lizzie Middlebrook (9), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1894

"Conservative League Jottings.....

'Frank James' Lodge. At the above lodge held at the ROSE AND THISTLE, Pleck, on Wednesday evening, Bro S. Thornhill gave his lecture 'Disestablishment and Disendowment,' to a crowded audience, who for an hour listened most attentively to the masterly way in which he dealt with his subject. The lecturer showed what the church had done and was doing in the cause of education, also the money spent in building and restoring churches and Cathedrals during the last fifty years, showing also that the poor toiling masses of England would suffer most if the church were robbed of her endowments. He also urged his hearers to do all in their power to protect the church which had done so much for them. A hearty vote of thanks proposed by Bro. Littler, seconded by Bro. Growse, was given to the lecturer, and the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony. The next lodge night will be on Wednesday next, Friday 14th, at eight o'clock."

Walsall Advertiser 23/2/1895

"Walsall Conservative Association.....

On Friday next an important meeting of No.19 District (the Pleck) will be held at the ROSE AND THISTLE, Pleck. It is hoped all members will make a point of being present."

Walsall Advertiser 23/2/1895

"During the last few weeks Mr. *Samuel Middlebrook* of the ROSE AND THISTLE, Pleck, has had made at Mr. Nock's several hundred loaves of bread, which he has given to the poor and those thrown out of employment by the severe frost. Mr. *Middlebrook's* example has been followed by others.

Mr. and Mrs. Webster, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Oxford Street, Pleck, in conjunction with a friend, on Tuesday last, distributed 120 loaves of bread, and 120 quarts of soup. This makes their fifth distribution since the inclement weather set in."

Samuel Middlebrook, beer retailer, 2, Regent Street, Pleck. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

"The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

William Bates, blacksmith, of Darlaston Road, and Mr. Rutheroe, for Mr. Stanley, opposed the application of Mr. H. H. Jackson for an 'on' license for wines at the ROSE AND THISTLE, Wednesbury Road.

Application refused."

Walsall Observer 17/2/1900

“On Tuesday evening last the members of the National United Order of Free Gardeners (Bilston, Walsall and Cannock district) met at the ROSE AND THISTLE INN for the purpose of giving a send-off to one of their members, Joseph Walton, who had orders to rejoin his regiment – the 38th South Staffordshire – on the 15th inst. Mr. T. Edge presided.....”

Thomas Cleobury = Thomas Clebury

1901 Census

2, Regent Street

- [1] *Thomas Green Cleobury* (34), beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] Martha Cleobury (32), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Thomas Cleobury (6), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Annie Rathbone (23), servant, born Leamington:

Thomas Clebury, beer retailer, 2, Regent Street, Pleck. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Thomas Green Cleobury, ROSE AND THISTLE, owner and occupier of this house, produced plans to meet the requirements of the magistrates, and the renewal of the license was adjourned for a week.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Thursday.....

The ROSE AND THISTLE case, The Pleck, was adjourned for Mr. Thomas (Chief Constable) and Mr. Jackson (solicitor) to confer as to an objectionable plan.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

Mr. Loxton read a list of decisions (some of which had been given the previous day), and stated that in the case of some of the renewals the magistrates were of opinion that they were not required, but as they were taken out prior to 1869 they had been granted in order to give the owners an opportunity of considering their position and making any suggestions they thought necessary. The decisions included the following.....

ROSE AND THISTLE, Pleck, subject to an undertaking with regard to plans. Renewed.”

Lichfield Mercury 24/1/1908

“Free Gardeners. Bilston, Walsall And Cannock District.

The half-yearly meeting of the above was held at the DUN COW HOTEL, Walsall, on Monday.....

Bro. *S. Middlebrook*, ROSE AND THISTLE Lodge, The Pleck, Walsall, was installed District Master for 1908.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/7/1909

“Loyal Caledonian Corks. A large assembly of members of Lodge 421, met at the Lodge house, WHITE LION, Portland Street, on Monday evening, when the members of Lodge 51, ROSE AND THISTLE, The Pleck were paying a friendly regalia visit.

The visitors turned up in good numbers, and the spacious club room was well filled. Two new members were initiated by Bro. *A. Smith*, Past Captain of the Lodge, and the host of the ROSE AND THISTLE. The usual business of the Lodge being over it was decided to make it an open night. Harmony was freely indulged in, Bros. Knight, Stokes, Hattersley, O'Donnel, Harber, and Paddock entertaining the company in excellent style to the efficient accompaniments of Bros. Osbourn and E. Harber. Bro. George Noakes (Lodge secretary), proposed a vote of thanks to the visitors, complimenting them on their excellent attendance also the ready way they had added to the night's entertainment, at the same time promising that Lodge 421, would return the visit in a short time. He hoped as good a number as the visitors had brought the evening. The singing of the National Anthem brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/9/1910.

“A Brobdingnagian Turnip.

A turnip of unusual size had been shown at the ROSE AND THISTLE, The Pleck. It was grown on Mr. Mark Smith's farm at Blakenall, and when gathered turned the scale at 30½lbs. Now it has dried down it weighs 24lbs. Side by side with this specimen are two smaller ones, which weigh 12lbs a piece.”

1911 Census

2, Regent Street

- [1] *Abraham Smith* (32), retailer of beer, brewer, born Blakenall;
- [2] Bertha Ann Smith (33), wife, married 8 years, assisting in business, born Harden:

Abraham Smith, beer retailer, 2, Regent Street, Pleck. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1912

“The annual licensing sessions for the borough were held yesterday (Friday) at the Guildhall.

Mr. Jackson made an application for sanction for alterations at the ROSE AND THISTLE beer-house, Wednesbury Road. The proposed alterations would be to convert the present club-room into a bedroom and bathroom; to convert a disused brewery in the yard into a club room, and to cover part of the yard with a glass roof. Mr. Jackson stated that there would be no alteration in the licensing area, and would really be for the purpose of giving better living accommodation.

This was borne out by Mr. *Cleobury*, the landlord, who stated that the club room would be used a great deal on the occasion of football matches.

The alterations were approved.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).

ROSE AND THISTLE, Pleck, Walsall, 1s 5d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.

ROSE AND THISTLE, Wednesbury Road. £2 0s 0d.”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“By 1925 *Abraham Smith* was a tenant here when the house was described as a ‘rather old property in good repair.’ The Bar was 23’ x 10’2” x 10’10” with an outdoor, Smoke Room and Club Room.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/8/1928

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 9th inst, at the house of Mr. *Samuel Birch*, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention.

Ernest Charles Williams, ROSE AND THISTLE INN, Wednesbury Road, Pleck, elected member of the society.”

Summer = Summer

Walsall Observer 18/11/1939

“In a list of license transfers were two instances where a wife is taking over now that her husband had been called to the Colours, the license of the ROSE AND THISTLE, Wednesbury Road, being transferred to *Hilda Summer*, and that of the CUPS, Park Street, to Florence Joan Guest.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.

ROSE AND THISTLE, Wednesbury Road, £2 2s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.

ROSE AND THISTLE, Wednesbury Road, Pleck. £12 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.

ROSE & THISTLE, Wednesbury Road. £0 18s 3d.”

A full license was granted on 8th February 1951.

It closed on 3rd January 1967.

ROVERS REST

654, (384), Bloxwich Road, (Blakenall Lane), (1, Blakenall), Leamore, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Thomas Farnell
John Jones, Little Sutton
Northampton Brewery Co. Ltd. [1901], [1910]

LICENSEES

Thomas Farnell [1871] – [1873];
John Gough [];
John Jones [1881] – [];
William Walker [];
Thomas Harper [] – **1886**;
Hiram Jones (**1886 – 1888**);
Joseph Stanton (**1888 – 1890**);
Henry Wilcox (**1890 – 1894**);
James Walters (**1894 – 1899**);
Aaron Foster (**1899 – 1901**);
John Corbett Walker (**1901 – 1902**);
Albert Edward Marshall [1901]
Ernest Walker [1902] ?
George Corbett Walker (**1902 – 1905**);
John Rae McLean (**1905 – 1907**);
Edward Corbett Walker (**1907 – 1908**);
Mrs. Marie Walker (**1908 – 1909**);
Alfred Marshall (**1909 – 1910**);

NOTES

1, Blakenall [1871]
384, Bloxwich Road [1891]
654, Bloxwich Road [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

1, Blakenall – ROVERS REST

- [1] *Thomas Farnell* (68), lock maker, born Essington;
- [2] Katherine Farnell (50), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] William Farnell (61), brother, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Elizabeth Edwards (19), domestic servant, born Shropshire;
- [5] Jane Mellor (20), boarder, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Elizabeth Gough (4), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] William Lakins (25), boarder, miner, born Birchills:

Walsall Free Press 30/8/1873

“*Thomas Farnell*, beerhouse keeper, Bloxwich, charged with having had his house open during prohibited hours on Monday last, admitted the charge, and was fined 20s and costs.”

1881 Census

Blakenhall Lane – ROVERS REST

- [1] *John Jones* (51), beerhouse keeper, born Brewood;
- [2] Mary Jones (42), wife, born Walsall:

Hiram Jones = Hiram Jones

Hiram Jones was fined 20s and costs, on 17th April 1887, for permitting drunkenness.

Birmingham Daily Post 18/8/1887

“*Hiram Jones*, of the ROVERS REST, Bloxwich, was fined 20s and costs, for allowing drunkenness in his house on 30th July.”

Walsall Observer 24/9/1887

“Walsall Licensing Sessions

The adjourned annual licensing meeting was held yesterday, at the Sessions Court.....

Applications which had been adjourned owing to the tenants having been convicted during the past year.

The following were granted.....

ROVERS REST, Bloxwich Road.”

1891 Census

384, Bloxwich Road

[1] *Henry Wilcox* (53), bridle bit filer and beerseller, born Lichfield;

[2] *Louisa Wilcox* (51), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] *William Wilcox* (19), son, bridle bit filer, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Edith Cooper* (5), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;

[5] *Hannah Stanton* (41), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;

[6] *Mark Devey* (21), son in law, bridle bit filer, born Bloxwich;

[7] *Olive Devey* (17), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[8] *Howard Cockayne* (37), boarder, bridle bit filer, born Bloxwich:

James Walters = James Walker

Walsall Observer 7/9/1895

“*Eliza Cornfield*, of Bloxwich Lane, was charged with refusing to quit the premises of *James Walters*, the ROVERS REST, Bloxwich. Complainant said that on the 17th instant defendant was very disorderly in the house. As he turned her out she took his watch out of his pocket and dashed it to the ground, doing damage, which had been valued by Mr. Stirling at from 7s to 19s. She was sent to Stafford in default of paying a fine of 5s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/8/1896

“*James Walters*, landlord of the ROVERS REST, Bloxwich was charged with having kept his house open for the sale of intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

Police-sergeant 2 (Marshall) said that at about 11.40 on the night of Saturday, August 1st he met a man named Sagar coming from the back of the ROVERS REST with two half-gallon jars of beer. In answer to his questions, Sagar said ‘I’ve had it from Cox’s on the Green’ – a house some three-quarters of a mile away – but afterwards he said ‘I might as well tell you the truth; I had it from *Walters*, but I’ve not paid for it.’ He subsequently saw the landlord who admitted that a man names Morris had paid for it. The landlord now swore positively that Sagar took the beer away (after Morris had paid for it) before eleven o’clock, and that no one was supplied after that hour.

The Bench, satisfied with this explanation, dismissed the case without hearing Mr. Jackson’s further evidence.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against. Beer Retailers.....

James Walker, ROVERS REST, Bloxwich Road, August 21st, keeping his house open during prohibited hours, dismissed.”

1901 Census

654, Bloxwich Road – ROVERS REST INN

[1] *Aaron Foster* (27), beerhouse keeper and coal miner (hewer), born Aldridge;

[2] *Eleanor Foster* (26), wife, born Brownhills;

[3] *Aaron Foster* (4), son, born Blakenall Heath;

[4] *Ethel M. Foster* (1), daughter, born Blakenall Heath;

[5] *Ernest S. Foster* (4 months), son, born Leamore;

[6] *Eliza Kidson* (15), general servant, born Essington:

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1902

“*James Walker*, of the ROVERS REST, Bloxwich, and *Frederick Groucott*, of Petty’s Yard, James Street, young men, were summoned for causing an obstruction by playing football on Marlow Street, on August 30th.

Police-constable Allen said the youths were playing at football along with some others in Marlow Street.

Defendants denied that they were playing football in the street, but on some waste land.

Mr. Thomson (Chief Constable) said this was the commencement of the football season, and there were many complaints about youths playing football in different parts of the town. In this particular district complaints were made by Councillor Walker of youths playing football near his premises. Fined 1s and costs each.”

George Walker, beer retailer, Leamore. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable inter-

est. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

George Corbett Walker, ROVERS REST.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

ROVERS REST, Bloxwich. Licensee, *George Corbett Walker*; owners, Northampton Brewery Company. James Beard, aged 79, had known this beerhouse 41 years. Councillor Powell spoke to the value, and said it was not dilapidated.

Renewed on the undertaking by Mr. H. H. Jackson, on behalf of the owners, to do what alterations or repairs were required.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1904

“John Loundes, back of 658, Bloxwich Road, was found drunk upon the licensed premises of the ROVERS REST, Leamore, on August 27th by Police-constable Gibbs, and he now answered the summons charging him therewith.

The Chief Constable explained that the case was one in which the man was seen leaving the premises in an intoxicated condition. He had not been served by the landlord, who ejected him.

Defendant was ordered to pay 5s and costs, or go to prison for seven days, Mr. Moseley remarking that publicans had quite enough to contend with nowadays without being called upon to eject drunken men.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/1/1905 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of Walsall, to the Chief Constable, and Clerk to the Justices of the Borough, and to all it may concern.

Take Notice that I, *George Corbett Walker*, of the ROVERS REST, Bloxwich Road, near Bloxwich, in the Borough of Walsall, Beerhousekeeper, being a person interested in certain premises about to be constructed for the purpose of being used as a House for the Sale of Beer, Cider, and Perry, to be consumed on the same, and belonging to the Northampton Brewery Company Limited, Northampton, situate and being in Bloxwich Road, near Bloxwich aforesaid, and now and hereafter intended to be known as the ROVERS REST, intend to apply at the General Annual Licensing meeting for the Borough of Walsall, to be holden at the Guildhall, in the said Borough, on the 8th day of February, 1905, at 10.30 in the forenoon, for: the provisional removal of a License now held by me in respect of the said licensed premises, known as the ROVERS REST, from the said licensed premises as the case may be, to premises about to be constructed in accordance with plans which will be submitted to the said Justices, upon land as part to therefore being situate upon the site of the said licensed premises, and as to other part being land adjoining the said licensed premises. And Further, I intend to apply to the confirming authority for the confirmation of such Provisional Removal And Further Take Notice, that the License which I desire to be removed as aforesaid, will, when such Provisional Grant of Removal is confirmed as aforesaid, authorise me to Sell by Retail, on the said premises so as to be constructed as aforesaid, Beer, Cider, and Perry, to be consumed either on or off the said premises, in pursuance of the Acts 11. Geo. IV. and I. Will. IV. C. 64 and Acts amending the same, and that when the said premises are constructed I shall be the real resident holder and occupier of the same. Dated the 16th day of January, 1905.

Geo. Walker.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions were resumed on Tuesday at the Guildhall, for the third day.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for the removal of the license of the ROVERS REST, Leamore, to new premises to be erected. *George Corbett Walker* was the tenant, and the Wolverhampton Brewery Company[?] the owners. Mr. Jackson said it was an ante-'69 license, and they were desirous of erecting a new and more suitable building.

Mr. Loxton said it would become a new license.

Mr. Jackson: I cannot take that. If the Magistrates rule that there is an end of it.

Mr. Loxton said if this was an application for the removal they could not continue the '69 privilege.

Mr. Jackson said if the Court held that they would only grant the removal on its being a new license they could not proceed. They were prepared to give up their right to renewal, but if the removal was refused they wanted compensation.

Mr. Loxton: Can you do such a thing?

Mr. Jackson said if the Bench would only grant a new license under the 1904 Act he would have to withdraw the application.

Mr. Loxton: You are not prepared to make an application as a new license? – Mr. Jackson: I am not. I am also instructed to apply under Sub-section 4 of Section 11 of the 1902 Act.

Mr. Loxton: You want the magistrates to direct you to do something – to carry out alterations as they require? – Mr. Jackson: I wish they would do that. I withdraw the application.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/7/1908

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week....

New Members..... Mrs. *Walker*, ROVERS REST INN, Bloxwich Road.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/3/1909

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson submitted plans for the re-building of the ROVERS REST, Bloxwich Road, which he said would not increase

the facilities for drinking. Refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last.....
New Members..... *Alfred Marshall*, ROVERS REST INN, Leamore.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....
Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....
In the case of the ROVERS REST, Bloxwich Road, Mr. H. H. Jackson represented the owners, the Northampton Brewery Co, and the licensee, *Alfred Marshall*.
Mr. Walter Hughes gave details of the accommodation provided by the house, and stated that an estimated value of the property, without the license, at 8s 6d a week, the tenant paying rates.
Inspector Pritchard said the house was a very old one, doing very little trade, and in his opinion was not required in the neighbourhood.
Mr. Jackson put in figures relating to the trade, these showing that in 1907 129 barrels of beer and 29½ dozen pints were sold, in 1908 it was 98 barrels and 70 dozen pints, and in 1909 it was 120 barrels and 67 pints.
Alfred Marshall, the tenant, said his average weekly takings amounted to £9 to £10.
Mr. Jackson said several times plans had been laid before the justices, but each time they had been refused. Inspector Pritchard stated the ROVERS REST, the RAILWAY INN, and the OLD BLACK HORSE were structurally about the same, and if that was so why had the ROVERS REST been kicked out and the others allowed to remain.....
Application for alterations to the ROVERS REST, not proceeded with.”

The license renewal was refused on 25th February 1910.
Closed

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1904.
Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.
Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1910, at 11 o’clock in the forenoon.....
List of Licensed Premises.....
ROVERS REST, Bloxwich Road. Beerhouse. Licensee *Alfred Marshall*.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1910

“A meeting of the Licensing Justices was held on Tuesday morning.....
The renewal of the license of the ROVERS REST, Leamore, was applied for by Mr. Jackson, who said it was an old house, belonging to the Northampton Brewery Company, with a good record, and the trade was increasing.
Albert Edward Marshall, bona-fide tenant, said that the average trade was £8 to £9 a week.
The renewal was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1910

“A supplementary meeting of the Licensing Justices to consider claims for compensation was held on Wednesday morning at the Guildhall. Mr. W. Bayliss presided, and there were present Messrs. W. E. Blyth, T. A. Smith, J. Clare, W. Halford, A. D. Cozens, J. J. Lynch, A. Jagger, and R. Thomas. The following houses came up for consideration.....
ROVERS REST, Bloxwich Road; owners, Northampton Brewery Company; tenant and licensee, *Alfred Marshall*. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for all parties.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1912

“A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, the Mayor (Councillor J. Venables) presiding. Four licensed houses came up for consideration, with the question of compensation to be paid for closing them. The houses were the SADDLERS HOME and the STAR AND GARTER public houses in Station Street, and the VAULTS, in High Street, and the ROVERS REST at Leamore. It was decided that the four houses should be closed on or before March 25th, and the amounts to be paid as compensation were agreed upon between the justices and the parties concerned.”

ROYAL EXCHANGE

24, (15), Stafford Road, Green, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Walker
Mrs. Sarah Walker
James Birch [1906], [1912]
F. & G. Wilkes, TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich
Bloxwich Brewery Co. [1915]
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased)
Marstons Ltd.
Highgate Brewery (leased from 2000)

LICENSEES

Elizabeth Walker [1858]
Mrs. Susannah Walker [1860] – [1862]
William Walker [1864] – 1881);
Mrs. Sarah Walker (1881 – 1905);
Emma Taylor (1905);
James Birch (1905 – 1912);
George Morrall (1912 – 1914);
John Wilkes (1914 – 1924);
James Vann (1924 – 1927);
Elizabeth Vann (1927 – 1931);
Joseph Jones (1931 – 1953);
Charles Edward Cooper (1953 – 1957);
William Walker (1957 – [1966]
Ian Keith Beattie [2005] – [2009]

NOTES

15, Stafford Road [1871]
24, Stafford Road [1881], [1891], [1901], [1932], [1939], [1940]

EXCHANGE [1858]

Grade II listed

It had a brewery at the rear.

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....
Susannah Walker, Bloxwich. Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers’ licenses.....
Susannah Walker, Bloxwich. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....
Susannah Walker, Bloxwich. Granted.”

1861 Census

Stafford Road – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *Susannah Walker* (80), widow, victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *William Walker* (41), son, assistant, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Mary Walker* (15), granddaughter, barmaid, born Bloxwich:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/9/1866

“An old man named John Jones was charged with having, on the 9th inst, assaulted his grandson, named Samuel Taylor. It appeared that on the night in question the parties met in the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich, when in consequence of some old family quarrel, they had some words. On coming out the disputation was renewed, when some provoking language was used by both parties, and ultimately the defendant boxed the complainant’s ear. To use the complainant’s own words, defendant struck a

blow with his fist on the side of the face.”

Walsall Free Press 4/1/1868

“John Levan was charged with having, on Saturday, the 21st ult, assaulted *William Walker*, landlord of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich. The complainant, who appeared in the witness-box with his arm in a sling, and several wounds on his head said: The prisoner and some other men came into my house about six o’clock on the evening of the 21st ult, and, after sitting a while in the front room, they went into the back kitchen, where there was a very orderly company, and placed themselves between the company and the fire. On seeing this, I told them not to do so; but to sit fairly. They then commenced to use all kinds of abusive language. One of them got up, and gave the following toast:

‘Here’s to my country,

Likewise to France;

H—I to old England;

When they come from America;

We’ll make the b——s dance.’

One of them said to a woman, who was present, ‘You are the one eyed b——r who swore our lives away at Manchester.’ One of them then brought a jug, and wanted it filled with beer, and I refused, and said, ‘I won’t let you have any more ale if you were to give me a sovereign.’ They continued to create a disturbance till about ten o’clock, when I succeeded in ejecting them. After turning them out I went to the back door, and, not seeing anyone there, I concluded they had gone, and returned to the house, and opened the front door, and, as soon as I did so, the prisoner threw a piece of cinder, which struck me on the forehead with such violence that it not only inflicted a severe wound on my forehead, but knocked me down and fractured my collar bone in two places. The prisoner then decamped, and I procured a warrant for his apprehension.

John Smith, forgerman, said: I was in the complainant’s house on the night in question, when the prisoner and others came in. I also accompanied Mr. Smith when he went round the house, and also when he opened the door, and saw the prisoner take the piece of cinder from behind his back, and, after transferring it from his left hand to his right, throw it at Mr. *Walker*. I went with Police-sergeant Martin to Portobello last night, and there identified the prisoner, whom we found with several other men in a lodging house there. The cinder now produced fell within the house of the complainant, and was picked up and handed to Sergeant Martin.

William Salt, who was present when the assault was committed, corroborated the evidence of the other witnesses, and added that after throwing the cinder, the prisoner ran to one of his companions, and after picking up another stone, said, ‘I cut the b——r’s b——y head off.’ Witness, who was close to the prisoner, said, ‘You have killed him.’ The prisoner then looked, and on seeing the complainant on the ground, dropped the stone and ran away.

Police-sergeant Martin said that he, in company with the witness, Smith, went to Portobello; and on going to the lodging-house where the prisoner was, the witness Smith at once identified the prisoner was the man who assaulted Mr. *Walker*. The prisoner was then taken into custody; and on being charged with the offence, he said, ‘I never hurt Mr. *Walker*.’

At the request of the prisoner, who said the if the case were adjourned he could produce evidence to show that he never threw a stone at the complainant.

Remanded till Monday.”

[At the Quarter Sessions in April, 1868, John Lavin, was found guilty and sentenced to eight months’ hard labour.]

1871 Census

15, Stafford Road

[1] *William Walker* (51), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Sarah Walker* (36), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Sarah Coper (18), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

1881 Census

24, Stafford Road – ROYAL EXCHANGE

[1] *William Walker* (62), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Sarah Walker* (46), wife, born Darlaston;

[3] Emma Taylor (22), domestic servant, born Dudley:

1891 Census

24, Stafford Road – Public House

[1] *Sarah Walker* (56), widow, licensed victualler, born Darlaston;

[2] Emma Taylor (43), servant, born Dudley:

Walsall Observer 1/12/1900

“Bloxwich Cricket Club. The Annual Dinner in connection with this club was held at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich, on Thursday, when about forty members and friends sat down to an excellent repast provided by the hostess, Mrs. *Walker*.....”

1901 Census

24, Stafford Road – ROYAL EXCHANGE

[1] *Sarah Walker* (66), widow, licensed victualler, born Darlaston;

[2] Emma Taylor (53), general servant, born Dudley;

[3] Harriet Roobottom (17), general servant, born Great Barr:

Walsall Advertiser 16/5/1903

“On Tuesday, at Walsall Police Court, a respectably-dressed woman named Lydia Morris (49), of Wyrley, was summoned for being drunk in charge of a child not seven years old on May 11th.

Police-sergeant Willetts said he was called to eject the defendant from the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Road, Bloxwich. She was carrying a child which she tried to put in a perambulator. She was so drunk, however, that she dropped the infant.

Prisoner denied being drunk, but Police-constable Collins gave evidence similar to that of the first witness.

Defendant was put on her good behaviour for two months, this being her first appearance.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/6/1906

“The Streets Committee recommended.....

That the sum of £70 be paid to Mr. *James Birch*, the owner of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Road, Bloxwich, conditional on his pulling down and rebuilding the projecting stables and sheds, and conveying to the Council a strip of land containing 56½ square yards required for the purpose of widening the easterly side of Stafford Road, Bloxwich, the Corporation making the foot-way, and providing proper cart access to Mr. *Birch*'s premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/11/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New members..... Mr. Henry [sic] *Birch*, ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Road, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich. Mr. Jackson applied for sanction to the alterations of the above house (owner and licensee Mr. *James Birch*). He pointed out that it was proposed to put back part of the premises five feet for a distance of 37 yards, which would give 70 yards of land to the Corporation for street improvement. Sanctioned.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1909

“The annual dinner in connection with the Cricket Club was held at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Road, on Tuesday evening, when upwards of 40 members and friends partook of the excellent things provided by the host and hostess *Birch*, which were heartily enjoyed.....”

Walsall Advertiser 30/10/1909

“Lodge 67. Loyal Caledonian Corks.

An interesting ceremony took place at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich, on Wednesday evening, on the occasion of the initiation of Dr. D. McDonald as a member of the Grand Independent Order of the Loyal Caledonian Corks. The initiation ceremony was performed by Br. W. J. Rattenberry, district captain.....”

1911 Census

24, Stafford Road

[1] *James Birch* (57), brewer and licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;

[2] Elizabeth Birch (52), wife, married 30 years, none, born Walsall;

[3] John Alfred Birch (25), son, brewer, born Walsall;

[4] William Howard Birch (21), son, house painter, born Walsall;

[5] Lilly May Birch (19), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Samuel Bernard Birch (15), son, house painter, born Walsall;

[7] Ada Maud Birch (13), daughter, school, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 17/9/1912 - Advert

“Particulars of very valuable Free Freehold Old-established Full-Licensed Inn, known as the ROYAL EXCHANGE, situate on the Stafford Road, Bloxwich, near Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction by Mr. A. C. Fraser, FAI (Watkins, Powell & Wood; and Walter Hughes) at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Monday, the 30th September, 1912, at Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely (subject to conditions incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society).

(By Order of the Owner, Mr. *James Birch*, who is retiring from business.)

The well-known Old-established Free Freehold Full-Licensed Inn known as the ROYAL EXCHANGE, situate within a few yards of the tram terminus on the Stafford Road, Bloxwich, containing bar, 2 commodious taprooms, smokeroom, billiard-room, clubroom, private living room, kitchen, 5 bedrooms, scullery and pantry, extensive cellaring (with rolling-in-way), brewhouse, malt room (recently erected), coach-house, and 2-stall stabling with loft and hop-room over; and urinal. Together with modern and convenient Brewery (14-bushel capacity), privy, ashpit, paved yard, lawns, and large garden (with gateway entrance), and substantial summer arbour. The whole in the occupation of the owner.

The house is well situated, with an extensive frontage to the main road leading from Walsall to Stafford.

The License has been in existence over 100 years, and has changed hands twice only during that period.

There is a well of excellent water, and gas is laid on throughout the premises. S.S. water is also supplied. The front boundary of the property is 36 yards, and contains an area of 1,178 square yards or thereabouts. Possession will be given to the purchaser on completion of the purchase, or earlier by arrangement. For further particulars and lithographed plans, apply to the Auctioneer, 28, Bridge Street, Walsall ('Phone 186); or to Mr. Enoch Evans, Solicitor, Bridge Street, Walsall ('Phone 67)."

George Morrall = George Merrell = George Merrall

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1912

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....
New members..... Mr. *George Merrell*, ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich."

Walsall Advertiser 1/3/1913

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall yesterday (Friday) morning.....
There was an application for a public singing and music license by *George Merrall*, landlord of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street, Bloxwich, who applied for a license for every Monday and Saturday, from 7.30pm to 10.45pm, in the clubroom. Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson appeared for the tenant, and said that the house was the headquarters of several friendly societies, the Old Marians Hockey Club, and the Bloxwich Cricket Club. There was also a harmonic club which met there once per week. The application was granted on the understanding that the license should only apply to Mondays and Saturdays."

Walsall Advertiser 26/4/1913

"On the application of Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson, an alteration to the kitchen of the SCOTTS ARMS, Little Bloxwich, and alterations to the brewery and outhouses of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich, were sanctioned by the Bench."

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich, 2s."

Walsall Advertiser 21/8/1915 - Advert

"ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Road, Bloxwich.
Unreserved Sale of Valuable Brewing Plant; by direction of the Bloxwich Brewery Co, Ltd.
Mr. A. C. Fraser Wood, FAI, (Watkins, Powell & Wood; and Walter Hughes). Will Sell by Auction on Wednesday, September 1st, 1915, the extensive Brewing Plant And Utensils.
Comprising Two Excellent Copper Refrigerators complete with brass bound Trough, costly Fermenting and Cooling Vats, Hop Sieves, Galvanised Ice Box, Copper Attenuator, Massive Boiler taps with Copper Pipes and Masher, Fine Circular Mash Tun (false bottom), Malt Shute, Copper 'Devil,' Copper, Sparge Wort Spout, Benches, two Air-Guns, Chains, Ropes and Pulleys, Corn Bins, Seating, China Spirit Barrel, Double Door Cupboard, Strong Iron safe, Clothes Chest, Pier Glass, and numerous other effects of interest to the Licensed Trade.
Sale to commence at 11 o'clock. On view morning of Sale from 9am."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich. £0 15s 9d."

1939 Register

24, Stafford Road

- [1] *Joseph Jones*, date of birth 19/9/1883, colliery hewer, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Hannah M. Jones*, dob 25/9/1885, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Edna J. (Jones) Holland*, dob 26/10/1920, electric switch packer, single:

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Jones*, ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich. £4 4s 9d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich. £1 11s 6d."

[2012]

ROYAL EXCHANGE

78, Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

P. P. Worthington, Worthington Villa, Victoria Road, Aston
Thomas Robinson and Co, Burton on Trent
William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1925]

LICENSEES

William Wood [1818]
John Yates [1822] – 1832)
Thomas James [1834] – [1861]
Edward F Naylor [1862] – [1863]
John Brown [1864] – 1889);
George James Byrne (1889);
Harry Smallwood (1889 – 1891);
James Mason (1891 – 1892);
John Fowler (1892 – 1893);
John Harris (1893);
James Warner (1893 – 1894);
John William Hayward (1894 – 1895);
Mrs. Agnes Greenway (1895);
Arthur Trott (1895 – 1896);
Frank Barber (1896 – 1897);
Terence Maguire (1897 – 1898);
Thomas Bates (1898 – 1899);
Robert Herbert Price (1899 – 1905);
Ernest George Whitehead (1905);
James Loynes (1905 – 1911);
Thomas Pedley (1911 – 1924);
James Darlow ‘Jim’ Harrison (1924 – 1942);
Leonard Thomas Cox (1942 – 1945);
Alfred Ernest Cooper (1945 – 1947);
Albert William Percox (1947 – 1954);
Arthur Harold Smith (1954 – 1956);
Ralph Francis Argyle (1956 – 1958):

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/9/1832 - Died

“On Monday last, aged 59, Mr. *John Yates*, of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Thomas James was also a maltster.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/7/1844

“George Holden, of Walsall, is surprised at Jack Bethel, of Birmingham, challenging him, at 8st 12lb, when he could fight Paddy Gill at 8st 7lb; but to put an end to all nonsense, he (Holden) will fight him at 8st 10lb, for £25 or £50 a side. His money is ready at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, Walsall; or he will fight any other Birmingham man for the like sum, at 8st 8lb.”

1851 Census

Ablewell Street

- [1] *Thomas James* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary James* (51), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Marianne Hughes* (19), niece, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Marianne Williams* (12), niece, born Walsall;
- [5] *Ann Smith* (27), servant, born Oaken Gates, Shropshire;

- [6] Martha Middlebrook (16), servant, born Rushall;
- [7] William Brown (61), lodger, hawker, born Ravenstone, Leicestershire;
- [8] Mary Brown (37), married, born Shropshire;
- [9] Frederick Brown (17), hawker, born Leicestershire;
- [10] Sarah Nash (45), sister, visitor, born Walsall;
- [11] Thomas Williams (16), nephew, brass dresser, born Great Bridge:

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/10/1855

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Association.

The third anniversary of this association was celebrated at the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Ablewell Street, on Thursday evening last. A large number sat down to an excellent dinner provided by the worthy host, Mr. *James*. The meeting was presided over by F. B. Oerton, Esq, Mayor of Walsall.....”

Birmingham Journal 17/11/1855

“Yesterday, an inquest was held by A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Borough Coroner, at the house of Mr. Samuel Falconbridge, the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, on the body of a young girl, aged sixteen, named Elizabeth Jones, the deceased lived as servant to Mr. *James*, the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street. On Thursday she stole a shawl from a traveller staying in the house, and pawned it at Miss Scholefield’s in Lichfield Street. She was charged with theft, and denied it. A man named Bullock, about three o’clock, was working in a rope walk near Hatherton lake, and heard a woman cry out that some one was in the water; he ran to the spot, and saw a ripple as though a stone had been thrown in. The drags were procured, and in five minutes the body, which had been in the water about half an hour, was recovered. Life of course was extinct. The Jury returned a verdict of Felo De Se. The party robbed of the shawl had offered to forgive the deceased, if she confessed the theft, but she persisted in denying it.”

Walsall Free Press 3/1/1857

“One of those pleasant reunions which characterise the improvement of the present age, and tend to cement more and more firmly the connection between workmen and their employers, namely, a festive gathering of those two important classes, was on Monday last celebrated at the manufactory of Messrs. John Cowley and Co, the Patent Tube Works, in Ablewell Street. About half-past two o’clock, upwards of two hundred of the workpeople employed under the above firm sat down in a large room of the manufactory, to partake of a comfortable and substantial dinner, provided by Mr. and Mrs. *James*, of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street. The room was tastefully decorated with evergreens, holly, and flowers of various descriptions and presented a pleasing appearance.....”

Walsall Free Press 24/12/1859

“John Hinks, gas-fitting maker, was charged by Mr. *T. James*, landlord of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, with committing a nuisance in his house. It appeared defendant had gone to Mr. *James*’ house, and in the presence of a large company, had committed a beastly nuisance. After hearing the evidence, the defendant – who expressed himself extremely sorry for what he had done – was bound over to keep the peace for twelve months, himself in £20, and two sureties in £10 each.”

1861 Census

78, Ablewell Street – Public House – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *Thomas James* (60), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary James (61), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Ann Bird (26), house servant, born Roscommon, Ireland;
- [4] Mary Mainwaring (?) (20), house servant, born Ireland;
- [5] Ruth Williamson (70), lodger, stocking maker, born Whittington, Leicestershire;
- [6] Charles Naviter (?) (52), lodger, microscope maker, born Norwich;
- [7] John E. Mills (43), lodger, labourer, born Welford, Gloucestershire:

Walsall Free Press 20/6/1863 - Advert

“The ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, Walsall.

The Proprietor of the above well-known House is desirous of finding a Successor, in consequence of his being about to enter upon another and totally different business out of town.

All applications to be made to George Bayley, Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 31/10/1863 - Advert

“ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction Without Reserve, by Mr. W. Ashcroft, on Monday, November 2nd, 1863, all the excellent Brewing Plant, comprising 120 Gallon Copper Furnace, 16 Bushel Mash Tub, Lead Pipe and Large Tap, sound and sweet Ale Barrels, excellent Tubs, 100 gallons of Prime Ale, superior 5-Pull Beer Machine, Bar Counter, with metal top and drainer; Glazed Partition, with mahogany panel front; Bar Window, Fixed Benches, with wall casings; Hat Rails, Cupboards, large Cistern, lined with lead; Grates, Cranes and Keepers, Gas Piping and Appendages. Also all the Household Furniture, capital Feather Beds and Bedding, contents of Club-room and 4 Chambers, and Kitchen Requisites, the property of Mr. *Naylor* who is leaving. Sale to commence Eleven o’clock.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/12/1863 - Advert

“To be Let, the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall. This old-established House has been carried on successfully by the late Tenant, Mr. *Thomas James*, for thirty-six years. Its situation one of the best in town. For License and Possession apply to Mr. Worthington, Penkridge, near Stafford.”

John Brown issued tokens from here.

Walsall Free Press 11/3/1865 - Advert

“Wanted a good General Servant.
Apply at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/11/1869 - Advert

“Billiard Table, to be disposed of, 10 by 5, good as new. Billiard and Pool Balls all complete.
Apply at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

1871 Census

78, Ablewell Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *John Brown* (39), licensed victualler, born Rugby;
- [2] Elizabeth Brown (29), wife, born Nottingham;
- [3] Annie E. Brown (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] John Harry Brown (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Ernest Brown (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary E. Brown (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Minnie Brown (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Ada Brown (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Horace Brown (11 months), son, born Walsall;
- [10] Eliza Hodson (19), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Midland Counties Evening Express 8/3/1875

“Henry Jones, on remand from Friday last, was charged with passing a bad half-crown, and attempting to pass another, as well as having a third in his possession, on Thursday, at the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Ablewell Street. The evidence taken on Friday was read over, and the magistrates’ clerk (Mr. Brookes) having stated that the Mint authorities had decided to go on with the prosecution, prisoner was committed for trial at the Borough Quarter Sessions.”

1881 Census

78, Ablewell Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *John Brown* (49), licensed victualler, born Rugby;
- [2] Elizabeth Brown (38), wife, born Nottingham;
- [3] Annie E. Brown (21), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary E. Brown (19), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [5] John H. Brown (18), son, currier, born Walsall;
- [6] Ernest L. Brown (16), son, currier, born Walsall;
- [7] Minnie Brown (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Ada Brown (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Horace Brown (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] Alfred Brown (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [11] Herbert Brown (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [12] Bernard Brown (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [13] Frank Brown (3), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [14] Harriett Freeman (16), general servant, born Walsall:

Evening Star 6/5/1882

“Last night an inquest was held at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, by Mr. A. A. Fletcher (borough coroner), upon the body of Mary Kelley, aged six weeks. Evidence to show that the child died from convulsions was called, and a verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1889 - Local Notes

“Another meeting which took place on Monday evening was that of the members of the Walsall Town Swifts Football Club, at the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Ablewell Street. Mr. B. Bird presiding over a large attendance. The secretary (Mr. H. Smallwood) presented his annual report, which showed that the first team played 42 matches during last season, won 24, lost 14, and drew 4, the goals scored being 97, compared with 74 against. Mr. Bray (auditor) announced the financial statement was not yet complete, but as far as present could be ascertained the expenditure would be £735 0s 11½d, and the income £714 1s 3d, leaving an adverse balance. The report was adopted. The election of officers resulted as follows: Councillor Noake, president; Mr. H. E. Cook, treasurer; Mr. H. Smallwood, secretary; Mr. G. Bate, assistant secretary; Mr. A. Jones, captain, Mr. G. Morris, vice captain; and

Messrs. Bray and Also, auditors.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses The following applied in person *Henry Smallwood*, the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street. Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“There were 31 applications for dancing, singing and music licenses under the provisions of the new Corporation Act. The Bench heard all the applications and then retired to consider their decisions, which turned out to be in accordance with the principle which was laid down at a former Court, viz, that licenses should not be granted to vaults or public rooms, but should be confined to regular and existing clubs and class meetings in club rooms. Licenses were granted to..... The ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street.”

1891 Census

Ablewell Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *Harry Smallwood* (33), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Jane Smith Smallwood* (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ada Smallwood* (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *May Smallwood* (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Edith Smallwood* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Nelly Smallwood* (11 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Flory Farmer* (22) ,barmaid, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing session for Walsall borough took place yesterday..... The following transfers were granted without opposition..... the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, from *John Harris* to *James Warner*, the old Villa goalkeeper.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“*James Quinn* (32), labourer, The Ditch, was charged with having stolen from a till at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, about 7s. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the defendant. *Agnes Greenway*, the landlady, said about 7/5 on Tuesday evening the prisoner came into the bar, and asked for half a pint of ale. It was supplied, and then she went into the back yard. She told her daughter to mind the bar in her absence, and she had not been in the yard long, before her daughter called ‘Ma, ma, a man is robbing the till.’ There was only the prisoner in the bar-room at the time. Her son then ran after Quinn and brought him back, but he denied having taken the money. *Dorothy Greenway*, a daughter, stated that the prisoner was the man she saw robbing the till. Police-constable Morris deposed to arresting the prisoner. He cautioned and charged him, but he made no reply, but on searching him he found 2s 6s, two 3d pieces, and 7½d. There were a number of previous convictions against the prisoner. Mr. Jackson, in defence, said the only evidence against his client was the girl Dorothy, and it was uncorroborated. Then again she did not see the man take any money out of the till. A fine of 5s and costs or seven days was imposed.”

Robert Herbert Price = Robert Edward Price

Walsall Advertiser 30/9/1899

“The Walsall and District Poultry, Pigeon, and Fanciers’ Society held a show at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, on Monday evening. The show was an undoubted success, there being altogether 59 birds staged.....”

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1900

“On Monday evening last, at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, a good muster of grooms and gardeners from the Birmingham Road district sat down to a hot supper, which was served in excellent style by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Price*). Afterwards a pleasant evening was spent, songs, &c. being rendered by Messrs. Wells, Gilt, Wood, Bill, Bartlam, Price and White.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/7/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday..... New Members..... *H. Price*, ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Ablewell Street.”

1901 Census

78, Ablewell Street

- [1] *Robert H. Price* (37), public house manager, born Denbighshire, North Wales;
- [2] *Sophia A. Price* (32), wife, born Bushbury;

- [3] Dorothy G. Price (7), daughter, born Swindon, Wiltshire;
[4] Mabel Barnes (18), domestic servant, born Swindon, Wiltshire:

Walsall Advertiser 16/4/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

It was decided to hold the next meeting at the house of Mr. *Robert Herbert Price*, ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Ablewell Street.”

1911 Census

Ablewell Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *James Loynes* (39), hotel manager, born Wednesbury;
[2] Clara Eliza Loynes (37), wife, married 16 years, born Walsall;
[3] Walter Loynes (14), son, errand boy, born Walsall;
[4] James Frederick Loynes (12), son, school, born Walsall;
[5] Percy Loynes (8), son, born Walsall;
[6] Ellen Elizabeth White (22), general servant, born Dudley;
[7] John Henry Loynes (10), son, school, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street. £0 6s 5d.”

1939 Register

Ablewell Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE Public House

- [1] *James D. Harrison*, date of birth 23/2/1875, licensed victualler, married;
[2] *Alice E. Harrison*, dob 15/8/1876, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street, £3 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street. £3 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street. £2 5s 3d.”

Ralph Francis Argyle – see also ELEPHANT AND CASTLE and BRIDGEWATER.

It closed on 5th May 1958.

The license was transferred to the BRIDGE, Bloxwich Road, in July 1958.

ROYAL EXCHANGE

27, Lichfield Road, (Walsall Wood Road), Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

MTP Enterprises Ltd. (in liquidation in 2014)

Star Pubs and Bars [2023]

LICENSEES

Richard Jackson [] – 1848)

Miss Mary Jackson [1849] – [1850]
Richard Jackson [1851]
Mrs. Maria Jackson [1858] – [1861]
William Clews [1863] – [1864]
William Jackson [1868]
Richard Steadman [] – 1873;
William Cross (1873 – []
James Welsh [1885] – [1896]
William Cross (1900 – [1940]
Mrs. Cross [1944]
Michael Dunphy [1982] – [1993]

NOTES

Walsall Wood Road [1861]
Lichfield Road [1891], [1932], [1940]

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/2/1847

“On Saturday last, an inquest was held before George Hinchliffe, Esq, coroner, at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, upon the body of James Robinson, aged 14 years. On the previous Wednesday the deceased was sent into the stable to get the horse ready to go out to plough, and whilst in the stable the horse kicked him on the belly. He returned into the house, and was very sick and ill. On Friday morning he was a great deal worse and a surgeon was sent for, but before he arrived the deceased died. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1848

“On the evening of Thursday, the 3rd instant, a pensioner, aged 59, hung himself by a handkerchief, from the sign-post of the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Walsall Wood. The lifeless body was discovered by an acquaintance named John Stokes, who at first thought it was a man standing on the garden wall against the post, and spoke to him, but receiving no answer, touched him, and then the body swung off the wall into the garden. Hill had been on bad terms with his wife for some time, and a few months ago he was sent to prison for want of sureties to keep the peace towards her. Latterly he made ineffectual endeavours to induce her to live with him again, and seemed much affected by her decided refusal. The following letter was found in one of his pockets: ‘Burslem Barracks, Jan 31st, 1848.

Richard Jones, the Secretary of War has ordered 5s per week to be stopped out of your pension for the support of your wife and children, by the Walsall Union, except you can prove your wife an abandoned and profligate character. You must meet me at Stafford on Tuesday, the 8th of February next, at one o’clock, at the Vine inn, and bring any person who can speak to your wife’s bad conduct. If you can make out a clear case against her, you will probably get off paying the money. Your own word, without a witness, will not be taken.

T. Meek, Staff Officer.’

It was stated by Price, a police-officer, at the inquest, that Hill told him he was in the lock-up, for want of sureties, he contemplated self-destruction, and had actually prepared to hang himself. An inquest has been held before Mr. Hinchliffe coroner, and a verdict of Temporary Insanity was returned.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/4/1848 - Deaths

“On the 4th instant, at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, Mr. *Richard Jackson*, aged 64.”

1851 Census

Turnpike Road

- [1] *Richard Jackson* (41), victualler and miner, born Burton;
- [2] *Maria Jackson* (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Mary Ann Jackson* (16), daughter, at home, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *Priscilla Jackson* (14), daughter, at home, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *John Jackson* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Richard Jackson* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Isabella Jackson* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Ann Maria Jackson* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] *Mary Jugar* (66), mother in law, widow, midwife, born Walsall;
- [10] *John Wright* (30), lodger, music publisher, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Maria Jackson, licensed victualler, the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, was fined 2s 6d and costs, for having two unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the

offenders.”

1861 Census

Walsall Wood Road – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *Maria Jackson* (50), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *John Jackson* (19), son, coal miner, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Richard Jackson* (16), son, coal miner, born Walsall;
- [4] *Isabella Jackson* (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Sarah Jane Jackson* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] *Elizabeth York* (18), general servant, born Tipton;
- [7] *Charles Bagley* (36), lodger, tile maker, born Trentham, Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/1/1864

“*William Clews*, landlord of the ROYAL EXCHANGE public-house, Walsall Wood, for having had his house open at half-past twelve on the morning of Christmas last, was fined 5s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1864

“At the annual special Sessions for licensing purposes yesterday.....
The following victuallers were cautioned..... *William Clews*, of the Royal EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/6/1866

“On Tuesday Mr. E. Hooper, district coroner, held an inquest at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, on the body of *Thomas Hathaway*, a porter, aged 73. At two o’clock on the preceding Saturday morning the deceased was found sitting up in bed with his throat cut, his fingers in the wound, and the knife with which he had inflicted the injury wrapped up in a night cap. He stated that he made his mind up to commit suicide on the preceding Tuesday, and said he regretted that he had not made a better job of it. Dr. *Somerville*’s assistant attended and rendered all the assistance in his power, but the deceased died on the afternoon of the same day. Verdict Suicide while in a state of Temporary Insanity.”

Walsall Free Press 3/11/1866 - Notice

“Walsall Manorial Cottage Premises.

All Parties holding Cottages at the following places, within the manor of Walsall, in the County of Stafford, are requested to Pay Their Rents as directed underneath.

Coal Heath, Shelfield, Green Lane, Iron Ditch, Walsall Wood, Holly Bank, Shire Oaks, Pepper Alley, Paul’s Coppice, Clayhanger, Catshill, Goblin’s Pit, The Vigo, and High Heath, will be received at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, on Thursday, the 8th of November from Eleven till Three o’clock.

Broadstone, Harden, Blakenall, Bloxwich Lane, Little Bloxwich, Fishley, Wallington Heath, Short Heath, and Dead Man’s Heath, will be received at the BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, on Friday, the 9th of November, from Eleven till Three o’clock.

Fullbrook, Walsall Town’s End, Blue Lane, Birchills Lane, Stafford Street, Birchills, Park Brook, Wednesbury Road, The Pleck, and Bescote, will be received at the HORSE SHOES, at The Pleck, near Walsall, on Saturday, the 10th day of November, from Eleven o’clock till Three o’clock.

John Porter, St. George’s Buildings, The Bridge, Walsall, 1st October, 1866.”

William Jackson was also a bricklayer. [1868]

Walsall Free Press 15/1/1870

“On Tuesday evening, *Sarah Smith*, aged about 36 years, wife of *Richard Smith*, green grocer, Hammerwich, was returning from Walsall Market, and when opposite the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, she got out of the cart and was in the act of getting in again when her foot slipped and she fell in front of the cart, which passed over her body and killed her on the spot.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/7/1882

“A public meeting in connection with the Brownhills and District Liberal Association was held on Wednesday evening, at the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Walsall Wood, for the purpose of nominating additional members for the General Committee for Walsall and Shelfield.....”

Walsall Advertiser 9/9/1890

“On Wednesday evening last, at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, Mr. *Henry Charles Powell* sold by auction two lots of property. Lot 1. The double-fronted house (fronting the occupation road), in the occupation of Mr. *John Parr*, at a rental producing £13 per annum. The property is freehold and contains an area of 244 square yards. Lot 2. The piece of freehold land adjoining Lot 1, having a frontage of 31ft 6in to the occupation road, and containing an area of 147 square yards. The lots were sold for £219 14s. The vendors’ solicitors were Messrs. *Crump and Barrows*.”

James Welsh = *James Welch*

1891 Census

Lichfield Road – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *James Welsh* (40), licensed victualler, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] *Bella Welsh* (45), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Sarah Isabella Cross* (15), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] *William Cross* (13), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] *Sarah Jane Jackson* (15), domestic servant, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] *Sarah Davis* (20), domestic servant, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] *James Rock* (61), visitor, born Old Hill:

Birmingham Daily Post 17/1/1893

“At the Rushall Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. J. Nayler, Dr. Cooke, and Mr. T. A. Hill, *James Welsh*, the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Walsall Wood, was summoned at the instance of the police for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and also for permitting riotous conduct. Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) appeared for the defendant; and Mr. Russell, Lichfield, for the owners of the premises.

It will be remembered that on the 20th December, two men, named Jackson and Taylor, met at the defendant’s house, and that after some quarrelsome words the former yielded to the wish of the latter and went outside to fight, the result being that Taylor got a knock-down blow, and sustained a fracture of the skull, from the effects of which he died the following day.

George Taylor, brother of deceased, said he and his brother had had five or six pints of ale each before they went to defendant’s house, where each of them had five pints more, the defendant and his wife supplying them the best part of it, and the barmaid the rest. His brother was drunk; in fact he had not been sober since the Sunday before, although he was married on the Sunday, the day before the fight. The fight was in the fold, or open space in front of the house, and about thirty people were present. There was much noise.

Cross-examined by Mr. Herbert, he said there was no disturbance in the house. The fight lasted fifteen minutes. His brother had a 12-gallon cask of ale in on the previous Friday, and had roused him at three o’clock on the Monday to join him in drinking the ale. They had been at it till eleven o’clock the night before. The police-constable could not have told that the deceased was drunk. No part of the fight was in the road. He made no complaint to the landlord.

In answer to Mr. Russell, the witness said no one could have stopped his brother fighting.

Phoebe Taylor, the deceased’s widow, also said the fight was in the fold, and there was much shouting. The landlady supplied her with soda-water which she got for her husband, and the landlord gave her some brandy for him after the fight. Whilst the fight was going on she saw the landlord and his step-daughter at the bar window, and they appeared to be watching the fight.

Mary Ann Smith said the landlord threw up one of the windows and called out, ‘Why don’t you fools keep quiet?’ In answer to Mr. Russell, she said the house was kept for many years by the present landlady before she married the defendant.

Mr. Herbert for the defence, contended there was no evidence to show that drunkenness was known to the landlord, and further, that the latter supposed them to be off the premises. His own opinion, too, was that the fold was not part of the licensed premises, though the magistrates’ clerk had advised to the contrary.

The summons for permitting drunkenness was dismissed, and for permitting riotous behaviour a fine of £5 and costs was imposed, without endorsement of license.

Six men named Riley, Clews, Joseph Clews, Wright, Coley, and Jones – the last named being Jackson’s father-in-law – were summoned for aiding abetting and were bound over on £10 each to keep the peace for six months.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

“The annual Licensing Sessions for this district took place at Rushall Police Court on Monday morning.....

Mr. Frank James referring to the report of the Superintendent, remarked that in one instance had a fine been inflicted on the license holder. This was the case of the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Walsall Wood, where he believed a fight, which resulted in the death of one of the combatants occurred. He did not think that this circumstance would be sufficient justification for refusing the license. It would, however, be a warning to all landlords that it was their absolute duty to prevent a breach of the peace.

Renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/6/1894

“William Carter, Walsall Wood, remarked that he was only defending himself when accused of committing a breach of the peace with Brian Gallagher, also of Walsall Wood, on May 28. Brian, who was altogether ignorant of the facts having been drunk at the time, gave way for Police-constable Alldritt to explain. On the day in question, about 5.30pm, the two defendants were fighting on the Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood. It was not a case of one man trying to get away from the other, for both were fighting simply for the love of the thing. On the payment of the 7s costs each they were bound over for twelve months to keep the peace.”

AND

“Brian Gallagher, Walsall Wood, was again mulcted in a fine of 2s 6d and costs for being drunk on the licensed premises of *James Welsh*, ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Walsall Wood, on May 28, after which case the landlord of the same house came on for hearing, he being charged with permitting drunkenness on licensed premises. Mr. Jackson, Walsall appeared to defend the landlord. Police-constable Alldritt deposed that on Monday 28, about 5.30pm, he was sent for to the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Walsall Wood, by the defendant, and found that the two defendants in the previous case, Gallagher and Carter, were fighting. After separating them he went into the house and was told by defendant that the short time Gallagher had been in the house he had broken some jugs and struck several persons, and whilst the landlord was putting him out he had struck him also. Witness told the landlord not to have him in again. On visiting the house about ten o’clock the same day he found Gallagher leaning across the counter intoxicated. He said to the landlord, who was serving behind the bar, ‘What are you doing with him here again?’ and he replied,

'I have not filled him with anything, and I have told him to go many a time.' Witness said to the landlord, 'You had better get him out of your house,' and he said to Brian, 'Now, why don't you go.' Gallagher then staggered across the kitchen, sat down, and said, 'I won't go out for no b——.' Defendant was shortly afterwards got out and taken home by friends. The constable stated that he had always been very strange since he was a lad, and he had always been very strange and peculiar at times. He was much more quarrelsome in the evening than he had been in the afternoon, but could not say whether the landlord had supplied drink between the two periods.

Police-constable William Yates, who accompanied Police-constable Alldritt, gave similar evidence.

Martin Gallagher, brother to Brian, said he called in at the ROYAL EXCHANGE about 8.30pm on the date mentioned and found his brother there just finishing a pint of beer. Brian had two pints while he was in the house. Witness asked his brother when he went up for each separate pint not to have any more, for he could tell he was drunk, and he also advised the landlord not to fill him any. *Welsh* did not ask his brother to go until the police came.

James Welsh stated that Brian Gallagher came to his house about nine o'clock and asked for Carter. He then told him he had had enough of him in the afternoon, and asked Martin Gallagher and several others to try and persuade him to go out. Brian being rather funny in the head, he considered that would be the best method to get him removed. Witness said he did not supply him with any drink during the afternoon and evening, and had not time himself to put him out, because there was a large party to cater for.

Anna Doody stated that Gallagher came into the house soon after eight on the night in question. She was in and out of the house many times, and did not see the landlord supply him with any beer. Witness was sure he was not drunk.

Joseph Linney, miner, Walsall Wood, deposed that Brian Gallagher came into the house about a quarter to eight. He did not see drink supplied to him. He considered Brian sober, but very excited.

Mr. James said through the contradictory evidence he should only impose a fine of 20s and costs, and added that the license would be endorsed if another offence was proved against him."

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

"The annual Licensing sessions for the Rushall division of the county were held on Monday at Rushall.....

Thomas [sic] *Welsh*, tenant of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, applied for the renewal of the license, which was opposed by the police on the ground of permitting drunkenness in June last year. Mr. Whitehouse appeared for the tenant. Mr. Vachell, barrister, on behalf of the owners, said they were anxious that the Bench should remove the license to somebody. The applicant *Welsh* and his wife had been tenants twenty-five years. The wife was the tenant in the first instance, and ten years ago, when she married *Welsh*, the license was renewed to him. During the whole of that time there had only been two convictions against the house. The brewery company was anxious to retain a man whom they considered a very good tenant. On the other hand they had to consider the question as to whether by doing so they would imperil their own position. If the Bench thought the license should not be renewed to the man, then if the case was adjourned they would enforce notice, and get someone more pleasing to the Bench. Mr. Whitehouse, for the tenants, admitted the service of the notice, and also the fact of the convictions recorded. The grounds of objection were (1) that they had not produced satisfactory evidence of character (2) that the house is of a disorderly character and (3) that there had been two convictions. Although the tenant was convicted in January, 1893, the charge of permitting drunkenness was dismissed. They had during a period of twenty-five years one conviction for permitting drunkenness, and the fact that a fine of 20s and costs was imposed showed that it was deemed a sufficient punishment for the offence. The license on that occasion was not endorsed, and therefore it could not have been thought that the conviction was one which should rank against the house. He had one conviction and 20s and costs for permitting drunkenness in June last. When that conviction occurred, there was a party of 150 in the house, and having so many people it was impossible to exercise that absolute supervision which otherwise should have been exercised. The landlord had kept the house ten years.

Mr. James asked whether the police regarded the house as a disorderly one.

Superintendent Salt said it was not. They could only go upon convictions.

The license was renewed."

Lichfield Mercury 15/11/1895

"*James Welch*, ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Walsall Wood, was summoned for being drunk whilst in charge of a horse and trap at Brownhills, on October 24th.

PC Moyle proved the case, and the defendant was fined 10s and 7s costs."

Walsall Advertiser 6/6/1896

"*James Welsh* applied at Rushall on Monday for the sanction of the Bench for alterations at the licensed premises of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood. Granted."

Walsall Observer 31/3/1900

"On Monday evening about sixty customers and friends met at the ROYAL EXCHANGE to partake of an excellent repast given by the landlord (Mr. *W. Cross*)....."

Walsall Advertiser 18/8/1900

"During the week Messrs. Watkins, Powell, and Wood have disposed of the following freehold properties.....

On Wednesday evening last, at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, four dwelling-houses on the main road at Shire Oak, occupied by Messrs. Horbin, Smith, and others, producing £32 per annum, realised £650. Two dwelling-houses, situate in the Watling Street Road, at Muckley Corner, occupied by Messrs. Andrews and G. Wilkes, and producing £16 12s per annum, sold for

£230.”

1901 Census

Lichfield Road – ROYAL EXCHANGE INN

- [1] *William Cross* (23), unmarried, publican, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] Jennie Jackson (25), cousin, housekeeper, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] Florrie Jackson (19), cousin, barmaid, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] Alice Painter (17), domestic servant, born Walsall Wood:

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/4/1903

“On Saturday Mr. H. A. Pearson held an inquest at the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Walsall Wood, respecting the death of William George Lowbridge, aged 66, hairdresser. The deceased who was formerly in the Royal Marines, and was a life pensioner, had been on business at Peckham, in London, until January, when he came to live with some relatives in Walsall Wood. The deceased was found sitting in a chair with his head leaning forward over a gas burner used to heat water for shaving, the gas having been turned on. Dr. Wolverson said the deceased had two long scratches on the throat, which looks as though produced by a razor. A post mortem examination of the body showed death to have resulted from asphyxia, due to inhalation of coal gas. The jury returned an Open Verdict.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/2/1908

“On Monday afternoon, Mr. G. C. Lewis held an inquest at the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Walsall Wood, touching the death of Thomas Anson, aged 62, miner, of Lichfield Road. From the evidence it appeared that on February 11, whilst working at the Conduit Colliery, the deceased and his mate, James Griffiths, of Hednesford Road, Brownhills, found it necessary to remove a sprag, but before doing so timbers were set up. When the sprag was removed, a part of the roof gave way and dislodged one of the supports, which struck the deceased in the stomach and knocked him down. He was taken home by ambulance and medically attended until his death on the 13th. The deceased’s son stated that the doctor told him his father had sustained serious internal injuries. The Coroner said it was an extraordinary accident, because by his care the man was the author of his own death. Mr. H. R. Makepeace, his Majesty’s inspector of mines, said it was absolutely necessary that before timbers were drawn supports should be put up. Cases in which something occurred to knock out the protective timbers were one in 500 of 5,000. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

“At a Court for Rushall, held before Mr. W. Precey, at the Magistrates’ Clerk’s Office, Walsall, on Monday, William Jackson (28), a miner, of no fixed abode, but a native of Walsall, was charged with being on enclosed premises for an unlawful purpose, on June 20th.

Joseph Jackson, a miner of Lichfield Street, said he was temporarily employed by Mr. *Wm. Cross*, the landlord of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood. On Sunday morning last he was so employed, and at 10am when he was in the garden he heard a crash. He saw prisoner slipping off the top of the scullery roof to the ground. Witness noticed that the clubroom window, over the scullery, was open.

William Cross, the landlord of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, said from what the last witness told him he went to the rear of his premises, but the prisoner had gone. The scullery window, which had previously been closed, was open, and the tiles on the scullery underneath the window were broken. He examined the premises, and found that the pantry door in the clubroom, where the spirits were kept, had been partly forced open. He had reason to believe that for some time past someone had been on the premises. Police-constable Grindley deposed to arresting prisoner at 7.45pm on Sunday, in the HAWTHORN TREE, Walsall Wood. Witness charged him and he replied, ‘I got beat at the game. A man will do anything when he is hungry. I got on the scullery and opened the window, but I was beat. I didn’t get through the window, I fell back again.’

Prisoner said he was going to get into the clubroom to have a sleep.

Police-sergeant Wooley asked that prisoner be remanded in custody until next Monday.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/7/1909

“William Jackson, aged 28, miner, of no fixed abode, was charged on remand with being on enclosed premises at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, on June 20. The prisoner was seen on a roof under the scullery window. It was afterwards found that the pantry-door had been forced. Mr. Collins, police-court missionary, said that if prisoner was sent to gaol he would try and get him into the Labour Home when he came out. He was sentenced to seven days’ imprisonment.”

1911 Census

Lichfield Road – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *William Cross* (33), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] Florrie Jackson (27), cousin, assisting in business, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] Florrie Griffiths (17), cousin, assisting in business, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Observer 23/12/1916

“The Brownhills Tribunal at a sitting on Thursday afternoon, Dr. Wolverson presiding and Captain A. D. Cozens being present as military representative.....

The tenant of the ROYAL EXCHANGE at Walsall Wood, 39, married, with one child, and B1, who had been advised by the Tri-

bunal to get work of national importance, said he was working regularly as a banksman. He had to spend his evenings attending to the business at the public-house. Six months was granted, conditional upon applicant continuing his work at the colliery.”

Walsall Observer 1/4/1939

“For 25 years a popular hostess at the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Walsall Wood, Mrs. *W. Cross*, died, on Saturday, at the age of 48 after a long illness. In her younger days the deceased was a fine swimmer and won numerous awards. She is survived by her husband and an only son.”

Walsall Observer 1/4/1939 - Acknowledgements

“Mr. *Cross* and Family of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, wish to thank Relatives, Friends, the Doctor and the Nurse, for sympathy in their sad bereavement and for floral tributes.”

Walsall Observer 24/6/1939

“At a meeting of representatives of the British Legion, Football Club, Nursing Association, and St. John Ambulance Brigade, held at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, on Tuesday, Mr. S. A. Ward was unanimously elected Chairman. The meeting was called to consider the possibility of holding a mounted gymkhana and sports in aid of local charities. Mr. Stokes and Mr. Mycock, representing the football club, reported that some horse riding events were included in the programmes arranged for the football club fete to be held on July 15. In view of the fact that the chief attraction would be a jazz band contest, the representatives greed to omit the words, ‘Mounted Gymkhana,’ from the handbills and posters advertising the fete, as the football club did not wish to jeopardise the success of any event organised in aid of local charities. This statement was received with acclamation. It was then agreed to proceed with arrangements for holding a mounted gymkhana on Saturday, August 19, on the football ground, Walsall Wood. The representatives of the various organisations agreed to act as a committee. The following officers were elected: Chairman, Mr. S. A. Ward; Vice-chairman, Mr. A. Newbold; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Smith; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Jack Galloway. It was agreed to form a sub-committee consisting of the officers and the following elected members, Mrs. Parr, Mrs. N. J. Shaw, Mrs. Munt, Mr. R. C. Baker, Mr. J. M. Harrison, Mr. R. A. Ruddock and Mr. Southall. Mrs. Ward closed the meeting with a vote of thanks to all present for their attendance and wished success to both the football club fete and the mounted gymkhana.”

1939 Register

Lichfield Road – ROYAL EXCHANGE Public House

[1] *William Cross*, date of birth 9/9/1877, publican, widowed;

[2] *Mary Williams*, dob 4/4/1866, unpaid domestic duties, widowed:

Walsall Observer 30/12/1939

“At a gathering of the staff and workmen of Collins’ Express Delivery Service, held in the club room of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, on Saturday evening, Mr. D. C. Millard made the usual presentations to the 70 employees, assisted by Mr. S. Collins.”

Walsall Observer 25/3/1944 - Miscellaneous

“Wanted, Baby’s High Chair and Play Pen, in good condition.

All letters answered or reply to Mrs. *Cross*, ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Observer 24/3/1945 - In Memoriam

“*Cross*. In ever loving memory of a dear daughter and sister Emily, late of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Walsall Wood, died March 26, 1938. Always in our thoughts.

Mother, Jane, Elsie and Children at 39, Valley Road, Bloxwich.”

Michael Dunphy was married to Diane.

Express & Star 24/11/2023

“Supermarket giant Aldi has submitted proposals to take over a pub and create a new store in the area. If approved by Walsall Council, the ROYAL EXCHANGE on Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood, would be demolished to make way for the new supermarket along with 109 parking spaces. It would also see the demolition of a warehouse used for the distribution of eggs and cheese and three houses as part of the development. The company said it would ‘meet the needs’ of the local area and provide up to 50 new jobs in the process. If it did go ahead, the new store would be just yards from a new Lidl, who won approval from planners in March this year to take over the HORSE AND JOCKEY pub site on the adjoining Walsall Road.....”

Express & Star 29/11/2023

“The company which owns a Walsall pub has said it is business as usual for the foreseeable future in response to plans submitted to replace it with a supermarket. Star Pubs and Bars, which owns the ROYAL EXCHANGE on Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood, has responded to plans lodged by Aldi to build a new store on the site of the pub. If the proposals were to be approved by Walsall Council, the pub would be demolished to make way for the single-storey supermarket in addition to 109 car park spaces and 16 cycle spaces. It would also see the demolition of three houses and warehouses units on site which are currently being used for the ‘storage and distribution of cheese’.....”

[2023]

ROYAL EXCHANGE

57, Mill Street, Ryecroft, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Roberts
Highgate Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

John Roberts [1880] – 1903);
Mrs. Frances Roberts (1903 – 1904);
William Jones (1904);
Ralph Sankey (1904 – 1905);
Frederick Brewer (1905 – 1909);
Thomas Deakin (1909 – 1944); manager
Frank Thomas Taylor (1944 – 1950);
Raymond Shepherd (1950 – 1954);
Kenneth Charles Hennessy (1954 – 1957);
William Henry Davis (1957 – 1962);
Leslie Edward Jones (1962 – 1963);
Thomas Beddow (1963 – 1964);
James Baxter Fairfull (1964 – 1966);
Colin Archer (1966 – []
John Davies [] – 1977):

NOTES

1881 Census

Mill Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *John Roberts* (39), smith and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Frances Roberts (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] John Henry Roberts (18), son, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [4] Joseph P. Roberts (15), son, errand boy, born Walsall;
- [5] Albert W. Roberts (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] William Roberts (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Fred Roberts (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Clara Roberts (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] Eliza Jones (20), domestic servant, born Bilston:

Walsall Advertiser 16/6/1885 - Advert

“Walsall Conservative Association.

Mr. Frank Fearnley (of Kidderminster) Will Address Conservative Meetings, to be held on Tuesday Evening, June 16th at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ryecroft, and on Wednesday Evening, June 17th, at the NEW INN, Ryecroft, Blakenall Heath.

The Conservatives of the Pleck Division also hold a meeting at the NEWPORT ARMS, Pleck Road, on Wednesday, June 17th.

Chairs to be taken each Evening at 8pm.

Working Men Are Invited to Attend.

H. H. Cannell, Secretary.”

1891 Census

57, Mill Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *John Roberts* (49), saddle tree riveter and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Frances Roberts (46), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William Roberts (19), son, harness maker's clerk, born Walsall;
- [4] Fred Roberts (17), son, harness maker, born Walsall;

- [5] Clara Roberts (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] Frances Roberts (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[7] Amelia Roberts (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[8] Joseph P. Roberts (3), son, born Walsall;
[9] Mary Holmes (19), general servant, born Barrow in Furness:

Birmingham Daily Post 5/9/1891

“Yesterday morning the mangled body of Charles Glover, Portland Cottage, Walsall, was noticed by a man named William Wall lying in the six foot way, not far from Ryecroft Junction, on the outskirts of that town. Between three and four o'clock he passed the signal-box at the junction on the way to work at Pelsall, and wished the signal-man ‘Good morning.’ At that time there were two trains at the junction – one for Walsall and the other for the opposite direction – and it is supposed that in stepping out of the way of one he got in the way of the other, and thus met his death. The body was removed to the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Ryecroft to await an inquest.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/3/1893

“*John Roberts*, keeper of the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Mill Street, Ryecroft, was summoned at the instance of the Chief Constable for suffering gaming for money’s worth in his house, for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, for selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person, for assaulting Police-constable Williams, and for obstructing the same officer. His son Joseph was joined with him in the charge of assault; and Edward William (32), caster, James Street, Ryecroft, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in the street. Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson) appeared for the defence. The case for the police was that on the 25th ult. Edward Williams was in a drunken condition, and was allowed to play at cards with three other persons, one being the landlord’s son, the landlord sitting by and seeing what was going on. As the games were played Mr. *Roberts* fetched ale from the counter, and the losers paid for it; and when the game was over Williams went to the counter and was served with a pint of ale, he remarking, as he called for it, that he had lost four pints, and now would have one himself. Police-constable Williams informed the landlord that he should have to report what he had seen, and he was pushed out of the house by the landlord and his son. The defendant Williams afterwards came out of the house, and, in addition to refusing to give his name and address, caused such a disturbance that the constable took him into custody on a charge of being drunk and disorderly. The man went quietly until Hatherton Street was reached, when Mr. *Roberts*, who was following, said, ‘Let the man alone,’ and the prisoner Williams struggled with his captor, with the result that they both went down. Afterwards Mr. *Roberts* took hold of the constable by the collar, and endeavoured to pull him away from the prisoner. The defence was, in effect, that there was no gaming, nor assault, and that Williams was not drunk. The hearing lasted from eleven till five, and ended in the landlord being fined 10s and costs for permitting drunkenness, and 20s and costs for supplying a drunken man with drink, and Williams was fined 5s and costs. The other charges were dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing session for Walsall borough took place yesterday..... The Chief Constable opposed the renewal of the license of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ryecroft, to *John Roberts*, the grounds of objection being a conviction for permitting drunkenness, a conviction for selling liquor to a drunken person, the license not required, that other trades were carried on on the premises, and that breaches of the Truck Act were constantly being committed. Mr. H. H. Jackson, for the tenant, said young Mr. *Roberts* had carried on the business in a most reputable manner for ten years, and he had made arrangements to separate the licensed premises from the other part, where another business was conducted. He put in a plan showing what was proposed to be done. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall..... The Chief Constable said the objections he had to make to the renewals of licenses were those of the NELSON AND PEEL, Peal Street, and the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Mill Street, Ryecroft..... The objection to the ROYAL EXCHANGE he was compelled to take account of the tenant not keeping faith with the magistrates. Last year he opposed the renewal and it was granted on certain conditions, which, however, had not been fulfilled; and he now objected on the grounds of the previous conviction, that it was not a bona fide business, and that other trades were carried on in the house, and that it was not demanded by the needs of the neighbourhood.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

“Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday..... The Chief Constable withdrew his opposition to the renewal of the license of *John Roberts*, the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ryecroft, the desired structural alterations having been made..... The Bench deliberated in private for some time, and on their return into court announced that all the other applications would be granted.”

Walsall Observer 7/7/1900

“On Saturday morning an inquest was held at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ryecroft, by the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley), on the body of Albert Frederick Horton, aged 4 years, whose parents lived at 15, Cannon Street, and who was killed by a runaway horse on Friday the 29th ult. Benjamin Arnold Horton of 15, Cannon Street, a currier, stated that he was the father of the deceased boy, whose body he identi-

fied. The child would have been four years old had he lived to that day.

John Watkins, of 119, Marlow Street, a haulier, deposed that about twenty minutes after twelve on Friday, the 29th ult, he left his horse and cart outside his house, his brother staying to give the horse some water. Witness had only been in the house a few minutes when he heard someone shout. He ran out of the house after the horse, which was in front of an entry in Proffitt Street. The bridle was on and the bit in the horse's mouth when he left it, but it was off when he got to the entry, where the horse had fallen. By a Juror: Witness had only had the horse three months, and he had never known it to take fright before.

Samuel Watkins, brother of the last witness, stated that at his brother's request he was going to give the horse some water, when the horse knocked him aside and bolted. She went as far as the Jacques' wheelwright shop, and turned on to the waste ground. She then swerved round in the direction of Proffitt Street, and the deceased and a girl named Gladys Morris were knocked down, witness thought, by the horse's fore-leg. Witness picked up the deceased boy and carried him in to his house. Witness could not say whether the child was dead or alive until the doctor came up and pronounced life extinct.

In reply to a juror, witness said that he noticed the bridle was off when the horse was on the waste ground, but it was on when she bolted. He could not say what frightened the horse.

Clara Taylor, of Brook Yard, Proffitt Street, gave evidence to the effect that she was in her own yard about half past twelve, and saw the horse standing in front of the house. There was no one standing by the side of it, and the bridle was hanging loose before it bolted and knocked down the children. She noticed Samuel Watkins come through the front door and run after the horse, but not until it was nearly on the children.

Fanny Bickley, of the same locality, stated that she saw the horse being given water. The man then went away with the bucket, and the horse bolted. She was quite sure there was no one with the horse when it started.

Dr. F. A. Shore stated that he saw the child about half past twelve on the day of the accident. He was quite dead, and on examination witness found the bones at the back of the head broken and driven in, the neck broken, a cut on the head, both jaws broken, and one arm broken. There was also a cut on the right side of the face, extending from the angle of the mouth about two inches in length down to the bone. Such injuries could only be caused by a kick from the horse, and death would be instantaneous. The cause of death was injuries to the brain, the result of the accident. The other child had nothing more than a sprained ankle and a bruise on the head.

The jury expressed their opinion that they did not believe the man, Samuel Watkins, was with the horse at the time it bolted; and, further, that the bridle had been taken off. They tendered their sympathy to the father of the deceased.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned, and by the jury's request, the Coroner censured Samuel Watkins, stating that both he and the jury did not believe his evidence; and, on the suggestion of a juror, the owner of the horse (John Watkins) was recommended to take means to prevent the horse bolting in future by lashing the cart wheel."

Walsall Advertiser 20/7/1901

"*John Roberts*, of ROYAL EXCHANGE, Mill Street, was fined 2s 6d and costs for allowing a horse to stray, on July 5th. Police-constable Ashby proved the case."

Walsall Advertiser 7/2/1903

"The bench approved the transfer of the license of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Mill Street, from the late councillor *Roberts* to his widow, *Frances Roberts*."

Walsall Advertiser 5/9/1903

"On Thursday evening Mr. Arthur James Llewellyn submitted for sale by auction, at the STORK HOTEL, three lots of property. Lot 1, two houses in Lower Walhouse Street, with shopping at the rear, the annual rental being £32 19s. Sold for £187 10s. Lot 2, a leasehold property at the corner of Rowley Street and Walhouse Street (annual rental £52 12s 6d), was withdrawn at £450. Lot 3 was a reversionary share of and in the proceeds of sale of the real and residuary estates of *John Roberts*, deceased, late of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ryecroft. The estate properties yielding a gross annual rental of £158 9s, the whole estate being estimated as of the present value of from £5,000 to £7,000. Biddings commenced at £100, and were increased to £280, at which figure the interest was withdrawn. Subsequently, however, negotiations were entered into for the sale of the interest at the sum of £305."

Walsall Advertiser 24/12/1904

"A startling occurrence took place on the licensed premises of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Mill Street, at about 10-30 last Saturday night. There was a bar full of customers, and some words passed between two of them, ending in a blow or push, with the result that one of them fell dead! His name was Albert Buttery, 45, carter, of Mill Street, Ryecroft, a married man with several sons; and the man who struck or pushed him was a single man named Mathew Bolton, labourer, Cannon Street. Bolton was arrested, and formally remanded on Monday morning on a charge of causing death by battery.

On Tuesday afternoon, at the Guildhall, Mr. T. Howard Stanley, the Borough Coroner, held an inquest relative to the death of Buttery. Mr. H. F. Addison (Addison and Cooper) watched the case on behalf of the prisoner, who was also present.

The first witness called was Mrs. Buttery, widow of the deceased. She said her husband left the house about 7.30 on the morning of Saturday to go to work, and returned between 1.30 and two o'clock. He left the house about three o'clock and returned at 6.30, going out again an hour later. About a quarter to eleven the same night she had a message, in consequence of which she went immediately to the ROYAL EXCHANGE, and saw her husband sat on a chair in the passage. He was insensible, and the doctor, who arrived a moment later, said it was 'all over with him.'

Bernard O'Connor, 55, North Street, tube cutter, said he went to the ROYAL EXCHANGE at about nine o'clock on Saturday evening. Buttery, whom he had known 20 or 30 years, was sitting on a bench in front of the bar. There were about 20 in the bar, but he did not see Bolton until he struck deceased, first by the side of the temple, and then in the middle of the body. Buttery fell on

the floor, and witness assisted to put him on a bench. Brandy was poured into his mouth, but it ran out again. He was unconscious and never spoke again. When Buttery fell witness told Bolton he ought to be ashamed of himself.

Replying to Mr. Addison, witness said he was in the house for an hour and a half, and there was no disturbance that he saw – nothing in the nature of an altercation. He did not hear anyone sing a song whilst there.

A jurymen asked witness if he could hear? – Witness: I have a cold in my head.

The Coroner: Have you anything else in it? – Witness: Not that I am aware of (laughter).

A Juror: What condition was Buttery in, drunk or sober? – Witness: I am no judge of that (laughter); I consider he was in a right mood; we were very harmonious.

A Jurymen: Could he answer anything you said to him? – Witness: Yes he could.

A Jurymen: Then there was nothing the matter with him.

William Broadhurst, caster, said that before any blow was struck, Buttery, Bolton, and himself went to a meeting of an air-gun club in the smoke room. When they returned to the bar Buttery and Bolton had a few words, but witness did not think they were quarrelling. Bolton, who was sitting down, told deceased, who was standing up, to go away, but Buttery replied, 'It's not my place to go away.' Bolton thereupon rose from his seat and struck deceased but where witness could not say, as it all took place so quickly. Witness saw no second blow given.

William Mainwaring, a lockmaker, also spoke to being in the house and attending a meeting of an air-gun club. Afterwards he saw Bolton strike Buttery on the temple, the latter falling and apparently catching his head against a partition.

Mr. Jane *Sankey*, wife of the landlord of the house, said that Buttery was the first to leave the air-gun meeting, Bolton coming a few minutes later. She did not see a blow struck, but heard a noise as of someone falling against the partition. She was then out of the bar, and on returning saw Buttery in a sitting position. She asked Bolton what he had done, and he answered, 'All I did was push him against the partition.' The two men had seemed to be on the best of terms, and had been singing during the evening.

Police-constable Nolan spoke to arresting the prisoner, who, in reply to the charge of causing the death of Buttery, replied 'No sir, there was no blow struck at all.' In reply to a juror, witness said Bolton was quite sober.

Dr. O'Meara said he was called to the ROYAL EXCHANGE about 10.30 on Saturday evening. He saw Buttery, sitting on a chair quite dead. He should say he had been dead about 20 minutes. Witness had since made a post mortem. Deceased's body was fairly well nourished. The external appearances were normal, and there were no marks of violence. Nor were there any when he saw the body on Saturday night. A blow with a closed fist which would have knocked a man down would have caused a mark.

The heart was healthy, but the lungs were both congested, and there was evidence of tuberculosis. The stomach was practically empty, showing the man had had very little food during the day. The liver was diseased, and very much enlarged, weighing 80oz, which was 30oz in excess of the normal weight. That was due to chronic alcoholism – the man has habitually taken too much drink. The cause of death was rupture of a blood vessel at the base of the brain – apoplexy. In the state in which Buttery was, death might have resulted from excitement, and a blow would be likely to accelerate death. The deceased might possibly have died from apoplexy if he had had no blow.

In answer to jurors, Dr. O'Meara said the blow the deceased was said to have had was not the cause of the apoplexy. He discovered no trace of a blow on any part of the body.

By Mr. Addison: If a man staggered under a push it might have ruptured a blood vessel. There was a large quantity of blood over the surface of the brain.

The Coroner, in summing up, said it appeared that the two men were friends, and the jury would have noted that there no trace of a mark or a blow having been struck. He thought it right to call the attention of the jury to a case heard at the Worcester Assizes, in which a forger from Halesowen was charged with the manslaughter of his employer. It seemed that there was a struggle, which accelerated death, but death was due to failure of the heart, caused by fatty degeneration, and in the opinion of the doctor the blow had nothing to do with the cause of death; and Mr. Justice Lawrence advised the jury to bring in a verdict according with the medical testimony. He (the Coroner) thought that seemed to be a similar case, and it was for the jury to consider their verdict. He did not suppose the jury would consider that prisoner had any intention of killing the man.

After deliberating in private for about ten minutes, the jury found that deceased died from Natural Causes.

On Wednesday morning Bolton was brought up before the Bench. The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) said that in view of the verdict at the coroner's inquest on the previous day, and the testimony of the doctor, who failed to find any marks of violence on the deceased, he did not propose to offer any evidence.

Mr. Addison, who appeared for the prisoner, said he was glad the prosecution had taken the course they did. His client wished him to say that he has always had friendly feelings towards the deceased, and he thoroughly sympathised, to the utmost degree, with the widow and family.

The Chairman of the Bench (Mr. R. T. Jupp) to prisoner: As there is no evidence you will be discharged."

Walsall Advertiser 2/10/1909

"A number of applications for the transfer of licenses came before Mr. H. D. Clarke (presiding) and other magistrates, at the Walsall Police Court, on Wednesday.....

In the case of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Mill Street, the license of which was transferred from Mr. *Frederick Brewer* to Mr. *Thomas Deakin*, the Magistrates' Clerk called the attention of Mr. Hodgkinson, who appeared for the parties, to a clause in the agreement which stated that the manager must employ any number of servants required by the owners, pay them wages and maintain them, and only be paid 5s a week for them.

Mr. Hodgkinson: That is possibly a clerical error.

The Magistrates' Clerk: I should think possibly it was as it is 15s in other cases.

The Chairman: I think it emphasises the remark made by the Clerk that it must not be supposed by the magistrates to approve all clauses in these agreements."

1911 Census

Mill Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE

- [1] *Thomas Deakin* (39), public house manager, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elise Ada Deakin* (31), wife, married 14 years, public house manageress, born Walsall;
- [3] *Grace Harriet Deakin* (13), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elsie Deakin* (11), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [5] *Rose Harris* (21), domestic servant, born Cannock:

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Mill Street.”

1939 Register

57, Mill Street

- [1] *Thomas Deakin*, date of birth 17/10/1871, manager licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Elsie A. Deakin*, dob 7/11/1879, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Mill Street, £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Mill Street. £5 3s 6d.”

It closed in September 1977.

ROYAL EXCHANGE

126, Stafford Street / Hospital Street, (Newtown Row), WALSALL

OWNERS

John Craddock, bit maker, Bloxwich Road, Walsall

F. J. and A. E. Bayley, West Bromwich [1910]

Edwin Jones

Miss Florence Jones (acquired in 1910)

George Twist, White Horse Brewery [1927], [1937]

Twists Brewery Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 1st October 1959)

Enterprise Inns (acquired in 1992) [2006]

LICENSEES

John Birch [1851]

Thomas Bird [1858] – [1865]

Richard Hall [1865] – [1866]

William Griffiths [1868] – [1873];

Thomas Oswin [1881] – **1887**;

Edwin Jones (**1887 – 1910**);

Harriet Jones (1910);
Alfred Cooke (1910 – 1915);
Richard Jackson Bayley (1915 – 1925);
Walter Wilson (1925 – 1927);
George Henry Dawkins (1927 – 1928);
John Mackenzie (1928 – 1932);
Geoffrey Grimley (1932 – 1935);
Joseph Powell (1935 – 1936);
Thomas Welch (1936 – 1937);
William James Waldron (1937 – 1950);
William Henry Shuker (1950 – 1951);
Percy Smith (1951 – 1953);
Thomas Wood (1953 – 1955);
Bert Cyril Mitchell (1955 – 1957);
Charles Thomas Chilton (1957 – 1960);
John Perry (1960 – 1961);
Ronald Linnett (1961 – 1962);
Alan Vincent Webster (1962 – 1964);
Harry Hughes (1964);
James Raymond Allport (1964 – 1965);
Thomas Alfred Pittaway (1965);
David James Ridley (1965);
Bryan Keith Stanley (1965 – [1966])

NOTES

It was formerly the NEWTOWN TAVERN. [1858], [1860], [1861], [1862], [1863], [1864], [1865], [1870], [1873], [1881], [1892], [1896]

ROYAL EXCHANGE HOTEL [1897], [1910]

Thomas Bird = Thomas Birch

Thomas Bird was also a manufacturer of snaffles, bits, pelhams and stirrups, polisher and plater in general. [1858]

1861 Census

126, Stafford Street – NEW TOWN TAVERN

[1] *Thomas Bird* (38), widower, victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] Maria Bird (50), mother in law, housekeeper, born Ketley, Shropshire;

[3] Sarah Westley (15), general servant, born Wednesfield:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/7/1863

“Yesterday, an inquest was held at the house of Mr. *Thomas Bird*, the NEW TOWN TAVERN, Stafford Street, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Coroner, on the body of John Stringer Anson, fourteen months old, the son of a miner residing in Stafford Street. From the evidence of the mother of the deceased, it appeared that the child being unwell on the 15th inst, was taken by her to the shop of Mr. Highway, chemist, who on several occasions up to the 23rd inst, prescribed for it, but on the latter date told her he had done all he could for her infant, and no one could do more. She took the child home, and although the little creature was suffering from dysentery of a very aggravated character, she never made any attempt to procure medical assistance up till Sunday last, when the infant died. The Jury found that death was caused by neglected dysentery. The Coroner said it was the fifth case of loss of life owing to parents taking their children to druggists, instead of properly qualified medical practitioners, that had come under his notice during the past month or six weeks. He joined the Jury in reprimanding the mother for her neglect in the matter.”

Walsall Free Press 18/6/1864

“Charles Bird was charged with having indecently assaulted Sarah Hartshorn. Mr. Dale appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Ebsworth for the defence. Mr. Dale, after narrating the circumstances of the case, called Sarah Hartshorn, from whose evidence it appeared that she and her husband, on the night of Saturday, the 4th inst, left the NEW TOWN TAVERN, Stafford Street, Walsall, about twelve o’clock at night. Her husband went to Hilton to hear the nightingale, and complainant went towards home, and was followed by the defendant, who passed her, and waited at the corner of James Street for her till she came up, when he rushed upon her. She told him to let her go. He did so, and walked by her side till they got to the corner of North Street, when he seized her again. She shouted, and he told her to ‘hush.’ She managed to extricate herself from him, but he followed her till they got to the entry where she lived, when he again seized her, and committed the assault with which he was charged. Complainant succeeded in escaping to her daughter’s, who resided a short distance from complainant’s house. Complainant was cross-examined by Mr. Ebsworth, but nothing was elicited to shake her evidence in chief.

William Butcher saw defendant putting up the shutters at the NEW TOWN TAVERN, and saw complainant leave with her husband.

Edward Jones corroborated the evidence of the previous witness, and added that he saw the defendant following her.

Mary Bentley, wife of Lewis Bentley, said that she heard the complainant knocking at her son-in-law's door, and she told witness, in presence of the defendant what had taken place. Defendant, on hearing what complainant said, went down the passage, and shortly afterwards decamped.

Thomas Williams said he was in company with the complainant and her husband from ten o'clock till eleven, and, during that time, she had only a share of two pints of porter, which was shared among four, and she was perfectly sober when she left.

Mrs. Sarah Ann Williams corroborated her husband's evidence.

John Thompson, the complainant's son-in law, corroborated as to what took place at his house.

Elizabeth Thompson, wife of the previous witness, corroborated her husband's evidence, and added that, on Wednesday morning last, she went with her mother to the defendant. Her mother said to the defendant 'What are we to do in this matter? My husband says he won't live with me because you told him that I asked you to take me home on Saturday night.'

The complainant's husband was next examined, and said that when he charged Bird with the offence, Bird said, 'I took her home at her own request.'

This being the case for the prosecution, Mr. Ebsworth addressed the Bench on behalf of his client, and said the truth was that the husband had gone to hear a 'bird' at Hilton, and that the wife had gone off with a 'Bird' at Walsall, and she, after being found out, had fabricated the present charge in order to clear herself in the eyes of her husband.

At the close of his remarks, Mr. Ebsworth called and examined William Clark, carter, Stafford Street, who said that complainant asked him to take her home, and he thought she was drunk. Cross-examined: The conversation took place in the kitchen of the NEW TOWN TAVERN.

This witness, who was evidently under the influence of drink, was reprimanded.

Richard Dunning was called as to character, and said that he knew the defendant, and he was a very quiet and inoffensive man.

The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of £2, and £1 1s costs; or, in default, to be imprisoned for 21 days."

Walsall Free Press 15/7/1865

"*Thomas Bird*, NEW TOWN TAVERN; John Perry, WHITE LION, High Street; Joseph Phillips, The ALBION, Wolverhampton Lane; Thomas Hall, WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street; William Sartin, NEW INN, John Street; and John Holder, CROSS GUNS, Birchills, were charged with having had their houses open during prohibited hours on Sunday last. Holder was fined 10s and costs, Sartin 6d and costs, Hall 6d and costs, and Perry 1s and costs. The cases against Messrs. *Bird* and Phillips were dismissed."

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

"Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

Mr. Matthews, from the office of Mr. Wilkinson, applied on behalf of the following parties.....

Richard Hall, NEW TOWN TAVERN, Stafford Street Refused."

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

"At the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey and B. Bloomer, Esqs, *Richard Hall*, landlord of the NEW TOWN TAVERN, Stafford Street, was charged, by Mr. Cater, Inspector of Nuisances, with having on his premises in James Street, a privy in a foul and dilapidated condition.

Mr. Cater said that the nuisance had been removed, but the wall was required to be rebuilt.

An order was made for the wall to be repaired within seven days.

Alfred Cooper, agent for the property adjoining Mr. *Hall's*, was charged with having on the premises a privy in a foul and dilapidated state. It appeared that the wall between the privy on his property and that on Mr. *Hall's* was in a dilapidated condition.

An order was made for the wall to be repaired within seven days."

1871 Census

126, Stafford Street

[1] *William Griffiths* (47), licensed victualler, born Darlaston;

[2] Jemima Palmer Griffiths (46), wife, born Butty Village, Darlaston, rather deaf;

[3] Mary Ann Palmer Griffiths (22), daughter, born Butty Village, Darlaston;

[4] ___zzh___ Palmer Griffiths (20), daughter, born Butty Village, Darlaston, lame;

[5] John James Palmer Griffiths (17), son, brewer, born Butty Village, Darlaston, lame;

[6] Ann Jemima Palmer Griffiths (3 years 11 months), daughter, born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/10/1875

"On Thursday, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the NEW TOWN INN, Stafford Street, on the body of Rosannah Nichols, aged 40, who died on Wednesday morning from the effects of an inhalation of gas which had escaped into her dwelling in the Bloxwich Road through a pipe which had been perforated by nails in the nailing down of the flooring. The accident occurred on the night of the 30th ult, and neither the deceased nor her husband ever after recovered consciousness. He expired, however, two days afterwards, and she lingered until early on Wednesday morning, when she also expired."

1881 Census

126, Stafford Street – NEWTOWN TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Oswin* (60), licensed victualler, born Barrow on Soar, Leicestershire;
 - [2] *Julia Oswin* (62), wife, born Wednesfield;
 - [3] *Harry Oswin* (19), son, bricklayer out of employ, born Birmingham;
 - [4] *Mary Elizabeth Oswin* (13), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
 - [5] *Ann Oswin* (3), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [6] *Lydia Oswin* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [7] *Ellen Davis* (17), domestic servant, born Hill Top;
 - [8] *Elizabeth Smith* (14), domestic servant, born Walsall:
- [Barrow upon Soar is about 3 miles ESE of Loughborough.]

Birmingham Daily Post 15/9/1888

“Yesterday Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) opened an inquest at the NEW TOWN INN, Stafford Street, on the body of Job Bull (43), greengrocer, Stafford Street, who, as already been reported in the *Post*, was killed on Wednesday night at Warston by a cart passing over him.

Thomas Salt, an ex-police-officer, who was with him at the time, said they both were riding the cart until they came to the place named, when deceased said they would walk up the hill, and they both got out. Witness held the back of the cart, and the deceased went to the horse’s head. The horse began to jib, and the deceased lashed the horse, which started suddenly, and trod on his left foot. As soon as the horse’s weight was removed from the foot the deceased appeared to try and get out of the way of the cart, but spun round and fell backwards under the cart, just in front of the wheel, which passed over his body, and he died almost immediately, never speaking again.

There being no mark of the horse having trod upon deceased’s foot, nor of the cart having passed over him, the jury desired a post-mortem examination, and the Coroner adjourned the enquiry for a week for that purpose.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/9/1888

“Yesterday, at the NEWTOWN TAVERN, Stafford Street, Mr. T. H. Stanley, borough coroner, resumed an enquiry touching the death of Job Bull, greengrocer, Stafford Street, who, whilst on his way home from Shareshill, on the night of the 12th inst, with a cart heavily laden with potatoes and other vegetables, was knocked down and killed; Thomas Salt, ex-police officer, who was with him, stating that one of the wheels of the cart went over him. The jury at the opening of the enquiry last week questioned the accuracy of this statement, there being no marks of violence on the body, and asked that a post mortem examination should be made, which the Coroner ordered.

Yesterday Mr. M. Taylor, surgeon, deposed that the deceased’s neck was broken, the jugular vein was ruptured, and the larynx and windpipe were displaced, apparently by pressure, such as would be occasioned by the wheel catching the deceased after he had fallen and pushing him along the ground. The third and fifth ribs on the right side, and the sixth and seventh on the left side, were all fractured, and the spleen, liver, and stomach were ruptured. The injuries to the neck were the immediate cause of death, but the internal haemorrhage contributed greatly to it. The wheel could not have passed over the neck, or the deceased would have been decapitated; and the probability was that the horse made two attempts to pass over the body, the one causing the injuries to the neck and the other those to the ribs.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, adding as a rider that no blame attached to Salt.”

1891 Census

126, Stafford Street

- [1] *Edwin Jones* (40), publican, born Hadley, Shropshire;
- [2] *Harriet Jones* (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Howard Jones* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Alice M. Jones* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Florence Jones* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Harriet Jones* (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Lucy Howard* (33), domestic servant, born Shropshire;
- [8] *Richard Phillips* (22), lodger, journeyman brewer:

Walsall Advertiser 22/9/1894 - Advert

“To Brewers Or Publicans Wanting A Good Public-House.

Important Sale by Auction of a Full-Licensed Home Brewing Public-House and Dwelling House adjoining, producing £61 14s a year.

Walter Hughes will offer for Sale by Auction, upon the Premises, at the NEW TOWN TAVERN, Stafford Street, on Tuesday Next, 25th September, at Six for Seven o’clock in the evening precisely, subject to conditions of sale incorporating the common form of conditions of the Birmingham Law Society, All that Valuable Property, Comprising the well-known Home Brewing Public-house, known as the NEW TOWN TAVERN, situate and being No.126, Stafford Street, together with the house adjoining, No.125, Stafford Street, now in the occupation of Mr. *Edwin Jones*, at a yearly rental of £50, held under a Lease expiring 24th June, 1895.

The Premises comprise a Taproom, Parlour, Bar, Kitchen, Back Kitchen, 4 bedrooms, convertible into 5, large Clubroom, 3 Cellars, with Yard at rear, containing brick-built 2-storey Brewery (fitted upon modern lines), with Malt Room; also Dwelling House adjoining, fronting to and being No.124, Stafford Street, now in the occupation of James Small, as weekly tenant, at a rental of 4s 6d, or £11 14s a year, making a total of £61 14s per annum. There is a right of way from Stafford Street by an entry round the

backs of the premises into Hospital Street.

The Property is Leasehold for 99 years from 20th March, 1848, at the very low annual apportioned ground rent of £3.

The Property has a frontage of 45 feet to Stafford Street, and 49 feet to Hospital Street, and contains an area of 392 square yards; there is a back entrance to the NEW TOWN TAVERN.

This is a Licensed House that has always done a large trade in its immediate vicinity. Hundreds of houses have been erected within the past ten years in the neighbourhood, during which time no further licenses have been granted near it.

For further particulars and plans apply to the Auctioneer, 79, Park Street, or Messrs. Wilkinson, Mills & Walford, Solicitors, Walsall."

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1897

"Mr. T. H. Stanley applied for permission for the name of the NEW TOWN TAVERN, Stafford Street, to be changed to that of the ROYAL EXCHANGE HOTEL.

Mr. Loxton (magistrates' clerk): Are not there one or two Royal Exchanges already? – Mr. Stanley: The more Royal Exchanges the better.

Mr. Loxton said if there was power to change the name of the house without the permission of the Bench that could be done, and notice had been given to him (Mr. Loxton), but, if the change of named required the permission of the magistrates it was only fair that the owners of other Royal Exchanges should have notice of the application.

The case was adjourned till the next licensing sessions, for notice to be given to owners of the other Royal Exchanges in the town."

It was renamed ROYAL EXCHANGE in 1897.

1901 Census

126, Stafford Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE TAVERN

[1] *Edwin Jones* (50), licensed victualler, born Hadley, Shropshire;

[2] *Harriet Jones* (51), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Howard Jones* (21), son, brewer, born Walsall;

[4] *Alice Jones* (18), daughter, domestic, born Walsall;

[5] *Florrie Jones* (17), daughter, domestic, born Walsall;

[6] *Annie Jones* (11), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 19/3/1904

"The annual meeting of the Bloxwich Cricket Club was held at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street, on Monday evening. Among those present were Councillor R. C. Thomas (in the chair), Messrs. E. F. Thomas, A. W. Yardley, G. W. Elliott, S. Wootton sen., Rev. H. E. Elwell, and D. McAlister.

The Treasurer (Mr. G. W. Elliot) presented a statement of accounts shewing a balance in hand of 3s 1d, which considering the great amount spent last year in improvements to the ground, &c, was very good. £22 were realised by the dramatic performance, 'Arabian Nights' given by Mr. G. Lewis and party.

Mr. G. Hayward was elected president of the coming season, Mr. G. Elliott was re-elected treasurer, and the secretaries, Messrs. A. R. Wootton and J. Bridgett, were also re-elected....."

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

"The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street. A dividend of 9s per member had been paid by the club held at the above inn. The amount of the contributions was £43 10s 11d, sick pay, &c, £18 16s, carried forward to next year £1 7s 11d, leaving a balance for sharing of £23 7s."

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

"Mr. *Edwin Jones*, of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street, Walsall, who died on the 31st December last, left estate of the gross value of £8,485 9s 4d, of which the net personalty had been sworn at £7,920 6s 4d. Probate of his will, dated the 5th August last, with a codicil of the 18th December, had been granted to his daughter, Miss *Florence Jones*, of Stafford Street, Walsall, Mr. Peakman, of Portland Street, Walsall, and Mr. Joseph Clark, milk dealer, of Proffitt Street, Walsall to each of the two latter of whom the testator left £15. He left to his wife, Mrs. *Harriet Jones*, the use of his residence and effects at Leamore, Bloxwich, and an annuity of £104, and during the life of his wife he left an annuity of £78 to his son, Howard, and annuities of £39 to each of his daughters, Alice, Maude, Florence, and Harriet Annie. The residue of his property he left upon trust for his children or their issue in equal shares."

Walsall Advertiser 19/2/1910

"On Tuesday evening last at Mr. Walter Hughes' Property Mart, The Bridge, Walsall, quite a large company attended at the sale of one of the best known public houses in the town, namely, the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street, Walsall, kept for so many years by the late Mr. *Edwin Jones*.

Brewers or their representatives from Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Lichfield, Burton-on-Trent, and other places, together with a good sprinkling of Walsall publicans anxious to see what the house would fetch.

The property is held under a lease which 37 years are unexpired, subject to a ground rent of £3.

This was Mr. Alderman Hughes' first property sale after his recent illness, and he seemed to be up to his old reputation as an auctioneer, and after expatiating on the merits of the property, an opening bid of £1,000 was soon followed by many hundreds and ultimately fifties, until the lot was satisfactorily disposed of."

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1910 - Advert

"Wednesday Next, 9th March, at 11.

Unreserved Sale by Auction of the Capital Furniture, 7-Octave Cottage Pianoforte (by Kirkman), 11-Stop American Organ with back mirror, 2 Wardrobes, Toilet Tables, Secretaire Desk and Bookcase, Sets of Chairs, Tables, Couch, Dining Table and large quantity of excellent effects, removed from the ROYAL EXCHANGE HOTEL, Stafford Street, by order of the Executors of the late Mr. *Edwin Jones*, in consequence of the house being sold."

1911 Census

126, Stafford Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE INN

[1] *Alfred Cooke* (35), licensed victualler, born Chorley, Staffordshire;

[2] *Mabel Cooke* (30), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Emily Walters* (23), servant, born Walsall;

[4] *Mary Cooke* (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street, Walsall, 4s 9½d."

Richard Jackson Bayley – see also BIRD IN HAND.

1939 Register

126, Stafford Street

[1] *William J. Waldron*, date of birth 5/7/1901, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Elsie Waldron*, dob 29/1/1904, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 5/10/1940

"Mr. *John 'Jock' Mackenzie*, of Wednesbury Road, a popular member of the Walsall football team twenty years ago, died with tragic suddenness yesterday morning. He had been on Home Guard duty at the gas works during the night, and appeared to be quite all right when he left his post about 6am. He walked home and entered the living room, but then apparently collapsed. Mrs. *Mackenzie*, who was in bed, heard a noise and called out but received no reply, and on coming downstairs she found her husband lying dead on the floor.

A native of Douglas, Lanarkshire, Mr. *Mackenzie*, who was aged 55, joined the Walsall Football Club in 1920, having previously played for Heart of Midlothian, Carlisle United, and Norwich City.

In the last war he served in Egypt with the R.G.A. When football was resumed he returned to Norwich and afterwards was signed by Walsall for what was to prove their last season in the Birmingham League. He was a sound fullback, and played many good games that season, but he was, of course, getting past his best and his career came to an end the following season, when he made only a few appearances for Walsall in the northern section of the Third Division.

On relinquishing the game. Mr. *Mackenzie* became a licensed victualler, and held in turn the licenses of the NEW STATION, Park Street, the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck, and the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street. Then, about eight years ago, he joined the staff at the gas works, where he became very popular with his fellow employees and continued his sporting activities as a member of the bowling club. He is survived by Mrs. *Mackenzie* and one son (now serving with the Forces), with whom deep sympathy will be expressed in the bereavement which has so suddenly befallen them."

Walsall Observer 12/4/1941 - Advert

"Malt for Strength & Energy. Hops for The Appetite. Yeast for The Blood.

Twists The Best Beer for You.

You can Drink and Enjoy Twists Ale at any the of the following Licensed Houses.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street.....

And All The Best Clubs.

Proprietary Whiskies, Foreign Wines and Spirits, High-Class British Sherries and Ports.

Head Office & Brewery, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Stafford Street. £4 10s 0d."

Closed [2009]

It was converted into housing. [2012]

ROYAL EXCHANGE

Heath End, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Blencowe and Co. Limited [1914]

LICENSEES

Samuel Blackhurst [1871] – [1881]

Jabez Breeze [1890] – **1896**);

John Morgan (**1896** – []

Enoch Watson [] – **1899**);

John Benson* (**1899** – []

John Benton* [] – **1901**);

Thomas Watson (**1901** – **1906**);

George Jackson (**1906** – []

Richard Dunn [1909]

Ernest Bennett [1911] – [1914]

Mrs. Bennett (**1914**);

Henry Insley (**1914** – []

Montagu Edwin Ratchliffe [1914]

NOTES

Samuel Blackhurst = Samuel Blackhart

1871 Census

Heath End – ROYAL EXCHANGE

[1] *Samuel Blackhurst* (50), beer seller, born London, Middlesex;

[2] Pamlar Blackhurst (46), wife, born West Bromwich;

[3] William Collier (22), nephew, puddler, born Birmingham;

[4] Samuel Walker (6), nephew, scholar, born Oldbury;

[5] William Aston (25), nephew, puddler, born Lichfield:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 3/8/1872

“W. Sidley of Brownhills will match his black bitch Lady to run Morgan’s Gip of Blakenall 200 yards at catch weight or his Silk the same distance, at handicap terms (two yards and a half to the pound), for £10 or £15 a side, or Jones’s Sam or Lill of Bloxwich can be on at the same terms. A match can be made at Mr. *Blackhurst*’s, Pelsall, near Walsall, on Monday, Aug. 5.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/9/1873

“Robert Grise, who had previously been convicted, was fined 20s and costs, or twenty-one days’ imprisonment, for having been drunk and refusing to leave the ROYAL EXCHANGE beerhouse, Heath End.”

Lichfield Mercury 30/11/1877

“At the Lichfield County Police Office on Tuesday, a young man named T. Holloway, who said he came from Nottingham, was charged by Superintendent Hill with uttering a base florin to Mrs. *Blackhurst*, beerseller, Pelsall, on the 21st of November. The prisoner went to the prosecutrix’s house and had half a pint of ale for which he gave the coin and received 1s 10½d change. He was also charged with attempting, on the same day, to pass a second bad florin to Miss Lester, shopkeeper, Pelsall, in payment for some cheese. In this case the prosecutrix returned the coin to prisoner, who then gave her a good one. He was also charged with uttering a base florin to Mrs. Ghilks, beerhouse-keeper, Highbridge, on the same day, in payment of a pint of ale. The prisoner had a companion with him, and on being told the coin was bad they ran away. The prisoner was, however, captured by a man named Clare, although his companion escaped. Police-constable Walker produced four coins which the prisoner had passed to different

persons at Pelsall, which were proved by Mr. Charles Thorneloe, silversmith, Lichfield, to be counterfeit. The prisoner was remanded for a week.

On the day of the prisoner's apprehension he caused considerable excitement in Brownhills by attempting to escape. He ran about half a mile, pursued by Police-constable Walker and a general cry of 'Stop thief' before he was overtaken."

1881 Census

Heath End

- [1] *Samuel Blackhurst* (62), beerseller, born London, Middlesex;
- [2] *Pamela Blackhurst* (56), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Pamela Walker* (18), niece, general servant, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Samuel Walker* (15), nephew, general labourer, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Sarah Walker* (8), niece, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Sarah A. Walker* (7), niece, scholar, born West Bromwich:

Jabez Breeze = *Jabez Breese*

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

"The following publicans were granted one hour's extension on Monday, October 6th, on the occasion of Pelsall wakes *Jabez Breeze*."

Lichfield Mercury 2/6/1893

"An inquest was held at the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Heath End, Pelsall, on Monday, before Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner), relative to the death of William Smith, a miner, who met with his death on May 25th, whilst working at No.12 pit of the Walsall Wood Colliery Company. The evidence of Alfred Bratt and John Follows, who were near the scene of the accident showed deceased was at work in a stall pulling coal from the face of the same, when a large piece of rock fell upon him and caused such injuries to his head and upper part of his body, that the unfortunate fellow died before he could be removed from the pit. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Lichfield Mercury 11/10/1895

"At the Petty Sessions on Monday, *Jabez Breeze*, licensed victualler, applied for an extension of one hour the same evening, the occasion being Pelsall wake. The application was granted."

Lichfield Mercury 14/8/1896

"At Rushall Police Court, on Monday, a temporary transfer of the license of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End, was granted from *Jabez Breese* to *John Morgan*, and an off-license at Heath End, held by *Morgan*, was transferred to William Poxon."

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

"The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, and attention having been called to that matter they had gone round the district where similar objections could be made, and had given notice to the houses of the district asking that some alteration should be made so as to comply alike with the necessities of the public and also the sanitary conditions of the district. There were several houses named.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End."

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1898

"At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, Charles Bullock, a Pelsall man, was charged with assaulting Sarah Clayton, who resides at Heath End. The complainant said that on Whit-Monday night she went to pay her club money at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End. The secretary had not yet come, so she went to sit in the kitchen. There were some more women in there. Defendant came in and put his arm round her. She told him to get away as she allowed no one to do that, and she went and sat in another corner of the room. Defendant went out, and when he came in again he asked her (complainant) what she had been telling Sergeant Riley. Complainant said that she had told him nothing. Defendant said, 'Yes you have, I will bet you a shilling.' He put down a shilling. She fetched out a 2s piece, and was picking the shilling up to put down her money when he committed the alleged assault, struck her several times, and also hit her with a jug. She said that one reason for the row was because she had given defendant a shilling to put on a horse, the horse won but defendant had kept the money.

William Evans, of Heath End, said he was not going to give a word of evidence until his day's wages were paid. Having received that from complainant he said that he did not see much of the row on account of there being so many in the house, but he did see defendant strike complainant.

Thomas Fleet, labourer, of Heath End, said that he saw defendant strike complainant three or four times without complainant touching him.

Lucy *Morgan*, landlady of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, deposed to hearing Mrs. Clayton (the complainant) making use of an

expression to the effect that when she came across defendant she would strike him with the first weapon that she had in her hand. But she did not see anything of the row.

Esther Sweet, of Heath End, said she heard complainant make use to threats against defendant, and she saw complainant hit defendant with a jug, and threw another jug at defendant before he hit her.

Mr. James said they were both as bad as each other, and ordered them to pay the costs (17s) between them.

Mathew Round, of Pelsall, was then charged with assaulting the complainant in the last case.

Sarah Clayton said that as soon as she got outside the public house defendant came out and 'pushed his fist in her face,' and then struck her a violent blow, knocking her insensible.

Robert Clayton said he saw defendant come out of the house and strike complainant.

Prisoner denied hitting her at all. He said complainant was drunk. He only came out to move the crowd away that was outside.

Prisoner had got rather a bad record, so was fined 10s and 9s costs, or 14 days."

Lichfield Mercury 30/6/1899

"A temporary transfer of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End, Pelsall, was granted from *Enoch Watson* to *John Benson*."

* probably the same person

Walsall Advertiser 24/1/1903

"Mathew Round, of Heath End, Pelsall, was summoned on Monday at Rushall Police Court for being drunk on licensed premises, and refusing to quit when requested. Emma *Watson*, wife of the licensee of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End, stated defendant came into the inn about 7pm on the 3rd inst. He was drunk, but asked to be supplied with liquor. Being refused, he challenged everyone present to fight, and eventually the police had to remove him. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the defence. He said that his client pleaded guilty, but had promised to sign the pledge if he were given another chance. Fined 10s and costs (8s 6d)."

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1909

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... *Richard Dunn*, ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End, Pelsall."

Walsall Advertiser 21/10/1911

"'He's a terror and a pest to Heath End,' said a police-officer in giving evidence against Arthur Poxon (34), a miner, of Walsall Road, Heath End, Pelsall, who was placed in the dock at the Rushall Police Court on Monday, before Messrs. A. W. Greatrex (presiding), J. F. E. Binns, and W. M. Lester, charged with (1) being drunk and disorderly, and (2) with assaulting the police.

Police-constable Rushton stated that at 9.15pm on Saturday, the 14th inst, he was in conversation with the landlord of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End, who was making a complaint to him, when the prisoner, who was drunk, crossed the road and said, 'If you have anything to — say about me, say it here.' Witness ordered him into the house and he went, but shortly afterwards he came out again, and wanted to fight him, but when the officer went towards him the prisoner ran into the house and locked the door. At 10.30pm, witness was in Walsall Road, when the prisoner went up to him and said, 'You are just the — I am looking for.' Poxon commenced to kick the officer about the legs, and also on the hips and in the stomach. Witness closed with him and they fell to the ground where they struggled for about ten minutes, when Police-constable Smedley came to his assistance. Prisoner was handcuffed and taken to Rushall Police Station.

Prisoner: Did you run at me and dash me on the floor? — Police-constable Rushton: No. You have been in a scrimmage before. Answering the Bench, the officer said no one would supply the prisoner in a public-house, but he obtained beer by sending for it.

Ernest Bennett, landlord of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, spoke to the prisoner's conduct to the police.

Police-constable Smedley said he heard that Police-constable Rushton was being assaulted and on proceeding to Walsall Road he found the officer and prisoner on the ground. Prisoner was trying to bite and kick Rushton, and witness handcuffed him. He was violent on the way to the police station, and said he would do him and Rushton in when he came out.

Police-constable Lewis, who received Poxon into custody said he was very drunk and violent, and used vile threats towards Rushton and *Bennett*. Police-constable Rushton's clothing was covered with mud.

Prisoner pleaded guilty to having been drunk and disorderly, but denied the assault. He alleged that Rushton knocked him on to the ground, put his hands round his throat and was throttling him, and also punched him.

Mr. Greatrex told the prisoner he had a very bad record and imposed fines of 10s and 5s costs for being drunk and disorderly and 20s and 10s costs for the assault, or one months' hard labour."

Lichfield Mercury 21/11/1913

"Two cases were preferred against *Ernest Bennett*, licensee of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End Pelsall, at Rushall Police Court on Monday, one for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and the other for selling ale to a drunken person. Mr. Frank Cooper prosecuted, and the defendant was represented by Mr. H. H. Jackson.

The evidence of Inspector Needham and other officers was to the effect that on October 28th, at five o'clock, they visited the defendant's house, and on going into the bar saw a woman named O'Neil setting on the bench with half a pint of beer before her. She was the worse for drink. She was very violent, and a trap had to be procured to get her to the station. She was charged the following day, and convicted for being drunk on licensed premises.

The female searcher to the Rushall police testified to the drunken state of the woman.

Ada Webb, wife of the landlord of the HOLLY BUSH, Pelsall, said the woman visited her house at 4-35 on the afternoon of October 28th, and asked for half a pint of beer. Owing to her drunken condition witness refused to serve her, and she left the premises. The defendant gave evidence in defence and denied the allegations that the woman was drunk. She was quite sober, and if he thought she had been drunk he would not have risked his character for half a pint of beer. The woman was violent because the police 'laid hold of her,' and would not allow her to walk.

Several witnesses were called who said the woman O'Neil was sober.

The Magistrates retired after a prolonged hearing, and on returning Captain Brookes said the charge of drunkenness would be dismissed, but in the second case a fine of 20s and costs would be imposed.

Mr. Jackson appealed to the Magistrates to withdraw their decision, and not record a conviction against *Bennett*. A conviction, he said, would prove detrimental to the defendant's business.

The Magistrates announced that they could not see their way clear to alter their decision.

Mr. Jackson again appealed, and the Justices again refused.

Mr. Jackson said he was very sorry. It appeared to him landlords were more severely dealt with than criminals. The punishment inflicted was terribly hard."

Walsall Observer 7/3/1914

"Arising out of the objection made at the Rushall Licensing Sessions on February 10th to the renewal of the license of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End, Pelsall, on the ground of redundancy, Mr. C. A. Loxton made an application to the Rushall magistrates, on Monday morning. The license, Mr. Loxton explained, was in the name of a man named *Bennett*, who had suddenly left the house, gone away no one knew where, and had left his wife and child (then dangerously ill) under somewhat heartless circumstances, so far as could be judged. Having regard to this state of affairs, the licensing Bench granted a temporary authority to the wife until the adjourned meeting (March 10th). However, Mrs. *Bennett* was now very anxious to leave this public house, and an arrangement had been made by which she was going away from the premises that morning. Under the circumstances he (Mr. Loxton) asked the Bench to grant a further temporary authority until the adjourned day to *Henry Insley*, a man of good character, who for some years was a member of the police force. He understood the police would offer no objection to the application.

Mr. W. L. Lewis (Magistrates Clerk): Have you any authority from the licensee to take this course?

Mr. Loxton: Seeing that the licensee has left the premises and gone away, I can only act on assumed authority. Mr. Frank Cooper, of Walsall, was instructed by *Bennett* before he went away, and appeared on the licensee's behalf at the licensing day. Mr. Cooper has informed me he sees no objection to the transfer being made to *Insley*. Under the circumstances I don't think there can be any question as to the regularity of the application.

Mr. W. H. Brookes, who occupied the Bench together with Mr. S. Bonner, said they hardly liked to upset previous arrangements, but under the circumstances the further temporary authority would be granted."

Lichfield Mercury 13/4/1914

"The Rushall adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

Mr. C. Loxton (Walsall) applied for the renewal of the license of the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, Heath End, Pelsall, the objection to which was on the ground of redundancy.

The Bench referred the license to the county compensation authority."

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/8/1914

"At the Principal Meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Compensation Authority, held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Wednesday, 25 licenses which had been referred by justices from petty sessional divisions and boroughs came under review. Of these, no opposition to the refusal of the license was offered by the parties interested in 15 cases, eight which were opposed were refused renewal, and the remaining two were adjourned for evidence of the trade done at each house.....

Mr. Loxton, on behalf of the owners of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End, Rushall, an ante-1869 beer, cider, and wine license, said it was an unopposed case. They had agreed to the amount of compensation being fixed at £600, which they thought was a favourable settlement. The clerk of the Peace said it must be understood that that was only a provisional figure and might be varied by the justices. The renewal of the license was refused."

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/8/1914

"The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County of Stafford.

Notice is Hereby Given that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 29th day of July, 1914, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End, Rushall. Beer, Cider, and Wine, ante 1869. Licensee, *Montagu Edwin Ratcliffe*. Registered Owner, William Blencowe and Co. Limited."

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/1/1915

"The Principal Meeting of the Compensation Authority was held on the 29th July, and by adjournment on the 7th October and 12th December. The committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon are satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the Compensation Fund.

In the following 18 cases the committee fixed the compensation.....

ROYAL EXCHANGE, Heath End, Rushall, beer, cider, and wine, ante-1869, £600.

The money has been apportioned amongst the interested parties, and will be paid on the 28th instant."

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1915

“.....at the annual licensing sessions for the Rushall district on Monday.....

A decrease in the numbers of the beerhouses ‘on’ had been brought about by the ROYAL EXCHANGE beerhouse, Heath End, Rushall, having been closed under the compensation clauses of the Licensing Acts.”

ROYAL GEORGE

Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Hilditch [1822]

NOTES

London Gazette 16/3/1830

“*John Hilditch*, of the Foreign of Walsall, Staffordshire, Farmer and Victualler.”

ROYAL GEORGE

144, Wolverhampton Street, (144, Wolverhampton Road), (Wolverhampton Lane), (Park Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Heath [] – **1846**;

Lydia Heath (**1846 – 1848**)

Thomas Hedges Jnr.* [1849] – [1851]

Thomas Hedges* [1858] – [1870]

Charles Cooper [1871] – [1873];

Henry Robinson [1876] – [1877];

Samuel Poxon [];

Edward Peace []

NOTES

Park Street [1849], [1850], [1851]

144, Wolverhampton Street [1860], [1871]

144, Wolverhampton Road [1861]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/2/1846 - Died

“On the 15th instant, Mr. *Thomas Heath*, butcher and landlord of the ROYAL GEORGE, Park Street, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/6/1848 - Died

“On the 10th instant *Lydia*, wife of Mr. *Thomas Heath*, of the ROYAL GEORGE, Park Street, Walsall, aged 41.”

* probably the same person

Thomas Hedges issued tokens from here.

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/2/1851

“*Thomas Hedges*, of the ROYAL GEORGE, was fined 10s and costs, for having his public house open at half-past twelve on Saturday night.”

Thomas Hedges was also a coal merchant, Old Wharf. [1858]

1861 Census

144, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Thomas Hedges* (41), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Hedges* (43), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *John Hedges* (20), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Phoebe Hedges* (18), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Jane Hedges* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mary Ann Picken* (44), visitor, seamstress, born Bilston;
- [7] *Richard Machin* (21), brewer and servant, born Bodmore (?) Heath, Staffordshire;
- [8] *Fanny Allen* (17), house servant, born Bentley, Warwickshire:

Walsall Free Press 30/8/1862 - Advert

“To The Working Classes. Notice! Notice!! Notice!!!

Every Man should provide for Sickness and Death.

No.1 True Briton’s Lodge, Wolverhampton Order Of Odd Fellows.

The above Lodge is an enrolled Society, meeting at Host *Hedge*’s, the ROYAL GEORGE INN, Wolverhampton Street, any person under 36 years of age may join.

Payments. 1s 3d per fortnight. Benefits 10s per week in Sickness; £14 at Death of member. £6 at Death of member’s wife.

C. Hodgkinson, Park Street, Secretary.

Surgeon E. D. Moore, Esq, Ablewell Street.”

Thomas Hedges was also a coal merchant. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 9/9/1865 - Advert

“Important Notice!!!

Aldridge Collieries near Walsall.

The Coppy Hall Ironstone & Coal Company, (Limited)

Have great pleasure in announcing to their friends and the public generally that they have commenced getting an entire New Measure Of Coal, equalled by few, and surpassed by none, in South Staffordshire, which they are prepared to Sell at the following prices:

Best House Coal..... 10 10 per ton. Best Cobbles.... 8 4 per ton. Best Slack..... 4 6 per ton. Good Hard Coal..... 8 0 per ton.

Good Hard Slack..... 3 6 per ton.

Orders left at Mr. *Hedges*, the ROYAL GEORGE INN, Wolverhampton Street, will receive prompt attention.

Carting on reasonable terms.”

1871 Census

144, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Charles Cooper* (52), married, victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Cooper* (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] *Mary Cooper* (53), wife, born Lichfield;
- [4] *Sarah Cooper* (17), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 29/4/1871 - Advert

“To Be Sold, a piece of Freehold Land situate at Palfrey, being No.117 on the Palfrey Estate of the Walsall Freehold Land Society. Apply, ROYAL GEORGE, Wolverhampton Street.”

Walsall Free Press 23/12/1871 - Advert

“To The Master Collar Makers Of Walsall & Birmingham.

At a Meeting of the Workmen of the above Trade, held at the ROYAL GEORGE, it was resolved to solicit their Employers for an Advance of wages, at the following rates of percentage: No.1, 15, No.2, 12½, No.3, 10 percent.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“*Thomas Gaffey*, alias *Murphy*, a notorious disorderly person who did not appear, was convicted of a gross assault upon *Henry Robinson*, keeper of the ROYAL GEORGE INN, Wolverhampton Road, and was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment with hard labour, the Mayor remarking that publicans carried on their business under very heavy responsibility, and when they were conducting their houses in a proper and orderly way the magistrates ought to back them up.”

Birmingham Gazette 20/3/1877

“The Artisan’s Dwelling Act In Walsall. An inquiry directed by the Local Government Board was re-opened yesterday morning, by Lieut.-Col. Ponsonby Cox, at the Guildhall.....

[This inquiry was to investigate the compulsory purchase of an area of existing buildings, between Stafford Street and Wolverhampton Street, demolish them and to erect new dwellings.]

There were 100 houses, full-licensed house 5, beerhouses 2, privies and ashpits 50 – of these 17 are under dwelling houses, workshops, or passages leading to them. The other buildings are 6 houses and shops combined, 16 workshops, 1 office, 1 pawnshop, 3 stores, 10 void houses, 1 bakehouse, 5 sheds, 5 stables, 1 butcher’s shop, 1 confectioner’s shop, 1 school, 2 pigsties. The streets in the area were narrow and irregular; the houses had no back doors situate in and out of courts; courts open at one end only, and some of them being only three feet across, hence the impossibility of providing proper privy accommodation.....

Henry Robinson, proprietor of the ROYAL GEORGE, examined by Mr. Williams said that the sanitary defects of his property could be easily remedied, but he had never been asked to do it. In examination by Mr. Gillespie, he said the yard would be about seven yards long by four yards. There were two privies which had separate doors.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1882

“Walsall Town Council.

Report of the General Purposes Committee.....

On the motion of Alderman Brewer, seconded by Councillor Kirkpatrick, it was further resolved, on the recommendation of the same committee, ‘That the Council allow the licenses of the five alehouses, viz, the ODD FELLOWS ARMS, the ROYAL GEORGE, the SPREAD EAGLE, the GEORGE AND DRAGON, and the WATERLOO TAVERN, and the beerhouse, the BOAT INN, purchased for the purposes of the Artisans’ Dwelling Scheme, to lapse, it being considered that there is in the neighbourhood an ample number of licensed houses to meet the requirements of the district.’ This was unanimously agreed to.”

ROYAL OAK

40, (22), Goscote, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

J. C. Smith Esq.

Mrs. E. Vaughan, widow, Goscote

Thomas Sanders, Goscote

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Vaughan [1849] – [1850]

Charles Vaughan [1858] – [1861]

Samuel Allsop [1862] – [1872]

Mrs. Ann Allsop []

Charles Allsopp [1881];

William Holland [1884];

Thomas Lunt [];

Henry Davis Snr. [1887] – **1892**);

Henry Davis Jnr. (**1892 – 1895**);

William Thomas Hooker (**1895 – 1898**);

Charles Orgill (**1898 – 1904**);

James Sanders (**1904 – 1906**);

William Henry Powell (**1906 – 1907**);

Mrs. Edith Martha Evans (**1907 – 1909**);

Edward Bowen (**1909 – 1910**);

William Lavender (**1910 – 1911**);

James Somerfield (**1911 – 1914**);

Arthur Davis (**1914 – 1916**);

Mary Ann Davis (**1916 – 1919**);

Arthur Davis (**1919 – 1924**);

Godfrey Tomkins (**1924 – 1925**);

George Brown (**1925 – 1930**);

NOTES

22, Goscote [1871]
40, Goscote [1881], [1901]

Samuel Allsop = Samuel Allsopp = Samuel Alsopp

Walsall Free Press 23/3/1861 - Advert

“To Be Shot For, at the house of Mr. *S. Allsop*, ROYAL OAK INN, Goscote, near Walsall, on Easter Monday, April 1st, a splendid Fat Pig, value £6. Twenty-four members at 5s each. The winner can receive £5 10s or the Pig. The conditions (on this occasion) to be decided by the shooters, on the ground. Shooting to commence at eleven o’clock. Pigeons provided by the landlord. N.B. The extraordinary large pig is still on view at the above house.”

Walsall Free Press 7/12/1861 - Advert

“For Sale, the Greatest Wonder Living.
This most extraordinary Pig that has been admired and talked about by thousands, all of whom admit him to be the largest Pig in the world; is now on sale at Mr. *Samuel Allsop’s*, ROYAL OAK, Goscote.”

Walsall Free Press 22/2/1862 - Advert

“See Him! See Him!! See Him!!!
The Largest Pig In The World, parties wishing to avail themselves of the opportunity of seeing this most extraordinary Pig, must go at once, as he will be killed on Monday, the 24th of February, at Mr. *Samuel Allsop’s*, ROYAL OAK INN, Goscote, near the Foundry.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/4/1868 - Advert

“To Timber Dealers And Others, Pelsall.
Important Sale of Capital Timber Trees.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Farrington and Son, at the ROYAL OAK INN, Goscote, near Walsall, on Wednesday Next, the 6th day of May – about 200 capital Oak Trees, growing up lands near to the residence of the late Mr. Charles, Pelsall Hall.
Particulars in catalogues, to be had at the Office of the Auctioneers, Walsall.
Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock.”

Samuel Allsop was also a shopkeeper. [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

22, Goscote
[1] *Samuel Alsopp* (55), victualler and farmer, born Wolverhampton;
[2] *Ann Alsopp* (59), wife, born Newport, Shropshire;
[3] *Charles Alsopp* (19), son, born Bloxwich;
[4] John Alsopp (17), son, roll turner, born Bloxwich;
[5] Emma Weaver (17), general servant, born Bloxwich:

1881 Census

40, Goscote – ROYAL OAK
[1] *Charles Allsopp* (29), unmarried, farmer (30 acres) and innkeeper, born Goscote;
[2] *Ann Allsopp* (69), mother, born Wellington, Shropshire;
[3] John Allsopp (27), brother, roll turner, born Goscote;
[4] Samuel Taylor (13), nephew, born Blakenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1884

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions were held yesterday.....
The licenses of *William Holland*, Goscote which had been suspended from the previous Sessions, were renewed, with a caution to the parties to be more careful in the future.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/10/1887

“Yesterday at the Guildhall, Eliza Slater (14), domestic servant, was charged with having stolen a pack of cards, a mug, and other articles, the property of *Henry Davis*, keeper of the ROYAL OAK, near Goscote; and cuff links, and articles of clothing, the property of *Julia Anna Davis*, her master’s daughter.
The girl had been in Mr. *Davis’s* employ about a week, but was going home when Miss *Davis* missed a pair of kid gloves, and some other things. A constable was then sent for, and the missing articles and others were found in the girl’s box, which was packed and ready for removal.
The prosecutor interceded on the girl’s behalf, and said he had known the family for many years. They had all borne an excellent character, and at one time the mother was in his service for several years.
The magistrates suitably admonished the girl, and imposed a fine of 10s and costs, or twenty-one days’ imprisonment.”

1891 Census

Goscote – ROYAL OAK INN

- [1] *Henry Davis* (60), widower, licensed victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] *Henry Davis* (36), son, agricultural labourer, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Louisa Stackhouse* (27), general servant, born Pelsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 21/1/1892

“Re *Henry Davis*, the ROYAL OAK INN, Goscote near Walsall, licensed victualler and farmer.

The public examination of this debtor took place at the Walsall Bankruptcy Court, yesterday, before Mr. Registrar Clarke; Mr. A. Baker, attending for the bankrupt, and Mr. E. Pritchard (official receiver) being present. The summary of accounts showed liabilities £203 18s 4d, assets £21 10s, deficiency £182 8s 4d. The debtor attributed his failure to bad trade as a publican and bad seasons. The examination was adjourned to the 3rd of February.”

1901 Census

40, Goscote – ROYAL OAK TAVERN

- [1] *Charles Orgill* (32), licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Annie Orgill* (32), wife, born Wittington, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Elizabeth Orgill* (68), mother in law, widow, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] *Arthur L. Orgill* (4), son, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Annie E. Orgill* (8 months), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Sarah M. Sharratt* (16), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Charles Orgill, ROYAL OAK.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day.....

ROYAL OAK INN, Goscote; BARLEY MOW INN, NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich; and KING WILLIAM INN, Little Bloxwich, were renewed, with an intimation from the Magistrates that they considered the licenses in both districts were in excess of the requirements.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/4/1910

“The Walsall Transfer Sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday morning.....

In the case of the ROYAL OAK, Goscote, in respect of which an application was made to transfer the license from *Edward Bowen* to *William Lavender*, Sir Edward Holden drew attention to the fact that there had already been four transfers in connection with that house.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who appeared for the parties, said *Bowen* was going into another house [SPORTSMAN] under the same company. He did not know anything about the other three tenants.

Sir Edward said his idea was that where there were so many transfers it was that it either did not pay a man or he had to sell excessively to make the house pay.

The application was granted.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

ROYAL OAK, Bloxwich, £1 1s 2½d.”

It closed on 5th February 1930.

The license was transferred to the CAMBRIDGE.

ROYAL OAK

12, Harden Lane, (191, Blakenall), Blakenall Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Mrs. Ann Emery

William Blencowe and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Emery [1856] – [1865]
Mrs. Ann Emery [1868] – 1889);
Isaiah Nicholls (1889 – 1892);
Thomas Watson (1892 – 189_) [1896]
James Hughes (189_ – 1898);
Enoch Duce (1898 – 1901);
William Duce (1901 – 1929):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day appointed for the renewal of old licenses, and considering the application for new ones, there was a rather full attendance of magistrates.....

There were no less than twenty-eight applications for new licenses, all of which were refused with the exception of *James Emery*, beerhouse keeper, Blakenall.....

The applications were for the most part refused, in consequence of the number of houses already licensed in the respective localities, and in a few instances from the want of sufficient accommodation.”

Walsall Free Press 19/11/1859 - Marriage

“On the 7th instant, at St. Peter’s, by the Rev. C. Dunn, Mr. *James Emery*, of the ROYAL OAK, Blakenall, to Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Thomas Stanley, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

James Emery was also a bridle bit maker. [1860], [1861]

James Emery, beer retailer, Blakenall. [1861]

James Emery was described as also a bit maker. [1865]

1871 Census

191, Blakenall – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Ann Emery* (50), widow, publican, born Walsall;

[2] Elizabeth Watkins (11), general servant, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 12/4/1879

“Public Memorial to the Late Sister Dora.....

Subscription List..... Mrs. *Emery*, ROYAL OAK, Blakenall. £1 1s 0d.”

1881 Census

12, Harden Lane – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Ann Emery* (60), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] David Whitehouse (54), brewer, born Blakenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1889 - Advert

“To Brewers and Others.

To be Sold by Private Treaty, the ROYAL OAK, Blakenall Heath, near Bloxwich, together with two Dwelling Houses adjoining, with the Cottage and Gardens at the rear, the whole containing 1,260 square yards or thereabouts; or, if desired, the Public-house may be bought separate. The latter is doing a first-rate trade, and has been carried on by the owner (Mrs. *Ann Emery*) for the last 29 years, who is now compelled to retire through illness.

Apply on the premises.”

Isaiah Nicholls was fined 10s and costs, on 6th April 1891, for permitting drunkenness.

1891 Census

12, Harden Lane – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Isaiah Nicholls* (56), licensed victualler, born Shelfield;

[2] Emma Nicholls (63), wife, born Pelsall;

[3] Maria Jevons (17), domestic servant, born Blakenall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1892

“On Tuesday morning David Whitehouse (66), who had been ill for some time, committed suicide by shooting himself. He was a single man, and lodged at 54, Harden Lane, Blakenall, and was being nursed by a person named Cooper. About half-past seven on Tuesday Mrs. Cooper was downstairs getting a cup of coffee for deceased, and heard a peculiar noise in his bedroom. She ran up and found him lying on the floor. She called assistance, and when he was lifted up it was found he had a pistol, which he kept in his room, in his right hand, and a bullet wound in his right temple. Dr. Black was at once fetched, but deceased was quite dead. On Wednesday, Mr. Stanley (borough coroner) held the inquest at the ROYAL OAK INN, Harden Lane, Blakenhall.

Harriet Cooper, 106, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, nurse, stated that for a month she had been waiting on the deceased, who lodged with a Mrs. Emery. He was a chainmaker by trade. Lately he had been very ill, and at times peculiar in his manner. On Tuesday morning she was in and out of his bedroom several times. About ten minutes to eight o'clock she heard a strange noise, and at once ran up the stairs, when she found deceased lying on the floor in a pool of blood. She tried to lift his head up, but it was more than she could manage, and thinking he had fallen in a fit, she ran to get more assistance. Deceased had had the revolver produced for some time, and kept it in a box on the drawers.

Samuel Emery, 40, Harden Lane, bridle bit maker, deposed to being called to the deceased. There was a lot of blood about, and deceased was wounded in the right temple. In his right hand he held a revolver. Witness heard him murmur twice, but death must have taken place immediately. Deceased was a native of Blakenall, and witness had known him for thirty years.

John Frank Black, assistant to Dr. Oliver, said he had been attending deceased for some time past. He was suffering from a disease of the stomach, the symptoms being acute painful indigestion, with occasional vomiting. Recently an ulcer had broken out on the surface of the stomach, and he must have suffered considerable pain. Witness saw him on Monday, when he was very despondent, and despaired of getting better. He had been a very hearty man, but owing to his illness, strict dieting had been necessary, and his food consisted chiefly of skimmed milk. The circumstances had seemed to dwell on his mind. Witness was called to him after death, and found a bullet wound in his right temple. Death must have been almost instantaneous. The revolver produced contained five chambers, three being still loaded. One of the others contained an empty cartridge.

The Coroner, in summing up, pointed out that the illness had evidently preyed on the unfortunate man's mind. A verdict of Suicide whilst Temporarily Insane was returned.”

Thomas Watson was fined 5s and costs, on 6th April 1894, for selling during prohibited hours.

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

“Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday.....

The licenses of William Webster, ROYAL OAK, Stafford Street; *Thomas Watson*, ROYAL OAK, Harden Lane; Anna Maria Grant, the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street; and William Daniel, BLUE PIG, Elmore Row, were renewed.”

1901 Census

12, Harden Lane – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *William Duce* (35), miner and licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Duce (34), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Albert Duce (14), son, coal miner, born Sedgley;
- [4] Martha Duce (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] William Duce (7), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Lily Duce (4), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [7] Joseph Duce (3), son, born Pelsall;
- [8] Alfred Duce (1), son, born Blakenall:

Walsall Advertiser 30/5/1903

“At the Walsall Police Court, on Tuesday morning, John Joyce, 6, Blakenall Row, Blakenall, answered a charge of being drunk on the licensed premises of the ROYAL OAK, Harden Lane, and refusing to quit when requested by the landlord, *William Duce*, and further with being drunk and disorderly in Harden Lane, on May 18th.

William Duce deposed that on the day in question the defendant came to his house drunk, and asked to be served with a pint of ale. He was refused and requested to leave, but this Joyce declined to do, saying they would have to fetch the police first. Witness sent for an officer, but was unable to find one, and he tried to eject him himself, but could not do so. Defendant was in the house from four o'clock till ten minutes after seven. An officer who was then passing was called in, and he took defendant out.

Mrs. *Duce* gave similar evidence.

Police-constable Gibbs stated that he was called to the ROYAL OAK, where he found Gibbs drunk, but he came out quietly enough when he requested him. Outside, however, he commenced to create a disturbance and wanted to go back. Witness several times requested him to go away, but he would not do so, and he would have locked him up had not his friends dragged him away. Ordered to pay 10s and costs, or go to prison for 14 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/8/1909

“Two brothers, named William Bradford, of Field Street, and George Bradford of Harden Lane, were summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the ROYAL OAK, Harden, on August 7th, and George was further summoned for being drunk and disorderly in Harden Lane, on the same date.

Police-constable Gibbs said that at 9.15pm on the date mentioned he was in duty in Harden Lane in plain clothes and saw the defendant, William, who was drunk, go into the ROYAL OAK by the front entrance. Witness went to warn the landlord not to

serve him, when he saw George, who was also the worse for beer, in the doorway. The defendant obstructed the officer, and he went round to the back door, but when he got there he found that the defendant George had gone through the house. He, however, warned the landlord, and the men were ordered out of the house.

The landlord of the ROYAL OAK said he could not swear the men were drunk. They went out of the house quietly when he told them to go.

Police-constable Gibbs then stated that when outside the house the defendant George challenged him (witness) to fight, and struck at him.

The case against William was dismissed, the magistrates remarking that the officer was perfectly justified in bringing the case forward; and George Bradford, who did not appear, was fined 10s and costs, or fourteen days."

Walsall Advertiser 17/9/1910

"A case, which was remarkable for the conflicting character of the evidence, occupied for some time, on Tuesday, the attention of Messrs. S. B. Wheway and F. W. Lavender, who were sitting at the Walsall Police Court. The defendants were *William Duce*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, Harden Lane, Blakenall, who was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises on the 5th September, and Oscar or John Walker, of 8, Blakenall Heath, and William Sargent, of 17, Harden Lane, who were both summoned for being found drunk on the licensed premises of the ROYAL OAK, on the same date. Mr. G. H. Bailey appeared for all three defendants.

Police-constable Bates, in his evidence, stated that at 10.50pm, on Monday, September 5th he was in Harden Lane, when the wife of Sargent made a complaint as to where her husband was. He went to the ROYAL OAK, and on entering saw Sargent sitting by a table with a pint jug, containing beer, in front of him. He was drunk, and offered witness the jug, asking him to drink. Walker was also at the table, in a drunken condition as well, and he was shouting. The landlord was in the bar, smoking a cigar, and could see all that was going on. Witness drew *Duce's* attention to the condition of the men, and told him to get them out. *Duce* replied, 'It is nearly 11 o'clock, I will.'

Witness then went outside, and on looking through the window he saw Sargent challenge Walker to fight. He pulled his jacket off, and said he would fight Walker for £20. Walker replied, 'I've got no money, but I'll fight you man to man and heart to heart.' Sargent then pulled his jacket off, and Walker got up to fight, but two men named Cockin and Feeney interfered, and prevented any blows being struck. Sometime after it had struck eleven o'clock, he (witness) again went into the house, and Walker and Sargent were then trying to get at each other, but were being held back. The two defendants then left the house. Walker, who was very drunk, came out first, and he was taken home by the two men, Cockin and Feeney. Sargent then came out, and said to the officer, 'Mr. Bates, do you say I am drunk?' Witness replied, 'I did say so,' whereupon the defendant retorted, 'I am not drunk; if I was I should say I was. I am as sober as any man here.' He was taken home by his wife and two other men. Witness then asked the landlord how he accounted for the disturbance in his house, and he replied, 'I cannot help their tempers.' Later he said to the officer, 'Mr. Bates, I hope you won't take advantage of me.'

Cross-examined by Mr. Bailey, the officer stated that it was absolutely untrue that his first words to *Duce* were, 'I shall report you to the Chief.' He did not get the names of any of the men in the house at the time or ask them to give evidence because he knew Blakenall too well to think anyone would give evidence for him.

James Feeney, 28, Chapel Street, Blakenhall, spoke to going to the ROYAL OAK at 8 o'clock on the evening in question. Walker and Sargent were both there. They quarrelled, and Sargent took off jacket to fight. They were both drunk and the landlord was in the room the whole time. He and Cockin helped Walker home.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bailey, witness said he and the two defendants had about five or six quarts of beer together. He admitted some time ago his (witness's) brother was summoned by *Duce* for refusing to quit a public house, but he denied that he had said he would get *Duce* convicted for it.

For the defence, Mr. Bailey submitted that the case had been exaggerated, to put it mildly. There was no quarrel, but simply some chaffing, although there was a challenge. Both men were absolutely sober, and walked home unassisted.

William Duce, the landlord of the ROYAL OAK, said he had kept the house for nine years, and had never been summoned before. He was in the bar all the evening. Sargent entered the house at 8.45 and during the time he was there, he only had two pints of ale. Walker entered about 9.30, and all he had to drink was three half-pints of old ale, because he had the tooth-ache. Both men were sober, and Sargent chaffed Walker over having the tooth-ache, and at a quarter to eleven, Walker challenged Sargent to fight, but no blow was struck. When the two men left his house, they were perfectly sober, and no one assisted them home. The officer did call his attention to the men, but only put his head round the door, and said that he should report him to the Chief. He was only in the house once. Witness was not smoking then; in fact, he did not smoke at all.

Sargent and Walker, and a man named John Buff, gave corroborative evidence, and the first named also stated that the officer told *Duce* that no one was drunk.

Nellie Sargent, wife of one of the defendants, said she heard loud talking in the house which was across the road. She then saw the policeman come down the road and put his head round the door of the public house. Afterwards she asked her husband to go home and he went. He was quite sober.

Cross-examined by the Chief Constable, witness said she never complained to the policeman. Another woman who was with her said something to him, but she could not hear. The policeman only went into the house once.

Mr. Wheway remarked that a great amount of perjury had been committed on one side or the other. In reply to questions from him, Police-constable Bates, who was recalled, said he made no mistake about the cigar that *Duce* was smoking, and he saw about five-eighths of an inch of ash on it. Mrs. Sargent did complain to him.

After a private consultation among the Magistrates, Mr. Wheway said they considered it a proper case to be brought before the Court, and while they did not for a moment disbelieve the evidence of the officer, they felt they could not make a conviction in the absence of stronger corroboration than the evidence given by Feeney.

The case would be dismissed.”

1911 Census

Blakenall – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *William Duce* (45), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Duce (44), wife, married 15 years, born Sedgley;
- [3] Lily Duce (14), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [4] Joseph Duce (13), son, born Pelsall;
- [5] Nellie Duce (8), daughter, born Blakenall;
- [6] Maud Duce (5), daughter, born Blakenall;
- [7] Isabel Duce (1), daughter, born Blakenall:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
ROYAL OAK, Blakenall. £0 16s 3½d.”

Lichfield Mercury 9/3/1928

“Walsall Licensing Sessions.....

W. Butler and Co, Wolverhampton, applied for the removal of the license of the ROYAL OAK INN, Blakenall, to a new site at the corner of Walker Road and Well Lane. The decision was reserved to March 29th.”

It closed in 1929.

ROYAL OAK

89, Sneyd Lane, (Snead Lane), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

J. E. Bealey Esq.

Thomas Sanders, High Street, Bloxwich [1904]

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Purchase [1860] – [1861]

Edward Purchase [1861]

Henry Green [1868] – [1872];

Mrs. Abigail Taylor [];

Thomas Wootton [] – **1889**;

James Downes (**1889 – 1909**);

Alfred Sleight (**1909 – 1926**);

George Eccleston (**1926 – []**)

William Homer [] – **1934**;

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Snead Lane

- [1] *Edward Purchase* (62), widower, beerhouse keeper, born Brewood;
- [2] Ann Purchase (21), daughter, born Wednesfield;
- [3] Elizabeth Purchase (17), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Charlotte Purchase (9), daughter, born Wednesfield;
- [5] John Purchase (70), brother, born Brewood:

Henry Green was also a bridle bit maker. [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Gazette 3/8/1870

“Thunderstorm At Bloxwich. One man Killed and Two injured by Lightning.

On Monday afternoon, as three men were mowing barley in a field at Newton, a thunderstorm came on, and they took shelter in the MASONS ARMS public-house, but they had not been in the house long when one of them, named William Cunningham, aged 53, who resided at Bullock’s Fold, Big Green, Bloxwich, was struck by the lightning and killed on the spot. Mr. Somerville, surgeon, was immediately in attendance, but life was quite extinct. The other two men, one of whom was sitting on each side of Cunningham, were much shaken by the electric fluid, and still feel the effects.

It appears the electric fluid had entered the house by the parlour chimney, and in its course it tore away the brick and plaster work on the fire-place in the bed-room. Mrs. Birch, who had been confined to bed for the past two years, was in the room, and the mortar on the wall and ceiling was scattered over her as she lay in bed. She, however, escaped unhurt. The fluid descended from the bed-room to the parlour, where deceased and his companions were sitting, and after striking them in the manner described, it passed through the kitchen, the window of which was damaged. An oak tree at Yield Fields Hall was struck by the lightning, which ripped off the bark and strewed the branches about the road. The chimney of the ROYAL OAK beerhouse, Sneyd’s Lane, was much damaged.”

Henry Green, beer retailer, Wolverhampton Road. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1875

“On Monday Mr. A. A. Fletcher held an inquest at the ROYAL OAK, Sneyd Lane, on the body of Thomas Jones, 45, a labourer, of the same place. The evidence showed that at about eight o’clock on the night of the 30th ult, as the deceased was charging an evaporating pan with night-soil, at the works of the Patent Urban Manure Company, he by some means slipped off the revolving agitator upon which he was standing, and fell into the pan, which contained a mixture of night-soil and vitriol to the depth of about two feet. He was got out as speedily as possible and conveyed to his home, where he died about half an hour afterwards. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

James Downes = James Downs

1901 Census

89, Sneyd Lane

- [1] *James Downes* (62), awl blade maker and beerhouse keeper, born Bridgnorth;
- [2] Eliza Downes (49), wife, born Lane Head;
- [3] Jane Downes (16), daughter, dressmaker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Annie Downes (14), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] James Downes (11), son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Susannah Tarbuck (16), servant, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Eliza Terry (18), niece, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Benjamin Walker (41), boarder, collier, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Samuel Tarbuck (50), boarder, collier, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Robert Bentley (24), boarder, collier, born Bloxwich;
- [11] John Somerfield (61), widower, boarder, general labourer about premises, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

James Downes, ROYAL OAK.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting was continued on Thursday for the sixth day.....

ROYAL OAK, Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich, renewed upon Alderman Sanders (the owner) giving an undertaking to put it into proper repair.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/10/1909

“Described as a ‘notorious character and a terror to the neighbourhood’, a woman named Sarah Jones, of Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich, was summoned for having wilfully damaged a window, thereby doing injury to complainant to the amount of 8s. Mr. H. H. Jackson who prosecuted on behalf of the Licensed Victuallers’ Association, said that the complainant was the licensee of the ROYAL OAK INN, Sneyd Lane, Leamore, and that the woman continually annoyed. On Monday afternoon, she went to his house but he refused to serve her with beer and had to drag her out of the house. She then smashed three windows and cracked three others and followed that up by throwing a piece of cinder through another. The woman was a constant terror to the neighbourhood and went shouting and swearing about the street. The licensee must be protected because it might be a serious thing for him if the woman was found outside his house, and it might be thought that she had had the drink on his premises.

Mr. *Sleigh* corroborated Mr. Jackson’s statement.

Defendant expressed her sorrow, and said that some children had been throwing stones at her and she threw a bottle at them, and it

rebounded off the wall and broke the window.

It was stated that the woman had been before the Court on seventy-five occasions and had fifty-nine convictions against her. She was sentenced to twenty-one days' hard labour without the option.

Defendant: I shall not have to pay for the damage now? – Dr. Phillips: No.

Defendant: Thank God for that. (laughter).”

1911 Census

89, Sneyd Lane

[1] *Alfred Sleigh* Snr. (45), beer retailer, born Blakenall;

[2] Annie Maria Sleigh (43), wife, married 19 years, beer retailer, born Bloxwich;

[3] Alfred Sleigh Jr. (18), son, at home, helps in business, born Blakenall;

[4] Constance Marian Sleigh (15), daughter, school, born Bloxwich;

[5] Hector Sleigh (9), son, school, born Bloxwich:

Alfred Sleigh, beer retailer, 89, Sneyd Lane. [1912]

It closed in November 1934.

ROYAL OAK

Walker Road / 51, Well Lane, Blakenall Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Enterprise Inns [1996]

Admiral Taverns [2007]

LICENSEES

Sydney Noake (1929 – 1930);

William Edward Hinton (1930 – 1931);

Charles William Garfield (1931 – 1940);

Henry Kendrick (1940 – 1956);

James Edward Reeves (1956 – 1959);

John Henry Booth (1959);

Dermot Sheehan (1959 – 1962);

Leonard Challis (1962 – 1966);

Wilfred Raymond Morgan (1966 – 1967);

Kenneth John Gunter (1967 – []

[John and Margaret Foster](#) [1999]

NOTES

It opened on 30th March 1929.

[1939 Register](#)

51, Well Lane (3 of 4)

[1] [Charles W. Garfield](#), date of birth 27/1/1877, licensed victualler, married;

[2] [Frances A. Garfield](#), dob 24/9/1896, assists husband, married;

[3] [Iris N. \(Knowles\) Burrows](#), dob 29/3/1918, barmaid, single;

[Walsall Observer 6/4/1940](#)

“Mrs. [Garfield](#), of the ROYAL OAK, Blakenhall, informs us that her customers have subscribed £36 2s 3d for Walsall men in the fighting forces. In every case postal orders have been sent to the men, as money is now generally preferred to parcels, the men being able to spend it on their actual needs.”

[Walsall Observer 7/12/1940](#)

“[Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society](#).

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
ROYAL OAK, Blakenall, £6 12s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/10/1942

“By a darts match at the ROYAL OAK INN, Blakenall, yesterday week, a sum of £6 was raised for the Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Mr. T. Beard’s team beat Mr. G. Hinsley’s team by 2-0. The highest score of the evening (108 with three darts) was made by Mr. W. Dwyer, whose average for the two games was 98.6. He also made a winning double, as did Mr. G. Pee.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. Kendrick, ROYAL OAK, Blakenall. £0 17s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
ROYAL OAK, Blakenall. £25 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
ROYAL OAK, Blakenall. £60 0s 0d.”

Wilfred Raymond Morgan – see also NEWPORT ARMS.

Enterprise Inns Advert 11/3/1996

“Recently refurbished, this large detached pub is situated in a densely populated area....”

Sandwell Evening Mail 23/2/1999

“Five Black Country pubs which between them have raised thousands of pounds for worthy causes are in the running for the Community Pub of the Year title. The COTTAGE in Wolverhampton Road, Walsall; the MOXLEY ARMS in High Street, Moxley; the HIGHGATE ARMS in Rowley View, Wednesbury; the ROYAL OAK in Blakenall; and the FOUNTAIN INN at Victoria Road, Quarry Bank, have all been nominated for the award.

The competition is organised by the Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association and £21,000 in prize money is on offer, which goes to charities and good causes.....

John and Margaret Foster at the ROYAL OAK raised £1,000 for Mencap and Old Hall Special School in Willenhall.

Regional judging panels will select 11 winners across the country, each of which will receive £1,000 to go to a charity or worthy cause of their choice. Regional winners will go on to a national final.”

[2007]

Closed

It was converted into a shop. [2012]

ROYAL OAK

30, (28), Ablewell Street / Pool Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Sheldon [1835]

James Bullock [1851]

James Lynex, 88, Wednesbury Road, Walsall

Messrs. Leary and Son, Pleck Brewery, Walsall [1881]

Manchester Brewery Co. Ltd. [1902]

Samuel Allsopp and Sons Ltd. (acquired in February 1908) [1910]

Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd. [1914]

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Middleton [1801] – [1830]
James Bullock [1833]
James Sheldon [1834] – **1835**
Mrs. Ann (Sheldon) Holmes [1836]
Charles Holmes [1836]
James Bullock [1841] – [1851]
Joseph Mountford [1852]
Mary Mountford [1858]
Thomas Sutton [1860] – [1861]
Lynex [1861]
William Henry Banks [1862]
Samuel Tonks [1863] – [1875];
Alfred Leary [];
Thomas Hilton Johnson [1881] – [1884];
Thomas Cunningham [] – **1890**;
Amos Price (**1890 – 1898**);
Thomas William Davidson (**1898 – 1901**);
Robert James (**1901 – 1902**);
Alfred Cooke (**1902 – 1904**);
Mrs. Mold [1904] ?
Albert Edward James (**1904 – 1905**);
Albert Thomas James Riley Tipler (**1905 – 1908**);
Richard Alfred Yardley (**1908 – 1909**);
Herbert Salt (**1909 – 1910**);
William ‘Willie’ Mallinson (**1910 – 1912**);
Henry Insley (**1912**);
James Loynes (**1912 – 1913**);
David Fisher (**1913 – 1917**);
Lilian Fisher (**1917 – 1919**);
Edward Webster (**1919 – 1922**);
John Gorton [] ? manager
William Day (**1922 – 1939**);
Alice Dunham Day [1939] ?
George Armishaw Thornton (**1939 – 1942**);
Henry Grosvenor (**1942 – 1953**);
Edward Kynaston Smith (**1953 – 1956**);
Arthur Jones (**1956 – 1958**);
Edwin Jones (**1958 – 1960**);
Stanley Norman Jones (**1960 – 1962**);
John Valentine Hennessy (**1962 – [1966]**)

NOTES

28, Ablewell Street [1858], [1860], [1862], [1864], [1868], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1873]
30, Ablewell Street [1881], [1892], [1896], [1903], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932], [1940]

It also had an entrance in Pool Street.

It was renamed ROYAL OAK HOTEL

It was originally a coaching house.

It was used by the Unitarians for religious meetings.

Express and Star

‘Royal Past To Be Revived’

“.....They believe there has been an inn on the site for at least 300 years. The anniversary [125th] marks the establishment of the old coaching inn as a hotel Among the anecdotes are the story of the celebrated barefist fighter John Lomond, known as the Mercian Duke, who used the cellars for bouts.....”

[1773]

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

"A list of Waggons, &c...."

Twiss's waggon from *Joseph Middleton's*, ROYAL OAK INN, every Tuesday and Saturday mornings, for Birmingham, where goods are forwarded from his warehouse, Dale End, to all parts of the kingdom; returns every Saturday and Wednesday evenings, and loads for Stafford, Stone, Newcastle, and all parts of the North."

AND

"Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Clubs....."

Friendly Society, female, held at ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, supposed number 100, instituted 1781, surgeon Mr. Woollatt, secretary James Gee.

Friendly, male, held at ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, supposed number 24, instituted 1768, surgeon Mr. Adams, secretary James Gee.

Amicable, male, held at ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, supposed number 250, instituted 1772, surgeon Mr. Adams, secretary Benjamin Westley.

Union, male, held at ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, supposed number 24, instituted 1790, surgeon Mr. Parnell, secretary Benjamin Westley.

Brotherly, male, held at ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, supposed number 70, surgeon Mr. Parnell, secretary James Fieldhouse."

Joseph Middleton was also a maltster. [1818]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/11/1826 - Advert

"On Monday the 4th of December, 1826, a Grand Procession, to consist of the following united Lodges of Walsall, will take place to St. Matthew's Church, in aid of the Fund for re-building and enlarging the Blue Coat and National School, viz. The Odd Fellows from the BULLS HEAD; Odd Fellows from the ROYAL OAK; Loyal Britons from the TURKS HEAD; the Grand Lodges of Queerfellows from the WATERING TROUGH; Loyal and Benevolent Fellows from the WATERLOO TAVERN; and Loyal Union Friendly Fellows from the SPREAD EAGLE; when the company of any visiting Brother belonging to any of the above Lodges, with their Friends will be esteemed. The Sermon by the Rev. Luke Booker, LLD and FRSL, Vicar of Dudley. In the course of the service, several pieces of Select Music from the works of Handel and Kent, will be performed by the Walsall Choir, with Assistants from Lichfield Cathedral. The Organ by Mr. Eyland. Divine Service will commence at eleven o'clock.

By direction of the Delegates of the above Orders.

Addison Richards, Secretary. Walsall, Nov 22, 1826."

Joseph Middleton died on 19th March 1828.

He was buried on 22nd March 1828 at St. Matthew's, Walsall.

Birmingham Journal 15/8/1829 - Marriages

"On Thursday week (by the Rev. the vicar) Mr. *James Bullock*, of West Bromwich, to Mrs. Ann Middleton, widow of the late Mr. *Joseph Middleton*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Walsall."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1831

"The Coronation. The bells commenced ringing at a very early hour, and in the more advanced part of the day the members of the different lodges assembled in their respective rooms preparatory to joining in procession, in honour of the occasion....."

The following is a list of the Lodges which formed the procession, and the house at which they are held. They had seven banners waving, and were accompanied by an excellent band.

Senior Lodge of Odd Fellows – BULLS HEAD.

Grand Lodge of Modern Druids – BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD.

Odd Fellows – ROYAL OAK.

Queer Fellows – WATERING TROUGH.

Two Lodges from the WATERLOO TAVERN.

Loyal Union Fellows – SPREAD EAGLE.

Fellows of Support – TURKS HEAD.

Social Fellows – TALBOT INN.

True Hearted Fellows – MALT SHOVEL.

The procession extended in length to about a quarter of a mile. The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the attendance being more numerous."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 4/4/1833 - Advert

"Desirable Inn and Other Property in Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by J. Farrington, at the ROYAL OAK INN, on Tuesday the 19th day of March, 1833, at four o'clock in the afternoon, by the direction of the Trustees for sale, and subject to conditions.

Lot 1. The long established and well-accustomed Inn called the ROYAL OAK, in Ablewell Street, Walsall, with the Malthouse, wetting 50 bushels, spacious Club-rooms, and extensive Stables and Out buildings thereto adjoining; and also Pew No.47, in the north gallery of the Parish Church, now in the occupation of Mr. *James Bullock*.

This Inn is eligibly situate in the principal thoroughfare, and has for a series of years enjoyed a very advantageous business. The

purchaser may have immediate possession, and the option of purchasing the Furniture and Fixtures in it at a fair valuation.....”

London Gazette 14/4/1835

“Whereas a Fiat in Bankruptcy is awarded and issued forth against *James Sheldon*, of Walsall, in the County of Stafford, Publican and Maltster, Dealer and Chapman, and he being declared a Bankrupt is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners in the said Fiat named, or the major part of them, on the 21st day of April instant, and on the 26th day of May next, at One o’Clock in the Afternoon on each day, at the LION INN, in Wolverhampton, in the said County of Stafford, and make a full discovery and disclosure of his estate and effects, when and where the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their debts, and at the first sitting to choose Assignees, and at the last sitting the said Bankrupt is required to finish his examination, and the Creditors are to assent to or dissent from the allowance of his certificate. All persons indebted to the said Bankrupt, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same, but to whom the Commissioners shall appoint, but give notice to Mr. Hunt, 8, New Boswell-Court, Lincoln’s-Inn, London, or to Mr. Marklew, Solicitor, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/5/1835 - Advert

“Desirable Inn and Other Property in Walsall.

By Farrington and Son, To be Sold by Auction, at the DRAGON INN, in Walsall, on Tuesday the 19th day of May, 1835, at six o’clock in the evening, (by direction of the Assignees of Mr. *James Sheldon*, a bankrupt), and subject to such conditions as shall then be produced.

All that long established and well accustomed Inn, called the ROYAL OAK, situate in Ablewell Street, in Walsall, with an excellent Malt-House capable of wetting 60 bushels, spacious club room, extensive stabling, and other out buildings thereto adjoining, in the occupation of Mr. *James Sheldon*; also two Houses adjoining the said inn, and in the occupation of James and Haywood; and also the pew No.47 in the North Gallery of the Parish Church.

The Inn is eligibly situated in the principal thoroughfare, and has for a number of years enjoyed a very advantageous business. The whole of the Premises are Copyhold of inheritance.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. C. Marklew, Solicitor, Walsall; Mr. Adams, Solicitor, Darlaston; or to the Auctioneers, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/8/1835 - Died

“On Thursday last, in the prime of life, Mr. *James Sheldon*, of the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/7/1836

“John Lynch, a private in the 7th Dragoon Guards, was last week committed to the county gaol for trial at the assizes, charged with stealing a turkey, the property of *Ann Sheldon*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street.”

[At the Staffordshire Midsummer Adjourned Sessions, in July 1836, Joseph Lynch was found guilty and imprisoned for one month.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/9/1836 - Married

“On Thursday last at Walsall, by the Rev. J. Baton, M.A. vicar, Mr. Charles *Holmes*, maltster, to *Ann*, widow of the late Mr. *James Sheldon*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/10/1836

“On Monday last the 26th anniversary of the Grand Loyal Lodge of Odd Fellows was held at the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street. The chair was taken a little after two o’clock. An excellent dinner was served by Mr. *C. Holmes*, who did himself great credit by the arrangements for the occasion. During the whole of the afternoon and evening, the utmost harmony and good feeling animated the company. The society in question possesses a fund of £675, with every prospect of further increase.”

Staffordshire Gazette 22/4/1841

“On Thursday last, upwards of 100 highly respectable inhabitants (chiefly electors) of Walsall, sat down to an excellent dinner at the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, which was provided to celebrate the late glorious Conservative triumph at Walsall, in returning J. H. Gladstone, Esq, as Member for the Borough.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/6/1851 - Advert

“A Highly Desirable Inn, Ablewell Street, Walsall.

H. Farrington will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, the 24th day of June, 1851, at five o’clock in the afternoon, at the ROYAL OAK INN, subject to conditions.

Lot 1. The long-established and well-accustomed Inn, called the ROYAL OAK, in Ablewell Street, Walsall, with the Malt-house, wetting 60 bushels; spacious Club Rooms, and extensive Stables and Outbuildings, in good repair, adjoining the inn; and also Pew No.47, in the north gallery of the parish church, now and for many years in the occupation of Mr. *James Bullock*. This eligible inn is in the principal thoroughfare, and has for a series of years enjoyed a very advantageous business, which it had become unnecessary for Mr. *Bullock* to continue.

The purchaser may have immediate possession, and the option of purchasing the furniture and fixtures at a fair valuation.

Lot 2. Two Houses occupied by Haywood and Hedgeton, in Pool Street, Walsall, near the ROYAL OAK.

For further particulars, apply to the Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/3/1852 - Deaths

“On Wednesday last, at the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall (the residence of his son), after a short illness, Mr. Joseph Mountford, aged 75, an old and respected inhabitant of that town.”

Walsall Free Press 18/7/1857

“Three respectably dressed young men named severally James Jones, who gave his address as residing in Dudley; James Wareing, who refused to give his address, and John Whitehouse, were charged by Inspector Price, of Rushall, with attempting to pick pockets in the crowd which attended the arrival of the American Circus on Wednesday last. Inspector Price said he observed the prisoners dipping into the pockets of persons in the crowd, and had taken them into custody. The officer’s evidence was corroborated by a mechanic named James Lissety, who had seen the prisoners in company, and making the same attempt at the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street. Of course they all denied the fact, but the matter was brought so closely home to them that there was no getting out of it, and the presiding magistrate sentenced them to one month’s imprisonment, with hard labour.”

Walsall Free Press 17/11/1860

“On Saturday evening last the inquest on the body of Mr. Shilton, of Ablewell Street, whose death by suicide was reported in our last impression, took place at the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, under the superintendence of A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner. From the depositions then made by various witnesses, it appeared deceased had been labouring under great depression of spirits, caused by the necessity he was under of disposing of his hearse, horses, carts &c, further augmented by the sufferings which he endured from a diseased and disabled hand. The conclusions drawn from the evidence resulted in a verdict that the deceased committed suicide when labouring under a fit of temporary insanity. A curious circumstance connected with this case was, that on the Wednesday previous to his death, deceased made a communication to the coroner, relative to his mental distress, upon which occasion Mr. Fletcher remarked that if he (Shilton) had not been in the hands of medical man, he would have ordered him to be placed under restraint.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/3/1861 - Advert

“To be let with immediate possession, the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell-street, Walsall. This house is one of the most bona fide character, and is to be disposed of solely on consequence of sickness in the family. A large yard, with malt house and stabling attached, which may be underlet if desired. An opportunity like the present seldom occurs. Inquiries may be made, and full particulars obtained, by applying Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 27/7/1861

“ROYAL OAK Benefit Society. The annual dinner of this society took place at the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street at two o’clock on Monday last. Most of the members were present, and ample justice was done to the excellent repast, provided by the praiseworthy exertions of Mr. and Mrs. Lynex. Mr. Mason (president) occupied the chair.....”

Walsall Free Press 3/1/1863 - Advert

“ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street.

To Be Let, on moderate terms, the Large Room, 60ft long adjoining the above Inn, with private entrance, and well lighted with gas.

Apply on the premises.”

Walsall Free Press 24/1/1863 - Notice

“In The County Court Of Staffordshire, Holden At Walsall.

In the matter of *William Henry Banks*, formerly of the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, Licensed Victualler and Solicitor’s Clerk, then of No.42, Bridgeman Street, in Walsall aforesaid, Law Writer, and then and now of Rushall, in the said county of Stafford, and having Offices at the said No.11 Victoria Buildings aforesaid, Law Writer, a Bankrupt.

Whereas, at a Public Sitting of the Court, held this day, the court granted an Order of Discharge to the said bankrupt. Notice is hereby given, that an Order of Discharge will be drawn up and delivered to the bankrupt after the expiration of thirty days from this date, unless, in the meantime, an appeal be duly entered against the Judgement of the said Court.

Dated this 21st day of January, 1863.”

Walsall Free Press 12/9/1863 - Advert

“Is It Lawful To Do Good On The Sabbath Day?

For the purpose of affording those of the working Classes whose time and means do not admit of their attending week-day Schools for improvement, or who are not in the habit of attending any place of worship, a Sabbath School for instruction in Reading and Writing, will be opened in the ROYAL OAK Assembly Room, Ablewell Street, next Sunday.

To be supported by Voluntary Contributions.

Hours from Two till Four in the Afternoon, and Six till Eight in the Evening.

None But Adults Admitted.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1863, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o'clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *Tonks*, ROYAL OAK.”

Walsall Free Press 24/12/1864 - Advert

“ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall.

Mr. & Mrs. *Tonks* Beg respectfully to announce their Tea & Supper Party, will take place, On Wednesday Evening, December 28th, 1864.

Ladies Tickets, 1s 6d; Gentlemen 2s.

Tea and Supper will be on the table at Seven o'clock.

Dancing will commence at Nine o'clock.

Tickets may be had at the bar.”

Walsall Free Press 14/9/1867 - Advert

“Ancient Order Of Foresters, (Walsall District).

Court Philanthropist, No.2763. The Eleventh Anniversary Dinner, September 23rd, 1867.

Mr. G. Bayley, will preside; the High Chief Ranger and Officers of the 34th Executive Council, and Samuel Shawcross, Esq., P.S., will be present.

The company of any Brother or Friend will be esteemed.

Dinner on the table precisely at 5.30pm, at the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street.”

Walsall Free Press 9/11/1867 - Advert

“ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street.

Mr. *S. Tonks*, Begg respectfully to inform his friends that his Free And Easy, Is held Every Saturday Evening for which he has engaged the services of his former Accompanist.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/10/1868 - Advert

“Lost at Walsall, on the 29th, a Yellow and White Bull Terrier Dog, about 16lb.

Anyone returning the same to Joseph Eden, ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street will be Rewarded. Any person detaining him after this Notice will be prosecuted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1869 - Advert

“.....The Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, founded in 1867, and owing its origin to the irregular competition of the Grocers in the sale of Wine, is now supplying through the following appointed Agents in this county its unequalled Teas Agents – Staffordshire.....

T. *Tonks*, ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 14/1/1871

“Seasonal Aid. There have been two distributions of bread during the present week, and through the liberality of our worthy representative, Charles Forster, Esq, MP, 100 gallons of soup will be distributed this day (Saturday), in St. Peter's district. Mr. Forster has also caused large quantities of soup to be distributed in other parts of the town. Mr. Wilkinson, town clerk, has also distributed from a soup kitchen at the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street.”

1871 Census

28, Ablewell Street – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Samuel Tonks* (62), victualler and maltster, born Walsall;

[2] Rhoda *Tonks* (62), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Henry *Tonks* (40), son, brewer, born Walsall;

[4] William *Tonks* (20), son, saddler's ironmonger, born Walsall;

[5] Mary *Tonks* (15), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;

[6] Sarah Martin (24), general servant, born Darlaston;

[7] George W. G. Mandon (28), boarder, bookkeeper and accountant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Free Press 25/11/1871 - Advert

“Temporary Baptist Church, ROYAL OAK Assembly Room, Ablewell Street, Walsall.

The Burning Of Chicago!

A Series of Sermons under this title will be delivered as above, on Sunday Evenings during December, by the Rev. Alfred Gibbs, Minister in Charge.

Divine Service commences: 10-30; Evening 6-30.”

Walsall Free Press 27/9/1873 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant, age not under 23 years, one used to a Public-house preferred.

Apply to Mrs. *Tonks*, ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

“Defensio, Non Provocatio. Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the Merchandize Marks Act, 1862, and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association. Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association.

Agents For Staffordshire.

Walsall: *S. Tonks*, ROYAL OAK INN, 28, Ablewell Street; F. Weston, BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street; G. Holden, ODD FELLOWS ARMS, 1, Stafford Street; G. Smith, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street; J. Whittall, THREE CUPS INN, Park Street; J. H. Newell, ROYAL OAK Brewery, Pleck.”

1881 Census

30, Ablewell Street – ROYAL OAK INN

- [1] *Thomas H. Johnson* (34), wine and spirit merchant, born Ulverstone, Lancashire;
- [2] Margaret Johnson (28), wife, born Liverpool;
- [3] Frederick Edwards (18), waiter, born Birmingham;
- [4] Sarah Poole (27), domestic servant, born Penkridge, Staffordshire;
- [5] Margaret S. Leary (3), visitor, scholar, born Walsall:

London Gazette 21/1/1885

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of a Special Resolution for Liquidation by Arrangement of the affairs of *Thomas Hilton Johnson* of Ablewell-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Brewer. The creditors of the above-named *Thomas Hilton Johnson* who have not already proved their debts, are required, on or before the 31st day of January, 1885, to send their names and addresses, and the particulars of their debts or claims, to me, the undersigned, Joseph Lowe, of 74, Stafford-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, the Trustee under the liquidation, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of the Dividend proposed to be declared.

Dated this 21st day of January, 1885.

Joseph Lowe, Trustee.”

1891 Census

Ablewell Street – ROYAL OAK INN

- [1] *Amos Price* (40), licensed victualler, born Hampton in Arden, Warwickshire;
- [2] Susy Ann Price (40), wife, born Solihull;
- [3] Mary Ellen Price (13), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] Elizabeth Price (12), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] Francis J. Price (10), son, born Birmingham;
- [6] Catherine Price (8), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [7] Joseph Price (7), son, born Birmingham;
- [8] Clement Price (3), son, born Walsall;
- [9] George Price (2), son, born Walsall;
- [10] Thomas W. Davidson (40), barman, born Walsall;
- [11] Sarah Ann Williams (29), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 31/12/1898

“Lords Limited has just been registered with a capital of £4,000, in £1 shares, to acquire, take over as a going concern, and carry on the business of an aerated water manufacturer and wholesale and retail bottler of ales, stout, cider, drinks, and other liquids, carried on by John Lord, at 96, Birmingham Road, Walsall, and at the rear of the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 15/2/1902

“Mary Ann Bull, Packing Box Row, Pool Street, was summoned for sending her child Lizzie to a place where intoxicating liquors were sold to obtain some, the child not being fourteen years of age.

Police-constable Willetts stated that he saw defendant's little daughter go into the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, at about 6.45 on Tuesday morning. He went in as she came out, and asked the publican if he had served her. The man said she had asked for three halfpence worth of rum, but he had not supplied her, as he did not think she was old enough. Witness said the girl was not 14 until

next Sunday.

The defence was that Mrs. Bull sent an older sister, who gave the younger one a halfpenny to fetch the rum instead. A fine of 15s which included costs, was imposed."

Walsall Advertiser 29/3/1902

"Mr. Jackson made application for the transfer of the license of the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, from *Robert James* to Herbert Tuckley, but the matter was adjourned to the day following, Acting Chief Constable Ballance intimating to the Bench that Tuckley had been keeping a club house about which there had been complaints, and he had not been able to complete his enquiries."

AND

"A temporary authority in respect of the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, was granted to Mr. S. R. Fairfoul, of Wolverhampton, on the application of Mr. H. H. Jackson.

Mr. R. Cooper (Town Clerk), had appeared to oppose the granting of authority to Mr. Herbert Tuckley, for whom the application was originally made, but Mr. Fairfoul being substituted, he withdrew his opposition."

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

"Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople's Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street. 2s 10d."

Walsall Advertiser 16/6/1906

"A young man named George Plested, of 7, Priory Yard, appears to have been in anything but a lamb-like mood on Thursday last week, for at about a quarter to seven he entered the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, kept by *Albert Thomas Tipler*, and after asking a customer named John Parkes to stand him a drink, who demurred a little, Plested struck him on the nose knocking him down. The landlord refused to allow this to go on, and had no little difficulty in ejecting Plested, who struck him several times in the face before he could get him out. After about a ten minute interval, defendant came in again and gave Parkes another thrashing, and had to be put out again when he began to use bad language, and then struck a wagoner who had just pulled up at the house. He was then reported to the police.

The landlord and John Parkes gave evidence to this effect.

The charge against the defendant was for being disorderly on licensed premises and refusing to quit, and defendant who did not put in an appearance, and who had been convicted for a previous similar offence, was ordered to pay 20s and costs or go to gaol for 14 days."

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

"Billiard Licenses were approved of in the cases of.....

Herbert Salt, ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street."

Walsall Advertiser 31/7/1909

"The following licenses were transferred.....

In the case of the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, Sir E. T. Holden asked for an explanation why there had been five transfers of license since 1900. Mr. F. Cooper, solicitor, replied that the house had recently changed hands. It was the property of the Manchester Brewery Co, and now it was he believed, the property of Allsopp's

Sir E. T. Holden: We often find it is because the man in possession is not well paid you know. That is my opinion.

Mr. Cooper replied that Mr. *Salt* the incoming tenant was perfectly satisfied and that he was also a tenant, and not a manager.

Sir E. T. Holden: You know in the case of the VAULTS there was some straight evidence given, and now the man is leaving.

The Chief Constable: Mr. Cooper is not engaged in the case of the VAULTS.

The subject was then dropped."

Midland Evening News 6/10/1909

"....a woman named Faith Broadhurst, 2 Back 57, Pool Street, was summoned at Walsall Guildhall, today, for being found unlawfully drunk on the licensed premises of the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, and *Herbert Salt*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, was also summoned for permitting drunkenness on the licensed premises The house had been well conducted, both Mr. and Mrs. *Salt* were very respectable people, the former having been in the employ of Mr. Frank James for 40 years. Mr. *Salt*, landlord of the house, stated that on the morning in question he was out on business from about ten o'clock until one. He had, on several occasions, refused this woman. He did a very large trade there and it was of a rough character On returning, the magistrates bound the woman over to be of good behaviour and the landlord was fined 40s and costs....."

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

Herbert Salt, ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street....."

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the owners Messrs. Allsops, and Mr. Frank Cooper for the tenant *Herbert Salt*.

Evidence was given by Inspector Ballance as to the nature of the surroundings and the condition of the house, and said that the licensee was convicted of having permitted drunkenness in September last.

Thomas [sic] *Salt* said that he put his life savings in the business – £175 3s 9d, and he paid £40 per year rent together with the license and rates. He was quite satisfied with the house, which was doing about £20 per week, and the class of trade had considerably improved.

Answering another question *Salt* said that he was of opinion it would be for the convenience of the public to have the license renewed.

Mr. Leslie Buxton, Messrs. Allsops, Birmingham District manager, said the house was thoroughly well conducted especially since the conviction.

The license was renewed.”

1911 Census

Ablewell Street

- [1] *W. Mallinson* (41), publican, born Barnsley, Yorkshire;
- [2] C. M. Mallinson (38), wife, married 9 years, publican, born Barnsley, Yorkshire;
- [3] E. Mallinson (14), stepdaughter, born Barnsley, Yorkshire;
- [4] M. E. Mallinson (13), stepdaughter, born Barnsley, Yorkshire;
- [5] R. Mallinson (7), son, born Barnsley, Yorkshire;
- [6] L. Mallinson (5), daughter, born Barnsley, Yorkshire;
- [7] G. Mallinson (1), son, born Barnsley, Yorkshire;

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

The sanction of the Justices to plans for making a bowling green at the rear of the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, partly on unlicensed area, was applied for by Mr. H. H. Jackson, who stated that there would be no alteration to the licensed premises, and no increase in the drinking area. It was proposed to take down a garage, and make a bowling green for the convenience of customers. The Clerk: It always seems a very glib term to say that there will be no increase in the drinking area, but you propose to take in a garage which is not licensed. – Mr. Jackson: I am quite willing to give an undertaking that no drink shall be taken on the bowling green.

The Clerk: What is the use of that? How can you prevent it? It looks to me that a bowling pavilion will become a place where people will drink a good deal. – Mr. Jackson: Probably you have not had the experience of bowling greens that I have had.

The Clerk: No; not the drinking part.

The application was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/2/1914

“At the adjourned Licensing Sessions at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The justices decided to renew the license of the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, against which notice of objection had been served under the compensation clause.

Mr. A. Ward (barrister) appeared for Mr. Frank Myatt, brewer, of Wolverhampton, owner of the house, and Mr. *David Fisher*, the landlord.

Mr. Ward cited High Court judgements in support of his contention that in this case there was absolutely no differentiation, in spite of the fact that comparison between this house and others in the district was highly important. ‘There are 287 licensed premises in Walsall,’ he said; ‘in fact, there are some spots in the town where there is a public house on each corner. Only this morning I noticed that at the corner of Rushall Street there are public houses round about, and two opposite a chapel.’ He could call evidence to prove that the ROYAL OAK was doing a steady trade of £20 a week, and that instead of decreasing, its trade was improving. Although the local licensing Bench, in their 1903 report, commenting on licenses in Ablewell Street and the proximity of the WALSALL HOUSE to the ROYAL OAK, had stated, ‘We are of opinion that the decisions of these four houses should be considered together,’ yet in opposition to the ROYAL OAK they had no evidence as to other licenses in that locality. ‘I don’t hesitate to declare,’ counsel added, ‘that the ROYAL OAK has been selected, not because of its structure or takings, but because of some under current. Neither do I hesitate to say a rumour has come to my ears that the ROYAL OAK has been objected to because the Corporation desire it to be cleared away in order to get a better frontage for the road which they propose to cut from Ablewell Street to Birmingham Road.’ The house had been selected because the takings were thought to be small and it would go cheaply. Had it been known that the takings were £20 a week, then he believed the house would never have been scheduled. It would have been considered too much of an expensive draw on the Corporation fund. When the new road was made, the ROYAL OAK would become one of the most valuable in the district. With all respect to the Bench, he contended the matter had been rushed through without adequate and deliberate consideration. The owner of this house – Mr. Myatt – was a small brewer on his own account, fighting the combine, and therefore was a man to be encouraged. ‘What I would suggest,’ added counsel, ‘is that the Bench should renew this license for twelve months, and see how matters go in the meantime. Then, if you think there is redundancy, serve notices on all the houses in the locality, and let us fight the whole thing out on a fair basis. Compared with other houses as regard structure, takings, position, and other circumstances, he had no hesitation in saying the ROYAL OAK would come out on top. He asked the Bench to give lie to the rumour he had mentioned, and show they were above such suggestion.

Mr. Loxton asked whether Mr. Ward wished to decide whether the rumour was correct or incorrect. Did he assert that such a

rumour was the cause of the objection?

Mr. Ward: I have not asserted anything. I have merely told the Bench what the rumour is, and I have asked them to act with due consideration.

The magistrates consulted in private, and on returning Mr. Blyth said the Bench did not require to hear any evidence. They had decided to renew the license.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1922

“Annual Licensing Sessions.....

There were also objections, to the renewal of the licenses chiefly on the ground of redundancy of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich; ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street; FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street; VINE, Blue Lane; WOODMAN, Blue Lane; and VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street; and it was announced that the applications in respect of these houses would be considered at the adjourned sessions on March 2nd.”

Walsall Observer 10/5/1924

“Calling at the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, on the morning of Saturday 19th, Charles Edward Beach (48), insurance agent, of 22, Freer Street, ordered a glass of ale, but had only just sipped at it when he collapsed and became unconscious. He was removed on the police ambulance to the Hospital, and on April 24th was transferred to the Workhouse Infirmary, where he died on Friday night without having fully regained consciousness.

At the inquest, held by the Borough Coroner (Mr. J. J. Addison) at the Guildhall on Tuesday afternoon, the widow, Edith Beach, said her husband had the influenza last March, and Dr. G. M. Fox stated that on making a post-mortem examination he found that several clots of blood had formed, no doubt as a result of the influenza, and one of them had become dislodged and shot up into the brain, causing cerebral embolism. He attributed death to that.

The Coroner returned a verdict accordingly.”

Walsall Observer 19/8/1939

“Transfers of the following licenses were granted.....

ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, from *Alice Dunham Day* (widow of the late licensee) to *George Armishaw Thornton*.”

1939 Register

Ablewell Street – ROYAL OAK

[1] *George A. Thornton*, date of birth 26/9/1881, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Elsie M. Thornton*, dob 16/4/1882, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Olga M. (Thornton) Martin*, dob 2/3/1921, shorthand typist and book keeper, single:

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street. £1 17s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 20/10/1943

“The sequel to an incident in the ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street, on the afternoon of Saturday, October 9, was a summons against Edward James Hopkins (36), bricklayer, 8, Grove Terrace, for wilfully damaging a drinking glass valued at 1s 3d.

Martha Baker, barmaid, stated that defendant entered the house about 1.30pm, and asked for two pints, but she did not serve him. She walked away and informed the licensee, who returned with her and asked defendant to leave. An argument followed, and defendant picked up a glass and threw it across the counter.

Police-constable Dawes stated the defendant told him that it was an accident, as he was pushed from behind and the glass was knocked out of his hand.

Defendant, who repeated this statement to the magistrates (Mrs. Dewsbury and Messrs. A. E. Hurst, J. J. McShane and G. R. Hanson) was fined 10s, plus 6s special costs, and 1s 3d for the glass.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street (Proceeds of Supper). £50 0s 0d

ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street (Sale of Sandwiches). £2 16s 0d

ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street (Proceeds of Bottle of Gin). £17 4s 0d.”

[1990s]

Closed [2007]

It was incorporated into the Royal Hotel next door. [2008]

ROYAL OAK

Bosty Lane / Winterley Lane, Daw End, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Bass, Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Harrison [1835] – [1850]
S Partridge [1853]
Sampson Smith [1857] – **1862**);
William Lees **1862** – []
William Parkes [1864]
James Parkes [1868] – **1869**);
Thomas Thompson (**1869**);
Samuel Wilson Dibble (**1869** – [1871]
Philip Eagles* [1872]
Philip Eades* [1875] – [1882]
B Clare [1885]
Samuel Clare [1890] – [1904]
William Evans (**1906 – 1911**);
William Round Jackson (**1911** – [1912]
Charlie Knowles [1932] – [1934]
Percy Edward Meeke [1939] – [1943]
Paul Rymer [2010]
Samantha Angela Jones []

NOTES

It was built in the 17th century.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/3/1838 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property, at Daw End, near Rushall, in the County of Stafford.

By Farrington and Son. To be Sold by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Harrison*, the ROYAL OAK, at Daw End, on Monday the 26th day of March inst. at five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then and there to be produced – all the Freehold Tenement or Dwelling House, situated at Daw End, in the parish of Rushall, with a capital Stable and Garden adjoining, and now in the occupation of Mr. Evans.

The Stable may at a small expense be converted into a Dwelling House.

For further particulars apply to Mr. J. Firster, Solicitor, or to the Auctioneers, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/4/1853 - Advert

“To Be Shot For, on Monday, April 25th, 1853, at the house of Mr. *S. Partridge*, the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End, near Walsall, a large Fat Pig, upwards of 30 score, by 30 subscribers, at 10s each. Shooting to commence at eleven o'clock am. Guns not to exceed ¾ bore, charge 1½ of shot; rise 21 yards.”

Sampson Smith = Samson Smith

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/10/1857

“*Sampson Smith*, of the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, was fined 10s and costs, for keeping his house open for the sale of beer on Sunday morning last.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Samson Smith, licensed victualler, the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, was fined 5s and costs, for having two unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

1861 Census

Daw End Lane – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Sampson Smith* (47), victualler, born Rushall;

[2] Ann Smith (51), wife, born Daw End;

[3] Ann Mansell (19), servant, born Measbury, Shropshire:

Walsall Free Press 8/2/1862

“At the petty sessions at Rushall, on Tuesday, before J. E. Bailey Esq, and Captain Harrison, the license of the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, was transferred from *Sampson Smith* to *William Lees*, late proprietor of the STATION INN, Pelsall.”

Walsall Free Press 5/3/1864 - Advert

“To Be Let and entered upon immediately, the Old Licensed Public House, known as the ROYAL OAK, situated at Daw End, in the parish of Rushall, near Walsall. The Stock and Fixtures to be taken at a fair valuation. Coming in low.

N.B. The present landlady leaving solely on account of ill health.

Apply on the premises.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1864

“At the annual special Sessions for licensing purposes yesterday.....

The following victuallers were cautioned..... *William Parkes*, of the ROYAL OAK, Daw End.”

Walsall Free Press 11/4/1868

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Wednesday last Thomas Darby was charged with having assaulted Eliza Forster. From the complainant’s evidence, it appeared that on Monday, the 23rd ultimo, as she was going along the lane at Daw End, the defendant caught hold of her and tried to throw her down. This, however, the defendant denied, and stated that he only placed his hand upon the complainant’s shoulder, and asked her to come back to the ROYAL OAK INN – where she had previously been offering her illegitimate child for sale – and have something to drink – a request with which she ultimately complied. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, dismissed the case.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1868

“Rushall, Tuesday. Adjourned Licensing Meeting.

Mr. Glover applied on behalf of Mr. S. Harrison, the HAWTHORNE TREE free beerhouse, Walsall Wood, for a spirit license. Mr. Dale (from the office of Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) opposed the application, on behalf of Mr. T. Jackson, the RED LION INN, and it was refused.

Of the holders of existing licenses, Alfred Stokes, RAILWAY INN, Pelsall; Thomas Jackson, RED LION INN, Walsall Wood; and *James Parkes*, Daw End, were cautioned.”

Birmingham Gazette 9/8/1871

“*Samuel Wilson Dibble*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK public-house, Daw End, pleaded guilty to having had his house open at nine o’clock on the morning of Sunday, the 23rd ult, and was ordered to pay a fine of 10s and costs, 10s 6d.”

Birmingham Gazette 23/8/1871

“Samuel Richardson, George Garnett, and William Harris, for drinking during prohibited hours on Sunday the 23rd ult, in the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, were each fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Birmingham Gazette 20/9/1871

“Adjourned Licensing day. The following parties, who had their licenses suspended, were cautioned, and had their applications for renewal granted.....

Samuel Wilson Dibble, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, Daw End.”

* possibly the same person

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/7/1875

“*Philip Eades*, the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End, was charged with having permitted drunkenness in his house. Mr. G.

Strongitharm deposed that on the 22nd inst, hearing a noise in defendant’s house, and seeing eight or ten men (one of whom was drunk) rush out, he went back and found several drunken men there. The defendant was fined 40s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/4/1878

“Jonah Furguson, was fined 10s and costs or fourteen days’ imprisonment for creating a disturbance at the ROYAL OAK at Daw End, and assaulting *Mary Eades*, and for appearing drunk in court he was fined a further sum of 10s and costs, or fourteen days’ imprisonment.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/6/1878

“*Philip Eades*, the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, was summoned for keeping his house open on Sunday, the 12th ult, during prohibited hours. The case on behalf of the police was that at half-past 8 o’clock in the morning a Mrs. Baxter was seen to go into defen-

dant's house with a basket, which when she came into the street was found to contain a bottle of ale. The defence was that the woman went for eggs and potatoes and that no alcoholic beverage was supplied to her. The case was adjourned for a fortnight for the attendance of Mrs. Baxter."

1881 Census

Daw End

- [1] *Philip Eades* (54), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Maria Eades* (50), wife, born Rushall;
- [3] *Henry Eades* (17), son, painter, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *William Smith* (21), stepson, brick maker, born Rushall;
- [5] *Emily Smith* (11), stepdaughter, scholar, born Rushall:

Lichfield Mercury 19/8/1881- Advert

"Old-Licensed Inn (the ROYAL OAK) and House, at Daw End, Rushall; and Other Properties at Muckley Corner. To be Sold by Auction (by order of the Mortgagee), by Messrs. Farrington and Son, at the GEORGE HOTEL, in Walsall, on Tuesday, the 23rd day of August, 1881, at Six for Seven o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions which will incorporate the Common Form Conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Society.

At Daw End.

Lot 1. The Old-Licensed Public House, known as the ROYAL OAK, in the occupation of *P. Eades*, with the Bakery, Stabling, and capital garden Ground at the back, also the Cottage and Shed adjoining occupied by Overton; Other Cottage occupied by Evans, with enclosed Garden; also capital Stabling for six horses, loft over, and Storeroom lately occupied by Messrs. Strongitharm, the whole containing 3,474, square yards....."

Lichfield Mercury 21/4/1882

"On Tuesday at the Police Court, *Philip Eades*, of the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, pleaded guilty to having had his house open during prohibited hours on Sunday, the 2nd inst, adding, although reluctant to do it, he was obliged to sell when he had a chance to get a living for himself and his wife. He was fined 40s and 10s 6d costs, and this being his third offence the license was endorsed."

Birmingham Daily Post 4/9/1884

"An inquest was held yesterday at the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End, Rushall, on the body of *James Corkran* (64), of Bloxwich. The deceased left home on Sunday afternoon to walk to Berry Farm, where he at one time worked, and nothing more was heard of him until Monday afternoon, when his body was found in the canal at Daw End. He had been in a bad state of health for some time, and occasionally strange in his manner. It was supposed he had slipped into the canal. A verdict of Found Drowned was returned."

Walsall Observer 7/2/1885

"The annual meeting of No.1 Money Club was held at the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End, on Saturday evening last, when upwards of thirty members sat down to an excellent repast provided by the Host *Mr. B. Clare*....."

Lichfield Mercury 13/8/1886

"On Friday evening *Mr. Hooper* (Coroner) held an inquest at the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, on the body of *Frank White* (60), of Daw End, one of the two men who were killed by a fall of rock in *Mr. Strongitharm's* limestone pit at the place. *Mr. Pickering*, Assistant-Government Inspector and *Mr. Strongitharm* were present.

The evidence showed that about fifteen tons fell, completely crushing the deceased, and so injuring the other man, *Smith*, that he died a few hours later in Walsall Cottage Hospital. The fall was said to have been caused by a stone known as 'chipper flag,' which had never before been found in so large a heading.

On the suggestion of the jury *Mr. Strongitharm* undertook to have the roof examined daily in future, and a verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

"The following publicans from Rushall were granted one hour's extension on Monday, October 13th, the occasion being the wakes *Samuel Clare*."

1891 Census

Rushall, Daw End – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Samuel Clare* (40), licensed victualler and currier, born Dudley Port;
- [2] *Mary A. Clare* (39), wife, born Wood Green [Wednesbury];
- [3] *Charles Clare* (10), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [4] *Philip Eades* (62), widower, father in law, living on his own means, born Wood Green;
- [5] *Harry Eades* (28), brother in law, plumber and painter, born New Town, Staffordshire;
- [6] *Charlotte Eades* (26), sister in law, general servant, born New Town, Staffordshire;
- [7] *Mary A. Clare* (15), daughter, born Walsall:

Lichfield Mercury 15/5/1891

“John Ethlestone, Daw End, Pelsall, was charged with assaulting Thomas Hill, on the 25th April.

Complainant said he was in the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, and a dispute arose with respect to a debt between him and another man named Newell, and on going outside the defendant Ethlestone came up and struck him, at the same time threatening him.

Mary Jane Hathaway corroborated.

For the defence Charles Newell, collier was called, and said complainant challenged him or anyone else to fight. On going outside the defendant and complainant fought. Witness denied that he asked defendant to strike the complainant. Both men stuck each other.

Sergeant Riley said the men were as bad as each other.

Elizabeth Turner, a married woman, said complainant struck defendant first. Both men had their jackets off.

The case was dismissed, each side to pay their own costs, 5s each.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/8/1893

“Quite a gloom was cast over the town during Saturday evening and Sunday by the news of a shocking drowning at the Park Lime Pits. It appears that on Saturday morning a young man named Ernest Jackson (23), a member of the Walsall Swimming Club and a capital swimmer, in the employ of Messrs W. Bayliss and Co, saddlers’ ironmongers, of this town, went to bathe in the pool at Park Lime Pits, and got entangled in the long cord-like weeds which abound in certain parts of the pool, and was drowned. Mr. J. E. Bayliss, Mount Street, who was with him, tried hard to save him, until compelled by sheer exhaustion to desist. From what could be gleaned it seemed that at the time the sad accident occurred he was swimming on his back, and getting out of the usual track found himself among a thick bed of weeds. He immediately turned round, but this only tended to get him more entangled and more helpless to extricate himself. He cried ‘Help! Help!’ and Mr. Bayliss, who was with him, swam to his assistance, and made a gallant attempt to rescue his friend. Unfortunately, however, he was unable to release him, and ultimately had to return to the bank, he having become quite exhausted. The body was recovered some 20 minutes afterwards by a man named T. Riley, of Daw End.

The inquest was held on Monday at the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End, Walsall, before Mr. E. Hooper.

John Ernest Bayliss said he knew deceased, Ernest Jackson. They worked together. He met him at the top of Lichfield Street by arrangement, and they went to the Park Lime Pits to bathe. They paid twopence each. They entered the water, the deceased going there first as he was familiar with the place. They had been in the water for some time, and had made up their minds to re-cross and dress, and deceased started to do so, when he swam into some weeds among which he got entangled. He shouted ‘help,’ and then he (witness) swam to him and took hold his arm, but he could not release him for the weeds. He with great difficulty reached the bank himself.

Thomas Riley said he was on his way to have a bathe, when he was told of the accident. There were no appliances kept there for the saving of life – no provision made whatever. He sent for a drag and drew out the body in his first attempt. The water was very deep, perhaps 20 feet. His body was covered with weeds, chiefly about his neck.

Police-constable Yates tried to restore animation, but unsuccessfully.

The Coroner spoke most strongly about the fact that although fees were charged for bathing, no precautions were taken to ensure the safety of the bathers. He would undertake to write to the proprietors about it, and if another death occurred at the place he should hold them responsible for manslaughter, and should commit them accordingly.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/10/1895

“At the Petty Sessions on Monday, before Messrs. J. Nayler, W. H. Cooke, M.D., W. H. Brookes, and J. Clare, *Samuel Clare*, licensed victualler, applied for an hour’s extension at Rushall wakes, on Monday the 14th inst. P.S. Riley informed the magistrates that there was no objection on the part of the police, and Mr. Nayler stated that the magistrates would follow their usual custom and grant the application.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/3/1898

“Harry Murphy, boatman, Adams Street, Birmingham, was summoned for refusing to quit the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End, on the 14th ult, when requested to do so by Mary Ann *Clare*, the landlady. Defendant used bad language and had to be ejected twice. He did not appear and was fined 10s and 11s 9d costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/1/1899

“On Monday, at the Rushall Police Court, Edward Shilton, miner, of Daw End, was summoned for refusing to quit the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End. *Samuel Clare*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, said that on Dec. 26th defendant came into his house drunk and created a disturbance. He was ordered to leave, but refused to do so. A police officer was sent for, and on his appearance the defendant went away. Fined 5s and 10s costs.”

Walsall Observer 8/9/1900

“The annual dinner in connection with the Loyal Oaken Lodge, No.6626 of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows was held at the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End, on Saturday last. A large number of members and visitors were present.....”

1901 Census

Daw End

[1] *Samuel Clare* (50), licensed victualler, born Dudley Port;

[2] Mary Ann Clare (49), wife, born New Town, Wednesbury;

[3] Charles Clare (21), son, carpenter, born Rushall:

Lichfield Mercury 4/10/1901

“Charles Yates, miner, of Rushall, was charged with refusing to quit the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared to prosecute. *Samuel Clare*, landlord, said that about 8.30pm on the 16th September, the defendant came into his house. Knowing him as a disorderly character, he ordered him to leave. He refused to do so, and was ejected. The defendant created a disturbance in the house time previously, but on this occasion he was not disorderly.

Mr. Jackson said the case was brought more as a warning and he would be satisfied if the defendant would not come to the ROYAL OAK.

The Bench questioned the right of the landlord to order the defendant to leave when he was behaving himself, and they dismissed the charge.”

Lichfield Mercury 9/1/1903

“Chas. Newel (61), miner, Daw End, was charged with unlawfully wounding Wm. Newman, a young man, of the same address. Prosecutor gave evidence that at 8-45pm on Dec. 29, he was in the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, when he heard shouts of murder. On going outside, he saw prisoner’s wife lying on the ground, and the prisoner standing over her as if about to strike her. Witness asked him not to hit the woman, and having assisted her to rise, started to take her home, as she appeared to be frightened. Prisoner came up behind with something resembling a knife in his hand. Witness warned prisoner not to use it on him, but he continued to advance. Witness raised his arm to protect himself, and felt something sharp cut his hand. He struggled with the prisoner and took the razor from him. Subsequently, he went to Dr. Hawley, at Walsall, when five stitches were put into the wound.

Sergt. Heath deposed to arresting the prisoner on Dec. 30. In reply to the charge the prisoner said ‘He hit me first and knocked me down. I told him if he came again I should give him this (meaning the razor), and that he should not interfere between a man and his wife.’ Prisoner added that it was the beer that had been the cause of it.

Maria Newell, prisoner’s wife, denied that her husband assaulted her, and said prosecutor kicked her husband.

Prisoner now pleaded that the occurrence was accidental, and happened whilst prosecutor was trying to take the razor from him. The charge was reduced to one of common assault, and the magistrates sent the prisoner to gaol for 21 days’ hard labour without the option of a fine.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/11/1904

“A boatman named James Dolley (35), of Daw End, was charged before the Rushall magistrates (Messrs. J. F. W. Binns and J. F. Crump) with being drunk upon and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, on November 4th, and also with assaulting Frederick Woodward.

Samuel Clare (landlord) gave evidence to the effect that defendant went into his house and was turned out. He afterwards returned, however, and it was some time before he could be persuaded to leave. He was about to send for the police when the man left.

Frederick Woodward said that he was in the house at the time, and Dolley, without any provocation, struck him in the face twice. Defendant, who made no appearance, was fined 5s and 9s 6d costs for refusing to quit, and 10s and 9s 6d costs for the assault.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/3/1911

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *William Round Jackson*, ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End was unanimously elected a member of the society.”

1911 Census

Daw End – ROYAL OAK INN

[1] *William R. Jackson* (27), publican, tenant, born Walsall Wood;

[2] *Alma Ann Jackson* (27), wife, married 4 years, born Short Heath;

[3] *Doris May Jackson* (3), daughter, born Walsall Wood;

[4] *Annie Llewelyn* (16), cousin, domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 31/7/1915

“As a sequel to a meeting with a friend who had been married that particular day, Catherine Mace, of The Radleys, Rushall, found herself at the Rushall Police Court on Monday, summoned for being drunk and disorderly.

Police-constable Reynolds stated that at 4-30pm on the 19th, he was called to the ROYAL OAK, at Daw End, where he saw the defendant in the bar. She was drunk and the landlord was endeavouring to get her to leave. She refused and witness had to assist to get her out. She then refused to go home and used filthy language, and he then had to lock her up.

Defendant expressed her regret, adding that she met a friend who had been married that morning and who paid for a drop of whisky.

A fine of 10s was imposed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/3/1922

“On Saturday morning the District Coroner (Mr. G. C. Lewis) held an inquest at the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End, respecting the death of Harry Smith (35), single man, of Daw End, who was killed by a fall of roof while working as a Stallman at the No.1

pit of the Aldridge Colliery Co, on February 20th. Mr. E. Rowley (H.M. Inspector of Mines) was present, and the company were represented by Mr. H. H. Jackson.

Harry Heath, a loader, of Commonsides, Brownhill, stated that he and Smith were setting a road bar, and he went up the road to collect tools. When he was about 15 yards away Smith called out, and on returning he found the deceased had been completely buried by a fall of roof. He was extricated in about ten minutes, but he was dead. The roof had been inspected a short time previously and there was then no sign of danger. In reply to Mr. Rowley, witness admitted that there was a fault some five or six yards from the place.

A fireman who tested the roof also stated that it had appeared to be quite safe.

Dr. E. R. Webb stated that Smith's ribs and collar bone were crushed on the right side, and these injuries were the cause of death. The Coroner recorded a verdict of Accidental Death, and said he was satisfied that no blame was attached to anyone for the accident."

1939 Register

43, Daw End – ROYAL OAK Licensed Premises

[1] *Percy E. Meeke*, date of birth 26/5/1902, chief officer fire auxiliary brigades, LAGC gas instructor, married;

[2] *Amy E. Meeke*, dob 28/2/1902, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *William Edwards*, dob 19/7/1871, cellarman, married:

Walsall Observer 23/1/1943

"How an elderly man died while sitting in the ROYAL OAK INN, Daw End, after ordering a pint of ale, was told to the Deputy Borough Coroner at an inquest at the Rushall Police Station on Wednesday.

The deceased, Robert Wilson-Browne (88), of 233, Bosty Lane, Aldridge, left home at 11am last Monday with the intention of taking a walk. On the way he stopped at the ROYAL OAK and ordered a pint of bitter.

Mr. *Percy Edward Meeke*, the licensee of the inn, told the Coroner that deceased, although not exactly a regular customer, was nevertheless known to him. He appeared to be in a very cheery mood when he entered and ordered his beer. When he had consumed it he ordered another half-pint and sat in the passage to drink it. Mr. *Meeke* later went into the passage and saw deceased apparently asleep, the half-pint of ale not touched. On speaking to him he received no reply and found that he was dead. Other evidence explained the deceased had been attended by Dr. Stirling, of Aldridge, for heart trouble, and on the evidence supplied by Dr. Stirling it was proved that deceased was liable to die at any time. Death was due to degeneration of the heart muscles. Verdict accordingly."

Demolished in 1956.

Birmingham Daily Post 9/12/1957

"The annual general meeting of W. Butler & Co. Limited will be held on December 30 at Wolverhampton. The following is an extract from the circulated statement of the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. J. Yardley.....

Complete rebuildings are in hand of the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, Walsall....."

Birmingham Daily Post 10/12/1958

"The annual general meeting of W. Butler & Co. Limited will be held on December 30 at Wolverhampton. The following is the circulated statement of the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. J. Yardley.....

Rebuildings have been completed at.....

ROYAL OAK, Daw End, near Walsall.....

In the majority of cases of rebuilding the trade of the house has to be carried on in makeshift accommodation, and it is always a source of wonder how faithful the regular customers are in continuing to support their local in spite of cramped conditions. The licensees, too, often living temporarily in caravans, have much to contend with and their patience and tact in trying conditions deserves praise."

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

"Free Pint of Carling.

With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We've a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....

Where to get your Free pint.....

ROYAL OAK, Daw End, Rushall, Walsall."

Samantha Angela Jones, 10 Grace Road, Tividale, unemployed, lately residing at 16 Greenhill Road, Dudley, and lately carrying on business as the GEORGE, Birmingham Road, Oldbury, the BULLS HEAD, Birmingham Street, Oldbury, the OAK AND IVY, Oxford Street, Bilston, the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Sandwell Street, Walsall, the PRINCE BLUTCHER, Stafford Street, Walsall, the ROYAL OAK, Daw End Lane, Rushall, and the SPRING MEADOW, Halesowen Road, Old Hill, filed for bankruptcy in the County Court at Dudley on 1 March 2016.

An Indian restaurant was made part of the pub. [2016]

[2017]

ROYAL OAK

44, (20a), (21), Caldmore Road, (44, (21), Caldmore), (Spout Lane / Whitehall Road), WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Calve, miller, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall
J. Gould
John Broughton, harness maker, Spout Lane, Walsall
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

David Wood [1861] – [1868]
William Harper [1870] – [1872]
John Wood [1872];
Robert James Adams [];
Noah Stanley [1881];
Mrs. Hannah Stanley [1891];
George Hill [1893] – **1904**;
George Thomas (**1904 – 1908**);
Mary Elizabeth Thomas (**1908 – 1919**);
Arthur Edward Blackwell (**1919 – 1923**);
Mrs. Alice Blackwell (**1923 – 1924**);
Ernest **Hawkswood** (**1924 – 1953**);
Walter Cooper (**1953 – 1964**);
Louie Cooper (**1964 – 1966**)

NOTES

Calmer [1861]
44, Caldmore [1862], [1870], [1881]
21, Caldmore Road [1891]
21, Caldmore [1892], [1901]
Spout Lane [1900]
20a, Caldmore [1911]
21, Caldmore Green [1939]

It was an ante 1869, beerhouse.

It was formerly the GOOD CHEER INN. [1872]

1861 Census

Calmer

- [1] *David Wood* (40), retail brewer and provision dealer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Caroline Wood* (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Thomas Wood* (16), son, saddler, born Walsall;
- [4] *David Wood* (15), son, baker, born Walsall;
- [5] *Arthur Wood* (14), son, currier, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sarah Wood* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Eliza Clarisa Wood* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Eliza Alice Wood* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Caroline Wood* (2), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] *Ellen Elizabeth Wood* (1), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [11] *Jane S. Brown* (15), house servant, born Walsall;

David Wood, retailer of beer, 44, Caldmore. [1862]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/5/1862

“A match has been made between S. Toly and C. Fowler (both of Walsall) to run 120 yards at Aston Cross Grounds, Birmingham, June 9, for £10 a side. £5 a side is in the hands of Mr. Thos. Hawkes, of the THREE CUPS INN, Walsall, who is to be the final stakeholder, and a further deposit of £1 a side is to be made May 19, at Mr. *David Wood*'s, Caldmore, Walsall. Mr. J. Coates of Birmingham is to be referee, and the men are to go by mutual consent in 15 minutes, or by report of pistol. To be at the scratch at three o'clock.”

David Wood, beer retailer and provision dealer, 44, Caldmore. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

David Wood, Caldmore applied personally for licenses, but their applications were refused.”

David Wood, beer retailer and shopkeeper, 44, Caldmore. [1868]

Birmingham Daily Post 22/1/1870 - Advert

“A Bargain. To be Sold, a First-class Bagatelle Board, complete. In good condition. At *William Harper*'s, No.44 Caldmore.”

1871 Census

Caldmore

[1] *William Harper* (30), beerhouse keeper, born Darlaston;

[2] Sarah A. Harper (22), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Eliza Hatton (26), servant, born Wednesbury:

William Harper, beer retailer and shopkeeper, 44, Caldmore. [1872]

1881 Census

44, Caldmore

[1] *Noah Stanley* (62), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;

[2] *Hannah Stanley* (58), wife, born Bilston;

[3] John Stanley (22), son, iron worker, born Sedgley;

[4] Eliza Stanley (16), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] Fred Richards (14), nephew, scholar, born Bilston;

[6] Ann Fullard (17), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

1891 Census

21, Caldmore Road – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Hannah Stanley* (68), widow, publican, born Bilston;

[2] Enos Stanley (34), son, bricklayer, born Bilston;

[3] Emma Rowley (24), housemaid, born Bloxwich;

[4] Lottie Malpass (16), servant, born Walsall;

[5] Rachael Dudley (58), visitor, widow, living on her own means, born Bradley, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1892 - Register of Sales

“Wednesday, October 5th. By Messrs. Fox and Harrison. Brewing Plant and Utensils, Shop Furniture, &c. at the ROYAL OAK INN, 21, Caldmore, at 11.15.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1893

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The usual monthly meeting of the management committee was held on Thursday last (having been postponed from the previous Thursday, the day on which the Parliamentary election took place), at Mr. William Brown's, BLUE PIG INN, New Street.....

New members..... Mr. *George Hill*, ROYAL OAK INN, Caldmore.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing session for Walsall borough took place yesterday.....

Plans for alterations at the ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, were submitted. They were designed to meet an objection by the Chief Constable against the renewal of the license on the grounds that the premises had been structurally altered, and that there were new premises for the purposes of the Licensing Acts. Mr. A. Young (instructed by Messrs. Willcock and Taylor, Wolverhampton) put them before the Bench on behalf of the licensee, *George Hill*, and called a witness to show that liquor had for many years been sold in a part of the premises which was formerly used as a grocer's shop, and which was now objected to as an addition to the licensed premises. Mr. A. Stanley (secretary to the Temperance Society) appeared to oppose, and was objected to by Mr. Young

on the ground that he had not given notice. Mr. Stanley submitted that notice was not necessary. He was informed by the clerk that the magistrates could not hear a speech from him, and must be influenced solely by evidence on oath, relating only to the two points named in the opposition. Mr. Stanley expressed his willingness to be sworn, but wished to deal with the requirements of the district. The Bench reminded him that they could not hear him on that point. The alterations made satisfied the Chief Constable.

....the license of the ROYAL OAK was adjourned till today for the magistrates to visit the premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing sessions at Walsall on Tuesday last was of course of considerable interest to ‘publicans and sinner.’ Although there were seven licenses objected to be renewed by the Chief Constable, we are of opinion that, considering the vast area of public houses amongst us, no one can justly say that the licensing trade is not carried on in a respectable and creditable manner by the respective landlords; and at the same time we think we can vouch for the painstaking efforts of the police to carry out their duties as regards the licensing trade in a manner highly creditable to the borough, and at the same time keep the publicans within the law, and their houses above suspicion. Everyone must be aware of the fact that there is no other ‘trade’ in existence which is subject to so much police supervision as the licensed victualler; and moreover, the punishments for indiscretion and wanton carelessness are so severe, in some cases, their whole means of subsistence is rendered precarious. The licenses to the ROYAL OAK, Caldmore; the CANAL TAVERN, Little Bloxwich; the BELL INN, Bloxwich; the GEORGE HOTEL, NELSON AND PEEL, ROYAL EXCHANGE, and the BRUSHMAKERS ARMS were in jeopardy until Tuesday last, and in the case of the CANAL TAVERN, the license was refused. These instances ought to forcibly remind all innkeepers of their grave responsibility as to permitting or encouraging drunkenness; and, as they well know, there are too many public houses in Walsall according to its area and population, the magistrates will only be doing their duty in closing houses which are not carried on in conformity with law, and which only exist for the furtherance of drunkenness and disorder.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Beerhouses.....

George Hill, ROYAL OAK, served 32 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under.....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/7/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... *George Hill*, ROYAL OAK, Spout Lane.”

1901 Census

21, Caldmore – ROYAL OAK INN

[1] *George Hill* (51), publican, born Dedbury, Worcestershire;

[2] Mary A. Hill (41), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] William G. Hill (16), son, born Walsall;

[4] Matthew E. Hill (14), son, born Willenhall;

[5] Harry Hill (11), son, born Willenhall;

[6] May Hill (7), daughter, born Walsall;

[7] Alice Dawes (28), sister in law, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1905

“Henry Thorpe, 59, Victor Street, was summoned for being disorderly on licensed premises, and with refusing to quit when requested to do so by the complainant Mr. *George Thomas*, on the 4th. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared to prosecute.

The landlord said that the man went into his house on Saturday evening and asked for a drink. As he was a well-known dangerous character, he refused to serve him, whereupon he became very abusive and threatened him. He sent for the police and had him turned out, but as soon as the officers left, he (defendant) went back and created another disturbance, and the police had again to be fetched.

Sergeant Evans (8), and Police-constable Donallon (70) gave evidence as to turning the defendant out of the house.

Kate Thorpe, wife of defendant, stated that they had been down the town, and she had left her husband on Caldmore Green and he would have had no time to do what had been alleged against him.

Fined 10s and costs or ten days.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/8/1906

“A party of about 100 friends and customers left the ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, on Wednesday the 8th, by brakes, landaus, &c, for their annual gypsy party. They drove through Wolverhampton and Tettenhall, and having lunched at the latter place resumed their

drive to the Codsall Nurseries of Messrs. Baker Ltd. Permission had been kindly given them to go over the nurseries, which are among the finest in the country, and they were conducted round by Mr. Kerr, one of the head gardeners. The majority of the party had never seen such sights of surpassing splendour in the floral world, and they were more than delighted. The party then drove on to the Bell of Tong, where a hot dinner was provided and done ample justice to, for the beautiful country air had put an edge on their appetites. Afterwards a pleasant time was spent in games, &c. Subsequently the journey was resumed through Weston Park (by the kind permission of the Earl of Bradford), where, again, there was much to admire in the lordly demesne; and along the delightful old Watling Street. A halt was made at the Bradford Arms, Ivesty Bank, and passing on by Gaily Pool, Churchbridge, and Bloxwich and Caldmore was reached by 9.45. The arrangements had been made by Mr. *George Thomas*, 'mine host,' of the OAK, and the weather being charming, the outing was generally voted the most enjoyable possible."

Walsall Advertiser 2/10/1909 - Advert

"Wanted, a respectable Person as Barmaid to assist in light household duties; one used to the trade. Apply, Mrs. *Thomas*, ROYAL OAK, Caldmore Green."

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

"The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends..... ROYAL OAK, Caldmore. This club had a successful year, although the sick pay was fairly heavy. The receipts were £95 11s 10d, and the balance left enabled the Secretary (Mr. A. Wheway) to declare a dividend of 10s and one night on card."

1911 Census

Caldmore Green – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Mary Elizabeth Thomas* (53), widow, beer retailer, born Tipton;
- [2] Robert Thomas (18), son, potman, born Tipton;
- [3] Herbert Frederick Thomas (12), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Wilfred Ray Thomas (9), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Haywood (40), general servant, born Walsall;
- [6] Eliza Mattocks (26), barmaid, born Heath Town;

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/1/1913

"Harry Thorpe, of Bescot Street, and his son William Thorpe, of the South Staffordshire Regiment, were charged with damaging jugs, glasses, and other property at the ROYAL OAK INN, Caldmore on Boxing Day; the younger defendant was also charged with assaulting William *Thomas*, son of the landlady. Mr. H. H. Jackson prosecuted.

For the licensee, Mrs. *Thomas*, it was stated that in consequence of what happened some time ago the elder defendant was never served in the house. On the day in question, Arthur Shevyn, son-in-law of Mrs. *Thomas*, was in charge, the elder defendant called in the afternoon, but left when requested to do so. Later, the two returned, and without any explanation upset tables, breaking jugs and glasses, one of the table-legs being broken off and flourished. *Thomas* and a barman were struck by the younger defendant, who was twice ejected by Police-constable Bell. The latter stated that the man had had drink, but was not drunk.

Mr. Shaw: We don't understand that definition. He was drunk or he was not drunk.

The younger defendant said he did all the damage, whilst the father said he went to fetch his son away.

William Thorpe was ordered to pay the 20s damage and 5s costs on the first charge; 5s and costs with the alternative of 14 days; 5s and costs, or seven days on the second. The elder man was discharged.

The Chief Inspector Ballance stated that Thorpe's regiment had been ordered abroad and sailed on the 8th.

Defendant said he could not pay the money.

Mr. Shaw: You don't want to get out of the Army, do you? – Defendant: Well, I don't like it."

Walsall Observer 27/6/1914

"*Mary Thomas*, ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, was fined 5s and costs for keeping a dog without a license."

Walsall Observer 8/6/1918 - Roll of Honour

Q.-M.-S. Harry Adderley *Thomas*, who enlisted in Canada three years ago, and has been on foreign service with a Canadian Field Ambulance for two and a half years, is now in hospital in France. Thirty-six years of age, his home is the ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, and as a boy he attended Wolverhampton Collegiate School. Five brothers are serving in France."

AND

"Private Herbert *Thomas*, Royal Scots, who was missing from April 11, has sent a message to his home, the ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, stating that he is a wounded prisoner in Germany. Nineteen years old, he had been in France only 9 days, although he joined the Army two years ago. He had previously been employed as pianist at the Electric Theatre, Bloxwich. Five brothers are on active service."

AND

"Sergeant George *Thomas*, who has previously been invalided three times with rheumatic fever is now in hospital in Shorncliffe with this complaint. He had been on foreign service with the Canadian Transport for three years. A married man, 28 years of age, with two children, his home is at the ROYAL OAK, Caldmore. Before enlisting in September, 1914, he was a motor driver, and claims to have been the first taxi driver in Walsall."

Walsall Observer 21/9/1918 – Roll of Honour

“Sergeant-Major Harry Adderley *Thomas*, of the third Canadian Medical Corps, died from heart failure on the 11th inst, while on his way back to France, after ten days’ leave. A married man, 37 years of age, his wife and children living at Winnipeg, Canada, he was the son of Mr. *Thomas*, ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, and he died on the 33rd anniversary of his father’s death. He enlisted in May 1916, and went abroad the same year. The funeral, arranged by Colonel McBean, took place at Bushbury, near Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, with full military honours. An escort of five officers came from Shorncliff, and the firing party came from Brocton Camp. There were innumerable wreaths and approximately 500 people were present at the graveside. Deceased was previously employed as a chargeman on the Canadian Pacific Railway. He had five brothers, but one lost his life on the torpedoed ‘Llandovery Castle,’ and another is a prisoner of war. The other three are still on active service.”

South Staffordshire Times 6/1/1923

“A verdict of Accidental Death was returned by the Walsall Coroner at an inquest, on Wednesday, on Mr. *Arthur Edward Blackwell* (50), licensee of the ROYAL OAK INN, Caldmore, whose body was found on the railway line near a level crossing at Bescot on Monday evening.

The widow, *Alice Blackwell*, gave evidence that her husband was about the house as usual until 2pm on Monday, and afterwards went out, as was customary, to bank the week’s takings and to meet a representative of Messrs. Butler and Co. of Wolverhampton, by whom he was employed as a manager. Sometimes after transacting his business in this way he spent the afternoon at the pictures or went for a walk, and she was not surprised when he did not return for tea. It was not until 8pm that she heard he had been killed. She made enquiries, and found he had paid his cash into the bank and reported satisfactorily to Messrs. Butler’s representative. His books were in order, and he had no financial troubles or worries of any sort.

William Henry Crabb, chief inspector at Bescot, said it was apparent that the man had been knocked down at the crossing and had been dragged along.

Medical evidence showed that death was due to a badly fractured skull and other injuries.”

Walsall Observer 4/3/1939 - Advert

“To Builders And Contractors.

Proposed Reconstruction of the ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, Walsall.

Messrs. W. Butler & Co. Ltd. invite applications from Builders who desire to submit Tenders for the reconstruction of the ROYAL OAK, Caldmore. Quantities may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

Applications should be received Not Later Than March 8th, 1939, and should be accompanied by a deposit of Two Guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a bona fide tender.

Messrs. W. Butler & Co. Ltd. do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, or to bear the cost of preparing same.

Hickton & Madeley, Ashley House, Hatherton Road, Walsall.”

1939 Register

21, Caldmore Green

[1] *Ernest A. Hawkswood*, date of birth 22/9/1878, public house manager, married;

[2] *Amy L. Hawkswood*, dob 16/7/1878, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.

ROYAL OAK, Caldmore Road. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.

ROYAL OAK, Caldmore. £0 2s 5d.”

Walsall Observer 7/7/1945

“The Pleck and District Darts league is headed by the FORGE INN ‘A’ who have won all their seven matches. The next three positions are filled by the NEWPORT ARMS, HOPE AND ANCHOR ‘A’ and ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, with 12 points each, then come the DUKE OF WELLINGTON and ROYAL OAK, Pleck. Highest score and highest finish, 146, J. Bullock, HOPE AND ANCHOR ‘B’; highest start, 140, S. Hogan, WINDMILL TAVERN.”

A full license was granted on 4th February 1954.

Closed

It became a corner shop and off license. [1987]

ROYAL OAK

81, Lord Street, (Caldmore Place), Palfrey, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Fletcher
John Kimberley
Highgate Walsall Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

James Fletcher [1858] – [1865]
J Gould [] – **1865**;
John Hodges (**1865** – []
James Fletcher [1871] – [1881];
Edward Bennett [1888] – **1889**);
Joseph Haynes (**1889**);
Miss Emily Bertha Haynes (**1889** – **189_**); [1891]
Joseph Haynes (**189_** – **1895**);
Isaiah Lees (**1895** – **1896**);
Thomas Toon (**1896** – **1898**);
Sidney Toon (**1898** – **1907**);
Thomas Toon (**1907** – **1909**);
Edward Toon (**1909** – **1916**);
Kate Toon (**1916** – **1920**);
Frank Broadhurst (**1920** – **1921**);
Thomas Hawkins (**1921** – **1932**);
James Albert ‘Jim’ Parker (**1932** – **1959**);
Godfrey Charles Wildblood (**1959**);
Donald Leslie Probyn (**1959** – **1960**);
George Harry Moseley (**1960** – [1966])

NOTES

Caldmore Place [1858]
81, Lord Street [1891], [1932], [1939], [1940]

Black Country Bugle

‘James Fletcher – Palfrey Brewer and Farmer’ – letter from Mrs. W. Wootton

“.....The ROYAL OAK was once owned by my grandfather, who also had a small firm in Lord Street before any houses were built
..... My brother has the Bill of Sale for the ROYAL OAK still in his possession.”

1861 Census

Palfrey – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *James Fletcher* (45), victualler, born Broadwell, Gloucestershire;
- [2] Sarah Fletcher (39), wife, born Thatnill, Staffordshire;
- [3] _____ Fletcher (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Hannah Fletcher (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Samuel Fletcher (10), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Sarah Fletcher (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Alexander Gordon (42), lodger, pailor, born Scotland:

James Fletcher was also a tailor. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 10/6/1865

“Henry Rowleyson was charged with having, on Tuesday last, used threatening language to George Showler. It appeared that on the day in question, the complainant and the defendant met in the ROYAL OAK, Palfrey, and because complainant refused to drink with defendant, the latter threatened to take his life. Defendant was bound over to keep the peace for six months – himself in £10, and two sureties of £5 each, or in default, to be imprisoned for fourteen days.”

1871 Census

Lord Street, Palfrey

- [1] *James Fletcher* (55), publican and tailor, born Broadwell, Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Ann Fletcher* (57), wife, born Eggington, Derbyshire;
- [3] *Sarah Fletcher* (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Thomas Perry* (27), son in law, born Barton, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Maria Perry* (4), granddaughter, born Barton, Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/10/1875

“*James Fletcher*, the OAK INN, Palfrey, was summoned for having had his house open for the sale of liquor during prohibited hours on Sunday, the 10th inst. Police-constable Bethel proved the case, stating that at eight o’clock on the morning of the day named he found four men in the defendant’s house with glasses of liquor before them. The defendant said the men were there without his knowledge; they had induced his daughter to let them have a glass of whisky each, on the representation that they were unwell. He was fined 10s and costs.

The four men found in the house were also fined, viz, *James Moore*, *Henry Bullock*, and *John Abbott*, 10s each, and *Richard Judd*, who had been disorderly in the house, was fined 20s and costs.”

1881 Census

Lord Street – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *James Fletcher* (63), licensed victualler, born Broadwell, Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Ann Fletcher* (66), wife, born Egginton, Derbyshire;
- [3] *Sarah Bates* (24), domestic servant, born Farnfield, Staffordshire:

Edward Bennett was fined 40s and costs, on 10th February 1888, for keeping open during prohibited hours. He was also fined 40s and costs, on 10th July 1888, for permitting drunkenness.

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1888

“A the annual licensing sessions, yesterday.....

The applications for renewal of licenses on the part of twenty persons whose names were on the black list were adjourned till the adjourned licensing day; and the applications of the following were also adjourned, the Chief Constable opposing on the ground of the unsuitability of the premises for licensed houses, bad management, or the house being unnecessary, viz.....

Edward Bennett, ROYAL OAK.”

1891 Census

81, Lord Street – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Emily Bertha Haynes* (24), licensed victualler, born Darlaston;
- [2] *Mary Ann Gilbert* (16), general servant, birthplace unknown:

Walsall Advertiser 4/11/1895

“One of the most prominent railway veterans of Walsall has passed away in the death of *John Smart*, of Wallows Lane, Pleck, aged 67, engine driver, who for 49 years had been in the employ of the Midland Railway Company, and who was known amongst his comrades as ‘Captain’ Smart. He died on Sunday morning at his home, as the result of an accident on the railway on the previous Thursday, the circumstances of which were enquired into by Mr. T. H. Stanley, Borough Coroner, and a jury, at the ROYAL OAK, Palfrey, on Tuesday afternoon. District-Inspector Pargeter represented the London and North-Western Railway Company, and Mr. Howell, the Midland Railway Company.

The deceased had been in the habit of going along the London and North-Western line to and from his work, and on the morning of Thursday week, about 5.26, passed the Pleck signalman on duty there, ‘Good morning.’ Deceased went in the direction of the Midland engine sheds, a light engine coming from Walsall to Bescot about that time.

George James Dunmore, a ‘steam riser,’ of Prince Street, Pleck, who was in the Midland engine sheds on the morning in question, saw Smart leaning against a wall, and on going to him found deceased’s clothing torn, and saw that Smart was looking pale and ill. He wanted to go to work, but the foreman sent him home in a car. Neither *Charles Hall*, the driver of the light engine in question, or *Benjamin Heath*, the fireman, saw anything of the deceased.

The deceased, it transpired, had made a statement to his wife and daughter to the effect that he saw the engine coming, and was going to get over the wires to go into the shed, but the rail or the rod caught him, knocking him some distance. He thought he fainted, and he got to the shed, but he did not know how. It was also stated that the deceased had had verbal permission from an official now dead to go along the line, and had gone that way for 20 years.

Dr. Fox, who saw the deceased at his own home, said the man had an extensive bruise on the back and side, and was suffering from bronchitis and a weak heart, the cause of death was bronchitis and weakness of the heart, accelerated by the injuries received. The injuries would not have been fatal, witness thought, if the man had been younger and healthy.

A verdict was returned in accordance with the medical evidence.”

Isaiah Lees – see also OAK, Green Lane.

Walsall Advertiser 19/11/1898

“*Mr. J. N. Cotterell* presented plans for making slight alterations to the ROYAL OAK, Palfrey. The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Mr. E. A. Cotterell (Messrs. J. N. and E. A. Cotterell) was granted a singing and music license for Mr. *Sidney Toon*, ROYAL OAK INN, Palfrey, for Monday evenings from eight o'clock until 10.30. Mr. Cotterell explained that the license was for benefit of a club only.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/11/1899

“Walsall and District Reserve Fund.

Third List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL OAK, Palfrey, 21s.”

Walsall Observer 7/4/1900

“Free Gardeners. A new lodge of this Order was opened last Tuesday at the ROYAL OAK, Palfrey, by Bro. E. Holmes, Master, Walsall New District and other officers. About 20 were admitted as members.....”

Walsall Observer 1/9/1900

“On Tuesday last a show of flowers and vegetables was held at the ROYAL OAK INN, Lord Street, Palfrey by the allotment holders in that district. There was a large and excellent variety of exhibits, and the show was much appreciated.....”

1901 Census

81, Lord Street

[1] *Sidney Toon* (26), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Elizabeth Toon (25), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Sidney T. Toon (8), son, born Walsall;

[4] Sarah Stockley (24), general servant, born Oldbury:

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople's Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

ROYAL OAK INN, Palfrey. 2s 3d.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/3/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *Sidney Toon*, ROYAL OAK INN, Palfrey.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1910

“Palfrey Allotment Society.

A successful whist drive was held on Thursday evening at the ROYAL OAK, Palfrey, in connection with the above society. There was a good muster and three prizes offered. An enjoyable evening was spent, the winners being: First prize (gentlemen's umbrella), Mr. E. S. Farmer, 2nd (briar pipe and case), Mr. J. Wheway, 3rd (tobacco pouch), Mr. F. Busst. The 'booby' prize was won by Mr. E. Bayliss. Mr. *E. Toon* was M.C., and presented the prizes to the winners. At the close of the proceedings a vote of thanks was passed to him for the admirable way in which he had conducted the proceedings.”

1911 Census

Lord Street – ROYAL OAK INN

[1] *Edward Toon* (29), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Kate Toon* (31), wife, married 8 years, born Walsall;

[3] Kate Toon (6), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] Jennie Toon (5), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Annie Toon (4), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 15/4/1911

“A painter, named Herbert Osbourne (22), of 3, Ann Street, was charged with embezzling the sum of 7s 6d, belonging to his employer, Wm. Wilson.

Prosecutor, a painter and decorator, of 189, Stafford Street, stated that on Tuesday, the 4th instant, he sent the prisoner, who worked for him, to Mr. *Toon*, of the ROYAL OAK, Palfrey, for some money for wall paper. He did not return and he reported the matter to the police.

Edward Toon, licensee of the ROYAL OAK, Lord Street, spoke to giving the prisoner 7s 6d, and Detective Thomas deposed to arresting him. Prisoner, who pleaded guilty, and who had nothing to say, was sentenced to 14 days' hard labour, he having been before the Court on a previous occasion.”

Walsall Observer 27/7/1914 - Notice

“Re *Thomas Toon*, Deceased.

Notice is Hereby Given that all creditors and other persons having any Debts, Claims, or Demands against the Estate of *Thomas Toon*, late of Ivydene, Lichfield Street, Walsall, in the County of Stafford, deceased (who died on the 16th day of October, 1913, and whose Will, with a Codicil thereto, was proved in the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice on the 19th day of May, 1914, by Tom Longmore, in the will called Thomas Longmore, of Lichfield Street, Walsall, and *Edward Toon*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Palfrey, son of the deceased, two of the Executors therein named, the other Executor having renounced Probate) are hereby required to send in any particulars in writing of their Debts, Claims, or Demands to me, the undersigned, the Solicitor for the said Executors, on or before the 31st day of July, 1914, after which date the said Executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased amongst persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the Claims, Debts, and Demands of which they shall then have had notice; and they will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any person of whose Debts, Claims, or Demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 22nd day of June, 1914.

C. A. Loxton, Walsall, Solicitor for the said Executors.”

Walsall Observer 31/3/1917 - Roll of Honour

“Private Sid *Toon* is officially reported to have been killed in France on the 14th inst. while in action with the South Staffordshire Regiment, to which he had been transferred from the Yeomanry. Apprenticed to Messrs. Overton and Co., Freer St 1939eet, he joined up a year ago before he attained his 19th birthday, and had been in France since the beginning of the present year. He was an Old Boy of Queen Mary’s Grammar School. His parents who resided in Lichfield Street, are both dead, and he made his home with his uncle and aunt at the ROYAL OAK, Lord Street, Palfrey. His uncle, Corporal *E. Toon*, is now with the A.S.C. in France.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/10/1923

“The third annual show of produce organised by the Palfrey Allotment Holders Association, who recently won the silver cup, given by Sir Richard Cooper, at the central exhibition, in which the competition was open to all the associations, was held at the ROYAL OAK INN Palfrey on Saturday. As might be expected, in view of the success mentioned, the produce shown was of a very high standard, and the 120 entries were double the number received at the previous year’s show.....”

It was rebuilt in 1933.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

ROYAL OAK, Lord Street, Palfrey.”

1939 Register

81, Lord Street

[1] *James A. Parker*, date of birth 18/10/1889, manager public house, married;

[2] *Eliza Parker*, dob 15/3/1888, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Beryl I. Parker*, dob 9/11/1920, bar general, single;

[4] *Dorothy B. Parker*, dob 23/7/1923, confectionery shop assistant, single:

Walsall Observer 31/8/1940

“Mr. *James A. Parker*, of the ROYAL OAK, Lord Street, recalling the comfort he received as a prisoner of war in Germany in the last war when parcels reached him from England, offers to despatch parcels to present-day prisoners through the Red Cross Society. Subscriptions will be spent on parcels.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL OAK, Lord Street, £6 5s 8d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL OAK, Lord Street. £1 0s 0d.

ROYAL OAK, Lord Street. £4 14s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 25/12/1943 - Personal

“Mr. and Mrs. *Jim Parker*, ROYAL OAK, Lord Street, take this opportunity to wish all Friends and Customers the Compliments of the Season, and all the best for the coming year. Also our thanks to those kind people who have been so good to our daughter, Dolly, during her long illness.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

ROYAL OAK, Lord Street. £4 12s 7d.”

[2001]

Closed [2007], [2012]

It was converted into housing. [2017]

ROYAL OAK

Norton Road, Pelsall, (York’s Bridge), WALSALL

OWNERS

Robert York [1890]

Messrs. Robinson, Burton [1925]

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Robert York [1849] – [1850]

William Willner [1859] – **1884**)

Mrs. Harriet Willner [1890] – **1908**)

Mrs. Jane Willner [1896] – [1904]

Mrs. Harriet Willner [1908]

Miss Clara Elizabeth Willner [1911] – [1912]

Joseph Cooper [] – **1917**)

Mrs. Cooper [1924]

Levi Danks [1925]

Walter J. Tompkins [1932] – [1940]

Samuel James Smith [1939] – **1940**);

Albert Clifford Cox (**1940** – []

Michael Hughes [] – **2003**)

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/3/1850 - Advert

“Important Freehold Buildings, land, and Old-Licensed Public House, at Pelsall, near Bloxwich.

Mr. R. S. Walker will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, the 2nd day of April 1850, at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, at four o’clock in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will then be produced, the following Freehold Properties.....

Lot 2. All that old-licensed Public House, called or known by the sign of the ROYAL OAK, situate near lot 1, now in the occupation of Mr. *Robert York*. The house contains a parlour, tap-room, bar, kitchen, with large club-room and chambers over, together with enclosed yard, sheds, garden, and appurtenances.....”

William Willner = William Wilner = William Milner

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859

“A Special Petty Sessions was held at Brownhills on Friday last, before C. Forster, Esq, MP, and the Rev. G. H. Fisher, when the following persons were fined for having in their possession unjust weights and measures, on the information laid by Mr. Inspector Tullett, Inspector for the South Staffordshire district.....

William Wilner, ROYAL OAK, Pelsall, unjust measures, 3s and costs.”

1861 Census

Pelsall – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *William Wilner* (30), victualler, born Ashton Ayes, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Harriet Wilner* (30), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] Frederic William Wilner (2), son, born Pelsall;
- [4] Harriett Jane Wilner (3 months), daughter, born Pelsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/6/1863

“At Rushall Police Court, on Tuesday, and elderly man named Joseph Bouper was charged with stealing 1¾lbs of bacon, the property of *William Wilner*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK public-house, Pelsall. It seemed that the prisoner had been drinking in the house for some hours, and that being left alone for a short time he cut the piece of bacon from a fitch which hung in the room. The landlord, who was in the upper part of the house, heard some noise, and on coming down stairs he taxed the prisoner with the offence, and insisted upon searching him, when the stolen bacon was found in his possession. Sentenced to one months’ imprisonment.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/9/1870

“Adjourned Licensing Meeting. Yesterday John Lloyd, beerhouse keeper, Rushall; Richard Owen, landlord of the ROYAL GEORGE beerhouse, Walsall Wood; Thomas Thacker of the BOOT public house, Walsall Wood; and *William Milner* of the ROYAL OAK public house, Pelsall, who, in consequence of having been convicted of breach of license in the course of the last year, had had their licenses suspended, were cautioned, and had their licenses renewed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1870

“At the Rushall adjourned licensing session, yesterday, the following licenses, the applications for which had stood over from the previous Tuesday, were granted, the licensees in each case being cautioned.....
Wm. Wilner, ROYAL OAK, Pelsall.”

1871 Census

Pelsall Wod – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *William Willner* (41), publican, born Bromley, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Harriet Willner* (40), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] Frederick R. Willner (12), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [4] Harriet J. Willner (10), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [5] Mark John Y. Willner (1), son, born Pelsall;
- [6] Richard Richardson (24), lodger, labourer, born Worcestershire:

1881 Census

Norton Road – ROYAL OAK INN

- [1] *William Willner* (50), publican, born Kings Bromley, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Harriet Willner* (50), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] Frederick Willner (22), son, engine fitter, born Pelsall;
- [4] Hannah J. Willner (20), daughter, teacher National School, born Pelsall;
- [5] Mark J. Willner (10), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [6] *Clara E. Willner* (7), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall:

Lichfield Mercury 5/9/1884 - Deaths

“August 12, at the ROYAL OAK, Pelsall, *William Wilner*, aged 53.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1890 - Advert

“Summary of Auction Sales by Walter Hughes.....

In February. Sale of a Freehold Full Licensed Public-House, the ROYAL OAK, Pelsall; together with a Freehold Villa Residence, Cottages, and Lands, being the concluding portion to the estate of the late Mr. *Robert York*.
Solicitor, Mr. T. H. Stanley.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

“The following publicans were granted one hour’s extension on Monday, October 6th, on the occasion of Pelsall wakes *Harriet Wilner*.”

1891 Census

Norton Road – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Harriet Willner* (60), widow, licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] Harriet J. Willner (29), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [3] Mark J. Willner (21), son, fireman, born Pelsall;
- [4] John York (49), brother, farmer, born Pelsall;
- [5] Mark York (40), brother, farmer, born Pelsall:

Lichfield Mercury 11/10/1895

“At the Petty Sessions on Monday, *Harriet Wilner*, licensed victualler, applied for an extension of one hour the same evening, the occasion being Pelsall wake. The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, and attention having been called to that matter they had gone round the district where similar objections could be made, and had given notice to the houses of the district asking that some alteration should be made so as to comply alike with the necessities of the public and also the sanitary conditions of the district. There were several houses named.

ROYAL OAK, Pelsall.”

1901 Census

Norton Road

[1] *Harriet Willner* (70), widow, innkeeper, born Pelsall;

[2] *Clara E. Willner* (27), daughter, born Pelsall;

[3] Sidney Willner (14), grandson, born Pelsall;

[4] John York (60), brother, engine fitter, born Pelsall;

[5] Mark York (58), brother, farmer, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 1/2/1908 - Deaths

“January 27th, at ROYAL OAK, Pelsall, *Harriet*, widow of *William Wilner*, in her 78th year, and daughter of the late *Robert York*, of White Hollies, Pelsall.”

1911 Census

Pelsall – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Clara Elizabeth Willner* (37), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Pelsall;

[2] Joseph Cooper (47), brother in law, assistant in business, born Pelsall;

[3] Harriet Jane Cooper (50), sister, married 10 years, born Pelsall;

[4] William David Cooper (9), nephew, school, born Pelsall;

[5] John York (72), uncle, unmarried, fitter engineer, born Pelsall;

[6] Mark York (68), uncle, unmarried, farmer, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 24/8/1912

“An inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Geo. Henry Gross, the 23 months old child of George Frederick Gross, of Woodhouses, Pelsall, was held by the County Coroner (Mr. Gerald C. Lewis), at the ROYAL OAK, Norton Road, Pelsall, on Wednesday morning. From the evidence it appeared that deceased went out to play at 10.30 on Monday morning, and the mother on missing him sent a elder brother to look for him. He went to an adjoining field and found the deceased lying face down in a pond. He pulled the body out and called for help, and a man named William Jackson came on the scene and tried artificial respiration, but without avail.

Police-constable Croft said he removed the body to the mortuary.

A verdict of Accidental Drowning while at Play was returned.”

Walsall Observer 27/4/1918 - In Memoriam

“In ever-loving memory of *Joseph Cooper*, late of the ROYAL OAK, Pelsall, who died on April 25, 1917. Fondly remembered by Wife and Son.”

Lichfield Mercury 21/2/1919

“A sparrow shooting sweepstakes took place on Saturday at the ROYAL OAK INN, Pelsall. There were 30 entries, and the prize of £2 10s was won by Mr. Frank Smith, of Knaves Castle, Brownhills, who killed nine birds out of ten. A subsequent sweepstake was divided between C. Hartshorn of Pelsall, and F. Smith. Mr. J. Reaney officiated as referee.”

Lichfield Mercury 13/3/1925

“Rushall Licensing Sessions.

‘It would be a terrible thing if just for one thing a man should be prohibited for ever holding a license,’ said Mr. H. H. Jackson at the Adjourned Rushall Licensing Sessions on Monday, when applying for the renewal of the license of the ROYAL OAK INN, Norton Road, Pelsall.

Mr. Jackson appeared for the owners of the house, Messrs. Robinson, of Burton, and admitted a conviction against the licensee, *Levi Danks*, for allowing betting on the premises in connection with a pipe-colouring competition.

Mr. Jackson said although the competition was being held everything was orderly, and no one was drunk. The licensee had paid for his mistake, and it had been a warning to him. The owners were willing to give him another chance.

The license was renewed.”

Lichfield Mercury 23/10/1925

“Brownhills And District Air-Gun League.....

Brownhill Hussey Arms (home) were defeated by Pelsall ROYAL OAK (away) by 207 points to 204.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/12/1925

“Brownhills & District Air-Gun League.....

FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall (away), defeated ROYAL OAK, Pelsall, by 214 points to 212.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

“At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....

Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....

For repairs and alterations of structure.....

ROYAL OAK, Norton Road.”

1939 Register

Norton Road – ROYAL OAK INN (1 of 3)

[1] *Samuel J. Smith*, date of birth 7/9/1909, licensed victualler, married;

Walsall Observer 4/5/1940 - Advert

“6 Young Pigs, Large White, 10 weeks; can be seen any time.

ROYAL OAK, Norton Road, Pelsall.”

Walsall Observer 29/6/1940 - Advert

“Large White Sow for Sale, 1 farry.

ROYAL OAK INN, Norton Road, Pelsall.”

Michael Hughes was born c.1944.

He was found battered to death in the pub on 27th April 2003.

[2006]

Its name was changed to FINGERPOST. [2007]

[2017]

ROYAL OAK

18, Oxford Street, Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

John William Newell, Aldridge

Benjamin Wakeley [1880]

Messrs. Downing, maltsters, Smethwick

Manchester Brewery Co. [1904]

Samuel Allsopp Ltd. [1910]

Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd. [1913]

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Bassett [1865]

Mrs. Harriett Bassett [1865] – [1866]

John Newell* [1868] – [1870]

John Holland Newell* [1871] – [1875]

Thomas Chidlow [1872] – [1873];

Robert Hawkins [];

Jane Davidson [];
John Slater [];
John Commander [];
Benjamin Wikeley [1881];
James Baggott [1881] – 1886);
Alfred Cox (1886 – 1887);
Herbert Henry Hawley (1887 – 1888);
George Wilkes (1888 – 1890);
James Hickson (1890);
Terence Wren (1890 – 1891);
William Webster (1891 – 1898);
Albert Edward Ashton (1898 – 1903);
Henry Albert Booth (1903 – 1904);
William Joseph Owen (1904 – 1907);
Walter Frost (1907 – 1909);
Elizabeth Cash (1909 – 1910);
Joseph Loynes (1910 – 1913);
Albert Victor Murdock (1913 – 1914);
Joseph Loynes (1914 – 1915);
George Turpin (1915 – 1916);
Agnes Turpin (1916 – 1919);
George Turpin (1919 – 1922);
Joseph Loynes (1922 – 1923);
Frederick Thomas Swinnerton (1923);
William Mooney (1923 – 1925);
Richard McManus (1925 – 1926);
Arthur Darby (1926 – 1928);
Arthur Frank Yeoman (1928 – 1931);
Thomas Pedley (1931 – 1933);
Alfred William Scott (1933 – 1934);
John Henry Dodgson (1934 – 1935);
Bertram Albert Stone (1935 – 1940);
John William Bradford (1940 – 1943);
George Humphries (1943 – 1952);
George Akfred Hood (1952 – 1956);
Doris Evelyn Hood (1956 – [1966])

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Leary's Brewery was based here.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/4/1865

“Allen of Wednesbury, hearing that Leason of Walsall is anxious for a match, Allen will walk him seven miles level, for £10 a side. Mr. Clulee of Aston Cross Grounds, stakeholder and referee. Money ready at Mr. *Bassett's*, ROYAL OAK, the Pleck, near Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1865

“Annual Licensing Meeting applications for new licenses.....

Harriet Bassett, of the ROYAL OAK, Pleck, supported by Mr. Lewis, and opposed by Miss Graves of the HOPE AND ANCHOR, and a private house adjoining the applicant's.....

Refused the reason assigned being that there were enough public houses in the localities.”

Birmingham Gazette 3/11/1865 - Advert

“To Brewers. Wanted, a Man, who thoroughly understands his business, to take charge of a small Brewery, and to make himself generally useful. None but steady men need apply.

Apply, ROYAL OAK, Brewery, The Pleck, near Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. Mathews applied, on behalf of Mrs. *Harriett Bassett*, of the ROYAL OAK, Pleck Road.

Mr. Oerton said the magistrates having personally inspected the premises of the applicant, and being satisfied as to the suitability-

ity of the house, which was one of the cleanest and best arranged in the district, it would only be necessary for Mr. Mathews to address himself to the requirements of the district.

Mr. Mathews accordingly pointed out upon a plan the increase which had taken place in the locality, and the superiority of his client's house over any in the neighbourhood.

Mr. Barnett, for Mr. Edge, landlord of the HOPE AND ANCHOR, stated that there were only 200 houses at The Pleck, and there were five licensed houses for every 40 dwelling houses. The owner of one of those houses, finding four houses sufficient, had not taken out his license.

Mr. Mathews said that as the owner of the ROYAL OAK was the owner of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, he was willing to agree to his licence being transferred from the later house to the former.

Mrs. Simkiss, the tenant of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, was called; but as she declined to give up her license, both her application and that of Mrs. *Bassett* were adjourned till the 13th proximo."

Birmingham Daily Post 25/9/1866 - Advert

"By E. B. Scholefield, at the ROYAL OAK INN, Pleck, near Walsall, this day (Tuesday), at Eleven o'clock.

Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Ale Machine, Bagatelle Board, and Effects, removed to the above-named Inn for convenience of Sale."

[Might this be the end of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS?]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/3/1867 - Advert

"A Quantity of Brewing Utensils to be Sold.

Apply at the ROYAL OAK Brewery, Pleck, near Walsall."

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1867

"On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Borough Coroner, held an inquiry at the ROYAL OAK INN, the Pleck, touching the death of Jas. Betts, aged four weeks, the son of parents living in the immediate neighbourhood. According to the evidence, the child had been in delicate health from birth, and its mother had been in the habit of giving it soothing syrup, which a neighbour had got for her from the shop of Mr. Griffin, confectioner, Rushall Street. On Saturday morning, the child being restless, she gave it a few drops of syrup, and shortly afterwards it became worse and died. The Coroner condemned the sale and use of the syrup strongly, and the Jury found that death had been caused 'by the imprudent use of Griffin's cordial, but without felonious or malicious intent, and ignorant of its dangerous qualities.' The officer in attendance (Sergeant Wood) was desired to caution Mr. Griffin relative to the sale of the cordial. It is fair to state that Mr. Griffin denies that the cordial which the child was given was obtained at his shop."

* probably the same person

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869 - Advert

"To Be Let, the UNION INN, James Street, Ryecroft.

Apply, Mrs. Cooper, or to Mr. *Newell*, ROYAL OAK Brewery, The Pleck."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/5/1870

"Nowell of Wednesbury will give Wright of the Pleck three yards start in 100 or 120 yards start, for £5 a side. Money ready at the ROYAL OAK INN, Pleck, near Walsall, any night next week."

1871 Census

Oxford Street

[1] *John H. Newell* (49), publican, born Ocker Hill;

[2] Catherine Newell (53), wife, born Drayton, Staffordshire;

[3] Jane Davison (20), niece, barmaid, born Sutton Coldfield;

[4] Joseph Farnell (39), boarder, labourer, born Birmingham:

Thomas Chidlow was also a coal dealer. [1873]

London Gazette 31/10/1873

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John Holland Newell*, of the ROYAL OAK Brewery, the Pleck, near Walsall, and of Aldridge, near Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Brewer and Farmer.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. James Slater, Solicitor, Butcroft, Darlaston, on the 14th day of November, 1873, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 29th day of October, 1873.

W. H. Edwards, Darlaston, Attorney for the said *John Holland Newell*."

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

“Defensio, Non Provocatio. Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the Merchandize Marks Act, 1862, and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association. Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association.

Agents For Staffordshire.....

Walsall: S. Tonks, ROYAL OAK INN, 28, Ablewell Street; F. Weston, BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street; G. Holden, ODD FELLOWS ARMS, 1, Stafford Street; G. Smith, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street; J. Whittall, THREE CUPS INN, Park Street; J. H. Newell, ROYAL OAK Brewery, Pleck.”

1881 Census

Oxford Street

- [1] *Benjamin Wikeley* (49), brewer, born Resemastro (?), Yorkshire;
- [2] Sarah Jane Wikeley (39), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Evelyn M. Wikeley (11), daughter, scholar, born Netherton;
- [4] Martha G. Wikeley (9), daughter, scholar, born Bromsgrove;
- [5] John B. Wikeley (6), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [6] Gertrude Wikeley (5), daughter, scholar, born Pleck;
- [7] William Wikeley (2), son, born Walsall;
- [8] Fanny Godridge (14), servant, born Chase Town:

Evening Express 19/10/1881

“*James Baggott*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, Pleck, was summoned for having four pint jugs in his possession, each a half-gill short of the imperial measure.

Defendant said he bought the jugs from an earthenware dealer in Stafford Street, who assured him they were correct.

He was ordered to pay a fine of 2s 6d and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/11/1886 - Advert

“ROYAL OAK, Oxford Street, Pleck, near Walsall.

Full-licensed, Long lease. In-coming £100.

Alford, 72, Parade.”

1891 Census

18, Oxford Street

- [1] *William Webster* (40), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Eliza Webster (44), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary Ann Webster (16), daughter, born Walsall:

William Webster was fined 10s and costs, on 17th January 1894, for running an illegal lottery.

Walsall Advertiser 23/2/1895

“During the last few weeks Mr. Samuel Middlebrook of the ROSE AND THISTLE, Pleck, has had made at Mr. Nock’s several hundred loaves of bread, which he has given to the poor and those thrown out of employment by the severe frost. Mr. Middlebrook’s example has been followed by others.

Mr. and Mrs. *Webster*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Oxford Street, Pleck, in conjunction with a friend, on Tuesday last, distributed 120 loaves of bread, and 120 quarts of soup. This makes their fifth distribution since the inclement weather set in.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1897

“An extension was granted to Mr. *Webster*, of the ROYAL OAK, Oxford Street, Pleck, on Good Friday, on the occasion of a railway servants’ dinner.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

“The annual licensing meeting for the county borough of Walsall was held in the Guildhall on Wednesday forenoon.....

The Chief Constable gave notice of objection to the following licenses.....

The LORD RAGLAN, Mill Street, Ryecroft, and the ROYAL OAK, the Pleck, on the ground that they were in such a condition as not to be under proper police supervision and were not needed by the neighbourhood.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1898

“In the case of the ROYAL OAK, Pleck, objection was taken to the renewal on the ground that a direct road had been made from Prince Street. Mr. Jackson appeared for the applicant. The license was renewed on the undertaking to build up the back of the premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Albert E. Ashton, ROYAL OAK, served 76 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

1901 Census

18, Oxford Street

[1] *Albert E. Ashton* (33), public house manager, born Blackley, Lancashire;

[2] *Mary Ashton* (32), wife, born Openshaw, Lancashire;

[3] *Alice Ashton* (4), daughter, born Brindle, Lancashire;

[4] *Richard Ashton* (2), son, born Walsall;

[5] *Edith V. Ashton* (3 months), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] *Mary Gibbons* (59), mother in law, widow, retired weaver, born Stockport;

[7] *Alice Gibbons* (26), sister in law, barmaid, born Oldham;

[8] *Annie M. Marston* (18), general servant, born Walsall;

[9] *Bertha Blower* (14), children’s nurse, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Henry Albert Booth, ROYAL OAK.”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“In 1904 a licensing notice of refusal to renew the license was issued to this alehouse about ‘certain structural and other matters’, the manager then being *Henry Booth*, a similar notice was issued to the new licensee, *William Owen* in 1905. The owners in 1904 were the Manchester Brewing Company, the contentious matter was not only structural but concerned a barber’s shop owned by, and part of, the licensed premises and opening into the public house yard.....”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The following is the list of houses in respect of which the licensing justices have called the holders of the licenses to show cause why the licenses should be renewed.....

ROYAL OAK INN, Pleck.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/12/1909

“Several applications were made for the transfer of licenses.....

An application was made for the transfer of the license of the ROYAL OAK, Oxford Street, Pleck, from *Walter Frost* to *Elizabeth Cash*. Mr. Loxton pointed out to the Bench that originally there were certain clauses in the agreement, one of which was that the license should be forfeited if the licensee was ever summoned for an offence, but he had seen Messrs. Allsop’s representative, and he had undertaken to alter them.

The Chairman: Can you explain why you have had four transfers since 1900? – Messrs. Allsop’s representative explained that the house had only recently been taken over by them, and they had nothing to do with the other transfers. The last tenant had to leave the house through ill-health, acting under medical advice. The application was granted.”

1911 Census

18, Oxford Street – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Joseph Loynes* (36), licensed victualler, born Church Hill, Wednesbury;

[2] *Kate Loynes* (37), wife, married 17 years, born Hayfield, Derbyshire;

[3] *Anthony Loynes* (16), son, currier, born New Mills, Derbyshire;

- [4] William Loynes (14), son, laundry boy, born Oxford Street, Pleck;
[5] Albert Loynes (12), son, born Oxford Street, Pleck;
[6] Elizabeth Hobbins (20), servant, born Walhouse Street, Walsall:

Walsall Observer 14/3/1914

“At the ROYAL OAK, Oxford Street, Pleck, on Thursday night, a whist drive in aid of the Pleck Fresh-air Fund (by which means it is proposed to take a thousand children to Hednesford Hills) was largely attended. The following were the prize winners: Ladies: 1st, Mrs Penn (given by Mrs. Powles); 2nd, Miss Gibbs. Gent’s: 1st, Mr. Penn (given by Mr. Murdock); 2nd, Mr. Knopson (given by Mr. Dutton). Ladies mystic: Miss Haddock (given by Mr. Moss). Ladies prize first half, Miss Haddock (given by Mr. Poulton). . . .”

Joseph Loynes – see also WHITE HART, Caldmore.

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917. . . . ROYAL OAK, Pleck. £1 0s 2½d.”

William Mooney was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in April 1924.

1939 Register

18, Oxford Street

- [1] *Bertram A. Stone*, date of birth 12/1/1886, manager public house, married;
[2] *Violet M. Stone*, dob 27/4/1890, unpaid domestic duties, married;
[3] *William Walker*, dob 9/3/1914, clerk, married;
[4] *Gladys M. Walker*, dob 30/8/1917, assistant in leather warehouse, married:

Walsall Observer 27/7/1940

“A former captain of the Walsall Football Club, *John William Bradford*, had the license of the ROYAL OAK, Bradford Street (?), transferred to him from *Bertram Albert Stone*, at Walsall Guildhall, on Wednesday.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions. . . .

ROYAL OAK, Oxford Street, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions. . . . ROYAL OAK, Oxford Street, Pleck. £6 1s 4d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions. . . .

ROYAL OAK, Oxford Street. £3 10s 5d.”

Walsall Observer 2/9/1944

“Wounded soldiers at Manor Hospital were entertained by Vic Cooper and his party. The artists were: S. Cooper (violin), Jack Lord (comedian), the Great Lorenzo (illusionist), Sid and Cyril Powell (accordionists), Earle Burns (bass), Reg. Humphries (xylophone) and Vic Cooper and his Quintet. Each soldier was given a packet of cigarettes provided by the customers of the ROYAL OAK, Pleck, and employees of Walsall Locks and Cart Gear.”

Walsall Observer 23/12/1944

“At the annual share-out of the death and dividend society connected with the ROYAL OAK, Oxford Street, Pleck, each member who had fully paid up received 19s.”

Birmingham Mail 27/3/1945

“Xylophone for Sale Carlton 3 octaves.

ROYAL OAK, Oxford Street, Pleck, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 7/7/1945

“The Pleck and District Darts league is headed by the FORGE INN ‘A’ who have won all their seven matches. The next three positions are filled by the NEWPORT ARMS, HOPE AND ANCHOR ‘A’ and ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, with 12 points each, then

come the DUKE OF WELLINGTON and ROYAL OAK, Pleck. Highest score and highest finish, 146, J. Bullock, HOPE AND ANCHOR 'B'; highest start, 140, S. Hogan, WINDMILL TAVERN."

[2016]

ROYAL OAK

Pepper Alley, (Bullings Heath), Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Wright [1861] – [1891]
Noah Cresswell [1896] – **1905**;
William Ashen Norris (**1905** – []
Henry Turner [] – **1912**);
Thomas Parkes (**1912** – **1913**);
D Thomas (**1913** – []
John Edward Vincet [1927]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

Joseph Wright, beer retailer and shoe maker, Walsall Wood. [1861]

1861 Census

Walsall Wood

- [1] *Joseph Wright* (49), shoemaker and publican, born Great Haywood, Staffordshire;
- [2] Mary Wright (20), wife, born Blakenall:
- [3] William Wright (9), son, born Blakenall:
- [4] Mary A. Wright (6), daughter, born Blakenall:
- [5] Elizabeth Wright (2), daughter, born Goscote;
- [6] Emma Wright (4 months), daughter, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Free Press 27/5/1865

"Rushall Petty Sessions..... *Joseph Wright*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK beer-house, Walsall Wood, was charged with having his house open on Sunday, the 14th inst, for the sale of beer during prohibited hours. Police-constables Hill and Rumney, who visited the premises, and found seven men drinking in the defendant's garden, proved the charge; after which, the Bench sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 20s and costs."

Joseph Wright was also a boot and shoe maker. [1868]

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

"On Tuesday a special sessions was held in the Court House, Rushall.....

Joseph Wright, ROYAL OAK, Walsall Wood, open during prohibited hours on Sunday, 14th May, 1865, fined 20s and costs..... where the parties had been convicted the applications were adjourned."

Birmingham Gazette 23/9/1869

"On Tuesday the adjourned licensing meeting was held.....

The following parties had their licenses renewed, after being duly cautioned.....

Joseph Wright, beerhouse keeper, Walsall Wood."

1871 Census

Pepper Alley – Public House – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Joseph Wright* (58), shoemaker and licensed victualler, born Great Haywood, Staffordshire;
- [2] Mary Wright (50), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] William Wright (19), son, shoemaker, born Bloxwich;

- [4] Mary Ann Wright (16), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Emma Wright (10), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Frederick Elsmole (45), shoemaker, born Great Haywood, Staffordshire;
- [7] Henry Howes (18), shoemaker's apprentice, born Longdon, Staffordshire;
- [8] Samuel Watson (14), shoemaker's apprentice, born Rushall;
- [9] John Hand (46), boarder, labourer in garden, born Stonnall, Staffordshire;
- [10] John Meeson (48), boarder, tailor, born Burntwood:

1881 Census

Bullings Heath – Beerhouse

- [1] *Joseph Wright* (68), shoemaker and beerhouse keeper, born Great Haywood, Staffordshire;
- [2] Mary Wright (60), wife, born Blakenall;
- [3] William Wright (29), son, shoemaker, born Goscote;
- [4] Emma Wright (20), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] John Critch (73), boarder, retired blacksmith, born Shipley, Derbyshire;
- [6] James Hodgetts (23), boarder, shoemaker, born Wednesfield;
- [7] Jonah Smith (19), shoemaker's apprentice, born Bloxwich;
- [8] John Holloway (17), shoemaker's apprentice, born Long, Staffordshire;
- [9] Joseph Haines (62), workman, labourer, born Stonnall, Staffordshire;
- [10] George Lines (50), boarder, labourer, born Northampton:

1891 Census

Walsall Wood – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Joseph Wright* (78), widower, licensed victualler, born Great Haywood;
- [2] Noah Cresswell (35), son in law, bricklayer, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] Emma Cresswell (30), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] Ernest Cresswell (3), grandson, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] Ellen Swain (5), visitor, born Dosthill, Warwickshire;
- [6] Ellen Clowes (17), domestic servant, born Walsall Wood:

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/9/1891

“Robert Handley, Joseph Spink, and James Anson, all of Ryecroft, Walsall, were charged with breaking into the ROYAL OAK beerhouse, Walsall Wood, on the night of the 3rd inst, and stealing a pair of boots, a mallet, and other things, and also breaking into the Anchor Inn, Brownhills, and stealing cigars, wine, and money. They were remanded.”

Lichfield Mercury 8/2/1897

“Air-Gun shooting. A Friendly match was shot at the Chase Inn, Watling Street, on Tuesday, between the ROYAL OAK, Walsall Wood, and the Chase Inn. Special interest was taken in the match, the home team showed their superiority by 13 points.....”

Lichfield Mercury 15/2/1897

“Air-Gun shooting. Chase Inn, Brownhills v. ROYAL OAK, Walsall Wood. The return match between the two above took place at the last mentioned inn on Tuesday evening. The range on this occasion was seven yards. Wallace Shingler, of the Chase Inn team, who shoots excellently well, was again the highest scorer (with J. Bradford) for the visitors. It is not often lady shooters compete, but on this occasion Mrs. Norris and Miss B. Bryan kindly filled vacancies in the ROYAL OAK team and made very creditable scores.....”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, and attention having been called to that matter they had gone round the district where similar objections could be made, and had given notice to the houses of the district asking that some alteration should be made so as to comply alike with the necessities of the public and also the sanitary conditions of the district. There were several houses named.....
ROYAL OAK, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1905

“A temporary authority was granted to *William Ashen Norris* from *Noah Cresswell* in respect of the ROYAL OAK INN, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/7/1912

“Mr. *Henry Turner*, licensee of the ROYAL OAK, Bullen's Heath, Walsall Wood, applied to the Rushall magistrates on Monday

for a temporary transfer to Mr. *Thomas Parkes*. This was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/5/1913

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday Mr. *Thomas Parkes* applied for the transfer of the license of the ROYAL OAK, Walsall Wood, to Mr. *D. Thomas*. There was no objection and the application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/11/1913

“To celebrate the success of the Aldridge Colliery Rescue Brigade in the recent Hednesford examination, the members of the Walsall Wood class, at whose headquarters the former had been trained, held a supper, at the ROYAL OAK, Walsall Wood, on Saturday evening. There was a good company present.....”

Walsall Advertiser 7/2/1914

“Caledonian Corks..... A new lodge had also been opened at the ROYAL OAK, Walsall Wood, and they have enrolled 35 members, which is very satisfactory. During the year they have been favoured with a visit of the chief officers of the Order, also a visit of the officers and members of the Wolverhampton, Bilston and Wednesbury district. They were heartily welcomed by the Walsall members, and two very enjoyable evenings were spent together.”

Lichfield Mercury 18/2/1921

“At the annual Licensing Sessions for the Rushall Division on Monday.....

The whole of the licenses would be renewed with the exception of a number of houses which would be visited, and where alterations were needed, chiefly for living accommodation and better sanitary conditions. The houses to be visited were..... ROYAL OAK, Walsall Wood.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

“At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....

Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses..... On the ground of redundancy..... ROYAL OAK, Bullings Heath.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/5/1927

“Notice Of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.

Notice is hereby given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday, the 19th day of July, 1927, at 11 o'clock am.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

ROYAL OAK, Bullings Heath, Walsall Wood. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee *John Edward Vincet*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/7/1927

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

Mr. Jackson opposed the closing of the ROYAL OAK, Bullings Heath, Walsall Wood.

Inspector Clarke stated that there was a fully-licensed house within 43 yards of the ROYAL OAK.

Mr. Jackson contended that if this house was closed, it would mean that people living in that neighbourhood would have to send 776 yards to the nearest beerhouse. He admitted that there was a fully-licensed house within 43 yards.

The Court refused to renew the licence.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/1/1928

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

ROYAL OAK, Walsall Wood, beerhouse, ante-1869. £1,380 5s.

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

RYECROFT TAVERN

16, Mill Street / Rycroft Hill, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Roberts

LICENSEES

Frederick Denham [1841] – [1842]
Thomas Stokes [1845]
Richard Smith [1847]
William Miner [1849] – 1862);
Letitia Miner (1862 – [1865]
Thomas Miner [1870] – [1873]
John Roberts [1872] – [1881]

NOTES

Thomas Stokes was also a bricklayer and builder. [1845]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/3/1847 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by S. Bloore, Jun, on Wednesday, the 17th day of March instant, at the NEW INN, Walsall, at four o’clock in the afternoon, by direction of the mortgagees, and subject to conditions of sale then to be produced.....

Lot II. All those two modern Dwelling-Houses, with ornamental cemented fronts, adjoining Lot I and fronting to Mill Street aforesaid, in the occupation of *Richard Smith* and William Smith. One of the houses is known as the RYECROFT TAVERN, with brewhouse and suitable outoffices to each, pump, yard, and premises behind the same, producing at low rents £26 1s per annum.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/11/1848 - Notice

“In The County Court of Staffordshire Holden at Walsall, 1848.

In the matter of the Petition of *Richard Smith*, at present and for ten months residing at Bloxwich Lane, in the Foreign of Walsall, and county of Stafford, Retail Brewer and Butty Collier; for thirteen months previously thereto residing at Ryecroft, in the said Foreign, and being a Licensed Victualler and Butty Collier; and for two years and upwards previously thereto residing at Church Hill, Wednesbury, in the said county of Stafford, and being a Victualler and Butty Collier.

Notice is hereby given, that Mr. Sergeant Clarke, the Judge of the County Court of Staffordshire holden at Walsall, acting in the matter of the said Petition, will proceed to make a final order thereon, at the said Court, on Wednesday, the twenty-seventh day of December instant, at one o’clock in the afternoon, at the Court House, at Walsall aforesaid, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.

George Edmonds, Solicitor, Birmingham.”

William Miner = William Myner

1851 Census

Mill Street, Rushall

- [1] *William Miner* (41), iron stone miner, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [2] *Lettice Miner* (44), wife, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [3] Thomas Miner (20), son, iron stone miner, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [4] George Miner (18), son, iron stone miner, born Bilston;
- [5] William Miner (16), son, iron stone miner, born Bilston;
- [6] Enoch Miner (14), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [7] Ann Miner (12), daughter, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [8] Jane Miner (10), daughter, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [9] Lettice Miner (7), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;
- [10] Emma Miner (5), daughter, scholar, born Rushall;
- [11] Hannah Plummer (19), house servant, born Dawley, Shropshire:

Birmingham Journal 4/8/1855

“On Saturday last, a man named Joseph Haines lost his life in an ironstone pit, belonging to Mr. Hailland, at Bloxwich. Some stone was required to be blown down, and for this purpose deceased and another man placed some powder in it, to which they applied a light; deceased then went to the bottom of the shaft, and endeavoured to hook the bowk to the chain, and at the same time gave the signal to be drawn up. The engine started, but deceased, finding he had not hooked the bowk on, jumped and laid hold of the hook with his hands, and was drawn part of the way up the pit, when he loosed his hold, and fell down, sustaining such injuries as caused his death on the following Monday. Deceased’s fellow-workman then extinguished the light which had been applied to the powder, and thus prevented the danger of its firing whilst he was in the pit. The powder which was intended to fire was only a short distance from the bottom of the shaft, and the fear of its going off whilst he was down no doubt caused deceased to endeavour to ascend in the perilous way mentioned. The above facts were detailed in evidence at an inquest held on Tuesday last at the RYECROFT TAVERN, in the parish of Rushall, before G. H. Hinchliffe, Esq, Coroner, and a verdict of Accidental Death was recorded.”

1861 Census

16, Mill Street

[1] *William Miner* (51), victualler, born Dawley Bank, Shropshire;

[2] *Letitia Miner* (54), wife, born Dawley Bank, Shropshire;

[3] Enoch Miner (24), son, bridle cutter, born Oldbury;

[4] Ann Miner (22), daughter, born Oldbury;

[5] Jane Miner (20), daughter, born Oldbury;

[6] Letitia Miner (17), daughter, born Walsall;

[7] Emma Miner (15), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] Elizabeth Miner (6), granddaughter, born Rushall:

Walsall Free Press 1/6/1861

“Several summonses were heard before the justices this day, for infringement of weights and measures regulation of the district ‘C’ of South Staffordshire. All the summonses were preferred in the name of William Tullett, inspector of weights and measures for the district.....

William Minor, RYECROFT TAVERN, one measure. Fined 1s and costs. In each of the above cases the costs amounted to 12s.”

Walsall Free Press 10/5/1862

“At the Rushall petty sessions, on Tuesday last, the following transfers took place.....

RYECROFT TAVERN, from *William Miner*, deceased, to *Letitia Miner*, his widow.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1866

“Yesterday afternoon, Mr. E. Hooper, District Coroner, held an inquest at the RYECROFT TAVERN, Ryecroft, on the body of Richard Rowley, aged forty-six, an engineer, living in the neighbourhood. The evidence went to show that the deceased had been in a bad state of health for some years, but that notwithstanding this, he was out last Saturday night, with several persons, who drank freely, and towards midnight caused a disturbance by disputing over a foot race which some of them had been running. The next morning he went out about ten o’clock without partaking of breakfast, and proceeded with a man named Abraham Dummy, to the Birchills, and afterwards to the SEVEN STARS INN, Stafford Street, partaking of ale more than once in the course of the morning. At a quarter past three o’clock he returned home, and had barely entered the house when he was seized with a violent fit of coughing, which was followed by vomiting of blood; then falling into his son’s arms, he almost instantly expired. Verdict, Died by Visitation of God.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 31/8/1870

“Rushall Annual Licensing Day The Inspector presented the Bench a list of licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers who had been fined for breach of license in the course of the past three years.....

Thomas Miner, RYECROFT TAVERN, Ryecroft.”

1871 Census

16, Mill Street

[1] *Thomas Miner* (46), victualler and charter master, born Dawley, Shropshire;

[2] Ann Miner (40), wife, born Dudley;

[3] Mariann Miner (15), daughter, born Rushall;

[4] Annie Miner (12), daughter, born Rushall;

[5] Letitia Miner (age unclear), daughter, born Rushall;

[6] Major Thomas Miner (5), son, born Rushall;

[7] Alice Jane Miner (12), daughter, born Rushall;

[8] Letitia Bate (18), general servant, born Rowley:

SADDLERS ARMS

Fishley Lane, Lower Farm, Little Bloxwich, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Thomas Smith (1962 – [1966])

NOTES

It opened on 15th November 1962.

Birmingham Weekly Mercury 11/4/1999 - Advert

“Elaine did it, so can You!

Elaine found it hard to slim on her own so she finally went along to one of our slimming classes for help. Elaine found the friendly atmosphere and individual attention was just what she needed to concentrate on losing weight.

Lose Your Weight with Super Slim. We give you a choice of 3 successful diets on which you will Never be hungry, individual attention, recommended only normal family foods and No Calorie Counting.....

SADDLERS ARMS Lounge, Fishley Lane, Little Bloxwich, Tue 7.00pm.”

Express & Star 27/7/2023

“A pair of new homes could be built on a Bloxwich pub car park to help preserve the boozers’ future. Applicant Andrew Carter has put forward plans to create a pair of three-bedroom semi-detached houses on a ‘redundant’ part of the SADDLERS ARMS car park on Fishley Lane. A previous plan was refused by Walsall Council and a subsequent appeal by the developer was rejected by the planning inspectorate in 2001. It was previously refused for reasons including officers believing it represented a cramped, over-development of the site and the small size of the proposed gardens. But Mr. Carter said amendments have been made to address concerns and believes the housing will fit in with the area and enable the retention of the pub, which has stood there for 70 years. If planning officers do grant permission, it would leave the pub with 10 off-street car parking spaces.....

Walsall Council planning officers are expected to make a decision on the plan in September.”

[2023]

SADDLERS ARMS

27, (30), Station Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Andrew Holmes, painter, Stafford Street, Walsall

Mrs. F. Eglinton

Trent Valley Brewery Co. [1883]

James Eadie Ltd, Burton on Trent [1910]

LICENSEES

Henry Stone [1871] – [1872];

John Boonham [];

Mrs. Maria Boonham [];

George Brindley [1880] – [1881];

Job Smith [];

William Henry Hadley [1883];

Mrs. Emily Hadley [];

Thomas Poole [];

Charles F Brown [1891] ?

Charles Hill [1896] – **1903**);

George Ernest James (**1903 – 1905**);

Alfred Chappell (**1905 – 1912**);

NOTES

27, Station Street [1871], [1881], [1901]

30, Station Street [1891]

SADDLERS HOME [1850], [1872], [1881], [1883],[1891], [1897], [1903], [1904], [1910]

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

27, Station Street – The SADLERS HOME INN

- [1] *Henry Stone* (25), brown saddler, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Ann Stone (25), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Ellen Stone (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Elizabeth Stone (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Julia Somerfield (16), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/12/1871

“Walsall Petty Sessions. *Henry Stone*, beerhouse keeper, pleaded guilty to having had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours on Sunday morning last, and was fined £1 and costs.”

Henry Stone, beer retailer, 27, Station Street. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/9/1872

“George Parkes, brass dresser, previously convicted, was sentenced to four months’ imprisonment with hard labour for having stolen 7s 9½d, the property of *Henry Stone*, of the SADDLERS HOME beer-house, Station Street. The prisoner was drinking at the prosecutor’s house on Tuesday evening, and during the absence of the servant girl from the room he emptied a box used as a till, and went away, giving part of the proceeds of the robbery to a companion to say nothing about it. The companion, a young man named Rawson, went to the police station and reported the matter.”

1881 Census

27, Station Road – SADDLERS HOME

- [1] *George Brindley* (26), publican, born Burntwood;
- [2] Mary Brindley (23), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] Mary E. Brindley (2), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] George H. Brindley (2 months), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Phoebe Connelly (60), wife’s mother, born Walsall;
- [6] John Connelly (21), wife’s brother, born Coseley;
- [7] Edward Tarry (48), boarder;
- [8] John Holroyd (45), boarder, stone mason, born Cleobury:

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/9/1883

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions. The clerk announced that all the cases adjourned from the licensing sessions would be still further adjourned for a fortnight; and in answer to Mr. Loxton he said the name of Mr. Smith, SADLERS HOME, Station Street, did not appear in the list. Mr. Loxton then applied for a transfer of the license of the house to Mr. *W. H. Handley*, of the Pleck, and said that in compliance with the notice of the magistrates Mr. Smith had sent a man named Stone, to whom the Bench objected, away from the house. Mr. Holden said the magistrates were very dissatisfied with the manner in which some of the brewery companies conducted their houses, particularly allowing the keepers of the house to come and go without any change on name taking place; and, speaking personally, if the matter ever came before him in another way he should certainly mark his sense of the irregularity. Mr. Loxton said the Trent Valley Brewery Company would not do anything to bring themselves under the censure of the Bench. Mr. Loxton’s application and the adjourned cases were then adjourned.”

William Henry Hadley was married to *Emily*.

Walsall Advertiser 22/8/1885 - Advert

“Beerhouse To Let, at once, the SADDLERS HOME, Station Street, Walsall. Apply to the Landlord.”

1891 Census

30, Station Street – SADLERS HOME

- [1] *Charles F. Brown* (37), publican, born Market Deeping, Lincolnshire;
- [2] Annie Brown (22), wife, born Wombourne;
- [3] Edie A. Brown (9 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Marie E. Holland (22), visitor, lady companion, born Croydon;
- [5] Louise B. Monk (23), barmaid, born Berkhamstead;
- [6] Mary Anne Bates (19), cook, born Blakenhall, Staffordshire;
- [7] Hannah Rice (17), servant, born Oldbury;
- [8] Arthur Griffiths (19), waiter, born Wolverhampton:

Charles Hill, beer retailer, 27, Station Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 30/1/1897

“Yesterday, at the Guildhall, Thomas Wood, aged 25 years, printer, back of 21, Fox Street, Birmingham, was placed in the dock on remand, charged with having in company broken and entered the lock-up shop of Messrs. Sheppard Bros., jewellers and silversmiths, Park Street, Walsall, and stolen therefrom a number of watches, alberts, and a quantity of jewellery, value £260. Mr. Muntlow, Birmingham, defended.

The Chief Constable (Mr. Taylor) said he was reluctantly compelled to ask for a further remand, as he was unable as yet to effect the arrest of three other men wanted. There was an officer now trying to arrest them.

Mr. Muntlow strongly objected to the remand, and the Bench decided to hear the evidence.

Sidney Fisher deposed that on the night of the 18th inst. he locked up the shop in Park street shortly after eight o'clock. Next morning he found that the lock had been removed and a brass padlock (produced) substituted, while watches and jewellery had been stolen, the loss to him being £260.

Charles *Hill*, son of the proprietor of the SADDLERS HOME, in Station Street, said that four men lodged on the night of the 18th inst. One of these he recognised as the prisoner. The following day witness was shown a number of photographs at the detective office in Birmingham, and identified that of the prisoner and two of the others who had stayed at the SADDLERS HOME.

In cross-examination, witness said he could tell the prisoner by his features. He did not say that the only thing he could identify him by was the ring he wore.

Re-examined, witness said he was shown a large book full of photographs at Birmingham, and immediately picked out the three.

Detective-sergeant Wheeler (Birmingham), said the public-house they went to was the Ship in Fox Street. The people were just coming out and witness asked *Hill* if he knew any of them. *Hill* replied ‘Yes, that’s one of them’ pointing out the prisoner. He also identified another man known to witness. They followed prisoner to his house. When they told him that Harper was an officer from Walsall to take him back he became very excited and somewhat violent.

Cross-examined: The prisoner must have known him (laughter) and had time to bolt before they went to his house if he had thought to do so,

Mr. *Hill*, senior, identified two of the photographs produced as those of the men who stayed at his house. At six o'clock next morning he let them out. They went up Station Street and turned down Park Street. He should have gone to see if they went by train had anyone else been up, as he knew there was no train at that time.

Mr. Taylor said he could trace some of the property to the prisoner’s companions, if the magistrates wanted more evidence.

Mr. Muntlow said he was not going to take up the time of the court if the Bench thought that there was sufficient evidence to grant a remand, but in fairness to the prisoner he must say that there did not appear to be sufficient evidence to justify the Bench remanding him. Even supposing the Bench thought that prisoner was one of the four men, what evidence was there to show that one of those men was connected with the robbery? But should he be able to prove an alibi on behalf of the prisoner not only as to the Monday, but the Tuesday night when he was arrested. Practically the whole case rested on the evidence of one man, and did the Bench think that a jury would convict simply on his uncorroborated statement? Furthermore if the prisoner had been guilty, when he had the opportunity of escaping, and knowing the police were on his track, he would have got away.

The Chief Constable said he quite appreciated what Mr. Muntlow said, but he was prepared to prove that some of the property was seen in the possession of some of the prisoner’s companions.

The Bench remanded prisoner for a week.”

[At the Walsall Quarter Sessions, in June 1897, Wood was sentenced to 18 months’ hard labour, he having served three months awaiting trial, and having 15 months ticket-of-leave to serve at penal servitude for a previous conviction, making three years in all, and his companions: Charles Edward Robey, two years and six months’ hard labour; Walter Pugh, six months’ hard labour.]

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1898

“On Monday afternoon Mr. T. Howard Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the Walsall and District Hospital, touching the death of James Gibbs, aged 67 years, who died in that institution from injuries received by falling down some cellar steps while staying at the SADDLERS HOME INN, Station Street. It appears that deceased, who hails from Cross Street, Stafford, and a sheriff’s officer, had been in the habit of staying at the SADDLERS HOME occasionally, and on Monday, May 30th, he again called and asked if he could have a bed. He was directed by Elizabeth *Hill*, the landlady, to go up the entry and in at the back door to get to his bedroom, when he apparently fell down the cellar steps, and was found lying there by the landlady’s sister, Mrs. Pearce, who heard him fall. Deceased was not drunk at the time he fell, but he had never been directed that way to bed before. He was sent that way round because the house was full. He knew the runs of the house well, and had stayed there three nights in the previous week. Deceased was removed to hospital in a cab, where he was found to be suffering from a scalp wound and concussion of the brain. He had several epileptic fits on the next day, and died on Friday evening.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and recommended that the cellar door should be properly secured, and labelled ‘cellar door,’ to avoid further accidents.”

1901 Census

27, Station Street

[1] *Charles Hill* (49), harness maker and publican, born Liverpool;

[2] *Eliza Hill* (46), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Charles Hill* (26), son, harness maker, born Walsall;

[4] *David Hill* (22), son, leather japanner, born Walsall;

[5] *Isaiah Hill* (20), son, harness maker, born Walsall;

[6] *Jane Hill* (20), daughter, born Walsall;

[7] *Leonard Hill* (15), son, harness maker, born Walsall;

- [8] Harold Hill (12), son, born Walsall;
- [9] Emily Hill (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [10] Jane Hyde (79), mother in law, widow, born Birmingham;
- [11] John Doyle (67), visitor, plasterer, born Liverpool;
- [12] Eyre C. Saddler (43), visitor, steam pipe fitter, born St. Helens;
- [13] William Hipwood (46), visitor, currier, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 18/1/1902

“Joseph Haynes, living at the SADDLERS HOME, Station Street, was summoned for frequenting Park Street for the purpose of bookmaking or betting between the 30th December and January 2nd, and Thomas Worley, of Stafford Street, was summoned for aiding and abetting on January 2nd. Mr. J. Armstrong defended.

Police-constable Lloyd said that on January 2nd he saw Hughes frequenting Park Street and receive eight slips of paper and money from different men. He saw him receive two slips of paper from Worley and also saw money pass. Witness asked Haynes to show him the papers; Haynes refused but offered to show them at the police station. On the way to the station Haynes several times dropped the papers in the mud. The papers contained the names of horses running at Manchester that day. Witness stated that he had previously cautioned Haynes about his conduct the same day, and on three prior days he had seen him frequenting Park Street.

In answer to Mr. Armstrong, witness said that he saw money pass between Worley and Haynes, although he was fifty yards away at the time.

The defence was that Haynes was given the two slips of paper to take to another man, and being anxious to know what the horse's names were on the paper and not being able to read himself, he asked Worley to read them, and he handed the papers back to Haynes. It was contended that was all that took place, and that the officer had drawn a good deal on his imagination.

The Bench held a different view, and imposed a penalty of 20s and costs upon each of the defendants.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1903

“Lucy Bradbury (25), John Street, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on Wednesday.

Police-constable Jones gave evidence.

The Chief Constable said that prisoner was on the Black List, and that publicans had been warned not to supply her, and had been provided with a photograph of her. From what she stated it seemed clear although she herself had not been supplied, a man she was with obtained drink for her. He suggested that the Bench should censure the license holder concerned. Before she was put on the Black List prisoner was constantly being brought before the Court, but since then she had been going well till now.

Charles Hill, landlord of the SADDLERS HOME, beerhouse, Station Street, was called before the magistrates, and the clerk (Mr. Loxton) said it was alleged that the drink which the woman had had was obtained at his house. The suggestion was that there must have been carelessness on his part for this to have taken place. *Hill*, in reply, said the woman had not been supplied, and no one took her any drink to his knowledge. He could not understand how she had obtained the drink.

Mr. Loxton: If a person on the Black List was found in your yard drunk, I would think you would have rather a difficult case to defend.

Hill replied that the public-house yard was a thoroughfare, and had been a complete nuisance to him for some time.

Mr. Bayliss said the magistrates trusted that this case would be a warning to license holders to be careful.

Defendant was put on her good behaviour for a month, and promised to sign the pledge.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4], [1905]

George James, beer retailer, 27, Station Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

George Ernest James, SADDLERS HOME.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day.....

SADDLERS HOME. Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith, who appeared for the owner (Messrs Jas. Eadie, Ltd.) and the tenant (*Geo. Ernest James*) said the license was an ante '69 one.

Mr. Loxton said that the grounds of the objection raised by the magistrates in respect of this license were that there was a badly lighted yard at the rear, which was beyond the control of the landlord and liable to be frequented by bad characters.

Mr. Pearman-Smith explained that there was a cartway leading to the rear, but the occupants of the premises only had a right of way. He was prepared, however, to give an undertaking that the tenants would pay their share towards the lighting to the entry.

Geo. Ernest James stated that he had held the tenancy for seven months, at a rental of £35 per annum. He paid £81 for valuation upon entering.

Mr. Loxton said that the license was not down under a list which he had as an ante '69 one, and he asked if it could be proved that his (Mr. Pearman-Smith's) statement was correct.

Later in the afternoon Mr. Mills, who had lived two doors from the SADDLERS HOME for a period of 48 years, stated that the license, to his knowledge, had been in existence for 40 years. Forty-eight years ago it was a coffee house. The premises were the same as those for which the license was held prior to 1869. Renewed.”

AND

“The annual licensing meeting was continued on Thursday for the sixth day.....

SADDLERS HOME, Station Street. Adjourned.

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates were not satisfied that this house did not come within sub-section 2 of the 1869 law as to being used by prostitutes and thieves &c, especially in view of some cases which had come before the Court within the last two years.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1904

“The adjourned annual brewster session were held on Tuesday.....

The SADDLERS HOME was mentioned again by Mr. Pearman-Smith, the case having been put back for inquiries to be made. He understood that some aspersion had been cast on the house, arising from private information obtained by the magistrates, and this he would like cleared up. The house was very clean and respectable, and the police had a high opinion of it. He could give an explanation which would dispose of any aspersion, but not in public.

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had not acted on private information, but as far as any aspersion being cast on the house, that could be cleared up at once. There had been, as the records of the court showed, a case in which thieves had stopped at this house, whilst it was connected with another case also. Both affairs were before the present tenant’s time, he believed, but the matter had been left in the hands of the Chief Constable for inquiries. If the magistrates, as a result, found any objections to renewal, Mr. Pearman-Smith would be called on to give his explanation. The license was renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

In the case of the SADDLERS HOME, Mr. Pearman-Smith appeared for *Alfred Chappell*, the tenant, and Messrs. Eadie, the owners.

Chief-inspector Ballance gave evidence as to the accommodation provided by the house and its distance from other licensed premises. Until recently it was frequented by youths and young girls, but that had been altered owing to police supervision to which it had been subjected.

Cross-examined by Mr. Pearman-Smith: The tenant conducted the house as well as possible, and he did not suggest that the girls and youths who used to go there were bad characters. The tenant let rooms, and the working class people in search of lodgings were often recommended there. The STAR AND GARTER, another beer-house, was perhaps slightly less used than the SADDLERS HOME.

Alfred Chappell, the tenant, said he had been at the house nearly five years and had conducted it during that time without any complaints whatever from the police. There were five bedrooms, and three of those were let to travellers and others.

Coming to the question of trade, Mr. Pearman-Smith observed, ‘How do you like it, Mr. Loxton, in barrels, or what?’ – Mr. Loxton: Any way you like. (Laughter).

Continuing, the witness said his average trade was about four barrels a week, and his takings for drink alone, amounted to between £14 and £15.

Asked if he gave the long-pull, the witness said he did not go beyond pulling half-pints in jugs sometimes.

Mr. Loxton: There is the long-pull, the longer pull, and the longest pull. (Laughter).

Mr. Pearman-Smith: He gives the shortest of those pulls. (Renewed laughter).

Mr. Pearman-Smith then gave the details of the trade. The total barrelage for the last three years, he said, was 510, and the takings in 1908 and 1909, exclusive of the receipts for the letting of beds, amounted to £735 15s 2d and £680 respectively.

Addressing the Bench in support of the renewal of the license, Mr. Pearman-Smith said the owner of the house did not understand why certain houses in the street should be scheduled and others not. In Station Street there were four houses close together, and they had heard that the other beer-house in the street, which was a fair comparison, was hardly so good, but it had not been scheduled. That seemed slightly unfair to the owners of the SADDLERS HOME. Objection was taken some years ago by the police to that particular district, and everything suggested to bring about an improvement was done. The police had admitted that it was a respectable house, and the tenant was conducting a bona-fide business. He was a publican who gave hospitality and provided beds, and that was the sort of business that ought to be encouraged. The place was in close proximity to the station, and of the four houses close together was the only one that let beds. Of the four houses there were only two bona-fide tenants, and the SADDLERS HOME was one of them.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 25th February 1910.

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1910, at 11 o’clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

SADDLERS HOME, Station Street. Beerhouse. Licensee *Alfred Chappell*.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1910

“A meeting of the Licensing Justices was held on Tuesday morning.....

Mr. Pearman-Smith appeared for the licensee, Mr. *A. Chappell* for the renewal of the license of the SADDLERS HOME, Station Street. The owners are Eadies Brewery Company, Burton-on-Trent. He stated that the house was in close proximity to the station, and the tenant, who had a bona-fide license, and who had recently paid £50 goodwill to enter the house, let bedrooms on the recommendation of the police. A good trade was done, and the house carried on very respectably. The rent was £32, and the contribution to the Compensation Fund was £10. The assessment was £42 a year, and the rateable value £32. The licensee said he had occupied the house since June last year, and never had a complaint from the police. The license was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1910

“A supplementary meeting of the Licensing Justices to consider claims for compensation was held on Wednesday morning at the Guildhall. Mr. W. Bayliss presided, and there were present Messrs. W. E. Blyth, T. A. Smith, J. Clare, W. Halford, A. D. Cozens, J. J. Lynch, A. Jagger, and R. Thomas. The following houses came up for consideration.....

SADDLERS ARMS, Station Street; owners, James Eadies Ltd, Burton Brewery; tenant and licensee, *Alfred Chappell*.”

1911 Census

Station Street – SADDLERS ARMS

- [1] *Alfred Chappell* (35), beerhouse keeper, born Hoxton, London;
- [2] Lily Chappell (30), wife, married 8 years, assists in bar, born Evesham, Worcestershire;
- [3] Edna Chappell (8), niece, born Evesham, Worcestershire;
- [4] Lizzie Hopkins (14), general servant, born Aldridge, Staffordshire:

Alfred Chappell, beer retailer, 27, Station Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1912

“A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, the Mayor (Councillor J. Venables) presiding. Four licensed houses came up for consideration, with the question of compensation to be paid for closing them. The houses were the SADDLERS HOME and the STAR AND GARTER public houses in Station Street, and the VAULTS, in High Street, and the ROVERS REST at Leamore. It was decided that the four houses should be closed on or before March 25th, and the amounts to be paid as compensation were agreed upon between the justices and the parties concerned.”

It closed in 1912.

It became Station Street Working Men’s Club in 1913.

ST. MATTHEWS HALL

Lichfield Street / Bridge Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

J. D. Wetherspoon (acquired in 2011)

LICENSEES

Ricky Suman [2011] – [2015]
Chris Doolan [2017] shift leader

NOTES

It was originally a library.

It is Grade II listed.

www.jdwetherspoon.com

“This striking grade II listed building was previously MARTHA’S VINEYARD, the short-lived successor to the Old Court pub/ nightclub which opened in 1998. The Greek Doric-style building was purpose built in 1830-31 as Walsall’s first permanent library.

Named St Matthew's Hall, it was for subscribers only. By 1847, it was in a state of disrepair and, not long after, it was altered internally to accommodate the county court."

It opened as the OLD COURT HOUSE in 1998.

[2005]

Its name was changed to MARTHA'S VINEYARD.

[2007]

Closed

It underwent a £1.15m refurbishment.

It reopened as a Wetherspoons pub called ST. MATTHEWS HALL in 2011, the Mayor of Walsall performing the honours.

[Express & Star 23/2/2021](#)

"An historic Walsall pub is set to get a new covered courtyard for customers after plans for a refurbishment were given the go-ahead. Wetherspoon's ST. MATTHEWS HALL pub, in Lichfield Street, will see its existing conservatory demolished and replaced by a new extension aimed at improving facilities. Bosses said the modern conservatory would also improve the external appearance of that part of the building, which leads onto the rear beer garden. The Grade II Listed ST. MATTHEWS HALL dates back to the 19th century and was built in 1831 to give Walsall a new library. Around 20 years later, it was converted into Walsall County Court and also housed a savings bank and lecture hall. In recent years, it has served as a pub and was previously called the OLD COURTHOUSE, in a nod to the building's history. The original front facing Lichfield Street remains....."

[Express & Star 14/2/2023](#)

"A Wetherspoon pub is to revamp the inside of its historic Walsall town centre building to provide better facilities for customers. The pub giant will remove internal walls to create a bigger area for punters as well as improving toilets and access to the upper floor of ST. MATTHEWS HALL in Lichfield Street. Walsall Council planning officers granted listed building consent for the works to be carried out on the 19th century property. ST. MATTHEWS HALL was given Grade II listed status in 1986. It was built around 1831 as a public library after the land was purchased for £50. It later became the Walsall County Court until the late 20th century when it was then converted into a pub. Alterations to be made include the removal of walls at the back of the internal bar to convert disused storage areas to create a bigger customer area; existing window frames to be removed to open up the new conservatory to the existing dining area and reconfiguration of the platform lift, stairs and raised area to give better access between the two levels. There will also be a new opening formed to give customers access to the first floor toilets and the current first floor toilets are to be demolished and new, bigger ones created....."

[2023]

SALUTATION

Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Simon Smith [1834]

SARACENS HEAD

251, (261), (255), (254), Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Robert Madeley, 254, Stafford Street, Walsall
Mrs. Hannah Madeley

John Lapworth
Thomas Caloe Miller
Truman, Hanbury and Buxton Ltd. (acquired in 1888 for £1,700 – with adjacent shop)

LICENSEES

Hannah Hill* [1862]
Mrs. Hannah Madeley* [1867] – [1879];
John Madeley [1880]
John Lapworth [1881];
John Sharp [];
Thomas Russon [1886] – **1888**);
Edward Charles Caldicott (**1888 – 1890**);
Mrs. Emma Darby (**1890 – 1903**);
Frederick Brewer (**1903 – 1905**);
Stephen Griffin (**1905 – 1907**);
Edward Egan (Jnr) (**1907 – 1909**);

NOTES

254, Stafford Street [1871]
255, Stafford Street [1872]
251, Stafford Street [1881], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1911]
261, Stafford Street [1891]

It had a beerhouse license.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/7/1862 - Advert

“To Publicans.

To Be Disposed Of, and may be entered upon immediately, the excellent Beerhouse, known by the sign of the SARACENS HEAD, in Stafford Street, Walsall.

The Premises are very convenient and rent low. The reason why the present tenant is leaving is entirely on account of having other business to attend to. Stock and Furniture at valuation.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. George French, Auctioneer and Valuer, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

* possibly the same person

Birmingham Daily Post 19/9/1862

“*Hannah Hill*, of the SARACENS HEAD public-house, Stafford Street, was charged with keeping her house open on Sunday morning last, at a quarter past ten o'clock. Police-constable Ellia stated that he found two men standing up in the back kitchen, and another concealed behind the door drunk. The defence was that Mrs. *Hill* was out of town, and that her son-in-law, who was left in charge of the premises, was ill in bed, and was not aware of the presence of the men, who had forced their way into the house while the servant girl was cleaning the door steps. The charge was dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/10/1868

“Last evening a meeting in connection with the Midland Counties Trades Federation was held at the SARACENS HEAD INN, Stafford Street, Walsall; Mr. J. Richards, of the nut and bolt makers, Smethwick and Birmingham presiding. There was a good number of delegates and working men present.....”

1871 Census

254, Stafford Street

- [1] Richard Madeley (42), bricklayer, born Crudgington, Shropshire;
- [2] *Hannah Madeley* (37), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] John Madeley (15), son, bricklayer, born Crudgington, Shropshire;
- [4] Robert Madeley (14), son, labourer, born Walsall;
- [5] Charles Madeley (12), son, scholar, born France (British subject);
- [6] Ann E. Madeley (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Richard Madeley (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Thomas Madeley (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Lizzie Madeley (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] Selina Madeley (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [11] Francis Round (63), boarder, shoemaker, born Porton, Leicestershire:

Walsall Free Press 2/12/1871

“At the County court, on Saturday last, before Mr. A. McLean, judge, an action for breach of warranty of a horse was brought by Mr. Samuel Beck, farmer, Aldridge, to recover from Richard *Madeley*, publican, Stafford Street, the sum of £8 15s. The plaintiff’s case was that he bought a bay mare from defendant at the last fair, on the faith of a representation that ‘she was as sound as a bell,’ whereas she was lame and incapable of doing continuous work as was shown by several witnesses, including Mr. Weale, the veterinary surgeon, who proved that the mare had an old fracture of the off shoulder, and when he examined her she was only able to walk on three legs. The defence was a denial of the representation, and an allegation that the mare was not lame when sold. The mare was bought at £11, and subsequently sold by auction, after notice to Mr. *Madeley*, for £2 5s; and his Honour gave plaintiff a verdict for the difference. Mr. Dale appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Ebsworth for defendant.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/3/1879 - Death

“On the 14th inst, *Hannah Madeley*, relict of the late Richard *Madeley*, aged 45 years. Deeply regretted.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/7/1880

“Valuable Freehold Beerhouse and Other Property For Sale. Situate in Stafford Street, Walsall, and Rollingmill Street, The Pleck. To Be Sold By Auction by Mr. W. Horobin (by order of the Trustees acting under the Will of the late Mrs. *Hannah Madeley*), at the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth Walsall, on Monday, the 2nd August, 1880, at Six o’clock in the evening subject to conditions incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society Conditions, to be then produced, which may be seen at the Offices of the undermentioned Solicitor 7 days before the Sale of the undermentioned Properties.

Lot 1. The well-known Freehold Beerhouse, known by the sign of the SARACENS HEAD, situate and being No.254 in Stafford Street, Walsall, in the occupation of Mr. *John Madeley*; the Jeweller’s Shop, No.255, adjoining the said Beerhouse, in the occupation of Mr. Mark Lees; and the Piece Of Land, No.253, also adjoining the said Beerhouse, except the Mines and Common Rights. Lot 2. All those Six well and substantially-built Leasehold Houses, Numbered 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 in Rollingmill Street, The Pleck, in the occupation of William Weaver, John Henry Burks, John Cornfield, Henry Tilson, Edward Bentley, and Paul Worley, under Lease from Lord Bradford for 99 years from March, 1857, at the low yearly rental of £2 15s 6d, except the free passage of water and soil from the ground or houses of the Earl of Bradford or his tenants through the present and future channels and drains for the same, and also except the Mines and Minerals thereunder.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, Goodall Street, Walsall; or to, Mr. John Glover, Solicitor, Lichfield Chambers, Leicester Street, Walsall.”

John Lapworth = John Lepworth

Wednesbury Herald 29/1/1881

“On Thursday afternoon, Selina, aged 11, daughter of Sarah Webster, Marsh Lane, and Louisa, aged 12, daughter of *John Lepworth*, the SARACENS HEAD, Stafford Street, Walsall, went to the canal for the purpose of sliding. A rapid thaw having set in, the ice gave way, and both children were drowned. The deceased were almost immediately got out, but all efforts to restore animation were of no avail.”

1881 Census

251, Stafford Street – SARACENS HEAD

- [1] *John Lapworth* (38), greengrocer and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Lapworth (30), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Eliza Lapworth (19), daughter, assistant, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary J. Lapworth (15), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Jennie Lapworth (11 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Jane Lapworth (30), sister, shopwoman, born Walsall;
- [7] James Baker (4), stepson, scholar, born Walsall;

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1886

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Thomas Russon*, of the SARACENS HEAD beer-house, Stafford Street, was fined 10s and costs for permitting drunkenness on his premises.

James and Alfred Cowley, father and son, Lower Hall Street, were summoned for being drunk on the premises, and the latter was fined 10s and costs, or fourteen days’ imprisonment; the former being discharged for the reason that he was convicted on Monday for being drunk in the street after leaving the SARACENS HEAD.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/1/1887

“A meeting of chainmakers was held on Tuesday night, at the SARACENS HEAD, Walsall, to consider the question of establishing a chain manufactory on the co-operative principle. Mr. Juggins presided, and there was a large attendance. Mr. Johnson attended as a deputation from the Manchester Central Board of Productive Co-operation. He addressed the meeting at some length, explaining the principles of co-operation. The conclusion of his address he was accorded a vote of thanks, and a working committee was appointed to further consider the subject.”

Emma Darby was married to Thomas [see also PRINCE BLUCHER].

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

Emma Darby, the SARACENS HEAD, Stafford Street, applied in person for a music and singing license for Saturday and Tuesday evenings. Refused.”

1891 Census

251, Stafford Street – SARACENS HEAD

- [1] *Emma Darby* (57), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Job Darby (18), son, clerk, born Walsall;
- [3] Joyce Whittaker (28), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] H. L. P. Whittaker (29), son in law, iron caster, born Walsall;
- [5] Florence E. Whittaker (3), grandchild, born Walsall;
- [6] Ada Whittaker (1), grandchild, born Walsall;
- [7] Minnie Whittaker (1 month), grandchild, born Walsall;
- [8] Alice E. Bennet (18), servant, born Walsall:

Lichfield Mercury 7/8/1891

“A joint representative meeting of miners from the Cannock Chase District and Pelsall District was held at the SARACENS HEAD HOTEL, Walsall, on Friday evening; Councillor B. Dean presiding. Councillor Stanley was elected secretary. Mr. Jordan moved, ‘The representative meeting of Cannock Chase and Pelsall districts believe the formation of a permanent relief fund highly desirable and necessary.’ This was seconded by Mr. Joseph Baker, and unanimously carried.

After a general discussion, it was agreed that a circular should be issued setting forth the objects of the proposed society, and then a meeting should be held to appoint officers and draw up rules.

On the motion of councillor Dean, seconded by M. J. Baker, a resolution was adopted requesting the Court of Chancery to order the whole of the Pelsall Inundation Fund may be handed over to the trustees of the South Staffordshire Accident Committee.”

Mrs. *Emma Darby*, beer retailer, 251, Stafford Street. [1896]

1901 Census

251, Stafford Street

- [1] *Emma Darby* (65), widow, publican, born Shrewsbury;
- [2] Joice Whittaker (38), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] Henry Whittaker (39), son in law, iron caster, born Walsall;
- [4] Florence Whittaker (13), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Minnie Whittaker (10), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Clara Whittaker (8), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Bert Whittaker (7), grandson, born Walsall;
- [8] Florence Morton (22), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/4/1902

“*Emma Darby*, widow, the landlady of the SARACENS HEAD, Stafford Street, was charged with permitting drunkenness, and two butchers names J. H. Hillyer, Stafford Street, and James Thomas Warby, 29, Littleton Street, were charged with being drunk on licensed premises. Mr. J. R. Cooper (Town Clerk) prosecuted, and Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) defended. Mr. Cooper said that on Tuesday the 1st inst. shortly after four o’clock, Mr. Arthur James, pork butcher, Stafford Street, made a complaint to the police and in consequence of that complaint the SARACENS HEAD was visited at 4.25pm by Inspector Pritchard and Police-constable Lloyd. They found the two men in the yard outside the smoke room door, in a state of drunkenness. They were workmen in the employ of Mr. James, who had made the complaint. The officers called the attention of Mrs. *Darby* to the condition of the men, and she asked them to leave, which they did immediately. Late in the day, about 7pm, Warby was again found on the licensed premises. He did not think the Bench would have any difficulty in finding that the two men were drunk, and that the landlady must have known and permitted them there. It was no use a license-holder telling the Bench that he or she could not get the men away, for they could call the police, and if they did not take advantage of the means the law provided they must take the responsibility.

Arthur T. James, pork butcher, said the men had the day off on Easter Monday, and on the next morning they had not recovered from the effects of it. They came late to work on the Tuesday morning, and left between ten and eleven to have their lunch beer – they were allowed to go every morning for lunch beer. As they were away from work in the afternoon witness went into the SARACENS HEAD, and through the window of the smoke room he saw the cap of one of the men, and asked Mrs. *Darby* to request the men to leave. About seven pm Warby came on to his premises, but witness would not allow him to commence work again, as he was not fit, being under the influence of beer. Witness was not desirous of giving evidence, and had been subpoenaed.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jackson, witness said Hillyer had been to a wedding the day before. They both had the day off on the Monday, with permission. On Tuesday morning they came late to work, one three quarters of an hour, and the other an hour and a half. Witness was not put about over their coming late. They started work at about eight, and went out at 10.30 for their lunch beer as usual. Warby worked until about two o’clock, although he was not quite sober then – he was muddled, and had not recov-

ered from the day before. At 7 o'clock Warby was drunk, but witness would think he would find his way home alright. He knew nothing about the condition of Hillyer.

Evidence was then given by Inspector Pritchard and Police-constable Lloyd to the effect that they visited the SARACENS HEAD on the 1st inst. at 4.24 in the afternoon, and saw the two men in the yard by the smokeroom door. The inspector called Mrs. *Darby's* attention to the condition of the men, and she asked them to leave. They were both drunk, and Warby became abusive. Inspector Pritchard was taking the men's names from Mr. James at 7 o'clock on the evening when Warby came on the premises. He was the worse for drink, but no so bad as in the afternoon.

Mr. Jackson, in defence, said the Bench had to consider two points – were the men drunk, and did they show sufficient indication of it to lead the landlady to think they were drunk? Mrs. *Darby* had kept the house for twelve years. The men walked decently away without annoying the passengers[?], and he should call evidence to prove the men were not drunk.

Mrs. *Darby* said when Mr. James came to her house he said that if the men were not off in ten minutes he would have someone else. She therefore asked them to leave, and they got up and went without a murmur. She thought they had gone right away, but a short time afterwards the officers came in and found them in the yard. They were both sober.

Alfred Haywood, caster, Littleton Street, and Joyce Whittaker, daughter of Mrs. *Darby*, also said the two men at the time were sober.

The Bench retired to consider their verdict, and on returning Alderman Holden said they had decided to convict. Mrs. *Darby* was fined 20s and costs and the two men 10s and costs each.

The Bench hoped Mrs. *Darby* would be more careful in future.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/3/1903

“On Tuesday the adjourned annual licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall, when the Court was crowded.....

Formal notice of objection had been given to the renewal of the following licenses.....

Emma Darby, SARACENS HEAD, Stafford Street.

All the licenses were renewed.”

Frederick Brewer, beer retailer, 251, Stafford Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 15/9/1906

“Joseph James, 101, Hospital Street, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, the SARACENS HEAD, and *Stephen Griffin*, SARACENS HEAD, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises on the 3rd inst.

Police-sergeant Atcherley stated that about 6.35 on the date in question he visited the SARACENS HEAD, Stafford Street. In the tap room he saw a man named James sitting down with his back against the counter and apparently asleep. When the landlord came from out the smoke room into the bar James roused himself, and he (witness) then found that he was drunk. On the table in front of him was a pint jug nearly full of porter. When he went in he saw the landlord's son reach the porter and put it by him. The landlord refused to serve James with any more drink, whereupon he snatched up the jug of porter and drank it. James then went out and staggered along the footpath up Stafford Street.

Police-constable Smith said he saw James come out of the public house in question. He staggered along the footpath from one side to the other.

James said ‘I had some beer, but not sufficient to make me incapable of drinking.’ He had walked from Birmingham after employment, and felt very tired when he got back. He did not have anything to drink after he left Perry Barr.

The landlord's son said he was in the tap room when James came in. He went up to the counter and asked for a drink, but his mother refused him. He then went and sat down and went to sleep. He was only in the house a few minutes.

Each defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

SARACENS HEAD. The renewal of the license of this house had been put back from the annual meeting, owing to there having been a conviction. In the meantime there had been a change of tenant, a temporary permit having been granted to *Edward Egan*, junior, from Ann Maria *Griffin*, and Mr. Jackson now supported an application for a full transfer.

Mr. Loxton (magistrates' clerk) said the Bench would not trouble Mr. Jackson as to the objection to the license, and it would be transferred to Mr. *Egan*, with a caution as to the conduct of the house.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 3rd February 1909.

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1909

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, 1909, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

The SARACENS HEAD, Beerhouse. Licensee, *Edward Egan*.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The principal meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, when eight beer-houses and one ale-house, the licenses of which had been referred by the licensing justices, were dealt with, and in each instance the houses were referred for compensation, which means in due course the houses will close.....

The SARACENS HEAD, Stafford Street. This is another beer-house; the owners are Messrs. Truman, Hanbury, and Buxton and Company, of Birmingham, and the tenant *Edward Egan*, at a rental of £30 a year.

Mr. Jackson told the justices that *Egan* was getting a good living in the house which in 1888, with an adjoining shop was bought by the present owners for £1,700. The shop was afterwards sold for £325, leaving £1,375 for this public house, besides the money spent on it during the past few years. It was the only house owned by the firm in Walsall, and it was doing a quiet trade and the tenant was very happy and did not wish to be disturbed. Without a license he did not suppose the house would be more than £300, or more than 6s or 7s a week.

Mr. Loxton: That’s a dangerous statement to make, because you are not entitled to a license.

Mr. Jackson: Oh yes, we should. I am not speaking as a valuer, but it would be worth £15 per year and that is sufficient to carry a license. I did not include the rates in my estimate.

Asked if he was prepared to tell the Bench the amount of compensation required. Mr. Jackson did so privately.....

The Bench having heard each case separately retired to consider their decision. In returning, the Mayor intimated that the renewals authority report would be adopted, and all the houses referred for compensation.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1909

“A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall, on Thursday, Sir Edward T. Holden presiding over a full Bench of Magistrates.....

Other cases concerned the SARACENS HEAD, Stafford Street (Mr. H. H. Jackson appearing for Messrs. Trueman, Buxton, Hanbury and Co, the owners, and for the tenant, Mr. *E. Egan*), and the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Green Lane (in which Mr. H. H. Jackson represented the trustees of the late Edward Egan, the owners, and the tenant.....

The Magistrates decided to hold a further private sitting to go into the question of figures with the solicitors.

The decisions will be announced at a later date.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1910 - Advert

“Forthcoming Auction by Walter Hughes, F.A.I.

Wednesday next, 7th September, at Eleven am, upon the premises, late SARACENS HEAD, Stafford Street, Walsall. The whole of the Public-House Fittings, Counter, Beer Machine, valuable 7-Octave Piano, Tables, Stools, Jugs, Glasses and other Effects, by order of Messrs. Truman’s Brewery, Burton-on-Trent.”

Closed

It became the Regent Works.

SCOTT ARMS

93, (93a), (59), (54), Little Bloxwich, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

C. Beech

Mrs. Hannah Teece, Bloxwich

John Hinton [1890], [1916]

LICENSEES

William Teece [1858] – [1871]

Mrs. Hannah Teece [1872] – **1873**;

John Hinton (**1873 – 1912**);

Anthony William Oebel (**1912 – 1916**);

Florry Oebel (**1916 – 1929**);

NOTES

54, Little Bloxwich [1861]

59, Little Bloxwich [1871]

93, Little Bloxwich [1881], [1891]

93a, Little Bloxwich [1901]

SCOTTS ARMS [1872], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1912]

It had a beerhouse license.

William Teece = William Teese

Walsall Free Press 27/3/1858

“Moses Duckworth and James Good were charged with having on the night of Saturday last, garrotted and robbed Antonio Solarie of 1s 2d and a knife. It appeared Antonio, who is an Italian organ boy, had, between the hours of eight and nine o'clock on the evening of Saturday last, gone to a beerhouse near to the Canal, Little Bloxwich, kept by *William Teese*, and remained there playing to the company till about half-past ten, when he at the request of Mrs. *Teese* left the house. Immediately after he went out, Good followed. Some party outside was then heard to whistle, and Duckworth who up to that time remained in the house went out, and shortly afterwards the poor boy returned and said he had been robbed by two men answering the description of Duckworth and Good. The lad exhibited to the company the marks upon his neck, which he said had been inflicted by one of the men, who held him tightly by the throat while the other rifled his pockets. Information was given to acting sergeant Simpson, who apprehended the prisoners, and who on being charged with the offence made no reply. In consequence of the complainant's statement being unsupported in the principal points, the prisoners were discharged.”

William Teece, beerhouse, Little Bloxwich. [1858]

1861 Census

54, Little Bloxwich

- [1] *William Teece* (45), publican and boatman, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Anna Teece* (50), wife, grocer, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Ann Teece* (20), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Emma Hodson* (13), visitor, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *John Smith* (13), visitor, scholar, born Tipton:

William Teece, retailer of beer, Little Bloxwich. [1862]

William Teece, shopkeeper and beer retailer, Little Bloxwich. [1868]

1871 Census

Little Bloxwich

- [1] *William Teece* (62), boatman and beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Hannah Teece* (62), wife, born Bloxwich:

1881 Census

93, Little Bloxwich – SCOTT ARMS Public House

- [1] *John Hinton* (39), coal miner, born Pelsall;
- [2] *Annie Hinton* (40), wife, born Little Bloxwich;
- [3] *Sarah A. Hinton* (15), daughter, born Heath End, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Rosannah Hinton* (9), daughter, scholar, born Little Bloxwich;
- [5] *Frances Hinton* (11), daughter, scholar, born Little Bloxwich;
- [6] *Richard Hinton* (7), son, scholar, born Hedford [Hednesford?], Staffordshire;
- [7] *Mary J. Hinton* (5), daughter, scholar, born Little Bloxwich;
- [8] *Eliza Hinton* (3), daughter, born Little Bloxwich;
- [9] *Florry Hinton* (7 months), daughter, born Little Bloxwich:

1891 Census

93, Little Bloxwich

- [1] *John Hinton* (49), beerhouse keeper, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Ann Hinton* (51), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Sarah A. Hinton* (25), daughter, general servant, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Frances Hinton* (21), daughter, general servant, born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Rosana Hinton* (19), daughter, general servant, born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Richard Hinton* (17), son, coal miner, born Staffordshire;
- [7] *Eliza Hinton* (13), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [8] *Florrie Hinton* (10), daughter, born Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1894

“Conservative League.....

At a meeting of the ‘Thomas’ Lodge, held on Thursday last at Bro. *Hinton*'s, the SCOTTS ARMS Little Bloxwich, it was proposed by Bro. Charles Nichols, seconded by Bro. George Bird, that as Mr. Sydney Gedge is to address a meeting at the Blakenall

Heath schoolroom, on Thursday, 15th inst, the usual fortnightly meeting of this lodge on the date be dispensed with, and that Bro. Thornhill of the 'Balfour' Lodge, be asked to deliver his address on 'Disestablishment and Disendowment,' on Thursday, 29th inst, at the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, Bloxwich."

1901 Census

23a Little Bloxwich – SCOTT'S ARMS TAVERN

- [1] *John Hinton* (58), beerhouse keeper, born Pelsall;
- [2] Ann Hinton (60), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Florry Hinton* (20), daughter, born Bloxwich:

Florry Hinton married *Anthony Oebel* in the 3rd quarter of 1903.

1911 Census

Little Bloxwich

- [1] *John Hinton* (68), publican, born Pelsall;
- [2] Ann Hinton (71), wife, married 44 years, born Little Bloxwich;
- [3] Gertrude C. Hoper (19), servant, born Stafford:

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1912

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.

New Members. *Anthony William Oebel*, SCOTT ARMS, Little Bloxwich."

Walsall Advertiser 26/4/1913

"On the application of Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson, an alteration to the kitchen of the SCOTT'S ARMS, Little Bloxwich, and alterations to the brewery and outhouses of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Bloxwich, were sanctioned by the Bench."

Walsall Observer 5/2/1916

"The general annual licensing sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday morning.

The magistrates granted the following transfers of licenses.

SCOTT ARMS, Little Bloxwich, from *Anthony William Oebel* to *Florry Oebel*. In the case of the SCOTT ARMS Mrs. *Oebel* was the daughter of the owner of the property, and that her husband was at present interned."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.

SCOTT'S ARMS, Bloxwich. £0 15s 10½d."

Compensation of £1,150 was paid on 24th December 1929.

The license was extinguished on 31st December 1929.

SEVEN STARS

51, (50), Dudley Street / Bath Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Henry Moseley

William Downing, maltster, Smethwick

J. W. Brookes

LICENSEES

John Thomas [1834] – [1835]

Thomas Lynex [1841] – [1845]

John Partridge [1850] – [1851]

George Johnson [1851]

John Whittyears [1855]

John J Johnson [1860] – [1865]

George Farmer [1866] – [1870]

John Westley [1871] – [1873];

Mrs. Emma Westley [];
John Worth [];
Frederick Milner [];
Martha Wearing [];
John Timmins [];
Maria Boonham [];
John Hinton Allsopp [1881] – 1887);
Benjamin Francis Wood (1887 – 1888);
Edwin James Warner (1888 – 1892);
John Morgan (1892 – 1893);
William Horton (1893 – [1901] last

NOTES

51, Dudley Street [1860], [1861], [1862], [1864], [1865], [1871], [1892], [1896], [1904]
50, Dudley Street [1868], [1870], [1873], [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

John Thomas, retailer of beer, Dudley Street. [1835]

Thomas Lynex was also a spur tackle maker. [1845]

Birmingham Journal 6/4/1850 - Married

“On the 1st inst, at St. Mary’s Catholic Chapel, (by the Rev. Walter Love) Mr. *John Partridge*, landlord of the SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street, Walsall, to Helen, eldest daughter of Mr. Henry Boonham, of the TIGER INN, Wisemore.”

George Johnson = George Johnston

George Johnson was also a tailor. [1851]
He was born c.1819.

Birmingham Journal 26/5/1855

“*John Whitty*, landlord of the SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street, was summoned on Monday before the Magistrates, on the charge of knowingly permitting gambling on his premises. Mr. Sill was retained for the defence. In the *Journal* of last week it was stated that three Irishmen, named McGuire, McCarthy, and O’Hara, had been convicted for causing a affray in the public streets. It was stated by them that the quarrel had originated through card playing at the house of defendant, and that of a beer-house keeper named Paddock, in Green Lane. The Irishmen were called and distinctly testified to the gaming, with the knowledge of the landlady. A penalty of 20s and costs was then inflicted. In the case of Paddock, a similar fine was imposed.”

1861 Census

51, Dudley Street
[1] *John Johnson* (46), publican, tailor, &c, born Walsall;
[2] *Eliza Johnson* (46), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Maria Johnson* (15), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] *Esther Johnson* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] *Lucy Johnson* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] *John Johnson* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[7] *Frederick A. Johnson* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 19/4/1862 - Notice

“SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street, Walsall.

Mrs. *Johnson* begs to give notice to her friends and the public that she intends to have a Friendly Tea Party on Easter Monday. Tickets 1s each. Music included. Tea on the table at Five o’clock. Dancing to commence at Seven o’clock.”

AND

Walsall Free Press 19/4/1862

“The Easter Holidays.

Judging from the programme as set forth in our advertising columns, the ensuing week, which is generally looked upon as a holiday time, is to be a more than usually busy season – if not in the way of business, at least in the way of pleasure, amusement, and instruction. At Rushall three sermons are to be preached in the Congregational Chapel, in aid of the funds of that place of worship, on behalf of which a tea-meeting will be held on the following day, on which day (Monday) Mrs. *Johnson*, of the SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street, invites her friends to a friendly meeting of a similar character the same afternoon.....”

Walsall Free Press 26/4/1862

“John Holt was charged by police-constable Lees, with having been drunk and disorderly, in Dudley Street, about three o’clock on Tuesday morning. It appeared that the officer had been called in to the SEVEN STARS public-house, to eject an Irishman, who was creating a disturbance. On the officer going in the defendant told the Irishman not to go, and threatened the officer. Defendant, who expressed his regret for what had occurred, was sentenced to pay 5s and costs, or in default be imprisoned for seven days.”

J. J. Johnson was also a tailor and tea dealer. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 7/5/1864 - Advert

“On Whit-Monday, May 15, A Friendly Tea Party will be held at Mr. *Johnson*’s, The SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street. Tea on the Table at Five o’clock. Tickets 1s each, music included.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/12/1866

“*George Farmer*, landlord of the SEVEN STARS public house, Dudley Street, was charged with having allowed gambling with cards in his house on the 17th instant. The summons had been issued in consequence of certain disclosures made during the hearing of an assault case heard last week. The defendant pleaded guilty, and the chief superintendent having spoken in his favour, he was fined 10s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/10/1868 - Advert

“The SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street, Walsall.

The Licenses and Possession, together with the Brewing Plant, Fixtures of Trade, Household Furniture, and Effects will be Sold by Auction, by George Bayley, This day (Thursday), October 8, under a mortgage sale.”

1871 Census

51, Dudley Street

- [1] *John Westley* (50), stirrup maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Emily Westley* (49), wife, born Worcester;
- [3] *John Westley* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ellen Westley* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Thomas Sharrod* (64), boarder, tailor, born Lichfield:

Walsall Free Press 7/6/1873

“*Michael Sweeney* was charged with having, on Tuesday last, stolen a black velvet jacket, value 3s, from the SEVEN STARS public-house, Dudley Street, and was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

John Hinton Allsopp = John Hinton Alsopp

1881 Census

51, Dudley Street

- [1] *John Hinton Allsopp* (46), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Maria Alsopp* (50), wife, born Beckington, Somerset;
- [3] *Henry Alsopp* (30), son, brown saddler, born Walsall;
- [4] *Emily Dicks* (15), general servant, born Sambrook, Wiltshire;
- [5] *Thomas Pratt* (35), lodger, L&NW rail lamp man, born Birmingham:
[Beckington is about 5 miles SW of Trowbridge.]

Walsall Observer 21/3/1885

“The anniversary of No.2 Lodge of Walsall of the Loyal Ancient Order of Caledonian Corks (held at Bro. *J. H. Allsop*’s the SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street) was celebrated on Tuesday evening at the lodge house, by the members and friends sitting down to an excellent supper.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/6/1891

“*Edward* [sic] *James Warner*, the SEVEN STARS INN, Dudley Street, was summoned for supplying liquor to a drunken man and also permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises. Mr. J. N. Cotterell defended. The evidence of Police-sergt. Marshall and Police-constable Willett was to the effect that on the afternoon of the 9th inst. they found a man named Hooper, who was in a drunken condition, and who in fact had been turned out of another public-house that afternoon for drunkenness, standing at the defendant’s counter, a jug containing ale being on the counter near him. They spoke to the landlord, who admitted that the man was drunk, and said the ale had been left by a woman who had just gone out. The defence was that the landlord refused to supply the man with drink, and that while the latter was trying to overcome the refusal the police entered. In the end both summonses were dismissed, the magistrates at the same time stating that they were very proper cases to be brought into court.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/7/1897

“*Rachael Baker* (40), pipe maker, of New Street, was charged with stealing 2s 5½d from the till of the SEVEN STARS, Dudley

Street, kept by *William Horton*.

Evidence was given by Mary Ann Connally that on Tuesday she saw the prisoner lean over the counter, heard her opening the till, and heard her put some money in her pocket.

Prisoner had previously asked the wife of prosecutor to lend her 3d, and she refused.

Prosecutor spoke to taking the money out of the prisoner's hand.

The prisoner when arrested by Police-constable 65 (Jones) denied the theft. She now informed the Bench that she was 'innocent as a new born baby.'

Fined 10s and costs, or 14 days."

Walsall Observer 1/9/1900

"At the Police Court, on Wednesday *William Horton* of the SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and with selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person, on August 11th; and William Jones, back of Dudley Street, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises.

The Chief Constable said that 9.30 o'clock on August 11th he entered the SEVEN STARS, and as he entered a woman ran in before him. He went first into the smoke room. Afterwards he went to the front door, and found the man Jones behind the door, crouching against the wall. The man Jones then went out, and told him (the Chief Constable) that he had no power to arrest him. The man, who had his hands in his trouser pockets, was reeling and talking in a loud tone. A crowd soon collected in the street. In answer to Mr. Jackson, the Chief Constable said that he did not see the man until he spoke. The landlady did tell him that the man had only just come in.

Detective-sergeant Haycock stated that he entered the SEVEN STARS, and as soon as he entered Jones shouted, 'Halloa! Haycock.' Jones was drunk and on going down the entry he staggered very much and was abusive.

In answer to Mr. Jackson, witness said that the man was orderly in the house. He did not tell the man what he wanted him for. Detective Burrell corroborated.

Mr. Jackson said that the defendant had kept the house for eleven years without a complaint. He submitted that the man only came into the SEVEN STARS two minutes before the police. The landlord had not seen him, and he had not been served at all. The man on being fetched out of the public house had insisted on knowing what he was charged with, and on being refused he certainly got excited.

Defendant *Horton* said that he had kept the place for eleven years, and there had been no complaints. He did not know that Jones was in the house until he said, 'Good night' to Haycock, and then he (defendant) told the Chief Constable that he must have come in with them. He was not served in the house. No suggestion was made to him that the man was drunk, and in his opinion he was quite sober.

Defendant Jones said that he followed the police into the house. When the police came into the room he was by the door, which opened inwards and closed him in a corner. He asked Haycock what was the matter, and Haycock pushed him very roughly.

Two men, named Russon and Davis (independent witnesses) gave evidence for the defence, and the magistrates fined Jones 5s and costs, or seven days' imprisonment; but in the case of *Horton* the Bench disagreed and made no ruling, leaving it optional for it to be tried again on the motion of the Chief Constable."

1901 Census

50, Dudley Street

[1] *William Horton* (46), lock maker and licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Mary Ann Horton (45), wife, born Walsall;

[3] William Horton (19), son, brass dresser, born Walsall;

[4] Thomas Horton (15), son, iron caster, born Walsall;

[5] Polly Horton (12), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Frank Horton (11), son, born Walsall;

[7] May Horton (8), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] Gertrude Horton (6), daughter, born Walsall;

[9] Harry Horton (1), son, born Walsall;

[10] Alfred Yates (42), lodger, fruiterer, born Walsall:

and

51, Dudley Street – SEVEN STARS TAVERN – uninhabited:

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

"The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street. The renewal of this license was opposed by the police on the ground that the license was not required and that the house was not structurally suitable. Mr. J. N. Cotterell appeared for the owner, and Mr. H. H. Jackson for the licensee. Renewed."

Closed

SEVEN STARS

106, (103), Stafford Street / Croft Street (?), WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Calve, miller, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall
Mrs. Cartwright
Caloe Thomas Miller
Thomas Toon, Green Lane, Walsall (later at ROYAL OAK, Palfrey)
Mrs. Rose Bull [1925]
Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Bruce and Co. [1858]
James Nailor [1861]
George Morrell [1863] – [1865]
Enoch Cartwright [1868] – [1872];
Charles Upton [];
Enoch Cartwright [];
Edward Corbett [1880];
Emmanuel Forrester [];
John Lockley Jr. [1881];
Frank Barber [] – 1889);
Harry Glover (1889 – 1904);
Edward Toon (1904 – 1909);
Thomas Pearson (1909 – 1912);
Albert Boot (1912 – 1913);
David Walker (1913 – 1920);
Mrs. Rose Bull (1920 – 1943);
John T Watkins [1939] – [1940]
Eva Watkins (1943 – 1945);
George Harry Jones (1945 – 1946);
Harry Shade (1946 – 1949);
George William Harris (1949 – 1951);
John Mann (1951 – 1952);
Albert George Allen (1952 – 1956);
Edith Bayliss (1956 – 1957);
Stanley Kenneth Ryland (1957);
George William Butler (1957 – 1958);
Thomas Wills (1958 – 1959);
Richard Gough (1959 – 1960);
Brian John Hill (1960);
Kenneth Robert Chamberlain (1960 – 1961);
Norman Duffon (1961);
Reginald John White (1961 – 1963);
Raymond William Price (1963 – 1964);
George Albert Adams (1964);
Thomas Oswald Staig (1964 – 1965);
Raymond John Norton (1965 – 1966);
Stasys Markevicius (1966 – 1967);
Ivan Allen (1967 – [1969])

NOTES

103, Stafford Street
106, Stafford Street [1861], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911], [1939], [1940]

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

It was a home brew pub until 1938.

Thomas Bruce and Co, beerhouse, 106, Stafford Street. [1858]

1861 Census

106, Stafford Street – UNREADABLE

- [1] *James Nailor* (40), beershop keeper and ornamental worker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Nailor* (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Sarah Nailor* (18), daughter, stitcher, born Walsall;
- [4] *Fanny Nailor* (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Marian Nailor* (2), born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 3/10/1863

“*George Morrell*, landlord of the SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street, was charged with having had hi house open at half-past seven o'clock on Sunday morning last. Police-constable Simmons and Police-constable Jukes visited the house at the time in question, and found six men with a jug containing about a quart of beer. In a glass on the table was a quantity of beer. The defendant, who said he believed the men were ‘bona fide’ travellers, as they all had bundles with them, was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

George Morrell, beer retailer, 106, Stafford Street. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/12/1866

“*Edward Divine*, for having on Monday night last assaulted *Martin Mullins*, was fined 1s and costs. The parties had been playing cards in the SEVEN STARS public-house, when they quarrelled, and defendant struck complainant and pushed him upon the fire.”

Enoch Cartwright, beer retailer, 106, Stafford Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday applications for new licenses for the sale of spirits.....
Mr. Glover applied on behalf of *Enoch Cartwright*, beerhouse keeper, Stafford Street.
The Mayor announced that the Bench had decided not to grant any new licenses this year.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/9/1870

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

There were eight applicants for new spirit licenses.....

Enoch Cartwright, the SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street.....

The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and after having been absent about half an hour they returned, and announced that they had decided to refuse all the applications, though they had come to this decision with much regret in some instances.”

1871 Census

Stafford Street

- [1] *Enoch Cartwright* (36), publican, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Maria Cartwright* (40), wife, born Gl___ry, Rhadnorshire;
- [3] *Ellen Dent* (20), servant, born Rugeley;
- [4] *Hannah Southern* (20), visitor, born W___ington, Staffordshire:

Edward Corbett, beer retailer, 106, Stafford Street. [1880]

1881 Census

106, Stafford Street

- [1] *John Lockley* (40), carter or collier, born Bagnall, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Harriett Lockley* (38), wife, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [3] *John Lockley* (20), son, carpenter, born Bagnall, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Hannah Lockley* (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Bagnall, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Florrie Lockley* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Mildred Lockley* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Joseph Shaw* (23), son in law, bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [8] *Henry Sanders* (59), boarder, curb maker, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 28/4/1883 - Advert

“Wanted, a Piano player; male or female.
Apply SEVEN STARS INN, Stafford Street.”

1891 Census

106, Stafford Street

- [1] *Harry Glover* (40), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

- [2] Maria Glover (30), wife, born Walsall;
[3] Frances Parker (24), barmaid, born Walsall;
[4] Deborah Nussan (14), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 29/12/1894

“Police-constable Haycock deposed to an obstruction being caused in Park Street on Tuesday week by Josiah Wedge, 3, Long Street; *Harry Glover*, SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street; Charles Reynolds, 26, New Street, and John Bowden, 115, Bridgeman Street, and each, with the exception of *Harry Glover*, who was discharged, was mulct in a fine of 2s 6d and costs or seven days’ imprisonment.”

Harry Glover, beer retailer, 106, Stafford Street. [1896]

1901 Census

106, Stafford Street – SEVEN STARS TAVERN

- [1] *Harry Glover* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
[2] Lily Tolley (23), barmaid, born Walsall;
[3] Rebecca Watts (21), domestic servant, born Birmingham;
[4] Annie Bull (33), visitor, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1903

“On Tuesday evening Mr. T. Allen Stokes held an inquest at the Swan Inn, Great Wyrley, into the circumstances attending the death of Maria, wife of *Henry Glover*, landlord of the SEVEN STARS INN, Stafford Street, Walsall, who was killed in a trap accident at Wyrley on the previous Friday night.

Harry Glover identified the body as that of his deceased wife, aged 42. On Friday the deceased, Ernest Dunning, and witness started about five p.m. to drive to see Mr. Green, High House Farm, Great Wyrley, and got there about six o’clock. They remained there about 1½ hours, none of them having anything intoxicating to drink except witness, who had a little scotch whiskey. When they started back witness drove and deceased sat in the middle of the trap. Before they had gone very far the pony shied, and the trap was overturned. Witness thought deceased took hold of the wrong rein and pulled it, but he remembered nothing more until he found himself in Mr. Green’s house. Deceased was lying there on a sofa, and a doctor attending her. She never regained consciousness, and died at nine p.m.

By the jury: The pony was a quiet animal, and used to all sorts of traffic.

Ernest Dunning, clerk, 39, Harrison Street, Bloxwich, said he accompanied Mr. and Mrs. *Glover* on the occasion in question. When they started back and before they had proceeded far the trap suddenly mounted a bank, and was overturned. Witness, who escaped with a shaking, went after the pony. Both Mr. and Mrs. *Glover* lay in the road unconscious. He attended to Mr. *Glover*, who was badly cut about the head, and was covered in blood, whilst Mrs. *Glover* was picked up by another person. The pony was a restive animal when fresh.

Thomas James Green, farmer, High House Farm, Great Wyrley, gave evidence as to *Glover*, his wife, and last witness coming over to see him. He watched them drive away. When near a mound of earth, he saw Mr. *Glover*’s hat blow off, and saw him put up his hand as if to catch it. For some reason or other, which witness could not see, the pony swerved, and the wheel of the trap going on to the mound of earth the vehicle was overturned and the occupants thrown out. Witness’s son-in-law brought Mrs. *Glover* into the house. The pony was a spirited animal, and very fast. Mr. *Glover* was quite sober.

By the jury: It was a very awkward spot where the accident happened.

Police-constable Poole: The road is 11 yards wide at that spot.

Inspector Campbell. The heap of earth is not on the road at all.

This was all the evidence.

The Coroner, in summing up, said there was little doubt that the unfortunate woman met her death in consequence of the injuries sustained that night, and it was a question whether it was accidental or not. The trap went over, but what caused it they could not tell; there did not seem to be any blame attached to anybody. Mr. and Mrs. *Glover* were both capable of driving the pony, which was a spirited animal. Mr. *Glover* was quite sober, according to the evidence, so that they could not attach any negligence to him. He thought the jury would come to the conclusion that the injuries were accidentally inflicted.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and recommended that the road surveyor be asked to see that at all times the road was kept clear from heaps of rubbish or metal. They did not think the heap of dirt in question was responsible for the accident.

At the request of the Coroner, Police-constable Campbell promised to convey the recommendation to the proper quarter.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/3/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *Edward Toon*, SEVEN STARS INN, Stafford Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/6/1904

“Plans were submitted for alteration and extensions to a living room at the SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street. Granted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1908

“John Wood, Forge Street, was charged with being drunk at the SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street, on March 2, and *Edward Toon*,

the landlord, was charged with permitting drunkenness. Wood was fined 10s and costs and *Toon* was ordered to pay the costs only, no conviction being recorded in his case.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

“There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall..... Notices of objections under the compensation clause or otherwise.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who appeared for the owner and tenant of the SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street, stated that they disposed of 860 barrels a year, the dead expenses were something like £600 a year, and the profits over £1,100 a year. The takings amounted to £40 a week.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... *Thomas Pearson*, SEVEN STARS INN, Stafford Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....

SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street. At this club the receipts amounted to £110 0s 2d; £25 2s 6d had been paid out in sick pay, £21 17s 4d was carried forward to next year, and after the expenses had been deducted, the balance of £50 9s was on Wednesday evening paid in dividend, each member receiving 9s 2d, the first night’s payment, and card.”

1911 Census

106, Stafford Street – SEVEN STARS INN

- [1] *Thomas Pearson* (53), publican, born Wednesbury;
- [2] Clara Pearson (48), wife, married 26 years, assisting in business, born Oldbury;
- [3] Thomas Pearson (25), son, assisting in business, born Wednesbury;
- [4] Nellie Pearson (23), daughter, assisting in business, born Wednesbury;
- [5] Harold Pearson (17), son, chemist’s apprentice, born Edgbaston;
- [6] Millicent Pearson (12), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] Mary Bate (35), servant, born Stafford:

Thomas Pearson, beer retailer and brewer, 106, Stafford Street. [1912]

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/2/1912

“An inquest was held at the Walsall Guildhall on Tuesday, respecting the death of *Thomas Pearson*, jun., aged 26, barman, of 104, Stafford Street, the father, until recently the landlord of the SEVEN STARS INN, Stafford Street, said his son had been subject to fainting fits, and on Sunday afternoon fell down outside the front door. He was only half conscious for some time and died the same evening. Dr. O’Meara now said death was due to a fracture of the skull, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Observer 14/3/1914 - Advert

“For Sale, Brown Cob, 14 hands, good in all harness; too big for owner’s trap; price £16. Apply, SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street.”

Walsall Observer 17/10/1914 - Advert

“A light-legged Cart Horse, 16 hands, also Lorry Mare, 15 hands; warranted sound. Rubber-tyred trap, lamps, cushions, complete nearly new brown harness; also spring cart. Must be sold, any reasonable offer. SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 5/12/1914

“‘If the skin had been removed it would have been a natural skeleton,’ was the description given by a veterinary surgeon of a horse which led to a prosecution at the Guildhall on Monday. The animal had been purchased by James Albiston, of the BRITANNIA INN, Hall Green Street, Bradley, from Harry Smith, of 4, Day Street, Walsall, on November 19, the price paid for the horse, a spring cart, and a set of harness being £9, and Smith was now summoned for obtaining the amount by false pretences.

Mr. Tucker stated that complainant saw the complete turn-out advertised for sale at £9 10s. The reason given for selling was that room was required, and a three months’ trial was offered. Prosecutor wanted a horse and cart to start his son in business, and the son went over to see the animal at the SEVEN STARS INN, Stafford Street, defendant stating that it was a good horse and a good puller. He said he wanted to sell it because, owing to rheumatism, he was unable to follow his trade as a greengrocer. Two days later (the 19th) prosecutor went to the SEVEN STARS to see the animal, and defendant repeated what he had said before. Neither prosecutor nor his son knew much about horses, but defendant agreeing to give a written warranty, prosecutor decided to buy the horse. The warranty given by the defendant was as follows: ‘Mr. Smith sells to Mr Albiston one cob, set of harness, and spring cart, for the sum of £9. I, Mr. Smith, warrant the cob sound in wind, eyes, and limb, and a good puller. If the cob is not as above stated, I also agree to take it back at the end of one month and return the purchase money, free of charge for use.’ The money was paid in cash, and the horse taken back to Bradley.

It went fairly well to Darlaston, but there showed signs of weakness, and fell on its knees, although the cart was empty. They managed to get home by pushing it up hills. Prosecutor thought the animal wanted feeding, and when he got it to the stable he fed it well. The following Sunday the horse was seen by a friend who told him it was quite useless, and advised that it should be taken back to defendant. Accordingly prosecutor sent his son back to Walsall with the horse the following Tuesday, November 24, and on the way the animal fell down three times, although the cart was empty. The prosecutor met his son in Walsall, and together they went to see the defendant, who adopted a curious attitude. He did not reiterate the horse was sound, but he declined to return the money. In the presence of the son, defendant said to a friend, 'Fancy me buying that back again.' To the prosecutor he said afterwards, 'I will send for it when I am willing to have it back.' Prosecutor replied that he wanted his money back according to the terms of the warranty. He was afraid to take the animal back to Bradley lest he should be summoned; he stabled it, and then reported the matter to the police. The following day, when it was taken to the police station, it fell down again, and Mr. Paley, who was called in, said it was in such a terrible condition that it was simply cruelty to keep it alive. It was therefore destroyed the same evening. Mr. Tucker explained that the ground on which the proceedings were taken were that in the first place defendant said he was selling the horse because he was unable to follow his trade as a greengrocer, though he had not followed that business, at any rate, in recent years. Detective Burrell would state that as far as he knew the defendant was a horse dealer. In the second place, prosecutor relied upon defendant's specific statement as to the soundness of the horse. He submitted that the defendant must have known that statement was untrue.

The Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton): How many hundreds of cases do you get in which a man says a horse is the most perfect that ever trod shoes? The action would lie for breach of warranty.

Mr. Tucker contended that in such a case there could also be a prosecution of false pretences.

Evidence in support of Mr. Tucker's statement as given by the prosecutor and his son, Francis Albister, both denying in cross-examination that the horse was trotted up and down the street before it was purchased.

Questioned by the Clerk, prosecutor said the cart was not a good one, but the harness was fairly good.

The Clerk: You can't get much for £9.

Prosecutor said it was a horse he wanted; he was not particular about the cart or harness. He added that he knew nothing about horses.

The Clerk: But you know the difference between a clothes horse and one you can use. This is described as one you can use.

In reply to Mr. Platt, the witness said he would be satisfied if he got his money back.

The Clerk: You won't get it here, you know?

Prosecutor added that if he had known the defendant was a horse dealer, he would have had nothing to do with him.

Mr. A. E. Paley (veterinary surgeon) said the animal was an old bay mare, and he should say it was at least thirty years old. If the skin had been removed it would have been a natural skeleton. It had great difficulty even in walking out of the stable. It dragged its legs, and its knees were injured, evidently as a result of frequent falls. In his opinion it must have been in that condition – which was due to senile decay – for some months. It was totally unfit to walk, much less to work. On his advice it was slaughtered at once. Witness produced the animal's bottom jaw, showing that most of the molar teeth had dropped out. He said it was the oldest mouth he had ever seen, and it would be impossible for the horse to properly masticate its food.

Detective-sergeant Burrell stated that the defendant was a horse dealer, but he lived at a greengrocer's shop.

Mr. Platt submitted that the case was not one for criminal proceedings, and that complainant should have brought an action in the County Court. He also denied that defendant represented himself as a greengrocer.

After some legal arguments, the Bench announced the case had not been made out.

The Clerk said that did not mean the case was dismissed, but simply there was not sufficient evidence under the statutes to send the case for trial at the Quarter Sessions."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street. £1 4s 5d."

Rose Bull was originally Rose Toon. Her brother *Edward* ran the BULLS HEAD, Wednesbury.

Mrs. *Rose Bull* was fined 40s and costs, on 20th January 1923, for giving the long pull.

In 1925 it had a Public bar (16'9" x 21'2" x 11'6"), a Smoke room (15'6" x 13'6" x 10") and three bedrooms.

[1938]

Walsall Observer 26/8/1939 - Advert

"Bar General Wanted, live in.

Mrs. *Bull*, SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street, Walsall."

1939 Register

106, Stafford Street

[1] *Rose Bull*, date of birth 17/7/1873, retired licensee, widowed;

[2] *John T. Watkins*, dob 11/9/1904, brewer and public house manager, married;

[3] *Eva Watkins*, dob 24/8/1906, housewife unpaid, married;

[5] *Florence E. (Blandford) Fryer*, dob 5/11/1902, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 29/6/1940 - Births

“On June 27, 1940, at SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street, to Mr. and Mrs. J. T. *Watkins* – a brother for John.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street, £3 12s 0d.”

Evening Despatch 18/5/1943

“Apparently happy and looking forward to a holiday at Blackpool, *Rose Bull*, a 69 year-old widow and licensee of the SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street, Walsall, committed suicide in the canal near Birmingham Road bridge on Friday two days before her holiday was to begin. This was disclosed at the inquest in Walsall, when the Coroner recorded a verdict of Suicide while the balance of her mind was disturbed.

It was stated that the woman had enjoyed perfect health up to six months ago, when she began worrying about trivialities.

A lock-keeper, who recovered the body, said he found the woman’s hat, coat, and scarf neatly folded on the canal-side.”

Walsall Observer 7/8/1943 - Notice

“Estate of Mrs. *Rose Bull*, deceased.

The Auction Sale of the Freehold Beerhouse, the SEVEN STARS INN, 106, Stafford Street, Walsall, and the Retail Shop, 105, Stafford Street, Is Cancelled, The property having been Sold by Private Treaty.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SEVEN STARS INN, Stafford Street. £0 1s 3d.”

Stasys Markevicius – see also DUKE OF YORK.

Walsall Observer 21/2/1969

“Although he never used his van, a Walsall publican had to push it out onto the road on several occasions to allow vehicles to gain access to a factory, Walsall magistrates heard on Friday. *Ivan Allen* (42), of the SEVEN STARS, Stafford Street, Walsall, admitted using the vehicle without insurance and without an excise licence in Croft Street on November 7. He was fined £10 and ordered to pay £3 costs.

Inspector F. V. Dorney said that a policeman in Croft Street saw a Bedford dormobile van with no excise licence displayed. The owner said that the van was usually kept behind the public house but had to be moved to allow people to get in and out of a factory.

Mr. J. R. R. Benton, defending, said the case was a technical matter. The vehicle was not in use and had been pushed on to the road only to allow vehicles to get to the factory. Mr. Benton said Mr. *Allen* had a first-class character and had no previous convictions. He had 22 years of exemplary service in the Army.”

It was renamed DESI STAR. [2007], [2023]

SHAKESPEARE

1, (172), Peal Street / High Street (Church Hill), (Church Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Ebenezer Grove, The Delph, Brierley Hill

Thomas Sneyd and Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd. [1880]

Eliza and Joseph Guest, Walsall

LICENSEES

Charles James [1801]

Benjamin James [1818]

Joseph Hicklin [1822] – [1851]

Francis Baynton [1855] – **1856**
William Ringham [1858] – [1871]
Thomas Denham [1872] – [1878];
Eli Deeley [1881];
William Wooley [];
William Alfred Metcalfe [];
Thomas Sanders [];
William Henry Beddard [];
David James Jones [1885] – **1886**);
Eliza and Edward Guest (**1886 – 1889**):

NOTES

Church Street [1813], [1818], [1822], [1830]
Church Hill [1858], [1885]
1, Peal Street [1860], [1862], [1868], [1881]
172, Peal Street [1871]

SHAKESPEAR'S HEAD [1822], [1828], [1830]

'Walsall Past and Present' by David F. Vodden

"The SHAKESPEARE INN stood at the foot of Church Hill. It was a Georgian building with more ancient cellars from which it used to be possible to gain access to limestone mine tunnels."

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

'Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Clubs.....

Friendly Society, male, held at SHAKESPEAR, Church Street, supposed number 20 or 30, instituted 1799, surgeon Mr. Woollatt, secretary William Robinson."

AND

'Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Additional Friendly Societies, known by the name of Gift Societies.....

A Gift, or permanent fund, held at SHAKESPEAR, Church Street."

Joseph Hicklin = Joseph Hickling

1851 Census

Peal Street

[1] *Joseph Hicklin* (63), married, licensed victualler, born Welling Court, Warwickshire;

[2] Amy Clark (46), housekeeper, born Walsall;

[3] Joseph Freeman (70), lodger, labourer, born Corbit, Worcestershire;

[4] James Stoker (57), lodger, labourer, born Pelsall;

[5] Thomas Holt (33), lodger, brass dresser, born Walsall;

[6] John Renell (33), lodger, bricklayer, born Leicester:

Francis Baynton = Francis Boynton

Birmingham Journal 6/1/1855

"*Francis Boynton*, SHAKESPEARE INN, was charged with permitting drunkenness at his house on Christmas day. Mr. Bilson, superintendent of police, said that at about half-past six pm on the day in question, application was made to him to quell a riot at the house of the defendant. He (witness) instantly went with two officers and found fifteen men and four women in a room on the right hand. Seven men were drunk, and a man was standing up with his face scratched and bleeding. The defendant came from the tap, and was told by witness that the police had been called in. There was no disturbance when he (Mr. Bilson) entered the room. The witness left the house, and returned at eight o'clock, and heard Mrs. *Boynton* say, 'They're coming again; they had better come and live here.' The officer then went into a back room, and saw the man who had gone to the station. Witness inquired his name, and Mrs. *Boynton* said, 'Don't tell him.'

Mr. Barnett appeared for the defence, and after cross-examining the witness, called several witnesses to prove that three drunken Irishmen had entered the house, and the landlord had refused to serve them; that Mrs. *Boynton* had called in an officer to expel them; that Mrs. *Boynton*, not knowing the circumstances, had sent to the police station for assistance, and it was thus the police made their appearance on the scene. Mr. Barnett stated that this was a very similar case to one in which had been brought against Messrs. Fletcher and Sherratt, (the circumstances of which have recently appeared in the paper), some short time since, when the summons was dismissed. The Bench decided that the summons should be discharged in this case also."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/7/1856

“On Thursday evening, a respectable and numerous party partook of an excellent dinner at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road, Walsall, which was recently taken by Mr. *Francis Baynton*, of the SHAKESPEARE INN, High Street. Mr. J. Smith, of Dudley presided; and Mr. H. Farrington, auctioneer, occupied the vice-chair. The dinner gave very good promise of the entertainment Mr. *Baynton* would afford to his patrons, and a very pleasant evening was spent.”

William Ringham = William Kingham

Walsall Free Press 14/8/1858

“Mrs. Pember was charged by Mrs. Sarah *Ringham*, landlady of the SHAKESPEARE Public-house, with having on Wednesday evening made use of threatening language to her. After hearing the evidence the Bench reprimanded the defendant and dismissed the case.”

Birmingham Journal 27/10/1860 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Bateman, on Monday next, the 29th day of October.

Lot 2. All that very desirable old-established and well situated Inn and Premises, known as the SHAKESPEARE, now in the occupation of Mr. *William Ringham*, together with the Dwelling Houses and Premises adjoining, situate in and forming the corner of Peel Street and Church Hill, Walsall aforesaid.

The SHAKESPEARE INN and Premises, and the Dwelling House adjoining, are held by Mr. *Ringham* under lease, five years of which are now unexpired.....”

1871 Census

172, Peal Street

- [1] *William Ringham* (45), publican, born Longhouses (?), Huntingdonshire;
- [2] Sarah Ringham (57), wife, born Abbotts Bromley;
- [3] Elizabeth Stokes (17), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [4] John Loates (?) (64), boarder, born Acaster, Northamptonshire;
- [5] Sarah Loates (?) (57), boarder, born Daventry, Northamptonshire;
- [6] Thomas Hickinson (48), carpenter, born Ellen Hall, Cumberland;
- [7] George _____ (26), boarder, agricultural labourer, born Stafford;
- [8] Frederick Dicks (24), boarder, agricultural labourer, born Keighley, Yorkshire;
- [9] William Dicks (21), boarder, agricultural labourer, born Keighley, Yorkshire;
- [10] Charles Huston (16), boarder, printer, born London:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/4/1873 - Died

“On the 30th ult, at 4, Campbell Place, John Street, Moseley Road, aged 68 years, *William Ringham*, late of the SHAKESPEARE INN, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 7/6/1873

“William Smith alias Bedford, for having been drunk and refusing to leave the SHAKESPEARE public house, was sentenced to pay a fine of 10s and costs; or in default, to be imprisoned for 14 days.”

Walsall Free Press 6/9/1873

“On Tuesday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the SHAKESPEARE public house, Peal Street, upon the body of Amy Slade, aged two years, whose parents reside in a court in Upper Rushall Street. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

London Gazette 16/8/1878

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Thomas Denham*, of the SHAKESPEARE INN, Peal-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler. Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at my offices, No.6, Bridge-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on the 27th day of August, 1878, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 12th day of August, 1878.

John Glover, No.6, Bridge-street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/6/1880 - Advert

“Cannock Brewery Co. Limited require Tenders for Painting the Cement Work of the Frontage of SHAKESPEARE INN, Church Hill..... Sign Writing, as per List, at SHAKESPEARE INN, Church Hill.....

All the above are situate in the town of Walsall.

Particulars as to class of work may be obtained at, and Tenders received by Cannock Brewery Co. Limited, Cannock.”

1881 Census

1, Peal Street

- [1] *Eli Deeley* (46), mill roller, born Womborn [Wombourne?];
- [2] Rebecca Deeley (45), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Eli Deeley (22), son, iron worker, born Cradley;
- [4] Alfred Deeley (20), son, iron worker, born Pelsall;
- [5] Charles Deeley (15), son, iron worker, born Pelsall;
- [6] Sarah Ann Deeley (13), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [7] Matilda Deeley (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Frank Oliver Deeley (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Edward George Deeley (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] Florence Deeley (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [11] Harriet Rowley (22), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Observer 28/3/1885

“Mary Grimley, Church Street, was charged with being disorderly in the SHAKESPEARE public house, Church Hill, kept by *James Jones*.

Complainant stated that on Tuesday defendant came to his house, and asked people if they were begging. He was compelled to send for an officer to turn her out.

Police-constable Nicholls stated that he found defendant behaving in a very disorderly manner, and refused to leave the house.

During the struggle some beer was spilt.

Defendant said that she had had a little beer, and was very sorry for what she had done.

Finced 5s and costs, or ten days imprisonment.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1886

“*Re David James Jones*, the SHAKESPEARE INN, Peal Street, licensed victualler, formerly of 98 and 88, Market Hall, Birmingham, fruiterer. A petition on behalf of this debtor was filed in the Walsall Bankruptcy Court, yesterday, by Mr. C. A. Loxton, and the 15th September was fixed for the public examination.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1889

“The adjourned licensing day, which was held at the Guildhall, on Monday [23/9], had been looked forward to with considerable interest on account of the large number of objections to the renewal of licenses made by the Chief Constable. All the houses objected to, something like 162, had been visited by the Magistrates, and in the vast majority of cases the structural alterations required by the Chief Constable had been made, hence the objections were withdrawn. Others persisted in, however, with the result that the bench refused to renew the licenses of five houses, these being, the SHAKESPEARE, Peal Street; the UNION, Ryecroft; the BARLEY MOW, Church Hill; the PEOPLE’S MUSIC HALL, High Street; and the CROSS KEYS, Blue Lane. There is a very angry feeling on the part of the publicans at this result, and notice of appeal has been given in each case. As the matter will be brought for decision before the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, I will refrain from commenting on it.”

Closed

It was delicensed on 23rd September 1889.

It became a lodging house.

Walsall Advertiser 17/9/1892

“At the Police Court on Wednesday the case in which John Ricketts, keeper of the SHAKESPEARE Lodging-house, Peal Street, is charged by the police with bigamy, was down for hearing, but the Chief Constable said that owing to the absence of an important witness he was unable to go on with the case that day. In accordance with an arrangement with Mr. Waldron, of Brierley Hill, defendant’s solicitor, he asked for the case to be adjourned till October 5th.

The magistrates adjourned the hearing till this date; the affiliated summons by Hester Cooper against the same defendant, was adjourned to the same day.”

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“Mr. E. G. Franklin commenting on Mr. W. Meikle’s references in last week’s Observer to old Walsall inns, writes that he remembers the following public houses round about Church Hill: The BLACK BOY, FIELDGATE TAVERN, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ROSE AND CROWN, JOLLY BACCHUS, BLUE PIG, PAUL PRY, MALT SHOVEL, PEEL AND NELSON, SHAKESPEARE, HARE AND HOUNDS, ROEBUCK, EXCHANGE, GREYHOUND, OLD ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, RING OF BELLS, PEAL OF BELLS, BARLEY MOW, LEATHERN BOTTLE, QUEENS HEAD. Of these only two remain.”

It was demolished in the 1950s when the hillside was landscaped.

SHINGLERS ARMS

164, (12), Green Lane, Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Bissell, The Cedars, Great Barr
Messrs. G. and R. Thomas, iron founders, Birchills, Walsall
Bloxwich Brewery Co. (leased)

LICENSEES

Thomas Westley [] – **1857**);
John Leeson (**1857** – []
George Redfern [1858] – **1861**);
Henry Tricklebank (**1861** – [1862]
William Silvester [1864] – [1865]
William Turner [1868] – [1870]
Joseph Tift [1870] – [1871]
Mrs. Mary Hingley [1872] – [1881]
Joseph Letts [];
John Venables [];
Francis Mason [] – **1888**);
Edwin Ingram (**1888** – **1890**);
Isaiah Millington (**1890** – **1891**);
Francis Joseph Zeller (**1891**);
George Tully (**1891** – **1892**);
Samuel Bowen (**1892**);
George Tully (**1892** – **1894**);
William Bennett (**1894**);
Samuel Tift (**1894** – **1906**);
Thomas Bate (**1906** – **1907**);
James Bradbury (**1907** – **1908**);
Edwin Jones (**1908** – **1910**);

NOTES

Birchills [1860]
12, Green Lane [1861]
164, Green Lane [1871]

SINGLERS ARMS [1862] spelling error

Walsall Free Press 27/3/1858 - Advert

“Old Licensed Public House and Freehold Houses, at the Birchills, Walsall.

To Be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Henry Farrington, at the OLD STILL INN, Walsall (by order of the Mortgagee of Messrs. Lancaster and Brayford), on Monday, the 12th day of April, 1858, subject to conditions.

All those Two Freehold Houses, with the yards and appurtenances thereto belonging, fronting to Green Lane, Walsall; bounded on each side by the houses thereafter mentioned, and on the other side by the Birchills Ironworks.

The premises contain in the whole (including the site of the buildings) 21 perches, or thereabouts.

And also those Two Freehold Houses, with brewhouses, yards and appurtenances thereto belonging, adjoining the above mentioned houses, and bounded at the back by the Birchills Ironworks, occupied by *George Redfern* and others; five of which front to Green Lane, one being an old-licensed Public House, called the SHINGLERS ARMS, and the other five of which are situate at the back of the first mentioned five.

For further particular apply to Mr. S. Wilkinson, Solicitor, or the Auctioneer, both of Walsall.”

1861 Census

12, Green Lane – SHINGLERS ARMS

[1] *George Redfern* (38), victualler, born South Muskham, Nottinghamshire;

[2] Margaret Redfern (32), wife, born Dundee;

[3] Francis Redfern (11), son, scholar, born Newark, Nottinghamshire;

[4] Margaret Ellen Redfern (2), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 24/8/1861 - Advert

“To Be Let, with immediate possession, in the vicinity of a flourishing district, and old-licensed Public House. Apply at the SHINGLERS ARMS, occupied by *G. Redfern*, Birchills.”

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861 - Advert

“To Be Let, with immediate possession, that old-licensed public-House known as the SHINGLERS ARMS, Birchills, with stabling for six horses, piggeries, large yard, good supply of hard and soft water, and all necessary outbuildings. Rent £20 per annum. Satisfactory reasons given for leaving. Apply on the premises to Mr. *Redfern*.”

Walsall Free Press 26/4/1862

“Ann Chambers and Lucy Arrowsmith were charged with having, on Tuesday last, assaulted Mary Ann Ward. It appeared that on the evening in question, the mother went to the SHINGLERS ARMS, Birchills, to fetch her husband; and as he refused to come, she remained with him till the daughter came for both. While the daughter was endeavouring to get her parents home, a row ensued, but it was difficult to say who was the worst – the complainants or the defendants – the evidence being very conflicting, the case was dismissed, each party to pay their own costs.”

Walsall Free Press 3/5/1862 - Notice

“I, Martha Sylvester, wife of Thomas Sylvester, of Green Lane, Walsall, having on the 24th April last at the Guildhall, on the hearing of a charge of Assault, made untrue and slanderous statements about Mr. *Henry Tricklebank*, of the SHINGLERS ARMS, Bloxwich, do hereby express my regret, and apologise for having done so.

X The mark of the said Martha Sylvester.

Walsall, 1st May, 1862.”

Walsall Free Press 2/1/1864

“Levi Wilkes, Richard Butcher, and Richard Boot, were charged with assaulting John Gregory, from whose evidence it appeared that on Christmas Day, the complainant and his wife went to the SHINGLERS ARMS, and, while there, the prisoners came in and commenced a disturbance, and as the complainant was standing near the bar door watching the landlord turning them out, Boot seized him by the collar, and Wilkes by the hair of his head, and dragged him into the road, when Butcher kicked him. The others also kicked him, till he became insensible.

Mr. *Silvester*, landlord of the SHINGLERS ARMS corroborated the evidence of the complainant, the prisoners were in the house and created a disturbance, whereupon he ejected them, and, on his doing so, Wilkes said he would bring his ‘gang,’ and shortly afterwards someone knocked at the door and called out ‘Police!’ On the door being opened, about 30 or 40 men rushed in, and some of them assaulted Mrs. *Silvester*, who is near confinement. Witness requested them to leave, and, on their refusing, he struck Butcher through the bar window. Complainant, who was in the parlour, came into the passage, and was seized by the defendants and dragged out. When they got him out, they held the door so that witness could not get out, and, in a short time, complainant was brought into the house in a state of insensibility.

Complainant’s son and a Mrs. Chambers also corroborated the evidence of complainant as to what occurred outside the door, and the latter said she saw complainant on the ground, and, on lifting his head, Boot kicked her on the back of the head. On her saying complainant was dead, someone said he was not dead enough, and he would give him more.

Joseph Steadman said that after complainant was taken into the house, Butcher said: ‘Bring that man out, and I will pull his b——y heart out.’

Another witness named Patter, whose face bore the evidence of the violent treatment he had received, said that he went to complainant’s assistance, and was knocked down, kicked, and trampled upon.

Wilkes, in his defence said that he and Butcher had each drunk ten glasses of rum, when a boatman came in and quarrelled with Butcher. *Silvester* the landlord, then came in and turned them out, and chased him (Wilkes) down the street.

Boot said there was a row in course of which Gregory struck him, and, in return, he struck Gregory.

After making their statement, the defendants called David Cawley, who said that on the evening in question he heard a cry of ‘Murder!’ in the SHINGLERS ARMS, and, on going in, he was struck by the landlord, and he believed also by the complainant. When questioned by the mayor, witness said he did not see Gregory there, but he believed it was Gregory who struck him, because he was told Gregory was there.

Sarah Wilkes, sister of the defendant Wilkes, said that about eleven o’clock in the night in question she heard a noise at the SHINGLERS ARMS and, on going up to the house, found her brother, and took him away with her, and after they had gone away the noise continued, but they did not go back.

Thos. Morris was called and corroborated Wilkes’s statement as to the row with the boatman.

The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendants, whom they considered guilty of a gross assault, to pay a fine of £5 each, including costs, or, in default, to be imprisoned for two months, and stated that they were sorry they could not inflict on Boot and Butcher a severer punishment.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/7/1870 - Advert

“To be Let, Old-licensed House, SHINGLERS ARMS, Green Lane, Birchills, Walsall. In-coming about £130. Possession immediately.”

Walsall Free Press 6/8/1870

“*Joseph Tift*, landlord of the SHINGLERS ARMS, Birchills, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours; but as the house had hitherto been well conducted, the charges were withdrawn upon the defendant paying costs.”

1871 Census

164, Green Lane – SHINGLERS ARMS

- [1] *Joseph Tift* (40), publican and boatman, born Brownstone, Devonshire;
- [2] Rebekah Tift (36), wife, born Netherton;
- [3] Rose Hannah Tift (14), daughter, born Netherton;
- [4] Ralph James Tift (13), son, born Netherton;
- [5] Samuel Tift (10), son, born Netherton;
- [6] William Tift (9), son, born Rowley;
- [7] Edward Tift (4), son, born Ladymore;
- [8] Richard Tift (2), son, born Walsall;
- [9] George A. Tift (1), son, born Walsall;
- [10] Susannah Udall (16), domestic servant, born Rowley:

Mary Hingley = Mary Higley

1881 Census

SHINGLERS ARMS

- [1] *Mary Higley* (50), widow, publican, born Asterley, Shropshire;
- [2] Martha Everhall (16), niece, barmaid, birthplace unknown;
- [3] Richard Everhall (13), nephew, scholar, birthplace unknown:
[Asterley is about 9 miles WSW of Shrewsbury.]

Lichfield Mercury 8/6/1888

“At the Guildhall on Monday, *Edwin Ingram*, High Street, Bloxwich, was summoned for having three unstamped measures at the SHINGLERS ARMS, Green Lane. The defendant said he knew nothing about the matter himself, but he had ascertained that his manager sent the measures down to the office to be stamped, but it happened to be the wrong day, and before they were sent again the officer called. The defendant was ordered to pay the costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/7/1894

“At the License Transfer Court, at the Guildhall yesterday, the following transfers of licenses were granted.....
Victuallers the SHINGLERS ARMS, Green Lane, from *William Bennett* to *Samuel Tift*.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/6/1895

“*Samuel Tift*, the SHINGLERS ARMS, Green Lane, was charged with having stolen a plank of timber, the property of William Causer, 5, Upper Green Lane. Mr. Jackson defended.

Complainant said that on the 20th ult. a boat belonging to him was in the canal at the back of defendant’s house. On the following day, after prisoner’s men had been working on it, he missed a plank 16ft long, and valued 2s, from the boat. He subsequently found it in the workshop of a boatbuilder named Taylor, who told him defendant had placed it there. Taylor was not in Court, as he had gone to London for a week.

By Mr. Jackson: He purchased the plank and another in April from Mr. Bullock, auctioneer. *Tift* was using them at the time, having borrowed them from the Bloxwich Steel and Iron Company twelve months previously. Witness had not told him that he had bought them, although he only lived five minutes’ walk away. He was using the plank at the time he bought, and he fetched it from his father’s premises. Defendant had never claimed that the plank belonged to him.

In answer to the Bench, Mr. Jackson admitted that one of the defendant’s men took the plank, but he claimed it was his own property.

The Bench said it would be more satisfactory if complainant had an opportunity of bringing his witnesses, and the case was adjourned for a week for that purpose, and Mr. Jackson said that if he were allowed to give his explanation he could show that there could be no possible charge of larceny, but the Bench thought they had adopted the fairest course.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/5/1897

“Edward Tift (32), boatman, of Green Lane, was charged with disorderly conduct and with refusing to quit the SHINGLERS ARMS on the 5th ult. *Tift* is the brother-in-law to the landlady. He came into the house drunk and wanted to sleep there. She went to wake him, when he struck her in the mouth.

He now pleaded guilty, and was fined 5s and costs, or seven days.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/8/1899

“John Tift, of Green Lane, and George Tift, Wisemore, were summoned for refusing to quit the SHINGLERS ARMS when requested by the landlord, *Samuel Tift*. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) prosecuted.

The case for the complainant was that on Saturday night the defendants came to the SHINGLERS ARMS at about seven o’clock, but were refused audience, and John pulled off his jacket and wanted to fight complainant. At about a quarter to eleven both de-

defendants came again and demanded to be served. Complainant refused to supply them, and ordered them to leave. Both rushed at him, and George bit complainant on the arm and face, and also through his ear; and John struck him several times, knocking him about very much. John also threw a water bottle at complainant's wife. Both defendants stated that they were first assaulted, George stating the complainant struck him in the face, discolouring his eye. Each was fined 10s and cost, or 14 days."

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1904

"At the Walsall Police Court, on Wednesday, *Samuel Tift*, SHINGLERS ARMS, Green Lane, was summoned for neglecting to have his name painted on a cart which was being used in High Street, Bloxwich, on May 30th, and ordered to pay a fine of 5s and costs."

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1907

"Applications for the transfer of licenses were granted as follows.....
SHINGLERS ARMS, Green Lane, Jane Bate (widow of *Thomas Bate*), to *James Bradbury*."

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1908

"The annual licensing meeting for the borough took place at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....
Mr. Jackson also appeared on behalf of the owners of the SHINGLERS ARMS, Green Lane (Messrs. G. & R. Thomas), and the lessee (The Bloxwich Brewery Company), in regard to an objection that the license was not necessary. Chief Inspector Ballance gave evidence as to the house needing repairs, and Dr. Wilson testified to the sanitary defect.
Mr. Jackson said the matters referred to should receive immediate attention. The house was leased at £65 a year, the tenant paid £30 a year, and the fact that the tenant was able to make a good living was proof that the house was necessary. The license was renewed, the landlord's attention being called to the structural defects."

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....
Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....
Edwin Jones, SHINGLERS ARMS, Birchills.....
Mr. Jackson represented the owner, Mr. Richard Thomas; the tenants, Bloxwich Brewery Company; and sub-tenant, *Edwin Jones*. He pointed out that the takings averaged £35 per week, and for the last six months had averaged over £40."

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 25th February 1910.

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....
The ACORN, MALT SHOVEL, and WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street, MANDAMUS ARMS, Stafford Street, and the SHINGLERS ARMS, Birchills were referred for compensation."

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

"The Licensing Act, 1904.
Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.
Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1910, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....
List of Licensed Premises.....
SHINGLERS ARMS, Green Lane. Alehouse. Licensee *Edwin Jones*."

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1910

"A meeting of the Licensing Justices was held on Tuesday morning.....
The renewal of the SHINGLERS ARMS, Green Lane was applied for, *Edward Jones*, tenant for the Bloxwich Brewery Company, said the sales averaged 514 barrels for the last three years.
The renewal was refused."

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1910

"A supplementary meeting of the Licensing Justices to consider claims for compensation was held on Wednesday morning at the Guildhall. Mr. W. Bayliss presided, and there were present Messrs. W. E. Blyth, T. A. Smith, J. Clare, W. Halford, A. D. Cozens, J. J. Lynch, A. Jagger, and R. Thomas. The following houses came up for consideration.....
SHINGLERS ARMS, Green Lane; tenants Bloxwich Brewery Company; licensee and sub-tenant, *Edwin Jones*."

It closed on 30th September 1910.

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1910

"Some fifteen applications for the transfers of public houses were made to the justices, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....
Temporary transfers had previously been granted and in all cases the full transfer was sanctioned (with the exception of the SHIN-

GLERS ARMS, which is being closed), the Chief Constable making no objection.”

SHIRE OAK

261, Lichfield Road / Chester Road, Walsall Wood, (Stonnall), WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Ann Boulter [1883]
George Harold Boulter
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mrs. Sarah Hodgkins [1849]
John Hodgkins [1860]
Samuel Johnson [1863] – [1871]
Michael Harle [] – **1883**;
Mrs. Ann Boulter (**1883** – [1889])
George Coates [1883] manager
Thomas Croft Rogers [1887] – [1888] manager
Henry James [1889] manager
Henry J Hope [1891] manager
George Boulton (**1891** – [])
Thomas James Sankey [1896] manager
George Harold Boulter [1896] – **1900**;
Joseph Southall (**1900** – **1906**);
Alfred Stephen Holland (**1906**);
George Harold Boulter (**1906** – [1908])
George Freeman [1911]
Abraham James Lees [1912] manager
George Henry Boulter [1913] – [1919]
E Blakemore [1919] manager
William Durrant [1924]
Emily Durant (**1927** – [])
George Bufton [1932] – **1946**)
Rick Gothard (**2020** – [2023])

NOTES

SHIRE OAK HOTEL [1904]

[Black Country Bugle 29/12/2021](#)

[Article by Steve James](#)

“Shire Oak lies at the historic cross-roads of the main Lichfield-Walsall and London-Chester roads and marks the boundary of three parishes. In the early days, a fragment of the original oak tree recorded in 1533 was displayed inside the SHIRE OAK pub, but was given to Shire Oak school in 1966.”

[Staffordshire Advertiser 28/1/1843 - Advert](#)

“Freehold Land, Over Stonal, Shenstone.

To Be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Harris, at the SHIRE OAK INN, by the Lichfield and Walsall Turnpike Road.....”

[Staffordshire Advertiser 5/3/1853 - Notice](#)

“Notice To Creditors. All persons to whom the late *Sarah Hodgkins*, of Shire oak, in the parish of Shenstone, in the county of Stafford, was indebted at the time of her decease are requested to send in their accounts to *John Hodgkins*, of the SHIRE OAK INN, on or before the 21st day of March, 1853, that the same may be examined, and if found correct, discharged.

Shire Oaks, near Walsall, March 3, 1853.

(P.S. This advertisement not to be continued).”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/4/1857

“On Thursday last, G. H. Hinchcliffe, Esq, Coroner, held an inquest at the SHIRE OAKS INN, on the body of Enoch Solley Williams, aged 18. The deceased was employed in a coal pit at Pelsall, belonging to the South Staffordshire Railway Company, and on the previous Monday he was loading a skip, when about 4cwt of rock fell from the roof upon his head. He died immediately after the rock was removed, the place was about four or five feet wide, and there were wooden bars and trees up to the roof to support it, and the place was considered safe.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/8/1862 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that old-established and well-accustomed House, known as the SHIRE OAK INN, midway between Walsall and Lichfield. It is well situated, being at the corner of four turnpike roads, with 21 acres of good Arable Land. The present occupier is leaving in consequence of other engagements.

Apply to Mr. George Wright, Stonnall, near Walsall.”

Birmingham Gazette 29/8/1862

“Yesterday afternoon, Mr. Hooper, Coroner, held an inquest at the SHIRE OAK INN, on the body of a man, 20 years of age, whose name was unknown. It appears that on Wednesday afternoon the deceased was knocked down by the shaft of a wagon whilst walking on the turnpike road and killed upon the spot. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/11/1863

“Yesterday, at the Petty Sessions, Elihu Bate and John Hope, the former a butcher, and the latter an assistant surgeon, appeared before Messrs. J. E. Bealey and B. Bloomer, to answer three separate charges of wilful damage. The first witness was Rosannah *Johnson*, wife of *Samuel Johnson*, of the SHIRE OAK INN, who deposed that on the 7th inst, between three and four o’clock, she was awakened by a stone being thrown through her bedroom window into the room, and at the same time she heard the noise of a cart passing along the road. On Monday week the two defendants called upon her, and offered to pay all the expenses, and repair the window, if she would retire from the case, adding that one of them had lost his situation in consequence of the freak. Inspector Price deposed to having traced the marks of the cart wheels to Bate’s house, and to having charged the defendants with the offence. They at first denied it, but subsequently qualified their denial. In all there were fifteen houses in which windows were broken on the night in question.

In the next case, John Woodhouse, beerhouse keeper, of Shire Oak, spoke to a stone having been thrown through his bedroom window on the night of the 7th, and to the missile having fallen close to his head.

In support of the third information, Hannah Thacker, the wife of a brickmaker at Shire Oak, deposed to two stones being thrown at her husband’s house on the night named. One fell upon the roof, and the other broke one of the windows.

The defendants pleaded guilty, and the Magistrates having commented upon the wilful wantonness of their conduct, fined them £2 10s each for each offence, with costs, or three months’ imprisonment in default of paying each fine. The fine and costs amounting to a grand total of £18 5s 6d, or £9 2s 9d each, were paid.”

Walsall Free Press 18/6/1864

“On Sunday evening a distressing accident occurred at Shire Oak, near Brownhills, by which a woman sixty-eight years of age, named Mary Blaze, the wife of a spade maker, employed at Messrs. Elwell’s works, at Wood Green, and living at the Vicarage, Wednesbury, lost her life, and two other persons were badly injured. It seems that on Sunday afternoon, a party consisting of the deceased, Thomas Spittle, her son by a former husband, Mr. Jesse Bissell, of High Street, his wife, and two children, drove in a light trap from Wednesbury to Stonnall, and accomplished the journey without mishap. On the return of the party, however, about eight o’clock in the evening, and when they had reached the SHIRE OAK INN, the horse, which was being furiously driven, suddenly shied, and swerved to one side, causing the vehicle to tilt up and run on one wheel for a distance of several yards; but ultimately it overturned, and men, women, and children, were thrown in a heap into the road. Assistance was promptly rendered, and the sufferers were removed to the SHIRE OAK INN, and Mr. Baxter, surgeon, of Ogle Hay, was called in. It was then found that Mrs. Blaze was insensible, and suffering from paralysis of the spinal cord; and that Mr. Bissell, in addition to the bruises on various parts of his body, had received a severe wound of several inches in length just below his right knee, and frightful cuts about his face. His wife was also badly cut and bruised; but Thomas Spittle, although much shaken, was not seriously injured. The children escaped unhurt. The ill-fated woman, Mrs. Blaze, who, so it was stated, that day for the first time in her life entered a trap, never recovered consciousness after her removal to the inn, but died about twenty minutes to ten o’clock. The other sufferers were subsequently removed to their homes at Wednesbury, and are now going on favourably towards recovery. On Wednesday last, E. Hooper, Esq, coroner for the district, held an inquest at the SHIRE OAK INN, upon the body of the deceased. After hearing the evidence of deceased’s husband and another witness adjourned the inquest for a post mortem examination of the body.” [At the adjourned inquest, the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter, and Jesse Bissell was committed to trial at the Assizes.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/4/1870

“At the Wednesbury Police Court, yesterday, Edward Davies, a snaffle-bit maker, of Rycroft Hill, Walsall, was charged with attempting to commit a highway robbery on Rosannah *Johnson*, of the SHIRE OAK INN, Brownhills.

The complainant said she was going from Walsall to Aldridge in a trap with her sister, and she saw the prisoner behind them, on which she told her sister there was a man following them, and it would be better to go a little faster. She struck the horse to make it gallop, but as it happened to stumble the prisoner was enabled to get up to them. Her sister got out and went back to give a

warning, on which the prisoner said to her (complainant), 'I want you, and I mean having you. I have got you now.' She managed to get away from him, and drove the horse to a Mr. Coates's, which was about half-a-mile away.

In cross-examination by the prisoner, the complainant said Davies told her he would not go until one of them was taken up. She struck him with the whip, and said, 'I will take good care that you do not go until you are taken up.'

The prisoner said he could call witnesses to prove that he was not guilty of the charge, and he asked that the case might be remanded to Rushall, on Tuesday week.

The Bench granted his application, on the understanding that he found two sureties in £10 each."

[Edward Davies was found guilty of common assault, and sentenced to one months' imprisonment.]

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1871

"At Rushall Police Court, yesterday, before Messrs. J. E. Bealey and B. Bloomer, Patrick Lyons, Patrick Fox, and John Cassidy, labourers, were charged with an assault and wilful damage, and with having been drunk and refusing to quit the house of Mr. *Johnson*, the SHIRE OAK INN, when requested to do so. On Monday the men went into the house the worse for drink, and wanted more, which the landlord refused to supply, at the same time desiring them to leave. They refused, and on his sending for a constable, Lyons dealt him a blow on the nose, and Cassidy got him down, and held him there while the other two punched him. Cassidy also took up the fender, and therewith freely laid about him, as he did the others with weapons, the result being the furniture was smashed or broken to the extent of 30s. This they were ordered to pay with 27s costs, and a fine of 20s each, or two months' imprisonment in default."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/8/1882

"Brownhills Local Board.....

The presentation of plans for the alteration of the SHIRE OAK INN the projection of a bay window over the footpath was disallowed. In connection with this matter it was also decided that the road at Shire Oak should be made 50ft wide the same as elsewhere in the Board's district....."

Lichfield Mercury 16/2/1883

"Mrs. *Ann Boulter*, the owner, applied for a temporary authority to sell at the SHIRE OAK INN, Sandhills, the late tenant, *Michael Harle*, having absconded. There being no objection on the part of the police, the application was granted."

Lichfield Mercury 23/3/1883

"Brownhills Local Board.....

The Surveyor reported that he had received an application from Mr. *Boulter*, of the SHIRE OAK INN, asking for permission of the Board for a footpath to be constructed round the inn, also for permission to lay a drain across the road to take the water out of his cellars. The Surveyor was instructed to do the work, Mr. *Boulter* to defray the expense, as he had expressed a willingness to do so."

Walsall Observer 24/1/1885

"Walsall Police Court Yesterday.....

Bridget Killian, Freers Yard, was fined 5s and costs for being drunk at the ACORN INN, and refusing to quit."

Walsall Observer 2/5/1885

"On Monday evening last the members and friends of the Walsall Wood Athletic Football Club held their annual supper at the club house, The SHIRE OAK INN. The 'spread' was of a sumptuous character, and was served up in admirable style, reflecting great credit upon the hostess, Mrs. *Boulter*. After the cloths were removed the chair was taken by Mr. F. Bradbury....."

Lichfield Mercury 6/8/1886

"The annual festival of the Stonnall Female Friendly Society, which is held at the SHIRE OAK INN, took place on Monday last. At half-past ten o'clock the members headed by the Brownhills Band, and accompanied by several friends, marched to the parish church; prayers were read by the Rev. James Downes, and an appropriate sermon preached by R. W. Essington, from Exodus chapter 35, verse 25. Afterwards the members, &c, called at the vicarage, and the band there performed a selection of music. Proceeding to the SHIRE OAK INN, an excellent dinner was served to which 107 members and friends sat down. The Rev. R. W. Essington presided, supported on his right by Dr. Maddever and on his left by Mrs. *Boulter*. The vice-chairmen being Mr. T. Boulter (Kidderminster), and Mr. J. Sutton Barber (Lichfield). The usual loyal toasts were given with great heartiness, and the healths of the chairman, vice-chairmen, and visitors were given with musical honours. 'Prosperity to the Stonnall Female Friendly Society,' was proposed by the chairman and responded to by Mrs. *Boulter*. The health of the Rev. James Downes and Family was proposed by J. Sutton Barber and the Host and Hostess by Dr. Maddever. At five o'clock, the whole party adjourned to the cricket field and enjoyed themselves in dancing, football, cricket, and race running, Dr. Maddever acting as starter, Messrs. J. Sutton Barber and T. Boulter were judges, and Mr. H. A. Boulter as clerk of the course."

Lichfield Mercury 13/8/1886

"Joseph Wylty, miner, Brownhills, was charged with assaulting Enoch Cresswell, on the 2nd of August. Complainant, miner, Brownhills, said he was at the SHIRE OAK INN, Stonnall, on the day in question. A soldier was there, very tall, and witness saw two or three persons strike at him, defendant being one of them. Witness told him to leave him alone, when he turned on him and struck him a violent blow in the mouth. He afterwards struck witness two violent blows in the face.

Leonard Heath, miner, Stonnall, proved seeing defendant strike Cresswell.

Defendant stated he fought on self-defence, and called George Blundell, miner, Chester Road, Catshill, who stated he saw defendant and Cresswell fighting together for nearly a quarter of an hour. He heard defendant tell complainant he would not give him a chance again to summon him.

The Bench bound defendant over in £5 to keep the peace for six months, and ordered him to pay the costs £1.”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/6/1887 - Advert

“SHIRE OAK INN, Stonnall (mid-way between Walsall and Lichfield), is replete with convenience for Travellers or Picnic Parties.

Home Brewed And Best Ales.

Finest Wines, Spirits, Cigars and Cordials.

There is a New Athletic and Recreation Ground, with convenience for Children’s Treats; half a mile from Walsall Wood (M.R.) and one mile from Brownhills (L. and N.W.R.)

Apply, for information to *A. Boulter*, Proprietor.”

Lichfield Mercury 14/10/1887

“Humphrey James, miner, Walsall Wood, and John Green, miner, Stonnall, were summed for being disorderly and refusing to quit the SHIRE OAK INN, on the 8th October, when requested to do so.

Thomas Croft Rogers, manager of the SHIRE OAK INN for Mrs. *Bolt* [sic], stated the defendants were at the public-house at half-past nine on Saturday night, and becoming very quarrelsome he requested them to leave, but they refused to go. He attempted to eject one and in the tussle he was knocked down and kicked.

He did not press the case, but brought it forward as an example.

Fines of 2s 6d, and 11s 6d costs were imposed in each case.”

Lichfield Mercury 30/3/1888

“Two married men named respectively Joseph Coley, and William Snape, were both charged with having on the night of the 20th inst. while in Mrs. *Boulter’s* public house at Shire Oaks, seriously assaulted a man named Thomas Ball, a miner, residing at Freezeland Lane, Shire Oak, Brownhills, the accused denied the charge. The complainant stated that he visited the public house known as the SHIRE OAK INN between seven and eight o’clock on the evening in question. In the house he saw the defendants. The defendant Coley struck him and Snape did likewise. Their reason for doing so was because he had received money from a man named Blakemore, who had given it to him so that the defendants might not take it off him. The defendants said that the money was not Blakemore’s but theirs. This the complainant contradicted. The defendants thereafter assaulted him. Enoch Blakemore living at Walsall Wood said he was at the SHIRE OAK INN on the night in question. He attended the pigeon shooting match during the day at Brownhills. At the inn he saw both of the defendants. He also saw Thomas Ball there. A quarrel took place between the defendants and Ball about half-past nine o’clock. They (defendants) were wanting the money which he had given Ball to keep for him in case the defendants might take it off him. He during the evening played at ‘tossing’ with the defendants and ‘lost.’ They all tossed for money. The defendants had threatened to take the money he had in his possession from him previous to his having given the same to Ball to keep for him. He did not observe the manager of the public-house whilst the ‘tossing’ was going on. The house was crowded. He saw the assault take place before closing time. Both of the defendants wanted the money off Ball. One of the defendants said to Ball ‘if you don’t give us the money we will kick you up in the b——y air.’ The defendants afterwards struck Ball and also kicked him while he was down. He could not say as to whether the manager of the house (Mr. *Rogers*) turned out the defendants. Mr. *Rogers* interfered and took the complainants part. He (the witness) left as soon as *Rogers* appeared upon the scene.

Mr. Barnes: Why did you not give Ball a helping hand? – Because I might get the worst of it. (Laughter).

Thomas Ball (at the request of the Bench) was again recalled and said that he had received £3 10s 0d to ‘settle the matter.’ He was paid the money by *Rogers*, the manager of the house.

Joseph Martin was the next witness called. He was in the ‘vaults’ when the assault occurred. He heard the defendant Snape and Blakemore quarrelling over some money. He was also witness to the assault. He saw the defendants ‘punching’ and kicking Ball. He heard the defendant Snape say that Blakemore had taken a ‘quid’ off him. After the assault was over he saw Ball sitting on the ‘bench’ with his head down. He appeared badly hurt. But next day he saw Ball romping about and looking as well as ever.

Mr. Barnes: Why did you not offer any interference when you saw the defendants assault Ball? – Simply because I thought I might get into bother myself. (Laughter).

Thomas Rogers next gave evidence. He acted as manager of the SHIRE OAK INN. The money which he gave to Ball to ‘settle the matter,’ he received from the defendant Coley. He then narrated what took place between the defendants and Ball. He did not allow ‘tossing’ at the house, and was not aware of any ‘tossing’ having taken place in the house on the night in question. Cards were hung up in the house stating that no gambling of any description was allowed. He took Ball’s part in the row. Ball, after the assault, had a ‘cut lip’ and complained of being somewhat bruised. But he was not very much injured. He smoked his pipe afterwards and walked home. (Laughter).

Mr. Barnes: How came you to receive that money? – The defendants asked me to be their mediator in connection with the affair and accordingly settle it with Ball.

Did you give Ball some brandy and take him home? – I went with him, but gave him some brandy before leaving the premises.

The presiding magistrate: You must have thought it a very hard case when you gave Ball £3 10s.

The defendant Snape: I didn’t give *Rogers* any money.

The defendant Coley: Of course we paid *Rogers* the money so that he might settle with Ball. (Laughter).

The Bench found the defendants guilty of assaulting Ball, and accordingly mulcted them in a sum of £1 19s 6d each, including costs. Mr. Barnes thought that no expenses ought to be allowed the witnesses on account of their having attempted to keep the case out of court. They had in his opinion acted very improperly. This the Bench agreed to.”

Lichfield Mercury 26/7/1889

“*Henry James* (manager to Mrs. *Boulter*), SHIRE OAK INN, applied for one hour’s extension on August 5th (Bank Holiday), which was granted.”

1891 Census

Shire Oak – SHIRE OAK INN

- [1] *Henry J. Hope* (29), public house manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Ellen Hope* (30), wife, barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Charles H. Hope* (9), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Ernest A. Hope* (6), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Annie Maddon* (20), general servant, born Stonnall:

Lichfield Mercury 28/4/1893 - Advert

“SHIRE OAK INN, Stonnall, near Walsall.

Manager and his Wife wanted for the above, with reliable references; no young children. Manager required to work in small attached brewery; must be experienced, respectable, sober, and thoroughly trustworthy. Security required.

Apply *G. H. Boulter*.”

Lichfield Mercury 24/7/1896

“*George Harold Boulter*, brewer and landlord of the SHIRE OAK INN, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on July 2. Mr. Barnes represented the defendant.

John Turner, miner, Clayhanger, who had been subpoenaed by the police, said he was at the SHIRE OAK INN, on the date named about three o’clock. A man named *Insley* was there, and he saw him supplied with drink by the manager of the house. He saw him have two pints of beer and witness had a similar quantity. *Insley* was very merry and danced about the room, and witness also ‘jollied’ about a bit with him. A man was there playing the mouth organ.

Cross-examined: He had four pints of ale altogether that day and he was not drunk. He did not consider *Insley* drunk, only merry.

John James, labourer, Stonnall, said he saw *Insley* at the Inn, and he was not sober. Witness was there from three o’clock until eight, and during that time *Insley* was also in the house. When he went away he left *Insley* there.

Cross-examined: *Insley* did not appear sober when he went in.

Mr. Barnes: If you did not consider him sober why did you ask him to drink? – Witness: He looked dry.

Mr. Barnes: Oh, he was drunk and dry then! (laughter).

John Horton, bricklayer, Stonnall, said he considered that *Insley* was the worse for beer, but he could not say he was drunk. He thought he was in a fit state to be in charge of a horse and cart.

For the defence *Thomas James Sankey*, manager of the SHIRE OAK INN, *Joseph Raison*, labourer, Stonnall, and *John Griffiths*, miner, Shire Oak, were called and denied that *Insley* was drunk.

The Bench considered the case in each instance proved and fined *Insley* 5s and costs for being drunk in charge of a horse and cart, and ordered him to pay the costs in respect of the second charge. *Boulter* was fined 10s and costs. Altogether *Boulter* had to pay £3 13s 2d, and *Insley* £1 12s 4d.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1896

“The forty-fourth annual meeting of the members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New members..... Mr. *G. H. Boulter*, SHIRE OAK INN, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/10/1897

“Adjourned Licensing meeting. The magistrates’ clerk at Lichfield Court, on Monday, said that there was only one case adjourned – that of the SHIRE OAK INN. It was adjourned to enable the applicant to complete certain alterations. Superintendent *Barratt* said the requirements had been complied with, and the license was renewed.”

Lichfield Mercury 25/8/1899

“When Mr. *George Harold Boulter* came forward to make application for the renewal of the license of the SHIRE OAK INN, Stonnall, the Chairman remarked that the attention of the Bench had been called to a very shameful and indecent handbill in the nature of a parody of the Ten Commandments, which had been issued at the house.

Mr. *Boulter* said that the handbills came from Willenhall, and were sent by way of an advertisement, to the number of about 500. The Chairman said that it was a very shocking handbill to issue, and if such papers were sent out the Bench would have to make an alteration in the holding of the license.

Supt. *Barratt* said he was informed that these papers had been broadcast in the neighbourhood, and they certainly were most objectionable. He was not aware until he saw those papers and made inquiries that he, *Boulter* was not resident at the house. His mother told him that he did live there, but it appeared that he did not. Mr. *Boulter* had availed himself of his position as a licensed

victualler to put in a manager, but it was the only case in the division, and was highly objectionable. He would now give formal notice of objection to Mr. *Boulter*, and the case could be dealt with at the adjourned Licensing sessions on September 27th. The Bench said that would be a better course, and the renewal of the license was accordingly postponed.”

Lichfield Mercury 29/9/1899

“The application of *George Harold Boulter* landlord of the SHIRE OAK INN, which has been adjourned from the Licensing Sessions came up for consideration. An objection had been taken to the license on the ground that the landlord did not reside on the premises. Mr. A. W. Barnes (solicitor) appeared for Mr. *Boulter*, and said it was rather singular that Supt. Barratt should now raise an objection to the license now that it was held by Mr. *Boulter*. It had been held by his mother for a long time, and although she resided of the most part in Worcestershire no objection was raised. At the back of the premises was a brewery, and Mr. *Boulter* in consequence had a bedroom at the inn which he occasionally occupied, and was on the premises the whole of the day. He was a gentleman of good position, and it was awkward for him and his wife, whom he had recently married to reside on the premises. As it was he lived within two miles of the premises. As regard to precedent he might say that several Benches did not absolutely discontinue the practice. The second principal hotel in Walsall was in the name of Mr. Zeller, although he did not actually reside at the hotel. Under the circumstances he would ask them to renew the license to Mr. *Boulter* on the understanding that at the next transfer sessions they applied for the license to be transferred to the manager’s name. It would be very awkward if the Bench refused to renew the license that day. With respect to the objectionable circular to which attention had been drawn (a parody on The Ten Commandments), Mr. *Boulter* had not seen it prior to its issue, and had taken steps immediately to have it suppressed. Mr. Manley said the adjournment was asked for in order that another manager might be appointed. The notice of objection, however, having been read, it showed that the objections were that the license was unnecessary and that the licensee did not live on the premises.

Mr. Barnes observed that the police would not have objected to the license if the remarks had not come from the Bench as they did.

The Magistrates’ Clerk said that it was a very strict rule in that Division that the license should be granted to no one but the tenant. Mr. Barnes said the circular mentioned was an exact replica of one which had been issued in another town where no objection had been taken to it.

The Bench decided to renew the license on the understanding named by Mr. Barnes, that the application should be made for the manager.”

Joseph Southall = Joseph Southwell

Lichfield Mercury 12/1/1900

“*Joseph Southall* applied for a temporary transfer of the SHIRE OAK INN, lately occupied by Mr. *Boulter*. The application was adjourned for the production of an agreement.”

Lichfield Mercury 26/1/1900

“Mr. *J. Southwell* applied for a temporary transfer to him of the license of the SHIRE OAK INN. He stated that he was the manager at a salary, and resides on the premises. Supt. Barratt said that he had no objection to make. He had known Mr. *Southwell* for fifteen years. The application was granted.”

Lichfield Mercury 16/2/1900

“*Joseph Southall* applied for the full transfer of the license of the SHIRE OAK INN from Mr. *Boulter* to himself. Applicant stated that he was going to receive a salary of 30s per week, and the Bench refused to confirm the transfer.”

Walsall Observer 17/2/1900

“At the Brownhills Police Court, on Wednesday, *Joseph Southall* applied for a transfer of the license of the SHIRE OAK to himself, the license having been held by the owner Mr. *Boulter*.

The application had been before the Bench on several occasions and adjourned from time to time for the production of the agreement between the parties. The agreement was now produced, and after the Bench had inspected it they came to the conclusion not to grant the transfer.....”

[It was eventually transferred in July 1900.]

Joseph Southall was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protectin Society in August 1900.

1901 Census

Chester Road, Shire Oak – SHIRE OAK INN

- [1] *Joseph Southall* (44), licensed victualler, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] Emily Southall (42), wife, born Shire Oak;
- [3] Harriet R. Southall (17), daughter, born Norton Canes, Staffordshire;
- [4] George Southall (15), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] Joseph Southall (13), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] Richard Southall (10), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] Thomas E. Southall (8), son, born Walsall Wood;

[8] Harry F. Southall (5), son, born Walsall Wood:

Lichfield Mercury 11/10/1901

“Charles Taylor, cowman, Upper Stonnall, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly on the 1st inst. Pc Maclennan said he saw the defendant, who had been turned out of the SHIRE OAK INN. He was using bad language, and he gave no name or address, was locked up. It was his first offence, and the defendant was ordered to pay 4s costs.”

Lichfield Mercury 13/2/1903

“Donald McKay, tramp, minus one leg, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the SHIRE OAK INN, on February 9th, and also with breaking a pane of glass at the same time and date. *Joseph Southall*, the landlord, stated the defendant visited his premises and became very quarrelsome. When asked to go out he refused, and witness sent for the police. He also broke a pane of glass, doing damage to the extent of 3s. Defendant was fined 5s and costs for the first offence, 5s and the damage and costs for the second.”

Lichfield Mercury 31/7/1903

“On Monday the anniversary took place of the Female Burial Society, which is held at the SHIRE OAK INN. The members assembled in the morning, when the annual sharing was paid out by the secretary (Mr. John Craddock), it amounted to 7s per financial member. The members afterwards formed themselves into procession, and headed by the Brownhills Old Band, marched to Stonnall church, where a suitable sermon was preached by the Rev. Hutchinson. After service the procession reformed, and marched back to the Club House, where a good dinner was provided by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *J. Southall*), 80 members participating. The Secretary read the statement of accounts, and gave the amount of funds still in hand. The members finally indulged in dancing.”

Lichfield Mercury 12/8/1904

“Frank Page, farm labourer, Stonnall, was charged with having on July 16th stolen a mackintosh cape, the property of *George Harold Boulter*, at Shire Oak.

Prosecutor stated he was the owner of the SHIRE OAK INN, and on the Saturday in question he left his bicycle in the passage. There was a coat and bag attached to the cycle, and in the bag there was a cape. In the afternoon he found his pump missing, but did not miss the cape until the Monday morning on opening the bag. The value of the cape he placed at 5s.

Pc Mathews said on July 28th he received the prisoner in custody from Rushall police and the cape was also handed to him. In reply to the charge prisoner said, ‘I’m sorry about it; I was drunk at the time.’

Prisoner pleaded guilty, and was fined 10s and £2 7s costs; in default, one months’ imprisonment.”

Lichfield Mercury 25/8/1905

“Eliza Thornsball Farm, Stonnall, was summoned for using a cart on the highway without having the name painted thereon, on the 6th inst. Ps Tideswell said he saw a horse attached to a spring cart outside the SHIRE OAK INN, Shire Oaks. There was no name on the cart. Defendant’s son was in charge of the cart. A fine of 1s and 8s 6d costs was imposed.”

On September 28th, *George Harold Boulter* was fined £10 and £2 8s 6d costs, for having sold two gallons of port without a license between 31st March and 6th April, 1906.

Lichfield Mercury 28/9/1906

“*Jos. Southall*, late tenant of the SHIRE OAK INN, was charged with being disorderly and with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the SHIRE OAK INN when requested to do so by the licensee, on Sept. 12th. Mr. Frank Cooper (Messrs. Addison and Cooper, Walsall), prosecuted, and Mr. A. W. Barnes (Lichfield) defended.

Mr. Cooper said defendant was, some time ago, tenant of the SHIRE OAK INN, but for some reason or other he was dismissed. Ever since that time defendant had made himself as objectionable as possible. At Brownhills Police Court on the 12th inst. defendant gave evidence against Mr. *Boulter*, the owner of the inn, when concerned in an Inland Revenue prosecution. He came to the SHIRE OAK INN the same evening, and behaved in a very quarrelsome manner, and when asked to leave he refused and used very bad language. He (Mr. Cooper) thought that owing to the stringency of the Licensing Laws the licensee should be fully protected.

Alfred S. Holland, licensee of the SHIRE OAK INN, said that on the day in question defendant came to the SHIRE OAK INN with his wife, an ordered liquor. Upon the owner of the inn, Mr. *Boulter*, passing through the room, defendant made use of very bad language. He became very disorderly, and therefore witness asked him to leave. He did not leave voluntarily, but had to be ejected.

Evidence for the prosecution was also given by Jane *Holland*, Lichfield Road, Brownhills, George Price, Shire Oak, labourer, and John Richardson.

Mr. Barnes, for the defence, said he denied all disorderly conduct upon the licensed premises. Defendant did not go into the house for the purpose of ‘kicking up a row,’ but simply to obtain drink. Defendant rather resented being ordered out of the house without any cause. When he had left the house he admitted having used the language. He denied using any bad language at all in the house.

Defendant said he called at the SHIRE OAK INN on the day in question with his wife, to obtain a drink. He did not use any bad language in the house, neither was he disorderly. He admitted when he got on to the pavement he did use ‘indiscrete language.’ Emily *Southall*, wife of the defendant, said defendant never used any bad language, either inside or outside the house, neither was

he disorderly.

William Paget, Brownhills, miner, said the defendant had not been guilty of bad language inside the house. He was, however, speaking rather loudly.

Mr. Barnes: Had he (witness) been the licensee of the house he should certainly have ordered defendant off the premises.

By Mr. Cooper: Defendant did leave the premises without being forced.

The Chairman said the Bench considered the case proved, and defendant would be fined £5 and £1 4s 6d costs. The Bench were bound to protect licensed victuallers, and defendant having been a licensed victualler himself ought to have known better than endanger a person's license."

Lichfield Mercury 16/11/1906

"*Alfred Stephen Holland*, manager of the SHIRE OAK INN, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 3rd ult, and Job Griffiths, Brownhill, miner, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the SHIRE OAK INN on the same date. Mr. P. Burke (Stafford) prosecuted, and Mr. F. Cooper (Messrs. Addison and Cooper, Walsall), defended Griffiths, whilst Mr. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson, Walsall), appeared for the landlord.

Pc Lee stated that about 10-30pm on the date in question he was on duty near the SHIRE OAK INN. When in the passage leading from the doorway he saw Griffiths reeling about. The man was very drunk.....

The Bench retired, and after some considerable absence, the Chairman said the Bench were perfectly unanimous in their opinion that Griffin was drunk, and he would be fined 5s and 6s 6d costs. They also considered the case against the publican had been proved, and he would be fined £2 and costs.

Griffiths: I'll do time before I'll pay. – The Justices' Clerk (Mr. J. A. Thomas): Fourteen days then."

Lichfield Mercury 8/3/1907

"The adjourned licensing sessions for the Lichfield and Brownhills Petty Sessions were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. *G. Boulter*, the owner and licensee of the SHIRE OAK INN, applied for the renewal of the license.

The Clerk said the license was objected to by Supt. Barratt.

The Chairman: Didn't he withdraw the objection. – The Clerk: Practically, sir, but it was adjourned as Mr. *Boulter* was ill and unable to attend.

The police did not now press the objection and the license was granted, Mr. *Boulter* being cautioned to observe that the house was conducted properly."

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1908 - Advert

"T. Boulter & Son, Shire Oak (Near Walsall), Brewers, Maltsters, Spirit & Hop Merchants.

Noted Home-Brewed Ales And Stouts.

Guaranteed Brewed From Pure Malt and Hops Only.

The SHIRE OAK INN, which is within ten minute's walk of Walsall Tramway terminus at Walsall Wood, has been thoroughly renovated, and an excellent Bowling Green put down.

An Entirely New And Up-To-Date Brewing Plant has been installed, ensuring that our Ales and Stouts are of the finest possible quality.

Our Ales are to be obtained at the MINERS ARMS, Rushall.

FOUR CROSSES, Shelfield.

The RESTAURANT, Bridge Street, Walsall (Mr. P. Claridge's).

THE STORES, Freer Street, Walsall.

The Swan, Stonnall."

Lichfield Mercury 11/12/1908

"*George Harold Boulter*, licensee of the SHIRE OAK INN, was charged with not having his name in a conspicuous place on the inn. Pc Lee said that on Tuesday, the 10th ult, he visited the SHIRE OAK INN. He could not find any name on the sign, and on going in, the manager of the house said he did not think there was any name on the premises. On Friday he visited the house again, and in the vestibule he saw the name of the defendant printed on paper on a board. The board was not visible from the road.

He questioned defendant about it, and he said he did not think the board had been put up since Tuesday.

Mr. J. A. Thomas (Justices' Clerk) said that the case for the prosecution had not been proved, inasmuch as evidence was not forthcoming that the Justices had directed that the name should be visible from the outside of the building.

The case was accordingly dismissed."

Alfred James Lees was married to Florence May.

Lichfield Mercury 28/6/1912

"Richard Page, miner, Stonnall, was summoned for disorderly behaviour at Shire Oak on June 17th.

Pc Bennett stated that in consequence of complaints received he went to the SHIRE OAK INN and saw the defendant. The barmaid had refused to serve defendant as he wanted to fight another man. When witness arrived defendant went outside the inn, took off his jacket, and offered to fight any man at Shire Oak.

Defendant was fined 10s and 9s 6d costs."

Walsall Advertiser 13/12/1913

“Vincent Jones (36), labourer, of Summer Hill, was summoned by *George H. Boulter*, of the SHIRE OAK INN, for being disorderly and refusing to quit licensed premises on the 18th ult. Emily Edwards, barmaid, said that defendant used very bad language and helped himself to beer. He stayed about an hour after she requested him to leave. William Hitchins, a miner, gave evidence, and defendant, who had a bad record, was fined 5/- and costs (£1 8s 6d).”

Walsall Observer 17/1/1914

“At the Brownhills Police Court on Wednesday, a temporary transfer was granted from *George Henry Boulter*, licensee of the SHIRE OAK INN, Brownhills, of the license of the Swan Inn, Stonnall.”

Walsall Observer 26/2/1916 - Advert

“The Shire Oak Old Tree.

This was originally one of the oaks marking the parish boundary, and visitors calling at the SHIRE OAK INN, ten minutes from the Walsall Wood terminus, in opening hours, between 10.30 and 9.30pm, can still see a treasured portion of it.”

Walsall Observer 1/4/1916 - Advert

“SHIRE OAK INN.

This well-known hostelry, ten minutes walk from tram terminus at Walsall Wood, and from which magnificent views of fifty miles’ range can be obtained is open weekdays from 10.30am to 9.30pm.”

Walsall Observer 13/5/1916

“Thomas Horton, miner, Spring Hill, Brownhills, who did not appear, was at the Police Court on Wednesday, fined 15s for being drunk and disorderly on April 24.

Police-constable Bennett said that about 7pm he was on duty at the Lichfield and Chester cross-roads at Shire Oak, when defendant came up. He was very drunk and waving his arms about. He went into the SHIRE OAK INN, but was immediately ejected by the barman. He then offered to fight witness, who eventually got him home.”

Walsall Observer 17/6/1916 - Advert

“SHIRE OAK INN.

Teas can be supplied in this well-known hostelry, ten minutes walk from tram terminus at Walsall Wood, and from which magnificent views of fifty miles’ range can be obtained.”

Lichfield Mercury 26/9/1919

“On Monday a very pleasant party left the SHIRE OAK INN at 10 o’clock for Tamworth. The party numbered 26 returned local soldiers, who went as the guests of Mr. *G. H. Boulter*. They were favoured with lovely weather. Tamworth castle was visited, and subsequently games were played, races were held, and a football match, Married v. Single took place. Much credit is due to Mr. *E. Blakemore*, manager of the SHIRE OAK INN, who carried out the arrangements admirably.”

William Durrant was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in April 1924.

Lichfield Mercury 8/10/1926 - Advert

“Shire Oak Ales are Pure and Brewed from the Very Best Malt and Hops Procurable with the most Up-To-Date Plant, Brains, and on Home Brewed Lines.

Excellent Public Bar Value Given.

Mild Ale 6d, Old Ale 8d per Pint.

Call and Sample For Yourself At:

Fox Inn, Hopwas, Coton, near Tamworth.

Swan Inn, Stonnall.

SHIRE OAK INN, Shire Oak.

Scales Inn, Market Street, Lichfield.

Where a Homely Welcome with Pleasant Attention and the Best of Beer Awaits You Amidst Beautiful Surroundings.

Address: Shire Oak Brewery, Stonnall, Nr. Walsall.”

Lichfield Mercury 4/2/1927

“The annual licensing sessions of the Lichfield and Brownhills Petty Sessional Division, was held on Wednesday morning..... *Emily Durant* was granted the temporary transfer of the license of the SHIRE OAK INN.”

Lichfield Mercury 25/2/1927

“Mrs. *Emily Durant* applied for the full transfer of the SHIRE OAK INN from her husband *William Durant*, and in reply to a question by the Chairman (Mr. F. Powell) she stated that her husband went away in January. Mr. Powell then pointed out that a copy of the notice of transfer before the Bench stated to have been signed under *William Durant*’s hand on February 2nd. He had either been in the district or the notice was not in order. He asked if there was a representative of the owner, Mr. *G. H. Boulter*, present, but there was not.

The Chairman then said, however, that the irregularity had nothing to do with the applicant, and the transfer would be granted.”

Lichfield Mercury 28/6/1935

“The following licenses were granted.
SHIRE OAK INN, music and dancing.”

Lichfield Mercury 28/1/1939

“R.A.O. The annual supper in connection with the Prince of Wales Lodge took place at the SHIRE OAK INN, when nearly sixty sat down to an excellent meal prepared by the Host and Hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *G. Bufton*). Afterwards Mr. E. Harris (Grand Primo, of Shelfield) presided, and congratulated the Lodge on the progress made since its inception. A pleasant ceremony took place when Mr. H. Sadler (Knight) presented Mr. R. Pagett, City Minstrel, with an engraved jewel with his name inscribed for his services to the Lodge. The recipient suitably responded, and thanked them. A very enjoyable programme was given by Bros. D. Bradbury, W. Stanley, H. Peacock and G. Challis; accompanied by Mr. R. Pagett. At the close a vote of thanks was passed to the Host and Hostess, Chairman and the artists.”

1939 Register

261, Lichfield Road

- [1] *George Bufton*, date of birth 8/4/1879, licensee publican, married;
- [2] *Caroline Bufton*, dob 12/7/1882, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Alwyn C. Price*, dob 2/12/1913, mechanic, motor, heavy, married;
- [4] *Ivy L. Price*, dob 30/5/1918, unpaid domestic duties, married:

1944 Probate

“*Caroline Bufton*, of SHIRE OAK INN, Shire Oak, Walsall Wood, near Walsall, Staffordshire (wife of *George Bufton*), died 15 June 1944. Administration Birmingham 28 July to the said *George Bufton*, licensed victualler. Effects £126 18s 6d.”

Lichfield Mercury 23/8/1946

“The funeral took place at the Walsall Wood Parish Church on Friday of Mr. *Geo. Bufton* who for the past fifteen years has been the licensee of the SHIRE OAK INN. Deceased who was 67 years of age, was one of the keenest supporters of the Lichfield and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. In addition to the family mourners there was a particularly large attendance of the members of the Prince of Wales and other R.A.O.B. Lodges.....”

1946 Probate

“*George Bufton*, of SHIRE OAK INN, Shire Oak, Walsall Wood, near Walsall, Staffordshire, died 12 August 1946. Probate Birmingham 12 November to Arthur Hilton Shaw and William Grundy, plasterers. Effects £984 1s 3d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/11/1953

“Mr. J. Granham Robinson, Chasetown, was unanimously elected president of the Lichfield and District Master Butchers’ Association, in succession to Mr. Percy Coates, at the annual meeting of the association, held at the SHIRE OAK INN.....”

Sandwell Evening Mail 19/3/1993

“Bon Appetit Pub Grub.....
SHIRE OAK, Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood, Walsall.”

Express & Star 7/8/2019

“Two new four-bedroom homes are set to be built on a Walsall pub car park. Walsall Council’s planning committee are expected to approve plans submitted by Punch Partnerships for the two properties at SHIRE OAK INN, Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood. The company said it would be ‘business as usual’ for the pub and added that the current licensee supported their proposals. An existing beer garden will continue to serve the venue while 42 parking spaces will be retained for the pub. In their application to the authority, Punch said, ‘The application seeks to make better use of an underutilised area of the SHIRE OAK’s car park whilst contributing to the local housing need. The SHIRE OAK’s car park will be reconfigured to retain 42 parking spaces with a layout that better serves patrons of the pub and the publicans. This is sufficient to maintain the operational requirements of the SHIRE OAK going forward. The SHIRE OAK’s beer garden will be retained in its entirety, again, maintaining the pub’s operational requirements and ensuring ‘business-as-usual’ going forward. The tenant of the SHIRE OAK and current operator of the business has offered their wholehearted support for the scheme and the confidence in the ongoing viability of the pub.’ Two neighbouring residents objected to the proposal with concerns over the loss of spaces to serve the pub, as well as concerns the houses would result in on-street parking on adjacent Chester Road. But planning officers said parking spaces would be provided on site when the houses are constructed. They added the residential development would be separated from the pub, with different access for both and have recommended committee members grant approval.”

Express & Star 16/5/2023

“As pubs continue to battle the cost of living crisis, the *Express & Star* continues its Love Your Local series which celebrates our local inns. The SHIRE OAK in Walsall has become a hit with locals for its regular events, including the open mic nights which allows budding musicians to showcase their talents. The pub is run by former comedian *Rick Gothard*, 59, and his partner Cath-

ryn Jones, 45, after they took over in October 2020. After having a difficult start building relationships with the locals, a lot of hard work has gone into building the trust and now *Rick* says himself and Cathryn are regarded more as friends than just publicans. *Rick*, originally from Barnsley, said, ‘Cath owned a hotel in Scotland and we ran it for seven years before deciding to sell and we put our CVs out, and got offered lots of opportunities but the SHIRE OAK was ideal. It was a little difficult to start with, as the guy who had it before us had a good reputation and so it took a lot of work to win the locals over, but we turned it around, built many relationships, after a lot of hard work and effort. The hard work has not stopped though and still continues, we are still very hands on and we do not just rely on others to do the work. One of the great things we do is run regular events throughout the week, every night except Tuesdays and so it has become really popular. We also have done several charity events and helped campaigns for charity that local people have been running, all of this has really helped build that family-feel.’

The pub runs several events such as open mic nights, quiz nights, karaoke nights, live music and bingo – all of which comes from *Rick* having worked as a stand-up comedian when he used to live in Tenerife. He said, ‘I lived and worked in Tenerife and I would warm the crowd up before entertainment came on, and that has carried over into the SHIRE OAK. I still warm the crowd up, and so it is like Tenerife but without the sun. The open mic nights on Mondays really help promote lots of young local talent. We have seen a lot of young local talent come through and they invite people along to see them perform, and so they appreciate the platform we are providing but we also appreciate them because they are bringing people in and so it helps everyone all around. We serve food daily here too from midday, and on Sundays we do Sunday roasts which have become so popular. We initially started doing them when we took over and people wanted them as takeaways as you couldn’t eat in due to the lockdown, and so it became a massive hit and has carried on ever since. One thing that we are proud of is that everything is made fresh on the day onsite, nothing is frozen and so customers can taste the difference and really appreciate that. It has become so popular that a table has to be booked in order to eat here on a Sunday.’”

[2023]

SIR CHARLES NAPIER

153, (143), Milton Street / Lord Street, Palfrey, WALSALL

OWNERS

Robert Trussler, Walsall Wood
James Merridon [1861]
J. W. Brooks
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Robert Trussler [1856] – [1859]
Samuel Jenkins [1860] – [1861]
James Maiden [1861]
George Griffin [1864] – [1865]
John Griffin [] – **1865**);
Thomas Howley (**1865 – 1866**);
Isaac Dolphin (**1866** – [1868]
James D Coates [] – **1869**);
George Bayley (**1869** – []
Thomas Walters [1869]
William Molyneux [1871]
Thomas Farrington [1872] – [1881];
Thomas Fletcher [1876] ?
Jacob Chilton [];
Thomas Henry Faulkner [1886] – **1887**);
George Edward Elwell (**1887**);
Henry Anning (**1887 – 1889**);
William Hancock (**1889 – 1918**);
Mrs. Hannah Hancock (**1918 – 1921**);
John Herbert Taylor (**1921 – 1923**);
Mrs. Rose Hancock (**1923 – 1962**);
Katherine Mary McAllister (**1962 – 1963**);
Pauline Olive Sylvia McAllister (**1963 – 1964**);
Brian William Parker (**1964 – 1966**);

George Edward Morris (1966 – 1967);

Kenneth Arthur Walker (1967 – []

Michael Greenfield [1983]

Karmjit Singh [2007] – [2017]

NOTES

Lord Street, Palfrey [1865]

143, Milton Street [1891], [1896], [1904]

153, Milton Street [1908], [1911], [1932], [1939], [1940]

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day appointed for the renewal of old licenses, and considering the application for new ones, there was a rather full attendance of magistrates.....

There were no less than twenty-eight applications for new licenses, all of which were refused with the exception of *Robert Trussler*, beerhouse keeper, Palfrey Green.....

The applications were for the most part refused, in consequence of the number of houses already licensed in the respective localities, and in a few instances from the want of sufficient accommodation.”

Walsall Free Press 20/6/1857 - Advert

“A Public Tea Party to be held at Mr. *R. Trussler*’s, The SIR CHARLES NAPIER INN, Palfrey.

Mr. *R. Trussler* begs to return thanks to the public for the kind patronage they have hitherto shewn him; and likewise to inform them that he has made great improvements in his Pleasure Garden, to enable parties to enjoy themselves at the Second Annual Tea Party, which will be held on Monday next, June 22nd, 1857, at Five o’clock in the Afternoon. Dancing to commence at Seven o’clock. Tickets, One Shilling each; Music included.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/3/1858 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Public Houses, Messuages, Hereditaments, and Premises, situate at Palfrey Green, Walsall, and Bloxwich, in the County of Stafford.

H. Farmington will Sell by Auction, at the NEW INN, Park Street, Walsall, on Tuesday next, the 30th day of March, 1858, at seven o’clock in the evening.....

Lot 1. All those four Messuages or Tenements, or Dwelling Houses, with Brewhouses, Outbuildings, and Garden Ground, thereunto belonging, situate and being at Palfrey, near Walsall aforesaid (bounded on the one side by the property of Mr. Burns, and on the other by the SIR CHARLES NAPIER INN), now in the several occupations of James, Biddle, Stackhouse and Long, at a rental of £34 9s per annum.

Lot 2. All that Old Licensed and well-frequented Public House, called the SIR CHARLES NAPIER, adjoining the abovementioned Premises, with Brewhouse, Stable, Piggery, Pleasure and Kitchen Gardens (tastefully laid out), Outbuildings, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, now in the possession of Mr. *Robert Trussler*, the Proprietor.

This lot is sold subject to the rights of the purchasers of Lots 1 and 3 to the use of the water from the pump as now used.

Lot 3. All those Four other Messuages, Tenements, or Dwelling Houses, adjoining Lot 2, with the brewhouses and Outoffices thereunto belonging, in the respective occupations of Mills, Challinor, Becket and another, producing an annual rental of £31 4s.....”

Walsall Free Press 29/5/1858 - Advert

“Old Licensed Public House, The SIR CHARLES NAPIER, at Palfrey, Walsall.

By Mr. H. Farrington, To Be Let, and entered upon immediately, that old Licensed and well frequented Public House, known as the SIR CHARLES NAPIER, pleasantly situated at Palfrey Green, within half a mile of the town, now in the occupation of Mr. *R. Trussler*.

The house contains a capital tap room, seated round, a capital retail shop now used as a huckster’s and grocer’s, good bar, bar parlour and liquor shop, parlour, brew-house, good cellars with entrance to the yard, lodge room, and suitable bedrooms, large yard, pumps of good water, retail coal yard, stabling, piggeries, marble alley, bowling and dancing green, fitted with six alcoves, good kitchen garden, and every convenience for carrying on a good trade.

The fixtures, brewing utensils, licenses, stock-in-trade will be required to be taken to in the usual way.

To an energetic couple the above presents a most desirable opportunity, as a good trade may be done in the grocery and provision business, the premises being so well arranged for that purpose as well as a respectable business in the ale and spirits, it being the principal inn in the neighbourhood. The rent and payments very low, a lease may be had if required.

For particulars apply 49, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 19/6/1858

“*Robert Trussler*, landlord of the SIR CHARLES NAPIER Public-house, Palfrey, was summoned for having had his house open for the sale of beer before the hour of half-past twelve o’clock on the afternoon of Sunday last. The above having been proved by Police-constable Pargeter, *Trussler* was fined 10s and costs, a former conviction having been proved against him.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... applications for renewal of old licenses, and the granting of new ones.....

The application of *Robert Trussler*, of the SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Palfrey, who had been twice convicted – once on the 21st of September last, on which occasion he was fined 5s and costs for refusing to admit the officer on duty, and again on the 16th of June, on which occasion he was fined 10s and costs for having kept his house open on Sunday for the sale of drink during prohibited hours, was refused.”

Walsall Free Press 20/8/1859 – Advert

“Sale At Palfrey, near Walsall.

To Be Sold by Auction, By Mr. George Bayley, on Thursday Next, August 25th, 1859, at the SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Palfrey, belonging to Mr. *R. Trussler*, who is declining the business, a portion of the Household Furniture, and other effects, not required by the in-coming tenant; consisting of chairs, tables, oil paintings and engravings in frames; eight-day and other clocks, bedsteads, prime feather beds, chest of drawers, chamber furniture, and other household requisites; also an excellent In-calving Cow, seven prime store pigs, carts, hand-cart, wheelbarrow, set of harness, and numerous other articles, on the premises as above. The whole will be sold without reserve, under the usual conditions. Sale to commence at 12 o'clock-noon. Auctioneer's residence, No.4, Lichfield Street.”

Walsall Free Press 23/6/1860 - Advert

“The SIR CHARLES NAPIER, at Palfrey to be let, with immediate possession. Coming-in low. Apply to Mr. Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

1861 Census

Palfrey – SIR CHARLES NAPIER Public House

- [1] *James Maiden* (34), publican, born Bilston;
- [2] *Maria Maiden* (34), wife, born Essington;
- [3] *Jeremiah Trussler* (52), lodger, labourer, born Harpole, Northamptonshire;
- [4] *Francis Piggott* (45), lodger, labourer, born Broseley, Shropshire:

George Griffin was also a shopkeeper. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 15/9/1866 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that Old Licensed Inn, the SIR CHARLES NAPIER situate at Palfrey, in the Foreign of Walsall, now doing a good business; the Stock (which is low) and Fixtures to be taken at a valuation. For particulars apply to John Osbourn, Auctioneer and Appraiser, 52, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.”

Thomas Howley = Thomas Hawley

London Gazette 13/11/1866

“*Thomas Hawley*, of Palfrey, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Stirrup Maker and Licensed Victualler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 23rd day of October, 1866, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination, and make application for his Discharge, will be held at the said Court, at the Court-house, Goodall street, Walsall, on the 28th day of November instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. *Frederic F. Clarke*, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and *Mr. John Ebsworth*, of Wednesbury, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Isaac Dolphin = Samuel Dolphin

Walsall Free Press 30/11/1867

“*Samuel [sic] Dolphin*, landlord of the SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Palfrey, who had been convicted of a similar offence in September last, was charged with having, on Sunday, had his house open for the sale of liquor during prohibited hours. *Mrs. Dolphin*, who appeared for her husband, admitted the charge; and the Bench fined the defendant £1 and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 1/2/1868

“*Isaac Dolphin*, landlord of the SIR CHARLES NAPIER public house, was charged with having on Sunday last had his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours. Acting-sergeant *Rall* said he, in company Police-constable *Elms*, at twelve o'clock, went and found in the brewhouse ten men, and in a tub he discovered two pints and a glass of ale. The officer then went into the house and told the landlady what he had seen and asked her to account for it, and she said they were *Wednesbury* men. While he was in the house the landlord came down stairs and said to the officer ‘Are you going to send me to my grave?’ The officer replied ‘I have no wish to do anything of the kind, but if you break the law you must abide by it.’ Three of the men were known by the officer to be inhabitants of Walsall. Police-constable *Elms* was next called, but before he was examined, *Mr. Glover*, who appeared for the defendant, said he had a witness to prove that the men in the house were from *Wednesbury*; but as he had just ascertained that the witnesses, who could not wait any longer, had left the court, he (*Mr. Glover*) would on behalf of his client plead guilty, and he hoped their worships would only inflict a nominal fine.

The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant, who had been twice convicted under the same act since the last

licensing day, to pay a fine of 10s and costs.”

London Gazette 7/8/1868

“*Isaac Dolphin*, now of SIR CHARLES NAPIER INN, Palfrey, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Coal Dealer, formerly of No.3, Day-street, Walsall aforesaid, Beerhouse Keeper and Coal Dealer, and previously thereto of Green-lane, Walsall aforesaid, Charter Master, Coal Dealer, and Carter, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 3rd day of August, 1868, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 18th day of August instant, at twelve of the Clock at noon precisely, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. John Glover, of Walsall, the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Walsall Free Press 22/8/1868

“*Isaac Dolphin*, landlord of the SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Palfrey, was charged with having at 11.45am, on Sunday, the 16th inst, had his house open for the sale of beer.

Police-sergeant Childs, said at the hour in question, he visited the defendant’s house, and found four men, and on the table several jugs, two of which contained liquor. In the garden were several other men, and in the arbour two quart jugs. He called the defendant and said he would report the house. Defendant replied ‘I suppose I am a dead man tomorrow.’

Mr. Glover, who appeared for the defendant, cross-examined the officer, who said, he did not see any bills posted on the defendant’s house; but on returning to the police station he was informed by Sergeant Ogden that defendant was a bankrupt. Mr. Glover contended that the defendant having been declared a bankrupt on the 3rd of August, the defendant on the 16th of August was not actually the responsible party. Mr. Glover then made a very able appeal on behalf of his client, who is in a very precarious state of health, and was now penniless, and could not pay any fine inflicted.

The Bench, under the peculiar circumstances, allowed the defendant to be discharged on paying 5s costs.”

Walsall Free Press 14/11/1868 - Advert

“To Be Let, that Old Licensed Inn, the SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Palfrey, Walsall, no Stock, Fixtures to be taken at a fair valuation.

Enquire on the premises.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/2/1869

“At the Public Office yesterday, before Messrs. J. Hildick (Mayor), J. Brewer, and H. Highway, the following publicans and beer-house keepers were each fined 2s 6d and cost for having had their houses open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours. *Thomas Walters*, landlord of the SIR CHARLES NAPIER, public-house, Palfrey, who, at five minutes past twelve o’clock Sunday last, had five men drinking in his house.”

Walsall Free Press 13/5/1871

“*William Molyneux*, landlord of the CHARLES NAPIER public-house, Palfrey, was charged with having had his house open between eight and nine o’clock on Sunday morning last. Elizabeth Betts, wife of Samuel Betts, said at the time in question she went to defendant’s house and found her husband and two other men drinking, and called defendant’s attention to the fact, and he said he had only just come down stairs. On cross-examination, witness said the front door was closed but the back door was open. This being the case for the prosecution, Mr. Dale, who appeared for the complainant, said inasmuch as his client had not been summoned for selling ale but for keeping open his house, the charge had been proved. The Bench over-ruled this objection, although Mr. Dale quoted the case of ‘*Tenant v. Cumberland*,’ wherein it was held, the street door having been shut the house must be considered to be closed. Mr. Dale then said the offence was committed without the knowledge and consent of the defendant by his servant. Jane Stevens, who on being called, said she supplied the ale to the men on the morning in question although her master had told her not to fill drink on Sunday, but she did it rather than call her master up. The Bench said the case was a very proper one to have been brought before them, and they had some difficulty in coming to a decision; but after considering all the circumstances, the Bench decided to dismiss the case.”

Birmingham Gazette 7/7/1871 - Advert

“To Let, that Old-Licensed House, the SIR CHARLES NAPIER INN, Palfrey, near Walsall, with Bowling Alley and Quoit Green, also every convenience for doing a good business. In-coming at Valuation.

For particulars, &c, apply on the Premises.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session. The licenses of the undermentioned were renewed with cautions, viz:

Thomas Fletcher, SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Palfrey In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Ryecroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

1881 Census

Milton Street – NAPIER

[1] *Thomas Farrington* (44), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Hannah Farrington* (46), wife, born Walsall;

- [3] Thomas Farrington (22), son, carpenter, born France;
- [4] Henry Farrington (21), son, collar maker, born France;
- [5] Joseph Farrington (17), son, purse maker, born Walsall;
- [6] Alice Farrington (13), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [7] Prudence Astley (21), domestic servant, born Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 20/8/1881 - Advert

“Walsall Amateur Florist Society.

A Meeting of the above Society will be held at the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, at 8 o'clock, on Monday Next; Thursday, RED LION, Bloxwich Road; Friday, SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Palfrey.

Any person desiring to tender for Refreshments, please send tender in by 6 o'clock on Monday next, August 22nd, to the FITTERS ARMS, Hatherton Street.

H. C. Bowen, Hon. Sec.”

Walsall Observer 21/3/1885

“At the County Court on Wednesday, before His Honour Judge Griffiths, application was made for an administration order against *Thomas Farrington*, late of the SIR CHARLES NAPIER INN, Palfrey. Mr. E. Evans appeared for the debtor, and Mr. J. N. Cotterell for Mr. Ellis's trustees, who were creditors for coal supplied.

Mr. Evans pointed out that all the debts with the exception of the one to Mr. Ellis's trustees, were trade debts, and he asked that, as the debtor had paid all his money to the creditors as far as it would go, his honour would make an order for payment of a composition only and not for payment of the full amount of the debts, £438 2s 6d. His Honour said that had it not been for the debt to these trustees, which was not a trade debt, he should have been inclined to order a composition in this case, though he had never done that before, but under the circumstances he must order payment in full by 10s a month. Mr. J. N. Cotterell was appointed to see to the order being carried out.”

Thomas Henry Faulkner was fined 40s and costs, on 6th August 1886, for opening on Sunday.

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of *William Hancock*, the SIR CHARLES NAPIER. Refused.”

1891 Census

143, Milton Street – Public House

- [1] *William Hancock* (40), bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [2] Catherine Hancock (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Alfred Hancock (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Matilda Hamilton (27), boarder, machinist, born Crewe;
- [5] Hannah Pickering (16), general servant, born Moseley Village:

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

Application for extensive structural alterations at the SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Palfrey, was made by Mr. Jackson, who said the suggested alterations involved the taking out of the windows and the making of a level front, also the throwing of the bagatelle room into the vaults. The Chief Constable strongly opposed on the grounds that what the application really meant was to convert this old-fashioned house into a gin palace. The application was refused by the magistrates.”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

“Sick and Dividend Society. The fourth annual meeting in connection with the SIR CHARLES NAPIER club, was held at the club house on Wednesday, Mr. T. Farrington in the chair. The secretary (Mr. A. Hancock) read the balance sheet.....”

William Hancock = William Hancox

1901 Census

143, Milton Street

- [1] *William Hancock* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Hannah Hancock (25), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Alfred Hancock (23), son, barman, born Walsall;
- [4] William Hancock (8), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Gladys Hancock (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Emma Pickering (24), general servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] Mary Pugh (13), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 9/8/1902

“An application was made on behalf of *William Hancox*, of the SIR CHARLES NAPIER INN, Palfrey, for an occasional license to sell intoxicating liquor at the Palfrey Flower Show, to be held in Palfrey Park.

Mr. Jupp asked why the occasional license should be till 10pm, when the show closed at 8pm.

Mr. Thomson (Chief Constable) said no doubt there would be a band engaged, which would play after 8pm.

Mr. Jupp, however, remarked that the license was granted for the purpose of the show, and not for anything else.

It transpired that the occasional license on previous occasions extended till 10pm, and the Magistrates again granted it till that time.”

1911 Census

153, Milton Street – SIR CHARLES NAPIER INN

[1] *William Hancock* (60), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Hannah Hancock* (35), wife, married 12 years, born Walsall;

[3] *William Hancock* (18), son, pattern making (lead), born Walsall;

[4] *Gladys Hancock* (11), daughter, school, born Walsall;

[5] *Benjamin Hancock* (5), son, born Walsall;

[6] *Rhoda Brindley* (17), general servant, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

NAPIER INN, Milton Street. £0 18s 8½d.”

Walsall Observer 27/12/1924

“The SIR CHARLES NAPIER Sick and Dividend Society, which has a membership of 160, and which has been in existence for thirty years, has just paid its members a dividend of 11s 11d.....”

1939 Register

153, Milton Street

[1] *William E. Hancocks*, date of birth 12/5/1892, publican, married;

[2] *Rose Hancocks*, dob 2/6/1892, licensed victualler, married;

[3] *Maurice Hancocks*, dob 27/3/1921, clerk, local government, single;

[4] *Marion R. (Hancocks) Gray*, dob 29/3/1927, at school, single;

[5] *Teresa Murphy*, dob 8/2/1920, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Milton Street, £3 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Milton Street. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SIR CHARLES NAPIER, Milton Street. £1 18s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 17/11/1945 - Personal

“Mrs. *T. Hancock*, 113, Walhouse Road, Mr. and Mrs. *T. Hancock*, SIR CHARLES NAPIER, wish to thank Neighbours, Friends, and Customers for sympathy and kind enquiries during Maurice’s illness. Also Rev. T. Nigel Hulme, St. George’s Church for prayers offered. They’re happy to say that he is now making satisfactory progress.”

Plans for structural alterations were approved on 28th April 1966.

George Edward Morris – see also HOPE AND ANCHOR, PRESIDENT LINCOLN, STARTING GATE, GREEN MAN, and CROWN AND CUSHION.

[2017]

SIR ROBERT PEEL

104, Bell Lane, (8, Short Heath), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Somerfield, Sandbank, Bloxwich
J. Foster Esq.
J. H. Deakin, Manchester
Manchester Brewery Co. Ltd.
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
[Craft Union Pub Company](#) [2022]

LICENSEES

Edward Somerfield [1849] – [1872];
John Donnellan [1880] – [1881];
Mary Winifred Donellan [];
Alfred Edwin Barney [] – **1888**);
George Taylor (**1888 – 1893**);
Alfred E. Barney [1891]
James McCabe (**1893 – 1895**);
George Taylor (**1895 – 1901**);
Mrs. Zilpha Agnes (Taylor) Duckhouse (**1901 – 1906**);
John Donnelly [1909] ?
John James Perry (**1906 – 1915**);
William Walkerdine (**1915 – 1920**);
Arthur Robert Boyce (**1920 – 1928**);
Mrs. Agnes Banks (**1928 – 1934**);
Samson Horney (**1934 – 1955**);
Charlotte Harvey (**1955 – 1960**);
Dennis Alfred Smith (**1960 – 1966**);
Leslie Harold Curtis (**1966 – []**)
[Daryl Billing](#) (**2022 – []**)

NOTES

8, Short Heath [1871]
104, Bell Lane [1881], [1891], [1901], [1932], [1939], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Edward Somerfield, beer retailer, Bloxwich. [1849], [1850]

Walsall Free Press 13/2/1858

“Thomas Stackhouse was charged with having driven a stage coach without a license on the 2nd of January last. Mr. Harding, of Birmingham, who appeared for the prosecution, stated the circumstances of the case, and said that by the 2nd & 3rd William IV, cap. 6, it was enacted that every carriage driven as a stage coach, at a rate of three miles an hour, is required to be licensed, and by a subsequent Act, viz, 6 and 7 William IV, cap. 65, sec. 7, it was enacted that any carriage, driven at the rate of four miles an hour, should be considered a stage coach within the meaning of the Act; and if he (Mr. Harding) was rightly instructed, on the 2nd of January last the defendant drove a carriage from the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, in Bloxwich, to the LITTLE SWAN INN, in Wolverhampton, a distance of 5¼ miles, at a rate of nearly 6½ miles per hour having left the SIR ROBERT PEEL at ten minutes to eleven, and arrived at the LITTLE SWAN at a quarter to twelve. In this case the defendant could not plead ignorance of the law, having been previously fined for a similar offence, and also been fined £100 for violation of the Post-horse Act. He believed he was correct in stating, that owing to the intercession made on behalf of Stackhouse, the authorities in London reduced the fine in each of the former cases. As the defendant in this case been driving his carriage in opposition to a person named Jones, who drives a licensed stage coach along the same route, he would apply for the infliction of the full penalty of £20. John Walton, Bloxwich, who was called and examined by Mr. Harding, said, on the 2nd of January last he rode in a conveyance from the SIR ROBERT PEEL, in Bloxwich, to the LITTLE SWAN INN, at Wolverhampton. Witness and a person named Wotton got into the carriage at the same time, and Wotton when they got in showed witness his watch, and it was then ten minutes to eleven o'clock. On their arrival at the LITTLE SWAN, in Wolverhampton, it was a quarter to twelve. A female also got into the

vehicle at the SIR ROBERT PEEL, and on their way they took up a man at the NEW INVENTION INN. On their arrival at the LITTLE SWAN, Wolverhampton, he (witness) and his companion paid 6d each to defendant.

Wotton corroborated the evidence of Walton.

Joseph Byrne, Excise-officer, said he saw the distance between the SIR ROBERT PEEL, in Bloxwich, and the LITTLE SWAN, at Wolverhampton, measured and knew it to be 5 miles and 27-40ths. A person leaving one place at ten minutes to eleven and reaching the other at a quarter to twelve, must have driven at a rate of rather more than six miles an hour.

Mr. Beaton, solicitor for the defence, said he had no objection to the mode of getting up evidence pursued by the Inland Revenue in this case, but he thought it would have been much better if they had employed parties free of suspicion, instead of those who might be suspected of having an interest in the conviction of the defendant. Walton, it would be recollected, was related to Mr. Jones, an opposition carrier to the defendant. Mr. Beaton called the defendant, but Mr. Harding having objected, the objection was sustained; after which Mr. Beaton called a witness named Beasley, who said he had a good old clock at home, which he had in his possession for upwards of forty years, and which his father regulated by the 'steam' blown off at six o'clock each night and morning to call the colliers to their work, and by that clock he left the house at half-past ten and reached the New Invention, where he was picked up by the defendant, who arrived at the LITTLE SWAN, in Wolverhampton, about one o'clock. Mr. Harding having addressed the Bench in reply, their Worships, after a short consultation, found the charge proved. Mr. Harding, for the reasons previously assigned by him, pressed for the infliction of the full penalty. Their Worships, however, only inflicted a mitigated penalty of £10 and costs."

Birmingham Daily Post 18/3/1858

"An inquest was held at the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Bloxwich, on Tuesday, before the Borough Coroner, on the body of a lad named William Lawrence, who died recently from an injury sustained by a stone falling on his head on the 21st ult, while at work at the bottom of the shaft of Messrs. Thornycroft's ironstone pit, Bloxwich. The verdict of the jury was Accidental Death."

Walsall Free Press 12/6/1858

"On Thursday last A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the SIR ROBERT PEEL Public-house, Bloxwich, on the body of Edward Powell, miner, who it appeared had been killed on Monday at the Wood Farm Colliery under the following circumstances. On the afternoon of the day in question Powell was sitting in the pit in company with a butty named Rigby, when a piece of stone weighing about eight hundred weigh fell upon his neck and killed him on the spot. Rigby underwent a searching examination by the coroner, who took every pains to ascertain if any blame attached to the butties or overlookers, and whether the pit was properly timbered and otherwise secure; but as every necessary precaution had been taken, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1861 Census

Short Heath

- [1] *Edward Somerfield* (70), victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary Somerfield* (64), wife, born Shareshill, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Emma Judge* (25), servant, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Sarah Somerfield* (16), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Stephen Somerfield* (35), servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 31/7/1869

"On Thursday the Coroner for the Borough, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, held an adjourned inquest at the SIR ROBERT PEEL public-house, Bloxwich, on the body of William Arrowsmith, aged 30, miner.

It appeared from the evidence that at six o'clock on the evening of the 12th instant deceased, who resided at Bell Lane, Bloxwich, and another miner named Thomas Haywood, went to work in a pit at the Hatherton Colliery, Bloxwich, belonging to Messrs. George and Richard Thomas. About two hours after they were down they felt what is called 'white damp,' which in a short time rendered them insensible, and in that state they remained till they were discovered next morning by the day men on their going to work. The injured men were removed to their houses, and deceased was attended till the time of his death, which took place on the 13th instant by Dr. Somerville. On the 16th instant an inquest was opened on the body and adjourned, so as to enable Mr. Baker to examine the pit. It appearing from the evidence that no blame attached to any one, the jury returned a verdict of Death from Accidentally Suffocating in a coal pit."

1871 Census

8, Short Heath – SIR ROBERT PEEL

- [1] *Edward Somerfield* (80), publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary Somerfield* (74), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Stephen Lee* (46), general servant, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Sarah Stibbs* (22), general servant, born Dudley:

Lichfield Mercury 13/2/1880

"Mr. Fletcher opened an inquest at the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Short Heath, on Saturday on the body of Jabez Summerfield (26), a clogger at the Essington Colliery. An explosion of gas took place severely burning deceased while at his work. He was under medical treatment until Wednesday, when he died.

The enquiry was adjourned until March 6th."

1881 Census

104, Bell Lane – SIR ROBERT PEEL

- [1] *John Donnellan* (34), licensed victualler, born Ireland;
- [2] *Margaret Donnellan* (26), wife, born Manchester;
- [3] *Cicley Donnellan* (3), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Austin Donnellan* (1), son, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Ellen Clare* (23), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Mary Pickin* (15), general servant, born Willenhall;

1891 Census

104, Bell Lane – Public House – SIR ROBERT PEEL

- [1] *Alfred E. Barney* (22), unmarried, publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Ellen Barney* (58), mother, widow, housekeeper, born Ireland;
- [3] *Cecelia Donnelly* (13), lodger, teacher, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Austin Donnelly* (11), lodger, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *John Donnelly* (9), lodger, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Sabina Dillon* (20), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton;

Walsall Advertiser 8/1/1898

“A fatal accident of a very unusual character was on Wednesday reported to the Walsall police.

On December 23rd a boy name Harry Rogers (13), of Bloxwich, was sent with a wheelbarrow on an errand. In returning he fell, striking his nose on the barrow. A cut was inflicted, but it was soon dressed, and did not appear to be serious. On December 31st, however, he complained of feeling ill, and Dr. Martin was called in, but the boy died from lockjaw on the 4th inst. On Thursday, Mr. T. H. Stanley (coroner) held an inquest on the body at the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bell Lane. The evidence bore out the particulars given above, and a verdict of Death from Lock-jaw was returned.”

1901 Census

104, Bell Lane

- [1] *Zilpha A. Taylor* (40), widow, public house manageress, born Walsall;
- [2] *Louis A. Taylor* (18), son, born Shelfield;
- [3] *Edith M. Taylor* (15), daughter, born Shelfield;
- [4] *George J. Taylor* (14), son, born Shelfield;
- [5] *Agnes E. Taylor* (11), daughter, born Shelfield;
- [6] *Winifred Taylor* (10), daughter, born Shelfield;
- [7] *Susan Taylor* (5), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Maggie Aspinall* (7), niece, born Walsall;

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

Mr. Jackson also applied for approval of plans for alterations at the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bloxwich, which he said were merely for improving the staircase and matters of repair, which he did not think were necessary to come before the Bench.....

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had adjourned all the plans, and proposed to visit the houses next Wednesday. They would be glad if the architects would accompany them.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1906

“Yesterday the adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall.....

Several applications for the approval of plans for alterations, had been deferred from the annual licensing meeting for the magistrates to visit the premises. The Bench decided as under.....

SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bloxwich, approved.”

William Walkerdine – see also LAMP, Bloxwich.

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

The SIR ROBERT PEEL. Mr. C. E. Loxton (magistrates’ clerk) said that with regard to the above house the magistrates had sanctioned certain alterations, but the Chief Constable found that the plans had not been carried out. The committee required plans to be deposited showing what the deviations were. It was not proposed to object to a renewal if plans were put in, and the alterations were only slight. The plans were forthwith put in.”

Lichfield Mercury 8/1/1909

“At the Walsall Guildhall, on Tuesday, before Messrs. W. H. Brooks (presiding), S. Russell, and E. W. Turner, a youth called Timothy Titley (16), 6, Plant’s Yard, Wolverhampton Street, Bloxwich, was summoned for stealing an acetylene lamp, value 7s 6d the property of Leonard France, of Essington, on the 2nd inst.

Prosecutor deposed to leaving his bicycle outside the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Bloxwich, on Saturday at 9-20pm, and on leaving the house a quarter of an hour later he missed his lamp. On the following Monday, from something he was told, he accompanied prisoner to the police station where he identified the stolen lamp.

Edward Cooper, 191, Elmore Green Road, gave evidence to prisoner asking him to buy the lamp for a shilling. Prisoner said he had had the lamp for six week, and witness gave him what he asked for it.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) remarked that it was very serious for a private individual to purchase a lamp of that description from a lad.

Prisoner admitted the theft, and said a man told him to steal it and he would give him a shilling, but after he had done so the man went away.

Prisoner’s mother was called, but became hysterical, and had to be assisted from the Court.

The Bench adjourned the case for a month for inquiries to be made by the Probation Officer (Mr. H. C. Orchard) as to the lad’s character.

Addressing the witness Cooper, Mr. Brookes said that he had run very close to being prosecuted for receiving stolen goods. His expenses would be disallowed.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1909 - Marriages

“On the 4th inst, at the Church of the Sacred Heart and Holy Souls, Warwick Road, Acock’s Green, by the Rev. Wm. Bernard Swift, of Smethwick, assisted by Rev. Father Edward of Olton, Arthur James, third son of Charles and Elizabeth Duffill, High Street, Smethwick to Cecilia Zilpha, only daughter of *John* and Margaret Winifred *Donnelly*, late of the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Observer 7/2/1914

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday morning.....

An application for a public singing and music license for the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bell Lane, Bloxwich, was made by Mr. H. H. Jackson, on behalf of the landlord, *John James Perry*. It was stated that the license was required every Monday from 7 till 10.45pm, the concerts being restricted to members of the Workers’ Union, a registered society of which Mr. Charles Duncan, MP, was the general secretary.

The application was refused.”

Walsall Observer 24/7/1915 - Roll of Honour

“News of the death of Private *James Perry*, who is only 19 years of age, came as a great surprise to his parents, who keep the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Bell Lane, Bloxwich, seeing that only the day before they had received a letter in which he stated that he was ‘in the pink of health and cheerfulness.’ The report states he was killed while on duty in the trenches on the 11th inst. He had served five years in the battalion, and prior to the outbreak of war was employed at the Wood Farm Colliery. The *Perry* family have shown a splendid example of patriotism, no fewer than six sons having seen service in the present campaign. Among them are Gunner *George Perry*, of the Royal Field Artillery, and Private *Alfred Perry*, who had just been transferred from the South Staffordshire Regiment to the Royal Engineers.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/8/1915

“Sapper *Alfred Perry*, who originally joined the 5th South Staffs and was then transferred to the Royal Engineers is the second of three brothers to give his life for his country. Their parents have kept the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Bell Lane, Bloxwich, for some years. As already stated in the *Advertiser* the first of the trio to fall was Private *James Perry*, a member of the local Territorials, who was killed by a shell while in the trenches on Sunday, July 11th. Now news had been received – and although not official it is authoritative – that the second brother Sapper *Alfred Perry*, was instantly killed when part of a trench was blown up on Sunday August 1st. He leaves a wife and three children. Prior to joining the Army he worked as a miner at the Old Coppice Colliery, Cannock.

The remaining brother, Gunner *George Perry*, is serving at the Front with the R.F.A.”

Walsall Observer 15/7/1916 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of my dear son, Private *James Perry*, late of the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bloxwich, killed in action, July 11th, 1915.

Somewhere in France my boy lies sleeping in a grave we cannot see lies the one so dear to us.

Sadly missed by his Mother and Father, Sisters and Brothers.”

William Walkerdine was fined £10 and costs, on 25th July 1919, for selling whisky at a price exceeding the maximum.

Samson Horney = Sampson Horney

[1939 Register](#)

104, Bell Lane – SIR ROBERT PEEL (2 of 3)

[1] *Samson Horney*, date of birth 19/11/1894, licensee, married;

[2] Charlotte Horney, dob 02/10/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bell Lane, Bloxwich. £0 6s 0d.”

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

“Free Pint of Carling.

With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We’ve a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....

Where to get your Free pint.....

SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bell Lane, Bloxwich, Walsall.”

It closed in 2016 for a refurbishment.

It reopened in June 2016.

Express & Star 24/12/2022

“Bloxwich’s landmark pub the SIR ROBERT PEEL has reopened after a £225,000 refurbishment. Fears for the future of Bell Lane pub were allayed with new owners Craft Union Pub Company investing in a revamp of the historic property. New landlord *Daryl Billing* is looking forward to the official opening party on January 28, but is now busy getting to know his new locals. He said, ‘I am so excited about this new chapter at the SIR ROBERT PEEL. Our new warm and friendly look has given the pub a new lease of life. We have a fantastic drinks range and I was delighted to be reopen in time for Christmas so our guests can enjoy a festive drink with us.’

The pub has the latest audio-visual technology, this community pub is the place to catch all the sporting action on BT Sport and Sky across several TV screens around the pub. In a Facebook post announcing the pub’s reopening, *Daryl* said, ‘We are working hard to uphold the values of a traditional community pub, a comfortable friendly atmosphere and most importantly of all, a wide range of top quality drinks.’”

[2022]

SIR ROBERT PEEL

1, (2), Burrowes Street (1, Burrow Street) / 151, Blue Lane West, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Thomas

George Williams, coalmaster, Birchills, Walsall

Mrs. Alice Brownhill

LICENSEES

Joseph Nickolls [1858]

Mrs. Sarah Thomas [1860] – [1872];

John Thomas [1882] – **1886**;

Mrs. Ann Thomas [1891] – **1898**;

William Ringwood (**1898 – 1899**);

George Frederick Beach (**1899 – 1900**);

John Stanley (**1900 – 1902**);

William Butler Slater (**1902 – 1903**);

Richard Jackson Bayley (**1903 – 1905**);

William Brownhill (**1905 – 1906**);

Richard Jackson Bayley (**1906**);

Thomas Wilkinson (**1906 – 1908**);

Clara Hunt (**1908 – 1909**);

Richard Jackson Bayley (**1909 – 1913**);

William Parkes (**1913 – 1915**);

Albert William Pugh (1915);
Edward Lloyd (1915 – 1920);
Fred Thomas Shaw (1920 – 1921);
David Cooper (1921 – 1924):

NOTES

1, Burrow Street [1861]
1, Burrowes Street [1862]
151 Blue Lane West [1881], [1891]
2, Burrowes Street [1901]

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

Joseph Nickolls, beerhouse, 1, Burrowes Street. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 20/8/1859 - Advert

“Birchills Near Walsall. The BURROWES STREET TAVERN, Corner of Burrowes Street, and Blue Lane, near Green Lane. To Be Disposed of the immediate possession of the above capital Public House, now doing good in and out business, and is situated in an improving part of Walsall.
Rent and payments moderate, and the in-coming from £40 to £50.
Apply to H. Farrington, 10, Bridge Street, or on the premises.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses....
Sarah Thomas, Burrow Street. Refused.”

1861 Census

1, Burrow Street – SIR ROBERT PEEL
[1] *Sarah Thomas* (60), widow, publican, born Lane Head;
[2] John Thomas (27), son, coal miner, born Wolverhampton;
[3] George Thomas (23), son, coal miner, born Wolverhampton;
[4] Elizabeth Thomas (19), daughter, born Wolverhampton:

Sarah Thomas, retailer of beer, 1, Burrows Street. [1862]
S. Thomas, beer retailer, 1, Burrowes Street. [1864], [1865]
Mrs. *Sarah Thomas*, beer retailer, 1, Burrowes Street. [1868]

1871 Census

Burrowes Street – SIR ROBERT PEEL
[1] *Sarah Thomas* (70), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Lane Head;
[2] Alice Lloyd (12), granddaughter, born Wednesfield:

A wine license was granted pre 1881.

1881 Census

151, Blue Lane West – SIR ROBERT PEEL – unoccupied:

John Thomas was the son of *Sarah*.

Evening Star 18/1/1882

“John Coffee of Blue Lane, was charged with refusing to quit the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Blue Lane. Police-constable Mercer said that on Saturday night he was called to the SIR ROBERT PEEL, and there found the defendant, who was very abusive and refused to quit. Mr. *Thomas*, landlord of the house, stated that the defendant created a disturbance for some time in his house and threatened him.
Coffee was fined 10s and costs, or 21 days imprisonment, with hard labour.”

Walsall Observer 7/2/1885-Advert

“Wanted, a good Servant, aged 20 or upwards; good character required.
Apply SIR ROBERT PEEL, Blue Lane.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/1/1886 - Deaths

“On the 7th inst, *John Thomas*, SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Blue Lane West and Burrowes Street, Walsall, aged 52 years; interred in

the family vault January 13th, Walsall Cemetery. Deeply regretted by all who knew him.”

1891 Census

151, Blue Lane West

[1] *Ann Thomas* (51), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] *Sarah Thomas* (19), daughter, born Walsall;

[3] *Theresa Taylor* (18), barmaid, born Walsall;

[4] *Emma Hill* (17), domestic servant, born Walsall;

[5] *Elizabeth Heath* (16), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Lichfield Mercury 4/3/1892 - Advert

“Wanted, a Youth, about 18, to attend to horse, and make himself generally useful.

Apply, SIR ROBERT PEEL, Blue Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1894

“Conservative League.

The usual fortnightly Meeting of the ‘Lord Dudley’ Lodge will be held on Thursday evening next, at 8-30 prompt, at the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Blue Lane West. Mr. A. J. Glover, Solicitor of the League has kindly promised to attend and speak on that night. Members of other Lodges cordially invited.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1898

“Robert [sic] *Ringwood*, of the ROBERT PEEL INN, Blue Lane, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on the 31st ult. and November 1st, and also selling intoxicating liquors to Henry Fisher, a drunken person.

On the application of the Chief Constable, an adjournment for a week was granted.”

William Ringwood was fined 40s and costs, on 18th November 1898, for permitting drunkenness, and a further 40s and costs for selling liquor to a drunken person.

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Beerhouses.....

William Ringwood, SIR ROBERT PEEL, served 14 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

AND

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Three beer retailers were also summoned, 2 of whom were convicted, viz.....

18th November, *William Ringwood*, SIR ROBERT PEEL, Blue Lane West, fined 40s and costs for permitting drunkenness, and 40s and costs for selling drink to a drunken man.....

The renewal of the license for the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Blue Lane West, was objected to by the Chief Constable on the ground that the occupier of the house, *Wm. Ringwood*, was fined 40s and costs on Nov. 18th, 1898, for permitting drunkenness, and 40s and costs on the same date, for supplying intoxicating drink to a drunken person; and that *Ringwood* was not a fit and proper person to hold a license.

Mr. Elliot, who appeared for the owner, said *Ringwood* had been removed from the house, and a new man substituted, and both offences having occurred on the same day, it was not like repeated convictions. The police had been satisfied as to the character of the man now put in the house, and he thought the Bench might rely in the future that the house would be conducted in the best possible manner.....

On returning the Magistrates announced their decisions as under....

SIR ROBERT PEEL, renewed with a caution.”

Walsall Observer 20/1/1900

“Birchills Brass Band. On Monday night the annual dinner in connection with the above band was held at the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Blue Lane. Alderman Brownhill (the president) occupied the chair, and Mr. B. Hodson the vice chair. The bandmen and their wives partook of an excellent and substantial repast, which was provided and well served by the host Mr. *W. Ringwood*.....”

John Stanley was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

2, Burrowes Street

- [1] *John Stanley* (41), innkeeper (beer retailer), born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Stanley* (34), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Ethel Stanley* (14), daughter, warehouse girl, horse clothing, born Walsall;
- [4] *Amy Stanley* (14), daughter, warehouse girl, horse clothing, born Walsall;
- [5] *Annie Walker* (23), barmaid and house maid, born Walsall;
- [6] *Lucy Hadley* (24), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/5/1901

“On Thursday afternoon the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest at the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Blue Lane West, in regard to the death of Bridgett Cloonan, a widow, aged 84. On May 2nd the old lady fell downstairs and broke her leg, and she died on Monday from shock caused by the accident. The jury returned a verdict accordingly.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1902

“Walsall Prize Band.

On Wednesday evening the second annual dinner of the above band took place at the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Blue Lane West. Alderman W. Brownhill, JP, president of the band occupied the chair, supported by Mr. Stanley, vice-president. Councillor John Venables occupied the vice-chair, and among those present were Councillor E. Egan, Messrs. F. Bullock, W. E. Tomkins, &c.

The President proposed the health of ‘The King and Queen,’ and the National Anthem was sung.

Councillor Venables in proposing ‘The Band,’ thanked them for the invitation, and expressed his joy and pleasure at the progress the band had made. He understood that the band succeeded in obtaining third prize in the Cannock contest. It was very gratifying to be able to congratulate them on the advancement they had made in such a short time, and he urged them to persevere and endeavour to get first prize in a future competition.

The President, in reply, thanked Mr. Venables for his encouragement, and he said he was very glad to see them taking up such an enterprise. He also expressed his pleasure at the band having the honour of winning a prize in a competition in which were more pretentious bands than theirs. It was always pleasurable to return from a victory, but there was also honourable defeat, and though the prize was a third, it was enough to bring them credit of being capable of winning it. He hoped in future the band would become the Black Dike (applause). He then proposed the ‘Health of Councillor Egan,’ as he was sure that the band was only too glad to find him (Mr. Egan) among them.

Councillor Egan thanked the President, and said that there was no need for such compliments, as he had only been amongst them a short time. He congratulated them on their success, and said it was always a pleasure for any town to have such a band. He specially thanked them for their reception of him and promised to help the band in any way he could (applause).

Mr. Afford said that Mr. Brownhill had been president ever since the band existed, and he hoped he would remain president in the future. He cordially thanked them on behalf of the band for the good he had done, and for the time he had given them. He felt very glad to propose the health of Alderman Brownhill.

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

Alderman Brownhill briefly responded, and during the evening several songs were given, Mr. Lord presiding at the piano. Mr. F. Bullock gave ‘A Soldier’s Song’ and ‘The Bandolero,’ and Mr. Lord, jun., sang ‘There must be another one somewhere,’ ‘Come along, Liza,’ and ‘Fidgety Fudge’.”

1911 Census

2, Burrows Street

- [1] *Richard Jackson Bayley* (47), tenant, publican, beerhouse, born Walsall;
- [2] *Hannah Jane Bayley* (42), wife, married 23 years, born Belbroughton, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Clara May Bayley* (21), daughter, domestic, born Walsall;
- [4] *Kate Elizabeth Bayley* (19), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [5] *Agnes Ethel Bayley* (17), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sarah Jane Bayley* (16), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [7] *James Perry* (56), boarder, widower, carpenter, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

SIR ROBERT PEEL, Blue Lane, Walsall, 1s 3½d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

SIR ROBERT PEEL, Burrows Street. £1 3s 9d.”

Alterations were made in 1921.

David Cooper was fined £5 and costs, on 4th May 1923, for permitting drunkenness.

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/7/1924

“The Walsall justices sitting as the Compensation Authority, have referred for compensation, but conditionally renewed the licens-

es of.....

SIR ROBERT PEEL, Burrowes Street, which had been objected to on the ground of redundancy.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority.

Compensation of £2,000 was paid on 25th October 1924.

The house closed on 1st November 1924.

SLATERS ARMS

Alma Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Worley [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Alma Street – Public House – SLATERS ARMS

[1] *John Worley* (49), publican, born West Bromwich;

[2] *Mary Worley* (49), wife, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Joseoh Morton* (48), lodger, gas tube maker, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Benjamin Wall* (20), lodger, puddler, born Wednesbury:

SLATERS ARMS

Rolling Mill Street, Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Gostelow [1858] – [1861]

NOTES

Joseph Gostelow = Joseph Gostlow

Joseph Gostlow, beerhouse, Rolling Mill Street. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 22/10/1859 - Advert

“Public House, and Four Tenements or Dwelling Houses situate in Rolling Mill Street, the Pleck, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Private Contract, all that desirable and recently-erected Dwelling House, now used as a Beer House, situate in Rolling Mill Street, aforesaid, adjoining the Tube Works of Messrs. Russell & Co. there, with the necessary out-offices, an appurtenances thereto belonging, as the same now occupied by Mr. *Joseph Gostlow*, at a rental of £25 per annum.

Also all those Four recently-erected Tenements or Dwelling Houses, with their appurtenances adjoining the above, in the occupations of William Bailey and others, producing a rental of £34 13s 4d per annum.

The above mentioned premises are Leasehold, under the Earl of Bradford, for a term of which 95 years were unexpired at Lady-day last, subject to a ground rent of £3 16s 4d per annum.

They have a good supply of hard and soft water, and are in a thorough state of repair.

For price, and any further particulars, apply to Mr. James Jordan Potter, 32, Lichfield Street, or to Messrs. Smith & Son, Solicitors, all of Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 24/3/1860

“Yesterday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough held an inquest upon the body of Jabez Hatherly, aged 18, who died on Saturday last, at the house of his father John Hatherly, Brewer’s Yard, Stafford Street, at the house of *Joseph Gostlow*, SLATERS ARMS, Pleck. The jury after hearing the evidence of Mr. E. D. Moore, surgeon, and the deceased’s father, returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes. The following is a summary of the history of the case, so far as could be gleaned from what transpired at the inquest. At three different times in the course of sixteen weeks deceased had been seized with violent pains in his chest and bowels. The first two attacks had been relieved by the prescriptions of Mr. Hodgkiss, and on his being seized on Friday, the 9th inst, with what proved to be his fatal illness, Mr. Hodgkiss was again applied to, and again prescribed, and his prescription appeared to give relief to deceased, who on the day of his death appeared to be much easier as to endeavour to get up; but towards evening he got so much worse that Mr. Hodgkiss, who had only seen deceased once during his illness, was again requested to attend, but being too ill to leave his house Mr. E. D. Moore was called in, but before he arrived deceased had expired. In a day or two after the death a woman who waited upon the coroner and gave a rambling account of the affair, whereupon he directed her to go to the superintendent of police, and make her statement to him; but instead of doing that the woman went home, and the coroner having ascertained that the deceased had been interred without a proper medical certificate – the only certificate being that supplied by Mr. Hodgkiss, who certified deceased had died from bilious cholera – he suspected that there had been some culpable neglect in the case, and he issued his precept for the body to be exhumed, and instructed Mr. Moore to make a post mortem examination, but as Mr. Moore, who gave it as his opinion that deceased had died from inflammation of the bowels, could not say whether the treatment to which the deceased had been subject had accelerated death, the jury recorded the verdict we have stated. The coroner expressed surprise at Mr. Totty accepting a certificate from Mr. Hodgkiss, as he had been remanded by the Registrar General for doing so on a former occasion.”

Joseph Gostlow was here in March 1860.

Birmingham Journal 7/9/1861

“Insolvent Debtors. *Joseph Gostlow*, now and for six months last past renting furnished apartments at No.53, Bagot Street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, occasionally employed as a Porter and Keeper in Stables, my Wife having for a portion of the period occasionally employment in needlework, and being now employed as an out-door servant, previously thereto and since the 10th day of January last past lodging at the house known by the sign of the Duke of York, in Duke Street, Birmingham aforesaid, in no way of employment for about two months previously thereto residing at the house known by the sign of the OLD QUEENS HEAD, Temple Street, in the township of the borough of Walsall in the county of Stafford, for about eighteen months previously thereto residing at the house known by the sign of the CROWN, in the Square, in the township of the borough of Walsall aforesaid, and during the whole period of my residence at the said two last named places, carrying on business as a Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, for about two years and one month previously thereto residing at the house known by the sign of the SLATERS ARMS, at the Pleck, in the foreign of Walsall, in the said county of Stafford, carrying on business as a Licensed Brewer, Retailer of Beer, and Dealer in Tobacco, and for about two months previously thereto lodging at Bridgeman Street, in the township of the borough of Walsall aforesaid, in no way of business.”

SNEYD

Vernon Way, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

NOTES

The license was granted in 1959.

The present building was constructed behind the original pub, in 1991. The original building was then demolished.

[2012]

Closed [2017]

[Express & Star 16/1/2022](#)

“A derelict pub has been severely damaged in an overnight fire. Four fire crews, as well as an aerial ladder, were called to the remains of the SNEYD, on Vernon Way in the Bloxwich area of Walsall after the fire broke out shortly after midnight on Sunday. West Midlands Fire Service tweeted at 1.27am, ‘We currently have four crews from Bloxwich, Willenhall, Fallings Park and Aldridge and an aerial appliance from Walsall dealing with a severe fire at a derelict pub in the Bloxwich area.’

Before its closure, the pub was hit by a spate of burglaries, with the site being targeted five times in six months in 2011. The pub was put up for sale in 2015, however no interest was registered in purchasing the site until an application to flatten the site and build homes was submitted in May 2016. Since then a number of housing applications have been put in, but none have come to fruition. In 2017 an application to tear down the pub and replace it with 21 homes was withdrawn by developers, while in the same year plans to transform the site into a six-bedroom house were approved. However, those plans failed to materialise. In 2019 plans to replace the SNEYD with 14 flats – 10 one-bedroom and four two-bedroom – was refused by Walsall Council. The planning department said the proposal was inappropriate within the Green Belt.”

SPORTSMAN

25, Pinfold, (25, Pinfold Bank), (15, Field Road), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Ann Wright, Harden, near Bloxwich
James Beard
John Russell
Bloxwich Brewery Co. Ltd. [1913]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Russell [1865] – 1892);
Felix Appleby (1892 – 1894);
William Massey (1894 – 1898);
Richard Withers (1898);
Henry Croxall (1898 – 1900);
Mrs. Mary Croxall (1900 – 1902);
Thomas Stanley Emery (1902 – 1903);
William Henry Bratt (1903 – 1904);
Edward Gwilliam (1904 – 1907);
John Thomas Alcock (1907 – 1909);
Howard Jeyes (1909 – 1910);
Edward Bowen (1910 – 1912);
Jacob Williams (1912 – 1922);
Joseph Riley (1922 – 1925):

NOTES

15, Field Road [1871]
25, Pinfold Bank [1881]
25, Pinfold [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

John Russell = John Rushall

John Russell, beer retailer, Pinfold, Bloxwich. [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/2/1867

“J. Nichols will back his pigeon Little Blossom to fly Tom Bird’s chequered hen from Hednesford to Bloxwich, for from £1 to £5 a side, or anyone else on the same terms. Money ready any night next week at Mr. *J. Russell*’s, SPORTSMAN, Bloxwich.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/11/1867

“*John Russell*, landlord of the SPORTSMAN beerhouse, Bloxwich, was fined 2s 6d and costs, for having, on Sunday last kept his

house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 29/8/1868

“Mr. G. Noke (proprietor of the Bellevue Grounds, Moat Road, Walsall), will give £2 15s to be run for in an All England Handicap foot race, distance 125 yards, to be run on Mondays, Sept 7 and 14; entries sixpence each (and no acceptances), which can be made to Mr. *Russell*, the SPORTSMAN INN, Bloxwich; Mr. Middlebrook, Walsall; or at the grounds. Any one entering falsely disqualified. Stamps taken as cash.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/3/1869

“*John Russell*, landlord of the SPORTSMAN, beerhouse, Bloxwich, was fined 2s 6d and costs for having, on Sunday last, had his house open for the sale of beer in prohibited hours.”

Walsall Free Press 6/8/1870

“Thomas Earp was charged with having been present during prohibited hours on the 24th ult, in the SPORTSMAN beer-house, Bloxwich, kept by *John Russell*. Sergeant Martin proved that at 40 minutes past 9 o'clock on the morning in question he visited *Russell's* house and saw the defendant there. *Russell* was convicted on Monday last, for having had his house open during prohibited hours. There was a jug containing a pint of beer on the table. The beer appeared to have been recently drawn. Fined 2s 6d and costs.”

John Russell was also an awl blade maker. [1871]

1871 Census

The SPORTSMAN

- [1] *John Russell* (45), awl blade (maker), born Bloxwich;
- [2] Eliza Russell (40), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Charles Russell (19), son, awl blade (maker), born Bloxwich;
- [4] Lucy Russell (9), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Harriet Russell (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Eliza Russell (1), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Sarah Yates (10), servant, born Sedgley:

Midland Examiner 31/10/1874

“*John Russell*, landlord of the SPORTSMAN INN, the Pinfold, Bloxwich, was summoned before the magistrates for having permitted gaming in his house on Saturday night last. Sergeant Hodson said he visited the house, and found four men laying cards, one of whom took up the money off the table at the conclusion of the game. A fine of 40s and costs was imposed.”

1881 Census

25, Pinfold Bank – Public House

- [1] *John Russell* (55), awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Eliza Russell (50), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Eliza Russell (11), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Bertha Russell (9), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Flora Russell (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Hannah Russell (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Alice Russell (1), daughter, born Bloxwich:

John Russell was fined 20s and costs, on 12th December 1883, for being open after 11pm.

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1884

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions were held yesterday.....

The licenses of *John Russell*, Bloxwich which had been suspended from the previous Sessions, were renewed, with a caution to the parties to be more careful in the future.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/12/1893

“*Felix Appleby*, of the SPORTSMAN INN, Bloxwich, was charged with assaulting *John Russell*, awl blade maker, of 1, Pinfold, Bloxwich. Mr. Enoch Evans prosecuted, and Mr. W. T. Corbet was for the defence.

Russell said on the 14th instant as he was putting a door up, something hit him on the top of the head. *Appleby* was a tenant under him, and the assault took place at the SPORTSMAN, Bloxwich. He had authorised someone to distrain on the defendant for rent due. He could not swear defendant struck him with his fist, but he jumped in the door and defendant was under the door.

Christopher Hughes, auctioneer, said he was employed by the last witness to collect his rents. About three o'clock he saw the defendant assault *Russell*, by knocking him down with the door.

Mr. Corbet said there had been a dispute between the parties over a lease, a distraint having been put in. Defendant had, by his kindness allowed the complainant to use the shop in question, and as a matter of fact he kept a few pigeons there. After the door

had been hammered up, *Appleby* felt justified in knocking it down.

Evidence for the defence was then called, one witness swearing no assault had been committed. The case was dismissed.”

William Massey, beer retailer, Pinfold. [1896]

Mary Croxall was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

25, Pinfold – SPORTSMAN INN

[1] *Mary Croxall* (50), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Pelsall;

[2] John R. Croxall (15), son, coal miner, born Bloxwich;

[3] Nephi Croxall (11), son, born Walsall Wood;

[4] Mary A. Yates (21), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Thomas Stanley Emery – see also BARLEY MOW, Bloxwich.

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

William Henry Bratt, SPORTSMAN.”

Birmingham Mail 6/11/1906

“At Walsall, today, *Edward Gwilliam*, SPORTSMAN INN, Bloxwich, was summoned for keeping open during prohibited hours. On Sunday, October 28th, Inspector Marshall saw a man leaving the public house back premises with a jar containing six quarts of beer, but Mr. Jackson, who defended, said it was the weekly refreshment of a local brass band, and had been paid for the previous night, but not fetched through inadvertence. He urged there was no offence. The case was dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1907

“On Bloxwich Wake Monday, Thomas Donlon, a well-known character in the town, of Back Butts, was seen entering the SPORTSMAN INN, Pinfold, in a drunken condition, by Police-constable Baker (31), who warned the landlord of Donlon's condition, and he was turned from the house. He had fifteen previous convictions, and was fined 15s and costs or 14 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

Howard Jeyes, SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the parties interested in the case of the SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. Mr. Walter Hughes valued the property at £18s 4s per annum without the license, the tenant paying rates.

Plans to be deposited. Adjourned.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/4/1910

“The Walsall Transfer Sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday morning.....

An unusual incident occurred during an application by Mr. H. H. Jackson for the transfer of the license of the SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich, from *Howard Jeyes* to *Edward Bowen*.

Sir Edward Holden asked if *Edward Bowen* was present, and a man stepped up to the witness box and answered several questions.

The Bench sanctioned the transfer, and then it was discovered that it was not *Bowen* who had been in the witness box, but a man named Edward Lloyd, who afterwards explained that he understood it was his name which was called out.

Eventually the transfer of the license to *Bowen* was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1911

“Walsall Harriers.

The third handicap of the above club was held at the SPORTSMAN, Bloxwich, when about a dozen runners competed. Mr. S. Dyde handicapped and started. The course was all road from Pinfold to the WHEATSHEAF and back, a distance of seven miles. Lamb and Jones had a day out, and a struggle between these two from the commencement for first position, the former eventually winning by a margin of 15secs from Jones. The other competitors finished well together, reflecting credit to the handicapper. All members are requested to attend the general meeting today which will be held after the slow run from the WHITE HART, Caldmore.”

1911 Census

Pinfold – SPORTSMAN INN

[1] *Edward Bowen* (29), coal miner, hewer, and beerhouse keeper, born Leamore;

[2] Emma Bowen (29), wife, married 7 years, publican, born Beech Wood, Walsall;

[3] Edith Bowen (4), daughter, born Green Lane, Leamore:

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

The following were the notices of objection (Compensation Clause).....

NEW INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Hy. Mellor).

SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (*Jacob Williams*).

NELSON, Church Street, Bloxwich. (Jos. Wall).

STAG, Field Street, Bloxwich. (Jane Tolley).

PLOUGH, Cemetery Road, (Charles Mansfield).

RISING SUN, Park Road, Bloxwich, (Charles Orgill).

STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, (Charles Ernest Perry).

BEEHIVE, New Street, Bloxwich, (Benjamin Hughes).”

AND

“The first house taken was the NEW INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich.....

Inspector Pritchard, of Bloxwich, stated that in Pinfold there were two beerhouses and one fully-licensed house – the NEW INN, the SPORTSMAN, and the WHEAT SHEAF, the last being the fully-licensed house. The population of the streets and courts in the vicinity was 135 persons over sixteen, 131 under sixteen, and one boy. He had visited the NEW INN on nineteen occasions in ten weeks, varying the times, but chiefly in the evening, and the total number of customers which he found was 193, averaging about 10 persons per visit. It was 15 paces from the NEW INN to the SPORTSMAN and 54 to the WHEAT SHEAF.....

The Bench reserved their decision.

In the case of the SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich, Mr. H. H. Jackson represented the Bloxwich Brewery Co. Ltd., and the landlord (Mr. *Jacob Williams*).

Inspector Pritchard stated that the landlord of the house was a miner, and worked regularly. The distances from neighbouring houses were practically the same as in the last case. He had visited the house nineteen times in ten weeks, and had found in all 286 persons there, an average of about 15 per visit.

The landlord said his takings averaged £10 per week and sales included 342 barrels per year.

Mr. Jackson said that the SPORTSMAN was one of those unostentatious and old-fashioned houses which he personally would like to see remain. There was a quiet little dignity about it, and no show. He knew it was very difficult for the Bench to discriminate between the house and its neighbour the NEW INN, but both being in many respects very much alike, he did not see how one could be kept without the other, or how one could be done away with and the other allowed to remain, and he asked the bench, if they spared one, they would spare the other as well.

The decision in this case was also reserved.”

AND

“The Court re-assembled yesterday (Friday) morning.....

Having retired, the Bench announced that the licenses of the STAG and the STORES would be renewed for this year, but might be considered at some future date. The remaining six houses would be referred to the compensation authorities.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/5/1913

“Thomas Salt, 84, High Street, Bloxwich, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly on licensed premises at the SPORTSMAN, Bloxwich, on April 19th.

Police-constable Baker said he saw defendant ejected from the public-house and then force himself in again. It was with great difficulty that he was taken out again. From the landlord, witness learnt that the man was drunk when he first went into the house, and had caused a disturbance when they refused to serve him. Fined 5/- and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/5/1913

“The principal meeting of the Compensation Authority for the Borough of Walsall was held on Tuesday morning at the Guildhall.....

The SPORTSMAN, beerhouse, Pinfold, Bloxwich, was next dealt with, Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the owners (the Bloxwich Brewery Co.), and Mr. *Jacob Williams*, the tenant. The annual trade was 242 barrels and 13 gross of bottled beer. Mr. Jackson said it was a very nice old-fashioned little place, the trade was good, and if taken away the compensation would have to be very considerable, but they would very much like to keep the house open. The renewal of the license was granted for the present, but without prejudice to future proceedings.”

Walsall Observer 5/2/1916

“The general annual licensing sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday morning.....

Application for billiards license were made by *Jacob Williams*, beerhouse keeper, of the SPORTSMAN INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich.....

The Chief Constable pointed out that both the houses in question belonged to the same firm.

It was stated that in each case it was intended that a bagatelle table should be provided for customers, but it was necessary to have a billiard license.

The magistrate retired to consider these applications, and on their return Mr. Phillips announced that they had decided to grant licenses in both cases, but on condition that the houses were kept open for the full licensed hours, and that temperance refreshments

should be provided. It was purely an experiment, and the justices wished to see how it worked.”

The license was surrendered on 30th September 1925, in consideration of the sanction by the Justices to the rebuilding of the BLACK HORSE, later called BUTLERS ARMS, Bloxwich Road.

SPORTSMAN

90, (60), Stafford Street, (Bloxwich Road), WALSALL

OWNERS

William Bird
Enoch Cartwright
Mrs. Maria Cartwright
Northampton Brewery Co. [1909], [1910]
Phipps Brewery Ltd, The Brewery, Bridge Street, Northampton (acquired on 11th September 1964)

LICENSEES

John Price [1836]
William Ridding [1841] – [1850]
Charles Ridding [1851] – [1858]
John Darby [1859] – **1861**;
Ebenezer Deakin (**1861** – [1872]
William Bird* [1872];
William Bird Jnr.* [1873]
Enoch Cartwright [1876];
Mrs. Maria Cartwright [1881] – **1887**;
Henry Simms (**1887** – **1888**);
George Betts (**1888** – **1889**);
Patrick O’Kane (**1889** – **1894**);
Richard G. Ennis [1891] manager
Starkey [] – **1894** manager
John Harley (**1894**);
Francis Nannery (**1894** – **1895**);
Benjamin Birkin (**1895**);
William John McLean (**1895** – **1896**);
Richard Peake (**1896** – **1904**);
Thomas Deakin (**1904**);
Joseph William Brotherton (**1904** – **1909**);
Joseph Stackhouse (**1909** – **1912**);
George Thomas Hedges (**1912** – **1917**);
Gertrude Hedges (**1917** – **1918**);
Robert Jellings (**1918** – **1919**);
Thomas Henry Baker (**1919** – **1922**);
William Ridding [1921] ?
William Thomas Parr (**1922** – **1923**);
Thomas Edgar Sandon (**1923** – **1932**);
Sidney Dyde (**1932** – **1938**);
James Green (**1938** – **1940**);
Frederick James Jarman (**1940** – **1949**);
Joseph Henry Kirby (**1949** – **1952**);
William Kenneth Reeves (**1952** – **1953**);
Edward Duckhouse (**1953** – **1957**);
Ernest James Waywell (**1957**);
Frank Reader Birkett (**1957** – **1958**);
Thomas William Moorcroft (**1958** – **1959**);
Herbert Hulme (**1959** – **1961**);
Harry Armstrong Dobbs (**1961** – [1966]
Pat Meates (**1994** – []

NOTES

Bloxwich Road [1851]

Stafford Street [1849]

90, Stafford Street [1861], [1862], [1881], [1891], [1904], [1908], [1932], [1939], [1940]

60, Stafford Street [1868]

It was situated next door to the BELL (GRANNIES KITCHEN).

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/6/1836 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Public House, and Grocer’s Shop, together with a Private House, and Extensive Shopping adjoining.

To Be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Bowen, on Tuesday, June 21st, 1836, on the premises, at five o’clock in the afternoon, in one lot, and subject to conditions then to be produced:

All that substantially newly-erected and well-accustomed Public House, known by the name of the JOLLY SPORTSMAN, situate in Stafford Street, Walsall, now in the occupation of Mr. *John Price*, comprising a good retail shop, large parlour and club-room, commodious chambers, two kitchens, capital cellaring, walled garden, stabling, piggery, a good supply of water, and shopping for twenty men.

Also, a respectable Private House, with Shopping, &c, adjoining, and now in the tenancy of Mr. S. Llewellyn.

The above premises are eligibly situated for business in a very improving neighbourhood, and front the turnpike road leading from Walsall to Stafford. Several clubs meet at the house. Part of the purchase money may remain secured on the premises.

N.B. Further particulars may be had of Mr. Thomas, Solicitor, and at the Auctioneer’s Office, Birmingham Street, Walsall.”

William Ridding was also a spring hook, billet and dog couple maker. [1842]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/2/1846

“On Monday evening last George Holden of Walsall and Robert Smith of Stafford entered into articles at Mr. Omer Stokes’s, the LEATHERCUTTERS ARMS, Wisemoor, at the latter place, to fight on Monday, the 30th of March, for £100. £10 a side were placed in Mr. Stokes’s hands, and the remaining deposits are to be made as follows: Feb 23, £10 a side, at Mr. William Heath’s, the Prince Albert, Friars Street, Stafford; March 2, £10 a side at *Wm. Ridding’s*, the SPORTSMAN, Bloxwich Road, Walsall; March 9, £10 a side, at Wm. Winkles’s, the Castle, Hospital Street, Birmingham; and March 16, £10 a side, at Thomas Osbourne’s, the RING OF BELLS, Big Hill, Walsall. Neither man is to exceed 8st 9lb by eleven o’clock on the morning of fighting.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/3/1846

“George Holden and Robert Smith. On Monday evening last, £10 a side was deposited at Mr. William Heath’s, the Prince Albert, Friar’s Street, Stafford, for the £100 mill between Bob Smith of that town, and Holden at Walsall. A third instalment of £20 to be paid tomorrow evening, at Mr. *William Ridding’s*, the SPORTSMAN, Bloxwich Road, Walsall. Neither man to exceed 8st 9lb, on the morning of fighting.”

[The ring was set up at various locations, but they were moved on. The fight took place two days later than planned and Holden won after 84 rounds.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/5/1848 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, by T. Franklin. On Wednesday, the 17th day of May, 1848, at the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, Walsall, at 7 o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced.

Lot 1. All that newly-erected Freehold old-licensed road side Public House, known by the sign of the SPORTSMAN, with good sleeping rooms, capital club room, dry cellaring, stable, shopping, private yard, and convenient out-offices, situate in Stafford Street, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Wm. Ridding*; also the house adjoining, situate in Stafford Street, and now in the occupation of Mr. S. Durnal.

Lot 2. All those six Freehold Messuages or Dwelling-Houses, situate in Stafford Street, now in the occupation of Messrs. Chidlow, Baker, Ramsell, Deeley, and Littlely.

Lot 3. All that well-arranged old licensed Public House called the NEW INN, situate in St. John Street, Walsall, with two excellent club rooms, good sleeping rooms, extensive cellaring, brewhouse, stabling, shopping, piggeries, soft water cistern, with lead pumps, and convenient out-offices, now in the occupation of Mr. D. Stanley.....”

William Ridding was described as also being a spring hook and swivel maker. [1849], [1850]

1851 Census

Stafford Street

[1] *Charles Ridding* (49), chane maker, born Bloxwich;

[2] Anne Ridding (30), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Charles Ridding (11), son, at school, born Bloxwich;

[4] Anne M. Ridding (8), daughter, at school, born Bloxwich;

- [5] Mary Ridding (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Charlotte Ridding (11 months), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] David Stokes (21), servant, chane maker, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Henry Marsh (18), apprentice chane maker, born Walsall;
- [9] Robert Summers (16), apprentice chane maker, born Hinckley [Hinckley], Leicestershire;
- [10] Sarah Maler (12), house servant, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/1/1853

“Inquests.....

At the SPORTSMAN public-house, Stafford Street, upon the body of a little girl, aged 2¼ years, daughter of a woman living in Ryecroft Street, who had come to her death through her clothes catching fire, in the absence of her parent.

Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Charles Ridding was also a manufacturer of curbs, chains and bit burnishes and retail brewer. [1858]

See also PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

John Darby = John Derby

Walsall Free Press 16/4/1859

“*John Darby*, landlord of the SPORTSMAN, Public-house, Stafford Street, was charged with selling ale during prohibited hours, on Sunday last. PC Montgomery said, on passing the end of the passage leading to Mrs. *Darby*’s back door, he saw a girl named Elizabeth Baker coming out with a pint of ale, he asked what she had got, and on ascertaining what the vessel contained, he took her to Mrs. *Darby*’s house, and she in presence of Mr. *Darby*, said the liquor had just been drawn. *Darby*, however, said the ale had been drawn about an hour. On going into the house he found three men, one of whom had a cup with ale in it before him. Elizabeth Baker, on being called, plainly denied what the officer had stated, and said the ale was drawn before church time. The case was dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/11/1859

“*John Derby*, landlord of the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street was summoned before the Mayor and Mr. Newman for having kept his house open for the sale of liquor on Sunday, the 27th inst, during prohibited hours. Mr. W. H. Duignan, who was instructed for the defence, sought to show that though the house was open at the time stated, yet it was for legitimate purposes. The Magistrates however, considered the case fully proved, and this being the second conviction, fined defendant 10s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 14/7/1860

“*John Darby*, landlord of the SPORTSMAN public-house, Stafford Street, was charged with having on Sunday, the 1st instant, obstructed police-constable Ellis in the execution of his duty. From the evidence for the prosecution it appeared that about two o’clock on the morning in question, the officer and police-constable Atkins visited the defendant’s house, in consequence of hearing some one in the house. On their attempting to enter, defendant seized hold of complainant and attempted to prevent him getting in, but finding himself unequal to the task, he called some one to his assistance, but notwithstanding the additional aide procured, the officers succeeded in effecting an entrance, by going up a passage adjoining defendant’s house, and climbing over some pigsties. Mr. Ebsworth, solicitor for the defence, cross-examined the officer at considerable length, but nothing was elicited to shake the evidence in chief, which was corroborated by police-constable Atkins. Mr. Ebsworth, after addressing the Bench at considerable length – censuring the conduct of the police, in burglarious-like effecting an entrance by climbing over a wall at the back, and contending that charges of obstructive assault, in cases of police-officers, should never be sustained – called a witness named Horton, who said the policeman (No.8), on the defendant getting a candle to take his number, puffed it out, and knocked defendant down; and on a person named Moor remonstrating with the officer, the latter said he would split his b—— skull. The bench dismissed the case.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 10/2/1861

“Young Totty of Walsall will run either of the following men: T. Dewsbury or C. Brown 120 yards, for £5 or £10 a side, C. Day of Minworth or Hawkins of Wirley 120 yards for the same sum, if Hawkins will allow four yards start. Money ready any evening at *J. Darby*’s, SPORTSMAN, Stafford Street, Walsall.”

1861 Census

90, Stafford Street – SPORTSMAN

- [1] *John Darby* (35), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary A. *Darby* (33), wife, born Ilkeston, Derbyshire;
- [3] Charlotte *Darby* (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Daniel *Darby* (8), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth *Darby* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary A. *Darby* (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Joseph *Darby* (27), lodger, cart gear maker, born Walsall:

Ebenezer Deakin = Ebenezer Deacon

Walsall Free Press 16/11/1861

“Application was made for the transfer of the SPORTSMAN, Stafford Street, from *John Darby* to *Ebenezer Deacon*.
.....The police gave all applicants good characters, and the transfers were permitted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/4/1862

“At the County Court on Thursday, before A. M. Skinner, Esq, QC, judge, and a jury, an action (*Pearson v. Young*) was tried for recovery of damages sustained in consequence of the bite of a dog. Mr. Motteram, instructed by Messes. Barnett and Marlow, appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Ebsworth defended. The evidence was to the effect that on the 29th January last, the son of the plaintiff went to defendant’s house, the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, for some beer; and that when he came out defendant’s dog ran at him, knocked him down and bit him on the knee so seriously that he kept to his bed for ten days afterwards. For the defence it was contended that the wound on the knee was the result of a fall. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £5.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/6/1862

“At the Petty Sessions, yesterday, *Ebenezer Deakin*, SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, was summoned by the police on a charge of having kept his house open for the sale of liquor during prohibited hours on Sunday last. The case was clearly proved, but it was stated that defendant had kept his house respectably, and the Bench dismissed the charge with a caution.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1868

“On Wednesday Mr. A. A. Fletcher held an inquest at the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, touching the death of *Mary Ford*, aged 68, who got up early on the morning of the same day, and having lit the fire and put the kettle on, went to bed again, complaining of feeling unwell, and was found dead some little time afterwards. Verdict Death from Natural Causes.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/11/1876

“William Perkins, a young man, a labourer living in Lower Rushall Street, was brought up charged with having stolen 4s, the money of Mr. *Cartwright*. *Emily Lloyd*, barmaid to the prosecutor, who keeps the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, stated about ten o’clock that morning she left the bar for a short time, and on returning found the prisoner behind the bar with his hand in the till. He tried to make his escape over the counter, but she held him, and gave him into custody. Prisoner gave up the money. He was ordered to be imprisoned for a month with hard labour.”

1881 Census

90, Stafford Street – SPORTSMAN

[1] *Maria Cartwright* (56), widow, licensed victualler, born Glaisbury, Radnorshire; [Glasbury?]

[2] James Francis Cartwright (25), son, medical student, born Wednesbury;

[3] Harriet Emery (18), general servant, born Blakenall:

Evening Express 31/10/1881

“Hugh O’Neil (21), Rycroft Hill, was charged with having maliciously broken a plate glass window, valued at £5, at the SPORTSMAN public house. Shortly before twelve o’clock on Saturday night the prisoner pulled off his boot, and saying he would break the window threw it through the window. When apprehended he admitted the charge. He now said he was sorry for what he had done, and was fined £1 and ordered to pay £5 for the damage, or go to gaol for one month.”

Evening Star 20/2/1882

“Hugh O’Neill, a young man, was charged with breaking a pane of glass, value £15, the property of *Maria Cartwright*, keeper of the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street. He pleaded guilty, but sufficient evidence was taken to show that at about five minutes to eleven on Saturday night he deliberately smashed the pane of glass, and afterwards stated that he had no ill feelings against Mrs. *Cartwright*, and he wanted to get sent away, and he had selected a large pane of glass instead of a small one because he thought the town would be put to a greater expense.

The Mayor told the prisoner that he was a foolish fellow, and that in October he was convicted of a like offence, and went to prison for one month. He was sentenced to two months imprisonment with hard labour.”

Lichfield Mercury 14/7/1882

“Hugh O’Neil (20), labourer, pleaded guilty to having, on the night of the 29th April, wilfully broken a plate glass window, value £18, the property of *Maria Cartwright*, the SPORTSMAN public-house, Stafford Street. Having regard to the deliberateness of the prisoner’s conduct – he having searched for a stone, and coolly hurled it through the window – and to the fact that this was the second time prisoner had smashed Mrs. *Cartwright*’s window, without the slightest provocation, the learned Recorder questioned whether he could be in his right mind. The officers who had him in charge stated, however, that his sanity whilst in Stafford gaol had never been questioned, but his mother said one of his sisters had died in an asylum. He was sentenced to twelve months’ imprisonment with hard labour. Mr. Mc’Mickling (instructed by Mr. Baker) prosecuted.”

On the 24th of May, 1884, Hugh O’Neil smashed Mrs. *Cartwright*’s window for a fourth time, and was sentenced to five years’ penal servitude.

Birmingham Daily Post 3/2/1890

“On Saturday, at the Walsall Cottage Hospital, Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest on the body of William Bate (46), a carrier, of Wolverhampton Lane, who died in that institution on Wednesday from the effects of injuries to the head, alleged to have been caused by Robert Peach, a young man living in Penkridge Street. The Chief Constable was in attendance, and Mr. F. Bill watched the proceedings on behalf of Peach, who was present on custody.

It seemed that on the afternoon of Saturday, the 25th ult, John Flynn, foreman jannapper; Edwin Hall, his brother-in-law; and the deceased went into the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, and were there annoyed by a man named Thomas Goodhead, who wanted to make a bet with Hall, and by the suggestion of the landlord he and his friends went into another room; but Goodhead followed them, and after a time they rose and left, passing through the bar, where Peach, who was in the house when they entered, was sitting. They had scarcely reached the road when a row sprang up – none of the witnesses could say how it began – and Flynn saw Hall lying in the middle of the road, and Peach standing over him in a fighting attitude. Flynn went and stood over him so as to protect his head, and was challenged and threatened by Peach, but the latter put down his fists, on Flynn asking what he or Hall had done. He then helped his brother-in-law up, and directly afterwards saw Bate running away and a crowd of people after him. A witness named Henry Bird deposed he took Bate sixty yards out of the fray, but he would return for the sake of his friends. Three other witnesses named William Jackson, Arthur Abbott, and Henry Davis identified Peach as one of Bate’s pursuers, and having, whilst they were running, struck Bate three times, twice on the arm and once on the right side of the face. Directly after the last blow Bate fell face downwards on the pavement but whether owing to his tripping over the kerbstone or owing to the force of the blow no one could be positive. When Flynn – who ran after the crowd – got up to him he was on the pavement, unconscious and bleeding from two wounds near the left under-jaw. Then someone called out, ‘He’s dead,’ and Peach ran away. Flynn immediately sought a policeman, and whilst he was doing that, and Bate was lying helpless and bleeding on the ground close by, Goodhead was wanting Hall to fight. As soon as the policeman had arrived Flynn took his brother-in-law off down a back street, remarking that they had better get away or they would be killed too. Dr. Wilson was called, and by his directions Bate was removed to the Cottage Hospital, where he was attended by Dr. Wood. D. Wilson also visiting him there; but he never recovered complete consciousness, and died on Wednesday evening. A post mortem by Dr. Wood showed that death had resulted from acute inflammation of the brain, consequent on injuries which the deceased had received, and which the medical men said might have been caused either by the fall or by blows.

The jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter, and accused was committed for trial on the coroner’s warrant.”

1891 Census

90, Stafford Street

- [1] *Richard G. Ennis* (46), public house manager, born Ireland;
- [2] *Bertha A. Ennis* (46), wife, assistant, born Ireland;
- [3] *James G. Ennis* (14), son, barman, born Bootle, Lancashire;
- [4] *Joseph W. Ennis* (12), son, scholar, born Liverpool;
- [5] *Francis G. Ennis* (10), son, scholar, born Liverpool;
- [6] *Patrick Connor* (31), visitor, fireman, born Ireland:

Walsall Advertiser 28/10/1893

“Frank Brookes, St. Michael’s Square, was summoned for assaulting John Tewey, Ryecroft Street. The assault originated in a dispute at the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, followed by a fight in the street. Complainant accused Brooks of knocking him down, kicking him in the face, so that he had to go to hospital.

The case was dismissed, evidence being given that it was a free fight.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/4/1894

“At the Guildhall, on Monday, Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for a temporary authority of the license to the SPORTSMAN, from *Patrick O’Kane* to *John Hurley*. The Chief Constable asked for the outgoing tenant to be put in the box. Mr. *O’Kane* was sworn, and in reply to Mr. Taylor said he kept the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Wolverhampton, and had done so for ten or eleven years. He believed he held two other licenses in Wolverhampton.

The Chief Constable: For whom did you hold this license? – Witness: For myself.

Not for the Northampton Brewery Company? – No.

What rent do you pay? – £80 per year as tenant to the Northampton Brewery Company or their agents.

Is it not a fact that you were agent for them and as such held their license? – No, I was not the agent for them; I had a license for myself.

Have you ever lived at the SPORTSMAN in Stafford Street? – I never resided there.

Did you have the license in June, 1889? – About that time.

And did you then make an application to the Justices to enable you to keep a licensed house in the town? – Yes.

Did you immediately place a man named *Ennis* in the place as manager? – Yes; and subsequently a man named *Starkey*.

And did you do this without giving any notice to the police? – I did not think it was necessary, because I had the license myself.

Were you asked at the time the application was made whether you intended to reside there? – No, not by you or the magistrates. I made application for the license and it was granted.

To whom were these managers responsible for the cash taken? – To me.

Have you an agreement for tenancy in your possession now? – I have at Wolverhampton. I have no agreement with *Ennis* or *Starkey*.

You simply put them in as men of straw, to mislead the magistrates and the police? – Not intentionally.

Mr. Jackson objected to this statement.

Mr. Taylor: I am bound to say it. You did know that you were not going to reside in Walsall when you took out the license? – Witness: I simply came once or twice a week and visited the house.

What were the terms of the agreement between you and *Starkey*? – I paid him 30s per week, subject to a fortnight's notice.

And you supplied the stuff to the house? – Yes, I bought the beers from the Northampton Brewery Company, and my wines and spirits elsewhere.

Who took the profits of the business during the time *Starkey* was there? – They have been very small; I have had the pleasure of paying the losses.

Now you are transferring the license to *Hurley*? – Yes. I received a notice from Mr. Connolly who purchased the house, and I gave up possession on March 27th.

Do you know that *Starkey* remained on the premises until last Wednesday? – Yes.

Mr. Taylor hereupon said that he must oppose the granting of the license on the ground that the premises had been deserted from the 27th March, when *O'Kane* gave up possession and all interest in the business. In addition to that he wished to call their worships attention to the gross breach of faith with the magistrates on the part of *O'Kane*. He should ask the Bench to adjourn the case until next transfer day when every agreement should be produced. There was no doubt that a man who gave up possession of a house had no right to re-enter and allow other persons to sell. He quoted a case *Owen v Langfield*, where it was distinctly laid down that the man could be charged with aiding and abetting in selling without a license. It was time such work was put a stop to, as it was impossible for the police to look after licensed houses under such circumstance as these.

The Bench, after consideration in private, adjourned the application till the special transfer day, on April 27th, the house to be closed in the meantime.”

Patrick O'Kane – see also ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Stafford Road, Wolverhampton; FOUR ASHES, Wolverhampton; and HEART OF OAK, Wolverhampton.

John Harley = John Hurley

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/3/1895

“Thos. Wootton, 21, of High Street, Bloxwich, was charged with stealing a coat, value 30s, the property of John Leake, clothier, High Street, Bloxwich. The garment was stolen from prosecutor's premises some time between January 12 and 14, and information was given to the police, but the missing property was not traced until Saturday last, when Police-constable Alden saw accused wearing the coat at a football match. The defence was that on the night of the 12th ult. the prisoner bought the coat for 15s from a man who entered the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, and offered it for sale. The Bench gave the prisoner the benefit of the doubt, and discharged him, ordering the coat to be given up to the prosecutor.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1895

“An inquest was held by Mr. Stanley, at the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, on Thursday afternoon, on the body of Mary Davis (72), widow, of The Cottage, Croft Street. The evidence showed that on December 8th deceased was walking across the room when she stumbled and fell, injuring her right arm. She was attended by Dr. McKinstry, but died on Wednesday from erysipelas, and a verdict was returned accordingly.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/7/1898

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Richard Peake*, SPORTS MAN INN, Stafford Street, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 24/12/1898

“Charles Burbage, of 18, Penkridge Street, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, kept by *Richard Peake*. Mr. H. H. Jackson prosecuted on behalf of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Association. The defendant, on the 17th inst, went to Mr. *Peake*'s house about 7.30pm in a drunken condition and created a disturbance. He was asked several times to leave, but refused to do so. Fined 2s 6d and the costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/4/1904

“*Thomas Deakin*, landlord of the SPORTSMAN INN, was summoned for supplying intoxicating liquor in quantity less than a pint to a child not 14, and Annie Bretherington was charged with sending her child for this liquor. Police-constable Brady met the latter defendant's boy leaving the SPORTSMAN with 2d worth of whiskey in a bottle. The bottle was properly sealed. Mr. H. H. Jackson admitted the breach of the law, but pleaded that his client did not know he could not sell less than a pint to a child. Mr. *Deakin* was ordered to pay the costs, the other case being dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/5/1909

“Harry Russon, a caster, and his wife, Elizabeth (25), of 5 court, 3 house, Short Acre Street, were charged with having wilfully damaged the windows of the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, the former to the extent of £6 4s, and the latter 3s. In order that the case could be dealt with by the bench that day the prosecutor agreed to fix the damage at less than £5.

Joseph Stackhouse, landlord of the SPORTSMAN INN, stated that at a quarter to nine on the previous Saturday night, the male defendant and his brother were two of a number of customers at the bar. They were all quiet until the female went to the door and

said something witness did not hear. Russon's brother jumped from the seat and struck the woman. Witness's son interfered, and set about the man who had struck the female. Witness proceeded to eject the female, who tried to force her way in. He prevented her doing so, and then she smashed the glass pane of the door with her fist. Harry Russon, who was now outside, went to the door and said, 'I'll smash the big one,' and making a rush at the window smashed it with his fist. Witness followed them up the hill and was threatened all the way.

The woman denied the offence, and said she only went to look for her husband, when his brother assaulted her.

Her husband also denied the charge, and said that if he had broken the glass there should be a cut on his hand, whereas there was none.

Wm. *Stackhouse*, jun., engine driver, son of the landlord, stated that he had been assisting his father on the occasion. The female asked for her husband if he were coming home, whereupon the brother struck her and knocked her against the partition, and also hit him (witness) across the eye when he attempted to put him out. Witness had to have the wound on the eye stitched at the hospital.

Sergeant Atcherley gave evidence as to the arrest of the parties. The husband said nothing, but the female said, 'Right.' The woman now said she never smashed the glass. There was a fight outside and inside and she could not say how the glass was broken.

Both showed their hands, which bore no traces of recent cuts.

In reply to the Clerk (Mr. Loxton), the prosecutor said he knew that the smashing was not done by accident. He had no witnesses but himself as to how the injury occurred. The male defendant said the smashing was done accidentally in the rows.

The Chief Constable said the man had been before the Court on four previous occasions for police-beating, wife desertion and drunkenness and disorderly conduct, while the woman had already been convicted twice this year for drunkenness.

The Chairman, in discharging the female said he hoped the case would be a warning to her as to the danger of going into public-houses. The male defendant was sent to prison for one month's hard labour."

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Mr. Enoch Evans applied on behalf of the SPORTSMAN, Stafford Street, for permission to erect stables at the rear of the premises. Mr. Evans explained that the applicant was a haulier and a cab proprietor and at present he had to rent stables elsewhere.

The application was adjourned in order that the justices might inspect the premises.

The Bench further intimated that formal notice of objection to the renewal of the license of the SPORTSMAN would be served."

Walsall Advertiser 16/4/1910

"Street Committee.

The following plans have since the last report been approved, subject to the usual conditions.....

The Northampton Brewery Co, stabling, SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street."

1911 Census

90, Stafford Street – SPORTSMAN INN

[1] *Joseph Stackhouse* (66), licensed victualler, tenant, born Rushall;

[2] Ruth Stackhouse (65), wife, married 47 years, born Tipton;

[3] Maud Stackhouse (26), daughter, barmaid, born Norton Canes, Staffordshire;

[4] Edgar Stackhouse (22), son, cab driver, born Lichfield;

[5] Lily Woodhouse (18), servant, born Lichfield:

Joseph Stackhouse was also a cab proprietor.

See also PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

Walsall Observer 20/2/1915 - Deaths

"On the 15th inst., at the residence of his son, SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, Harry, the dearly-beloved husband of Emma *Hedges*, late of 76, Washington Street. R.I.P."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street. £0 12s 8d."

Walsall Observer 25/5/1918 - In Memoriam

"In loving memory of my dear and only son, *George Thomas Hedges*, who passed away on May 24, 1917, at the SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street. R.I.P.

His loving smile and kindly ways

Are pleasant to recall

He always has a cheerful word

And was beloved by all.

From his sorrowing mother."

Thomas E. Sandon was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in April 1924.

1939 Register

90, Stafford Street

[1] *James Green*, date of birth 7/11/1894, manager public house, married;

[2] *Minnie (Green) Hodgson*, dob 21/6/1896, manageress public house, married:

Walsall Observer 26/7/1941

“Though he declared it was impossible that a light should have been showing at his premises at the time complained of, *Frederick James Jarman*, SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street, was fined 40s for displaying a light there. Mr. Victor Parry (Chief A.R.P. Warden) said that he saw the light while driving along Stafford Street in his car, but that when he stopped and went back it had been extinguished. A police officer went there but could get no reply to his persistent knocking on the door. Defendant maintained that the entire household was in bed before midnight and it was impossible for a light to have been showing at 12-40am.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SPORTSMAN INN, Stafford Street. £4 2s 3d.”

It was renamed TAPSTERS AT THE SPORTSMAN.

Sandwell Evening Mail 17/9/1994

“Down Your Local. TAPSTERS AT THE SPORTSMAN, Stafford Street, Walsall.

It’s been a busy summer for *Pat* and *Louise Meates* – mine hosts of Walsall’s newest pub. First, they honeymooned to Turkey. When they returned, they got married! Then, four days later, they started work in a new job, at the TAPSTERS AT THE SPORTSMAN. All that in the space of two months! ‘You could say it’s been a hectic time recently,’ says 33-year-old *Pat*, former manager of *Murphy’s Bar*, behind the *Midland Hotel* in Birmingham. ‘We decided to have our honeymoon first because we knew we wouldn’t have time for one afterwards, what with us moving into the pub. I call it an Irish wedding! Who else would go on honeymoon before their wedding?’

The pub, formerly called the SPORTSMAN, has been closed for nearly five years during which time it fell into serious disrepair. ‘A couple of *Pat’s* friends bought it and asked us if we’d be interested in running it,’ explains *Louise*. ‘Well, nothing could have prepared us for what we saw. It resembled a building site. Apparently, tramps had been sleeping here and pigeons were flying around! I remember we looked at each other and wondered what we were letting ourselves in for. We both like a challenge, which is probably just as well because the place needed an awful lot of work doing on it. It appears no-one had taken a great deal of pride in the place. It’s a shame, but at least the pub has been saved from the bulldozers.’

In the space of just a month, *Pat* and *Louise* have transformed the pub. The bar has been rebuilt, a new floor put in, traditional hand-pulled pumps installed – and those pigeons have been sent packing! Now the couple face the task of building up regular custom. ‘It’s not going to be easy,’ admits *Pat*. ‘We’ve only been open a few weeks and people are still obviously undecided about us. Our job is to build up a rapport with our customers. Neither of us have Walsall connections and it isn’t easy if you’re not from the immediate area but in the short time we’ve been here, people have been terrific. They couldn’t have made us feel more welcome.’

Irish-born *Pat* started working in a pub when he was just 16 years old. ‘I collected glasses in a bar in my home town of Dublin,’ he recalls. *Louise*, who is from Birmingham, adds, ‘We’ve not had a day off since the pub started. We’ll soon have live entertainment and we’ve got Sky TV for those who want to watch mid-week soccer.....

Pub Facts.

Price of a Pint: Banks mild £1.10, Carlsberg Pilsner £1.40, range of traditional bitters from £1.22.

Food: 3-course Sunday dinner £4.75, 8oz steaks £4.50, selection of main courses from £3.50.

Transport: WMT bus routes No.373, 372 and 371 Walsall to Bloxwich.

Parking: Car park being built at rear.

Opening Hours: 11am to 11pm (Monday to Saturday); Noon to 3pm and 7pm to 10pm (Sundays).”

Closed [2006], [2012]

Demolished [2014]

SPOTTED COW

9, Wolverhampton Road, (Park Road), (88, The Green), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

John E. Bealey, The Hills, Bloxwich

John Plant Jnr.

William Roberts Brewery Ltd., Brownhills (acquired in May 1900 for £8,500) [1903]

Eleys Stafford Brewery Ltd. (acquired on 31st January 1930)

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 1st October 1966)

Enterprise Inns [2006]

LICENSEES

William Bradbury [1849] – [1864]

Mrs. Bradbury [1864]

Thomas Evans [] – **1865**;

William Plant (**1865** – [1881];

Mrs. Maria Plant [];

John Plant Jnr. [1889] – **1900**;

Mary Richards and Edward Irwin Miller (**1900**);

George Benton (**1900** – **1903**);

Samuel Watson (**1903** – **1907**);

Henry Lander (**1907** – **1908**);

Richard Thorn (**1908** – **1909**);

Samuel Edwin Beebee (**1909** – **1912**);

William Cooper (**1912** – **1914**);

Alfred Young (**1914** – **1915**);

Thomas Fern (**1915** – **1916**);

Ellen Elizabeth Fern (**1916** – **1920**);

Thomas Fern (**1920** – **1921**);

John Henry Chartband (**1921** – **1924**);

Frederick Francis Dando (**1924** – **1926**);

William Washington (**1926** – **1929**);

William Arthur Cox (**1929** – **1930**);

Joseph Seagar (**1930** – **1936**);

Joseph Westwood (**1936** – **1944**);

Ernest Poxon (**1944** – [1966])

Christine Sandra Shawmen [2006]

NOTES

88, The Green [1871]

9, Wolverhampton Road [1881], [1891], [1932], [1939], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/6/1843

“Charles Welch, of Bloxwich, near Walsall, has a 37lb dog he will back against any other of the same weight for £5 or £19. He can be heard off at the SPOTTED COW, Bloxwich.”

Birmingham Journal 7/9/1844

“At the Guildhall on Wednesday before C. F. Cotterill and Richard James, Esq, Enoch Starkey, labourer of Bloxwich, was charged by William Somerfield, awl blade maker, of the same place, with violently assaulting him on Monday last. It appeared from the evidence of complainant, that on the evening of the day in question, he happened to go into the back yard of the SPOTTED COW beershop at Bloxwich, where he saw defendant and a number of other persons who were drinking. An altercation took place through the defendant charging him with having left the service of his master in a ‘shabby manner,’ and on complainant telling him to ‘mind his own business,’ he commenced a most brutal attack upon him, striking him many times, and fracturing his collar bone. The Bench, after commenting upon the brutal conduct of the prisoner, fined him in the full penalty of £5 and costs, and committed him in default to two months in the house of correction with hard labour. The prisoner was unable to pay the fine.”

William Bradbury, beer retailer, Short Heath. [1849], [1850]

Birmingham Journal 26/8/1854 - Advert

“Bloxwich, near Walsall. Sale At The SPOTTED COW INN.

To Be Sold by Auction, By H. Farrington, on the above Premises, on Monday Next, the 28th day of August – all the clean and useful Household Furniture belonging to *W. Bradbury*, comprising four-post and tent Bedsteads, fine Feather Beds, mahogany Chests of Drawers, Dressing Glasses, mahogany Night Convenience, handsome mahogany Dining and other Tables, Sideboard, mahogany and Windsor Chairs, Brussels Carpet, Chimney Glasses, thirty-hour Clock, Couch, Benches, Screens, Brewing Utensils, capital Ale Casks, useful Kitchen Requisites, Rick of Prime Wheat, about forty-five bags, two capital Spring Carts, covered Market Cart, 4½-inch Cart, patent Turnip Cutter, Harrows, Plough, iron Hurdles, Shop Fixtures, four pair Chawls, five prime Hame, and a variety of other useful Effects, particulars of which will appear in catalogues, to be had at the Place of Sale, and from the Auctioneer, Walsall.

Sale to commence at Two o’clock, under the usual conditions.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day appointed for the renewal of old licenses, and considering the application for new ones, there was a rather full attendance of magistrates.

There were no less than twenty-eight applications for new licenses, all of which were refused with the exception of *William Bradbury*, beerhouse keeper, Bloxwich.

The applications were for the most part refused, in consequence of the number of houses already licensed in the respective localities, and in a few instances from the want of sufficient accommodation.”

1861 Census

Short Heath

- [1] *William Bradbury* (32), huckster and victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary Ann Bradbury* (31), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Charles Bradbury* (11), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Elizabeth Bradbury* (9), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Sarah Bradbury* (8), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *William Bradbury* (7), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Thomas Bradbury* (5), son, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Joseph Bradbury* (4), son, born Bloxwich;
- [9] *Benjamin Bradbury* (2), son, born Bloxwich;
- [10] *George Bradbury* (10 months), son, born Bloxwich;
- [11] *Emma Groom* (15), servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 27/7/1861

“A charge was made against *William Bradbury* of the SPOTTED COW, Bloxwich, for having his house open before twelve o’clock, on Sunday last. Mrs. *Bradbury* appeared, and seemed a good deal affected by the present proceedings. She pleaded guilty. Mr. Cater gave the house an excellent character. A fine of 1s and costs was imposed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/12/1862

“Suicides appear rather frequent just now. On Sunday morning last, John Rowley, a slipper maker, and who keeps a lodging-house on Earl Street, Stafford, having slept the previous night at the SPOTTED COW public-house, Bloxwich, asked to go and lie down in the hayloft, which was permitted. At about half-past eleven, he was found suspended by a bridle to a beam. Mr. Somerville, surgeon, was at once called in, but the unfortunate man was found to be dead. He had evidently climbed a ladder, adjusted the bridle round his neck, and swung himself off. The deceased had been in Bloxwich for about a week, and had been drinking most of the time.”

Walsall Free Press 19/12/1863 - Advert

“A Grand Tea Party, will be held at Mr. *William Bradbury*’s, the SPOTTED COW INN, Bloxwich Green, on Monday, December, 28th, 1863. Musical and other Entertainments after Tea.

Dancing to commence at Seven o’clock.”

William Bradbury was also a shopkeeper. [1864] – [1865]

Walsall Free Press 9/4/1864

“Mr. *Bradbury*, landlord of the SPOTTED COW public house, Bloxwich, was charged with having had his house open at half-past ten o’clock on Sunday forenoon. Sergeant Martin said that at the time in question he found three men in the house, with a cup of ale. On asking the landlady to account for it, she said the men had come to pay an ale score, and she had given them a pint. The defendant, who, in July, 1861, had been fined 1s and costs for a similar offence, was sentenced to pay a fine of 5s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/5/1864 - Advert

“Sale At The SPOTTED COW Inn, Bloxwich, near Walsall.

Mr. Charles Griffiths will Sell by Auction, this day (Wednesday), May 25th, 1864, all the Household Furniture, Brewing Plant,

Public House Fixtures, Stock-in-Trade, Spring Carts, Brown Mare, and numerous effects, the whole of which must be sold without reserve.

Sale punctually at ten o'clock.

Auctioneer's Offices, Swan Bank, Bilston."

Walsall Free Press 25/6/1864 - Advert

"Freehold Inn, Houses, Building land, at Bloxwich.

To Be Sold By Auction, By Mr. Farrington, at David Walker's, the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, on Wednesday, the 20th July, 1864, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions.

Lot 1. All that old licensed Public House, known by the sign of the RED COW, with the huckster's shop, large clubroom, brewhouse, two cellars, outhouses, and enclosed yard thereto belonging, situate in front of the Green, at Bloxwich, and having an extensive frontage to the main road, and in the occupation of Mrs. *Bradbury*....."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/11/1864

"Birmingham Bankruptcy Court. In Re *W. Bradbury*, Bloxwich.

Last examination and discharge. Mr. Smith appeared for the assignees, Mr. Jackson appeared for a creditor, and said the bankrupt had not surrendered, but had absconded. The Commissioner directed that the bankrupt be called at three o'clock, and if he did not then appear he should be proclaimed. In this case Mr. John Smith applied for leave to bring an action against Mr. Thomas Hardy, who he said obtained a bill of sale from the bankrupt shortly before his bankruptcy, which bill of sale was believed to be fraudulent, the bill being in itself an act of bankruptcy. The words of the operative part of the assignment being '*Bradbury* doth by these presents grant and assign unto Hardy, his executors, &c, all and singular the goods, chattels, furniture, fixtures, utensils, and effects comprised in the schedule hereunto annexed, and now being in and about the SPOTTED COW, at Bloxwich, &c.' The recital was - 'Whereas, *Bradbury* is indebted to Hardy in the sum of £100.' When one of the creditors called upon the bankrupt at Bloxwich, having previously written to him for payment, he found that the goods and household effects had been sold under a bill of sale. Leave to bring an action was granted."

Walsall Free Press 28/1/1865

"The following licenses were transferred.....

The SPOTTED COW, Bloxwich. *William Plant* applied to have the license transferred from *Thomas Evans* to himself. It appeared that *Evans*, who is at present in Stafford gaol, and had received the license from Mr. *Bradbury*, declined to sign the transfer. As, however, that applicant had taken the house from the landlord, and had been in possession for a week, the application was granted."

Walsall Free Press 9/12/1865

"James Harrison, James Somerfield, Thomas Jordan, Jesse Oliver, and James Barton were charged by Police-sergeant Martin, with having, about a-quarter to one o'clock on Wednesday morning been drunk and disorderly at Bloxwich. From the evidence of the officer, it appeared that the whole of the parties were creating a disturbance in the SPOTTED COW, from which they were ejected, and, on getting outside, they continued their disorderly conduct, and threatened the officer, who attempted to take them into custody, but they got away. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced Harrison, who was not so bad as the others, to pay a fine of 5s and costs; or in default, to be imprisoned for fourteen days. The rest were ordered to pay a fine of 20s and costs; or, in default, to be imprisoned for one month."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/8/1867

"Yesterday being the day for granting publican's licenses, the magistrates met at ten o'clock.....

Mr. Mathews applied on behalf of Enoch Bukly [sic], beerhouse keeper, Bloxwich. Mr. Baker opposed on behalf of Mr. *Plant*, landlord of the SPOTTED COW, which was stated to be only four doors from the house sought to be licensed. Application refused."

[*Enoch Bickley*, TURF TAVERN]

Birmingham daily Gazette 22/9/1868

"John Grice was charged with having, on Saturday, the 12 inst, assaulted John [sic] *Plant*, landlord of the SPOTTED COW public house, Bloxwich. It appeared defendant had insulted some person in complainant's house, and on complainant turning defendant out, defendant struck complainant, and for doing so he was sentenced to pay a fine of 10s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for fourteen days."

1871 Census

88, The Green - SPOTTED COW INN

[1] *William Plant* (34), innkeeper, born Knightley, Staffordshire;

[2] Maria Plant (36), wife, born Darlaston;

[3] Fanny Smith (19), general servant, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/11/1876

"Edward Quinney was charged with having wilfully broken some jugs, the property of Mr. *Plant*, of the SPOTTED COW, Bloxwich, and also to have assaulted Sergt. Martin, whom the landlord had sent for, by striking and kicking him. He was ordered to

pay 7d, the value of the jugs, and costs; and for the assault was fined 20s and costs, with the option of one months' imprisonment."

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1877

"The annual licensing session for the borough of Walsall took place yesterday, at the Guildhall.....

The applicant's for full licenses..... W. Bickley, TURF TAVERN beerhouse, Bloxwich, supported by Mr. Gillespie (of the firm of Messrs. Wilkinson and Gillespie), and opposed by Mr. A. Baker, on behalf of *William Plant* of the SPOTTED COW INN. Refused."

1881 Census

9, Wolverhampton Road – SPOTTED COW

- [1] *William Plant* (45), licensed victualler, born Rough Hay;
- [2] Maria Plant (43), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] Sarah Allsop (37), general servant, born Cheslyn Hay;
- [4] Martha Windsor (16), general servant, born F____, Staffordshire:

London Gazette 29/1/1884

"Re *William Plant*, Deceased.

The creditors and others having claims upon the estate of *William Plant*, late of the SPOTTED COW INN, the Green, Bloxwich, in the county of Stafford, Innkeeper, (who died on the 17th day of April, 1883, and letters of administration, de bonis non, of whose personal estate were granted by the District Registry at Lichfield of the Probate Division of Her Majesty's High Court of Justice on the 23rd day of January, 1884, to John Plant, the father of the deceased, of the Green, Bloxwich aforesaid) are, on or before the 25th day of March, 1884, to send in the particulars of their debts or claims to the said John Plant, at the offices of his Solicitors, Messrs. Wilkinson, Gillespie, and Wilkinson, of No.63, Bridge-street, Walsall, in the said county of Stafford, or in default thereof the said administrator will after the said 25th day of March, 1884, proceed to distribute the assets of the said *William Plant* amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have notice.

Dated this 25th day of January, 1884.

Wilkinson, Gillespie, And Wilkinson, Solicitors for the said Administrator."

Birmingham Daily Post 5/11/1888

"On Saturday Mr. Stanley (coroner) held an inquest, at the SPOTTED COW INN, on the body of John *Plant* (79), The Green, father of the keeper of the house. The evidence showed that on the previous Wednesday, the deceased was walking to his son's house, when he fell down and expired almost immediately. Verdict, Death from Natural Causes."

Lichfield Mercury 12/7/1889 - Advert

"Monday 15th July, at Seven O'Clock, at the SPOTTED COW INN, Bloxwich (Mr. *Plant*'s), Sale of Five Freehold Dwelling Houses producing £45 3s a year, situate and fronting the Sandbank, Bloxwich. Solicitor, Mr. E. L. Stanley, Walsall."

1891 Census

9, Wolverhampton Road – Public House – The SPOTTED COW

- [1] *John Plant* (54), licensed victualler, born Keighley (?);
- [2] Emma Plant (49), wife, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [3] Mary Richards (19), general servant, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Anne White (17), general servant, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Jane White (14), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 28/10/1893

"John Starkey was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and refusing to leave the SPOTTED COW, kept by *John Plant*, on the 7th inst. Prosecutor gave evidence as to defendant's condition, and his disorderly conduct in his house. He refused to leave when requested to do so.

Defendant denied having sat down in the house.

John Perry, Bloxwich said he was in the house on the night in question, when defendant came in and commenced to create a disturbance.

Defendant said he and some friends had a pint of brandy to their tea, and he was not 'over the mark.' He was sorry, and must tell the Bench that he had been never charged with anything before in his life, and he had been in the district 40 years.

Fined 2s 6d and costs."

Walsall Advertiser 17/11/1894

"Mr. T. H. Stanley, borough coroner, held an inquest at the SPOTTED COW, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, on Thursday afternoon, touching the death of George Richard Sassall (65) coal miner, 75, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, who died on Monday evening from the effects of an accident received on October 26 while working in the Cannock Lodge Colliery. Mr. W. H. Pickering, H.M.'s Inspector of Mines was present.

Louise Sassall identified the body as that of her husband. He had never told her anything relating to the accident beyond saying that a piece of rock had fallen on him.

Samson Lymer, miner, Wyrley Bank, employed at the colliery, said that he had worked with deceased until the accident, which

took place about five o'clock in the morning. They were heaving a dan, i.e. half a tub with the end out, when a piece of rock fell and caught Sassall on the back. The rock was safe when they started to work at nine o'clock the previous night. The foreman and himself had examined the road, the roof of which was supported by two trees and a stretcher. The rock dropped between two timbers. No shots had been fired. Immediately after the accident, with the help of two others, Sassall was removed from under the rock, and taken to the surface of the pit.

Henry Howe, miner, 64, Bell Lane, said he was working some distance from Sassall when Lymer told him some rock had fallen on Sassall. He helped to lift the rock off deceased.

Richard Eccleston, fireman, 33, Clarendon Street, deposed that it was his duty to inspect the roads at the Cannock Lodge Colliery. He inspected the place where Sassall was working about eleven o'clock on the night of October 25, and found everything safe. He sounded it with a pick and stick. The piece of rock which fell chipped off from between the trees, which were about a yard apart. Sassall was a skilled workman and capable of being left in charge of that part of the mine where he worked.

Dr. A. Marten stated that he was called to deceased's house on the day of the accident, and on examination found that Sassall was suffering from a severe shock, and several surface injuries. His right loin and hip, and his left hip and groin were very much bruised, and the lower part of the belly just above the left groin were also injured. The right foot too was badly bruised. Witness attended Sassall until the time of his death. The cause of death was in his opinion inflammation resulting from internal injuries. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Walsall Advertiser 12/5/1900 - Advert

"Walter Hughes, FAI, is instructed by the Executors of the will the late Mr. *John Plant*, to Sell by Auction, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of May, 1900.....

Lot 1. The old-established, Freehold, Full-Licensed Public House, known as the SPOTTED COW HOTEL, Bloxwich, for many years in the occupation of Mr. *John Plant*, recently deceased.

The house is one of the best known licensed houses in the district, and does one of the largest trades in the county. The buildings are of the most substantial character, well appointed and conveniently arranged for the carrying on of a big trade. They are in first class order, and the position of the house renders it easily accessible to a large population. The premises comprise:

On Upper Floor – Large Clubroom, Spirit Store Room, and Five Bedchambers.

On Ground Floor – Vaults, Bar, Tap Room, Smoke Room, Spirit and Bottled Ale Store, Private Parlour, Living Kitchen, Spacious Tiled Hall.

In Basement – Two Capacious well-arranged Cellars.

In Yard – Well-equipped Two storey Model Brewery, Carriage House, Stable with Loft over, Scullery, and Outhouses opening into large yard.

This house occupies a unique position in Bloxwich, with a frontage of 47 feet to the Wolverhampton Road. It abuts upon a side road for 100 feet, and contains an area of 585 square yards. It is now doing, and has done for many years, a very large and prosperous trade; it possesses an excellent reputation, is much frequented, and admittedly the best house in or near Bloxwich. Whether to a Brewer and Spirit Merchant, or to a private person anxious to secure an exceptionally good house commanding and doing a large trade, this sale affords a rare opportunity.

Possession will be given on completion. Ample proof of the trade can be given if desired....."

Walsall Observer 26/5/1900

"The SPOTTED COW in Park Road, so long associated with the name of the late Mr. *John Plant*, was sold on Tuesday last. It reached £8,500, but some thought it would have made £10,000 at least....."

Walsall Advertiser 18/8/1900 - Notice

"*John Plant*, Deceased.

All Person having Claims or Demands against the Estate of *John Plant*, late of the SPOTTED COW INN, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, in the County of Stafford, Licensed Victualler (who died on the 13th day of April, 1900, and whose Will was proved in the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of her Majesty's High Court of Justice on the 14th day of May, by the two executors named) Are Required to send particulars in writing of such Claims or Demands to me, the undersigned, as Solicitor to the said Executors, on or before the 29th day of September, 1900, after which day the Executors will proceed to distribute the assets, having regard only to Claims then received.

Dated this 17th day of August, 1900.

Enoch Evans, Bank Buildings, 29, Bridge Street, Walsall, Solicitor to the said Executors."

George Benton was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in August 1900.

1901 Census

Wolverhampton Road – SPOTTED COW INN

[1] *George Benton* (39), licensed victualler, born Hednesford, Staffordshire;

[2] Annie Benton (32), wife, born Shenstone, Staffordshire;

[3] George A. Benton (9), son, born Walsall Wood;

[4] William H. Benton (7), son, born Walsall Wood;

[5] Beatrice M. Benton (6), daughter, born Walsall Wood;

[6] Caroline A. Benton (1 month), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[7] Francis A. Watson (19), female, general servant, born Aldridge;
[8] Sobey Bentley (15), general servant, born Bloxwich:
[Sobey could be short for Sobeaske, a popular Biblical name.]

Walsall Advertiser 12/7/1902

“On Monday evening, through the kindness of Mr. *George Benton* and other friends, the Bloxwich Volunteer Band, together with their comrades recently returned from South Africa, were entertained to supper at the SPOTTED COW HOTEL, Bloxwich. After the supper, which was an excellent one, Mr. J. Dilks was elected chairman, and Sergeant-Major R. Sarson vice-chairman. The Chairman, in a few choice remarks, welcomed home the men who had returned from the war, and Sergeant-Major Sarson also congratulated them on the way they had done their duty to their King and country. Colour-Sergeant Eaton and Private W. Collies suitably responded. The Chairman proposed the health of the King, which was heartily received. Votes of thanks were given to the host and hostess, and other friends who had assisted to make the gathering a success. The band played several selections during the evening, including ‘Maritana,’ ‘Songs of Scotland,’ ‘Romeo and Juliet,’ &c. Songs were given by Messrs. L. Birch, W. Collier, E. Carrington, V. Llewellyn, John Gee, and Sergeant-Major Sarson. During the evening Mr. W. Dodd presented a silver-mounted baton to the bandmaster (Mr. Thos. Sowerby). An apology was sent by Lieut. Robinson, who was unable to be present.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/3/1903

“On Tuesday the adjourned annual licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall, when the Court was crowded. . . . For a music and singing license, Mr. Jackson now applied on behalf of *George Benton*, of the SPOTTED COW, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, for Saturdays, the room to be used exclusively by the Free Gardeners’ Lodge, which met there, and comprised between 300 and 400 members. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last. . . . New Members. . . . *Samuel Beebee*, SPOTTED COW INN, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich.”

1911 Census

Wolverhampton Road – SPOTTED COW INN

- [1] *Samuel Edwin Beebee* (43), brewer, public house keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Amy Ann Beebee* (45), wife, assisting in business, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Florence Mary Beebee* (20), daughter, lady clerk, drug stores, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Amy Beebee* (17), daughter, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [5] *Gertrude Alice Beebee* (15), daughter, at school, born Walsall;
- [6] *Samuel Leonard Beebee* (10), son, at school, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1911

“Evidence of a most contradictory character was given at the Guildhall, on Tuesday, before Councillor S. B. Whewey (presiding) and Alderman J. Clare, during the hearing of a case in which *Samuel Beebee*, landlord of the SPOTTED COW, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, was summoned for having been drunk and disorderly in High Street, Bloxwich on August 23rd. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) appeared for the defence, and pleaded not guilty. Police-constable Knowles stated that at 12.40am on Wednesday, the 23rd ult, he was on duty in High Street, when he saw the defendant about 300 yards away. He was drunk and using bad language. A man was leading him by the arm, and there were several people about at that time, coming out of the Wake grounds. Defendant also began to abuse witness and continued to do so after he (the officer) had cautioned him, saying he would smash his two eyes if he (witness) did not go to his post. Witness then told him that if he did not go home he should have to lock him up, and defendant went away. Cross-examined the officer said he spoke to a man named Rowe, and he went after *Beebee*. Police-sergeant Cattermole stated that in consequence of what the previous witness told him he went towards the BELL INN on the night in question and there saw defendant who was drunk and shouting bad language. He saw Rowe catch hold of *Beebee* and try to lead him home, but he freed himself and went alone. Cross-examined witness admitted that he had allowed the defendant to pass, and did not speak to him. Police-constable Baker said that at 11.30pm on Tuesday, the 22nd ult. he saw the defendant get off the motors in the Wake ground. He was drunk, but witness did not speak to him. On opening the defence Mr. Jackson said the charge was a serious matter for the defendant, because when a licensee got a blemish on his character and reputation and got out of a house it was practically certain he would not get into another. On the night in question defendant and two friends left his house at 10.25 and went to the Wakes ground. On the way they called at the GEORGE, where they had one drink each, and at the WHEATSHEAF, where they had two each. On returning home they met the policeman, who, without any apparent cause whatever went up to defendant and said, ‘I shall report you.’ Mr. *Beebee* asked him what for and he replied, ‘bad language.’ Defendant, however, was not drunk; neither was there any bad language used, and he (Mr. Jackson) submitted that the policeman had made a mistake. Defendant, on oath, supported his solicitor’s statement, emphatically denying that he was drunk, or abused the officer. All he said to the officer was, ‘Go back to your post and do your duty.’ Levi Birch, 39, Park Road, Bloxwich, one of the men with the defendant corroborated.

The Chief Constable: Were you once a member of the police force? – Witness: Yes.

And you were dismissed for drunkenness? – Yes.

A man named Llewellen, of Broad Lane, Arthur Turner, of 1, Stafford Road, Bloxwich, John Brown, Park Road, Bloxwich, and James Rose, Bell Lane, all gave similar evidence, the latter denying that he tried to lead the defendant home.

After a private consultation Mr. Wheway said that in the face of the conflicting evidence the Bench did not feel justified in recording a conviction, and the case would be dismissed, but they considered it was a proper case for the police to bring before their notice.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1913

“Five miners, named John Meshach Caddick (29), 71, Bell Lane, Bloxwich, Richard Gullick (21), Bell Lane, Ewart Parrett (25), 88, Bell Lane, George Hodges (24), 67, Bell Lane, and Albert Horler (23), 67, Bell Lane, were all charged with stealing from an automatic machine in the SPOTTED COW, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, the sum of 35/-, the property of *William Cooper*, on Jan. 8, or otherwise with receiving the same well knowing it to have been stolen.

The prosecutor, who is the licensee of the SPOTTED COW, gave evidence to the effect that on Wednesday the prisoners were in the house drinking together, in the bar. He had occasion to go into the taproom, and while there he heard the jingling of money. He returned to the bar ten minutes later and saw two of the prisoners standing in the doorway which separated the vaults. Three others were helping themselves to cash from a tin taken out of an automatic machine which was kept on the mantel shelf. When the prisoners saw him they tried to smuggle the tin in and Caddick ran away. He held his hand to his pocket as he ran, evidently to hold something down. Witness tried to prevent the other four from leaving the house but they pushed him on one side. There was a sum of 35/- in the machine.

Police-constable Smith stated he noticed marks on the machine which seemed to show that it had been forced open. Afterwards he saw Caddick at his home and he admitted that he had been at the SPOTTED COW, but denied that he knew anything about the stolen money.

On the way to the Police Station he said, ‘I do know something about it, but I don’t know who the men are.’ At the Police Station he said he went into the SPOTTED COW and had a drink with one or other of the men. Two of them came into the second bar with a tin containing money. He had about two shillings worth of coppers and ran away. On Thursday witness arrested the other four men, who denied the charge.

Caddick now pleaded guilty and the others not guilty.

The Chief Constable said there was nothing against Caddick, and, the other men were four of eight who had come from Somersetshire and nothing was known against them.

Each prisoner was fined 20/- and costs (5/-), with the alternative of 14 days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/2/1913

“*William Cooper*, of the SPOTTED COW INN, Bloxwich, was summoned for selling beer, not in a properly sealed vessel, to a boy under 14 years of age, named John Thomas Peart, on February 3rd. Police-constable Baker spoke of meeting the boy in the street, carrying a bottle of beer, uncorked. He took the lad back to the inn, where the defendant’s wife admitted serving him, and said afterwards that the bottle had no cork in it when the boy brought it and she did not put one in to seal it. Mrs. *Cooper* who appeared for her husband, now pleaded ignorance. Defendant was ordered to pay the costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1914 - Advert

“To Let, the SPOTTED COW INN, Bloxwich, full license; doing fair trade.

Apply, The Station Brewery, Brownhills.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

SPOTTED COW, Bloxwich, 3s 10d.”

Ellen Elizabeth Fern was fined £5 and costs, on 30th May 1919, for selling whisky exceeding the maximum price.

Walsall Observer 30/8/1924 - Advert

“*F. F. Dando*, SPOTTED COW, Bloxwich, (Headquarters of Bloxwich Cycling Club). Noted for Proprietary Brands of liquors. All Orders promptly attended to.”

1939 Register

9, Wolverhampton Road – Inn

[1] *Joseph Westwood*, date of birth 27/10/1902, licensee, married;

[2] *Isabella Westwood*, dob 6/6/1904, bar hand and domestic duties, married;

[4] *Frank E. Westwood*, dob 22/11/1927, at school, single:

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mrs. *Westwood*, SPOTTED COW. £0 10s 5d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SPOTTED COW INN Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich. £0 16s 6d.”

Ernest Poxon = Ernest Poxton

Walsall Observer 11/11/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society held a meeting on Thursday last.....

Mr. *Ernest Poxton*, of the SPOTTED COW INN, Bloxwich Road, Bloxwich, was elected a member of the society.”

[2017]

SPREAD EAGLE

1, High Street, (80, Walsall Road), (Bloxwich Road), Leamore, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Mrs. Rosa Somerfield

J. and J. Yardley and Co. Ltd.

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd.

Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Phineas Somerfield [1828] – [1858]

Mrs. Harriet Somerfield [1858] – [1865]

Titus Somerfield [] – **1864**);

Mary Somerfield (**1864**);

Thomas Titus Somerfield* (**1864** – [1868]

Titus Somerfield* [1870]

Mrs. Rosa Somerfield [1871] – **1894**);

Matthew John Somerfield (**1894** – **1910**);

George Frederick Hare (**1910** – **1912**);

William Burke (**1912**);

George Wood (**1912** – **1922**);

Matthew John Somerfield (**1922**);

Elizabeth Ann Fosbury (**1922** – **1924**);

Eli Thomas Bates (**1924** – **1925**);

Albert Horace Severn (**1925** – **1926**);

William Cook (**1926** – **1928**);

John Henry Brotherton (**1928** – **1929**);

Thomas Beecham Broome (**1929** – **1931**);

William John Reeves (**1931**);

Mrs. Dorothy McDivitt (**1931** – **1932**);

Arthur Moseley (**1932** – **1933**);

Harold Draisey (**1933** – **1936**);

Alfred William Cook (**1936** – **1937**);

Edward Charles Coley (**1937** – **1942**);

Joseph Seagar (**1942** – **1943**);

William Thomas Walton (**1943** – **1944**);

Thomas Charles Henry Lander (**1944** – **1945**);

George Arthur Tuckley (**1945** – **1960**);

Harry Dobson (**1960** – **1961**);

Nancy Doreen Brotherton (**1961**);

Samuel Brotherton (**1961** – **1963**);

Malcolm Russell Beard (**1963**);

John Burnell Harvey (1963);
Harriet Joan (Whittall) Yates (1963 – 1965);
Eric Henry Barnes (1965 – 1966);
Harold Kenneth Vale (1966 – []

NOTES

Bloxwich Road
80, Walsall Road [1871]
1, High Street [1881], [1901], [1908], [1932], [1939], [1940]

SPREAD EAGLE HOTEL [1940]

Phineas Somerfield = Phineas Summerfield = Phineas Sommerfield

London Gazette 16/3/1830

“Whereas a Commission of Bankrupt is awarded and issued forth against *Phineas Somerfield*, of the Township of Bloxwich, in the Parish of Walsall, in the County of Stafford, Victualler and Awl-Blade-maker, Dealer and Chapman and he being declared a Bankrupt is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners in the said Commission named, or the major part of them, on the 24th of March instant, at Five in the Afternoon, on the 25th of the same month, at Eleven o’clock in the Forenoon, and, on the 27th day of April next, at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, at the Union Inn, in Union-Street, Birmingham, and make a full discovery and disclosure of his estate and effects; when and where the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their debts, and at the second sitting to choose Assignees, and at the last sitting the said Bankrupt is required to finish his examination, and the Creditors are to assent to or dissent from the allowance of his certificate. All persons indebted to the said Bankrupt, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to whom the Commissioners shall appoint, but give notice to Messrs. Turner and Pearce, Solicitors, No.5, Bloomsbury-Square, London, or Mr. John Heeley, Solicitor, of Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/4/1839 - Advert

“Wanted, immediately, a Young Man as an Assistant in the Victualling and Grocery Trades, who likewise understands the Retail Iron Trade.
Apply (if by letter post paid) to *P. Somerfield*, SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich.”

Staffordshire Gazette 1/6/1839 - Deaths

“May 27, aged 20, Eliza, second daughter of Mr. *Phineas Somerfield*, of the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/7/1840 - Advert

“Bloxwich Races, near Walsall, August, 1840.

The Bloxwich Trial Stakes of Four Sovereigns each, Two Sovereigns ft. with Ten Sovereigns added, for horses that never won more than £50 at one time; heats, three times round and a distance. The second horse to save his stake if three or more horses start. The winner to be sold for £40 if demanded in the usual way. Three years old 8st; four years 9st 2lb; five years, 9st 10lb; six years and aged 10st. Half-bred horses allowed 10lbs; mares and geldings 3lbs.

A Hurdle race. A Sweepstakes of Five Sovereigns each, Three Sovereigns ft. with Ten Sovereigns added; to carry 11st 7lb each; thorough bred horses, and winners in 1839 and 1840 to carry 7lb extra. Heats three times round and a distance. Six leaps in each heat. The winner to be sold for £70 if demanded in the usual way.

A Cavalry Handicap Sweepstakes of Three Sovereigns each, One Sovereign ft. with Ten Sovereigns added for horses the bona fide property of members of the Walsall Troop of the Q.O.R.Y. Cavalry, that have performed two days’ duty previous to the race. Heats, three times round and a distance. To be handicapped by the stewards, or who might be appointed.

The Beaten Handicap stakes. Three horses to start for each race, or the money advertised will not be added, without the consent of the stewards.

Horses to be entered at Mr. *P. Somerfield*’s, SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, at or before seven o’clock of the evening of Friday, August 14. The amount of the forfeit on each race to be paid at the time of entry, or the entry will not be received.”

Staffordshire Gazette 7/1/1841 - Advert

“Bloxwich Annual Ball will take place on Thursday, the 21st of January next, at Mr. *P. Somerfield*’s SPREAD EAGLE INN.

Dancing to commence at Eight o’clock.

Gentlemen’s Tickets, 6s; Ladies’ ditto 4s.

Cards for the occasion will be provided on application at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall.

Bloxwich, 18th Dec., 1840.”

Birmingham Journal 14/11/1846

“About six o’clock on the evening of Tuesday last, as Mr. *Phineas Somerfield*, landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, was proceeding along the Stafford Road, in the direction of his own house, from Walsall, he was accidentally run over by a horse and phaeton, belonging to J. Bearley, Esq, of Bloxwich. He was instantly carried into the LAMP TAVERN, and from thence

removed to his own house. Dr. Somerville was promptly in attendance, and rendered every assistance. The injuries sustained are serious, though, providentially, no bones are broken. The accident was occasioned by the darkness of the evening, and no blame whatever is attributable to the driver of the vehicle.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/3/1847 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Walker & Page, at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 23rd instant, at four o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions, All that old established and well accustomed Public House, situated at Bloxwich, in the county of Stafford, known by the sign of the SPREAD EAGLE. The House comprises front and back kitchen, brewhouse, large and small parlours, bar, capital cellaring, and suitable bed rooms, with a large club room. There is a pump of excellent water on the premises, and adjoining is a large garden, stabling for six horses, yard, and other conveniences; also a range of Shopping; all which are in the occupation of *Phineas Somerfield*.

Also, all those three Small Houses, near to or adjoining the abovementioned property, in the several occupations of William Dolphin, Edward Taylor, and William B. Hart.

The property is Freehold; and other particulars may be had on application to Messrs. Bennett and Thorne, solicitors, Craddocks Walk, Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/4/1847 - Advert

“To be Let, and entered upon at Midsummer next, that old-established Inn, known by the sign of the SPREAD EAGLE, most eligibly situated opposite the race course at Bloxwich, and near the turnpike gate. There are three respectable clubs attached to the house, which in addition to the usual requirements of a respectable public house, has a Liquor Shop on the ground floor, stabling for six horses, garden, &c. The whole has for several years been in the occupation of Mr. *Phineas Somerfield*, who will give up possession on the 24th June next.

For further particulars apply to Mr. James Cremonini, opposite the Market Place, Bilston, or Mr. Timothy Smith, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Phineas Somerfield was also an awl blade maker. [1849], [1850]

1851 Census

Turnpike Road

- [1] *Phineas Somerfield* (64), awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Harriet Somerfield* (52), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Thomas T. Somerfield* (20), son, awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] George E. Somerfield (16), son, awl blade maker’s apprentice, born Bloxwich;
- [5] William T. Somerfield (7), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Elizabeth L. Steel (16), house servant, born Bloxwich;
- [7] John Mayo (14), awl blade maker’s apprentice, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/2/1852

“*Phineas Somerfield*, of the SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich, was fined £1 and costs for having his public house open after 12 o’clock on Saturday night last.”

Walsall Free Press 23/5/1857

“Guildhall Police Court Sergeant Simpson preferred complaints against the following publicans residing at Bloxwich *Phineas Summerfield*, fined one shilling and costs all for keeping their houses open during prohibited hours on Sunday last.”

Harriet Somerfield = Harriet Summerfield

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/8/1858

“The annual meeting of the Ladies’ Benevolent Lodge was held on the 26th ult, in the SPREAD EAGLE INN, occupied by Mrs. *Somerfield*. After the routine business of the lodge was transacted, the members, neatly dressed, walked in procession to the church.....”

1861 Census

Bloxwich

- [1] *Harriet Somerfield* (61), widow, victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Thomas Titus Somerfield* (30), son, awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [3] George Edward Somerfield (26), son, merchant’s clerk, born Bloxwich;
- [4] William T. Somerfield (18), son, brush maker’s apprentice, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Elizabeth Shorter, (19), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [6] James Somerfield (12), awl blade maker’s apprentice, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 11/1/1862

“Elizabeth Hall was charged by police-constable Ellis with being drunk and disorderly at the SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich, on the previous evening, at five o’clock. She was making a great disturbance, and she would not go away until taken into custody.

Prisoner pleaded 'Drunk, and didn't know what I was doing.' Mr. Oerton said he would never take that as an excuse for disorderly conduct. A fine of 5s and costs, or in default fourteen days' imprisonment was inflicted."

Birmingham Daily Post 26/6/1863

"Yesterday, at Walsall Police Court, Isaac Pemberton, who has recently figured as complainant in a case of assault, attended to prefer a charge of assault against Thomas Lawrence. According to the complainant's statement, he was, on Tuesday week in the SPREAD EAGLE INN, at Bloxwich, when defendant who was also in the house, 'set about' him, unawares, and gave him a black eye. The defendant succeeded in showing that the complainant was drunk, that he was brandishing a stick over the heads of the company, and that he (defendant) only struck him in self-defence. The Bench dismissed the case, and advised the complainant to have less to do with public-houses for the future. He left the Court protesting against what he called the injustice of the decision."

* possibly the same person

Walsall Free Press 13/8/1864

"At the Petty Sessions on Thursday, the following transfers were made.....
SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich, from *Titus Sommerfield* (deceased) to *Mary Sommerfield*, his widow."
AND (at the same Sessions)

Birmingham Daily Post 12/8/1864

"At the Police Court yesterday, the licenses of the following houses were provisionally transferred.....
The SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, from *Mary Somerfield*, widow, to *Thomas Titus Somerfield*."

Walsall Free Press 27/8/1864

"Board of Guardians..... Mr. Bealey called attention to the case of a poor woman, named Haines, who had died at Bloxwich. When she died, a woman came to him, and he told her to apply to Mr. Grove for a coffin and fees. She returned and stated that the coffin would come tomorrow, but that there would be 18s to pay, as the contractor could not afford to make it for the sum allowed by the guardians. On receiving this information Mr. Bealey called at Mr. Newey's, and was told by Mrs. Newey that her husband could not afford to make the coffins at the price specified in the contract, but that her husband contracted because it brought him other work. He had also heard the minister of Bloxwich complain that some of the coffins were so loosely made that it was with difficulty the bodies could be carried in them to the grave. In one case – that of *Titus Sommerfield* – the coffin was so bad that it had to be carried to the grave on a handbarrow....."

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/10/1865 - Marriages

"On the 26th instant, at Cannock, by the Rev. J. C. Hughes, Mr. *Thomas Titus Somerfield*, of Bloxwich, to *Rosa*, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Henry Poyner, of Cheslyn Hay."

Thomas Somerfield was also an awl blade maker. [1868]

Titus Somerfield was also an awl blade maker. [1870]

[These were probably *Thomas Titus* from 1861 Census.]

Walsall Free Press 23/10/1869 - Notice

"Municipal Election, 1869.

To the Burgesses of the Foreign Ward.

Ladies & Gentlemen. The near approach of the Municipal Election reminded me that my term of office will then expire; but, having been requested by a most numerous and influential body of Ratepayers to again offer myself for re-election, I cannot do otherwise than accede to their wishes. Should I have the honour to be again elected I shall consider it both a pleasure and a duty to attend to the interests of the Foreign Ward.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant, *Titus Somerfield*.

Bloxwich, October 19th, 1869."

Walsall Free Press 19/2/1870

"The 25th instant had been fixed for the election of a Councillor in the place of the late Mr. *Titus Somerfield*....."

1871 Census

80, Walsall Road – SPREAD EAGLE INN

[1] *Rosa Somerfield* (43), widow, licensed victualler, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;

[2] John Stayley (58), brother in law, retired farmer, born Wednesfield;

[3] Eliza Stayley (46), sister, assistant, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;

[4] James Somerfield (21), brewer and ostler, born Bloxwich;

[5] Elizabeth Swann (23), domestic servant, born Wyrley, Staffordshire:

Mrs. *Rosa Somerfield* was also an awl blade maker. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/10/1876

"On Tuesday Mr. Fletcher held an inquest at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, on the body of Mary Ann Green, aged 39, a

married woman living at Pinfold, who on the evening of the 13th inst. was found dead by the wayside near Goscote Hall. She had been to see a brother at Shelfield, and had evidently fallen down and died on the way home again. The jury found that death had resulted from Heart Disease.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/6/1878

“An official paper which has just been issued gives the names of the registered trade unions, showing those which have, and those which have not, made returns according to law, and, with regard to the former, the amount of their funds on the 31st of December, 1876, their income for that year, and the number of their members.....

Rising Progress Branch (No.10) of the National Federation of Engineers’ Protection Association of Great Britain and Ireland, SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, established July 4, 1874; no return.”

1881 Census

1, High Street – SPREAD EAGLE

- [1] *Rosa Somerfield* (51), widow, licensed victualler, 2 servants, born Wyrley;
- [2] John Stayley (66), brother in law, visitor, retired farmer, born Prestwood;
- [3] Eliza Stayley (53), visitor, born Wyrley;
- [4] Eliza Gregory (25), general servant, domestic, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Blanche Wilson (22), visitor, born Nechells;
- [6] William Sayers (27), visitor, farmer, born Wyrley:

Walsall Advertiser 10/6/1890 - Register of Sales

“Monday, June 9th. Two Freehold Beerhouses, at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, at 6.”

AND

“Monday, June 23rd. Freehold Investments, at the SPREAD EAGLE HOTEL, Bloxwich, at 6.”

1891 Census

1, High Street – SPREAD EAGLE

- [1] *Rosa Somerfield* (56), widow, licensed victualler, born Wyrley;
- [2] Eliza Stanley (60), widow, sister, living on her own means, born Wyrley;
- [3] Polyanna Somerfield (17), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Nellie Somerfield (12), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Matthew Somerfield = Matthew Summerfield = Mathew Somerfield

Lichfield Mercury 25/8/1899 - Advert

“Wanted General Servant.

Apply, SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Observer 10/11/1900

“Bloxwich Bowling Club. The fifth annual dinner in connection with this club was held on Thursday night at the SPREAD EAGLE HOTEL, when about forty guests sat down to an admirable repast.....”

1901 Census

1, High Street – SPREAD EAGLE INN

- [1] *Mathew J. Somerfield* (38), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Sarah A. Somerfield (37), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Mary J. Somerfield (15), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Matthew J. Somerfield (13), son, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Francis Somerfield (12), son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Sarah Somerfield (10), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Edward Somerfield (8), son, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Maud Somerfield (4), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Elsie Somerfield (3), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Edna Somerfield (6 weeks), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [11] Emily M. Davis (16), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for a music license to be granted to Mr. *M. J. Somerfield*, of the SPREAD EAGLE INN, for Thursday evenings, stating that a Bloxwich Musical Society had been formed, with Councillor Ingram as president, and it would hold its gatherings at this house. It was intended to carry it on after the same lines as the Walsall Musical Society. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905

“James Grice (18), 26, Castle Street, Hill Top, West Bromwich, was charged at the Guildhall on Monday with stealing a pigeon,

value 1s, the property of *Mathew John Somerfield*, landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich, on the 12th inst. Prosecutor stated that on Saturday evening he had occasion to go to the stables at the back, and saw the stable door was open, and on going in he missed two pigeons. He was coming out to make inquiries, when he saw two men by the stable. He caught one, but the other (prisoner) got away. The former was charged on Monday, and the prisoner was eventually arrested at West Bromwich.

Inspector Marshall deposed to arresting prisoner at West Bromwich. He charged him, but prisoner said he knew nothing about the pigeons.

Prisoner said he went into the SPREAD EAGLE with the footballers. Evans (the other prisoner) came in with a pigeon in his pocket, and said he knew where there were some more. They both went out to the stable, but before he had seen any pigeons they were interrupted by the landlord. Fined 10s and costs, or 14 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/5/1909

“Bloxwich Bowling Club. Since last season the bowling green at the SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich, had been relaid, and although the weather during the past two months has been against its progress it is looking remarkably fine. The opening night was held on Monday, when the president (Mr. B. P. Blockley), in a felicitous speech declared the green open, and wished the club every success. There were about thirty members present, and the old punch bowl was filled as on former occasions, the health of the president being proposed by Mr. D. McAlister, captain of the club.....”

Matthew J. Somerfield – see also THATCHED HOUSE.

Walsall Advertiser 7/10/1911 - Diary of Events

“To-morrow (Sunday). 8.0. Annual Meeting Bloxwich Musical Society, SPREAD EAGLE HOTEL, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/12/1911

“About 30 members and friends were present at the SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich, on Thursday evening, the occasion being the 16th annual dinner of the Bloxwich Bowling Club. The President (Mr. B. P. Blockley) was unable to be present, and Councillor J. William occupied the chair in his stead. Among those present were Alderman C. C. Walker, Councillors *M. J. Somerfield* and W. C. Ward, Messrs. D. McAlister, J. William, jun., G. Barrett, F. Ponter, W. Scarlett, T. Athersmith, A. Cope, J. Cope, H. Harrison, D. Waterfield, J. Vale, S. Taylor, W. P. Carr, J. Turner, F. Heath, H. Hedges, J. Clark, and W. H. Middleton (Hon. Secretary). A capital dinner was prepared by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Hare*) and fully enjoyed. At the conclusion of the repast the toast of ‘The King’ was proposed by the Chairman and loyally honoured, Mr. Dunning taking the solo.....”

Walsall Advertiser 12/12/1914

“Walsall Bowling Club. The season of 1914 was brought to a fitting conclusion on Thursday, when the challenge cup and medals were presented at the SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich. Owing to the stormy weather only a small company was present.....”

Walsall Observer 16/1/1915 - Roll of Honour

“Another local soldier who has died in the service of his country is Private Harry Hayward, aged 25. He returned with the 1st South Staffords from the Transvaal in September, attended his father’s funeral, and a few days afterwards went with the regiment on active service. On New Year’s Day – his twenty-sixth birthday – a communication was received by relatives at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, stating that on December 28 he died in the 13th General Hospital, Boulogne, from pneumonia. Formerly a miner at the Cannock and Norton Colliery, he spent four years in South Africa, and under ordinary circumstances, would have completed his Army service next month.

A younger brother, Private Arthur Hayward (21), of the Border Regiment, has been so badly injured in the head by shrapnel, as to affect the muscles of his jaw. Pieces of shell have been extracted from his forehead and nose, and X-ray photographs taken at Walsall Hospital have revealed another large piece behind the jaw. Before joining the Border Regiment two years ago, he worked for the Highgate Brewery Company.”

Walsall Observer 26/1/1918

“‘Owing to the high cost of living and the shortage of food, he was living very poorly,’ it was stated respecting Charles Sargent, aged 68, a bit maker, upon whose body the Borough Coroner (Mr. J. F. Addison) held an inquest at Bloxwich yesterday. Mrs. Mary Ann Lavender said she and her husband, who was Sargent’s nephew, lived with him at 10, Barrack’s Lane, Blakenall. He had not worked for the past nine or ten weeks, as he suffered from bronchitis. He had intended resuming work, however, next week. On Tuesday she left him and her husband in the house, and when she returned from Bloxwich at 7.15 they were both out. Her husband returned alone and said he had left his uncle at the SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich. The old man was brought home about 10.30 by a young man and a woman, who said he had knocked at their door and asked to be allowed to ‘have a warm beside a fire.’ Witness’s husband went to bed, but when her uncle appeared to become very ill she called her husband and he went for the police. Dr. Stuart was summoned at 2am, and upon his arrival pronounced life extinct.

William Lavender, miner, told the Coroner that his uncle left the SPREAD EAGLE at 9.10pm, and witness followed at 9.30, but upon reaching home found that his uncle had not arrived. When his uncle was brought home he made him comfortable in a chair and then went to bed but had he thought he was seriously ill he would have sent for a doctor at once.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, which showed that death was due to Heart Failure, and the Coroner expressed his dissatisfaction with the manner in which the nephew gave his evidence by disallowing his expenses.”

Walsall Observer 26/10/1918 - Deaths

“On Oct. 23, at the SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich, Hannah, the beloved wife of *George Wood*, aged 60 years.

*Gone from us, but not forgotten,
Never shall her memory fade,
Sweetest thoughts shall ever linger,
Round the spot where she is laid.
Deeply mourned by her husband.”*

Lichfield Mercury 18/5/1923

“The question of whether permission should be given for the installation of wireless sets on licensed premises was raised at a special licensing session at Walsall on Monday, when two applications were heard for music and singing licenses to be granted so that customers might be enabled to listen in.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who represented Mr. A. Medlam of the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Paddock urged that the use of wireless would promote sobriety as there was nothing like good music to produce a lull on drinking. They would get the very best concerts distributed from Birmingham, and they could also arrange ‘arial sermons.’

Chief Constable Ballance, who opposed the applications, said he objected to public-houses being turned into music halls. It was well known that before 1890 music hall performances were permitted in public house, but the licensing justices were of opinion that the practice was not desirable one, and the consequence was it was discontinued.

After a private consultation, the justices granted both applications – the second being in respect of the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich – but said they were doing this simply as an experiment, and their decision must not be looked upon as a precedent in case other license holders thought to applying for a similar concession. They restricted the hours for the use of wireless. These would be from 7 to 10pm on weekdays, and from 8 to 9.45pm on Sunday evenings.”

John Henry Brotherton – see also DOLPHIN and WHITE SWAN.

Thomas Beecham Broome – see also BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF.

1939 Register

1, High Street

[1] *Edward C. Coley*, date of birth 3/4/1874, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Charlotte Coley*, dob 18/12/1879, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Edward Charles Coley – see also ALMA and BRIDLECUTTERS ARMS.

Thomas Charles Henry Lander – see also VILLAGE.

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions. SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich.”

William Thomas Walton – see also BRADFORD ARMS.

Harry Dobson – see also HOPE AND ANCHOR, GREEN MAN, and COTTAGE.

SPREAD EAGLE

Long Acre, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Thornhill

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 1/7/1854 - Advert

“That Capital Old-Licensed Public House, The SPREAD EAGLE, Long Acre, Walsall.

Allin and Flanagan have received instructions from the proprietor, Mr. *George Thornhill*, who is leaving the town, to Dispose Of

by Private Treaty, the Licenses, Goodwill, Stock-in-Trade, a portion of the Household Furniture, and immediate Possession of the above Old-established and well-accustomed House, now doing a good ready-money and out-door business.

The Premises, which are very commodious, comprise three Bed Rooms, excellent Club Room, Malt Room, Bar, Parlour, and Tap Room, Back Kitchen, Stable, Piggery, large Yard, and Skittle Alley.

Coming-in about £100.

For further particulars, and to treat, apply to the Auctioneers, Walsall and Wednesbury.”

SPREAD EAGLE

2, Wolverhampton Street, (2, Wolverhampton Lane), (Park Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Josiah Briscoe, Blue Lane, Walsall

LICENSEES

Joseph Whitehouse Jnr.* [1818] – [1822]

Joseph Whitehouse* [1828] – **1835**;

Mrs. Mary Whitehouse (**1835** – [1845]

Bartholomew Hodson [1849] – **1856**)

Robert Barton [pre 1857]

William Martin [1858] – [1872]

Samuel Martin [1860] ?

Henry Styche [1872] – [1873];

William Clenton [1875] – [1876]:

NOTES

Park Street [1822], [1830], [1835], [1841], [1842], [1849], [1850], [1851], [1858]

2, Wolverhampton Street [1862], [1868], [1872], [1873]

2, Wolverhampton Lane [1871]

It had a beerhouse license.

* possibly the same person

Joseph Whitehouse Jnr was also a maltster. [1818]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/11/1826 - Advert

“On Monday the 4th of December, 1826, a Grand Procession, to consist of the following united Lodges of Walsall, will take place to St. Matthew's Church, in aid of the Fund for re-building and enlarging the Blue Coat and National School, viz. The Odd Fellows from the BULLS HEAD; Odd Fellows from the ROYAL OAK; Loyal Britons from the TURKS HEAD; the Grand Lodges of Queerfellows from the WATERING TROUGH; Loyal and Benevolent Fellows from the WATERLOO TAVERN; and Loyal Union Friendly Fellows from the SPREAD EAGLE; when the company of any visiting Brother belonging to any of the above Lodges, with their Friends will be esteemed. The Sermon by the Rev. Luke Booker, LLD and FRSL, Vicar of Dudley. In the course of the service, several pieces of Select Music from the works of Handel and Kent, will be performed by the Walsall Choir, with Assistants from Lichfield Cathedral. The Organ by Mr. Eyland. Divine Service will commence at eleven o'clock.

By direction of the Delegates of the above Orders.

Addison Richards, Secretary. Walsall, Nov 22, 1826.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/8/1831 - Died

“On the 29th ult, aged 21, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. *Joseph Whitehouse*, of the SPREAD EAGLE, Park Street, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1831

“The Coronation. The bells commenced ringing at a very early hour, and in the more advanced part of the day the members of the different lodges assembled in their respective rooms preparatory to joining in procession, in honour of the occasion.....

The following is a list of the Lodges which formed the procession, and the house at which they are held. They had seven banners waving, and were accompanied by an excellent band.

Senior Lodge of Odd Fellows – BULLS HEAD.
Grand Lodge of Modern Druids – BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD.
Odd Fellows – ROYAL OAK.
Queer Fellows – WATERING TROUGH.
Two Lodges from the WATERLOO TAVERN.
Loyal Union Fellows – SPREAD EAGLE.
Fellows of Support – TURKS HEAD.
Social Fellows – TALBOT INN.
True Hearted Fellows – MALT SHOVEL.

The procession extended in length to about a quarter of a mile. The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the attendance being more numerous.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/2/1833 - Died

“On the 1st instant, aged 5 years, Mary Ann, youngest daughter of Mr. *Joseph Whitehouse*, of the SPREAD EAGLE, Park Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/9/1835 - Died

“On Wednesday last, Mr. *Joseph Whitehouse*, of the SPREAD EAGLE, Park Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/6/1836

“An information was brought by the police against Mrs. *Whitehouse*, SPREAD EAGLE, Park Street, for having her house open at improper hours, she was fined £2.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/5/1837 - Married

“On the 25th instant, at Walsall, by the Rev. John Meridyth, M.A., Mr. E. Bentley, grocer of High Street, to Ellen, only daughter of the late Mr. *Joseph Whitehouse*, of the SPREAD EAGLE, Park Street.”

1841 Census

Park Street

- [1] *Mary Whitehouse* (50), victualler;
- [2] James Whitehouse (55), maltster;
- [3] Joseph Whitehouse (25), maltster;
- [4] James Whitehouse (15), saddler ____?:

1851 Census

Park Street

- [1] *Bartholomew Hodson* (34), victualler, born Longdon, Staffordshire;
- [2] Ann Hodson (30), wife, born Hampdon, Warwickshire;
- [3] Mary Hodson (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Harriet Hodson (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Ann Hodson (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Harriet Hodson (1 month), born Walsall;
- [7] Luke Lawrence (25), visitor, locksmith, born Hampton, Somersetshire;
- [8] Prudence Lawton (15), servant, born Walsall;
- [9] Ann Roberts (12), servant, born Walsall;
- [10] Samuel Wilcox (19), lodger, bitt maker, born Walsall;
- [11] Thomas Bradbury (19), lodger, bitt maker, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/12/1851

“County Court, Friday. (Before Mr. Sergeant Clarke). *Hodson v. Doleman*.

Mr. S. Wilkinson supported and Mr. Simpson, of Lichfield defended. This was what is called a horse case, in which the defendant sued for the value of a horse. The case in itself exhibited some extraordinary features in consequence of the great contrariety of the evidence adduced by the defendant to disown liability. The case was tried by a jury.

The plaintiff is Mr. *Bartholomew Hodson*, omnibus proprietor and landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE, Park Street, the defendant being Joseph Doleman, a small farmer, residing at a place called Fradley, near Lichfield. Early in December a son of the defendant informed him that his father had a little mare to part with, which was too light for his work, but would do well as a leader in his omnibus, as it would trot thirteen or fourteen miles an hour. Plaintiff said he would like to see it. About the 11th of September another son of the defendant brought the mare to plaintiff’s house, and he drove a short distance, and said he liked it very well. He then proposed to exchange one of his for the one brought by the defendant’s son. Plaintiff said he wanted £8 for it – he had been offered £7 the day previous, but had refused to take it. He was going to part with it as it was too slow for omnibus work. Young Doleman then said that his father had seen it several times, and if he would exchange level handed it would be a bargain. Plaintiff then remarked that the mare had a running at the nose, which Doleman said was only a cold which the mare had caught going into the water, when hot, to draw rushes, and it was a kicker; for anything else he could recommend it to his own brother. On the following day plaintiff, not being satisfied with the running at the mare’s nose, called in a horse dealer named Hayes to look at her,

who pronounced her to be affected with that dreadful, dangerous, and incurable disease, the glanders. Not being then altogether satisfied he took the mare to Mr. James Robinson, a veterinary surgeon of Willenhall, who pronounced it to be one of the worst cases he had ever seen. Plaintiff went over to Fradley, to defendant's who denied he had sent the mare to be sold, as he said it was his son's, who resided at Lichfield. He asked to see the mare if that was his (plaintiff's). Defendant said she was not there; she was out at work and should not return till night, upon which *Hodson* made towards a stable, and there saw her eating hay; he then told defendant to keep her safe, as the one he had exchanged with was diseased. He replied that the mare did not belong to him, but was his son's. The plaintiff, in a day or two afterwards took the horse to Studley, and turned her upon the elder Doleman's premises and left her. The following day she was returned to him, but he refused to keep her, and the man who brought her turned her upon the same ground, which he thought was plaintiff's, but which proved not to be his; the horse was afterwards taken to the pound by order of P. Potter, Esq, steward to Lord Bradford, and subsequently shot. Mr. Simpson for the defence, called several witnesses to prove that the mare was not defendant's, but belonged to a son of his. His Honour summed up, and the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff damages £5."

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/5/1852

"*Bartholomew Hodson*, of the SPREAD EAGLE, was fined 10s and costs, for having had his house open at half-past twelve on Sunday night."

Birmingham Journal 17/6/1854 - Advert

"To Coach Proprietors And Carriers.

To be Sold, at Mr. *Hodson's* the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Park Street, Walsall, a Pair-horse Omnibus, nearly new, constructed to carry twenty passengers, eleven inside and nine out, with Harness complete."

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/7/1854

"On Monday last, the members of Peel's Loyal Order of Odd Fellows held their anniversary at Host *Hodson's*, SPREAD EAGLE INN, Park Street, when the members present received 10s each, after leaving a large sum in the bank."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 17/3/1856 - Advert

"To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that Old-licensed Public House, the SPREAD EAGLE, situated in Park Street, fronting the road leading from Walsall to Wolverhampton, and near the Railway Station. The House contains large tap-room, bar, parlour, club-room, six sleeping-rooms, extensive cellaring, brewhouse, and stabling.

Stock and Fixtures to be taken at a valuation. The Proprietor having other engagements is the sole cause of his leaving.

For particulars apply to John Osbourn, Auctioneer, &c, Dudley Street, Walsall."

London Gazette 31/3/1857

"Whereas a Petition of *Bartholomew Hodson*, at present and since the 18th August, 1856, living in lodgings in Park-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, at the same time renting Stabling in Marsh-lane, Walsall aforesaid, and during the whole period carrying on business as a Carrier, previously thereto and since the month of March, 1856, of Park-street, Walsall aforesaid, Grocer and Provision Dealer, and during a portion of the time as last aforesaid, employed as Labourer, and afterwards and up to the said 18th day of August as aforesaid, a Common Carrier, having Stabling in Marsh-lane, Walsall, as aforesaid, and previously to the month of March aforesaid, and since the year 1853, of the SPREAD EAGLE, Park-street, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, and Retail Brewer, and Common Carrier, and Haulier, at the same time renting a Shop adjoining, in Park-street, Walsall aforesaid, carrying on business there as a Grocer and Provision Dealer, and letting lodgings, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Bartholomew Hodson*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Bartholomew Hodson* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 16th day of April next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Bartholomew Hodson*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke, Clerk of the said Court, at his office, in Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent."

Walsall Free Press 25/7/1857 - Advert

"SPREAD EAGLE, Park Street, Walsall.

To be Let, and immediate possession may be had, that convenient old-established Old-Licensed Public House, well situated at the top of Park Street, Walsall, and doing a fair trade. The House consists of a Front and Back Kitchen, Bar, Large Parlour, Club Room, six Bed Rooms, two Stables, Coach-house, excellent Cellarage, &c, &c.

The Fixtures and Brewing Vessels to be taken to at a fair valuation. The Household Furniture may be also had if required. It is disposed of in consequence if the present Proprietor having other engagements.

Apply on the Premises; or to R. L. Courtney, Auctioneer, &c, High Street, West Bromwich."

London Gazette 1/9/1857

"*Robert Barton*, formerly of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh-lane, Walsall, Staffordshire, Innkeeper, then of Marsh-lane aforesaid, out of business, then of Lichfield-street, in the parish of Rushall, Staffordshire, Dealer in Tobacco and Fruiterer, then of Little London, Walsall aforesaid, Draper's Assistant, then of Westbromwich, Staffordshire, Draper's Assistant, then of Stafford-street, Walsall aforesaid, Grocer and Provision Dealer, then of the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, Grocer, Provision Dealer, and

Omnibus Proprietor, then of the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, out of business, then of the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, Grocer and Provision Dealer, Hay and Straw Dealer, Cow-keeper and Milk Seller, then of Stafford-street, Walsall aforesaid, Grocer, Provision Dealer, Corn Factor, Hay and Straw Dealer, Cow Keeper, and Milk Seller, then of the SPREAD EAGLE, Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, Innkeeper and Marine Store Dealer, and late in lodgings at No.113, in Blue-lane Walsall aforesaid, out of business.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/4/1858

“On Wednesday last, at the Police Court, *William Martin*, landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE beerhouse, Park Street, was charged with refusing to admit Police-constable Child into his house, about eleven o’clock on the night of the 13th.

The officer deposed that having been informed that a row had been made in the street by some woman of the town coming from the SPREAD EAGLE, he went down and heard music and dancing going on inside the house. He demanded admission, but the door was kept shut.

Mr. *Martin*’s defence was that shortly before the officer arrived, three men had got into the house by representing themselves as policemen, and he was afraid Child was one of the same party.

A fine of 12s and costs was imposed.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions..... The following parties were then called over, and as they came for their licenses, were duly cautioned individually.....

William Martin, of the SPREAD EAGLE, Park Street, who on the 21st of April last had been fined 20s and costs for refusing to admit the police after repeated applications.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/5/1865

“William Hughes was charged with having stolen a drinking glass, valued 3½d, the property of *William Martin*, landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Wolverhampton Lane. It appeared that the prisoner went into prosecutor’s house and called for a glass of porter. After drinking the liquor, the prisoner put the glass in his pocket, where it was afterwards found by the police. The prisoner, who said, ‘it was the drink that did it,’ was sentenced to one days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“Walsall. Annual Licensing Day.

The following parties had their licences refused.....

William Martin, landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE, Wolverhampton Lane, were refused their licenses in consequence of having brothels in the houses adjoining their premises.”

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1869

“This being the adjourned licensing day, those parties whose licenses had been either suspended or refused, again put in applications.....

Mr. Duignan, of the firm of Duignan, Lewis, and Lewis, applied, on behalf of Mr. *William Martin*, landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE public-house, whose license was refused because some houses behind his premises were sub-let by him to parties who used them for the purpose of prostitution.

Mr. Duignan said he thought there was some misapprehension in this case, and that there were certain circumstances which had arisen since the Bench had the case before them which he thought would induce the Bench to reconsider their decision.

Mr. *Martin* had been a licensed victualler 40 years, and for 30 years had been the landlord of the house he now occupied, and, during all that time there had only been one charge against Mr. *Martin*, and that was the trivial one of not admitting the police as soon as he ought; but, unfortunately for Mr. *Martin*, his house is situated in a very low locality, and at the back of his house are some small houses which belong to the landlord of Mr. *Martin*’s house, and some time ago, complaint having been made about the house in question being kept for the purpose of prostitution, the landlord entered into an arrangement with Mr. *Martin*, who took the houses, ejected the occupants, and sub-let them to other tenants. Unfortunately, the houses in the course of time began to assume something of their former disorderly character; but since the decision of the Bench a fortnight ago, Mr. *Martin* had given the occupants of those houses notice, and they had left, and the houses are now shut up.

The Bench, after a short consultation, granted the application.”

1871 Census

2, Wolverhampton Lane

[1] *William Martin* (64), publican, born Tipton;

[2] Hosannah Martin (67), wife, born Oldbury;

[3] Eliza Fereday (11), daughter, born Great Bridge;

[4] William Ravencroft (20), labourer, born Oldbury:

Midland Examiner 24/10/1874

“Thomas Binnall, Darlaston, who had gone to the SPREAD EAGLE public-house, Wolverhampton Lane, and stolen a drinking glass, value 6d, was sentenced to one days’ imprisonment.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

“Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

The cases of *William Clenton*, SPREAD EAGLE were adjourned.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 1/3/1876

“*William Clenton*, the landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE, Wolverhampton Street, was summoned for being disorderly and refusing to quit the TURKS HEAD, in Digbeth.

The landlady of the latter house said defendant wanted to have some drink after half-past ten (their usual closing time) and it was refused him. He then became violent and would not leave the house for some time.

Defendant was fined 10s and costs.”

Birmingham Gazette 20/3/1877

“The Artisan’s Dwelling Act In Walsall. An inquiry directed by the Local Government Board was re-opened yesterday morning, by Lieut.-Col. Ponsonby Cox, at the Guildhall.....

[This inquiry was to investigate the compulsory purchase of an area of existing buildings, between Stafford Street and Wolverhampton Street, demolish them and to erect new dwellings.]

There were 100 houses, full-licensed house 5, beerhouses 2, privies and ashpits 50 – of these 17 are under dwelling houses, workshops, or passages leading to them. The other buildings are 6 houses and shops combined, 16 workshops, 1 office, 1 pawnshop, 3 stores, 10 void houses, 1 bakehouse, 5 sheds, 5 stables, 1 butcher’s shop, 1 confectioner’s shop, 1 school, 2 pigsties. The streets in the area were narrow and irregular; the houses had no back doors situate in and out of courts; courts open at one end only, and some of them being only three feet across, hence the impossibility of providing proper privy accommodation.....

Henry [sic] Clenton, landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE INN, in reply to Mr. Williams, said that his house was in a good state of repair, and so were the labourers’ cottages which were behind his house. His rent was £40 a year, and his takings in good weeks from £25 to £30 a week. In reply to Mr. Gillespie, witness said that the labourers’ houses he referred to fronted to a stable – about six feet from them – and were built up to a slaughter-house.”

Closed

The house was taken down. [1870s]

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1882

“Walsall Town Council.

Report of the General Purposes Committee.....

On the motion of Alderman Brewer, seconded by Councillor Kirkpatrick, it was further resolved, on the recommendation of the same committee, ‘That the Council allow the licenses of the five alehouses, viz, the ODD FELLOWS ARMS, the ROYAL GEORGE, the SPREAD EAGLE, the GEORGE AND DRAGON, and the WATERLOO TAVERN, and the beerhouse, the BOAT INN, purchased for the purposes of the Artisans’ Dwelling Scheme, to lapse, it being considered that there is in the neighbourhood an ample number of licensed houses to meet the requirements of the district.’ This was unanimously agreed to.”

SPRING COTTAGE

60, (61), Elmore Green Road, (Elmore Row), Sandbank, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Mrs. Elizabeth Brookes, widow, Elmore Green, Bloxwich

William Roberts Brewery Ltd., Brownhills [1901]

Eleys Stafford Brewery Ltd. (acquired on 31st January 1936)

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 1st October 1966)

LICENSEES

William Brooks [1859] – [1870]

Michael McCannan [1872] – [1881];

William Coburn [];

Patrick Hough [] – 1888);

William Wooldridge (1888 – 1889);

Thomas Humphries (1889 – 1891);

Richard S Brookes (1891);

Henry Meller (1891 – 1897);

John Penton (1897 – 1898);

William Henry Haycock (1898 – 1900);
John Chapman (1900 – 1910); manager
John Frederick Bowen (1910 – 1936);
Benjamin A C I Haycock (1936 – 1958);
Dora Haycock (1958 – 1963);
Ernest Jones (1963 – [1966])

NOTES

61, Elmore Green Road [1891]
Elmore Row [1896]
60, Elmore Green Road [1901], [1939]

It had a beerhouse license.

William Brooks = William Brookes

Walsall Free Press 3/12/1859

“On the evening of Saturday week, about half-past ten o’clock, the daughter of Mr. *Brookes* of the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Bloxwich, discovered a man in the cellar, concealed between two barrels, who on being disturbed made his escape without being recognised.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.
William Brookes, Bloxwich. Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 31/8/1861

“The business of the general licensing day then commenced. There were seventeen applications.
Mr. *William Brookes*’s application was supported by Mr. Samuel Wilkinson, jun. The house is situated in the north-west part of Bloxwich, and (Mr. Wilkinson asserted) in a quarter as ill-supplied with accommodation of this kind as any part of the municipal borough. Mr. Wilkinson handed a testimonial to the Bench to the good character of the applicant. The Bench had a good opinion of Mr. *Brookes*’s character but felt bound to refuse the license.”

Walsall Free Press 7/9/1861

“Adjourned Licensing Day. Mr. Mathews had a re-application to make on behalf of Mr. *Brookes* of SPRING COTTAGE. The Bench declined hearing Mr. Mathews, as it did not mean to change its determination. Application refused.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869 - Deaths

“On the 23rd ult, aged 18 years, Harman Alfred, youngest son of the late *William Brooks*, of SPRING COTTAGE, Bloxwich.”

William Brookes, retailer of beer, Bloxwich. [1862]

Michael McCannan = Michael Canaan = Michael McCannan

1881 Census

60, Elmore Green Road – SPRING COTTAGE
[1] *Michael McCannan* (57), widower, miner, born Shropshire;
[2] Mary McCannan (18), daughter, born Yorkshire;
[3] James McCannan (16), son, coal miner, born Yorkshire;
[4] John McCannan (14), son, coal miner, born Yorkshire;
[5] Michael McCannan (5), son, scholar, born Staffordshire;
[6] Harriett Hough (25), daughter, born Staffordshire;
[7] Patrick Hough (25), son in law, brickmaker, born Staffordshire;
[8] Francis Hough (2), grandson, born Staffordshire;
[9] John Woldrige (25), brother in law, coal miner, born Staffordshire;
[10] Alice Coarse (16), visitor, pianist, born Shropshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/10/1882 - Advert

“To Let, all that Old-Licensed House, known as the SPRING COTTAGE INN, situate at Elmore Green, Bloxwich, on the junction of five roads; with vaults attached. Eight years’ lease unexpired. In-coming low.
Apply to John Hayward, Auctioneer, Wednesbury.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/12/1882

“Annadine Smith, no fixed abode, was charged with stealing a shawl, of the value 3s, the property of Sarah Barrymore, Bloxwich. On Tuesday afternoon, whilst at the SPRING COTTAGE INN, the prosecutrix had a fit and when she came to herself she discovered that the prisoner and her shawl had disappeared too. A search was made, and the police discovered that the prisoner had pledged the shawl. She was sentenced to one months’ imprisonment with hard labour, and she left the court threatening the prosecutrix.”

Lichfield Mercury 13/5/1887

“Walter Salt, Elmore Row, was charged with assaulting James Taylor, of 42, Revival Street, Bloxwich, on the 19th inst. The case had been before the Court a number of times, complainant having been so much injured that he was unable to attend until this Court.

Complainant now deposed that he was at the SPRING COTTAGE INN on the night in question and was not sober. When he went out a dispute arose between him and the prisoner’s brother, and they were going to fight, but the prisoner interfered. He and the prisoner then fought, and after the first round he wanted to give up but prisoner wanted to fight again and they did so. Prisoner struck him under the ear and rendered him insensible.

Other evidence was given which showed that prisoner was a quiet and respectable man and that there was a fair fight between the men, and eventually the Bench dismissed the case, but recommended prisoner to pay the expenses to which the complainant had been put.”

1891 Census

61, Elmore Green Road – SPRING COTTAGE INN

[1] *Thomas Humphries* (34), builder and licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Eliza Humphries* (32), wife, born Wyrley;

[3] *Thomas Humphries* (13), son, scholar, born Cannock;

[4] *John Humphries* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *Alfred Humphries* (9), son, scholar, born Blakenhall;

[6] *Rose M. Humphries* (4), daughter, scholar, born Blakenhall;

[7] *Joseph Humphries* (2), son, born Blakenhall:

Henry Meller = Henry Mellor = Henry Miller

Walsall Advertiser 24/9/1892 - Letter

“Sir. I hear that the Bloxwich Victoria Band are to be entertained at the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Bloxwich, on Monday night, at 6.30, when I hope that the lovers of music will obtain their tickets, and shew their appreciation of the services they have given in the park during the summer months, and no doubt will do justice to the good things that will be provided by Host *Henry Mellor*. Your, J. G.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/12/1892

“*Henry Miller*, landlord of the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Bloxwich, applied for a music and singing license for the 24th and 26th inst. He stated that there was no special occasion beyond the Christmas holidays. The magistrates refused the application.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1893 - Advert

“By Order of the Representatives of the late Mr. William Brookes.

To Brewers, Publicans and Property Investors.

Walter Hughes is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Bloxwich, on Monday, 29th day of May, 1893, at Six for Seven in the evening.....

Lot 3. All that well-known fully-licensed Freehold Public House, situate at Bloxwich within easy distance of the railway station and Bloxwich Park, and known by the sign of the SPRING COTTAGE INN, now in the occupation of *Henry Mellor* as a yearly tenant, at the low old-fashioned rental of £35 a year; also the cottage adjoining, occupied by Richard Davis as a weekly tenant at a rental amounting to £7 7s 4d a year, making a total rental of £42 2s 4d a year. The public-house contains five bedrooms, two living rooms, taproom, parlour, smokeroom, and very large vaults; and also cellars, scullery, brewhouse, and outbuildings. The house has gas laid on, and is supplied by the South Staffordshire Company’s water. It has always done an excellent trade, it is situate in an improving neighbourhood, and is one of the oldest established and most noted calling houses in Bloxwich.

The lot has a frontage of about 100 feet, and contains an area of 880 square yards.

Possession of the public house may be had on 29th September, next.

To Brewers the sale affords a really good chance of acquiring a Freehold Public House, doing remunerative trade; or to a Publican wanting a Home Brewing House, this lot is a desirable investment.....”

Walsall Advertiser 26/9/1896

“Mr. *Henry Mellor*, landlord of the SPRING COTTAGE INN Elmore Green, Bloxwich, complains that injustice has been done to him by the inference that he was the person of that name and description that was bound over at the Police Court on Wednesday of last week for fighting in Bridge Street. The defendant was Mr. *Mellor*’s son, a fact which was apparent seeing that we gave his age as 16; but as neither of our contemporaries mentioned this discriminating clue to his identity, we think it only fair to Mr. *Mellor* that we should remove the wrong impression thus created.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/9/1897 - Register of Sales

“Monday, October 4. By Messrs. Watkins, Powell, and Wood; Brewing Plant, Horses, &c, at the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Elmore Green, at 2.”

John Chapman was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in August 1900.

1901 Census

60, Elmore Green Road

- [1] *John Chapman* (32), public house manager, born Brownhills;
- [2] Rachel Chapman (30), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] John E. Chapman (1), son, born Brownhills;
- [4] Mary M. Chapman (10 months), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Florrie Mason (20), servant, born Tweedlincote, Derbyshire:

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1901

“The Streets Committee.....

The following plans have been disapproved.....

William Roberts, one house and the rebuilding of the SPRING COTTAGE INN Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

SPRING COTTAGE, Bloxwich. Mr. Plumtree (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson) formally applied for the renewal of the license to this house, owned by Mr. W. Roberts, to which the Chief Constable had given notice of objection, on the ground that the house was not required by the needs of the public, and that it was structurally not fitted for a public house.

Inspector Marshall was put into the box, and he said the population of the district was about 13,000, and there were 39 public houses. The THATCHED COTTAGE was only 110 yards from the SPRING COTTAGE; the SANDBANK TAVERN was 130 yards away; the BLUE PIG 281 yards; and the GEORGE INN 340 yards. There were some colliery workings close to the house, but there would be no inconvenience if the license was refused. It was a very old house, and had been fairly well conducted.

The Chief Constable withdrew his objection as to the house not being structurally adapted.

The license was renewed.....

Mr. Plumtree applied on behalf of *John Chapman*, manager, and William Roberts, the owner of the SPRING COTTAGE, Bloxwich, for the provisional grant of a license of new premises proposed to be erected, or in the alternative for the removal of the license to new premises to be erected partly on the same site and partly on a new site. Mr. Plumtree said the existing frontage was 64ft, of which 54ft were built upon, and the building projected at one end 10ft 9in, and at the other 9ft 6in. The building was a straggling one, and they had heard from the Chief Constable that he did not approve of it in its present position. The present application was for leave to improve the building. They would have a licensed area decreased, and a building such as would suit the wishes of the Borough Surveyor. The present licensed area was 651 square yards, where as the new premises would only be only 426 square yards. There would be a decrease in the licensed area of 225 square yards. This was not an alteration to afford greater drinking facilities, but to improve the external appearance of the house and the internal accommodation. That was a matter which he thought would meet with approval of the Bench. There were 108 square yards of drinking accommodation, and this would be reduced to 76, whilst the frontage built upon would be 31ft against 54ft. They proposed to set the projecting part back to the general line of building at the request of the Borough Surveyor.

Mr. J. Rowley, builder and surveyor, produced the plans of the proposed new house. In reply to the Chief Constable he said the new vaults would not be bigger than the old, and the drinking area would be reduced. He could not tell how much it would enhance the value of the house if the new plans were passed.

Chief Constable: Then Mr. Roberts will do himself an injury if he condenses the room? – He does not want the room, he wants the company (laughter).

Mr. Alfred Stanley, who opposed on behalf of the temperance party, submitted that the Bench sanctioned the alteration of the SANDBANK TAVERN a year ago, and that would last 21 years.

The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople's Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

SPRING COTTAGE, Bloxwich. 10s 11d.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

It was rebuilt.

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1911

“A smoking concert was held at the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Bloxwich, on Monday, for the benefit of Mr. H. Challoner,

who met with an accident some time ago at the Holybank Colliery, which injured his spine and incapacitated him for life. Nearly seven hundred tickets were sold and it is expected that the proceeds will fall not far short of £20. There was a large attendance, over which Mr. Sharratt, under-manager at Hollybank Colliery, presided, and an enjoyable musical programme was contributed by Messrs. W. Scarlett, H. Groves, S. Hinks, A. Arnold, Matt. Brown, Cooper, A. Harding, Jordan, and Jones' Mandolin Band."

1911 Census

Elmore Green Road – SPRING COTTAGE INN

- [1] *John Frederick Bowen* (44), licensed victualler, born Battlesea [Battersea?], Middlesex;
- [2] *Ethel Luisa Bowen* (33), wife, married 5 years, housewife, born Battlesea, Middlesex;
- [3] *Samuel Bowen* (3), son, born Brownhills;
- [4] *John Bowen* (1), son, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1912 - In Memoriam

"In ever loving memory, of our dear brother, *Richard Selvey Brookes*, son of the late *William Brookes*, SPRING COTTAGE, Bloxwich, who passed away June 14th, 1911. R.I.P.
'Sunnyside'."

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1914

"Under the auspices of the Pelsall District Miners' Association, an organisation meeting was held at the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Bloxwich, on Monday night, Mr. W. Smith occupying the chair. There was a good attendance....."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1925

"*John Frederick Bowen*, licensee of the SPRING COTTAGE, Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich was summoned for making certain alterations in the bar and outdoor departments without the consent of the justices.

Chief Inspector Cooke stated that the landlady told him that the alterations had been made on purpose to serve children under 14 years of age, and allow adults to drink in the outdoor department.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who defended, pleaded ignorance, and said defendant had no idea that a plan would be required for alterations, which were small."

Alterations were made in 1928.

1939 Register

60, Elmore Green Road (3 of 4)

- [1] *Benjamin A. C. I. Haycock*, date of birth 21/9/1897, publican, married;
- [2] *Dora Haycock*, dob 14/1/1902, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Arthur R. Haycock*, dob 17/3/1926, at school, single;

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SPRING COTTAGE, Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich. £1 5s 0d."

The building was extended in 1948, by taking in 60a, Elmore Green Road.

[2017]

SPRING COTTAGE

Green Lane, Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Westley [1841] – [1851]

NOTES

London Gazette 25/5/1841

“*William Westley*, late of Birchills, Walsall, Staffordshire, Victualler and Stirrup Maker. In the Gaol of Stafford.”

William Westley was also a stirrup maker. [1845]

1851 Census

Green Lane

[1] *William Westley* (68), victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] Phoebe Westley (60), wife, born Chillington, Staffordshire;

[3] Mary Deneley (17), general servant, born Bath:

SPRING COTTAGE

45, Holtshill Lane / Charlotte Street, (Paddock Lane), WALSALL

OWNERS

Samuel White

Samuel Cox, Holtshill Lane, Walsall

William Blencowe and Co. Ltd.

Lord Catherton, Penkridge

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1899]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Richard Hayes [1831] – [1834]

William Medlicott [1850] – 1865);

Thomas Medlicott [1860] ?

Thomas Henry Bates (1865 – [1866]

Edward Johns [1868] – [1873];

Samuel White [1881] – 1889);

George James Byrne (1889 – 1891);

John Colling Cook (1891 – 189_);

Percy Claridge (189_ – 189_);

Alfred Medlam (189_ – 1893);

William Messenger (1893 – 1897);

John Alfred Delaney (1897 – 1899);

Charles William Gore (1899);

Sarah Jane Gore (1899 – 1901);

Edgar Biddulph (1901 – 1912);

Alfred ‘Alf’ Medlam (1912 – 1934);

Ada Medlam (1934 – 1936);

Robert Whittaker Brown (1936 – 1953);

Arthur Ernest Walton (1953 – 1965);

Arthur Albert West (1965 – 1966);

Kenneth John Gunter (1966 – 1967);

Bryan Sydney Collins (1967 – []

Shangara Singh Shiggs [2007]

NOTES

Paddock Lane [1851], [1858]

Paddock, Holts Hill Lane [1864], [1865]

45, Holts Hill Lane [1871], [1932], [1939]

COTTAGE [1899]

SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL [1911], [1912], [1918]

It had a beerhouse license.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 30/5/1831 - Advert

“SPRING COTTAGE Public House and Tea-Gardens, near Walsall.

To Gardeners, Seedsmen, Publicans, and Others.

To be Sold, the Licenses and immediate Possession (if required) of the above Public House, occupied by Mr. *Hayes*, Gardener and Seedsmen, with the very productive Garden containing about one acre, in the highest state of cultivation, abounding with various sorts of choice Fruit, Vegetables, and Flowers, for which there is a regular demand, also for Seeds, without the trouble of attending market.

The very extensive, unobstructed view of the surrounding country for many miles in every direction is remarkably beautiful, and induced numbers of persons to frequent this much admired spot.

N.B. A Gardener thoroughly understanding his profession would no doubt meet with great encouragement; in fact, the vast alterations and daily improvements now being made in this neighbourhood ensure constant employment, independent of having a considerable share of the public business. Rent only £15 per annum.

The effects to be taken to at a fair valuation, and to treat apply (if by letter, post paid) to E. Jukes, Land Agent, or Mr. *Hayes*, of Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/1/1849

“The annual tea party, concert, and ball, was held at SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, on Tuesday the 26th ult, and notwithstanding the unfavourable weather was numerously attended; tea was served at six o'clock in an admirable style, and was followed by a concert, a programme of which had been prepared with great care, and embraced several of the most favourite glees, scenas, sentimental and comic songs, &c. of the day. The services of a party of well-known vocalists of the town had been secured for the occasion, who performed the various pieces allotted them in an excellent manner. Dancing was kept up till a late hour, when the party retired highly pleased with the evening's amusements. The room was handsomely decorated for the occasion with ever-green, &c, and no expense was spared by the worthy host to add to the convenience and entertainment of his visitors.”

William Medlicott = William Meddicott

1851 Census

Holts Hill Lane

- [1] *William Medlicott* (57), publican, born Kinver, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Jane Medlicott* (64), wife, born Kidderminster;
- [3] *Caroline Heirs* (31), daughter, married, at home, born Broom, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Jane Medlicott* (28), daughter, at home, born Broom, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Mary Medlicott* (22), daughter, at home, born Northfield, Worcestershire;
- [6] *Sarah Beech Medlicott* (20), daughter, at home, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Charles Heirs* (4 months), grandson, born Birmingham:

Sarah Beech Medlicott married *Edward Johns* on 24th November 1851.

Jane Medlicott married *Edward Pynor* in the 4th quarter of 1853.

See BROWN LION, Pleck.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/12/1859

“To be shot for, at *Wm. Medlicott's*, SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, Walsall, on Wednesday, Dec 28th, a fat pig, about 25 score, 25 members, at 10s each, 5 sparrows each. To commence at one o'clock.”

Walsall Free Press 26/10/1861 - Advert

“Money! Money!! Money!!!

SPRING COTTAGE INN, Paddock, Walsall.

No.1 Permanent Money Society Will be Commenced on Monday Evening Next, October, 28, for sums up to £20.

Payments per week, £5, 1s 3d; for £10, 2s 3d; for £20, 4s 3d.

Members may join it at any time without the payment of premium or arrears, and be eligible to purchase on the night of entry.

No fines or interest to pay. Profits divided each quarter.

The above is an easy way of obtaining advances of money, and also a safe and profitable investment.

Copies of the Rules may be had of the Host.”

Birmingham Journal 8/2/1862 - Died

“On the 2nd inst, after a long illness, *Jane*, the beloved wife of Mr. *William Medlicott*, of SPRING COTTAGE INN, Paddock, Walsall, and mother of Mrs. W. T. Hairs, of this town; deeply regretted.”

Walsall Free Press 18/10/1862 - Advert

“Permanent Money Society, SPRING COTTAGE INN Paddock.

The above Society is Selling Shares almost every Club Night. Dividend last quarter 6s 4d, on each £5 share. Meetings every

Monday night from Eight to half-past Nine.
Subscriptions: £5, 1s 3d; for £10, 2s 3d; for £20, 4s 3d.”

Walsall Free Press 25/4/1863 - Advert

“The New Bowling Green will be Opened to Subscribers and the Public on Monday, May 4th, at the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Paddock. Gentlemen wishing to subscribe may obtain information from the landlord.”

Walsall Free Press 12/9/1863 - Advert

“Tea And Pleasure Gardens, SPRING COTTAGE INN, Paddock.
These spacious and pleasantly situated Gardens Are Now Open to the public.
These Gardens have been Enlarged and a spacious Green has been laid down, which is in beautiful condition and suited for Dancing, additional Harbours have been erected, and the proprietor solicits the patronage of the public.
An Efficient Quadrille Band is Engaged for the Season.
Spirits Of First-rate Quality.
Fine Home Brewed Ale.
Porter, Bottled And On Draught.
Admittance by Check 3d each, which will be received in Refreshments.
Gentlemen desirous of Subscribing to the Bowling Green will oblige by leaving their cards at the House.”

Walsall Free Press 23/1/1864

“No.1 Permanent Money Society. On Tuesday last the members of this society held their annual dinner at the house of Mr. *Medlicott*, SPRING COTTAGE INN, Paddock. Nearly 100 members sat down to the excellent dinner provided by the worthy host, and due justice having been done to the ‘spread,’ the company spent the evening with toast and song in a very agreeable manner, the proceeding being kept up with much spirit till a late hour, when the company separated. We understand the affairs of this society are in a most flourishing condition.”

Walsall Free Press 8/4/1865

“At the county court, on Monday last, Mr. Holden, a hame forger, was summoned for non-payment of £5, for which he had become bound to the No.1 Permanent Money Society, held at the SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock. His Honour, after hearing the evidence, which showed that the defendant had become bound for a member who had borrowed the money claimed and had failed to repay it, made an order for the amount and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/9/1865

“On Monday afternoon a gala was held in the SPRING COTTAGE Gardens, Paddock, in and of the Widows and Orphans’ Fund of the Wolverhampton Order of Odd Fellows. The amusement consisted of singing by Messrs. G. Fletcher, Snow, and Hawkins, juggling, and illustrations of rope-tying, by Professor Sheperdo, and a display of fireworks, by Mr. Wilkes, of Birmingham. Dancing was also indulged in to the strains of the Bloxwich Rifle Corps Band.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865 - Advert

“No.1, Permanent Money Society, SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, is held at the above House every Monday Night from Eight till half-past Nine.
A Sale Every Night.
Subscription for £5, 1s 3d; £10, 2s 3d; £20, 4s 3d.
Thomas Henry Bates, Treasurer.”

Walsall Free Press 30/6/1866 - Advert

“SPRING COTTAGE Gardens, Paddock, Walsall.
The Public are respectfully informed that these beautiful Grounds Are Now Opened for the Season, which have been Enlarged, and the Spacious Green is in excellent condition for Dancing, and will accommodate a 1,000 people.
On Whit-Monday and Tuesday, the above Grounds will be Opened at Three o’clock.
A first-rate Brass Band will be in attendance, and will perform a selection of the most popular music of the day.
Admission 3d Returned in Refreshments.
Fine Wines, Spirits and Cigars.
T. H. Bates Proprietor.”

Walsall Free Press 1/2/1868

“*Edward Johns*, landlord of the SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, pleaded guilty to having, on Sunday afternoon last, had his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours, and was fined 5s and costs.”

1871 Census

45, Holts Hill Lane

- [1] *Edward Johns* (39), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Sarah Johns* (38), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Frank Johns* (13), son, iron worker, born Walsall;

- [4] Mary Johns (11), daughter born Walsall;
[5] Walter Johns (10), son, born Walsall;
[6] Edward Johns (5), son, born Walsall;
[7] Mr. Medlicott (70), father in law, gardener, born Envil, [Enville], Staffordshire:

Walsall Free Press 8/7/1871 - Advert

“SPRING COTTAGE, Gardens, Paddock, Walsall, Proprietor, Mr. *E. Johns*.

1,000 Miles in 1,000 Hours.

Extraordinary Physical Endurance.

Go & See Mdme. Angleo!

The Great Female Deerfoot and Champion Female Walker of the World, who astonishes all Creation with her graceful style of Walking. This Lady has been patronised by all the Mayors, Nobility, Clergy, and Gentry, in every Town in which she has appeared.

Walking Hours a quarter before 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12. Gates Open Day and Night for Six Weeks. Admission: 2d each.

On Mondays and Saturdays, the band of the 14th Staffordshire Rifles will be in attendance, for Dancing on the Green, commencing at Six. Leader of the Band, Mr. Keats. Admission 3d each.

Refreshments of the Best Quality.”

Walsall Free Press 19/8/1871

“*Edward Johns*, landlord of the SPRING COTTAGE INN, was charged with having, on the 6th inst, knowingly and wilfully permitted drunkenness. The charge was proved by Police-sergeant Childs, who visited defendant’s premises about two o’clock on the morning in question. The officer found about 150 people in the garden adjoining the house, several of whom were drunk; but the house itself was cleared. For the defence it was urged that the drunken men had entered the garden by breaking the fences, on purpose to see Madame Angleo, who was walking 1,000 miles in 1,000 hours. The Bench considered that defendant was responsible, and fined him 20s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1871

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions. This session took place at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

Mr. Glover then applied for the renewal of the licenses of the undermentioned, whose licenses were suspended on licensing day.....

Edward Johns, the SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock. Granted.”

1881 Census

45, Holtshill Lane – SPRING COTTAGE INN

- [1] *Samuel White* (42), publican, born Walsall;
[2] *Emily White* (42), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Mary Jane White* (19), daughter, household duties at home, born Walsall;
[4] *George Henry White* (15), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] *Maria White* (10), daughter, scholar, born Hednesford;
[6] *Frank White* (1), son, born Walsall;
[7] *Sydney White* (1), son, born Walsall;
[8] *Jane Hughes* (22), domestic servant, born Darlaston;
[9] *Mary Durney* (20), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 20/7/1888

“Walsall Quarter Sessions.....

George Jones (21), labourer, pleaded guilty to having, on the 27th June, broken into the dwelling house of *Samuel White*, the SPRING COTTAGE INN, and stolen 8s 6d in money, seventy-four cigars, and other things. He was sentenced to four months’ imprisonment, with hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1889 - Advert

“SPRING COTTAGE INN, Paddock Lane, Walsall.

Unreserved Sale of Superior Brewing Plant.

To Be Sold By Auction by Messrs. Watkins & Powell, as above, without reserve, on Thursday Next, July 18th, 1889.

The useful Brewing Plant, comprising Cast-iron Boiler, with setting and bars complete; Steel ditto, with fittings and tap; 3 large Vats, with Frames, in good condition; Very Superior Mash Tub, a large quantity of excellent 100 and 60 Gallon Casks, in good condition; Lead Piping, Wood Spouts, Sieves, Mash Rule, Benches, and other Brewing Utensils.

Sale to commence 11 o’clock.

Auctioneer’s Office, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

John Colling Cook = *John Colling Cooke*

Walsall Observer 5/9/1891

“The members of Walsall Strollers FC held their first annual dinner on Monday evening last at the SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock,

when upwards of forty members and friends sat down to an excellent repast, served in admirable style by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Cooke*, late of the PRIORY HOTEL), whose catering gave the greatest satisfaction. The 'inner man' having been amply replenished with the good things provided, a very enjoyable evening was spent in listening to several capital songs, and honouring a number of toasts.....

Mr. Homer proposed 'The Host and Hostess,' and in so doing said that the manner in which the dinner had been placed before them reflected the highest credit on Mr. and Mrs. *Cooke*, who was glad to know that his efforts to please were appreciated, and who also promised every assistance in his power to make the club a success....."

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1893

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The usual monthly meeting of the management committee was held on Thursday last (having been postponed from the previous Thursday, the day on which the Parliamentary election took place), at Mr. William Brown's, BLUE PIG INN, New Street.....

New members.... Mr. *Alf Medlam*, SPRING COTTAGE INN, Paddock."

Walsall Advertiser 21/4/1894

"An inquest was held at the SPRING COTTAGE, Holtshill Lane, on Saturday last touching the death of Mary Kerr, aged 58, of Holtshill Lane, who died suddenly on the previous day under circumstances reported in our last issue. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned."

Walsall Advertiser 12/5/1894

"At a meeting held at Mr. *W. Messenger's*, SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, on the last instant, it was decided to form a lodge of the Conservative League, and the 'Smith' Lodge was the name unanimously chosen. Bro. Bailey was chosen worthy master for the first year. The opening ceremony will take place on Tuesday, May 29th. There are already forty names given in for membership."

Walsall Advertiser 19/12/1896 - Notice

"I, Edward Wadsworth, of 122, Tantarra St., Paddock, Walsall, do hereby declare that I will Not Be Responsible for any Debt or Debts contacted by my wife, Florence Rose Wadsworth. I am very shortly leaving the town of Walsall.

Edward Wadsworth. Walsall, 18th December, 1896.

Witness. *W. Messenger*, SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock."

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1899

"The Street Committee, the following plans, during the past month have been approved, subject to the usual conditions.....

W. Butler & Co. Ltd., rebuilding the COTTAGE INN, Paddock Lane."

Walsall Advertiser 21/10/1899

"Another brace of Walsall soldiers left on Monday morning to rejoin the colours, viz, Mr. *Charles Gore* (son of Chief Inspector *Gore*), landlord of the SPRING COTTAGE, Holtshill Lane, who belongs to the Grenadier Guards; and Mr. F. Ball, an employé of the Midland Railway Company, who is a driver in the 78th Battery of Field Battery. The 'call to arms' cannot be said to have been opportune to either of the men from a domestic standpoint. Private *Gore* is only a comparatively young man, and a few weeks ago there occurred in his house one of those interesting events which are to be looked for in the homes of young people; whilst Driver Ball on Sunday week had his Imperial papers handed to him on his return from church with his newly-made bride. A considerable number of people assembled to see them off by the 11.28, express to London, and Ball was carried part of the way up Park Street shoulder high. They were in high spirits, and evidently anxious to 'have a pop' at Kruger, judging from the buoyant responses to the ejaculations of friends on the platform. The crowd sang the National Anthem and 'Auld Lang Syne,' and cheers were given for the Queen, 'Joey' Chamberlain, General Buller, &c.

The SPRING COTTAGE, Holtshill Lane, which is held under Messrs. Butler and Mitchell, will be carried on during the absence of Private *Gore* by his wife, to whom the license was temporarily transferred yesterday."

Walsall Advertiser 23/6/1900

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... *Charles Gore*, SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock."

Walsall Advertiser 6/10/1900

"James Murphy and Michael Carley, of the Paddock Lane, were summoned, the former for refusing to quit the SPRING COTTAGE public-house, Paddock Lane, and assaulting *Charles Gore* (the landlady's husband), and the latter for refusing to quit. The evidence showed that the two men positively refused to leave the house, and when Murphy was about to strike *Sarah Jane Gore* (the landlady) Mr. *Gore* interfered to prevent him. He, however, kicked *Gore* with such violence in the face as to black his left eye.

Mr. H. H. Jackson (for the prosecution) stated, however, that the object of the proceeding was not to obtain a heavy penalty, but to show men of the stamp of the defendants, that they could not do as they please, and must leave licensed premises when they were ordered to do so.

Murphy was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days' imprisonment, and Carley 5s and costs, or seven days' imprisonment."

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Paddock, Ceiling Collection (per Mr. *E. Biddulph*). £1 6s 6d.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/10/1904

“On Wednesday week, at the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Paddock, the local managers of the Wolverhampton and Walsall Districts for Messrs. Butler’s Brewery Company made a presentation to the local superintendent, Mr. D. A. Rudge, of a silver Louis tea urn, on the occasion of his marriage. Mr. *Biddulph*, in handing over the present, expressed the high regard in which Mr. Rudge was held and the best wishes of the managers for Mr. Rudge’s future happiness. The remainder of the evening was spent in harmony, the contributors including Messrs. Price, Medlam, Biddulph, &c.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/10/1905

“There was a large gathering at the fourth annual dinner of the Paddock Bowling Club, which was held at the SPRING COTTAGE, last night week.....”

Lichfield Mercury 26/3/1909

“The annual meeting of the Walsall Cricket Club was held on Monday night at the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Paddock, Mr. F. T. Cozens presiding over a large attendance. The report showed a total income of £339, a slight falling off in subscriptions being counter balanced by an increase of £64 in the gate money, which amounted to £168, and as a result the club was able to transfer a credit balance of £39 to the new ground fund. In proposing the adoption of the report, Mr. A. E. Hurst mentioned that the expenditure included £86 for the rent of the ground, which would not again figure in the balance sheet. Mr. F. T. Cozens was re-elected president and captain of the club, it being mentioned that this year was the twenty-fifth of his active association with the club as a playing member, and twenty-first in which he had been captain of the club. Mr. A. E. Hurst was re-elected vice-captain, and Messrs. J. W. Parkes and G. H. Gilbert were re-elected respectively hon. treasurer and hon. secretary.”

1911 Census

45, Holtshill Lane

[1] *Edgar Biddulph* (36), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Mary Biddulph (33), wife, married 12 years, born Walsall;

[3] Bob Larkhom Biddulph (12), son, school, born Walsall;

[4] Olive May Biddulph (3), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Mary Hawkesworth (21), licensed trade general servant, born Cheslyn Hay, Staffordshire;

[6] May Allport (19), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 22/7/1911

“Mr. Frank Cooper applied on behalf of Mr. *Edgar Biddulph*, of the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Paddock Lane, for an occasional license for the Walsall Flower Show, on July 24th, from 11.30am to 10pm. The license was granted from noon to 9.30pm.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1911

“Bowling. The Paddock Club, which meets at the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, opened its green on May 4th. There was a large gathering of members to support the new president.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/5/1912

“At the annual dinner of the Walsall Cricket Club, held at the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL on Tuesday evening, the President (Mr. F. T. Cozens) was presented by the Mayor (Mr. J. Venables), on behalf of the members, with a handsome sterling silver rose bowl (weighing over 148 ounces), on an ebony base, and a silver mounted cut glass champagne jug. The inscription on the base of the bowl was as follows: ‘Presented by the members of the Walsall Cricket Club to F. T. Cozens, Esq, their president, on his resigning the captaincy of the club, held by him for 23 years, as a token of their appreciation of his long and faithful services. April 30th, 1913.’

The President said words failed him to adequately thank them for the present. It had come as a complete surprise. He could assure them it would be an heirloom in his family, and he hoped it would be an incentive to his sons to try and do something for their town, for he regarded the club as a town’s institution which was doing a great deal for the benefit of the young men. Whatever he had done for the club has been a labour of love.

The Town Clerk (Mr. J. R. Cooper), proposing the toast of the Club, said it had braved many a storm, and this, he understood, was its 80th season, having been formed in 1833. He congratulated the club on the acquisition of the Conway ground as a permanent home for Walsall cricket. That and what the club had done during the last thirty years or more were largely due to the influence of their worthy President. Mr. W. Preston, the new captain, responded.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/9/1912

“The members of the Paddock Bowling Club assembled at the headquarters, the SPRING COTTAGE, on Friday evening of last week, with the object of making a presentation to the host, Mr. *E. Biddulph*, in recognition of his services to the club during the time he has been the landlord of the SPRING COTTAGE. The idea was prompted by the fact that Mr. *Biddulph* is leaving to take up the license of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Birmingham Road.

Mr. R. Bonnett, vice-president of the Club, was in the chair, and among others present were Messrs. E. E. Skett (captain), *E. Biddulph* (treasurer), W. A. Wilson (Hon. Secretary), E. H. Attwood, D. McCoustra, G. Reeves, B. Elton, W. Crowther, T. R. Johnson, S. Butler, F. Bailey, E. Gibson, R. Taylor, W. Mawson, F. Cox, J. W. Parker, H. Dutton, and S. H. Quincey.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. W. Muncater, G. Lenton, E. Taylor, J. Watts (who had sent a telegram from Kinver) and others.

The Chairman, in the course of a short speech, said he thought they would all agree with him that what they were doing was the only thing they could possibly do under the circumstances. They had all known Mr. and Mrs. *Biddulph* for a number of years, Mr. *Biddulph* more especially on the green, and he was sure that Mr. *Biddulph* had not only enjoyed himself, but had given them every satisfaction as treasurer of the club and as host of the SPRING COTTAGE, and they were all sorry to lose him. (Hear, hear). He was sure they would all join with him in wishing him and his wife that prosperity which they deserved in their new venture. He called upon Mr. Skett to make the presentation. (Applause).

Mr. Skett said that he had been connected with the club since its inception and he could assure them that Mr. *Biddulph*, and also his wife, had done everything they possibly could to enable the members of the club and their visitors to enjoy themselves, and it was the least they could do to recognise his services in some way. The presentation was principally in the form of an illuminated address and as it would not be ready for several weeks it would have to be presented by a deputation afterwards....."

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/1/1913](#)

["The Birmingham and District Licensed Victuallers billiards tournament will be commenced on Monday next. Entries.....
A. Medlam, SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Paddock, Walsall."](#)

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1913

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *Alfred Medal* [sic], SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Holtshill Lane....."

Walsall Observer 21/3/1914

"Mr. George James, the landlord of the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, expired suddenly in Birmingham, on Tuesday afternoon. Deceased, who was but 38 years of age, went into Birmingham on Tuesday afternoon, to see Mr. *Alf Medlam* of the SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, play in the Licensed Victuallers' Billiards Handicap. About 2.15, deceased and Mr. Middlebrook were just entering corporation Street from Stephenson Place, when the former turned to his companion and complained of feeling dazed. Almost immediately he staggered forward, but was prevented from falling by Mr. Middlebrook. Assistance was rendered, and on arrival at the Birmingham General Hospital, where he was taken, death was found to have taken place. Deceased leaves a wife and four children. The inquest was held on Wednesday, when a verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned. Mr. James had recently been attended by Dr. Baker for nervous trouble."

[Mr. *Alf Medlam* was beaten in the final of the Birmingham and District Licensed Victuallers' Annual Billiard Handicap (800 points up), by Mr. J. Adams, landlord of the CROSS GUNS HOTEL, West Bromwich, by 800 to 621 points.]

Walsall Advertiser 2/5/1914

"A special general meeting of the Walsall F.C. will be held at the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Paddock, on Tuesday next, at 8pm, when the president (Sir R. A. Cooper, MP) will take the chair. All members are requested to be present."

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, Walsall, 2s 4½d."

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/2/1915](#)

["The following are the handicap and start made by the handicappers for the Birmingham and District Licensed Victuallers' Billiards Tournament.....](#)

[A. Medlam, SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, Walsall, receives 170."](#)

Walsall Observer 31/3/1917 - Advert

"Goat for sale; a nice young Nanny, good class, used to collar and being pegged out on green.
Alf Medlam, SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, Walsall."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Paddock. £1 1s 10d."

Walsall Observer 30/3/1918 - Roll of Honour

"Sub-lieutenant Alfred J. B. *Medlam*, son of Mr. and Mrs. *Alf Medlam*, SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Holtshill Lane, is now in hospital at Torquay recovering from the effects of severe gas-shell poisoning, received after seven weeks' service in France with the Royal Naval Division. He obtained his commission in June last year. Twenty-one years of age, he is an Old Boy of Queen Mary's School, and before joining the Forces he was employed as a clerk in the Cannock branch of Lloyd's Bank. He was for six years a member of St. Paul's Choir. His father is chairman of Walsall Football Club Committee."

Lichfield Mercury 18/5/1923

“The question of whether permission should be given for the installation of wireless sets on licensed premises was raised at a special licensing session at Walsall on Monday, when two applications were heard for music and singing licenses to be granted so that customers might be enabled to listen in.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who represented Mr. *A. Medlam* of the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Paddock urged that the use of wireless would promote sobriety as there was nothing like good music to produce a lull on drinking. They would get the very best concerts distributed from Birmingham, and they could also arrange ‘arial sermons.’

Chief Constable Ballance, who opposed the applications, said he objected to public-houses being turned into music halls. It was well known that before 1890 music hall performances were permitted in public house, but the licensing justices were of opinion that the practice was not desirable one, and the consequence was it was discontinued.

After a private consultation, the justices granted both applications – the second being in respect of the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich – but said they were doing this simply as an experiment, and their decision must not be looked upon as a precedent in case other license holders thought to applying for a similar concession. They restricted the hours for the use of wireless. These would be from 7 to 10pm on weekdays, and from 8 to 9.45pm on Sunday evenings.”

Walsall Observer 14/6/1924

“At a meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held at the SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, it was reported that the amount received through the collecting boxes from retail license holders in the borough for Walsall for the Walsall General Hospital and local charities was £142.....”

Alfred Medlam was also a councillor. [1934]

He was treasurer of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Provident Society. [1934]

Alfred Medlam – see also DOLPHIN, George Street, LITTLETON ARMS, WHITE HORSE HOTEL, Park Street.

1939 Register

45, Holtshill Lane

- [1] *Robert W. Brown*, date of birth 3/5/1884, hotel manager, married;
- [2] *Beatrice A. Brown*, dob 21/9/1888, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Beatrice M. Brown*, dob 28/4/1912, draper’s assistant, single;
- [4] *Jesse Brown*, dob 3/3/1916, automatic tool setter, single;
- [5] *Jack Brown*, dob 25/7/1917, practical tailor, single:

Walsall Observer 28/9/1940

“Thirty-four wounded soldiers from a Midlands military hospital were entertained by the customers of the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Paddock on Saturday afternoon and evening. The arrangements which were made by Messrs. B. Hawley (as secretary), C. Crutchley and Joe Parsons was the result of a box collection in the back smokeroom for providing the necessary funds. In the afternoon, the visitors, wearing royal blue suits and red ties, had a bowling tournament in which there was keen competition, some of the players revealing considerable skill at the game. Refreshments were served on the green and there was a plentiful supply of cigarettes for the guests. After the tournament, tea was served indoors with the Mayor (Councillor L. Cliff Tibbits) in the chair. His Worship presented the prizes to the winners of the bowls tournament – Privates Rowlands and Hibbett and Gunners Murphy and Wood, and added that it was a great pleasure to him to see so many of the lads present. He thanked the Paddock Bowling Club for the use of the green.

Sapper Edwards of the Royal Engineers, replying, thanked the organisers and helpers for all that had been given to them and the generosity shown and he asked his companions to bear in mind that all of it had been done by people of whom they knew nothing. Mr. F. Haden paid a tribute to the liberality of the Paddock Bowling Club and mentioned that during the last war, men were entertained in this manner. He said he hoped they would have the privilege to entertain other wounded soldiers in the future, but still more that there would be none to entertain and that the war would be over.

As well as entertaining the soldiers, the subscribers have sent donations to the British Red Cross and Toc H and also money to sons and relatives of members of the Bowling Club, who are serving in the Forces.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
SPRING COTTAGE, Holtshill Lane. £10 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SPRING COTTAGE, Holtshill Lane. £5 15s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....
SPRING COTTAGE, The Paddock, Walsall.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 17/12/1986

“Brewers Mitchells & Butlers have spent £1.5 million on refurbishing 11 pubs for Christmas and the New Year the SPRING COTTAGE, at Walsall, has cost around £120,000 to refurbish.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 19/3/1993

“Bon Appetit Pub Grub.....
SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock Lane, Walsall.”

[2017]

SPRING COTTAGE

Lichfield Road / Mill Road, Shelfield, Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

Bindley and Co.
Ind Coope [c.1928]

LICENSEES

William Whitehouse [1858] – [1890]
Ambrose Lees [1891]
James Croxall [1896] – **1897**);
William Chilton (**1897** – []
Joseph Bowers [1898]
Edward Cope ‘Ted’ Clarke [1901] – **1907**);
John Horton [1905] ?
Enoch Stonehouse (**1907** – **1908**);
Edward Cope ‘Ted’ Clarke (**1908** – **1921**)
Mrs. Mary Clarke (**1921** – []
George Pawley [1932]
Wilson [1937]
William Walter Sheffield [1939] – **1940**);
Howard James Mills (**1940** – []

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

William Whitehouse, licensed victualler, SPRING COTTAGE INN, Walsall Wood, was fined 12s 6d and costs, for having four unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

William Whitehouse was also a blacksmith. [1860], [1861], [1868], [1872]

He was the brother of Henry.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/7/1868

“On Tuesday evening, as Mrs. *Whitehouse*, of the SPRING COTTAGE public-house, Walsall Wood, was getting into a trap, she fell, and fractured her thigh bone. Immediately after the accident which occurred on the Bridge at Walsall, she was conveyed to the Cottage Hospital, where it was discovered that in addition to the fracture, the poor woman, who is 70 years of age, had sustained other injuries.”

1871 Census

Shelfield – SPRING COTTAGE

- [1] *William Whitehouse* (51), blacksmith employing 1 man, born Sheffield;
- [2] *Ann Whitehouse* (58), wife, born Sheffield;
- [3] *Margaret Whitehouse* (15), daughter, scholar, born Sheffield;
- [4] *Ann M. Whitehouse* (12), daughter, scholar, born Sheffield;
- [5] *Edward F. Whitehouse* (10), son, scholar, born Sheffield;
- [6] *Elizabeth Whitehouse* (16), niece, visitor, born Dudley Port:

Walsall Free Press 5/7/1873

“On Monday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, held an inquest on the body of Edward Waltho, who was killed by falling from a cart. George Waltho said deceased was his uncle, and resided at Lichfield. Deceased was in the habit of attending the Birmingham and Walsall markets. Deceased and witness started from Lichfield at half-past one o'clock on Saturday morning last for Walsall. Deceased had a cart laden with vegetables. On their way they called at the SPRING COTTAGE public-house, Sheffield, and remained there an hour and a half. On leaving Sheffield deceased, who during their stay there had two glasses of liquor and one pint of ale, was in advance of witness about two hundred yards. Deceased was riding upon the shafts of his cart. On coming down the hill from Rushall to the one-mile stone from Walsall, witness found deceased lying upon the road, the horse and cart having gone on and left him, his head drawn towards his feet and his eyes and tongue protruding. Deceased was quite insensible. Witness procured assistance as quickly as he could, and had deceased removed to the Cottage Hospital, but on reaching the hospital gates it was discovered that deceased was quite dead. The deceased, about twelve months ago, was found lying in his own yard, suffering from loss of blood, which was flowing from his nose, but was not known to be subject to fits. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Lichfield Mercury 23/5/1890

“Brownhills Local Board.....

The Surveyor reported that a letter had been received from Mr. *Whitehouse*, SPRING COTTAGE, Sheffield, complaining of a drain in front of his house. The drain carried the water off the road opposite a new house which had been built by Mr. *Whitehouse*, and he requested the Board to lay pipes down.

Mr. Roberts: I don't see why the Board should enclose that.

The Chairman said that when a person built a house he should look after the water course himself.

The Surveyor said that Mr. *Whitehouse* would lay pipes himself in front of the house if the Board would afterwards continue the work. The Board decided to visit the house in question and look at the drain.”

1891 Census

Lichfield Road – SPRING COTTAGE

- [1] *Ambrose Lees* (47), publican, born Longdon, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Martha Lees* (47), wife, born Brereton, Staffordshire;
- [3] *George Watson Lees* (18), son, coal miner, born Brereton, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Mary A. Lees* (16), daughter, milliner, born Rugeley;
- [5] *Nellie Gertrude Lees* (14), daughter, scholar, born Rugeley;
- [6] *Florence May Lees* (13), daughter, scholar, born Rugeley:

Walsall Advertiser 7/7/1894

“Mr. E. C. Clarke, SPRING COTTAGE, Sheffield, was convicted of driving recklessly in Wolverhampton Street on Monday, and was fined 40s and costs, or 21 days' imprisonment. Police-constable Bell said Mr. Clarke drove furiously down the street, knocked down a bicyclist, who was seriously injured, and broke the machine. In the smash Mr. Clarke's trap was overturned and he and a man named Steele thrown out. Mr. Clarke said the accident arose through the cyclist coming suddenly from behind a break in front of him; his horse was only trotting at the time.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/6/1897

“The SPRING COTTAGE, Sheffield, from *James Croxall* to *William Chilton*. In regard of to the last named house the Chairman said that only a few days ago he saw three men outside the house, as though they had just come out, in a beastly state of drunkenness, at midday. They hoped the police would make a sharp lookout after this.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, and attention having been called to that matter they had gone round the district where similar objections could be made, and had given notice to the houses of the district asking that some alteration should be made so as to comply alike with the necessities of the public and also the sanitary conditions of the district. There were several houses named.....

SPRING COTTAGE, Sheffield.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/11/1897

“It is not all ‘beer and skittles’ being a landlord. No doubt this is the opinion of the host of the SPRING COTTAGE, Sheffield, for his wife was summoned at the Rushall Police Court on Monday on a charge of being drunk on licensed premises. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the defence, and said that on the 13th instant Mr. *Chilton* came home and found his wife intoxicated in the house. He thought if he called in the police, and the police saw her, she would likely be ashamed of herself, and mend her ways. He accordingly called in the police. He had since sent his wife to some friends, and she had promised to take no more. Before she went to the public-house she was most abstemious. Mr. Jackson thought the justice of the case would be met by the Bench allowing the case to be withdrawn on defendant paying the costs, 5s 6d. To this the magistrates consented.”

Joseph Bowers = Joseph Bowen

Walsall Advertiser 2/7/1898

“*Joseph Bowen*, landlord of the SPRING COTTAGE, Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood, appealed at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions on Wednesday against a conviction by the Rushall magistrates whereby he was fined 20s and costs for selling intoxicants during prohibited hours. The case has been fully reported in the *Advertiser*. It will be remembered that the appellant sold liquor during closing hours to a Rugeley man, who had driven a trap along with two sons and a son-in-law, who resided at Pelsall, the landlord only asking the old man how far he had come, and not the sons. The Chairman, after consultation with his brother magistrates, said they had unanimously decided to dismiss the appeal, with costs. The Bench granted the case.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/8/1898

“The forty-sixth general meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday afternoon the following were elected members of the society.....
Joseph Bowers, SPRING COTTAGE INN, Sheffield.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1898

“The annual licensing sessions in connection with the Rushall Petty Sessional Division was held in the Rushall Court House on Monday.....
The Superintendent had given notice to the license-holder of the SPRING COTTAGE INN, of opposition to the renewal of the license on three grounds. First, that the license was not required; secondly, on the ground that the house was of a disorderly character; and thirdly, on the ground of a conviction. So far as all the other licenses were concerned they would be renewed, but this one would be adjourned to the adjourned licensing day on 19th September.”

Walsall Observer 14/7/1900

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, plans were submitted for slight alterations to the SPRING COTTAGE INN, which after a suggestion by the Bench, were approved.”

Walsall Observer 1/9/1900

“An inquest was held by Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner), on Saturday morning, at the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Sheffield, on the body of William Smart (30), of New Street, Sheffield, who was killed at the Aldridge Colliery on the previous Thursday. The evidence was that at two o’clock on 23rd August the deceased was at work in No.1 Pit of the Aldridge Colliery, and was wedging some coal previous to getting it, when it fell, prematurely, striking deceased on the back of the neck, dislocating it. As soon as the man was extricated artificial respiration was tried, but without effect, and when Dr. Wolverson arrived he could only pronounce life extinct.
A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Observer 22/12/1900

“On Saturday the District Coroner (Mr. H. A. Pearson) held an inquest at the SPRING COTTAGE, Sheffield, on the body of James Beard (9), of New Road, Sheffield, who was killed on the road at Walsall Wood, on the 13th inst. Joseph Beard, of New Road, Sheffield, father of the deceased gave evidence of identification. George Sivorn, Frank Howells, and Thomas Rownes, three boys, of Sheffield, said that they, with the deceased, had waited at Sheffield for some wagons and a traction engine, belonging to Messrs. Smith, Albion Flour Mills, Walsall, which were to pass through, intending to have a ride. On their arrival they got on to the couplings of the rear wagon and rode safely as far as the Brickkiln House, Walsall Wood. There one of the men on the wagons saw them and ordered them off and they jumped, the three witnesses landing safely, but they saw the deceased fall, and it seemed to them that the wheel of the wagon passed over his head. Morris Keeley, one of the steerers, said that he saw the boys on the couplings of the two rear wagons, and ordered them to get off. They did so, as far as he could see, in safety; but when they got about 50 yard farther down the road, the Brickkiln House, a young man named George Burt, of Walsall Wood, caught them up on a bicycle, and told them that a boy had been killed by the wagons. Witness went back, and found that a man, named George Downes, had picked the boy up and was carrying him home, so he went and assisted him, afterwards fetching Dr. Wolverson to see him. The boy was quite dead, when he went to him. Dr. Wolverson, of Walsall Wood, said the lad had several injuries to the head, including concussion of the brain, which was the cause of death. Death must have been instantaneous, but the wagon wheel had certainly not gone over him. Probably deceased’s head had knocked against the wheel of the wagon as it turned round, causing the concussion of the brain and the abrasions on the

face.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1901 Census

Lichfield Road – SPRING COTTAGE INN

[1] *Edward Clarke* (45), licensed victualler, born Armitage, Shropshire;

[2] *Mary Clarke* (43), wife, born Burntwood;

[3] *Annie Clarke* (16), daughter, born Burntwood:

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

SPRING COTTAGE, Shelfield, (per Mr. *Clarke*). £1 16s 4d.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1904

“A woman named *Annie Jackson*, hailing from Darlaston, was brought up in custody before the Rushall magistrates on Monday, charged with being drunk and disorderly the previous day.

Police-constable *Bailey* stated that whilst passing the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Shelfield, he heard someone inside shouting and using very bad language inside. Going in he saw the prisoner, who was drunk. The landlord told him that he had several times asked her to leave, but she would not go. He also said that he had taken drink away from her and given her back the money. He went outside, and eventually the landlord succeeded in ejecting her. The language she was using the whole time was dreadful. Evidence was also given by the landlord, *Edward Clarke*, and prisoner was fined 5s and costs (9s 6d).”

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1904

“At a second Court at Rushall, before Captain W. H. Brooks and Mr. J. F. E. Binns, there was a case in which *Edward Cope Clarke*, the landlord of the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Shelfield, was summoned for permitting drunkenness and selling drink to a drunken person. Mr. J. S. Sharpe (West Bromwich) represented the police authorities, and Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

The evidence was somewhat remarkable. On Sunday, the 8th of May, Police-constable *Bailey* heard shouting and cursing in the SPRING COTTAGE, and heard the landlord say, ‘How many more times must I ask you to go?’ The policeman found a woman sitting in the house who was drunk, and she had some whisky before her. Eventually the landlord gave her 3d back, and succeeded in pushing her out of the house.

Mr. Jackson argued that this woman had for years been subject to fits of temporary insanity, in which she became furious. Once she had thrown herself into the canal in one of these fits. She was quite orderly when she went into the house. This landlord had kept houses for 18 years without complaint, and this particular house for several years without complaint. Under these circumstances the most the magistrates ought to do, he submitted with respect, was to order the landlord to pay the costs.

After hearing witnesses, the magistrates ordered the defendant to pay the solicitor’s fee and costs, the total amounting to £3 0s 6d.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1905

“The annual licensing sessions were held at the Rushall Police Court on Monday.....

Since the last licensing meeting, six licensed victuallers had been proceeded against for offences against their licences.....

Edward Cope Clarke, SPRING COTTAGE INN, Shelfield, permitting drunkenness, ordered to pay costs.”

Lichfield Mercury 7/7/1905

“The announcement of the death of Mrs. *Mary Horton*, the wife of *John Horton*, SPRING COTTAGE, Walsall Wood, on the 25th ult., in her 59th year, was received with very much regret by a large circle of friends. Deceased had recently left Chasetown, where she and Mr. *Horton* had resided and been in business for many years, and where deceased was very much respected. The funeral took place on Wednesday, June 28th at Bloxwich Cemetery, being conducted by the Rev. J. C. Hamilton (Vicar). A large number of wreaths were sent by relatives and friends.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/11/1907

“At the Rushall Police Court on Monday, a temporary transfer was granted to *Enoch Stonehouse* in respect of the SPRING COTTAGE, Shelfield, from *Edward Cope Clarke*.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/3/1908

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, before Sir E. T. Holden (presiding) and Mr. W. Precey, *Enoch Stonehouse* (50), SPRING COTTAGE, Shelfield, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises; and *Thomas Chairm* (39), farm labourer, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, on the 15th ult. Mr. J. S. Sharpe prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. H. H. Jackson defended both the parties.

Mr. Sharpe explained that on Saturday, January 15th, at about five minutes to eleven, Inspector *Needham* and several officers were in the neighbourhood of the SPRING COTTAGE INN, and through the door of the taproom they saw the defendant *Chairm* in a drunken condition. He staggered across the room, and was seen to pick up a cup to drink ale. He came outside with his wife, and was being led home by her, when the inspector went up to him and asked for his name and address, and he believed the other officers asked him, but he refused to give it and they could not obtain it. He was in such a condition that he was incapable of getting

home himself, and was ultimately taken into custody and appeared at a subsequent court, and was bailed out until the landlord could be summoned. The questions then arose 'Where did he have the drink?' and 'How long was he on the premises?' According to the police evidence he must have been in the house for fifteen or twenty minutes, and according to Chairm's own account he went to the SPRING COTTAGE, first of all about 8.30pm, when he was served. He then left and went to another public-house and had a drink, and then returned to the SPRING COTTAGE about ten o'clock, so that he must have been there an hour. He was served, and seemed to have been drinking with friends, and when charged at the station he said, 'I am very sorry it has happened; it does not take much to get me over. I admit I had a drop too much.' The landlord's attention was called to defendant when in the road, and he believed the excuse made by the licensee was that he had only been there about a quarter of an hour, and had only been served with one pint. A man in this condition being allowed in the house for that time showed extreme laxity on the part of the licensee.

Inspector Needham, Police-constables Barrett, Moore, and Brown, and Arthur Edward Newman gave evidence in support of the prosecuting solicitor's statement.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, in defence, said the whole point in dispute was whether the man was drunk or not, four policemen and one independent witness contradicted the police on one very important point – that the man was walking quietly by himself and not being led by his wife as stated by the police. It was also remarkable that defendant Chairm was able to make a statement of his doings during the night.

The landlord, Chairm, and his wife, John Brown, miner, of Stabbers Green, Samuel Duckhouse, Jane Addison, Wm. Arrowsmith, and Geo. Brown all stated the defendant Chairm was perfectly sober and showed no signs of drunkenness when in the house. Chairm was fined 10s and costs, and the landlord £5 and costs."

Walsall Advertiser 20/6/1908

"The Rushall bench on Monday granted a temporary transfer of the license of the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Shelfield, from *Enoch Stonehouse* to *Edward Cope Clark*."

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1909

"The annual general licensing sessions for the Rushall Division was held at Rushall Police Court on Monday.....

Since the last annual licensing meeting 2 licensed victuallers have been proceeded against for offences against their licenses, both of whom were fined.....

Enoch Stonehouse, SPRING COTTAGE INN, Shelfield, permitting drunkenness, fined £5 and costs.....

Since the conviction the license of the SPRING COTTAGE INN has been transferred to *Edward Cope Clarke*."

Lichfield Mercury 12/3/1909

"The Rushall adjourned licensing sessions took place on Monday. Mr. R. H. Holden, presiding. Mr. F. W. Richardson (Burton-on-Trent) applied for a renewal of the SPRING COTTAGE INN, Shelfield, which had been objected to on the ground that the house had been ill-conducted. He stated that the complaint appeared to arise from the fact that there had been a conviction for permitting drunkenness, but the license had since been transferred, and no further cause for complaint had arisen."

1911 Census

Shelfield – SPRING COTTAGE INN

[1] *Edward Cope Clarke* (55), licensed victualler, born Armitage, Staffordshire;

[2] *Mary Clarke* (53), wife, married 31 years, born Burntwood, Staffordshire;

[3] *Elsie Bull* (6), granddaughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 9/3/1912

"The Coal War. Great Struggle Still Proceeding.....

Notices were issued stating that strike pay would be paid as follows (on the production of contribution card): Thursday, March 14th; Shelfield, SPRING COTTAGE INN, at 11am; Walsall Wood, WHEEL INN, at 2pm; Brownhill, Crown Inn, at 5pm; Friday, March 15th, Pelsall, STATION INN, at 11am; Bloxwich, QUEENS HEAD INN, at 2pm; Lane Head, BRITISH OAK INN, at 5pm; Saturday, March 16th, Newton, Malt Shovel Inn at 11am."

Walsall Advertiser 16/3/1912

"Strikers in the Walsall Wood, Rushall and Shelfield neighbourhood looked forward to their first strike pay with evident concern. There is no doubt the men are beginning to feel the pinch of wageless weeks and although they picked up a good haul the Saturday before last the coffers this week have begun to run low.

The first distribution of strike pay by the Pelsall and District Association took place on Thursday at *Ted Clark*'s SPRING COTTAGE INN, Shelfield. The time fixed was eleven o'clock, but before that hour a large crowd of miners has assembled. A few minutes after eleven, when the officials drove up, there could not have been less than 1,500 or 2,000 men waiting for their pay. Some of them had to wait a good time too, for it was close on half-past three in the afternoon before the last striker received his allowance. Fortunately the weather was fine – indeed, it was a bright spring day. The young strikers – the pit boys – with some of their seniors, whiled away the time at marbles, but generally the men were content to smoke pipes (with need it to be said, and occasional slaking of the thirst), and quietly chat together. The peculiar part about it all – at least that which impresses the stranger, is that the men discuss practically every other topic imaginable with the one exception of the unrest!

The paying out was conducted in a smooth and business-like manner, the men entering the room where it was carried out in the order of their respective lodges. They were commendably orderly and the crowd gradually diminished, the strikers making a move

off as soon as they had received their money. Each man received 15/- and the few boys who had to be paid 7/6. The officials present included Messrs. H. Smith (president), Mr. Smith (vice-president), T. Riley (secretary), and R. Burgess (treasurer). Mr. F. J. Dean (miners' agent) was in London.

One of the officials explained that the ordinary strike pay is 10/- a week, but it was thought that it would be to the interests of the men if they were paid 15/-, as they have been at play since last Saturday week. The strikers came from all parts of the area covered by the association, although most of them belonged to Rushall, Shelfield and Walsall Wood.

From what could be gathered the men are not in such 'high feather' as they were this time last week. There are signs of a weakening in their determination, which goes a long long way to show that they would welcome a settlement. It was stated by one of the miners that in the early part of the week 20 or 30 non-unionists approached the manager of the Aldridge Colliery, and asked to be set at work, but were refused. In spite of the fact that the association has 4,000 members, there are non-unionists here and there and they must undoubtedly be reduced to an impecunious position. One of the miners expressed the opinion that after 'this yer job' is over the unionists will refuse to be reconciled to so many of the men remaining outside their union. The unionists evidenced that they appreciated their strike pay, small though it is compared to with an ordinary week's money, but, in spite of reserve, many of them showed that they were a little anxious as to their prospects should the struggle be prolonged. Some of the men turned up at the venues in their Sunday best and one or two even wore collars and ties.

Later in the day there were 'payings out' at the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, and at Brownhills. Yesterday (Friday) miners received pay at the STATION INN, Pelsall; the QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich; and the BRITISH OAK, Lane Head. Today (Saturday) money will be paid put at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Newton.

It is stated that if a settlement is effected and the miners start work at once they will receive pay from the strike funds for the odd days they have been out."

Edward Clarke – see also MINERS ARMS, Pelsall.

Lichfield Mercury 3/6/1921 - Deaths

"On the 31st May, at SPRING COTTAGE INN, Shelfield, *Edward Cope Clarke*, aged 65 years. Interment at St. Michael's Churchyard, Greenhill, Lichfield, Saturday June 4th."

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/8/1921

"A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mrs. *M. Clarke*, SPRING COTTAGE INN Shelfield was elected a member of the Society."

The magistrates sanctioned plans for improvements in the sanitary accommodation here in February 1924.

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/7/1936

"A man's death whilst on an outing from Westbromwich to Shelfield was the subject of an inquest at Shelfield on Wednesday. Deceased was Simeon Ralley, aged 77, widower, a coal miner, of 81, Temple Street, Westbromwich. The evidence showed that while the party were having supper at the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Shelfield, deceased started coughing, and he died before a doctor arrived. The medical evidence showed that he suffered from heart trouble. A verdict of Death from Syncope, due to heart disease, was returned."

Walsall Observer 13/5/1939 - Letter

"Sir, On behalf of the Shelfield and High Heath A.R.P. Association, please allow me to refute the statement being circulated locally that the wardens &c, engaged in the distribution of respirators in these villages received remuneration for this work. They did not. Neither did the gentlemen who lent their business and private premises receive any payment for use of the same. If the people who criticise the work of the Association would volunteer their services in some capacity, I can assure them their criticism would be welcome at our fortnightly meetings at the SPRING COTTAGE, Shelfield.

Your, etc, E. G. Bullen, Secretary of the above Association."

1939 Register

Lichfield Road – SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL (2 of 3)

[1] *William W. Sheffield*, date of birth 18/4/1883, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Gertrude Sheffield*, dob 14/5/1892, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall observer 21/12/1940

"An enjoyable concert organised by Mr. E. Sutton for the Brownhills Urban District Spitfire Fund, was held at the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Shelfield, on Sunday evening. Mr. E. Bagnall, JP, presided over a large attendance and the programme was given by Misses Lillian Parr (soprano), Jennie Durkin (contralto), Messrs. Norman Archer (tenor), Raymond Cuss (bass), Harold Cook (entertainer), William Oakes (xylophone), Sam Jones (violin), Leonard Jones ('cello) and A. Taylor and Quigley as accompanists."

Walsall Observer 27/9/1941

"Gratifying success attended the recent carnival and dance, organised by a Shelfield and High Heath Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. E. Sutton, for the benefit of the Brownhills and Urban District Mobile Canteen Fund, at a concert at the SPRING COTTAGE, Shelfield, yesterday week, the Hon Treasurer, Mr. L. Hulse, was able to hand over to Councillor H. V.

Emery a cheque for £200. In acknowledging with gratitude this handsome contribution, Councillor Emery paid tributes to the splendid work of Messrs. W. Rollinson (organiser), J. P. O'Connell (Secretary), and G. H. Beddow and the ladies committee. The entertainment, which was much enjoyed, was provided by Misses Jennie Durkin, Doreen Brown, Helen Beardsmore, Mrs. Mabel Stackhouse and Mr. Billy Williams, with Mrs. Vera Harper as accompanist. Thanks were largely to the generosity of Mr. F. Davies, who not only allowed the use of the Regent Picture Palace at Brownhills, but gave free publicity and provided the tickets, a show which Mr. Sam Rowbotham's 'Futurists' gave on behalf of the fund on Sunday afternoon was also very successful. Councillor J. A. Robson warmly thanked the party and all who had given help."

It closed in 2010.

It was converted into a shop. [2012]

SPURMAKERS ARMS

22, (46), Tantarra Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Caloe, miller, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall

G. Bird

Henry Purchase, 79, Bailey Street, Handsworth

Frederick and Albert Bayley, West Bromwich

G. W. Twist, White Horse Brewery

Twist's Brewery Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Smallwood [1862] – [1870]

William Clenton [1871] – [1873];

William Biddle [];

David Hedges [1880];

Henry Purchase [1881] – **1899**);

Ellen (Purchase) Hanning (**1899 – 1902**);

John Stanley (**1902 – 1903**);

James Birch (**1903 – 1905**);

Edward James Beddows (**1905 – 1910**);

Robert Whittaker Brown (**1910 – 1925**);

William Albert Payne [1921] ?

Josiah Fullwood Webb (**1925 – 1932**);

Harold Hinton (**1932 – 1934**);

Harry Salt (**1934 – 1936**);

Albert George Thomas Brant (**1936 – 1943**);

John 'Jock' Cowan (**1943 – 1951**);

Alfred Leonard John Jeffery (**1951 – 1952**);

Claude Wilson (**1952 – 1953**);

Robert Joseph Mahon (**1953 – 1954**);

Levi Plimmer (**1954 – 1956**);

William James Madeley (**1956 – 1959**);

John Zenas Watts (**1959 – 1966**);

George Raymond Wilkins (**1966**):

NOTES

46, Tantarra Street [1871], [1872]

22, Tantarra Street [1891], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1916], [1932], [1939], [1940]

It was known locally as the "Spurs".

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

It had a wide side entrance with large double gates. The path through this entrance was cobbled, and led to the malt house and brewery at the rear.

Birmingham Weekly Mercury 5/4/1964

“In many parts of Britain the local factory has its complement in the local public house.....

Local history can be read in many places through the sign at the local hostelry, but few towns flaunt their basic industry on their inn signs more fully than Walsall. Saddlery it is, so you might expect a SADDLERS ARMS, but several other parts of the trade occur in the SPUR MAKERS ARMS, the HAME MAKERS ARMS and the recently demolished BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS.”

Joseph Smallwood = Joshua Smallwood

Walsall Free Press 26/4/1862

“*Joseph Smallwood*, beerhouse keeper, was charged with having had his house open at 1.45 on Good Friday forenoon. Police-constable No.10 said he visited the defendant’s house and found two men in the employment of the Commissioners, drunk. About half-past twelve, in company with Sergeant Mason, he again visited the house, and found one of these men and two others, also in the employment of the Commissioners, all of whom were drunk. Sergeant Mason having corroborated the evidence of the officer, the defendant said the Commissioners’ men were drunk when they came to his house, and he never filled any drink till after church hours. Defendant, after being cautioned, was discharged.”

Joseph Smallwood, beer retailer and spur maker, Tantarra Street. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 4/6/1864 - Advert

“A Pig To Be Bowled For, at Mr. *J. Smallwood*’s, SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, on Monday Next, June 6th, 1864.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

“The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....

Joshua Smallwood, SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street.” [Refused]

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications..... Mr. Glover applied, on behalf of *Joseph Smallwood*, SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street. Granted.”

Walsall Free Press 30/12/1865

“Mr. *Smallwood*, SPUR MAKERS ARMS, applied for an extension of time. Application refused.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/9/1866

“A match took place at Mr. J. Flemming’s the RING OF BELLS, Walsall, on Aug 27, between Bishop’s dog Ben and Foster’s dog Billy, to destroy seven rats each, for £10. Bishop’s dog destroyed his rats in forty-eight seconds, and Foster’s dog in fifty-one seconds. The betting was 2 to 1 on Billy. The winning dog can be backed to destroy rats for pounds, once their weight, against any rough dog in England, for £5 or £10 a side. A match can be made any day at *J. Smallwood*’s, the SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/7/1867

“J. Smallwood of Walsall has a rough terrier bitch, 14lb weight, that he will match to destroy 20 rats against any other rough terrier of the like weight, for £10 a side. Money ready at *Smallwood*’s SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, Walsall.”

1871 Census

46, Tantarra Street – SPUR MAKERS

[1] *William Clenton* (41), brush maker, born Walsall;

[2] Elizabeth Glenton (29), wife, born Walsall:

Bells life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/10/1871

“W. Clenton of Walsall will match a dog to kill twice or three times its weight of rats against J. Lowe’s bitch Rose or Mr. Jarrott’s dog Brass, for £10 or £15 a side; or any other dog in Wolverhampton on the same terms. By applying at *W. Clenton*’s, SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, Walsall, a match will be ensured.”

1881 Census

22, Tantarra Street

[1] *Henry Purchase* (32), brush maker, born Walsall;

[2] *Ellen Purchase* (25), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Alice Purchase (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Harry Purchase (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] John Purchase (3), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Emily Purchase (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1885 - Register of Events

“Monday, June 15th. Conservative Meeting at the SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street at 8pm.”

1891 Census

22, Tantarra Street – SPUR MAKERS ARMS

- [1] *Henry Purchase* (51), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ellen Purchase* (49), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Harry Purchase (17), son, born Walsall;
- [4] John Purchase (15), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Emily Purchase (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Ada Purchase (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Joe Purchase (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] William Purchase (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Gilbert Purchase (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] Dora Purchase (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [11] Annie Purchase (2), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 9/11/1895

“Yesterday afternoon the borough coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest at the SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, touching the death of John Nichols (15), Tantarra Street, who died on Thursday morning from the effects of a fall. The Rev. C. E. McCreery was present.

Margaret Pearson said the deceased was her son by a former husband. On Sunday week he complained that his arm pained him and said that he and another boy had been ‘gaming’ at a mission room in John Street which he went to on Saturday evenings, when he fell with his arm across a board. Towards evening he also said he felt pains in his stomach. Dr. Angrove was called in on the following Wednesday, when deceased took to his bed, but he died on Thursday morning. He was insured.

Frank Brookes, the youth who was playing with deceased, said he did not remember Nicholl’s falling.

James Pearson, step brother, said deceased told him he must have caught his arm on the bagatelle table when playing with Brookes.

Dr. Angrove deposed to finding deceased vomiting severely and suffering from abdominal pains. The liver and bowels were evidently injured, from severe inflammation of the bowels arose with fatal results. A fall might produce such an issue.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/7/1896

“On Thursday afternoon Mr. Stanley (borough coroner) held an enquiry at the SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, touching the death of Dinah Liggins, aged three months, daughter of Mathew Henry Liggins, farm labourer, of 109 Tantarra Street. Deceased was taken to bed on Tuesday night, and about 4 o’clock next morning was found dead.

Dr. McKinsty now expressed the opinion that death was due to suffocation from overlaying, and a verdict to that effect was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1900 - Marriage

“On the 24th inst, by license, at the Registry Office, Walsall, Robert William Hanning, Park Row, Nottingham, advertising agent, to *Ellen*, widow of the late *Henry Purchase*, SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Walsall.”

1901 Census

22, Tantarra Street

- [1] Robert W. Hanning (39), advert and agent’s canvasser, born Nottingham;
 - [2] *Ellen Hanning* (42), wife, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
 - [3] John Purchase (23), stepson, plumber, born Walsall;
 - [4] Emily Purchase (21), stepdaughter, born Walsall;
 - [5] Ada Purchase (19), stepdaughter, born Walsall;
 - [6] Joseph Purchase (17), stepson, born Walsall;
 - [7] William T. Purchase (14), stepson, born Walsall;
 - [8] Gilbert Purchase (13), stepson, born Walsall;
 - [9] Dora Purchase (10), stepdaughter, born Walsall;
 - [10] Frank Purchase (7), stepson, born Walsall:
- [Ellen Hanning was formerly Ellen Purchase from 1891, , and her children have only aged by 8 years.]

Walsall Advertiser 29/6/1901 - Advert

“Grains for Sale, two or three brewings weekly.

Hanning, SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/11/1901 - Advert

“Important Sale by Auction of a very Valuable Full-Licensed Old-Established Public House, known as the SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, Walsall, one of the best situated Licensed House in the Town, and commanding a large trade, being the nearest Inn to a large and rapidly growing district.

Walter Hughes is instructed by Mrs. *E. Hanning* (who is retiring from the trade after a very successful occupancy of 22 years) to offer for Sale by Auction at his Property Mart, The Bridge, Walsall, on Tuesday, 3rd December, 1901, at Seven pm precisely, subject to Conditions to be then read.

For further particulars, with Plan, apply to the Auctioneer, Walter Hughes, FAI, The Bridge, Walsall; or to Messrs. Nicklin & Wylie, Solicitors, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/12/1901

“On Tuesday evening, at his Property Mart, The Bridge, Walsall, in the presence of a very good company, Mr. Walter Hughes, offered several properties for auction.....

A full-licensed public house, the SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, Walsall, leasehold, until March 1960, at a ground rent of £1 12s. The first bid was £2,000, and the last, £3,400. It was disposed of, however, at the close of sale, for £3,500, and a valuation of the fixtures and fittings.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/2/1902 - Advert

“Sale At Short Notice. SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, Walsall.

Monday Next, 5th February, 1902, at Eleven.

Unreserved Sale by Auction of Useful Household Furniture, Pianoforte, Safe by Lord, Bedroom Suite, and other capital Effects, as also a nearly new Princess Ralli Cart, Brass Mounted Harness, and a Gent’s Riding Saddle.

Walter Hughes, Auctioneer.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.

List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....

SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, 2s 1d.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/5/1905

“Staffordshire Conservative League.

The usual meeting of the Alfred Hauxwell Lodge was held on Monday at Bro. *J. Birch*’s, SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, when there was a good attendance. Apologies were read from the Worthy Grand (Bro. Hauxwell), and Bro. Holt (deputy of the lodge), Bro. Beaumont taking the vice-chair. After the ordinary business the evening was spent in harmony, the following contributing: Bros. G. Hughes, Gittings, Jones, Richards, Medlicott and Smith. The annual dinner was postponed till after Easter.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....

The following dividends were paid out in connection with the various lodges of the Loyal Caledonian Corks: Lodge 504, BOROUGH ARMS, Ablewell Street, 6s 6d, night and card; 422, SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, 7s, night and card; 322 GOAT INN, Newhall Street, 5s 3d, two nights and card; 325, ALBION HOTEL, Wolverhampton Street, 2s 6d, night and card.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1910

“Walsall Harriers..... Today (Saturday), a seven mile handicap is to take place from the SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street. The secretary hopes to see every member present to support the event, also to make arrangements and give out tickets and numbers for the novice championship at Coventry, next Saturday.”

1911 Census

22, Tantarra Street

[1] *Robert Whittaker Brown* (26), public house manager, born Walsall;

[2] *Beatrice Ann Brown* (22), wife, married under one year, assisting in business, born Tipton;

[3] *Annie Thornes* (15), general servant, born Tipton:

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1912

“Loyal Caledonian Corks. On Monday last the officers of the Walsall District Lodge paid a regalia visit to the SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, which is the home of Lodge 422, there were also present visiting brothers from Lodges 187, 526, 322, 325, 421, 489, 245, and 68. Bro Day, district captain was elected to the chair, and Bro. J. Albrighton, district lieutenant, to the vice-chair.....”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street, Walsall, £1 0s 7d.”

Harry Salt – see also GREEN DRAGON.

1939 Register

22, Tantarra Street

[1] *Albert G. T. Brant*, date of birth 31/10/1900, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Millicent (Brant) Neville*, dob 10/5/1902, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 20/7/1940

“The mirror of coins at the SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street. They have been given by the customers for the benefit of the soldiers.”

Walsall Observer 12/4/1941 - Advert

“Malt for Strength & Energy. Hops for The Appetite. Yeast for The Blood.

Twists The Best Beer for You.

You can Drink and Enjoy Twists Ale at any the of the following Licensed Houses.....

SPUR MAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street.....

And All The Best Clubs.

Proprietary Whiskies, Foreign Wines and Spirits, High-Class British Sherries and Ports.

Head Office & Brewery, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

Jock Cowan was married to Flo.

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SPURMAKERS ARMS, Tantarra Street. £0 1s 3d.”

Levi Plimmer – see also CROWN, Bloxwich.

John Zenas Watts – see also ENGINE.

It closed on 31st July 1966.

Demolished

STAG

Field Road, (93, (57), Field Street) / Harrison Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Charles Beech

Mark Baugh

Job Daniels

Henry Beech

Job Yardley, chemist, Bloxwich

J. and J. Yardley and Co. Ltd.

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd. [1913]

Frank Myatt Ltd.

Ansells Ltd.

Stan Owen

John Nuttall

Black Country Traditional Inns

LICENSEES

Charles Beech [1871] – [1872];

Mark Baugh [];

Job Daniels [1881]

Charles Dunn [];

Charles Wall [] – 1890);
Henry Mellor (1890 – 1891);
Peter Cooper (1891 – [];
John Tolley [1894] – 1898);
Mrs. Jane Tolley (1898 – 1915);
David Williams (1915 – 1922);
Herbert Spooner (1922 – []
Tom Bentley Golby [] – 1931);
Edward Gilbert (1931 – 1932);
Walter Reuben Adey (1932 – 1933);
Samuel Hollies (1933 – 1936);
Charles Baxter (1936 – 1938);
Joseph ‘Joe’ Seager (1938 – 1940);
Joseph Henry Hutton (1940 – 1945);
Robert Edward Speight (1945 – 1946);
Frank Wilson (1946 – 1947);
John Foy (1947 – 1949);
Herbert Eades (1949 – 1959);
Arthur Edward Snell (1959 – [1966]
Raymond ‘Ray’ Woodhouse [1986] – [1994]
Nigel Barker and Mark Satchell [2002]

NOTES

57, Field Street [1871]
93, Field Street [1891], [1901], [1902], [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was reputedly haunted.

1871 Census

57, Field Street – STAG

- [1] *Charles Beech* (36), awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Teresa Beech (26), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] James Willis (66), father, foundry blacksmith, born Shropshire;
- [4] Harriet Willis (62), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [5] Titus Willis (37), brother, awl blade, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Mary A. Hartson (16), general servant, born Oldbury:

Charles Beech, beer retailer, The Field . [1872]

Lichfield Mercury 6/6/1890 - Advert

“Important Sale of Two Freehold Beerhouses at Bloxwich.

To Be Sold By Auction by Messrs Watkins and Powell, at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, on Monday, June 9th, 1890, at Six o’clock pm precisely.....

Lot 1. The desirable free Beerhouse known as the STAG INN, Bloxwich, situate in Field Street, Bloxwich, at the corner of Harrison Street, in the occupation of Mr. *H. Mellor*, at an annual rent of £24. The house does a good trade, and contains large vaults with club-room over, smoke-room, kitchens, brewhouse, three bed-rooms and good dry cellars, and has a garden. Lot 1 is freehold.....”

Walsall Advertiser 14/6/1890

“On Monday evening last at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Bloxwich, before a large and representative gathering Mr. H. C. Powell (Messrs. Watkins and Powell) offered by auction two freehold beerhouses situate at Bloxwich. Lot 1, known as the STAG INN situate on Field Street, at the corner of Harrison Street in the occupation of Mr. *H. Mellor* at an annual rent of £24. Biddings started at £200 but speedily rose to £525, but as this did not reach the reserve it was withdrawn. It had since been sold privately.....”

1891 Census

93, Field Street

- [1] *Henry Mellor* (34), beerhouse keeper, born Hill Top, Staffordshire;
- [2] Mary Mellor (35), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Ann Mellor (14), daughter, general servant, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Henry Mellor (12), son, born Bloxwich;

- [5] Mary Jane Mellor (10), daughter, born Staffordshire;
[6] William Mellor (6), son, born Staffordshire;
[7] John Mellor (4), son, born Staffordshire;
[8] Katherine Mellor (3), daughter, born Staffordshire;
[9] Margaret Mellor (9 months), daughter, born Staffordshire:

David Williams was fined 10s and costs, on 24th January 1894, for conducting a lottery.

John Tolley = John Tolly

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1894

“*John Tolly*, of the STAG INN, Bloxwich, was summoned for having committed a breach of the Lottery Act. Mr. Taylor said the offence was committed on the 8th instant, and it was a raffle for a pig. He had previously given warning, and attended the Licensed Victuallers’ dinner to warn publicans of the penalties they would suffer if the practice continued. Defendant admitted his guilt but pleaded ignorance of the law. Fined 10s and costs, the Bench being of opinion that proper warning had been given.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

“Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday.... In the case of John West, the CLOCKMAKERS ARMS, Rolling Mill Street, the Pleck, against whom there was a conviction for aiding and abetting a lottery, the decision was reserved; as was the case of *John Tolly*, the STAG INN, Bell Street, Bloxwich, against whom a like conviction.... The Bench deliberated in private for some time, and on their return into court announced that all the other applications would be granted.”

John Tolley, beer retailer, Field Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 8/1/1898

“On Monday an inquest was held at the STAG INN, Field Street, Bloxwich, relative to the death of the landlord of that house, *John Tolley*, which occurred under very peculiar circumstances on Friday at the early age of 29. Mrs. *Jane Tolley*, his widow, said the deceased was a beerhouse keeper and coal miner. Deceased got up on Friday between 10 and 11, and went to the loft to cut some chaff. When he had been gone about ten minutes her son John Henry, aged 14, came and said he heard his father making a noise, and thought something was the matter. She ran up the yard and called her husband but got no answer. She got up the loft as soon as she could, and found him lying insensible on the floor in the loft, with his head towards the chaff cutter. She ran down to get some water and called his brother, Abner *Tolley*. She did not go into the loft again. Her husband had not been well since being hurt at the No.4 Pit, Fishley Colliery, May 8th, 1896, when his head was crushed and his back hurt. He was in Walsall District Hospital three weeks after that, and Dr. Martin had attended him since. The sister at the hospital told her to notice her husband, and that he might go off at any time through his head being so badly hurt. Her husband had tried to work since he was ill both at Fishley and Norton Cannock, but could not do so. Henry *Tolley* (15), said that whilst in the yard on Friday morning, about eleven, he heard his father making a noise. He saw him go up the yard about half-past ten. He stayed in the stable a bit, and then went into the loft. He heard the chaffcutter going in the loft, and thought his father was cutting chaff. The chaffcutter stopped, and not many seconds after he heard a noise in the loft as if his father was groaning, and went and told his mother. Abner *Tolley*, coal miner and landlord of the Horse And Jockey Inn, Far Forest Rock, near Bewdley, said he was staying with his brother, the deceased, for a holiday. On the morning of Friday, December 31st, he was upstairs at the STAG INN, when a message came to him – Mrs. *Tolley* wanted him quick as she thought his brother was in a fit. He at once went into the loft, and found him lying on his right side, quite dead. By Mr. Baker: He had often seen him hold his hand to his side. He generally went bad after exertion. Since the accident he seemed short of breath, but never before. By the Jury: He had cut about half a sack of chaff that morning. By Mr. Baker: He regularly rode a bicycle before the accident, but could not ride much since. Wm. Bird, awl blade maker, of 63, Field Road, also spoke to seeing the man just after he had died. Dr. J. P. Hubbard said he was called to and saw the deceased at about 11.20 on Friday morning, he was dead and had been for half an hour. He was lying on his back, his face rather pale, the pupils of his eyes were dilated, the eyes were soft, and they had lost their lustre. He found the body well nourished, but the tissues were rather flabby and relaxed, and in all probability the muscles of the head would be relaxed also. He was of opinion that the cause of death was failure of the heart’s action – syncope. The injury one received would probably dispose to weaken the heart’s action by relaxing the muscles, but it was not the actual cause of death. By Mr. Baker: Witness knew nothing of the case before. If deceased had not exerted himself he might have lived for years. He was in a very weak condition. So far as witness could see there was no general weakness, but he did not know how the weakness was brought about. The exertion in working the chaff cutter caused syncope. Dr. Martin: He was out of condition, and his heart would not allow him to do much work. The probability was that he had fatty heart tissue. The real cause of death was failure of the heart’s action. The inquest was adjourned to Monday next in order that a post-mortem examination might be made.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/1/1898

“.....Dr. Willmore, who had made the examination, now stated that in his opinion the cause of death was a sudden convulsion, or a series of convulsions, consequent on the exertion which deceased had been making reacting on the brain, which had been damaged and weakened by previous injury. The primary cause of death was the accident at the pit, and the secondary convulsions, which would be brought on by the low state of health in which *Tolley* was and the condition of the brain. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Jane Tolley = Jane Tolly

Jane Tolley was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

93, Field Street – STAG INN

- [1] *Jane Tolly* (46), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Roshannah Tolly (20), daughter, dressmaker, born Pensax, Worcestershire;
- [3] Henry Tolly (18), son, bricklayer's labourer, born Pensax, Worcestershire;
- [4] Matthew Tolly (16), son, coal miner, born Pensax, Worcestershire:

Mrs. *Jane Tolley*, beer retailer, Field Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Jane Tolley, STAG.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Jackson further applied for an alteration to be made to the drinking area of the STAG INN, Bloxwich, for domestic convenience. He explained that the alteration was simply taking a wall down and converting two rooms into one large one, which was a trivial matter. The architect, Mr. Hartill, was then called into the box.

Mr. Loxton: I suppose you think that this is a trivial matter (laughter). – Mr. Hartill: It is for domestic convenience (laughter). Refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough, adjourned from the previous Wednesday, were resumed on Tuesday.....

Mr. Loxton read out the following decisions the magistrates had come to.....

Alterations to the following houses were refused: STAG, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1910

“Walsall Harriers.....

Don't forget next handicap, week today, from STAG INN, Bloxwich. Cooper is favourite.”

1911 Census

93, Field Street

- [1] *Jane Tolley* (54), widow, licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Harry Tolley (28), son, bricklayer, born Lindridge, Worcestershire:

Mrs. *Jane Tolley*, beer retailer, 93, Field Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

The following were the notices of objection (Compensation Clause).....

- NEW INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Hy. Mellor).
- SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Jacob Williams).
- NELSON, Church Street, Bloxwich. (Jos. Wall).
- STAG, Field Street, Bloxwich. (*Jane Tolley*).
- PLOUGH, Cemetery Road, (Charles Mansfield).
- RISING SUN, Park Road, Bloxwich, (Charles Orgill).
- STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, (Charles Ernest Perry).
- BEEHIVE, New Street, Bloxwich, (Benjamin Hughes).”

AND

“The Court re-assembled yesterday (Friday) morning.....

The STAG, Bloxwich. In this case Mr. Pritchard represented the owners, the Old Wolverhampton Brewery Co. Ltd., and the tenant, *Jane Tolley*.

Inspector Pritchard said that there were altogether three licensed houses in the street, the population being 283 persons over 16, 201 under 16, and there were 103 occupied houses. He had visited the house sixteen times in ten weeks and found altogether 149 customers, an average of 9 per visit.

Jane Tolley gave evidence to the effect that she paid £28 per year rent, and all other outgoings. The trade in beer last year was 288 barrels, and minerals. Witness had occupied the house for 22 years and never had a complaint.

Mr. Pritchard said he did not think there was a house anywhere in Bloxwich better situated for its trade than the STAG. He pointed out that amongst the eight objections on the list, no less than three were in one ownership, and he ventured to say that that was a very large proportion.....

Having retired, the Bench announced that the licenses of the STAG and the STORES would be renewed for this year, but might be considered at some future date. The remaining six houses would be referred to the compensation authorities.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
STAG INN, Bloxwich. £0 11s 1½d.”

Charles Baxter was an amateur boxer.

The original pub closed on 18th May 1931.

The new building opened on 19th May 1931.

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/5/1931

“Walsall Licensing Bench, on Monday, sitting as the Confirmation Authority.....

The removal of the license of the BLUE PIG, Bloxwich, to new premises in Fields Road, to be known as the STAG HOTEL, was also confirmed, the license of the present STAG HOTEL, Fields Road, being referred to the Compensation Authority.”

Edward ‘Teddy’ Gilbert was born in 29th December 1883, in Walsall.

He joined the Walsall Swimming Club in 1894.

He swam for Walsall, Staffordshire and England.

He played water polo for Walsall and England.

He was a special constable during World War One.

He was a china dealer before becoming a licensee.

He died on 1st January 1932.

See also PRINCE.

Walsall Observer 20/8/1932

“A music and singing license for weekdays between the hours of 7 and 10pm was granted in respect of the STAG HOTEL, Field Road, for meetings of the Bloxwich Choral Society.”

Samuel Hollies – see also NEW INN and THREE TUNS.

Charles Baxter – see also THREE CUPS.

Walsall Observer 26/8/1939 - Advert

“Bar-General or Bar Man Wanted, live in or out, smart; good wages; references.

Apply, STAG INN, Field Road, Bloxwich.”

1939 Register

Field Road – STAG HOTEL

[1] *Joseph Seager*, date of birth 14/4/1896, public house manager, married;

[2] *Doris M. Seager*, dob 14/6/1895, public house manageress, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

STAG HOTEL, Bloxwich, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 2/10/1943 - Notice

“War Charities Act, 1940.

New STAG HOTEL, Field Road, Bloxwich, Forces Fund Committee.

Notice is Hereby Given that it is proposed to apply to Walsall Town Council for Registration under the above-mentioned Act of

the above Committee to provide Comforts for Customers in H.M. Forces.
Any Objection to proposed Registration to be sent to the above Council within 14 days of the date of this Notice.
J. R. Bickley, Secretary.
20, Guild Avenue, Leamore, Walsall.
2nd October, 1943.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
STAG HOTEL, Field Road, Bloxwich. £1 0s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 1/4/1944 - Advert

“Barmaid, full-time, must be smart; also Evening Help Wanted.
Apply, the STAG, Field Road, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Observer 8/4/1944 - Advert

“New STAG HOTEL Dance
On Tuesday, April 18th, 1944, at Bloxwich Baths.
All Proceeds to New STAG Forces Fund.
Registered under War Charities Act, 1940.
Music by Jack Bradney and his Band.
Dancing 7-45 till 12-0 pm.
Ansells Bar. Spot Prizes.
Tickets 3/-; Forces 1/6 (Pay at Door).”

Walsall Observer 15/4/1944 - Advert

“An application for an occasional licence for the sale of intoxicants at a dance to be held at Bloxwich Baths on April 18, in aid of the STAG Forces Comforts Fund was strongly opposed by the Chief Constable (Mr. T. Mark Watson) at Walsall Police Court on Wednesday.

‘I regard this as an outrageous application,’ the Chief Constable stated. ‘There are many licensed houses with comfort funds, and if you grant this application you will have others by the score. I look upon this as something in the nature of a preliminary canter, or a try-out, to see how much can be obtained, and I definitely oppose it.’

The magistrates (Messrs. J. Cliff Tibbits and A. E. Hurst) refused the application.”

AND

“The above Committee regret to announce that the Licence for a Bar has not been granted.”

Walsall Observer 20/1/1945

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....
New members..... Mr. *Robert Edward Speight*, STAG HOTEL, Field Road, Bloxwich.”

Evening Despatch 25/10/1945

“*Joseph Hutton*, licensee of the STAG HOTEL, Bloxwich, was fined £5 at Birmingham today for using motor fuel on a journey which could have been by public transport. On his behalf it was stated that he had gone from Walsall to Birmingham in order to get a part for a radiogram so that his customers could hear the news that night.”

Frank Wilson – see also BRIDLECUTTERS ARMS.

Walsall Observer 9/2/1962

“*Sam Pritchard* of the NEW STAG, Field Road, Bloxwich, recent winner of the Walsall and Wolverhampton sub-area title, won the Staffordshire area final of the *News of the World* individual darts championship of England and Wales.....”

Sandwell Evening Mail 24/9/1994

“Down Your Local. STAG, Field Road, Bloxwich.

Step inside the STAG and you feel as though you are stepping back in time – stretching back a century. Built in 1931 close to an ale house of the same name, the pub was refurbished in 1987 as one of Ansells Heritage Inns. It was done out in typical Victorian style with the walls and shelves adorned with period knick-knacks. There’s an old bedroom fire grate used as a corner shelf, an old cooking range in the pool room and a display on the bar of genuine old pub games, including shove-halfpenny, bar skittles and nine men’s morris.

Landlord *Ray Woodhouse* and his wife Audrey have been at the pub nine years. ‘It was a dump when we arrived,’ he recalls. ‘A real spit and sawdust sort of place – without the sawdust!’ He’d previously worked as a sales representative selling kitchen furniture but was made redundant and ploughed his redundancy pay into the pub. ‘I was a total newcomer to the pub trade although I did pull my first pint at the age of 18 at the Villa Cross in Handsworth,’ says Oldbury-born *Ray*. ‘Nearly £100,000 has been spent on the place and we have paid for a lot of the work ourselves. The STAG is now what I call a lunchtime pub. We have a

very mixed clientele and get everyone from school teachers and office workers to labourers.’ The refurbishment also included the provision of wider doors for easier wheelchair access. The couple, married 33 years, have two grandchildren and three children. *Ray* has trained all the kitchen staff and takes great pride in the pub’s cuisine. ‘I used to work in an old-fashioned grocery,’ he explains. ‘That’s where I learned the art of good food and it has stayed with me ever since.’

The pub is comprised of a single room, but with three distinct areas. The parlour contains a pool table and a genuine, restored, kitchen range. The public bar is divided into two smaller alcoves and the lounge is monopolised by diners. A wide-ranging menu of bar meals, from snacks to home-made pies, is served at lunchtimes. In the evening, a full A La Carte menu is available. On Sunday there’s food at lunchtimes only and barbecues are held on summer weekends. The pub boasts a large fire. A separate function room, with skittle alley, is available for hire. The garden has a children’s play area where Bank Holiday events and activities are held. Different guest beers are put on sale every Thursday until they run out.....”

Nigel Barker had managed pubs in Derby, and KING GEORGE V, and Bartons Arms, Aston.

It closed in 2004.

It was demolished in 2004.

STAG AND PHEASANT

Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 31/8/1840 - Advert

“Old-Licensed Public House, the STAG AND PHEASANT, Ablewell Street, Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by W. R. Jobson, Tomorrow, Sept 1, commencing half past ten – the valuable Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of the above remarkably low-rented Public House, together with the substantial Public House Fixtures, superior Brewing Vessels, Household Furniture, valuable Shop Tools, and other Effects; particulars of which may be obtained at the Auctioneer’s Offices, Bull Ring, Birmingham.”

STAR AND BOAT LINE

Pleck Lane, Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Moses Millington [1865] – [1866]

NOTES

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 4/3/1865

“At *M. Millington*’s, the STAR AND BOAT LINE INN, Walsall, on Monday week, the match between Messrs. Faulkner and Woodward, to shoot at five sparrows each, on the usual conditions as to shot, rise, and boundary, came off in presence of a good company. The betting was 6 to 4 on Faulkner, who won by killing three birds to two.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/3/1865

“At *M. Millington*’s, the STAR AND BOAT LINE INN, Pleck, near Walsall, on Monday, there was a good attendance present to witness the following sweepstakes shot for.....”

Walsall Free Press 28/7/1866

“*Moses Millington*, beerhouse-keeper, Pleck Lane, was charged with having, on the 14th inst, used threatening language to Police-constable Lees.

From the officer’s evidence it appeared that, about mid-day on the day in question, he served defendant with a summons for his dog being at large. After looking at the summons, and making use of profane and abusive language, the defendant threatened to break the officer’s neck if he was not off the premises; and in consequence of that threat he was afraid that defendant would do him some bodily harm.

Mr. Wilson, of Lichfield, who appeared for the defendant, cross-examined the officer, but nothing was elicited to shake his evidence in chief. Mr. Wilson called Ann Shirley, who said she heard the police saying to defendant, ‘I’ll make it hot for you.’ The officer admitted saying so; but said it after *Millington* had used the threat complained of, and that he meant by making it ‘hot,’ that he would bring him before the Bench.

Another witness named Robert Wilkins said *Millington* told the policeman to go about his business; and thereupon the officer threatened to make it hot for the defendant.

The Bench bound the defendant over to keep the peace for six months – himself in £20, and two sureties in £10 each.”

Walsall Free Press 10/10/1868

“Mr. Glover applied for the transfer of the ALBION public-house, Wolverhampton Lane, to Mr. *Moses Millington*, beerhouse-keeper, The Pleck. The chief of Police applied to have the application adjourned, as he had not received any notice of it. To this course Mr. Glover assented.”

STAR AND GARTER

31, (32), (29), (27), Station Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Wilcox, spur maker, Caldmore, Walsall

John Mills

Joseph Wilcox

Mrs. Wilcox, Caldmore Road, Walsall

J. & J. Yardley and Co. Ltd.

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd. [1910]

LICENSEES

John Mills [1865] – [1881];

James Gretton [];

Samuel Wylde [];

Stephen Wilson []

Thomas Poole [1891]

Albert James Hulse [1890] – 1893);

George Isaac Everiss (1893 – 1904);

Arthur Starkey [1901] tenant

Arthur Starkey (1904 – 1910):

NOTES

31, Station Street [1871], [1901]

29, Station Street [1881]

27, Station Street [1891]

32, Station Street

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

It also had a refreshment license.

Walsall Free Press 16/9/1865 - Advert

“STAR & GARTER INN, 31, Station Street, Walsall.

The public are respectfully informed that an Harmonic Meeting will be held at the above Inn, every Wednesday Evening, commencing of the 6th inst. when the company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour by the Proprietor, *John Mills*.

Chair to be taken at Eight o'clock.”

John Mills, beer retailer, 31, Station Street. [1868], [1870], [1872]

A wine license was granted pre 1881.

1871 Census

31, Station Street – The STAR AND GARTER

- [1] *John Mills* (47), harness maker employing 5 men and 2 boys, born Walsall;
- [2] Martha Mills (40), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Martha Barton (20), niece, general servant, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary J. Bowater (16), niece, harness stitcher, born Walsall:

1881 Census

29, Station Street – Beerhouse

- [1] *John Mills* (56), beerhouse keeper and harness maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Martha Mills (50), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Jane Bowater (24), niece, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] James Bowater (8), nephew, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Louisa Duson (41), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Evening Express 20/12/1881

“A petition has been filed in the Walsall County Court on behalf of *John Mills*, of Station Street, Walsall, wine and beer retailer, and harness manufacturer. The liabilities are estimated at £400; assets not yet ascertained. Mr. George Cotterell is solicitor to the debtor.”

Alfred Hulse was also a patent leather striper. [1890]

1891 Census

31, Station Street

- [1] *Albert James Hulse* (28), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Annie M. Hulse (26), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Frank A. Hulse (5), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Albert V. Hulse (3), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Charles W. Hulse (2), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Eliza A. Kendall (17), servant, born Warley, Staffordshire;
- [7] Clara J. Birch (22), visitor, dressmaker, born Walsall:

1891 Census

27, Station Street – STAR AND GARTER

- [1] *Thomas Poole* (40), publican, born Dawley Bank, Shropshire;
- [2] Emily Parle (43), wife, born Quarry Bank;
- [3] Alice Barrow (19), general servant, born Sheffield:

[Both entries are from the 1891 Census. The latter one seems to be for this pub, but the former one tallies with the licensing register.]

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1893

“The employés of Messrs. Homes and Salt met at the STAR AND GARTER INN, Station Street, on Tuesday to celebrate the outcome of Mr. C. Jones. A substantial dinner was served by Mr. and Mrs. *Everiss* in their well-known style. Mr. J. E. Cocking took the chair. After the good things provided had been partaken of, the health of Mr. Jones was proposed by Mr. Boyce on behalf of all present. Mr. Jones in a few well-chosen words responded, thanking those present for the kindly spirit they had shown towards him that day, adding the health of ‘the Employers,’ which was enthusiastically honoured. Mr. Boyce then proposed the Host and Hostess, other toasts followed. The evening was afterwards spent in harmony, some good songs well rendered by Messrs. C. Cooper, J. Boyce, J. Taylor, A. Lanchlang, and others. A pleasant evening was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/8/1895

“Messrs. Watkins, Powell, and Wood held an important and successful sale of freehold and leasehold properties in Walsall at their Property Sale Rooms on Tuesday evening, when the following lots changed hands.....

The free beerhouse known as the STAR AND GARTER, Station Street, Walsall, at the corner of Station Street, and Little Station Street, occupied by the South Staffordshire Brewery Company at an annual rental of £36, with the range of two-storey shopping, yard, and outoffices at the rear. The land being freehold and containing an area of 157½ square yards sold for £800.....

The lots disposed of were sold by order of the trustees of the will of the late Mr. Edwin Wilcox.”

George Isaac Everiss, beer retailer, 31, Station Street. [1896], [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1897

“*George Isaac Everiss*, of the STAR AND GARTER INN, Station Street, was summoned on a charge of permitting drunkenness on the 17th inst. Mr. T. A. Hill did not adjudicate in this case. Mr. Hunt (Hunt and Skidmore, Wolverhampton) defended. Evidence was given by Police-constable 42 (Dicken) that he saw one Patrick Ford drunk and rolling about the street. Ford went into defendant’s house, and Dicken went in about a quarter of an hour afterwards in company with Police-constable Grainger and found Ford still there sitting at a table and cutting up tobacco. On the defendant’s attention being called to the man he said, ‘The man’s had nothing to drink here and I’ve asked him to go.’ Ford who was so drunk that he fell off the bench, denied that the defendant had asked him to go.

Police-constable Grainger gave corroborative evidence.

Mr. Hunt, for the defence, urged that if the man were as drunk as was alleged, it was the officer’s duty to have warned the landlord. Defendant refused drink to Ford, and tried to coax him to leave.

Everiss was called to give evidence, and stated that Ford was a very rough customer, and that he tried to persuade him to go, and had been to look for a policeman.

In cross-examination, however, he admitted that he was at the window, and saw the policeman, but did not call him to eject Ford. The Bench ordered defendant to pay costs.”

AND

“Patrick Ford, of Upper Hall Lane, was then charged with having been drunk on licensed premises. It was stated that this was Ford’s Jubilee appearance at the court. A fine of 10s and costs or 14 days was imposed.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

25th June, *George Isaac Everiss*, STAR AND GARTER, Station Street was ordered to pay costs from permitting drunkenness.”

1901 Census

31, Station Street

[1] *George I. Everiss* (59), publican, born Charmans Cross, Warwickshire;

[2] Harriet Everiss (56), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] George Everiss (24), son, bridle cutter, born Fazeley, Staffordshire;

[4] Ethel M. Everiss (18), daughter, printer’s clerk, born Walsall;

[5] Lizzie Moseley (21), general servant, born Leamore:

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1901

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New members..... Mr. *George Isaac Everiss*, STAR AND GARTER INN, Station Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

STAR AND GARTER HOTEL. With reference to this house, Mr. Wylie in addressing the Bench said that he was in their hands, he had no locus standi there, and it was only by their courtesy that he was entitled to speak. He was not going into any legal questions, but what he wished to say on behalf of the owners and tenant was that no objection had been served when the others were served, and the license had been renewed. Now it had been intimated that objection was to be made, and whether rightly or wrongly, his clients drew the inference that they were safe for another year. Looking at it from his client’s point of view, if the objection was on the grounds of redundancy, then there was redundancy when the license was granted, whilst another beerhouse close by had been taken away which made the redundancy less. The present tenant had been there since 1903. They did not have notices at the same time as the others, and he did ask the Bench to look into the matter as whether it was fair to the tenant and owners.

The Bench intimated that they would consider the matter after the notice had been served.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 11th March 1910.

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1910, at 11 o’clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

STAR AND GARTER, Station Street. Beerhouse. Licensee *Arthur Starkey*.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1910

“A meeting of the Licensing Justices was held on Tuesday morning.....

The renewal of the license of the STAR AND GARTER as applied for by Mr. Grundy-Newman. The tenant was *Arthur Starkey*, and the house was used, like the previous one, for letting beds.

Inspector Ballance said there were four houses in Station Street, excluding the Grand Theatre.

The license was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1910

“A supplementary meeting of the Licensing Justices to consider claims for compensation was held on Wednesday morning at the Guildhall. Mr. W. Bayliss presided, and there were present Messrs. W. E. Blyth, T. A. Smith, J. Clare, W. Halford, A. D. Cozens, J. J. Lynch, A. Jagger, and R. Thomas. The following houses came up for consideration.....

STAR AND GARTER, Station Street; owners, Old Wolverhampton Brewery Ltd; tenant and licensee, *Alfred [sic] Starkey*.”

Arthur Starkey, beer retailer, 31, Station Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1912

“A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, the Mayor (Councillor J. Venables) presiding. Four licensed houses came up for consideration, with the question of compensation to be paid for closing them. The houses were the SADDLERS HOME and the STAR AND GARTER public houses in Station Street, and the VAULTS, in High Street, and the ROVERS REST at Leamore. It was decided that the four houses should be closed on or before March 25th, and the amounts to be paid as compensation were agreed upon between the justices and the parties concerned.”

STARTING GATE

16, (6), (17), Newport Street / 16, Little Newport Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Henry Newman [1845]

Miss Kate Eglington, Mountrath Street, Walsall

Northampton Brewery Co. Ltd.

Old Wolverhampton Brewery [1907]

Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd. [1927]

Ansells Ltd. [1983]

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1995]

LICENSEES

William Henry Newman [1845] – [1851]

James Eglington [1858] – [1861]

William Butler [1861] – [1865]

Mrs. Bessey Butler [1868] – [1870]

William Toms [1871] – [1873];

Mrs. Bessey Toms [];

William Harris [1880] – [1883];

Thomas Plant [1891] – **1895**;

Edmund Lord **(1895 – 1896)**;

Robert Abbot **(1896 – 1897)**;

Mrs. Jane Abbott **(1897 – 1912)**;

Arthur Cresswell **(1912 – 1915)**;

Henry Davis **(1915 – 1928)**;

William Henry Lawrence **(1928 – 1934)**;

Ada Lawrence **(1934 – 1935)**;

Herbert William Mellor **(1935 – 1937)**;

Mrs. Annie Margaret Andrews **(1937 – 1942)**;

Florence Joan Guest **(1942 – 1944)**;

Edgar George Russell **(1944 – 1945)**;

Ethel May Freeman **(1945 – 1960)**;

Mary Elizabeth Timms **(1960 – 1961)**;

John Enoch Wiggin **(1961)**;

Philip Brian Cross **(1961 – 1962)**;

George Edward Morris (1962 – 1966);

Ronald Harry Cox (1966 – 1967);

John Ernest Chambers (1967 – []

Arthur Hurley []

NOTES

16, Newport Street [1860], [1891], [1901], [1932], [1939], [1940]

16, Little Newport Street [1861]

6, Newport Street [1871]

17, Newport Street [1881]

It was originally the STAND TAVERN.

William Butler = William Buttler

He was also a hamemaker. [1861], [1864], [1865]

1861 Census

16, Little Newport Street – STAND TAVERN

[1] *William Butler* (38), harness maker, born Birmingham;

[2] Betsey Butler (37), wife, born Walsall;

[3] William Butler (14), son, harness maker, born Walsall;

[4] Mary J. Butler (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Edward J. Butler (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Alice Butler (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] Elizabeth Butler (1), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] Martha Maceland (16), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Free Press 19/8/1865

“On Tuesday afternoon last, an elderly man named John Morgan, who lived in Little Newport Street, and maintained himself by standing in the market with vegetables, committed suicide by hanging himself during the temporary absence of his wife, from a beam in the kitchen of the house which he occupied. At the inquest which was held on Wednesday last, before Mr. A. A. Fletcher, at the STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, Elizabeth Morgan, wife of the deceased, said she left him at half-past two in the afternoon, to go a walk, on her return in a short time, she found the house locked up, and the shutters closed; she became alarmed as deceased had been strange in his manner for the last few days, and got assistance to break into the house, deceased had been drinking for some days previous to his death.

Thomas Clark, stirrup maker, Poll Street, said he was near the house at the time he heard an alarm, when he saw deceased hanging as above described, he immediately cut him down, and thought he showed some sign of life. Mr. Day, surgeon, was at once sent for, but on that gentleman’s arrival in a quarter of an hour, he pronounced him to be quite dead. The witness stated that he saw no chair or other article near deceased when he cut him down on which he could have stood to commit the act, this was accounted for by the probability of the man in his struggle kicking whatever was under him to a distance. The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity. The unfortunate man it appeared lately suffered from the loss of a pony, and other reverses; this and intemperance habits no doubt led to the state of mind which produced the commission of the act.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/7/1868

“On Saturday last an inquest was held at the STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Coroner, upon the body of William Thacker, a cotton maker, who committed suicide that (Saturday) morning, by cutting his throat in a most deliberate manner. The deceased left his bed at about six o’clock, and at once proceeded downstairs to the brewhouse, to which place his daughter was soon afterwards attracted by hearing him making a kind of moaning noise. The poor girl was horrified at finding her father with a terrific gash across his throat, and standing in such a position as to let the blood flow freely from the wound. She of course gave an alarm instantly, and Dr. Day was fetched, but before his arrival life was extinct; and, indeed, had he been present at the moment Thacker was discovered, his skill could have availed little, owing to the determination with which the wound had been inflicted. The deceased was about fifty years of age, and he leaves a wife and family. It was stated that he had been in a despondent state for some time, in consequence of slackness of trade, and that during the previous few days he had been drinking rather freely. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity.”

1871 Census

6, Newport Street – STAND TAVERN

[1] *William Toms* (54), wood carver, born Bath;

[2] *Bessey Toms* (46), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Alice Butler (15), daughter in law, barmaid, born Walsall;

[4] Elizabeth Butler (11), daughter in law, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Joseph Butler (9), son in law, scholar, born Walsall;

- [6] Francis Butler (6), son in law, scholar, born Walsall;
[7] Thomas Matthews (26), boarder, French polisher, born Newent, Gloucestershire;
[8] Charles C. N. Blake (19), boarder, brush maker, born America;
[9] Edward G. Bailey (20), boarder, wood turner, born Stourbridge:
[Was Bessey Toms the same person as Bessey Butler?]

1881 Census

17, Newport Street

- [1] *William Harris* (52), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
[2] *Caroline Harris* (54), wife, born Birmingham;
[3] *Lizzie Harris* (16), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] *Annie Wilkes* (21), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/8/1883

“Statue To The Late Sister Dora.

At a Town Meeting, convened and presided over by his Worship the Mayor (B. Beebee, Esq), on Monday, the 18th inst, in the Temperance Hall, it was proposed by Mr. Samuel Wilkinson, Town Clerk, and seconded by Mr. James Slater, supported by Messrs. S. Cox and T. Marlow, and unanimously resolved:

‘That, in the opinion of this meeting, representing all classes of the community within the Borough of Walsall, the life, labours, and self-devotion of the late Sister Dora ought to be commemorated by the erection of a Statue of such a character as keep fresh the remembrance of the pure aims, and the unselfish and untiring labours that dispensed health, blessing, and comfort to thousands of afflicted persons; the fund for which to be raised by the subscriptions, and the Statue to be the property of all classes’

The following donations have been promised.

Mr. *W. Harris*, STAND TAVERN, Newport Street. 5s 6d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/11/1887

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Caroline Weaver* (20), married, 7 Court, Stafford Street, and *Charlotte Sadler* (14), of the same address, were charged with obtaining 2s, by false pretences, from *Thomas Plant*, keeper of the STAND TAVERN, Newport Street. The false pretence consisted of taking a note purporting to have been written by Mrs. Emma Lynex, asking for a loan of 2s.

Mrs. Lynex said the girl Sadler was about three months ago turned out of doors by her mother-in-law, and witness gave her shelter for the night, and in the morning went with her to her parents. The mother-in-law said the girl was not her child, and she could not keep her, and the father refused to do anything for her, saying she might go and drown herself or do what she liked for all he cared, but neither of them making any allegation against her character. Witness then took the girl back with her, kept her for a month, and got her a situation; but she was not strong enough to keep it. The mother-in-law soon after her marriage to the girl’s father received a legacy of £600 or £700, and she then turned her step-children out of doors.

The woman Weaver, and *Elizabeth Mason* (14) were charged with obtaining 2s under false pretences from *Lizzie Whittaker*, wife of *George Whittaker*, sadler and grocer, Bridgeman Street, the accused were remanded until Wednesday.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/11/1887 - Advert

“Lost, a White Bull Terrier Bitch.

Anyone returning the same to Mr. *Plant*, STAND TAVERN, will be Rewarded.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/5/1888 - Advert

“Lost from the STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, a White Bull Terrier Bitch; answers to the name of ‘Daisy.’

Anyone returning it will be rewarded.”

1891 Census

16, Newport Street – STAND TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Plant* (41), publican, born Lichfield;
[2] *Elizabeth Plant* (42), wife, born Warwick;
[3] *Ann E. Plant* (17), daughter, born Walsall;
[4] *Florence M. Plant* (13), daughter, born Walsall;
[5] *George W. Plant* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] *Harry T. Plant* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[7] *Eunch* (?) *Jane Vincent* (21), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1895

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. E. J. Wilkins, WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street.

The secretary was requested to convey to the family of the late Mr. *Thomas Plant*, STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, the committee’s sincere sympathy in their bereavement.

The following expenditure was sanctioned: The funeral donation to the representatives of Mr. *Thomas Plant* deceased (£5 10s), who joined the society on 14th May, 1886, and the expenses connected with the funeral.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

“The forty-third annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.

We have to report with regret the decease of the following members during the past year, viz.: Mrs. Elizabeth Plant, FREE MASONS ARMS INN, Park Street, Walsall; Mr. *Thomas Plant*, STAND TAVERN, Newport Street; Mr. George Maund, The VAULTS, High Street, Walsall, whose funerals your committee attended, and to whose relatives we have tendered our respectful sympathy.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

“Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.

An application was made by Mr. H. H. Jackson for sanction to add a cottage to the present licensed area of the STAND TAVERN in Newport Street, and to alter the premises. There would be no increase in the drinking accommodation. There was, it appeared, an unoccupied cottage, and an ashpit door through which illicit trading might take place.

Mr. McCardie opposed.

The Bench did not approve the plans.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“Yesterday afternoon the remains were interred at Wood Green Cemetery of Mr. *Robert Abbott*, the landlord of the STAND TAVERN, Newport Street. Deceased, who was only 39 years of age, expired rather suddenly on Tuesday evening. He had been ailing for some months from internal complications, the result it was thought, of the many changes of climate he had experienced, he having lived some years in America and Australia. He only came to Walsall a year ago but his uniform civility and courtesy soon gained for him a circle of friends by whom he was much esteemed. He was a man of very regular habits and quiet retiring disposition, was a member of the Tamworth Licensed Victuallers and the R.A.O.B., both of which societies were represented at the funeral. He leaves a widow, but no family. Many beautiful floral tributes were placed on his coffin.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/10/1897 - Advert

“To Let, small Warehouse in Newport Street.

Apply STAND TAVERN.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1898

“Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of Mrs. *Jane Abbott*, STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, to add a cottage adjoining. The plans for alteration were proved by Messrs. Hickton and Farmer. Application granted.”

1901 Census

16, Newport Street

[1] *Jane Abbott* (44), widow, licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;

[2] Samuel Leech (21), nephew, barman, born Sedgley;

[3] Mary Fletcher (17), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 22/8/1903

“Over thirty members of the Walsall Branch of the Operative Plumbers’ Society partook of a supper on Wednesday evening at the STAND TAVERN, Newport Street. The primary object of the gathering was to take leave of one of their members, Mr. A. Hathaway, who is today leaving England for Durban. After a capital repast, Mr. W. H. Williams, a former employer of the guest of the evening, occupied the chair, and songs, &c, were given by Messrs. Devey, Poole, Thompson, Price, &c. The Chairman in presenting Mr. Hathaway with a gold signet ring, bearing his monogram, said he was one of the best apprentices he had ever had, and spoke in the highest terms of his energy, pluck, and determination, wishing him every success in his new sphere. Mr. Tom Williams, secretary of the lodge, proposed the toast of Mr. Hathaway in eulogistic terms, and it was drunk with musical honours. Mr. D. Lloyd, Mr. J. Bevan (Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners) and others took part in the proceedings.”

Lichfield Mercury 29/8/1911 - Advert

“Good General wanted; references required.

Mrs. *Abbott*, STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/10/1911 - Deaths

“On the 25th, Samuel Leech, STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, aged 33 years.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1912

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.

Mr. *Arthur Cresswell*, STAND TAVERN, Newport Road, was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy on the executive committee caused by the resignation of Mr. Henry Bateman, Walsall Wood.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/5/1915

“On the understanding that he obtained employment in Walsall and stuck to it, a caster named Howard Sunter (33), of no fixed

abode, who appeared in the dock charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, was put on his good behaviour for three months.

Evidence was given by Police-constable C. Smith to the effect that at 8pm on Sunday, the 23rd inst, he was called to the STAND TAVERN, and on proceeding there with the landlord met the prisoner, who paid 6d for the damage done. He returned to the house afterwards, however, and insulted the people in the tap room.

Prisoner, who pleaded guilty, said he had had a drop of beer and it got over him. He had been out of work for three weeks.

Mr. Wheway: Well, you had no business to be. There is plenty of work for casters in Walsall.

Prisoner: I can't keep a job, I'm too well known. First one asks me to have a drink and then another, and I get top heavy.

Mr. Muncaster (deputy magistrates' clerk): Why don't you try the Army? – Prisoner: I have and they won't have me. I'm too short.

Mr. Wheway: You are tall enough for the Bantams. – Prisoner: If I can't join the proper Army I won't join the Bantams.

Mr. Wheway: It does not follow that they are worse fighters because they are Bantams.

Prisoner was put on his good behaviour as stated.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/7/1915

“At a meeting of local hairdressers, held at the STAND TAVERN, under the auspices of the Walsall and District Hairdressers' Trade and Benefit Society, a recommendation that the charge for gents' haircutting be increased from 3d to 4d was defeated, and it was also decided that the price of shaving would not be advanced.”

Walsall Observer 24/7/1915 - Marriages

“On July 18th at Watford, by license, Frank, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Morgan, Stuart House, Newport, Isle of Wight, to *Daisy Gertrude*, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *H. Davis*, STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 1/1/1916 - Marriages

“On the 25th December, at St. Matthew's Church, by the Rev. R. S. Renfree, Sergeant Instructor William Norman Doley, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Doley, of Beacon street, to *Beatrice May*, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *H. Davis*, STAND TAVERN, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... STAND TAVERN, Newport Street. £1 0s 3d.”

1939 Register

16, Newport Street

[1] *Annie M. (Andrews) Reffell*, date of birth 24/6/1883, manageress public house, married;

[2] *Laura Sparkes*, dob 27/6/1909, barmaid, single;

[3] *William J. Andrews*, dob 2/9/1872, cinema manager, married:

Walsall Observer 30/11/1940

“The Premier Lodge of the R.A.O.B. was re-opened at the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street, on Wednesday evening. The Deputy Provincial Grand Primo, Bro. James Plant, K.O.M., remarked that the members stay of eleven years at their previous headquarters, the STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, was a sufficient proof of their determination to keep the Buffalo flag flying. He wished the Lodge every success in their new home.....”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

STAND TAVERN, Newport Street, £5 14s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 15/2/1941 - In Memoriam

“Sparks. In loving memory of our dear friend Laura, who died Feb 2, 1940.

Her cheerful smile, her winning ways.

We shall remember all our days.

To a happy life came a sudden end,

She died as she lived, everyone's friend.

From Mrs. *Andrews* and Friends, STAND TAVERN, Newport Street.”

Maisie Violet Bagnall, a barmaid at the STAND TAVERN, was killed by Thomas Ford, on 4th of September 1942. At the Stafford Assizes, on 25th of November, 1942, Ford, although indicted for murder, was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

STAND TAVERN, Newport Street. £0 14s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

STAND TAVERN, Newport Street. £2 18s 5d.”

Edgar George Russell – see also COTTAGE.

Ethel May Freeman – see also COTTAGE.

Mary Elizabeth Timms – see also ALMA.

Philip Brian Cross – see also HOPE AND ANCHOR.

George Edward Morris – see also HOPE AND ANCHOR, PRESIDENT LINCOLN, GREEN MAN, SIR CHARLES NAPIER, and CROWN AND CUSHION.

Ronald Harry Cox – see also NEW INN, Bloxwich.

The name was changed to STARTING GATE in December 1972.

Arthur Hurley was married to Ivy.

[2011]

Closed [2015], [2017]

STATION HOTEL

85, (88), (41), Station Street, (Reeves Street), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Trent Valley Brewery Co. Ltd.

City (Lichfield) Brewery Co. Ltd. [1909]

Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased from 23rd January 1936)

Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 15th May 1960)

Ale House Co. [2007]

LICENSEES

George Arm [1859] – **1864**);

Ann Arm (**1864** – []

Mrs. Mary Arm [1872];

Arthur Arm [];

Daniel Fisher [];

Henry Thomas [];

William Wilkes [];

John Reynolds [1881];

Alfred Ross [1891] – **1902**);

Mrs. Emma Jane Ross (**1902** – **1910**);

John Wilkes (**1910** – **1914**);

John Fieldhouse (**1914** – **1918**);

Herbert William Casey (**1918** – **1928**);

Charles Henry Harper (**1928** – **1930**);

William Harper (**1930** – **1935**);

Thomas Pittaway (**1935** – **1937**);

Joseph Bowtell (**1937** – **1940**);

James Edwin Thorpe (1940 – 1950);
Frederick Sutton (1950 – 1959);
Samuel Hand (1959 – 1963);
Ivy May Platt (1963 – [1966]
Albert Forrester [] – 1969);
Albert Gosnell (1969 – []
Sean Kevin Cavanagh [2007]

NOTES

41, Station Street [1871]
88, Station Street [1881]
85, Station Street [1891], [1901], [1911], [1932], [1939], [1940]

STATION INN [1860]
RAILWAY [1864], [1872]
RAILWAY STATION HOTEL [1870]
STATION ARMS [1896], [1904]
STATION TAVERN

Walsall Free Press 3/9/1859

“....granting of new licenses Mr. Wilkinson applied on behalf of Mr. *George Arm*, beerhouse keeper, Bloxwich, and in doing so showed that the application contained all the elements necessary to justify the granting of the license, namely the requirements of the locality, the suitability of the premises, and the character of the individual by whom the house was to be kept. Last year the Bench spoke very favourably of Mr. *Arm*'s application; and, although they did not actually promise to grant a license to Mr. *Arm*, they gave him to understand that if certain conditions were complied with, he would stand in a more favourable position. Those conditions had been fully complied with, consequently he hoped the application would be successful. The Bench, after a short consultation, granted the license.....

Mr. Duignan here applied to have Mr. *Arm*'s notices proved, which having been done, he (Mr. D.) took a further objection, namely that the said notices did not set forth, as required by law, the trade or occupation of the applicant.

Mr. Wilkinson contended that Mr. Duignan was too late with his objection, for Mr. *Arm* was already in possession of his license. Mr. Darwell having given it as his opinion that the license was legally granted, Mr. Duignan intimated that he would appeal to the Quarter Sessions to have the license cancelled.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/12/1859

“At Mr. *G. Arms*'s, STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, near Walsall, Staffordshire, on Monday last, there was a large attendance present to witness the shooting for a silver cup, valued at £6. The match was well contested, when Messrs. Brown of Walsall and Cottis of West Bromwich were the winners, killing 7 birds each, and agreed to divide. A second sweepstakes was shot by 10 members, at 5s each, and was won by Mr. Cresswell of Brownhills.”

AND

“At Mr. *G. Arms*'s, STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, near Walsall, Staffordshire, on Wednesday, Dec 28th, between Mr. M. Millington of Darlaston, and Mr. J. Cresswell of Brownhills, to shoot at 9 birds each, to find and trap against each other will come off; 1¾oz shot, 21 yards rise, 60 fall. After the above match a sweepstake will be shot for at 5s each, with usual conditions. Shooting at one o'clock.”

George Arm was also a bridle bit maker. [1860]

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/6/1860 - Deaths

“On the 22nd instant, in the 23rd year of her age, Hannah, only daughter of Mr. *George Arm*, STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, inn-keeper and bridle bit maker, beloved and regretted by all who knew her.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/9/1860 - Advert

“STATION HOTEL and Valuable Freehold Building Land, close to the Railway Station, Bloxwich.

To Be Sold by Auction, on an early day, all that Newly Erected and Commodious Messuage, known as the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, in the occupation of Mr. *George Arm*, with the large garden, stabling, and other spacious and extensive outbuildings, and appurtenances thereto belonging.

Also several very valuable and convenient plots of Building Land, fronting to the new Street leading from the main road at Bloxwich, (near to the SWAN INN,) to the Railway Station.

Full particulars in a future Advertisement, and may in the meantime be obtained at the Office of Mr. Wilkinson, Solicitor, Walsall.”

1861 Census

Reeves Street

- [1] *George Arm* (56), victualler and bit maker (employing 6 men and wife), born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary Arm* (51), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Charles Arm (26), son, bit filer (employing 3 boys), born Bloxwich;
- [4] David Arm (22), son, bit filer, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Edward Arm (13), son, (one of the boys?), born Bloxwich;
- [6] William Dean (18), apprentice bit maker, born Shareshill, Staffordshire;
- [7] John Gee (14), apprentice bit maker, born Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire;
- [8] Elizabeth Powil (19), servant, born Willenhall.

George Arm was also a bit maker. [1864], [1865]

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/7/1864 - Deaths

“On the 13th instant, Mr. *George Arm*, of the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Free Press 13/8/1864

“At the Petty Sessions on Thursday, the following transfers were made.....
The RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich, from *George Arm* (deceased) to *Ann Arm*, his widow.”

Mrs. *Mary Arm* was also a bit maker. [1868], [1870], [1872]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/8/1870

“At the Petty Sessions, yesterday, before Messrs. F. B. Oerton and J. B. Anderson, the treasurer – David Arm – of the Independent Benevolent Brothers, who hold their meeting at the RAILWAY STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, was summoned by John Bailey, one of the trustees of the society, for having refused to deliver up £8 10s, the money of the society. Mr. Dale appeared for the complainant, and the defendant was unrepresented.

From Mr. Dale’s statement, which was fully substantiated by the secretary’s evidence, it appeared that the society, on the 20th of July, 1863, voted £5 as a donation to the Walsall Cottage Hospital, but that sum was never handed over by the treasurer to the hospital. On the 20th of June last, a further sum of £3 10s was paid over to the treasurer. As it was found that £7 10s were due to Mr. Sommerville for his services as surgeon to the society, the treasurer was requested to pay the amount owing out of the £5 formerly voted to the hospital and the £3 10s paid over to him on the 20th June last. On this request being made the treasurer declined to comply with it, saying he believed the £5 voted to the hospital had been expended in payment of sick pay. The plea for the defence was that he believed the books were not correct, and that before paying any money he wished to have them audited. Mr. Dale said on the treasurer making this statement a committee meeting was called, the books audited, and the amount now claimed found to be owing by the defendant.

The Bench made an order for the treasurer to hand over all moneys, books, and papers belonging to the society to the officers appointed to receive them, and to pay a fine of 10s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for three months, the commitment order to stand over for a week to give the defendant time to comply with the decision of the Bench.”

1871 Census

41, Station Street – STATION INN

- [1] *Mary Arm* (61), widow, licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] George Arm (4), grandson, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Rose Heeley (19), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [4] John Hancox (38), boarder, bridle bit maker, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 22/3/1873 - Advert

“Walsall & Bloxwich Bridle Bit Manufacturers’ Association.

A special Meeting of the above will be held at the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, on Tuesday Evening Next, March 25th, at 7 o’clock, on important business, when all members and other employees wishing to become members are particularly requested to attend.

Chas. G. Arm, Sec.”

The landlord was fined £5 and costs, on 20th March 1876, for having his house open after 11pm.

1881 Census

88, Station Street – STATION HOTEL

- [1] *John Reynolds* (39), victualler, born Droitwich;
- [2] Louisa Reynolds (39), wife, born Kidderminster;
- [3] William F. Reynolds (3 months), son, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Sarah Walsh (18), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Evening Star 10/3/1882

“Today, Mr. J. F. Crump (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the STATION INN, Bloxwich, upon the body of William Morris, late of Leamore (labourer), whose death has been reported in the *Star*. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that The deceased

Committed Suicide whilst in an unsound state of mind.”

1891 Census

85, Station Street – STATION HOTEL

- [1] *Alfred Ross* (42), awl blade maker and victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Emma Ross (39), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Charles Ross (20), son, iron worker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Henry Ross (13), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Annie Ross (11), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] George Ross (7), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Enoch Ross (5), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Alfred Ross (3), son, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Emma Jane Ross (1), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Isaac Ross (75), father, retired awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [11] John Newell (22), boarder, miner, born Bloxwich;
- [12] Caroline Newell (18), boarder, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 21/4/1894

“The annual dinner of the club held at Mr. *Ross*’s, STATION HOTEL, took place on Monday last, when about 40 members and friends sat down to an excellent repast provided by the worthy host. After the cloth was removed mine host of the TIGER, Mr. Edward Walker, was voted to the chair, and Mr. Wm. Merryman to the vice-chair. The Chairman proposed the health of ‘The Queen and the Royal family,’ which was drunk right heartily, after which several songs, &c, were rendered, viz, Mr. Joseph Ross, ‘Beautiful Star’; Mr. E. Walker, ‘Silver Bells’; Mr. Wm. Allcock, ‘The moon behind the gill’; Mr. Handy, ‘The ship on fire’ (encore, ‘Lowlands of Holland’); Mr. Charles Armes, ‘The island home of an Englishman’ (encore, ‘Wait till I get you home’); Mr. Harry Simmons, ‘Carrotty-headed Pol’; Mr. Ambrose Squire, ‘The Bay of Biscay’; Miss Clara Somerfield, ‘The harp that once through Tara’s hall’ and ‘Would I a bird.’ The chairman during an interval, called upon the worthy secretary, who gave an excellent account of the workings of lodge, dwelling particularly on their motto, viz, ‘Brotherly love,’ which he affirmed was carried out to the letter. The secretary on behalf of the members then presented a card with three very appropriate verses, &c, upon it, ‘composed by Mr. Glover and written by Mr. E. Walker’ to the son of the late Tom Ball alias Thomas Scale, as a token of love and esteem. He was supported by the chairman in a very able manner, expressing the regret they all felt at the loss sustained by the death of Bro. Ball, whose memory would be cherished for life by all who knew him for his genial qualities and integrity. Mr. Glover then gave a recitation ‘The Psalm of life.’ Mr. Lowndes then proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Glover for the splendid manner he had carried out his duties as secretary, as by so doing he had added materially to the prosperity of the lodge, which being seconded was carried with much enthusiasm. The vice-chairman next proposed the health of the genial host and hostess and Miss Clara Somerfield, who had so ably catered for them in a manner not to be excelled. This was drunk with musical honours, and Mr. *Ross* having suitably responded, Mr. H. Simmonds proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman and vice-chairman for the able manner they had carried out their duties, which was heartily accorded, and being responded to, a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the rendering of the National Anthem.”

Alfred Ross was also an awl blade maker. [1896]

1901 Census

85, Station Street

- [1] *Alfred Ross* (52), awl blade maker and victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Emma Ross (47), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Charles Ross (30), son, widower, coal miner stallman, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Henry Ross (22), son, boot maker, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Annie Ross (21), daughter, domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Alice Ross (18), daughter, domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
- [7] George Ross (17), son, coal miner, horse driver (below), born Bloxwich;
- [8] Enoch Ross (15), son, cabinet lock maker, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Alfred Ross (13), son, bit maker, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Jennie Ross (12), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [11] Edith Ross (8), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [12] Harriet Ross (6), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [13] Sarah Ross (4), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [14] Elizabeth Ross (3), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [15] Thomas Ross (1), son, born Bloxwich;
- [16] William Somerfield (74), lodger, widower, awl blade maker, born Bloxwich;
- [17] William Somerfield (34), lodger, coal miner, hewer, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 22/6/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday (13th).....

Mrs. *Emma J. Ross*, STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich was unanimously elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/8/1910

“On Monday evening, a regalia visit was paid to lodge 207, Caledonian Corks, who have removed their lodge room to the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich. There was not a large attendance, the ‘wakes’ no doubt having something to do with this..... The host of the new headquarters, Mr. *Wilkes*, was initiated a member after which the lodge was thrown open. A vote of thanks was passed to the District Officers by Bro. L. Wilkes, and Bro. J. H. Allsop in responding, wished the lodge every success in their new home, and hoped that their membership would increase. He urged the younger members to work hard and get their friends to join. Bros. J. D. Rattenberry and E. J. Wilkes also responded, and the health of the newly-initiated member was proposed by the latter. Bro. *J. Wilkes* suitably replied, and thanks to the chairman terminated the meeting.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/10/1910

“Loyal Caledonian Corks, Lodge 207. A smoking concert in aid of the benevolent fund of the above lodge was held on Monday evening at the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich. There was a large attendance and Bro. D. McAlister presided. Others present included Bros. F. W. Wood, (P.D.C.), L. Wilkes, T. Jones, M. Wilkes, and M. Jones. The programme which had been arranged proved very enjoyable. Funny Fred Haynes (Birmingham) once more delighted his fellow members with his humorous songs. Tenor songs were rendered by Mr. J. W. Whitehouse, whilst Mr. L. Sowby possesses a capital baritone voice. Two capable comedians appeared in the persons of Mr. T. Jones and Mr. A. Pritchard, and Mr. H. Ledbury was a successful impersonator. During the evening Mr. R. A. Copper, MP, paid a surprise visit and was accorded a rousing reception. In the course of his remarks, the Borough member spoke of German beer gardens, and said they made a great difference in the social life of the country. It was the lack of means of mixing with one another that brought friendly societies together. He then touched on the question of State insurance and said that they were all agitated as to what was going to happen to friendly societies. But he was not afraid of what any Government would bring in, for they must remember that their influence was too great for any Government to endanger the friendly societies (applause). They should not cavil at State insurance, for they were all working for the State and the State should look after the men who through their own foolishness would not look after themselves. He appreciated the goodwill towards him and begged them to do their duty to the lodge. (Applause). A voted of thanks was passed to the Chairman and artistes by Bro. F. W. Wood, and in response Bro. McAlister said it was always a pleasure to help in anything that would benefit the working classes.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/11/1910

“Loyal Caledonian Corks.
The quarterly meeting of the Walsall district was held on Saturday, at the WOOLPACK, Hotel, Digbeth. There were fifty-eight delegates present, representing twenty-seven lodges Secretary’s report.....
Permission had also been granted for the removal of Lodge 207 from the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN to the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich.”

1911 Census

85, Station Street – STATION HOTEL

- [1] *John Wilkes* (34), publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Sarah Ann Wilkes (32), wife, married 12 years, born Blakenall;
- [3] Evelyn Wilkes (12), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Ernest John Wilkes (10), son, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Arthur Wilkes (8), son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Gilbert Wilkes (6), son, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Leopold Wilkes (5), son, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Edna Wilkes (3), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [9] Jeanet Wilkes (9 months), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Myra Cope (18), servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“The usual Licensing Transfer Sessions were held at the Guildhall on Friday.....
Mr. Jackson applied for the sanction of alterations at the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich. The proposed alterations he said were entirely for the convenience and the supervision of the landlord, and there was no increase in the drinking area. They only proposed making a passage from the sitting room to the kitchen. The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“The share out in connection with the Sick and Dividend Club at the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, took place yesterday (Friday) evening, each of the forty-three members taking 8/-. The total receipts during the year amounted to £41 14s 8d.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/3/1914

“The fixture for the Walsall Harriers on Saturday was seven-mile cross-country handicap. The weather was wretched, but the event was successfully carried out, the following starting from the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich.....”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

STATION INN, Bloxwich, 2s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 31/7/1915 - In Memoriam

“In loving remembrance of *Alfred Ross*, late of STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, who departed this life on July 29th, 1902. *To memory ever dear.* From his loving Wife and Family.”

AND

“In ever-loving memory of our dear father, *Alfred Ross*, late of the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, who died on July 29th, 1902; also of our brother, Harry, son of the above, who died on August 1st, 1901.

Their memory is as dear today

As in the hour they passed away.

From Annie, Jenny and Lizzie, and granddaughters, Annie, Jenny, and Rosie, Kidderminster.”

AND

“In loving remembrance of Henry Ross, late of the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, who departed this life August 1st, 1901. Ever remembered by Mother and Family.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich. £1 8s 11½d.”

Charles Henry Harper – see also KINGS HEAD.

Lichfield Mercury 9/3/1928

“Walsall Licensing Sessions.....

The following five houses, all of Bloxwich, were referred for compensation:

CARRIERS ARMS, Field Road; STATION HOTEL, Station Street; VICTORIA STORES, High Street; BLUE PIG, Elmore Row; and the VINE INN, The Green.”

Thomas Pittaway – see also LONGHORN.

1939 Register

85, Station Street

[1] *Joseph Bowtell*, date of birth 3/4/1886, licensee public house, widowed;

[2] *Kathleen Reynolds*, dob 31/5/1908, housekeeper, divorced:

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

STATION TAVERN, Station Street, Bloxwich. £0 0s 6d.”

Lichfield Mercury 12/7/1946

“At Brownhills Petty Sessions, Thomas Brookes (29), of 47, Seeds Lane, Brownhills was charged with stealing two galvanised sheets, value 9s, the property of *Jas. Edwin Thorpe*, between May 26th and June 9th, and stealing timber valued at £3, belonging to the Brownhill Urban District Council.

James Edwin Thorpe, STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich, stated he owned a bungalow in Barracks Lane, Brownhills, and for the past year it had been untenanted. At the side of it was a wooden shed covered with galvanised iron sheeting. The wind had blown the shed, and afterwards he has missed two of the galvanised sheets.

Claude Rea Closs, 197, Lichfield Road, Walsall, estates manger to the Brownhills Urban District Council, said a considerable quantity of timber from the fencing in Holland Park had been missed recently. The timber produced he identified as of the same quality existing in the park.

Pc Hunt stated that at 9.30am on June 9th, in consequence of something that came to his knowledge, he visited defendant’s home. He examined a fowl pen, and noticed that it was constructed of timber posts and on top were two galvanised sheets. Witness told him he had reason to believe he had stolen the sheets, and at first he denied it, but later said, ‘I took the sheets from the bungalow during the last fortnight.’ When asked about the timber, he eventually said, ‘I had the posts from the fence in Holland Park.’

Defendant alleged that the policeman wrote down the statement in his book before asking anything, and when the constable said, ‘Will that do,’ he replied, ‘That will do for me.’ Pc Hunt replied that he took down what defendant said at the time.

Defendant said he found the galvanised sheets on an ash tip in Hannay Hay Road, and bought the timber off some gentlemen, one being his father-in-law.

Asked by the Bench who was the other gentleman was, defendant replied, ‘I don’t want to bring that up in Court.’

The Chairman (Alderman L. Davies) said that was not the first time defendant had been before them, and they decided to send him to prison for a month on each charge, the sentences to run concurrently.”

Lichfield Mercury 24/2/1950

“£50 Fine for Using Red Petrol. Licensee Blamed Mistake in the Dark.

A £50 fine with £8 13s costs was imposed by the Brownhills Magistrates on Wednesday, on *James Edwin Thorpe*, licensee of the STATION HOTEL, Station Street, Bloxwich, who was convicted for using commercial petrol in a private car. His driving licence and road fund licence were also suspended for 12 months.

Prosecuting on behalf of the Ministry of Fuel and Power, Mr. B. W. A. Rattigan said defendant had a public house in Bloxwich and also had a smallholding at Brownhills. At about 12.45pm on November 23rd, PCs Burton and Brassington were on motor patrol duty on the Watling Street near Muckley Corner, going in the direction of Cannock, when they observed a Standard car travelling ahead of them. They noticed that the offside trafficator was extended but the driver, who was defendant, made no attempt to turn to the right. When stopped the officers told defendant they intended to test the petrol in the tank. A positive reaction was obtained indicating the use of commercial petrol. Warned he would be reported, defendant said: ‘There is nothing I want to say. Anything I have got to say I shall say to my solicitor.’ The police saw defendant again at his smallholding in Barracks Lane, and he took them to a small shed and showed them some petrol tins. He said: ‘It was from one of these tins I took the petrol last night. I didn’t know it was red because it was dark.’ He also informed the officers that the red petrol was issued to him for his tractor. The officer found there was electric light in the shed and a test found the switch for the light was in operation.

Evidence would be called that defendant had not been issued with red petrol since May 27th, 1948, and his last supplementary issue of white petrol was on September 22nd, 1947. He also received basic allowance.

Defendant said on the night of November 22nd he took a Mr. Williams to the bungalow. Finding he was short of petrol he told Williams to put some petrol in the tank out of one of his tins which he did. The reason he told the police he put the petrol in himself was because he did not wish to bring anyone else into the case. He had not the slightest suspicion he had red petrol in his tank.”

Lichfield Mercury 12/5/1950

“Prosecution Fails. Ministry Charge Against Licensee Dismissed.

One of the first cases of its kind came before the Brownhills bench on Wednesday, when *James Edwin Thorpe*, licensee of the STATION HOTEL, Station Road, Bloxwich, was summoned for failing to produce the registration book of a car to the court..... Mr. Peter J. C. Tench (Magistrates’ Clerk) said he told defendant he must deliver the registration book to his office within three days and if he did not do so he would be liable to be prosecuted for a further serious offence. The case was dismissed.”

Walsall Observer 11/7/1969

“Several changes in the management of public houses in the Walsall area were announced this week.

Mr. *Albert Forrester* is moving from the STATION HOTEL, Station Street, Bloxwich, to the NAGS HEAD, Stoney Lane, Little, Bloxwich, with effect from today (Friday). His successor at the STATION HOTEL, is Mr. *Albert Gosnell*, of 14a, Pritchard Avenue, Wednesfield, a newcomer to the trade who formerly worked as a photograph printer.”

[2009]

Closed [2012], [2016]

STATION

Railway Bridge, Commonside, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

City Brewery Co, Lichfield (acquired in June 1891 for £1,555)

Atkinsons Brewery Ltd. [1939]

LICENSEES

William Lees [1860] – 1861);

Cornelius Stanton (1861 – [1862]

Elijah Bickley [1862]

Joseph Keay [1863] – [1865]

Elijah Bickley [1868]

Ellen Buckley [1881]

Amos Arblaster [1890] – [1891]

George Fox [1896]

Walter Fox [] – 1899);

Josiah Burgess (1899 – 1903);

John Moseley [1904] ?

Joseph Moseley (1903 – [1908])
Mrs. Moseley (1909 – [])
William Hughes [1911] – 1913);
Joseph Gill (1913 – [])
Joseph Whitehead [1916]
Henry Caulton [1924] – [1928]
Harry Mason [1932]

NOTES

TRAVELLERS REST [1861]
STATION HOTEL [1909], [1911], [1925], [1928], [1932]

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/7/1861

“On Sunday morning last a train on the South Staffordshire Railway ran over a young man named John Lees, aged 33 years, a native of Lichfield, killing him on the spot. Parts of the body were found scattered along the line for some distance. An inquest was held at the STATION INN, Pelsall, on Tuesday, when the usual verdict was returned. It appeared from the evidence that deceased had lain down, when drunk, near the rails, and gone to sleep.”

Cornelius Stanton = Cornelius Stainton = Cornelius Staunton

Walsall Free Press 8/2/1862

“At the petty sessions at Rushall, on Tuesday, before J. E. Bailey, Esq, and Captain Harrison, the license of the ROYAL OAK, Daw End, was transferred from Sampson Smith to *William Lees*, late proprietor of the STATION INN, Pelsall.”

Walsall Free Press 8/2/1862

“At the court-house, Pelsall, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey, Esq, and Captain Harrison, four persons named Thomas Cash, Caroline Cash, Isaiah Cooper, and John Glover, were charged with assaulting Joseph Wyley at Mr. *Staunton*’s public-house, the RAILWAY INN [sic], Pelsall, on the preceding Tuesday. The complainant was sworn. He said he was a labourer residing at Shelfield, and he was at the RAILWAY INN [sic] on the day mentioned from about twelve o’clock in the day until night time. He was principally playing at bowls during the time. In the evening the defendant Thomas Cash, and himself played some games of bowls, all of which complainant won. Cash refused to pay the money lost in the final game, and as complainant approached him to ask him for the money, Isaiah Cooper tripped him (complainant) up, and all the defendants fell upon him, knocked him down, and beat and kicked him without mercy.

Mr. Ebsworth, who appeared for the defence, cross-examined the complainant at some length. He admitted he had not been at the RAILWAY INN [sic] from noon until night without drinking a considerable quantity of beer, but denied that he approached Cash with any hostile demonstrations or intentions after the last game of bowls. Cash did not say that he had paid him what was lost, nor had he paid him. He had knocked down a man who tried to prevent him getting at Cash, but that was on a different occasion, although on the same day.

Edward Butler was called for the complainant. He saw all the defendants surrounding the complainant and ill-using him. They had him on the ground, and were beating and kicking him. He did not see the commencement of the row.

Cross-examined by Mr. Ebsworth: Cooper’s share in the assault upon complainant consisted in his picking him up in an apparently friendly manner and then assisting to knock him down again. Complainant was defending himself against his assailants as well as he could.

Mr. Ebsworth then addressed the Bench for the defence, and characterised the affair as a public-house brawl. The length of time Wyley had been at the STATION INN, was sufficient indication of the condition he must have been in by the evening, and the admission of ‘going to-wards’ Cash, after the money had been refused, showed his determination to ‘have it out of him’ as it was commonly expressed. Indeed the fact of complainant knocking down Wiggins, who went to prevent him from fighting, was sufficient evidence of his hostile intentions. The truth of the matter was that complainant, confident in his superior bodily strength, made a cowardly and brutal assault on Cash, whose wife and friends joined in and defended him. The result was that complainant got the worst of it, and he (Mr. Ebsworth) submitted that he had no right to come into court for the revenge which he failed to secure in the fight provoked by himself. Mr. Ebsworth complained that the defendants had been taken upon warrants and kept in durance vile until the morning.

William Rowley was sworn. He heard complainant call Cash a liar, and saw him ‘square off’ at Cash. Wyley took off his slop and attacked Cash. Mrs. Cash and the other defendants interfered, and complainant got beaten among them. Wyley was drunk at *Staunton*’s on the previous Tuesday, and wanted to fight Cash. Witness tried to prevent the fight, and was knocked down by complainant for his pains

The Bench was of opinion that it was one of those cases which ought not to be brought into court. It had been very justly characterised as a public-house squabble. The defendants would be discharged, and the magistrates trusted they would not again make their appearance in that court under similar circumstances.”

Walsall Free Press 5/4/1862

“At the petty sessions at Rushall on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey, Esq, and Captain Harrison, *Elijah Bickley* charged with

having on Saturday last assaulted Mary Cook, and Ann Corbett, at the STATION HOTEL, Pelsall, was, on the application of Mr. Ebsworth, who appeared for the defence, remanded to next court day, as the prisoner had only been apprehended last night, and they had not been able to obtain his witnesses. The prisoner was admitted to bail, himself in £20, and one surety in £10.”

Walsall Free Press 14/2/1863 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the Old Licensed House, known as the STATION INN, Pelsall, doing a good business, satisfactory reasons given for present proprietor leaving.
Apply on premises.”

Walsall Free Press 3/10/1863 - Advert

“Immense Attraction!!! Pelsall Wake.

On Monday and Tuesday, October 5th and 6th, the above Wakes will be celebrated near the STATION INN opposite the Railway Station Pelsall, where Mr. *Joseph Keay*, will throw open a Piece of Land for the accommodation of Stalls, Shooting Galleries, Shows, &c, a Theatre will be Open during the Wake Week.

Free Admission to the Ground, various Prizes will be given for Pony Racing, Bag Racing, Flat Racing.

Dancing and other English games.”

Walsall Free Press 30/9/1865 - Advert

“Pelsall Wake. Immense Attractions.

Mr. *Joseph Keay*, landlord of the STATION INN, Pelsall, intends to celebrate the Annual Feast or Wake on Monday Next, October 2nd, by having the following Sports:

Donkey Races For Bridles.

Running For Geese.

Jumping In Bags, And Other Old English Sport.

Brass and String Bands will be in Attendance for Quadrilles and other dances.”

London Gazette 14/8/1866

“*Joseph Keay*, of Pelsall, in the county of Stafford, Mill Furnaceman, formerly carrying on business as a Licensed Victualler, at Pelsall aforesaid, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 19th day of July, 1866, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination, and make application for his Discharge, will be held at the said Court, on the 10th day of October next, at the County Court, Goodall-street, Walsall, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Frederic F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. John Ebsworth, of Wednesbury, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/10/1866

“At the County Court, on Saturday, before A. M. Skinner, Esq, QC, Judge, *Joseph Keay*, licensed victualler and mill furnaceman, Pelsall, came up to his last examination, and order of discharge, supported by Mr. H. Jackson. Mr. Glover who appeared for the assignees, offering no opposition, the bankrupt was passed.....”

Walsall Free Press 25/8/1866 - Advert

“Wanted, a steady strong Girl of All-work.

Apply, STATION INN, Pelsall.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 30/11/1872

“The Pelsall Hall Colliery Accident. Monday. The work of bringing up the eighteen bodies found on Friday night was not completed until nearly eleven o’clock yesterday. The nineteenth still remains undiscovered, but is supposed to be buried beneath a mass of rubbish at the foot of Jigger Hill. About one o’clock on Saturday morning, the explorers had succeeded in bringing seven bodies to the surface, and were conveying another along the roadway when their lights were extinguished by choke damp, and they were compelled to leave the corpse they had with them and run for their lives. Mr. A. Lindop and Mr. J. W. Baker, two of the party, were severely affected, and it was found necessary to take the former home. Yesterday he had recovered sufficiently to return to the pit.

On Friday night various experiments were tried under direction of Mr. J. P. Baker, Government Inspector, for expelling the damp, but without success until about four o’clock yesterday morning, when, by means of a new cross heading, the ventilation was restored, and it was found possible to resume the work of clearing the roadway. It was nine o’clock, however, before the heading where the bodies were was reached, and in less than two hours more they were all brought to the surface and removed to the STATION INN, where oak coffins provided by the proprietors [of the pit?] were in readiness.”

AND

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/11/1872

“Thos. Whitehouse, a respectably-connected man, was charged with being in the store-room at the STATION INN, Pelsall, for an unlawful purpose, he having between nine and ten o’clock on Sunday night been found in the store-room – the room in which 21 dead from the Pelsall Hall Colliery were deposited. His plea was the he wanted to see one of the corpses. The case was adjourned, the defendant being admitted to bail.”

1881 Census

Commonside – STATION INN

- [1] *Ellen Buckley* (49), widow, innkeeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Lucy Buckley* (12), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Elijah Buckley* (9), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Emma Pearman* (17), barmaid, born Walsall:

Evening Express 2/7/1881

“An inquest was held on Friday forenoon, at the STATION INN, Pelsall, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, touching the death of Samuel Smith, aged 21 years, who was killed at the Coppice Colliery on Tuesday last.

Samuel Bernard, horse driver, deposed he was working in the pit (which was the property of Mr. R. W. Hanbury) with the deceased, who was employed as ‘cager’. Witness took a skip about four or five yards to the bottom of the shaft, when he left it, the duty of the deceased being to take it to the cage when necessary. Witness saw the deceased push the skip near to the bottom, and instantly he heard a splash, and, on going to the spot, found that the deceased had fallen down the shaft into the sump of water, which was many yards below where he was acting as cager. It appeared that the cage came down directly it was signalled, and knocked deceased into the sump, and there was, in his opinion, no one to blame for the accident. The gate that protected the shaft was open, and it was the duty of the deceased to see that it was shut when the cage was sent further down the shaft.

Samuel Cresswell, a miner, said he found the deceased in the water about 50 yards below where he had been employed. The deceased’s head was under water when found, and he was quite dead; a part of the skip being near him. The cage was in good order. He thought the accident was caused by the deceased forgetting that the cage was not down, and he left the gate open. The deceased was badly cut about the back of the head.

Mr. Beattie Scott, Government Inspector, said that he had inspected the pit, and found that the Act of Parliament had been complied with in every way, and he could not suggest any alternative to prevent such accident.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

“The following publicans were granted one hour’s extension on Monday, October 6th, on the occasion of Pelsall wakes *Amos Arblaster*.”

1891 Census

Railway Bridge – STATION INN

- [1] *Amos Arblaster* (41), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary J. Arblaster* (34), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Elijah C. Arblaster* (15), son, fitter’s assistant, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Ellen Elizabeth Arblaster* (13), daughter, school teacher, born Pelsall;
- [5] *Stephen Arblaster* (10), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [6] *Amos R. Arblaster* (3), son, born Pelsall;
- [7] *Louie Arblaster* (2), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [8] *Sarah A. Hughes* (17), servant, born Walsall;
- [9] *Hannah Sweet* (14), nurse, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/6/1891 - Advert

“Summary of Auction Sales by Walter Hughes.....

Tuesday Next, June 9th, at Seven p.m.

Important Sale by Auction (upon the premises) of the Valuable Full-Licensed Public-House, the STATION INN, Pelsall, containing an area of about 1,000 square yards. One of the best Public-Houses, in the district, and doing a large trade.

Solicitors: Messrs, Wilkinson, Son, and Mills.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1891 - Advert

“On Tuesday evening, Mr. Walter Hughes submitted to auction the copyhold public house the STATION INN, Pelsall. The sale took place upon the premises, in the presence of a very large company, including representatives of many of the Burton, Lichfield, Birmingham, and Wolverhampton brewers. The Auctioneer detailed at some length the many attractive features of the house – its commanding position, the excellent accommodation, the good name the hostelry had always enjoyed; and wound up by describing the house as one of the best public houses in the district. The first bid was £1,000, and after a spirited competition it was sold for £1,555 to the City Brewery Company of Lichfield. Messrs. Wilkinson, Son, and Mills, of Walsall, were the solicitors acting for the vendors.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/10/1893

“An inquest was held at the STATION INN, Pelsall, on Wednesday, before Mr. Cooper (coroner), on the body of John Wales, aged 15, a resident of High Heath. From the evidence it appears that the deceased, who was employed at the Coppice Hall Colliery, was in charge of some tubs down the pit and had forgotten to take off the locker, which is put on the wheels of the tubs in case of necessity. A tub being in an incline, and no check being placed upon it, it began to run down and the deceased, with the intention of stopping it, placed himself in front with his back towards it, with the result that he was hurled with such force forward that he was killed. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/10/1895

“At the Petty Sessions on Monday, *George Fox*, licensed victualler, applied for an extension of one hour the same evening, the occasion being Pelsall wake. The application was granted.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/6/1900

“*Josiah Burgess*, STATION INN, Pelsall, was ordered to pay 6s costs for allowing a dog to be at large without either muzzle or collar.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

“The magistrates sitting at Rushall (Messrs. W. F. Clarke, E. Wilkes, and J. F. Crump) had before them a case in which *Joseph Moseley*, landlord of the STATION INN, Pelsall, was charged with permitting gambling on his licensed premises on the 9th and 11th of July. Mr. A. J. Glover prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. H. H. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) defended. Mr. Glover said that on the 9th Police-constable Brown, and another man, visited the house at about seven o’clock in the evening. There they saw four men playing bagatelle in the room adjoining the bar, the table being within such a short distance of the counter that anything said by those who were playing must have been heard by the landlord or anyone who was at the counter. When the game was finished, the landlord, who was standing by, asked who had lost. A stranger, whom the other man called George, replied that he had. *Moseley* then said, ‘Well pay out like a man.’ The man then gave the landlord a shilling, and he fetched a quart of ale and brought 6d change. The men then drew lots from a box on the mantelpiece for fresh sides, and agreed to play for another quart of ale. At the conclusion the losers each paid 3d for the beer. Whilst the men were playing the second game a man sitting near, who was the worse for drink, remarked that he had lost every game since three o’clock and had to pay. He also offered to lay another man for a ‘tanner.’ The game was commenced, and the officer and the other man then left the house. On the 11th (Monday) they again visited the house and saw the men playing. At the end of one game the landlord asked who had to pay that time. They had previously agreed to play for two ‘half gaugers,’ by which were meant half-pints. The men who lost offered to play again for a quart or nothing. At the conclusion of the second game the landlord fetched a quart of ale, and was followed back by Sergeant Heath and another officer, Police-constable Walley, the latter being in plain clothes. In the presence of the landlord, Police-constable Brown then told the sergeant what had taken place on both nights. The sergeant asked *Moseley* why he allowed gambling on his premises, and he replied it was ‘a d—— infernal lie.’ He further said he hadn’t been in the house all the time, but had been on the green at the back of the house, and that he knew nothing at all about it. As a matter of fact, the landlord did go out of the house several times, but on each occasion he was only absent a few minutes, and was in the room when the wagers were made. When the sergeant and the other officer entered the house a L&NWR Porter was playing, but he immediately put down the cue and left the house.

Police-constable Brown (Wednesbury) gave evidence corroborating this statement, and cross-examined by Mr. Jackson, he said that one man who was in the house was drunk, but admitted that he did not mention it in the report he sent to Stafford. He did not report the matter to Sergeant Heath until the second day. He did notice a card (produced) in the room which prohibited gambling in the house.

Henry Hill deposed to going to the house with Police-constable Brown, and gave similar evidence.

Answering Mr. Jackson, he admitted that when the officers were going out he heard one of them, he could not say which, ‘the —— door’s locked.’

Sergeant Heath gave evidence, but denied that either of the constables made use of bad language as they were going out. He afterwards visited the railway man who had been in the house, and he said ‘You might or you might not consider we were playing for half-pints.’

The defence was a complete denial of all knowledge that gambling had taken place, the landlord stating that he was out of the house from 7 until about 8.30 on the Saturday night.

The landlady, Frederick Hughes, and several other witnesses who were in the house on the night in question, also denied that any gambling took place.

After retiring for about half-an-hour, Mr. Clarke intimated that they had given the case a good deal of consideration, and they thought justice would be met if the defendant paid all the costs, which amounted to £3 10s 6d.

The hearing of this case occupied more than three hours.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1905

“The annual licensing sessions were held at the Rushall Police Court on Monday.....

Since the last licensing meeting, six licensed victuallers had been proceeded against for offences against their licences.....

Joseph Moseley, STATION INN, Pelsall, suffering gaming, ordered to pay costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/9/1908

“A bowls handicap decided at the STATION HOTEL, Pelsall, on Saturday.....

Final. R. Lee..... 17 B. Cooper..... 16. J. Dodd won the third prize and A. Aspinall the fourth.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/3/1909

“On Easter Monday the annual old person’s tea and entertainment will be held at the STATION HOTEL, Pelsall. Tea will be on the tables at 4pm The musical programme will be contributed to by Messrs. J. Doughty, G. Wright, J. Peel, H. Poxon, A. Lycett, and selections on the gramophone. The old people will no doubt have an enjoyable time.”

1911 Census

Pelsall – STATION INN

- [1] *William Hughes* (33), licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] Sarah Ann Hughes (31), wife, married 9 years, born Pelsall;
- [3] Beatrice Annie Hughes (8), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [4] William Charles Hughes (6), son, born Pelsall;
- [5] Victor Ronald Hughes (3), son, born Pelsall;
- [6] Ada Turner (25), general servant, born Daw End:

Walsall Advertiser 25/11/1911

“A meeting of miners was held at the STATION HOTEL, Pelsall, on Wednesday evening last, Mr. Burgess presiding. On the opening of the meeting, the Chairman referred to the small attendance, and in the course of his address he impressed upon those present the importance of the present negotiations, now under consideration by the Colliery proprietors and the miners’ representatives.....”

Walsall Advertiser 9/3/1912

“The Coal War. Great Struggle Still Proceeding.....”

Notices were issued stating that strike pay would be paid as follows (on the production of contribution card): Thursday, March 14th, Sheffield, SPRING COTTAGE INN, at 11am; Walsall Wood, WHEEL INN, at 2pm; Brownhill, Crown Inn, at 5pm; Friday, March 15th, Pelsall, STATION INN, at 11am; Bloxwich, QUEENS HEAD INN, at 2pm; Lane Head, BRITISH OAK INN, at 5pm; Saturday, March 16th, Newton, Malt Shovel Inn at 11am.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/3/1912

“Strikers in the Walsall Wood, Rushall and Sheffield neighbourhood looked forward to their first strike pay with evident concern. There is no doubt the men are beginning to feel the pinch of wageless weeks and although they picked up a good haul the Saturday before last the coffers this week have begun to run low.

The first distribution of strike pay by the Pelsall and District Association took place on Thursday at Ted Clark’s SPRING COTTAGE INN, Sheffield. The time fixed was eleven o’clock, but before that hour a large crowd of miners has assembled. A few minutes after eleven, when the officials drove up, there could not have been less than 1,500 or 2,000 men waiting for their pay. Some of them had to wait a good time too, for it was close on half-past three in the afternoon before the last striker received his allowance. Fortunately the weather was fine – indeed, it was a bright spring day. The young strikers – the pit boys – with some of their seniors, whiled away the time at marbles, but generally the men were content to smoke pipes (with need it to be said, and occasional slaking of the thirst), and quietly chat together. The peculiar part about it all – at least that which impresses the stranger, is that the men discuss practically every other topic imaginable with the one exception of the unrest!

The paying out was conducted in a smooth and business-like manner, the men entering the room where it was carried out in the order of their respective lodges. They were commendably orderly and the crowd gradually diminished, the strikers making a move off as soon as they had received their money. Each man received 15/- and the few boys who had to be paid 7/6. The officials present included Messrs. H. Smith (president), Mr. Smith (vice-president), T. Riley (secretary), and R. Burgess (treasurer). Mr. F. J. Dean (miners’ agent) was in London.

One of the officials explained that the ordinary strike pay is 10/- a week, but it was thought that it would be to the interests of the men if they were paid 15/-, as they have been at play since last Saturday week. The strikers came from all parts of the area covered by the association, although most of them belonged to Rushall, Sheffield and Walsall Wood.

From what could be gathered the men are not in such ‘high feather’ as they were this time last week. There are signs of a weakening in their determination, which goes a long long way to show that they would welcome a settlement. It was stated by one of the miners that in the early part of the week 20 or 30 non-unionists approached the manager of the Aldridge Colliery, and asked to be set at work, but were refused. In spite of the fact that the association has 4,000 members, there are non-unionists here and there and they must undoubtedly be reduced to an impecunious position. One of the miners expressed the opinion that after ‘this yer job’ is over the unionists will refuse to be reconciled to so many of the men remaining outside their union. The unionists evidenced that they appreciated their strike pay, small though it is compared to with an ordinary week’s money, but, in spite of reserve, many of them showed that they were a little anxious as to their prospects should the struggle be prolonged. Some of the men turned up at the venues in their Sunday best and one or two even wore collars and ties.

Later in the day there were ‘payings out’ at the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, and at Brownhills. Yesterday (Friday) miners received pay at the STATION INN, Pelsall; the QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich; and the BRITISH OAK, Lane Head. Today (Saturday) money will be paid put at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Newton.

It is stated that if a settlement is effected and the miners start work at once they will receive pay from the strike funds for the odd days they have been out.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/4/1913

“Mr. H. H. Jackson applied to the Rushall magistrates on Monday for a temporary transfer of the license of the STATION HOTEL, Pelsall, from Mr. *William Hughes* to Mr. *Joseph Gill*.

Superintendent Salt informed the Bench that there had been a conviction against the applicant in relation to the house which he was leaving. Mr. Jackson said that although Mr. *Gill*’s license was renewed at the Annual Licensing Sessions, he had decided to devote his whole time to that house in Pelsall.

The Chairman (Mr. W. H. Brookes) after considering the case said there was no objection to applicant having the license, but ow-

ing to the fact that he had been convicted he wished to impress upon him that he must be very careful how he conducted the house which he was going into.

The application was granted, and Mr. *Gill* assured the Chairman that he would carry out his wish.”

Joseph Gill – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood.

Walsall Observer 16/12/1916

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *Joseph Whitehead*, STATION HOTEL, Pelsall, elected member of the executive committee.”

Lichfield Mercury 28/6/1925 - Advert

“Billiards Table, $\frac{3}{4}$ size (Orme), all accessories.

STATION HOTEL, Pelsall.”

Lichfield Mercury 23/10/1925

“Brownhills And District Air-Gun League.....

Pelsall FREE TRADE (home) defeated Pelsall STATION HOTEL (away) by 208 points to 194. J. Evans made 24 and J. Stone 23; while J. Clews made 25 for the losers, the highest possible score.”

Lichfield Mercury 8/6/1928

“*Henry Caulton*, licensee of the STATION HOTEL, Pelsall, was fined £20 at Rushall on Monday on two summonses – one for keeping a betting house and the other for keeping a gaming house; his wife *Elizabeth Caulton*, was fined £5 for assisting him in the offences; James Edge, New Street, Shelfield, for using the house for the purpose of betting with persons resorting thereto, was fined £20; and Samuel Lever, Ash Tree Road, Pelsall, and John Charles, Coronation Road, Pelsall, were fined 40s and 20s respectively for using the house for betting purposes; *Caulton* and Edge were also ordered to pay special costs amounting to £10 1s between them.

Evidence was given by two witnesses, one from Wednesbury and the other from Willenhall, as to visiting the public-house in question at the instigation of the police, and to having seen money and betting slips handed to Edge, who frequented the house. Inspector Clarke spoke to making a raid on the public-house and to finding betting slips on the landlord and also on Edge, who was seen to throw something on the fire.

Mr. H. H. Jackson for the licensee pleaded guilty to both summonses, but said there was no suggestion that the betting slips found on him related to bets he had made in his own house.

Edge also tendered a plea of guilty, stating that he had applied for a betting license, but could not get one. He also remarked that if every person who had an illegal ‘flutter’ on the Derby were to be summoned, the magistrates would have more to do than they could possibly manage.”

Walsall Observer 23/12/1939

“That it combines traditional hospitality with originality to create the latest conception of a modern inn is claimed by Atkinson’s for their new house, ‘The Trees,’ which occupies commanding and elevated site hard by the Quesslet Road, Great Barr.....

Mr. Brown announced that in addition to the Anchor, the brewery company were surrendering the licenses of the STATION INN, Pelsall, and the Live and Let Live, and the Hit or Miss, all of which would be closed at 2 o’clock that day before the Trees opened at 6 o’clock that evening.”

STATION

High Street, Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Roberts [1891]

NOTES

1891 Census

High Street – STATION HOTEL

[1] *William Roberts* (62), licensed victualler, born Little Aston, Staffordshire;

- [2] Ann Roberts (58), wife, born Yarm, Yorkshire;
- [3] George Roberts (25), nephew, clerk in brewery, born Aston, Warwickshire;
- [4] Clara Cresswell (21), barmaid, born Brownhills;
- [5] Mary Ann Marklew (18), parlour maid, born Brownhills;
- [6] Mary Ann Instone (21), domestic servant, born Blists Hill, Shropshire;
- [7] John Robinson (19), assistant brewer, born Claverley;
- [8] Walter Evans (17), hostler, born Pinley, Warwickshire;
- [9] Charles Hickman (17), waiter, born Wyrley;

STATION

20, Station Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Charles F Baker [1891]

NOTES

1891 Census

20, Station Street – STATION INN

- [1] *Charles F. Baker* (56), buckle maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Baker (53), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] George H. Wicks (23), boarder, saddler, born Manchester;
- [4] Charles E. Spurrier, (21), boarder, engineer, born Birmingham;
- [5] Sarah Evans (22), boarder, tailor's shopwoman, born Leominster;
- [6] Edward Thomas Baker (62), boarder, clerk, born Edgbaston;

STORES

172, High Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

J. Clifford, draper, Hednesford
Bloxwich Brewery Co. Ltd. [1913]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Philip and Thomas William Sanders [] – **1887**);
Thomas William Sanders (**1887 – 1896**);
Frank Thomas Sanders (**1896 – 1897**);
Mrs. Sarah Waterfield (**1897 – 1907**);
Charles Henry Waterfield (**1907 – 1912**);
Charles Ernest Perry (**1912 – 1916**);
Mary Perry (**1916 – 1920**);
Charles Ernest Perry (**1920 – 1925**);
James Haynes (**1925 – 1927**);
William Arthur Cox (**1927 – []**)

NOTES

VICTORIA STORES [1906]

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Observer 24/9/1887

“Walsall Licensing Sessions

The adjourned annual licensing meeting was held yesterday, at the Sessions Court.....

Applications which had been adjourned owing to the tenants having been convicted during the past year.

The following were granted.....

STORES, High Street, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/12/1893

“Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... Mr. *Thomas Sanders*, The STORES, 138, High Street, Bloxwich.”

Thomas William Sanders, beer retailer, High Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1896

“The forty-fourth annual meeting of the members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

We have to report the decease of two of our members, viz, Mr. William Ross, WALSALL ARMS INN, Bank Street, Walsall, and Mr. *Thomas Sanders*, The STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, to the bereaved relatives of whom on your behalf we have tendered our sincere sympathy.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/6/1900

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... *Charles Waterfield*, STORES, High Street, Bloxwich.”

1901 Census

172, High Street

[1] *Charles Waterfield* (41), retail innkeeper, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Sarah Waterfield* (44), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Mabel Waterfield (16), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[4] Nellie Waterfield (13), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[5] Sarah Baker (38), servant, born Bloxwich;

[6] William Baker (14), relative, clerk, born Bloxwich;

[7] Sarah A. Stockley (19), relative, born Bloxwich;

[Sarah was licensee according to the Licensing Register.]

Mrs. *Sarah Waterfield*, beer retailer, 172, High Street. [1904]

Sarah Waterfield was fined 10s and costs, on 17th November 1905, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Black List From Bloxwich. The Chief Constable reported that three license holders had been fined, viz, W. C. Athersmith, VINE INN, Bloxwich, under the Child Messenger Act, and *Sarah Waterfield*, VICTORIA STORES, Bloxwich, and David Lawrence, NELSON INN, Bloxwich, for permitting drunkenness.

These licenses were renewed, with a caution.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/8/1909

“William Miles, 128, Harrison Street, Bloxwich, for being drunk on the licensed premises of the STORES INN, Bloxwich, on July 28th, was fined 5s including costs.”

1911 Census

172, High Street

[1] *Charles Henry Waterfield* (50), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;

[2] Ellina Grace Pagett (23), daughter, married, housekeeper, born Bloxwich;

[3] John Henry Pagett (27), son in law, shop assistant (fishmonger), born Walsall;
[4] Hilda Noreen Pagett (2), granddaughter, born Walsall:

Charles Waterfield, beer retailer, 172, High Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

The following were the notices of objection (Compensation Clause).....

NEW INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Hy. Mellor).

SPORTSMAN, Pinfold, Bloxwich. (Jacob Williams).

NELSON, Church Street, Bloxwich. (Jos. Wall).

STAG, Field Street, Bloxwich. (Jane Tolley).

PLOUGH, Cemetery Road, (Charles Mansfield).

RISING SUN, Park Road, Bloxwich, (Charles Orgill).

STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, (*Charles Ernest Perry*).

BEEHIVE, New Street, Bloxwich, (Benjamin Hughes).”

AND

“The Court re-assembled yesterday (Friday) morning.....

The STORES, High Street. Mr. Jackson again appeared for the owners, the Bloxwich Brewery Company, Ltd, and the tenant, Mr *E. C. Perry*.

Inspector Pritchard said that there were six licensed houses in High Street between the Public Hall and the Pinfold. He had visited the house 16 times in 10 weeks, and found 220 persons, an average of about 14 persons per visit.

In reply to Mr. Jackson, witness said he did not know of a better conducted house in Bloxwich, and he could not mention another beer-house that was doing a larger trade.

Mr. *Perry*, the tenant, said he paid £36 rent, and he paid all outgoings. He had been in the house 11 months and for five years he had occupied the VINE, belonging to the same owners. The trade averaged 352 barrels per year, and 26 gross of bottled beer.

Mr. Jackson remarked that so far as he knew there had never been a single complaint against the house since it was erected.

He had worked out the amount of compensation, on a basis he thought he could substantiate, and he found it would be about £2,000.....

Having retired, the Bench announced that the licenses of the STAG and the STORES would be renewed for this year, but might be considered at some future date. The remaining six houses would be referred to the compensation authorities.”

Lichfield Mercury 23/5/1913 - Advert

“General wanted (18); clean, industrious.

Apply *Perry*, The STORES, High Street, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/2/1914

“Chas. Butler (28), miner, of Little Bloxwich, was charged with stealing a gentleman’s bicycle, value £4, the property of Arnold Richard Lake, on Feb. 23rd.

Complainant said that at about 8.10 on the evening in question he left the bicycle in a passage leading to the kitchen of the STORES, and handed the lamp to Mr. *Perry*, landlord of the STORES. Prisoner, who was in the bar, saw this done, and later went out. About 9.15 witness went for his bicycle, but discovered it was missing. Failing to find it, he reported the matter to the police, and at 11.45 that night he saw it at the police station.

Charles Herbert Perry, licensee of the store, said he had known prisoner for about four years. He came to his house from about 6 or 7 till about 9.15.

Police-constable Smith (66) said that at about 9.40 he visited George Street and saw prisoner coming out of a house. He said ‘Good evening Mr. Smith. You are in a hurry.’ Witness then said he was inquiring about a bicycle that had been stolen, and prisoner said, ‘I know nothing about it. I have been in Poulson’s all night, and am just going to have a drink.’ Prisoner, was sober and had no bicycle with him.

Thomas Venables, of Vicarage Street, Walsall, said he met the prisoner near the junction of Centenary Road. Prisoner was pushing a bicycle without a light towards Little Bloxwich. Witness offered him some matches to light the machine, and he said he had no light. Witness said it was very foolish to be out so late with a bicycle without a lamp and then struck a match, enquiring, ‘Is this your bicycle?’ the man said he found it in a field between Centenary Road and Canwick Road. Witness said, ‘You are going the wrong way, you want to take it to the police station.’ He said it was late and he wanted to get home as he had to start work early in the morning. Witness offered to take the machine to the police station, and took possession of it, taking prisoner’s name and address.

Police-constable Smith (51) said he visited prisoner at his house in Little Bloxwich, and charged him with the offence. He repeated his story of finding the bicycle in a field. Witness arrested him and he replied, ‘Yes.’

The mayor said the Bench desired to thank Mr. Venables for the intelligent interest he had taken in the matter, and they were pleased with the way he had given his evidence.

The Chief Constable: It was the way he dealt with him that frightened him, or the robbery might not have been discovered now. Prisoner elected to go for trial at the Sessions, and made a statement reiterating his previous story.”

[At the Quarter Sessions, held on 3rd June, 1914, Charles Butler, was found guilty, and sentenced six months’ imprisonment with hard labour.]

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
STORES, Bloxwich, 5s 9½d.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/1/1915

“At the County Court on Wednesday, before Judge Howard Smith, a claim was made by Joseph Hancox, famer and haulier of Green Lane, Birchills, for £5 damages against Joseph Wall, of the STORES public house, High Street, Bloxwich, it being alleged that a cross-bred lurcher dog, said to belong to the defendant, had worried sheep belonging to plaintiff. Mr. Frank Cooper appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. H. L. Lester defended.
For the plaintiff it was stated that in September a flock of sheep belonging to plaintiff were in a field at Birchills. A cross-bred lurcher dog was seen on September 17th by plaintiff’s employé named Titley, worrying the hindquarters of the sheep. The dog was stoned off, but later it as found in addition to the one sheep which had been worried, that another sheep had been killed outright. The matter was reported to the police, and Detective-sergeant Burrell traced the dog to the defendant’s house. Defendant admitted the dog belonged to him, but said he had given it away some time previously. The animal, he said, however, had returned to the house and had been allowed to stay.
Plaintiff gave evidence, and said that in addition to the sheep which had been killed outright, the other sheep which had been worried, died of its injuries.
For the defence, Police-sergeant Cattermole was called, showing that defendant had a new dog, and that defendant told him that he had given the lurcher to a brother-in-law named Wickson, who was the owner of a caravan.
Defendant said the dog became the property of boatmen who put horses in the stabling at the rear of his premises. He notified the police in March that the dog was not his property.
His honour gave judgement for the defendant with costs.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
The STORES, 172, High Street, Bloxwich. £1 1s 1d.”

William Arthur Cox – see also PARKFIELD.

Check OLD STORES.

STORES

1, Ablewell Street / Wearwell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Messrs Shepherd and Hawley, factors
S. Cox Esq.
City Brewery Co. (Lichfield) Ltd.
Arthur Beebee Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

John Taylor [1868] – [1873];
Thomas Edge [1881] – **1890**);
John Cotton (**1890**);
David Bell (**1890 – 1891**);
Mrs. Martha Mills [1891] manageress
John Sanders (**1891 – 1893**);
Sarah Ann Sanders [1893] ?
James Coxhill (**1893 – 1894**);
William Bailey (**1894**);
Edwin Salloway (**1894 – 1905**);
William Alfred Burton (**1905 – 1906**):

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license, and a refreshment license.

John Taylor, beer retailer, 1, Ablewell Street. [1868], [1872]

Walsall Free Press 23/5/1868 - Advert

“Bottled Stout & Ale.

In Excellent Condition At The STORES, 1, Ablewell Street, Corner of Warewell Street, Walsall.

John Taylor, Agent for D’Arcy & Son, & Findlaters’ Dublin Stout, in Firkins and Kils; also Bass and Co’s Ale and Guinness’s Stout, in Kils.

The STORES, 1, Ablewell Street, Corner of Warewell Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 30/7/1870 - Advert

“Wanted, a strong, respectable Youth, about 15, as Light Porter.

The STORES, 1, Ablewell Street.”

1871 Census

Ablewell Street

[1] *John Taylor* (27), widower, beer retailer, born Walsall;

[2] Ann Yardley (29), barmaid, born Oldswinford;

[3] Isabella Noakes (20), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Free Press 19/8/1871 - Advert

“Bottled Stout & Ale.

Private Families supplied with the above in excellent condition, on the shortest notice, from

The STORES, 1, Ablewell Street, corner of Warewell Street, Walsall.

By *John Taylor*, Agent for D’Arcy & Sons, and Findlater’s Dublin Stout, in Firkins and Kils; also Bass & Co’s Ale, and Guinness’s Stout, in Kils.”

Walsall Free Press 14/10/1871 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable Servant Girl, about 18, at The STORES, 1, Ablewell Street.”

AND

“Wanted, a large quantity of Porter Bottles, at The STORES, 1, Ablewell Street.”

Walsall Free Press 29/2/1873 - Advert

“Wanted, a strong young man used to Horse and Trap, to make himself generally useful; must be able to read and write.

The STORES, Ablewell Street.”

Walsall Free Press 19/4/1873

“John Mills, porter in the employment of Mr. *Taylor*, the STORES, Ablewell Street, was charged with having assaulted his employer. Fined 2s 6d and costs; or in default, six days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 16/8/1873 - Notice

“The STORES, 1, Ablewell Street, Walsall, 18th July, 1873.

I beg respectfully to intimate that on and after the 1st August, I shall Discontinue the Bottling Department of my Business, having Disposed of the same to Messrs. Dowdswell and Spencer, of West Bromwich, who will carry it on as heretofore.

I beg sincerely to thank you for the liberal patronage so kindly bestowed on me during my connection with the trade, and to solicit a continuance of your favours in behalf of my Successors.

Yours respectfully, *John Taylor*.

A collection of bottles belonging to me will commence in a few days.”

A wine license was granted pre 1881.

1881 Census

1, Ablewell Street – The STORES

[1] *Thomas Edge* (44), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] Sarah Edge (49), wife, born Leicester;

[3] Sarah Salt (17), general servant, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire:

David Bell was fined 10s and costs, on 16th March 1890, for selling liquor to drunken persons.

Birmingham Daily Post 6/10/1891

“At the guildhall, yesterday, *Martha Mills*, manageress of the STORES public-house, Ablewell Street, was charged with receiving stolen grains, the property of George Griffin, Gillity Greaves Farm. Mr. Cotterell appeared for the defence.

The evidence in support of the case was that whilst stopping at the STORES with a load of grains, which they were taking from the railway station to Gillity Greaves Farm, two of Mr. Griffin's servants – Alfred Taylor and a man named Pugh – were asked by Mrs. *Mills* if they could let her have some grains. They told her they could not that day, but they arranged to take her some on subsequent days, and Taylor did so on the 7th and 15th of August, receiving on each occasion 6d and a pint of ale for about two strikes of grain, computed to be worth 10d, and each time leaving a bag with the grain.

Before all the witnesses for the prosecution had been called, the Mayor said the magistrates thought there was no necessity to carry the case further. They did not believe that she knew the grains were stolen, but she had acted with a great deal of indiscretion, and the proceedings on the part of Mr. Griffin were perfectly justifiable. Mr. Brewer added that the Chief Constable would not have done his duty if he had not taken up the prosecution.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/5/1893

“Thomas Turler 20, Ball Street, against whom a long list of previous convictions existed, was summoned for refusing to quit the premises of *Sarah Ann Sanders*, the STORES, Ablewell Street, on the 3rd inst. Mr. H. H. Jackson prosecuted, and it was shown that defendant when refused drink used disgraceful expressions, and had to be ejected by Police-constable Smith. Fined 20s and costs or 14 days.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Walsall borough took place yesterday.....

Mr. Jackson also submitted a plan for alterations at the STORES, Ablewell Street. The decision was deferred.....

The Bench deliberated in private for some time, and on their return into court announced that all the other applications would be granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/4/1895

“Walsall Conservative Association.

On Monday next a meeting of No.18 Polling District Committee (Bridge Ward) will be held at the STORES INN, Ablewell Street, for the purpose of electing a vice-chairman, and the transaction of other important business.”

1901 Census

1, Ablewell Street

[1] *Edwin Salloway* (49), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] *Emila Salloway* (50), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Elise Salloway* (15), daughter, born Walsall:

Edwin Salloway, beer retailer, 1, Ablewell Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1905 - Advert

“A. Beebee's Noted Home Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell St., Walsall.

Houses.....

The STORES, Ablewell Street.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 1st February 1906.

The license was extinguished in 1906.

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Chief Constable had given notice of objection to the renewal of the following seven licenses; William Henry Lowe, ACORN, alehouse, Lower Rushall Street; James Scott, JOLLY BACCCHUS, alehouse, New Street; George James Sambrook, KING WILLIAM, alehouse, Little Bloxwich; William Wright, OLD OAK, beerhouse, Upper Hall Lane; *William Alfred Burton*, STORES, beerhouse, Ablewell Street; George Carrington, STORES, beerhouse, Upper Rushall Street; John James Lawrence, STORES, beerhouse, High Street.

Mr. Loxton said these objections were by direction of the Bench, and he had also served notices on behalf of the magistrates, simply to comply with the section of the Act of Parliament, and without forming any opinion or prejudging cases. The justices directed him to state for the convenience of the advocates that the objections were mainly on the grounds of not required which would necessitate their being referred to the Compensatory Authority. But if during the hearing of the cases the grounds should be such as to justify the refusal of renewal on grounds without compensation, the advocate would be required to direct his attention to such grounds.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said he came there on the understanding that it was the intention to refer those licenses to the Compensatory Authority to report on.

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had inspected a number of houses with a view to whether they should report to the Compensatory

Authority. It might be that some houses were structurally unfit, and in such case they would refuse the license, and they would have to go the quarter sessions.....

As to the STORES, Ablewell Street, Mr. Jackson (who appeared for the City Brewery, who are the owners, and the tenant, *William Alfred Burton*) said the house was an anti-'69 beerhouse, and was rated at £50 gross and £40 net. It was stated that the takings amounted to £17 or £18 weekly.....

The JOLLY BACCHUS, KING WILLIAM; STORES, Upper Rushall Street; STORES, High Street, were referred to the compensation authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/5/1906

“On Tuesday before a full Bench, comprised of Messrs. W. H. Brooks (presiding), G. Gull, J. Moseley, A. D. Cozens, R. Thomas, S. B. Wheway, H. D. Clark, P. Bull, J. Clare, and (Dr.) J. Lynch, Mr. F. Bill (solicitor) appeared in support of the report made by the Licensing Committee in respect of the four following houses: KING WILLIAM, Little Bloxwich; OLD OAK, Hall Lane; STORES, Ablewell Street; and STORES, High Street.

Mr. Bill in explaining the mode of procedure, said that if the Licensing Committee thought a license should be dealt with on certain grounds they could deal with it, and could refuse the license, but if they considered that it should be dealt with in respect of grounds other than those particular grounds, the matter must be brought before a full bench of Magistrates to deal with. The grounds of the report in these cases were that the licenses were not required by the needs of the district. This was one of the grounds the Licensing Committee could not deal with, and they must send the licenses so reported to a full bench of magistrates, who could renew or refuse the license. In case the latter course was taken then the question of compensation arose. He was instructed that these four houses had been inspected by the magistrates, so that their condition and the neighbourhood must be within their own knowledge. Mr. Bill then proceeded to call evidence.....

STORES, Ablewell Street. Chief-inspector Ballance stated that within a 250 yard radius of the house were 25 alehouses, 5 being beer on-licenses, and one beer off, five of them being very near this house. The population of the district had greatly decreased during the last 18 years. This particular house was the least suitable for carrying on the licensing trade.

Mr. Jackson (who appeared for the owners, Lichfield City Brewery Co., and the licensee, *W. A. Burton*), pointed out that the house was an ante-'69 beerhouse and was one of the most unassuming little houses he had ever been in. It was very clean, in excellent condition and there was nothing against it with regard to the conduct of the house. The takings amounted to £17 or £18 per week, and a great deal of outdoor trade was done. They thought it was one of the most valuable houses in the neighbourhood, and the fact that the takings were so good was the best evidence that the house was required by the needs of the neighbourhood.....

After a private deliberation, the chairman (Mr. W. H. Brooks) said the Bench had unanimously confirmed the resolution of the Licensing Committee that the four houses were unnecessary, and the licenses would be refused.”

STORES

39, (38-39), Goodall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Abbey, grocer, High Street, Walsall
Mr. Day, Handsworth [1911]
Yardley Brewing Co.
R. A. Harper Ltd., Bilston
Eleys Stafford Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mrs. Eliza Cooke [1868] – [1870]
John Flynn [1871] – [1877];
Mrs. Caroline Flynn [];
Joseph Clair [];
Henry Sherwin [];
Harry Wareing [];
Thomas Collis [1881];
Phebe Smith [] – 1886);
William Perris (1886 – 1887);
Thomas Bird (1887 – 1889);
Charles Flintham (1889 – 1891);
Edmund Lord (1891 – 1894);
William John McLean (1894 – 1895);
John Wiggin (1895 – 1896);

Albert James Hulse (1896 – 1897);
Mrs. Anne Maria Hulse (1897 – 1900);
Elijah Ford (1900 – 1904);
William Starkey (1904 – 1906);
John James Lawrence (1906 – 1908);
Horace Arthur Price (1908 – 1909);
William Henry Davis (1909 – 1911);
William Rowley (1911 – 1917);
Albert Atherton (1917 – 1918);
Edith Atherton (1918 – 1919);
Thomas McCloud (1919 – 1922);
William Lote (1922 – 1925):

NOTES

It had a beer, cider and wine license, and a refreshment license.

It was originally unnamed.

Mrs. *Eliza Cooke*, beer retailer, 38-39, Goodall Street. [1868], [1870]

John Flynn, beer retailer, 39, Goodall Street. [1872]

He was fined 20s and costs, on 3rd March 1877, for being open after 11pm.

1871 Census

39, Goodall Street

- [1] *John Flynn* (46), publican and patent leather japanner, born Ireland;
- [2] Ellen M. Flynn (18), daughter, scholar, born London;
- [3] Mary A, Flynn (16), daughter, scholar, born London;
- [4] John P. Flynn (14), son, patent leather japanner, born London;
- [5] Thomas R. Flynn (11), son, scholar, born London;
- [6] Frances A. Flynn (8), daughter, scholar, born London;
- [7] Benjamin Flynn (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Evangeline Flynn (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 8/3/1873

“*John Flynn*, beerhouse keeper, Goodall Street, was charged with having, on the night of the 26th ult, had his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours. Two witnesses, named James Perry and Samuel Redfern, proved that, on the invitation of the defendant’s son, they went to defendant’s house, where they arrived at six minutes past eleven, and had three quarts of ale, and also three small jugs of wine, for each of which they paid 1s. Mr. Glover, who appeared for defendant, called several witnesses, after which the Bench sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 20s and costs; but owing to his previous good conduct, they did not order the license to be endorsed.”

1881 Census

39, Goodall Street

- [1] *Thomas Collis* (32), innkeeper, born Walsall;
 - [2] Elizabeth Collis (34), wife, born Birmingham;
 - [3] Ellen Hadley (17), domestic servant, born Barton, Lancashire:
- [There are a number of Bartons in Lancashire.]

Lichfield Mercury 19/1/1883

“On Friday, at the Guildhall, Walsall, Michael Silk, Freer’s Yard, was brought up on remand charged with having wilfully broken a pane of glass and a glass screen, of the value £10 at the STORES beerhouse, Goodhall Street. His plea, when first brought before the Bench, was the ‘temper’ had prompted him to do the mischief.

Dr. Maclachan deposed that he did not consider the prisoner was quite responsible for his actions, but he must have known perfectly well that he was doing wrong, when he broke the glass.

The prisoner was fined £5, or one months’ imprisonment.”

1891 Census

39, Goodall Street

- [1] *Chares Flintham* (32), harness maker, born Owersby, Lincolnshire;
- [2] Louisa R. Flintham (29), wife, born Alton, Lincolnshire;
- [3] Charles Flintham (9), son, scholar, born Alton, Lincolnshire;

- [4] Annie L. Flintham (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] Harry L. Flintham (1), son, born Walsall;
[6] Bertha Barnes (20), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 10/3/1894

“Henry Harris, Castle Street, Wolverhampton, was charged with leaving a cart on the highway unattended. Police-constable Evans said that on the 26 ult. he saw a brewer’s cart opposite the STORES, Goodall Street, and the defendant was inside the inn playing cards. Defendant pleaded guilty, and said that he went out to look at the horse occasionally. Fined 5s and costs or seven days.”

William John McLean – see also SPORTSMAN.

John Wiggin, beer retailer, 39, Goodall Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 8/1/1898

“The STORES (Goodall Street) Money Club.

A supper in connection with the above took place on Thursday week, when about 30 sat down to an excellent repast, prepared by the worthy hostess, Mrs. *Hulse*. Afterwards Mr. W. Rollins was voted chairman, and Mr. J. Duell vice-chairman. The toast of the Queen was duly honoured. The undermentioned gentlemen gave the company much pleasure by the way they rendered their songs &c: Messrs. J. Gwinutt, C. Gardiner, T. Bruce, G. Ball, C. Bridge, J. Harbridge, Alf. Freeman, Geo. Freeman, &c, master Harbridge gave a flute solo. Votes of thanks to the secretary, chairman, and vice-chairman were heartily accorded. Mr. Rollins proposed a toast to the hostess, Mrs. *Hulse*, which was received with acclamation. Mr. Lowbridge made an able accompanist,”

Elijah Ford was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in August 1900.

1901 Census

39, Goodall Street – The STORES

- [1] *Elijah Ford* (37), engine and machine maker, born Walsall;
[2] Annie Ford (34), wife, born Walsall;
[3] Frank Hulse (15), son, apprentice saddler __ys, born Walsall;
[4] Victor Hulse (14), son, labourer, errand boy, born Walsall;
[5] Charles Hulse (12), son, born Walsall;
[6] John Hulse (6), son, born Walsall;
[7] Ethel Ford (1 month), daughter, born Walsall;
[8] Emma Genden (21), general servant, born Walsall:

Elijah Ford, beer retailer, 39, Goodall Street. [1904]

Edinburgh Gazette 29/3/1910

“Receiving Orders.....

William Henry Davis, the STORES INN, Goodall Street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, formerly carrying on business at the Square, Walsall aforesaid, beerhouse keeper, formerly publisher.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/2/1911

“The annual general licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The Chief Constable objected to the renewal of the license of the STORES, Goodall Street, held by *William Henry Davies*, on the ground that the licensee was an undischarged bankrupt.

Mr. J. F. Addison stated that he appeared for the licensee and the owner, Mr. Day of Handsworth. It was true that *Davies* had become a bankrupt, but he applied that the Bench should adjourn the whole matter until the Adjourned Licensing Sessions.

Mr. C. A. Loxton: You want then to adjourn it so that the license, which has been forfeited might become good? Mr. Addison replied that the bankruptcy of *Davies* had not been caused by the falling off of trade at the house, but he had been concerned in a publishing business in the town and made certain losses that ultimately landed him in the Bankruptcy Court. Mr. Day was going to keep *Davies* on as manager at another house, and had made arrangements for a bona fide tenant to come to the STORES, but he was unable to go into the house until Monday or Tuesday week.

Answering a question, *Davies* said that when he went and took the house over it was doing £4 a week, but now it was £10.

The Bench adjourned the matter until the Adjourned Sessions.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/3/1911

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday morning.....

Mr. J. F. Addison applied for a full transfer of the license of the STORES, Goodall Street, to *William Rowley*, who had been granted a temporary transfer. He had been instructed by all parties including the Official Receiver.

The Chief Constable stated that he had objected to the license at the annual licensing meeting because the licensee became bankrupt. A new tenant had now been put in in the person of a man named *Rowley*, who had a good character and had held licenses in

other towns. He therefore withdrew his objection.
The license was renewed to the new tenant.”

1911 Census

39, Goodall Street

- [1] *William Rowley* (37), publican, born Tipton;
- [2] Charlotte Rowley (34), wife, married 14 years, born Tipton;
- [3] Cora Irena Rowley (13), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [4] Evelyn Maude Rowley (8), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [5] Olive Gwendoline Rowley (5), daughter, born Tipton:

William Rowley, beer retailer, 39, Goodall Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 13/6/1914

“George Bagnall, Stow Heath Lane, Bilston, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, the STORES, Goodall Street, on the 26th, ult.

Chief Inspector Ballance stated that at 9.15pm his attention was attracted to the defendant, who was talking loudly to a woman. He was drunk, and subsequently staggered across the road into the STORES. Witness went into the place by side door and warned the landlord against serving him. He then sent a constable to fetch the man out.

Police-constable Marston and Police-constable Bell gave corroborating evidence, the latter stating that as he was coming off duty he saw the man, who was drunk creating a disturbance in Goodall Street. Another man advised him to go away, and they went down the market.

The defendant denied that he was drunk, and called several witnesses in support of his assertion.

Charles Bagnall said the defendant only had two drinks between 7 and 9 o'clock, and Charlotte Hardel said he was 'exactly sober.'

William Hardel also stated defendant was not drunk.

A fine of 5s and costs was imposed, with an alternative of seven days.”

Walsall Observer 14/11/1914

“Joseph Winstone, of 16, Lower Rushall Street, was charged with being drunk on licensed premises, the STORES, Goodall Street, on November 4. Police-constable Fisher said he saw the defendant, who was drunk and staggering over the footpath, go into the STORES. Defendant was put on his good behaviour for six months.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

The STORES, Goodall Street. £2 7s 7½d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst, the justices referred the following houses for compensation.....
STORES, Goodall Street.”

It closed on 31st October 1925 after compensation was paid (on 24th October 1925).

It actually stopped selling on 1st October 1925.

STORES DINING ROOM [1930]

STORES

24, (25), (24+25), High Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Aaron Frankham

Thomas Sneyd, chemist, High Street, Walsall

Messrs. Flowers and Sons, brewers, Stratford on Avon

Holloway Brothers, High Street, Walsall [1906]

George Thompson, 32, Larches Street, Sparkbrook (leased)

LICENSEES

Aaron Frankham [1866] – [1872]

Joseph Jenkins [];
William Homer [] – 1888);
James Osbourne (1888 – 1889);
Albert Aldridge (1889);
Alfred Jones (1889 – 1890);
George Cope (1890 – 1891);
John Henry Tully (1891 – 1896);
Hugh Charles Gooby (1896 – 1899);
John James Lawrence (1899 – 1906);

NOTES

25, High Street [1866]
24, High Street [1871], [1891], [1892], [1901]
24+25, High Street [1872]

It was originally an unnamed beerhouse.

Walsall Free Press 13/1/1866 - Advert

“Notice.

Wholesale And Retail Burton Stores, 25, High Street, Walsall.

A. Frankham Begs to inform the public that he has upwards of 2000 Gallons of the celebrated Burton Ale, which he is Selling at 4d per Quart.

100 Doz. Bottles wanted.”

1871 Census

24, High Street

[1] Aaron Frankham (39), refreshment house keeper and general dealer, born Walsall;

[2] Anne Frankham (35), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Eleanor Frankham (9), daughter, scholar, born Jamaica;

[4] Harry Frankham (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Clara Frankham (2), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Sarah Ann Perks (21), barmaid, born Shareshill, Staffordshire;

[7] Eliza Pritchard (22), general servant, born Dudley:

Aaron Frankham, beer retailer and general dealer, 24+25, High Street. [1872]

Alfred Jones – see also NEW INNS.

John Henry Tully = Henry John Tully

1891 Census

24, High Street – The STORES

[1] Henry John Tully (25), beerhouse keeper, deaf, born Walsall;

[2] Mary E. Tully (26), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Maria M. Tully (5), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] Ada J. Tully (2), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] (Not Known) Tully (under 1 month), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Maria Tully (65), mother, widow, living on her own means, born Tardebigg, Worcestershire:

John Henry Tully, beer retailer, 24, High Street. [1892]

Walsall Advertiser 9/9/1893

“Alfred Jones, beerhouse keeper, NEW INN, Blue Lane West, formerly a well-known football player, appeared for his public examination, and was represented by Mr. H. H. Jackson, solicitor. His statement showed liabilities £311 10s 2d and assets £50 10s 3d. The following were the Official Receiver’s observations: prior to 1887 he took the ALMA INN, Paddock Lane, Walsall. He had no capital, but borrowed £14 from a friend. In April, 1889, he removed to the STORES INN, High Street, Walsall, and in 1890, to the NEW INN, Blue Lane West, Walsall. He agreed to pay £250 for goodwill, fixtures, brewing plant and unexpired portion of the lease, and to take stock at a valuation which amounted to £22. He borrowed £300 from a friend to pay these sums. He gave no security for the £300, and still owes £165 of that sum. The lease expired on the 25th March last. The bankrupt remained in possession and carried on business up to the time he filed the petition. He states the cause of his insolvency to be ‘paying an excessive amount upon taking to the NEW INN, loses upon brewing, supplying beer on credit, and illness of my child.’ He kept no books of account. He accounts for his deficiency as follows: Excess of liabilities over assets 12 months ago, £120 19s 11d;

bad debts (for beer drunk upon the premises), £19; household expenses for the past 12 months, £75; loss upon forced realisation of effects, which he has estimated at a breaking up price, £50; doctor's bills and illness, £5; total £260 19s 11d. The examination was adjourned to the 27th inst. for closing."

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1894

"At the Guildhall, on Monday, James Dyer, keeper of the STORES INN, High Street, applied for the transfer of the license of that house to himself from *John Henry Tully*, who supported the application. The case was before the court on the previous Friday, the special transfer day, when *Tully* failed to appear. The Chief Constable (Mr. Taylor) now intimated that he had given notice of objection.

Dyer was sworn and admitted that his wife kept a coffee house and lodging-house in Peal Street, but said he left the PEAL AND NELSON INN because of this, as the Chief Constable told him if he got any other house than this he would have no opposition. Mr. Taylor: I told him I would not agree to his keeping a license if he had a common lodging house a few yards away.

The applicant denied it was a common lodging house, but the Chief Constable explained it was formerly the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, and although not a registered lodging-house was frequented by people on the road who were not of a particularly good character. Proceeding Mr. Taylor said his present objection was that he was not satisfied as to the applicant's present character. Since Dyer had left the PEAL AND NELSON there had been continual uproar in that part of town between his wife and people of the name of Fahy, and something would have to be done about it.

The applicant said he was afraid there was something under the surface as regards this opposition besides what had come out. It was not much good his doing anything against what the Chief Constable was able to do.

Mr. Loxton said there was no ground for such a statement as this. The magistrates would give him every consideration.

Mr. Brewer asked what he meant by something under the surface? – Dyer: Well, I will tell you; as it may well come out. In Mr. Holden's last election the Chief Constable sent Police-constable Bentley to my house, and he brought me up to his office. He said I hear you are taking an active part in this election, and if such is the case I shall have to oppose your license.

Mr. Moseley: On whose behalf was it? – Dyer: On behalf of Mr. Holden.

Mr. Brewer: Do you want to insinuate that because you were working for Mr. Holden the Chief Constable turned against you and warned you? – Dyer: I give you this statement, and you can take it for what it is worth.

Mr. Taylor asked to be allowed to meet this charge. It was perfectly true that he sent for this man and another man as well. It was at the last election, and he heard Dyer was getting a party of roughs together on behalf of Sir Arthur Holden, and that a man named Hunter, who was well known to the magistrates, was alleged to be getting another party of roughs together for Mr. Ritchie. He sent for both and warned each separately that if they had anything to do with any such thing he should have them bound over to keep the peace. This he did in the interests of the peace of the town.

Mr. Loxton: Certainly, that is obvious.

The applicant here said it was in Mr. Holden's not Sir Arthur Hayter's election.

Mr. Loxton said it was obvious that the Chief Constable acted in the interest of preserving peace.

The Chief Constable added that to show the absence of any personal feeling when the license of the PEAL AND NELSON was opposed he gave Dyer the character of having done his best whilst in charge there.

The Magistrates adjourned the application for a week for evidence in support of the opposition."

1901 Census

24, High Street

[1] *John J. Lawrence* (42), beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;

[2] *Eliza J. Lawrence* (34), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Eliza A. Brookes* (15), general servant, born Shelfield:

John James Lawrence, beer retailer, 24, High Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1904

"The adjourned annual brewster session were held on Tuesday.....

Mr. S. Grundy-Newman and Mrs. F. Bill appeared in the case of the STORES INN, and Holden [see CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL] was called to prove that this also was an ante-'69 license. He said he used to live in Peal Street, and the STORES was the same then as now. A man named *Frankham* kept it, and he (witness) had often had a drink there.

Mr. Armstrong (solicitor) thought that Holden might also be asked if he remembered the OLD OAK in Blue Lane – whether that was not an ante-'69 license?

Mr. Loxton: George, do you remember the OLD OAK? – Witness: Why, my uncle kept that over fifty years ago (laughter).

Mr. Loxton: I should think Mr. Loxton will give you a fee (laughter)."

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 1st February 1906.

The license was extinguished.

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

"There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to

attend.....

The Chief Constable had given notice of objection to the renewal of the following seven licenses; William Henry Lowe, ACORN, alehouse, Lower Rushall Street; James Scott, JOLLY BACCHUS, alehouse, New Street; George James Sambrook, KING WILLIAM, alehouse, Little Bloxwich; William Wright, OLD OAK, beerhouse, Upper Hall Lane; William Alfred Burton, STORES, beerhouse, Ablewell Street; George Carrington, STORES, beerhouse, Upper Rushall Street; *John James Lawrence*, STORES, beerhouse, High Street.

Mr. Loxton said these objections were by direction of the Bench, and he had also served notices on behalf of the magistrates, simply to comply with the section of the Act of Parliament, and without forming any opinion or prejudging cases. The justices directed him to state for the convenience of the advocates that the objections were mainly on the grounds of not required which would necessitate their being referred to the Compensatory Authority. But if during the hearing of the cases the grounds should be such as to justify the refusal of renewal on grounds without compensation, the advocate would be required to direct his attention to such grounds.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said he came there on the understanding that it was the intention to refer those licenses to the Compensatory Authority to report on.

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had inspected a number of houses with a view to whether they should report to the Compensatory Authority. It might be that some houses were structurally unfit, and in such case they would refuse the license, and they would have to go the quarter sessions.....

In the case of the STORES, High Street, Mr. Grundy-Newman appeared for the freeholders; Mr. George Thomson, the lessees, and the tenant (Mr. *John James Lawrence*). Chief-Inspector Ballance gave evidence, and said that the house was structurally bad; the property was old and in parts dilapidated, and opened into a common yard. It was a very good house and well managed. In cross-examination, he admitted that the licensed houses in the neighbourhood had decreased of late by about 14 houses, whilst the population had only slightly decreased. Most of the trade was done on market night, and therefore it was a convenience used by market people.

Mr. Grundy-Newman pointed out that it was outside the congested area. They had heard it was a very useful house to market people, and they were increasing very much of late. The house catered for a class of trade which others did not; a wagoner would not go into the DRAGON HOTEL as he would into the STORES. The rent of the house was £24 per annum; a good trade had always been done, and the licensee had held licenses for 20 or 30 years. If they referred the house to compensation, it would be punishment for no offence whatever.

The tenant was called and stated he paid £22 6s per year, which included rent, license, and rates and witness had the profits.

Mr. Thomson, the lessee was called, and he stated that the tenant was supplied through him from Cheshire's Brewery. He had no interest in the sales except that he supplied him with the beer wholesale. He had nothing to do with the retail. The compensation was paid by the freeholders, and he (witness) paid his portion.....

JOLLY BACCHUS, KING WILLIAM; STORES, Upper Rushall Street; STORES, High Street, were referred to the compensation authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/5/1906

“On Tuesday before a full Bench, comprised of Messrs. W. H. Brooks (presiding), G. Gull, J. Moseley, A. D. Cozens, R. Thomas, S. B. Wheway, H. D. Clark, P. Bull, J. Clare, and (Dr.) J. Lynch, Mr. F. Bill (solicitor) appeared in support of the report made by the Licensing Committee in respect of the four following houses: KING WILLIAM, Little Bloxwich; OLD OAK, Hall Lane; STORES, Ablewell Street; and STORES, High Street.

Mr. Bill in explaining the mode of procedure, said that if the Licensing Committee thought a license should be dealt with on certain grounds they could deal with it, and could refuse the license, but if they considered that it should be dealt with in respect of grounds other than those particular grounds, the matter must be brought before a full bench of Magistrates to deal with. The grounds of the report in these cases were that the licenses were not required by the needs of the district. This was one of the grounds the Licensing Committee could not deal with, and they must send the licenses so reported to a full bench of magistrates, who could renew or refuse the license. In case the latter course was taken then the question of compensation arose. He was instructed that these four houses had been inspected by the magistrates, so that their condition and the neighbourhood must be within their own knowledge. Mr. Bill then proceeded to call evidence.....

STORES, High Street. Chief-inspector Ballance said that a 250 yard radius of the house contained 25 alehouses, 5 beer on licenses, and four of the houses were very close to. It was difficult of supervision, structurally bad, and in parts dilapidated. The population in the district had decreased very much in the last 15 years. The house did a mixed but not very good trade, most of which was done on market nights.

Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman (who appeared for the owners, Holloway Brothers, the lessee, George Thompson, and the licensee *J. J. Lawrence*), said he thought they had given the house an excellent testimonial. There had never been any complaint or a conviction against the house, it did a good class of trade, useful on market nights, and therefore useful to the public generally. The house was an ante-'69 beerhouse. The licensee had held licenses for between twenty and thirty years and never had a conviction against him. The house was entirely outside the congested area of the church.

After a private deliberation, the chairman (Mr. W. H. Brooks) said the Bench had unanimously confirmed the resolution of the Licensing Committee that the four houses were unnecessary, and the licenses would be refused.”

STORES

47, (48), Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

G. and W. Butler, harness makers, Stafford Street, Walsall

LICENSEES

John Holmes [1868] – [1873]

NOTES

48, Stafford Street

47, Stafford Street [1871]

It had a beerhouse license.

John Holmes, beer retailer, 48, Stafford Street. [1868], [1872]

1871 Census

47, Stafford Street

[1] *John Holmes* (34), beerhouse keeper, born Derby;

[2] Elizabeth Holmes (32), wife, born Barnsley, Yorkshire;

[3] Annie Jessop (12), daughter, scholar, born Barnsley, Yorkshire;

[4] Emily Holmes (3), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Mary Ann Colly (13), general servant, born Newdale, Shropshire:

The license was not taken out in 1874.

STORES

26, Upper Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Samuel Drew, Park Street, Walsall

Mrs. Drew, Park Street, Walsall

G. & C. Whitehouse

Robinson Brewery Co.

LICENSEES

William Kendall [1864] – [1871]

David Kendall [1872];

William Kendall [1881];

Frank Blakemore []

George Ball [];

John Brown Walker [];

Harry Nicholls [1888];

George Reay [1890] – [1897];

George G Morris (**1896**) ?

Ephraim Poultney [] – **1898**;

George Carrington (**1898 – 1906**);

F Bullock [1904]

NOTES

ALE STORES [1891]

It had a beerhouse license.

William Kendall, beer retailer and newsagent, Upper Rushall Street. [1864], [1865]

1871 Census

26, Upper Rushall Street

- [1] *William Kendall* (36), tobacconist and beer retailer, born Wednesbury;
- [2] Elizabeth Kendall (34), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Kendall (15), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Elizabeth Kendall (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Thomas Kendall (9), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Albert Kendall (7), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Charles Kendall (6), son, born Walsall;
- [8] Sarah Kendall (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] Clara Kendall (5 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [10] John Livesey (66), messenger, bankruptcy court, born Walsall:

London Gazette 4/3/1881

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *William Kendall*, of No.26, Upper Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Ale and Porter Dealer and Tobacconist.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the office of Mr. Alfred Baldwin East, Solicitor, 43, Temple-street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 17th day of March, 1881, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 2nd day of March, 1881.

Alfred B. East, 43, Temple-street, Birmingham, Solicitor for the Debtor.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1888

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Harry Nicholls*, the STORES, Upper Rushall Street, against whom there were previous convictions, was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness in his house, on the 27th November. It seemed that on the day named a man named James Dobson went to the house early in the morning, being then the worse for liquor, and remained there drinking all day, his boots being taken off and sent to the pawnshop in the afternoon to provide him with money. Mr. Smith appeared for the defence.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Cotterell applied on behalf of *George Reay*, The STORES, 26, Upper Rushall Street. Refused.”

1891 Census

26, Upper Rushall Street – The ALE STORES

- [1] *George Reay* (38), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Ann Reay (41), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Ellen E. Reay (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] John Reay (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Frank Reay (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] William Reay (3), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Amelia Reay (14), general servant, born Walsall:

George Reay, beer retailer, 26, Upper Rushall Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 27/6/1896 - Deaths

“On the 21st inst, *George G. Morris*, the STORES, Rushall Street, aged 33 years.”

AND

“In our obituary column appears a notice of the death of *George Morris*, the once popular half-back and captain of the old Walsall Swifts football team. After playing sterling football for a number of years, he retired on his club amalgamating with the old Town club. He entered the STORES, Rushall Street, only a few months ago, and his death at the early age of 33 will be regretted by a large circle of athletic acquaintances. His remains were interred on Wednesday at Ryecroft cemetery.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/6/1897

“*George Reay*, beer retailer, of the STORES, Upper Rushall Street, was summoned for keeping open for the sale of intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours on Sunday, 16th May.

The Chief Constable said that last week a case was dismissed against the defendant. Since then he had had an opportunity of inquiring into the defence which would be set up in the present case. It was certainly satisfactory to himself, and he asked the permission of the Bench, to withdraw from the case. The defendant said he would pay costs.

Mr. J. Armstrong, who appeared for the defendant, said he was willing for that course to be adopted.

Case withdrawn.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable opposed the renewal of the license of the STORES, 26, Upper Rushall Street, on the ground that the premises were not structurally suitable. Mr. Bill appeared on behalf of the licensee, and Mr. Carl Duignan represented the owners, Messrs. Drew.

Mr. Bill said he was instructed that the premises was licensed previous to 1869, and consequently the objection of the police could not be taken into consideration.

The Chief Constable: Where is your proof? – Mr. Bill: I don’t think you could prove that it was not, or I that it was.

Mr. Loxton: The onus of proof lies upon you Mr. Bill.

Mr. Bill said he should then have to ask for an adjournment.

The Chief Constable had no objection to this course, and the matter was adjourned till the adjourned day.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/10/1901

“David Burrows (65), of no fixed abode, was charged with wilfully breaking a plate glass window at the STORES, Upper Rushall Street, doing damage to the extent of £3, on October 20th.

George Carrington, the landlord of the STORES INN, said that the prisoner came to his house the previous night begging. Witness asked him to leave but prisoner would not go, and had to be ejected. Immediately afterwards prisoner smashed a window.

Charles Josebery, caster, of Upper Rushall Street, gave corroborative evidence.

Police-constable Craig arrested prisoner, who made no reply when charged with breaking the window.

Prisoner said that when he was ejected from the house his shoulder was pushed through the window.

Ordered to pay the damage £3, or go to prison for 21 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. Edwin James, the RED LION INN, Navigation Street, and there was a good attendance..... New Members..... *F. Bullock*, The STORES, Upper Rushall Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale of Brewing Plants and Public-House Fixtures & Fittings removed from the NAGS HEAD, Ablewell Street, and the STORES, Rushall Street.

Messrs. Watkins, Powell, & Wood, will Sell by Auction, on Thursday Next, August 24th, 1905, in the Yard at the rear of the MAN-DAMUS INN, Stafford Street, Walsall, the Public-House Fixtures & Brewing Plant, comprising Mahogany Frame Upholstered Seating, Mahogany-case Beer Machine and Piping, Cross Leg, Deal and Mahogany-top Tables, Table Tops and Trestles, Benches, Counters, Mirrors, Bar Fittings, Match Boarding, Spirit Jars and Measures, Refrigerators, Coolers, Copper Boilers, Barrel Thralls, Gas Fittings, &c, &c, also a quantity of Household Furniture.

Sale to commence at 11 o’clock (entrance Short Acre Street).

Auctioneers’ Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Chief Constable had given notice of objection to the renewal of the following seven licenses; William Henry Lowe, ACORN, alehouse, Lower Rushall Street; James Scott, JOLLY BACCCHUS, alehouse, New Street; George James Sambrook, KING WILLIAM, alehouse, Little Bloxwich; William Wright, OLD OAK, beerhouse, Upper Hall Lane; William Alfred Burton, STORES, beerhouse, Ablewell Street; *George Carrington*, STORES, beerhouse, Upper Rushall Street; John James Lawrence, STORES, beerhouse, High Street.

Mr. Loxton said these objections were by direction of the Bench, and he had also served notices on behalf of the magistrates, simply to comply with the section of the Act of Parliament, and without forming any opinion or prejudging cases. The justices directed him to state for the convenience of the advocates that the objections were mainly on the grounds of not required which would necessitate their being referred to the Compensatory Authority. But if during the hearing of the cases the grounds should be such as to justify the refusal of renewal on grounds without compensation, the advocate would be required to direct his attention to such grounds.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said he came there on the understanding that it was the intention to refer those licenses to the Compensatory

Authority to report on.

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had inspected a number of houses with a view to whether they should report to the Compensatory Authority. It might be that some houses were structurally unfit, and in such case they would refuse the license, and they would have to go the quarter sessions.....

Mr. Pearman-Smith appeared of the lessees (Messrs. Robinson's Brewery Company) and also for the tenant, and Mr. W. C. Checkley for the Staffordshire Financial Company (the freeholders), in the case of the STORES, Upper Rushall Street. The tenant (*George Carrington*) stated that his takings amounted to between £9 and £10 per week, and he paid £53 4s valuation when he went in. Mr. Pearman-Smith said that other houses might have been chosen that were not so good as that one (Mr. Loxton: Have patience, Mr. Smith, other houses will be chosen). It was situated near the main road, and it was in a very respectable condition, and the neighbourhood was improving. There seemed to be some fatality about the STORES, and the present sessions he thought might have been called 'the STORES sessions' (laughter). Mr. Checkley said he could quite understand his friend's modesty in not alluding to the fact that quite recently their worships had approved of the re-building of a house some 40 or 80 yards away, and its erection was perhaps the most palatial building connected with the licensing trade in Walsall. It seemed strange to him that if their worships considered that the needs of the neighbourhood were already supplied, that such a house as the one he had referred to should have been built.....

The JOLLY BACCHUS, KING WILLIAM; STORES, Upper Rushall Street; STORES, High Street, were referred to the compensation authority."

The license was surrendered on 23rd February 1906 for an off license in West Bromwich Road.

STORES

79, (79b), Wolverhampton Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Thorpe, 26, Bradford Street, Walsall
William Greenway
C. H. Chater and Co. Ltd.
Mr. Thorpe
J. and J. Yardley and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Henry Lynex [1872];
Joseph Middleton [];
Hannah Commander [];
William Horton [];
Joseph Price [];
Samuel Pountney [];
Sarah Millward [];
William Stride []
William Greenway [1882];
William Parkes [] – **1886**);
Jabez Hughes (**1886 – 1894**);
Job Daniel (**1894 – 1898**);
Robert Woolley (**1898 – 1904**);

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

William Greenway = William Greenaway

Birmingham Daily Post 17/4/1882

"Yesterday at the Guildhall, *Wm. Greenaway* of the STORES, Wolverhampton Street, was fined 20s and costs for having his house open after eleven o'clock on Saturday night."

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1890

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Jabez Hughes*, the STORES, Wolverhampton Street, was summoned for keeping his house open during prohibited hours, on the 28th inst. Mr Wilcock (Wolverhampton) defended. Police-constables Lycett and Williams deposed to having seen a woman named Challinor go to defendant’s house at twenty minutes to twelve o’clock, and leave a few minutes later with a jar containing half a gallon of ale, which she was carrying under her dress. The defence was that the ale had been paid for at ten o’clock, but had been left there as Mr. and Mrs. Challinor were going to market. On the return of the couple Mrs. Challinor called at the house for the ale and to leave a couple of lemons for a sick child. After the Magistrates had deliberated in private, the Mayor said they thought it a very proper case to bring into court, but the magistrates thought there was not sufficient evidence to warrant a conviction. The case would therefore be dismissed.”

1901 Census

79b, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Robert Woolley* (42), beer retailer, born Armitage, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Emily Woolley* (39), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Robert Woolley* (18), son, tailor, born Walsall;
- [4] *Fanny M. Woolley* (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Doris Woolley* (16?), daughter, born Walsall:

R. Woolley was a committee member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Robert Wooley, STORES.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting was continued on Thursday for the sixth day.....

In the matter of the STORES INN, Wolverhampton Street, Mr. Jackson appeared for the owner and licensee. Mr. Farmer presented an independent valuation, and reported that this property was also dilapidated. It was promised in this case that the place should be put in repair. License refused.”

The license renewal was refused at the Brewster Sessions 1904.

Walsall Advertiser 9/4/1904

“In connection with the recent Walsall Brewster Sessions, there were this week six appeals at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions against the decisions of the borough magistrates in refusing the renewal of licenses.....

Robert Woolley, landlord of the STORES, Walsall, appealed against the decision of the justices not to renew the license of the house, which is situated in Wolverhampton Street. Mr. Plumtre and Mr. G. C. Lewis appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Disturnal was for the respondents.

Mr. Disturnal said the chief question for the Bench was that of the value of the house. If the house was licensed before 1869 the license could only be refused on one of four grounds, one of which was that the house was not duly qualified by law. He did not admit that it was an ante-1869 beerhouse, but Mr. Plumtre had informed him that he was in a position to prove that it was. Under the Beerhouse Act of 1840, the value must, in a town like Walsall, be £15 a year, and by the Licensing Act of 1872 the annual value was defined to be the rent which a tenant might reasonably be expected to pay, deducting the rates and taxes and the landlord’s repairs, the house being treated as if no license was attached to it.

Mr. Farmer, architect, Walsall, assessed the value of the house at £15 12s, and, deducting 5 per cent, he put the statutory annual value of the house without the license at £13 17s 6d.

For the appellant Mr. H. C. Powell, auctioneer and valuer, Walsall, said he knew that a man named John Chapman held a license in Wolverhampton Street many years ago, and in the list of licenses for the year 1869 there was the name of a man named John Chapman, who held a license in Wolverhampton Street. He put the statutory annual value of the STORES at £20 a year.

In cross-examination, witness said he did not know whether Chapman carried on business in another part of Wolverhampton Street previously to going to the house in question.

Other witnesses were called to show that the house was in existence prior to 1869.

The Court decided that the house was in existence previous to 1869.

Evidence was then given as to the value of the house on behalf of the appellant.

Mr. H. Bewlay, valuer, Birmingham, placed the value of the house at £18, the tenant paying all the rates, and Mr. Hughes, valuer, Walsall, also gave evidence that the house would let at £18 a year.

The appellant deposed that, when he went into the house six years ago, he paid £140 for goodwill and stock. He paid £18 a year with all rates.

The appeal was dismissed.”

STORES

Heath End, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Starkey [] – **1897**);
Harmer Taylor (**1897** – []

NOTES

Check Bloxwich

SWAN

85, (83+85), High Street, (10, Walsall Road), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

William Starkey
Manchester Brewery Co. [1902]
Bloxwich Brewery [1911]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Charles James Dace [1800] – **1841**) for 62 years
Robert Heap [1841] – [1848]
David Walker [1849] – [1870]
William Starkey [1871] – [1881];
Thomas Lester [] – **1889**);
William Burt Blainey (**1889** – **1891**);
George Barson (**1891** – **1894**);
Herbert Tuckley (**1894** – **1895**);
Ernest Horner Neath (**1895** – **1897**);
Frank Paviter (**1897** – **1900**);
Bernard Hughes (**1900** – **1902**);
William Henry James (**1902** – **1903**);
Albert Edward 'Bert' Wood (**1903** – **1911**);
Thomas William Mellor (**1911** – **1915**);
Selina Mellor (**1915** – **1928**);
Thomas Fern (**1928** – **1933**);
Thomas Beecham Broome (**1933** – **1935**):

NOTES

Walsall Road [1865]
10, Walsall Road [1871]
83+85, High Street [1891], [1901]
85, High Street [1908], [1932]

WHITE SWAN [1850]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/9/1831 - Advert

“Free Hold Premises. To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Farrington, at the WHITE SWAN, at Bloxwich, in the parish of Walsall, on Friday next, September 23, at four o’clock in the afternoon.....”

Staffordshire Gazette 28/1/1841

“Walsall Elections.....”

On Thursday evening last, a numerous and highly respectable company of electors resident in Bloxwich met at the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, on which occasion they were met by J. N. Gladstone, Esq, accompanied by W. E. Gladstone, Esq, MP, H. C. Windle, Esq, C. N. Brooks, Esq, and other gentlemen.....”

Staffordshire Gazette 13/5/1841 - Died

“May 11, at the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, Mr. *Charles James Dace*, aged 86. He had kept the above inn upwards of 62 years; his death will be deeply lamented by a large circle of friends.”

Birmingham Journal 26/8/1848 - Died

“On Wednesday, deeply regretted by a numerous circle of relatives and friends, Mary, beloved wife of Mr. *Robert Heap*, of the SWAN INN, Bloxwich.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/11/1848

“An inquest was held on Wednesday evening at the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, on the body of Ann Bird, aged sixteen, daughter of Mr. James Bird, plater. It appeared from the evidence adduced that the deceased had been for more than a year in a helpless state, having to be carried up and down stairs. She occasionally assisted her mother in the management of a day school. On Tuesday night, about nine o’clock her uncle, John Bird, was in the act of carrying her up stairs, when unfortunately at the top of the staircase he became unbalanced and fell backwards, severely injuring himself, and causing the instant death of the unfortunate young female, who pitched on her head. Medical aid was sent for, but, alas, the vital spark was extinct before the arrival of Mr. Somerville, surgeon, who hastened to the spot. The jury returned a verdict of Accident Death, and immediately commenced a small subscription for the benefit of the mother of the deceased, who is in very poor circumstances.”

David Walker was also a butcher. [1849], [1850]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/10/1849 - Died

“October 8, at Essington, Mr. *Robert Heap*, late of the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, in the 50th year of his age.”

Birmingham Journal 23/11/1850 - Advert

“One Pound Reward.

Lost, on Tuesday evening last, from the Stabling of the THREE CUPS, Park Street, a Brown Bitch Greyhound; black nose, scar on loin and hind-leg, and answers to the name of ‘Gip.’

Any person restoring the same to the owner, Mr. *David Walker*, SWAN INN, Bloxwich, shall receive the above Reward.”

1851 Census

Bloxwich

- [1] *David Walker* (29), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary Walker* (32), wife, domestic duties, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Caroline Walker* (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *John Craddock* (40), general servant, born Hednesford;
- [5] *Mary Bradbury* (21), general servant, born Wheaton Aston, Staffordshire;
- [6] *Mariah Taylor* (14), general servant, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *John Landers* (70), lodger, proprietor of houses, born Birmingham:

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/5/1851 - Deaths

“On Saturday, the 17th instant, after a long and painful illness, borne with patient resignation, Mary, wife of Mr. *David Walker*, of the SWAN INN, Bloxwich.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/2/1854 - Marriages

“At Great Barr, on Thursday, the 9th instant, by the Rev. Mr. Bagnall, Mr. *David Walker*, of the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, to Harriet, eldest daughter of Mr. Joseph Moore, farmer and cattle dealer of Great Barr.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/3/1858 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Public Houses, Messuages, Hereditaments, and Premises, situate at Palfrey Green, Walsall, and Bloxwich, in the County of Stafford.

H. Farmington will Sell by Auction, at the NEW INN, Park Street, Walsall, on Tuesday next, the 30th day of March, 1858, at seven o’clock in the evening, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions as will be then and there produced.....

Lot 8. All those Three recently-erected and substantially built Messuages, Tenements, or Dwelling Houses, situate fronting the SWAN INN, Bloxwich aforesaid (one of which is used as a Public House), with Brewhouse, Yard, Out-offices, an Appurtenances

thereunto adjoining and belonging, now in the several occupations of Taylor, Dolman, and Gregory. And also, all those Four other Messuages, tenements, or Dwelling Houses adjoining, with the Butcher's Shop, Slaughter House, Stable, Yard, Piggery, Pump of Water, and Premises, now in the respective occupations of Messrs. Goodwin and others. This lot is well situated for business, let to respectable tenants, and produces the low rental of £62 6s 4d per annum."

Walsall Free Press 1/10/1859

"Edward Sergeant and Herbert Sergeant, who had been brought into the station during the sitting of the court, were placed at the bar, charged with having last night broken into the premises of Mr. *Walker*, WHITE SWAN, Bloxwich, and stolen therefrom a quantity of liquors. Prosecutor said this morning he found that his cellar had been broken into, and a number of bottles that had been filled with peppermint and cordials, had been taken – the contents having been emptied into a churn, and the bottles re-filled with gin and rum. On making the discovery he gave information to Mr. Sergeant Simpson, who on being examined said from certain information received he went, this morning to complainant's house, and thence traced footprints of two persons – one of whom had had clogs, and the other boots on with no nails in, in the direction of the prisoner's house. On reaching the house he found the prisoners in bed, but he found none of the missing spirits on the premises. He asked the prisoners if he might take the boots and clogs, the prisoners said he might. He then took the boots and clogs, and found them to correspond with the prints in the garden. This being the only evidence against the prisoners they were discharged. In this case Mr. Wilkinson appeared for the defence."

1861 Census

Bloxwich – SWAN INN

- [1] *David Walker* (39), victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Harriet Walker (29), wife, born Great Barr;
- [3] Ann Walker (13), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Sarah Moore (24), visitor, born Great Barr;
- [5] Thomas Rock (25), domestic servant, born Brewwood, Staffordshire;
- [6] Eliza Hayward (14), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 10/2/1866 - Notice

"Borough Of Walsall. Cattle Plague.....

Mr. Henry Joseph Cartwright, Veterinary Surgeon, Wolverhampton; Mr. John Wyatt Cater, Chief of Police, Walsall; Mr. James Lynex, 51, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall; Mr. John Griffiths, Farm Bailiff, Bescot Farm; and Mr. *David Walker*, innkeeper, Bloxwich, have been appointed Cattle Inspectors for the Borough; and from them Forms of Certification can be obtained."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/3/1867

"County Court. *Walker v. The London and North-Western Railway*. This was an action by the plaintiff, *David Walker*, licensed victualler, Bloxwich, who was represented by Mr. Stanley, to recover the sum of £3 3s damages for detention. The facts of the case were simply these. On the 27th November last the plaintiff went to Bloxwich Railway Station to go by the 7.59 train to Colwich, but found the station-doors locked, and the station-master did not arrive till the train was leaving the platform, and in consequence the plaintiff was prevented attending a coursing meeting for which his dog had been entered, and the present action was to recover £3 paid as entrance-fee for the dog on the day previous, and 3s paid for a dinner ticket. The plaintiff applied, by letter, to Mr. Cawkwell, the general manager, who, referred the case to Mr. Roberts, the district manager, who after investigating the case, stated that the company were willing to pay reasonable expenses, but declining to give him the £5 claimed by the plaintiff; and who shortly after the receipt of Mr. Robert's letter, put the matter into the hand of Mr. Stanley, who wrote to Mr. Roberts offering to accept £5 in settlement of the claim, but stating that the offer was without prejudice. Mr. Roberts in his reply stated the company not having entered into any contract with the plaintiff they were not liable.

Mr. Motteram (instructed by Mr. Soars, of Birmingham), appeared for the company, and admitted the facts, and stated that the office at Bloxwich was closed at the time in question in consequence of the person who should have opened it having sprained his ankle and having to come to the station by the train the plaintiff wished to go by. He, however, contended that the company was not liable for anything more than reasonable damages and certainly not for the entrance fee paid by the plaintiff for his dog. The Judge after hearing the case gave judgement for the plaintiff for 10s, with leave to move the amount of damages be increased."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/2/1868

"On Monday last, *David Walker*, beerhouse keeper, Bloxwich, appeared at the Police Court, on a summons charging him with keeping open his house for sale during prohibited hours. It appeared from the evidence that a police officer visited the defendant's house at about a quarter to two o'clock on Friday morning and found persons there drinking; but as no previous conviction was recorded, the Magistrates imposed the mitigated penalty of 2s 6d and costs."

William Starkey was also a baker. [1871]

1871 Census

10, Walsall Road – SWAN INN

- [1] *William Starkey* (50), licensed victualler and baker, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Maria Starkey (52), wife, born Bloxwich;

- [3] Sarah A. Starkey (21), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[4] Susannah Lees (15), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session. . . . The licenses of the undermentioned were renewed with cautions, viz:
Philip [?] *Starkey*, the SWAN INN, Bloxwich In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Rye-croft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/9/1877

“On Monday Mr. Fletcher, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the SWAN INN, High Street, Bloxwich, on the body of John Allchurch, 40, Reeves Street, who, while at work at the Pelsall Coal and Iron Company’s Short Heath Colliery on the previous Thursday, received spinal and other injuries owing to a fall of coal, and died on the 7th inst. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1879 - Register of Sales

“Monday, Sep. 8th – Sale of valuable Freehold Houses at the SWAN INN, High Street, Bloxwich, at 6pm.”

1881 Census

85, High Street

- [1] *William Starkey* (60), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
[2] *Mary Starkey* (55), wife, born Sedgley;
[3] *Eliza Washbrook* (22), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;
[4] *Jonathan Stevens* (33), brewer, born Oxfordshire:

William Starkey – see also PRINCE OF WALES.

Lichfield Mercury 5/1/1883

“On Tuesday, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, the Borough Coroner, held an inquest at the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, on the body of Eleanor Caroline Foster, aged 32, wife of John Foster, of High Street, Bloxwich, who died on Friday last. The inquiry was held in consequence of rumours which were current in the neighbourhood, but the evidence as to the post-mortem examination by Dr. Wood showed that deceased had Died from Natural Causes.”

1891 Census

85 and 83, High Street – The SWAN INN

- [1] *William Blainey* (31), publican, born Walsall;
[2] *Edgar Blainey* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
[3] *May Blainey* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[4] *Kate Blainey* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] *Clarbble* [*Clarabelle*?] *Blainey* (5), daughter, born Walsall;
[6] *Burt Blainey* (4), son, born Walsall;
[7] *Louiza Blainey* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
[8] *Louiza Blainey* (30), wife, born Walsall;
[9] *Sarah Ann Fisher* (14), general servant, born Walsall:

William Burt Blainey was fined 1s and costs, on 4th May 1891, for supplying a drunken person with intoxicating liquor.

George Barson = *George Pearson*

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1893

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last. . . .

Mr. *George Pearson*, SWAN INN, High Street, Bloxwich was elected a member of the Society.”

Herbert Tuckley – see also COACH AND HORSES.

Walsall Advertiser 2/7/1898

“*George Kellett* (60), groom, of no fixed abode, was charged with damaging a plate glass window at the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, on Monday.

Prisoner was refused drink and became ‘cheeky’, and when advised to leave quietly and taken to the door by Mr. *Paviter*, the landlord, he smashed the window, doing damage amounting to 3s.

Prisoner now said he would have given the landlord something if he could have got him outside.

The Bench sentenced *Kellett* to 14 days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Frank Paviter, SWAN INN, served 13 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1899

“Mr. T. H. Stanley held an inquest on Monday, at the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, respecting the death of Emma Stackhouse (64), late of 87, High Street, Bloxwich, who died on Friday, July 21st.

Barbara Stackhouse, daughter of deceased, said that on June 3rd she and her brother were having supper downstairs at about 11 o'clock, when they heard a noise in the room where deceased was. On proceeding upstairs deceased was lying on the floor. Deceased complained of her side, and witness, with her brother's assistance, put her back into bed. Deceased said she was getting out of bed in the dark, and she fell on the corner of a chair. Deceased had been ill previous to the accident.

Dr. Stone said he had been attending Mrs. Stackhouse for about two years previous to the 3rd of June. She was then suffering from a weak heart and dropsy in the legs. He examined her on the 5th of June, and found she had two ribs broken on the left side. Deceased said to him that she was getting out of bed and fell. He attended deceased up to the time of her death. The cause of death was shock due to injuries. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Bernard Hughes was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

83+85, High Street

[1] *Bernard Hughes* (28), unmarried, public house manager, born Ireland;

[2] Bridget Hughes (25), sister, barmaid, born Ireland;

[3] Alice Durkin (16), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/5/1901

“On Tuesday the Quarter Sessions for the borough were held by Mr. E. A. Owen, the Recorder, who was accompanied by G. Gill, J. F. Crump, and S. Russell, Esqs.

Bernard Hughes, landlord of the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, appealed against a conviction by the magistrates on which he was fined 10s and costs for permitting drunkenness. Mr. Plumtre appeared for him, and Mr. Disturnal appeared to support the conviction. His Honour upheld the decision of the Bench and dismissed the appeal with costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Black List..... Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared on behalf of the owners and licensee of the SWAN INN, which license the Chief Constable opposed on the ground that the licensee (*Bernard Hughes*) was convicted on March 20th this year and fined 10s and costs for permitting drunkenness to take place on his licensed premises; that *Hughes* was not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license; and that the license was not required.

Mr. Jackson said that with regard to the objection that the man was not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license, *Hughes* had been a licensee for two years and there had only been one complaint against him. The conviction registered against him was appealed against, but the appeal was dismissed.

The Chief Constable intimated that he did not fight the case.

In answer to the Mayor, Mr. Jackson said that the Manchester Brewery Company were the owner of the SWAN INN, and *Hughes* had previously kept a house without a complaint being made. Renewed.”

Bernard Hughes was fined 10s and costs, on 20th March 1902, with permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

On behalf of Mr. *Bert Wood*, tenant of the SWAN, High Street, Bloxwich, Mr. Jackson asked for sanction to plans for the re-arrangement of the bottom part of the house and the improvement of the living accommodation. By the alterations the drinking area would be reduced by 381 feet. It was a very old house, and the improvement urgently wanted doing, at present it was inconvenient for carrying on the trade. The estimated cost of the alteration was £575.

Mr. Farmer proved the plans, which were sanctioned.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1911

“The smoking concert which was held at the SWAN INN, High Street, Bloxwich, last week in connection with the SWAN INN Sick and Dividend Society, was most successful. Councillor E. H. Ingram presided over a good attendance, and a musical pro-

gramme of exceptionally good quality was rendered by Councillor E. H. Ingram, Messrs. Job Cooper, S. Cooper, E. Jones (banjo solos), W. Newman (humourist) and W. Bartlett (pianist).”

1911 Census

High Street – The SWAN

- [1] *Albert Edward Wood* (37), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Marion Wood (35), wife, married 11 years, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Alan Denham Wood (6), son, school, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Sheila Marion Wood (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Agnes Brookes (17), domestic servant, born London:

Walsall Advertiser 20/5/1911

“Bowling. The newly-formed Hatherton Bowling Club, whose headquarters are at the SWAN INN, Bloxwich, have not yet commenced operations, but everything is being got in readiness for the opening on June 3rd. The green has been receiving careful attention and with a capable lot of officials everything augers well for a good season.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
SWAN INN, Bloxwich. £0 18s 10½d.”

Thomas Fern – see also WHEATSHEAF.

Thomas Beecham Broome – see also BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF, and SPREAD EAGLE, Bloxwich.

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/6/1934

“During a discussion at Walsall Town Council, on Monday, a number of proposals were agreed whereby the Corporation will pay £2,000 to a Wolverhampton Brewery Company relative to the exchange of a site on the Delves building estate (between Walsall and West Bromwich), for certain property belonging to the company, the exchange being conditional on the license of the SWAN INN at Bloxwich, held by the Company, being moved to the site in question. Alderman J. A. Leckie, MP, said although a great public improvement was involved it was not fair to bargain with a brewery company in a way which might create friction between the Corporation and the justices. The justices should have a free hand in dealing with licenses. Several members also urged that to give £2,000 to the company, which, by having a license removed to a new district, would get a monopoly value, was too much; further that the SWAN INN (in its present position) might in future become redundant. The proposals were carried.”

It closed at 2pm on 7th May 1935.

The license was transferred to the DELVES.

SWAN

77, Wolverhampton Road, Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mr. Wilkes [1892]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Snape [1818]
John Snape [1841] – [1861]
James Snape [1860] ?
Arthur John Snape [1868] – [1871]
John Lester [1881] – [1886]
Henry Mitchell [1887] – [1891]
Samuel Hickman [1895] – **1911**;
George Rogers (**1911** – [1912]
George A Hadley [1924] – [1940]

NOTES

It was reputedly a 16th century pub.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 9/8/1841 - Notice

“The Tithe Commissioners for England and Wales hereby give Notice, that a Copy of the Draft of Apportionment of the Rent Charge agreed to be paid in Lieu of Tithes in the Township of Pelsall, in the parish of Wolverhampton, in the county of Stafford, has been deposited at the house of *John Snape*, the SWAN INN, in the said township, for the inspection of all Persons interested in the Lands or Tithes of the said Township.

And the Commissioners further give Notice, that pursuant to the Act for Commissioners of Tithes, a Meeting will be holden for the purpose of hearing any objections to the intended Apportionment by any Persons interested as aforesaid; and that such Meeting will be held at the house of the said *John Snape*, the SWAN INN, in the said township, on Saturday the 28th day of August, 1841, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

Signed by order of the Board.

J. E. Hovenden, Secretary.

9, Somerset-place, Somerset House, London.

July, 31, 1841.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/7/1844 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property At Shelfield.

To Be Sold By Auction, by T. Franklin, At the house of Mr. *J. Snape*, the SWAN INN, Pelsall, on Tuesday, July the 9th, 1844, at four o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced.

All that valuable Freehold Messuage or Dwelling House, known by the sign of the BLACKSMITHS ARMS, with brewhouse, stabling, and convenient out-offices, now in the occupation of Mr. W. Whitehouse, together with about two acres of excellent Land adjoining thereto, situate in the Foreign of Walsall.

The Tenant will show the premises, and for further particulars apply to Mr. *J. Snape*, Pelsall; or at the offices of the Auctioneer, Park Street, Walsall.

Messrs. Stackhouse and Samuel Bickley, Stewards to the Friendly Society, at the SWAN INN, Pelsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/11/1848

“On Thursday last T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the SWAN INN, Pelsall, in the parish of Wolverhampton, on the body of Enoch Birch, a banksman, about nineteen years of age, who on the previous Monday was at work on the bank of a coal pit at Pelsall Wood, the property of W. F. Fryer, Esq, and was instantaneously killed under the following circumstances. It appeared from the evidence of James Franks that it was the duty of the deceased, before the skip descended the pit, to unhook the tacklers from the skip, his (Franks) duty being to push it over the pit, and then draw the waggon from under it. About six o'clock on Monday morning he (Franks) drew the waggon from over the top of the pit, for the purpose of letting the first empty skip down, and the deceased was then inside the cabin, about three yards from the pit, fetching some fire for the purpose of sending it down the pit. Franks for an instant was not looking toward the pit, when suddenly he heard a noise, and upon quickly turning his head he perceived something, which proved to be the deceased, falling into the pit. He believed he fell accidentally into the pit whilst in the act of putting the fire into the skip, as, in order to do so, he was obliged to go close to the top of the pit. It was his duty to put the fire into the skip before the waggon was drawn from over the pit, which he omitted to do. The pit was about sixty yards deep. The jury gave a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

The sign of the SWAN

[1] *John Snape* (52), farmer of 100 acres employing 2 labourers, born Hensford [Hednesford?], Staffordshire;

[2] H. Snape (50), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] G. Snape (20), daughter, born Pelsall;

[4] William Snape (18), son, born Pelsall;

[5] L. Snape (16), daughter, born Pelsall;

[6] M. Snape (14), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;

[7] A. Snape (11), son, scholar, born Pelsall;

[8] A. Snape (5), son, scholar, born Pelsall;

[9] Jane Wooton (6), visitor, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[10] Earnest Wilkes (1), visitor, born Pelsall;

[11] Louisa Holland (16), house servant, born Bloxwich;

[12] Edward Clark (20), servant, waggoner, born Shelfield:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/5/1855

“County Court. *Snape v. Price*, the plaintiff in this case is the landlord of the SWAN INN, Pelsall, and the defendant inspector of police there. The action was brought to recover 16s, the price of two bags of potatoes, said to have been had by the defendant in April 1852. Mr. Beaton, from the office of Mr. Wilkinson, appeared for the defendant, from whose evidence and that of a Police-constable named Bradshaw, it appeared that the complainant was summoned before the magistrates in April last, for keeping open at improper hours on the day appointed for a public feast, on which occasion the defendant gave evidence against him. After the hearing the complainant accused defendant of swearing falsely, and asked for the money for these potatoes. The defendant

said he had never more than one quantity of potatoes from the plaintiff, which was in May, 1852, and that he paid for them at the time. The Judge considering the claim insufficiently supported dismissed the summons with costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/7/1855 - Advert

“Found, at Pelsall, a little Black Horse Pony, about twelve hands high. The owner can have him again by paying all expenses. Apply to Mr. *John Snape*, SWAN, Pelsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/9/1855

“At the annual licensing meeting for the parishes of Aldridge, Bentley, Pelsall, Walsall Wood, and Rushall, held at the RAILWAY COLLIERY HOTEL, Pelsall, on Wednesday, the licenses of the Anchor Inn, Aldridge, was refused, and the licenses of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall, the SWAN INN, Pelsall, and the GEORGE AND DRAGON, were suspended until the adjourned meeting on the 27th of September.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1858

“The King of Pelsall in Court. Rural Rights and Privileges.

Disputes have existed for some time regarding the right of access to a small tract of common land which contained a well, whose waters were considered to possess the most remarkable virtues. The well had been enclosed by a fence, with a couple of gates, and loud and angry have been the discussions at the village alehouses about the people being excluded from the ancient spring. . . . Amongst a chosen band of freemen of the locality who felt themselves aggrieved, was Mr. *John Snape*, farmer, better known as ‘The King of Pelsall.’ He had often curbed the strong emotions of his breast when under the influence of the nut-brown ale; but with him it was merely a question of time when he would, like Welsh Rebecca, strike a blow which would shake Pelsall to its very centre, and show his neighbours that he had more power than even lay in ‘the breath of kings.’ Accordingly the 9th of last month was chosen for the time to redeem the long-lost right of access to the well. He was not, however, of the ‘alone I did it’ class of heroes, for he entered upon his work with the aid of his son William, whose strength and vigour gave his father no little service that day. They soon succeeded in cutting down the fences, and three gates were to these as insignificant as the famous gates of Gaza were to the strong man in Scripture. Out of this local event an action arose at the Petty Sessions, Brownhills, on Tuesday last, before R. C. Chawner and T. Rowley, Esqrs. Mr. *W. Snape* answered to a summons for having, on the 9th of August, assaulted Mr. Joseph Cooper, and Mr. John Simkiss, farmer, both of Pelsall. On the same occasion Mr. *John Snape*, alias ‘The King of Pelsall,’ had a cross-summons against the said Mr. John Simkiss, for assault. Mr. W. H. Duignan, solicitor, Walsall, appeared for the *Snapes*, and Mr. Jackson, solicitor, West Bromwich, for Cooper and Simkiss. In order to save time, it was arranged between the two attorneys that the respective cases be disposed of as one, the charges having all arisen from the same occurrence. In course of the evidence it was shown that Mr. *John Snape* publicly represented himself as ‘The King of Pelsall,’ and that it became his prerogative to redress all local grievances. It was proved that while the work of destroying the fences and gates was proceeding, the assault on Cooper was committed by *Snape* the elder. During the same tumult an altercation took place between Simkiss and *Snape*. The charge against the son was dismissed, but the Pelsall emblem of royalty was amerced in the sum of 10s and costs. The charge against Simkiss was dismissed. Father and son were next accused of having been drunk and disorderly on the day in question – the police constable who preferred the charge deposing that when he accosted the elder *Snape*, he exclaimed in a dictatorial and bouncing manner, ‘I don’t care for any policeman; I have plenty of money, and care for no man. I am the King of Pelsall, and don’t care for you or your masters.’ The Bench dismissed the charge against the son; but in order to show the Pelsall magnate that ‘a king cannot swagger, or get drunk like a beggar,’ fined him 5s and costs. The trial of the cases occupied three hours, and the incidents of the veritable 9th of August have occupied a large share of the attention of the authorities at Brownhills and Pelsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures. . . .

John Snape, licensed victualler, the SWAN, Pelsall, was fined 10s and costs, for having three unjust measures. . . .

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

AND

“The King of Pelsall again in trouble. This provincial potentate is still ‘the cock of the walk,’ and clings most tenaciously to the sovereignty of Pelsall. Having consulted lately the authorities of the Old Testament, and learned the art of war as practised amongst the chosen tribes, he became peculiarly fascinated at the idea of the warriors in their chariots rushing forwards to battle. Ticked with this notion, ‘The King’ sallied from his establishment at the SWAN INN, Pelsall, the other day, in his cart, and drove from thence to Norton Caines without reins – endeavouring to show that he was a better man than most of the Israelites. However, the fact got wind, and a ‘Bobby’ getting scent, took ‘The King’ in tow. *John Snape*, senior, farmer, and landlord of the SWAN INN, Pelsall, was therefore summoned to answer the charge of riding without reins on the highway between Pelsall and Norton Caines. He attended the Petty Sessions at Brownhills, a fortnight ago, when the charge was preferred against him; but he applied for an adjournment of the case, in order, as he said, that he might procure evidence to show that he did not, on the occasion referred to, ride without reins. The application was granted. When the case was called at the Court at Brownhills, on Tuesday, before Charles Forster, Esq, M.P. for Walsall, and Thomas Rowley, Esq, Inspector Price intimated that Mr. *Snape* had requested him to plead guilty to the charge. So the ‘King’ was fined 10s and costs. In answer to the question from the Bench, ‘Who is *John Snape*?’ Inspector Price good-humouredly replied, ‘He is the King of Pelsall; and the gentleman whom you have convicted today for having in his possession three unjust measures.’”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859

“A Special Petty Sessions was held at Brownhills on Friday last, before C. Forster, Esq, MP, and the Rev. G. H. Fisher, when the following persons were fined for having in their possession unjust weights and measures, on the information laid by Mr. Inspector Tullett, Inspector for the South Staffordshire district.....

John Snape, SWAN INN, Pelsall, unjust measures, 3s and costs.”

James Snape was also a farmer. [1860]

[Was this a typographical error?]

1861 Census

Wolverhampton Road

[1] *John Snape* (65), farmer 100 acres employing 2 labourers and 1 boy, born Hednesford;

[2] Hannah Snape (60), wife, born Hednesford;

[3] Asher Snape (21), son, born Bloxwich;

[4] Arthur Snape (15), son, born Pelsall;

[5] Sarah Ann Snape (26), daughter, born Loughborough;

[6] Joseph Snape (8 months), grandson, born Pelsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/5/1861

“At the Petty Sessions, at Rushall, on Tuesday, before J. E. Bealey and J. Harrison, Esqs, Mr. John Smith, of Walsall, was charged with assaulting *Ashur Snape*, son of the landlord of the SWAN INN, Pelsall. The evidence of the complainant and his brother was to the effect that the defendant was passing the SWAN in company with his brother, when *Arthur Snape*, complainant’s brother called out that defendant and his brother were intoxicated, and that in consequence defendant first struck *Arthur* and afterwards *Ashur Snape*. Defendant and his brother positively contradicted the evidence of complainant and his witnesses, and the magistrates dismissed the charge.”

Birmingham Journal 14/6/1862

“*Snape v Cooper*. The ‘King’ Again. At the Walsall County Court, on Wednesday, the attention of his Honour (A. M. Skinner, Esq) was occupied in hearing this case. It was an action to recover damages alleged to have been sustained by plaintiff in consequence of an assault committed upon him by defendant. Mr. Duignan appeared for the former, and Mr. Ebsworth for the latter; and the damages were laid at £50.....

It appeared that defendant, who is the proprietor of a field in the parish of Rushall, alongside of which runs an arm of the canal, laid claim to the exclusive right of fishing in the said arm, and that this right was disputed by plaintiff, who rejoices in the dignified nomenclature of ‘King of Pelsall,’ and keeps the SWAN INN in that place. In order as it were to bring this to a decisive test, plaintiff, on Easter Monday last, went with some friends to the arm of the canal, provided with a net for the purpose of taking fish. Defendant, with some friends of his, was prepared to resist this; and as the field adjoining was sown with wheat, he naturally objected to having any portion of it trespassed upon. The result was that physical force was resorted to, in the course of which the monarch of Pelsall came to grief, and was ignominiously precipitated into the water.

Mr. Ebsworth cross-examined the plaintiff, who was called in support of his case, at great length, in the course of which he elicited that plaintiff had been convicted by the Magistrates for assaulting defendant, after which witnesses were called, and the hearing extended over several hours. The Judge having summed up, the Jury returned a verdict for plaintiff, damages 5s. A cross action by Cooper against *Snape*, after a long argument, resulted in a nonsuit, the matter having been decided by the County Magistrates at Rushall, and a certificate to this effect being put in.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 28/8/1862

“To be shot for, at the SWAN INN, Pelsall, near Walsall, on Monday, Oct 6, six store pigs, value £6, by 30 members, at 5s each, at 8 or 5 sparrows, 18 yards rise, 1½oz of shot, the field boundary. Shooting to commence at one o’clock. The winner can have the pigs or money; all birds free. On the following day, Oct, 7, a match will take place, for £10, between two gentlemen of the same place. Sweepstakes afterwards. Birds free.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/4/1863

“*John Snape*, better known by the sobriquet as ‘The King of Pelsall,’ who has figured frequently in this and other courts, was summoned upon a charge of being drunk and disorderly in the RAILWAY TAVERN, Pelsall, on Easter Monday night, and also with assaulting police-constable Williams in the execution of his duty. From the evidence it appeared that there had been a ‘house warming’ at the RAILWAY TAVERN, where a sheep had been roasted; and there were grand doings, which were kept up with great spirit and the utmost harmony till about twelve o’clock at night, when *Snape* arrived and initiated a general disturbance. After a prolonged attempt he was expelled, but soon effected a second entrance, and called upon his son to assist him. He was then put out by a policeman, whom he struck several times. For being drunk and disorderly he was fined 40s and costs, or seven days’ imprisonment; and for the assault on the policeman was fined £3, with £1 6s 3d costs, or fourteen days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 12/11/1864

“King of Pelsall Again. At the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey, B. Bloomer, and J. Harrison, Esqs, *John Snape* was charged with having assaulted Eli Ball, his son-in-law. The case was heard on Tuesday, the 25th ult, and, from the evidence then adduced, it appeared that, on the 17th ult, as complainant was moving some goods from his house, the defendant

came up and seized him by the hair of his head, and afterwards struck him over the head with a stick. Ball, who was charged upon a cross-summons with having assaulted *John Snape*, applied to have the case adjourned, as his solicitor, Mr. Jackson, was not in attendance. Both cases were adjourned till Tuesday last; but, on the cases being called, Ball – who, it was stated, had gone abroad – failed to appear, consequently, the case against *Snape* was dismissed, and that against Ball gone into, when it appeared from the evidence that *Snape* had gone to distrain for £26, rent due, and found Ball removing his goods, and attempted to prevent him, when Ball struck him several times with a whip-stock, and knocked him down. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced Ball to pay a fine of £2 and 16s 6d costs; or, in default, to be imprisoned for one month.

His Majesty was next charged with having, on the 17th ult, assaulted James Fox. It appeared that, on the day in question, the defendant, after his son-in-law, Eli Ball, and he had quarrelled, met complainant and had some words about the dispute between *Snape* and Ball, in course of which Fox, who is married to Ball's sister, told *Snape* that he thought he was wrong in doing what he did to Ball. *Snape* thereupon assaulted Fox. After hearing the evidence, the Bench sentenced *Snape* to pay a fine of 5s and costs."

Birmingham Daily Post 16/6/1865

"At the Free Library, *John Snape*, otherwise the 'King of Pelsall,' appeared before Messrs. T. Hazledine (Mayor), S. Cox, and W. Ward, to answer a charge of assault, preferred against him by James Fox of Pelsall. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for complainant; and Mr. Dale (for the office of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) for the defendant. On Tuesday in the Whitsun week the complainant and the defendant met at the OLD STILL INN, Digbeth, and an acrimonious discussion ensued touching certain actions for the recovery of a harmonium, alleged to have been fraudulently removed by some of Mr. *Snape's* relatives from a chapel of which Mr. Fox is one of the trustees. The result was that the defendant seized the complainant by the collar, attempted to push him out of the house, and committed the assault complained of. Some amusement was caused by the exhibition by Mr. Dale of a placard, said to have been put out by Mr. Fox, announcing that his inn had been refitted and decorated with pictures among the latter of which was one illustrative of an unlawful act perpetrated by a 'certain king and prince;' and concluding with the intimation that any person 'dis-behaving' himself would be ejected. The magistrates considered the assault proved, and imposed a fine of 20s and costs, with the option of twenty-one days' imprisonment."

Walsall Free Press 17/6/1865

"*John Snape* was charged with having, on the 6th inst, assaulted James Fox, from the evidence that, as he sat with a friend in the OLD STILL, the defendant came in, and addressing himself to the person sitting next to the complainant, said, 'Take care; you are sitting next to a 'fox,' who will bite you if you don't take care.' He then seized complainant by the collar, and said, 'I'll see if you will bite me.' He then doubled his fist, and pushing it against complainant's mouth, said, 'If you bite me, I'll knock your teeth down your throat.' Complainant said, 'I'll bite you somewhere else; I don't bite in public houses.' Cross-examined by Mr. Dale: I did not say to Mr. *Snape*, when he came in, 'I'll bite you.' Mr. Dale here read the following extract from a bill, and asked Mr. Fox if the king and the prince referred to was the defendant and his son:

'The New Music Hall, FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall, will re-open on Monday, June 12th, 1865. Mr. Fox begs to announce that his grand concert hall will re-open, by request, every evening for a short time. The hall has been decorated at great expense, with a beautiful collection of pictures, among which is to be seen a painting of the 'dishonourable acts of a king and prince,' which act was performed before a large assembly to the utter disgust of every beholder. This magnificent painting represents the pulling down of a shed and occupies a space in the New Concert Hall, FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall. Every one should see this feat of daring royalty!' The bill then went on to say that 'All parties disbehaving themselves in the concert hall would be ejected.'

Complainant, by the advice of his solicitor, Mr. Jackson, declined to answer the question.

Two witnesses were called, who corroborated the complainant's evidence.

The Bench after hearing the evidence sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 20s and costs; or in default, to be imprisoned for 21 days."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/10/1865

"*John Snape*, known as the 'King of Pelsall,' was charged with having, on the 7th ins., assaulted a little girl named Hannah Fox, aged 12 years, daughter of James Fox, landlord of the FREE TRADE INN, Pelsall; and further, with having, at the same time and place, assaulted the girl's aunt, Mary Boyden. From the evidence, it appeared that on the day in question the defendant drove the sow and pigs belonging to the complainant's father into defendant's field, and then endeavoured to impound them; but as he was driving them out of the field for this purpose, the girl Fox drove the pigs home, and thereupon defendant struck her and kicked her. After the pigs were in the sty defendant came to drive them again, and on Mrs. Boyden endeavouring to prevent him he assaulted her. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, ordered defendant to pay a fine of 10s and costs in each case."

Arthur John Snape was also a farmer. [1868]

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/10/1870 - Advert

"Strayed, from Pelsall, on the 27th inst, a spotted Cow, seven years old, near calving; all expenses paid. Apply, SWAN INN, Pelsall, near Walsall."

1871 Census

Pelsall Wood – SWAN INN

[1] *Arthur John Snape* (31), farmer (85 acres) and publican, born Pelsall;

[2] Jane Snape (32), wife, born Shenston, Staffordshire;

[3] Albert Henry Snape (7), son, born Pelsall;

- [4] Arthur John Snape (5), son, born Pelsall;
- [5] Agnes Anne Snape (4), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [6] George Caleb Snape (2), son, born Pelsall;
- [7] Clara Matilda Snape (1), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [8] Cornelious Williams (20), farm labourer, born Montgomery;
- [9] Dealea Ann Cooper (16), general servant, born Bloxwich;
- [10] Emma Arnold (14), general servant, born Bloxwich:

1881 Census

SWAN Public House

- [1] *John Lester* (39), publican, born Pelsall;
- [2] Clara Lester (36), wife, born Sheffield;
- [3] Mary A. Swanneck (39), widow, visitor, nurse maid, born Sheffield;
- [4] Harriet Stackhouse (15), general servant, born Pelsall;
- [5] Earnest W. Lester (7), son, scholar, born Sheffield;
- [6] Jane Lester (4), daughter, scholar, born Sheffield;
- [7] Albert Lester (2), son, born Pelsall;
- [8] Clara Lester (8 months), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [9] Mary A. Swanneck (6), visitor, scholar, born Sheffield:

Lichfield Mercury 13/8/1886

“Pelsall Parish Festival.

Luncheon was provided by Mr. *Lester*, of the SWAN INN, Pelsall, and many visitors availed themselves of the opportunity to obtain refreshments, which was provided at a cheap rate and in a very satisfactory manner. During the repast there was a Promenade Concert, by the Pelsall Hall Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. J. Cooper.”

[This event included: Church service; flower show; exhibition of handicraft; athletic sports; ballad concert, &c.]

1891 Census

Wolverhampton Road – SWAN INN

- [1] *Henry Mitchell* (56), publican, born Calton, Oxfordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Mitchell (60), wife, born Leominster;
- [3] Eliza Hardcastle (49), visitor, housekeeper, born Bucknall, Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/2/1892

“*Henry Mitchell*, formerly of the SWAN INN, Pelsall, licensed victualler.

The public examination of this debtor took place at Walsall Bankruptcy Court yesterday, before the Deputy Registrar (Mr. F. J. Clarke), Mr. E. Evans appearing for the debtor, and Mr. H. H. Jackson attending on behalf of Mr. Wilkes, the owner of the house. The statement of affairs showed liabilities £195 1d 6d, and assets £33 1s 10d, leaving a deficiency of £161 19s 8d. The bankrupt was a groom and gardener until October, 1887, when he became the tenant of the SWAN INN, paying £70 for the fixtures, stock, and license, borrowing £40 to enable him to do so. At the beginning of February last, finding that business was bad in consequence of the stoppage of the Pelsall Ironworks, and that he was continually losing money, he, by the advice of his solicitor gave up the inn to the landlord. The examination was adjourned until the 10th March.”

Lichfield Mercury 8/2/1895 - Advert

“Thoroughbred Tamworth Hog; fee 2s 6d.

The SWAN INN, Pelsall, Inspection invited. Proprietor, *Samuel Hickman*.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/4/1895

“For the annual dinner of the Foresters’ Club to be held on Easter Monday, at the SWAN INN, Pelsall, an extension of an hour was granted at the Rushall Police Court on Monday on the application of *Samuel Hickman*.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/10/1895

“At the Petty Sessions on Monday, *Samuel Hickman*, licensed victualler, applied for an extension of one hour the same evening, the occasion being Pelsall wake. The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, and attention having been called to that matter they had gone round the district where similar objections could be made, and had given notice to the houses of the district asking that some alteration should be made so as to comply alike with the necessities of the public and also the sanitary

conditions of the district. There were several houses named.....
SWAN, Pelsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1899

“Walsall & District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting was held on Thursday.....
New Members..... Mr. *Samuel Hickman*, SWAN INN, Pelsall.”

Walsall Observer 16/6/1900

“Friendly Society Tea. On Monday last the SWAN Female Society held its sixth anniversary at the SWAN INN, when about seventy members sat down to an excellent repast, which all seemed to thoroughly enjoy.....”

Walsall Observer 25/8/1900

“About fifty members of the Court United Brethren of the Ancient Order of Foresters met at the twenty-first annual dinner provided at the SWAN INN, Pelsall, and everyone enjoyed the excellent spread laid on the tables by Mr. *Hickman*.....”

1901 Census

Wolverhampton Road – SWAN INN

- [1] *Samuel Hickman* (54), innkeeper, born Wombourne;
- [2] Catherine Hickman (53), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] Florence Hickman (24), daughter, born Pelsall;
- [4] Samuel Hickman (14), son, engine fitter, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 2/5/1903

“John Griffiths, miner, of New Street, and David Griffiths, miner, of Old Town, Pelsall, were summoned at Rushall Police Court on Monday for disorderly conduct in a public house and refusing to quit, the last-mentioned being further charged with assaulting *Samuel Hickman*. Mr. H. H. Jackson prosecuted for the Licensed Victuallers’ Association. It appeared that on Easter Monday the defendants behaved in a disorderly manner in the SWAN INN, Pelsall, and refused to quit when asked by the landlord, Mr. *Hickman*. The latter got them out, however, but in doing so was struck by David Griffiths. The case was not pressed, and the defendants were only ordered to pay costs, 6s each.”

Walsall Observer 31/10/1903

“Before the Rushall magistrates, on Monday, *Samuel Hickman*, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and with selling intoxicating liquor to drunken persons. Police-constable Brown deposed that about nine o’clock on the 5th inst. he visited the SWAN INN, Pelsall, in company with another constable, and in one room they found a man named Isaiah Garratty, whilst in the bar they found another man named Thomas Simpson. Both men had beer in front of them, and both were drunk. Just before 10 o’clock witness and two other constables again visited the place, and found Garratty still in the same position. Witness pointed out his condition to the landlord, who said nothing, while Garratty staggered out of the house. They found Simpson where they had left him, worse drunk than before. Police-constables Milner and Allcock gave corroborative evidence. Police-sergeant Heath said he visited the SWAN on the following night, and defendant told him that he did not think Garratty was drunk, as he said he had only one pint. He thought Simpson had gone. Mr. Jackson, who defended, pointed to *Hickman*’s long tenancy of this house without complaint, and to the fact that the day on which these offences were alleged to have been committed was the occasion of Pelsall wake. The SWAN was quite orderly, but full of people, and the landlord was extremely busy. With reference to the men Simpson and Garratty, he had ordered Simpson out once that night, and seen him go out. He was consequently very surprised on the visit of the police to find the man still in place. As to Garratty, he believed he was sober. A number of witnesses were called. Mr. Brookes said the Bench did not consider it a very serious case, but *Hickman* had been rather careless, and would have to pay costs. Simpson and Garratty were summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, Simpson being ordered to pay costs, and Garratty being discharged.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/7/1909

“At a special Rushall Court held at the magistrates’ clerk’s office, Walsall, before Captain W. H. Brookes, an old man named George Williams (73), of no permanent address, was charged in custody with uttering base coins at Pelsall, on Monday, the 12th inst. *Samuel Hickman*, licensee of the SWAN INN, Pelsall, said about ten o’clock on Monday morning prisoner entered the house, and called for lemonade, for which he tendered a shilling piece. Witness took it, and gave him 10½d change, but immediately sent for Police-constable Rushton. He (witness) tested the coin and found it was bad. When he got back into the bar prisoner had just gone away, and was out of sight. Witness sent two men to follow him, and they saw him get on a canal boat going in the direction of Norton Canes. In company with Police-constable Rushton, witness went in the direction of Norton Canes, and saw prisoner on a canal boat. Prisoner had called at his house about every three weeks for the last two years, but he had not noticed him pass bad money. Police-constable Rushton deposed to accompanying the last witness in search of the prisoner, who was pointed out to him on

a canal boat. Witness went to him, and told him, 'he was going to arrest him for uttering base coins at Pelsall on the 3rd of this month, and again that day'; and the prisoner replied, 'I did not know it was bad.' Witness took him to Rushall, and upon searching him found a shilling piece in the outside pocket of his overcoat, and two more in other pockets. Witness charged him with uttering a 2s piece, on July 3rd, knowing it was bad; and he replied, 'I don't know anything about the 2s piece.' He was also charged with uttering base coin on Monday, and replied, 'I gave him a shilling, but I did not know it was bad.' Witness also charged him with being in possession of three counterfeit coins, viz, three shilling pieces, and prisoner replied, 'I changed half a sovereign on Saturday night, and had them in the change. I don't know where it was; I was boosed'.

Police-sergeant Woolley asked for a remand in custody until Monday. The two-shilling piece would form the subject of another charge later, and probably one or two charges would be brought against accused on Monday.

Answering Captain Brookes, Sergeant Woolley said prisoner refused to give any information concerning himself, where he had been staying, or the names of his friends and relatives. Prisoner said they must find out. Prisoner said he belonged to Birmingham, but he did not live there – he travelled about – was remanded in custody until Monday."

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1910

"There was a full Bench of Magistrates present at the Licensing Sessions for the Rushall Division, held on Tuesday, at the Rushall Police Court.....

SWAN INN, Pelsall. Mr. C. A. Loxton stated that he appeared to make application for alterations to the above house, but as he understood that the Bench made it a rule to inspect the premises first, he should not detain them but would wait until they had made their inspection."

Walsall Advertiser 19/3/1910

"The adjourned licensing sessions for the county division of Rushall were held at Rushall Police Court on Monday.....

Mr. C. A. Loxton applied for the sanction of the magistrates to proposed alterations at the SWAN INN, Wolverhampton Road, Pelsall. He explained that the matter was adjourned from the last meeting in order to give the magistrates an opportunity of visiting the house. It was proposed to improve and make self-contained the living and private accommodation of the house by cutting it off from the public part. At present the scullery opened into the tap-room, and the other rooms were mixed up altogether. They also proposed to improve the public rooms so that they could be properly ventilated, and be under the direct supervision and control of the landlord. The present bar would be dispensed with as a bar, and would become, with the stable, a new club-room, while a new scullery was to be built at the back of the premises away from the public part altogether. At the present time they had a bar and a tap room and they simply wished to remove the bar to the other side of the tap-room, to occupy the space of the present scullery, and in doing that they would pull down a large projection in front of the house which would be an improvement to the street. Answering Sir Edward, Mr. Loxton said the club room would only be used as such and not for the retail sale of drink, and they would consent to an undertaking being endorsed on the licence to the effect that the room should not be used for selling drinks except at bona-fide club dinners and concerts. He would point out that they were not asking the magistrates to give them a new club room, for they were giving up the old one, which was approached by stairs. When the proposed alterations were completed the licenced area would be 793 square feet as against 848 square feet at the present time, a slight decrease.

The application was granted, subject to the undertaking mentioned being endorsed on the licence."

Walsall Advertiser 5/8/1911

"There was a large attendance of delegates at the quarterly meeting of the Walsall District of the Grand Independent Order of Loyal Caledonian Corks.....

Permission had been granted for the removal of lodge 69 from the FORGE INN to the SWAN, Pelsall."

Walsall Advertiser 23/9/1911

"At the Rushall Police Court on Monday, before Messrs. A. W. Greatrex (presiding) and R. H. Holden, an application was made by Mr. H. H. Jackson for the temporary transfer of the license of the SWAN INN, Pelsall, from *Samuel Hickman* to *George Rogers*.

On being asked if the police had any objection Inspector Platt handed the magistrates a written statement, which Mr. Greatrex subsequently said gave *Rogers* a good character up to nine months ago, but alleged since then he had been bookmaking in connection with horse racing and football coupons.

Rogers (sworn) stated that he had worked at the Aldridge Colliery Co. for close on twenty-seven years, and Mr. Jackson handed in a testimonial from the colliery stating that the man was sober and industrious and had a good character.

Cross-examined by Inspector Platt, *Rogers* admitted that he had done some bookmaking for 'another gentleman,' but not for some time.

Inspector Platt: Have you taken any money from the colliers at the pit? – *Rogers*: No.

Have you recently been issuing football coupons, and did you make a bet on football matches a fortnight ago? – No.

Rogers promised the Bench that he would not do any more booking, and on that understanding the application was granted."

Walsall Observer 25/8/1917

"At a general meeting of Court United Brethren, No.6577, A.O.F., at the SWAN INN, Pelsall, on Saturday, the auditors gave their report of the half-year ended June 30. The total income was £163 1s 4½d, and the expenditure £141 3s 0½d. The income of the Sick and Funeral Fund was £138 9d 1½d, and the expenditure: Sick pay £76 3s 4d; funeral claims, £16; contributions to District Fund, £16 6s 10d; contribution to District Reduced Sick Pay Fund, £7 8s 5½d, a total of £115 17 7½d. The worth of this fund is £1,103 8s 2d. The Management Fund income was £15 15s 4d, the expenses £18 14s 5d, and the worth of the Fund £5 3s 3½d.

The Benevolent Fund income was £5 6s 2d, expenditure £5 11s, and the worth of this fund £3 6s 11d. The Widows Fund income was £3 10s 9d, expenditure £1, and the worth of this Fund £64 17s 3d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/11/1925

“The District Coroner (Mr. W. C. Checkley) held an inquiry at the SWAN INN, Pelsall, on the 6th inst, into the death of Wm. Chas. Stackhouse, who was killed on the previous Wednesday morning while working as a trammer at the Pelsall Colliery. The evidence showed that an empty tub was about to be moved, when a bar across the roof broke and dislodged other bars. Immediately there was a fall of sixty or seventy tons of rock, and deceased was buried. He received a fractured skull, and the bones in his throat were crushed. Death was due to suffocation, caused by the compression of the throat. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned, the Coroner saying that no blame attached to anyone, and every precaution appeared to have been taken.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/12/1925

“Brownhills & District Air-Gun League.....
Hussey Arms, Brownhills (away), defeated SWAN INN, Pelsall, by 210 points to 196.”

Walsall Observer 26/8/1939 - Advert

“General, 17-18, Required immediately.
Apply, personally, SWAN INN, Wolverhampton Road, Pelsall.”

1939 Register

77, Wolverhampton Road – SWAN INN (4 of 6)

- [1] *George A. Hadley*, date of birth 5/6/1888, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Mary G. Hadley*, dob 13/1/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [4] *John C. Burns*, dob 8/4/1915, brick-tile burner, heavy work, married;
- [5] *Gwendoline Joan Burns*, dob 26/8/1916, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Demolished

Rebuilt

[2005]

Closed

It became the Cinnamon Indian restaurant [2007]

SWAN WITH TWO NECKS

62, (39), (38), Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Wilson [1811]

Ferdinand Eglington, manufacturer, Park Street

Joseph Russell

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1903]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1939]

LICENSEES

Thomas Wilson [1811] – [1813]

Sarah Wilson [1818] – [1822]

Isaac Highway [1827] – [1830]

Adam Urmsom [1834] – [1837]

Richard Shutt [1841] – [1850]

John Baker [1851] – [1873];

Miles Baker [];

Thomas Yates [];

Thomas Heap [1879];

Thomas Prewitt Joyner [];

Joseph Russell [1881] – **1891**);

Mary A Porter [1891] manageress
Henry Thomas Beck (1891 – 1892);
John Sheath (1892 – 1903);
Alfred Turner (1903 – 1915);
John Ernest Reeves (1915 – 1916);
Nellie Elizabeth Reeves (1916 – 1917);
Ernest Arthur Mountstephen (1917 – 1918);
Harold Ernest Alger (1918 – 1926);
Alexander Henry Tomlin (1926);
Frederick Gumbley (1926 – 1931);
Victor Harold Worrall (1931 – 1935);
John Stanley Baker (1935 – 1937);
John Edward ‘Jack’ Earp (1937 – 1945);
Edward Henry Sallory (1945 – 1948);
Albert Isaac Jennings (1948 – 1954);
George Thomas Bennison (1954 – 1957):

NOTES

39, Park Street [1858], [1861], [1864], [1865], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1873], [1881]

38, Park Street [1860] [Possibly a typographical error.]

62, Park Street [1892], [1896], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932], [1939], [1940]

WHITE SWAN [1845]

SWAN [1827], [1841], [1857], [1939], [1940], [1942]

SWAN HOTEL [1909], [1910], [1911], [1913], [1914], [1916], [1933], [1940], [1941], [1944]

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“.....the bar was 23’ x 18’4” x 12’8” with two smoke rooms and 2 club rooms.....”

Thomas Wilson was married to *Sarah*.

Thomas Wilson, victualler, Park Street. [1813]

‘The History and Directory of Walsall’ by Thomas Pearce 1813

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Lodges.....

Odd Fellows, No.12, held at *Wilson’s*, Park Street, supposed number about 170, instituted 1810, surgeon Mr. Weaver, secretary John Cotterill.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/2/1818 - Advert

“Freehold Premises, in Rushall Street, and New Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, By Ottley and Fairburns, at Mrs. *Wilson’s*, the sign of the SWAN, Park Street, Walsall, on Thursday, the 12th February, 1818, at 4 o’clock in the afternoon, in one or more Lots as shall be agreeable to the company, and subject to such conditions as will then be produced.

All those two substantial and well-built Houses with Cellars under each, two comfortable back Houses, Brewhouse, Pump of excellent water, six very good Shops, Pigsties, an all the other appurtenances thereto belonging, with extensive Garden adjoining, situate in Rushall Street, and now in the occupation of Wm. Broadhurst, Mary Seargant, and others, who are tenants at will.

The house occupied by W. Broadhurst, consists of Kitchen and parlour to the front, two chambers and two attics, and may at a trifling expense be made an excellent shop for any retail business; also a front Tenement with Shopping; situate in New Street, and in the occupation of Wm. Hopkins, the garden at the back of theses premises contains 600 square yards, (more or less), of very valuable land suitable for building.

The respective tenants will shew the premises, and further particulars may be had by application to Mr. Darwell, Solicitor, Walsall; or at the Auctioneers, at Cannock and Brereton.”

Arise’s Birmingham Gazette 7/5/1827 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Dwelling Houses, including an old established Public House, known by the sign of the WHITE HART, in Park Street, Walsall by E Jukes.

To be Sold by Auction, in one lot, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of May instant, at the house of Mr. *Highway*, the SWAN INN, in Park Street, Walsall; all those six Freehold Dwelling Houses, most eligibly situated in Park Street, two whereof are to the fore and four at the back, including the WHITE HART Public House, now in the occupation of Mrs. Green, who is under notice to quit at Mid-summer next; comprising a tap-room, two parlours large bar, and club-room 47 feet long, brewhouse, stable, &c, in good repair.

The other front house adjoining is very suitable for a retail business, and the four at the back may, at a trifling expense, be converted into a Malthouse. The whole producing a rental of £64 16 per annum.

N.B. This property fronts the great north road from Birmingham through Wolverhampton, and is a very great thoroughfare. For further particulars apply to E. Jukes, Land Surveyors, Park Street, Walsall, or Bath Street, Birmingham.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/9/1837 - Advert

“To Be Disposed Of Immediately.

The License, Goodwill, and Possession of that old-established Public-House, known by the sign of the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS situate in Park Street, Walsall, in the occupation of Mr. *A. Urmson*, who is leaving in consequence of other engagements. The Furniture, Stock, &c. to be taken at a fair valuation.

For particulars apply to Farrington and Son, Appraisers, Walsall.”

Midland Monitor for 21/5/1841

“On Thursday last, a serious accident happened in Park Street, Walsall, to a young man named Francis Lees, a workman in the employ of Dudley Brothers, Bloxwich. It seems from the information we could gather, that he stopped with a horse and cart at the saddler’s shop in Park Street, to have the bridle mended. Having imprudently taken it off, the horse took fright and galloped violently up Stafford Road, with the man hanging upon his head, in order to stop him; he had, however, no command over the horse, which, swerving on the pavement opposite the Free Grammar School, threw Lees from his head, and the cart wheel passed over his head. Dr. Burton, who was fortunately at home, speedily came to his assistance. The base of the skull is fractured, and very little hope is entertained of his recovery. He is now lying at the SWAN public-house, Park Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/3/1841 - Advert

“Sale Of Freehold Property, in Park Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold by Auction by T. Franklin, On Wednesday next, the 31st day of March, at six o’clock in the evening, on the premises, subject to conditions then to be produced.

All that valuable Freehold well-accustomed Public House, called the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS, situated in Park Street, Walsall, and now in the occupation of Mr. *R. Shutt*, with entire yard, brewhouse, stabling, garden land, pump of excellent water, cellar, and every other convenience for carrying on the above business.

Also a Freehold House adjoining the above, fronting to Park Street, with entire yard, shopping out-offices, and other conveniences, and now in the occupation of Mr. J. Mewis.

For further particulars, apply at the Office of H. Barnett, Esq, or of the Auctioneer, both of Walsall.

Part of the purchase money may remain on security of the property, if required.”

Richard Shutt was also a covered furniture and harness maker. [1845]

The Era 15/6/1845

“William Allsopp, of Birmingham, and Thomas Powell (alias the Nigger), of Bloxwich. On Monday evening last a match, for 10 sovs a-side, between these men, was made at the WHITE SWAN INN (*Shutt*’s), Park Street, Walsall, to run ten score yards, on the 14th of July next. 1 sov a-side was deposited and articles signed. Some even betting ensued, and the Birmingham party seemed very eager in getting money on.”

Walsall Free Press 7/2/1857 - Advert

“Freehold Public House, and Other Messuages, situate at The Birchills, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction by Mr. Henry Farrington, at Mr. *Baker*’s, the SWANN INN, Park Street, Walsall, On Monday, 23rd of February, 1857, At Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions.

Lot 1. All that Public-house known by the Sign of the BOAT, with the Yard, Brewhouse, Outbuildings, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate in Green Lane, at the Birchills aforesaid, in the occupation of Mr. Henry Raybould, at the yearly rent of £20.

And also all those nine Dwelling-house thereto adjoining, with the Appurtenances, producing together a yearly rental of between £40 and £50.”

1861 Census

39, Park Street

[1] *John Baker* (53), victualler, born East Stoke, Dorsetshire;

[2] Jane Baker (50), wife, born Walsall;

[3] John Baker (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Miles Baker (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Frank Baker (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Ann Fitt (36), boarder, barmaid, born Birmingham;

[7] Sarah Ann Roland (21), general servant, born Penn;

[8] Jane Palmer (28), house servant, born Walsall;

[9] Moses Palmer (18), house servant, born Alrewas, Staffordshire:

1871 Census

39, Park Street

[1] *John Baker* (63), widower, innkeeper, born Dorsetshire;

[2] Frances Hossal (34), married, daughter, born Walsall;

- [3] Harry Baker (26), son, clerk, born Walsall;
- [4] Miles G. Baker (21), son, clerk, born Walsall;
- [5] Frank M. Baker (17), son, clerk, born Walsall;
- [6] _____ Hossal (3), granddaughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Annie Pitt (46), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [8] Mary Ann Randles (18), barmaid, born Walsall;
- [9] Mary Breese (22), domestic servant, born Church Stretton;
- [10] Thomas Ableson (55), boarder, currier, born Guiseley, Yorkshire:

Midland Counties Evening Express 6/2/1875

“The adjourned inquest into the circumstances attending the death of Mary Evans Baker, aged 28, of Morden, near Poole, Dorset, who on the 29th December, died at Walsall, from the effects of injuries sustained in the Kirtlington accident [on the Great Western Railway], was resumed yesterday afternoon at the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS INN, Walsall, before Mr. A. A. Fletcher, coroner.....”

[Kirtlington is near Oxford]

Lichfield Mercury 4/4/1879

“At the Petty Session, on Wednesday, *Thomas Heap*, landlord of the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS public house, Park Street, Walsall, was fined 1s and costs for having five jugs in his possession which were unjust measures.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/3/1881 - Advert

“Beerhouse To Let, the CROWN INN, situated in The Square, handsomely fitted up; must be disposed of; no reasonable offer refused. Satisfactory reasons for leaving. Apply, SWAN WITH TWO NECKS, Park Street.”

1881 Census

39, Park Street

- [1] *Joseph Russell* (30), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Annie Russell (32), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Ada Russell (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Ann M. Cozens (18), barmaid, born Walsall;
- [5] Harriet Smallwood (13), nurse, born London;
- [6] Elizabeth Fuller (13), general servant, born Wyrley;
- [7] Elizabeth Richards (23), barmaid, born Wolverhampton:

Evening Star 26/5/1882

“Forestry in Walsall. On Wednesday night a dinner of representatives of the various courts belonging to the Walsall district was held at the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS, the district Court House. The chair was taken by Bro. Frakes DCR, and there were about thirty delegates present.....”

Lichfield Mercury 17/9/1886

“On Tuesday afternoon the Walsall police made a descent upon the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS INN, Park Street, and a hair-dresser’s shop, 46, Station Street, and apprehended *Joseph Russell*, the keeper of the former house, Charles Reynolds, the keeper of the latter, and the following men, who were some in one house and some in the other house – viz, Thomas Russell, William Plant, William Finden, John Wood, Albert Wood, William Turner, and Harry Astbury. They were at once removed in cabs to the police station. *Joseph Russell* and Charles Reynolds each being charged with keeping and using his house for the purpose of betting, and with allowing persons to resort thereto for the purpose of betting, and the others with having frequented the houses for the purpose of betting. They were placed before Dr. Day at a special session at the Guildhall, and Mr. Gillespie (Messrs. Wilkinson and Gillespie) who appeared to prosecute, instructed by the Chief of Police stated the charges, and asked for a remand till Wednesday.

Joseph Russell asked that his remand might be till Friday, and Dr. Day consented, and admitted the accused to bail, *Joseph Russell*, Reynolds, Thomas Russell, and Astbury in £100 each, and two sureties each in £25, and the others in £50 each and two sureties each in £25. The arrests caused great excitement among the sporting and betting fraternity, and an immense crowd congregated in and about the Guildhall when the prisoners were brought up. The police brought away from the two houses copies of ‘Ruff’s Guide to the Turf,’ the *Racing Chronicle*, and other sporting papers.”

[On September 23rd, 1886, *Joseph Russell*, pleaded guilty to a charge of permitting betting, and was fined £35 and costs; Charles Reynolds was fined £35 and costs; Thomas Russell was fined £5 and costs; the others were discharged.]

1891 Census

62, Park Street – SWAN WITH TWO NECKS

- [1] *Mary A. Porter* (23), unmarried, manageress, born Tipton;
- [2] Kate Peace (24), servant, born Worcester:

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1901

“Anthony O’Brien (32), labourer, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises at the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS, Park Street, on September 23rd, and *John Sheath*, the landlord was summoned for selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person and permitting drunkenness to take place on his licensed premises. Mr. J. W. Clewlow defended.

Police-constable Lloyd said he was on duty at mid-day, on September 23rd, and saw defendant enter the SWAN INN, and witness followed him into the house a few minutes afterwards. O’Brien was in the bar, and had in front of him a half-pint glass of beer. The barman admitted having served the man, but said the man was all right. The landlady came into the bar, and when witness asked her what she thought of O’Brien’s condition, she said he had had enough to drink.

Inspector Williams said he saw O’Brien in Park Street at mid-day on September 23rd. He was staggering about the street.

Detective-sergeant Jones saw O’Brien a short time after he was reported to have gone into the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS, and he was very drunk.

Detective Burrell also gave evidence that he saw defendant drunk on September 23rd.

For the defence Mr. Clewlow admitted that O’Brien was served in the house, but denied the man was drunk. He remarked that the house had always been a well conducted one.

O’Brien was fined 2s 6d and costs, and *Sheath* was ordered to pay costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1909

“Mr. R. A. Cooper, the prospective Unionist candidate for Walsall, and Councillor A. J. Llewellyn will be initiated honorary members of the ‘Pride of the Valley’ Lodge of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, at a special meeting to be held at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, on Monday evening. The proceedings are to be followed by a smoking concert for which special artistes are being engaged.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/3/1910

“In aid of the Benevolent Fund of the ‘Pride of the Valley’ Lodge of the Order of Oddfellows, a successful whist drive was held at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, on Monday evening last week, when there were about twelve tables set going. The M.C.’s, Messrs Sanderson and Mayon carried out their duties efficiently, and the prize winners were: First, Mr. Price (dressing bag, given by the Lodge); 2nd, Mr. Poxon (clock, given by Mrs. *Turner*).”

1911 Census

62, Park Street

[1] *Albert Turner* (42), publican’s manager, born Camberwell, London;

[2] Ellen Annie Turner (41), wife, married 16 years, assistant in business, born Birmingham;

[3] Archibald Turner (13), son, at school, born Birmingham;

[4] Dora Barber (24), servant, assistant in business, born Walsall;

[5] Kate Meredith (26), general servant, born Chase Terrace, Cannock;

[6] Mary Ann Dickinson (25), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1911

“Alfred Deans, well known in local football circles, having played last season for Walsall, and who is the licensee of the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, was summoned for assaulting Edward Lawrence, 161, Stafford Street, on the 2nd inst. Mr. R. Morgan appeared for the complainant, and Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

Detailing the facts of the case to the bench Mr. Morgan submitted that the assault was an absolutely unprovoked one. At 7 o’clock on the Friday night in question, Lawrence went into the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS HOTEL, in Park Street, and called for a glass of ale, but the landlord refused him, saying that he had had enough. Complainant was about to leave the house perfectly quietly when Deans, who was in the room at the time said, ‘Can’t I have one with you?’ Complainant replied that he would treat him to a glass of ale. ‘No,’ said Deans, ‘I will have a threepenny cigar.’ Lawrence told him he could not afford a threepenny cigar, but was willing to treat him to a glass of ale. Deans was not content with this, and repeated his request for a cigar three times. Complainant refused him at each request, and Deans thereupon lifted his fist and struck him in the jaw, following it up by pushing him outside, through the swing doors. Having done that he bundled him into the public-house window, and but for the brass bar protecting it, would have pushed him through it. Defendant himself was a license holder in the town and a man who ought to know how to conduct himself on licensed premises.

Complainant gave evidence in support of his solicitor’s statement, and describing the alleged assault, said, he gave me the smartest punch I have ever had in my life, and loosened my teeth. He bundled me through the swing doors with his shoulders, saying ‘I am gaffer here, I will show you, get off’.’ He added that Deans would have been the last man in the world he should have thought would have struck him, as he (Yardley) was a customer at the house.

Mr. Jackson: Were you the worse for drink? – Complainant: I had had a glass or two. I was in the same state I am now.

Mr. Jackson: Can you understand why a respectable man like Mr. Deans should have hit you without any provocation? – Witness: I cannot understand his conduct whatever.

Further questioned he denied that he struck Deans on the nose, after the latter had tried to persuade him to leave the house.

Alfred Devereaux, George Walker, and Thomas Machin, a railway station policeman, gave evidence in support of Lawrence, the latter witness attending on subpoena.

During the examination of one of the witnesses, Mr. Clarke asked if the witnesses in that case were out of court, and was told they were not.

Mr. Clarke: They have no right to be in court. They are like children; if they have got any brains they will soon learn it. Witness-

es were ordered to leave.

Mr. Jackson said that the case was a somewhat remarkable one, because defendant had been a licensee in this town for several years, and was a respectable man. He was in this public-house on the night in question when he heard Lawrence refused by the landlord. Knowing him, he persuaded him to leave, but about a minute later he returned and struck Deans, who was talking to the barmaid, a violent blow on the nose. Defendant then caught hold of him and turned him out, 'It is not likely,' continued Mr. Jackson. 'that a respectable man of his (Mr. Deans) standard, would without the slightest provocation, hit him on the jaw while in another licensee's house? I say it is absurd.'

Deans then gave evidence, and said that the whole story of the prosecution was a fabrication and all made up. Lawrence, who was under the influence of drink, wanted to toss for drinks, and being a friend of his defendant led him out. However, complainant struck him and he retaliated.

Dora Barber, the barmaid, told a similar story and the Bench dismissed the case."

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

"King Edward Angling Society.

The annual general meeting of this society, whose headquarters are at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, was held on Saturday evening. It appeared from the balance sheet that the club had a very satisfactory year. Good private fishing is provided for the members, including a portion of the River Trent at Rugeley; also a private pool at Clayhanger. Season tickets are also issued for the Birmingham Canal, and the Society is affiliated with the Provincial Anglers' Association, Birmingham, from which travelling cards are provided for members at reduced fares. A dividend of 5/6 each, fully paid up, was declared for all the members....."

Walsall Observer 7/3/1914

"Concluding with the words which summarise the objects of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, 'Justice, Truth, and Philanthropy,' the ceremony of consecrating the new headquarters at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, of the 'Earl Bradford' Lodge was performed on Thursday evening last by the Bro. Grand Primo of Walsall and Staffordshire (Bro. A. Taylor)....."

Walsall Advertiser 18/4/1914

"The half-yearly meeting of the Ancient Order of Foresters was held at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, on Saturday, the chairman being Bro. S. Bates, District Chief Ranger....."

Walsall Advertiser 16/5/1914

"William Pemberton, of Coalport, was summoned for not having proper control over his horse and lorry in Park Street on May 1st. Police-constable Bell said that the horse and lorry were standing in Park Street from 3.30 to 4pm and was causing an obstruction in the street. Witness went into the hotel and found the defendant drinking.

Defendant said he had gone to the hotel on business, and when he got there the licensee was engaged. The horse was a safe one. Police-constable Bell, re-called, said the defendant, when first spoken to, said his cart was frequently there, but he said nothing about business.

Defendant, who had been up twice before for a similar offence, was ordered to pay costs."

Walsall Observer 7/11/1914

"Walsall Credit Drapers And Tailors Association. The monthly meeting of the above association was held at the new headquarters, the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, Saturday evening week. Mr. A. T. Page, president, occupied the chair....."

Walsall Observer 20/5/1916

"Private *A. Turner*, late of the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, has now returned to France, after being in hospital at Cheltenham for two months with nervous breakdown. He enlisted at the outbreak of the war in the R.A.M.C, previous to joining the forces, Private *Turner*, who is hardly 19 yet, was learning electrical engineering at Messrs. Allday and Onions, Birmingham."

Walsall Observer 14/6/1916

"The Walsall branch of the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers, Confectioners and Allied Workers held an open night and concert on Saturday at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street. Mr. E. J. Mayo took the chair....."

Harold Ernest Alger – see also BULLS HEAD, Bloxwich, and NEW FULBROOK.

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/12/1921

"The sixty-ninth annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held at the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS, Park Street, on the 14th inst....."

Walsall Observer 6/9/1924

"At a meeting of the Walsall Football Supporters Club, to be held at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, next Friday evening, the season's prospects will be discussed and a musical programme will be gone through."

Frederick Gumbley – see also HOPE AND ANCHOR.

Walsall Observer 27/5/1933

“Buffalo Ceremonies.....

The Earl of Bradford Lodge of the R.A.O.B., G.L.E., held at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, was honoured at its last meeting by a visit of Bro. James, KOM, PGP, Wolverhampton Province, who presided and gave a short address.”

Walsall Observer 14/1/1939

“Much of the land abutting on St. Paul’s Row known as Idle Alley, has long been vacant. Houses and premises were demolished some years ago, and both sides of the footway have been awaiting Corporation developments. When at the Town Council meeting this week it was proposed to sell 50 square yards of land to Mitchells and Butlers, Ltd., there were vigorous protests. The land was wanted to provide another entrance to the SWAN INN, Park Street, and the price agreed was £7 10s per yard.

Moving reference back, Councillor Stanley suggested the St. Paul’s Row might eventually become an arcade and it was therefore an important piece of land the Corporation were proposing to sell.

‘It seems to me a rather dangerous matter to dispose of a strip of land like this,’ Councillor Hale, who, in seconding the amendment, suggested that the brewery company should be given an annual tenancy of the land, so that the Corporation could continue to control it.”

Walsall Observer 4/2/1939

“The ex-Service Men’s Organisation known as the Walsall Dug-up’s held the first annual guest night of the year at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, yesterday week, when about 60 members, wives, and friends attended. After the toast to ‘absent comrades’ had been honoured the company sat down to an excellent dinner, followed by a musical programme by Messrs. Wells (tenor), Weaver (tenor), Bert Bradley (entertainer), Miss Fitzgerald (soprano), Comrades Hawkes (monologues), Aulton and Holland (war-time songs); while Comrade Green led the community singing, with Mr. Bernard Hughes at the piano. On behalf of the visitors, Mr. Tom Pace and Mr. Tom Clark expressed thanks for the Dug-up’s hospitality, and the Secretary (Comrade Hawkes) responded. The Chairman (Comrade Stackhouse) expressed thanks to the artists and the host (Mr. *Jack Earp*).”

Birmingham Mail 20/5/1939

“Members of the Walsall and District Angling Society are requested to note that owing to alterations and rebuilding of the present headquarters, the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall, it has been found necessary to transfer to temporary headquarters and from Monday night next, May 22nd, the club night will be held at 8pm until further notice, and on every alternate Monday at the BOROUGH ARMS HOTEL, Ablewell Street, Walsall. Members are asked particularly to note the change from Tuesday to Monday and that club nights for a short time will be run fortnightly instead of weekly.”

1939 Register

62, Park Street

[1] *John Edward Earp*, date of birth 9/9/1902, manager of licensed premises, married;

[2] *Ada Nellie Earp*, dob 17/6/1901, manageress, married: (all crossed out)

[*Ada N. Earp*, dob 17/6/1901, appears as manageress, licensed premises, 73, Lichfield Street.]

Walsall Observer 22/6/1940 - Roll of Honour

“A keen swimmer and formerly a member of the Walsall Club, Lance-Bombardier Victor James *Worrall*, of the Royal Artillery, is officially reported to have been killed in action. Aged 24, he was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. *Victor Worrall* and lived for some years at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, of which his father was licensee. He was then employed at the Walsall establishment of Edward Grey Ltd., and later at the Dudley Branch. After leaving the Worcester Swimming Club and often playing in their polo team. Only last November he was married to Miss Doris Smith, of Worcester.”

Walsall Observer 13/7/1940

“At the monthly meeting on Thursday of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....

Mr. *Earp*, SWAN WITH TWO NECKS, Park Street, was elected a member of the Society.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

SWAN INN, Park Street, £1 1s 0d.”

Evening Despatch 8/3/1941

“Walsall Mess hold their tenth anniversary of the opening of the Mess on Friday, 14 March, at the SWAN HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall, at 7.30pm.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SWAN, Park Street. £4 0s 8d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

SWAN HOTEL, Park Street. £24 0s 0d.”

It closed on 22nd May 1957.

TALBOT

BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Ball [1586]

NOTES

[It is thought that it was situated in Park Road.]

TALBOT

9, Digbeth, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Deeley, Talbot Yard, Digbeth
Henry Walter Round
Ind Coope and Co. Ltd.
Joseph Noakes, Bridge Street, Walsall
Brewers' Investment Corporation
Arthur Charles Kerrison, Bilston
Bents Brewery Co. Ltd., Liverpool [1899]

LICENSEES

Joseph Wright* [1801] – [1822]
Joseph Wright* [1828] – [1830]
Charles Shaw [1833] – [1834]
Thomas Cooper [1835] – [1838]
Thomas Mason [1842]
Job Wilkes [1845]
James and Thomas Deeley [1849] – [1851]
James Deeley [1852] – [1853]
Thomas Hughes [1861]
James Deeley [1862] – **1863**);
Samuel King (**1863 – 1864**);
John Young (**1864 – [1872]**)
Richard Austin [1872] – [1873];
John Austin [];
Walter Henry 'Harry' Peacock [1874] – [1883];
Nathan Crisp [];
Thomas Barnwell [];
James Feerick [];
Edward Coombe [] – **1886**);

Alfred King (1886 – 1887);
John Thompson (1887 – 1888);
John Donnellan (1888 – 1889);
Francis Joseph Zeller (1889 – 1890);
Richard Shazell (1890);
Samuel Bowen (1890 – 1893);
Henry Cullingsworth (1893);
Miss Nancy Lowe (1893 – 1898);
Arthur Hand (1898 – 1900);
Edward Bethell (1900 – [1916]);
Annie Bethell [] – 1919);
Edwin Bond (1919 – 1921);
John Edward Brotherton (1921 – 1927);
Frederick Lord (1927 – 1952);
Albert Carter (1952 – 1959);
Florence Elsie Wood (1959 – []);
William Lloyd [] – 1963);

NOTES

It had a six-day license.

'Walsall Past and Present' by David F. Vodden

“The Mayor was recorded as entertaining guests there in the seventeenth century the TALBOT known then as Sherwin's, in six months of 1630 his bill was the then considerable figure of £2 7s 7d.”

[A coach every morning at nine o'clock from the TALBOT, in Digbeth, Walsall, to the Saracens Head, Bull Street, Birmingham. \[1791\]](#)

* possibly the same person

John Gold, a carrier to Wolverhampton, left from here every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. [1822]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1831

“The Coronation. The bells commenced ringing at a very early hour, and in the more advanced part of the day the members of the different lodges assembled in their respective rooms preparatory to joining in procession, in honour of the occasion.....

The following is a list of the Lodges which formed the procession, and the house at which they are held. They had seven banners waving, and were accompanied by an excellent band.

Senior Lodge of Odd Fellows – BULLS HEAD.

Grand Lodge of Modern Druids – BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD.

Odd Fellows – ROYAL OAK.

Queer Fellows – WATERING TROUGH.

Two Lodges from the WATERLOO TAVERN.

Loyal Union Fellows – SPREAD EAGLE.

Fellows of Support – TURKS HEAD.

Social Fellows – TALBOT INN.

True Hearted Fellows – MALT SHOVEL.

The procession extended in length to about a quarter of a mile. The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the attendance being more numerous.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/6/1832

“On Monday last the Grand Lodge of Loyal Social Fellows celebrated their anniversary, in the lodge-room, at the TALBOT INN, Walsall. The occasion was rendered peculiarly interesting by the presence of a rival candidate for the representation of the town. Mr. Forster being a member, and Mr. Attwood attending by invitation. No discussions of a political nature were allowed, and the afternoon was passed in much conviviality and friendship.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/1/1833

“A respectable looking man entered the King's Arms, in the town [Stafford], on Sunday evening last, and after taking tea, &c. retired to bed. He rose about nine o'clock in the morning, and after ordering coffee for breakfast, he left the house, saying he was going to the Post Office, and should return in five minutes. He, however, did not make his appearance again; and about two hours after, Mrs. Hammersley discovered that he had stolen two watches out of a chest of drawers, which stood in the room where he had slept. The maker's name of one of the watches is 'Thos. Corker, Stafford, No.503.' It had a purple ribbon attached to it, and a gold seal and key. The other had a hunting case, steel chain, and broken key, and was bought of Robert Hill, Stafford. On Mon-

day night, the same man slept at Mr. *Shaw's*, the TALBOT, Digbeth, Walsall, where he remained the whole of Tuesday staying another night, and on Wednesday morning, when he rose, he appeared to in great haste, said he had over-slept himself, and must go instantly to keep an appointment with a friend in the town. He left the house, and never returned. After his departure, it was discovered that he had stolen fifteen sovereigns and two £5 notes, belonging to a Friendly Society, which had met the night before, and some trinkets belonging to the landlady. We are sorry to say, the villain has not yet been heard of. In the hope of assisting his detection, we give the following description of him and his dress: height, five feet five or six inches; fresh complexion, red whiskers, rather light hair, and dimple in the chin; had on, an olive coloured coat, dark coloured handkerchief, waist coat and trowsers.”

[In about a week afterwards, the miscreant was apprehended in Shrewsbury, and committed to prison for trial.]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 8/4/1838

“Reuben Marten, in company with Johnny Broome, had been taking a benefit at Dudley, and will be at Walsall on Monday and Tuesday next, and thence to the Potteries, previous to joining his old friend Jem Ward at Liverpool, who for auld lang syne sake, intended getting him a benefit at the Theatre. Marten states that he has a young countryman, who has never fought in the P.R., that will fight any nine and a half stone man in London or Birmingham, for £25 or £50 a side, his money is ready at the TALBOT, Walsall, on Tuesday next. Johnny Broome’s benefit will take place at the Cross Guns, New Summer Street, Birmingham, tomorrow (Monday), which is expected to be numerously attended. Marten further states that he is willing, at any time, to fight Young Sam, in any part of France, if his expenses are paid.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/4/1838

“About eleven o’clock on Wednesday night some person or persons entered the bar of Mr. *Cooper*, of the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, and stole the till containing two pounds in copper, two bunches of keys, some loose keys, a powder flask, a pair of scales for weighing sovereigns, and other articles, with which they got clear off. The till was found the following day by Mr. *C.* in a field contiguous to Lichfield Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/6/1838

“James Gaunt, of Colton, near Rugeley, was apprehended at the TALBOT INN, Walsall, on Thursday, the 24th ult, with a cock and two hens in his possession. He had been brought up twice before the magistrates, and remanded till some information can be obtained respecting the fowls, which are described in handbills put into circulation.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/6/1838

“We have already noticed the apprehension, at the TALBOT INN, Walsall, of Joseph Gaunt, of Colton, near Rugeley, with three fowls in his possession, which he was suspected to have stolen. By the activity of the Walsall police, it has been ascertained that the fowls are the property of Mr. Jos. Farmer, of Colton; to which place the prisoner was conveyed, and thence on the 8th instant, committed to Stafford gaol, for trial at the ensuing sessions.”

[At the Staffordshire Midsummer Sessions, in July, 1838, John Gaunt, was found guilty and sentenced to be imprisoned 6 calendar months, 18 days thereof in solitude.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/3/1841

“Mr. Henry Hill Cox, eldest and only surviving son of the late Hill Cox, Esq, of Walsall and Great Barr, attained his majority on Wednesday last, on which day an excellent dinner was provided at the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, in celebration of the event. About twenty-six of the tenantry assembled by invitation, and did ample justice to the good things set before them. In the course of the afternoon Mr. Cox, attended by the Rev. W. M’Kean of Walsall, the Rec. Hugh Hutton, of Birmingham, and several other friends entered the room; and shortly after his health was proposed by the Rev. M’Kean, and responded to with three hearty cheers; the compliment was acknowledged in suitable terms. After remaining some time, Mr. Cox and friends left the TALBOT to visit another company of tenantry, for whom a similar entertainment was provided at the WHITE LION, High Street. The respective parties spent the afternoon and evening in a most convivial manner.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/8/1846

“Ancient Order of Foresters. On Monday afternoon last a lodge of this order was opened at the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, after which the officers and members dined together at the same inn.”

Henry Crompton, a carrier to Aldridge, left from here every morning and evening. [1849]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/3/1849

“Gough and Burns. This was the great race of the day, and had brought together the principal part of the strangers who congregated to witness it. It was a race of 120 yards between J. Gough and S. Burns (both of Darlaston), for £50 a side. On February 5 Burns defeated Gough in a race of 100 yards, £25 to £20, by a foot at Cannock Corner. Another match was immediately made to run 120 yards, for £25 a side, on February 12, to run at Bloxwich; but to the chagrin of about 3,000 persons, the police made their appearance, headed by a clergyman, who informed them that the men should not run there, and Gough would not agree to run anywhere else that day; hence, after a great deal of talk between the backers, it was agreed to run at Bellevue on this day, and increase the stakes to £50 a side. The men located themselves in the immediate neighbourhood some days previous, and about half-past two o’clock Gough and Burns met and tossed for the choice of ends and sides, which Burns won, and declared he should win the race. Both are little known as pedestrians, although Gough has numbered 27 years. Burns is about 24, and is a fine made

fellow, and fit to run even after a day's digging at California. Gough, who is a trifle less than his opponent, was well and full of confidence, and he declared the previous day that he could win by six yards. We are informed that a tidy amount of the circulating medium had been laid out on the event in the neighbourhood of Darlaston, and on the ground a good sum changed hand at evens, which might have been doubled had Gough's party laid the odds at 6 to 4, but they were cautious of their exchequer was nearly exhausted. On scratching, Burns chose the ascent, and placed Gough on his right. The start was by pull of a handkerchief, which, after a short delay was effected. Burns got the lead by a full yard, and rattled away for 100 yards, when Gough caught and passed him; but a splendid struggle ensued, Gough showing most lasting qualities, Burns beginning to fall off, and the latter lost by one yard and a half. Time upwards of 13 seconds. Had this been a pugilistic encounter, colours could not have been more plentiful, Gough and his friends winning Burn's, and wearing them as trophies of victory. Gough was trained by Mr. Booth, of the Jug Inn, Shelton, who brought him out in excellent condition. Mr. *Thomas Deeley*, of the TALBOT INN, Walsall, states that it is Gough's wish that the stakes should be made personally payable to him (*Deeley*), and if this is correct they shall be sent in accordance with his request on Tuesday, but we must know by that morning's post."

Birmingham Post 16/3/1850 - Advert

"To Be Shot For, at the TALBOT INN, Walsall, on Monday Next, the 18th instant, at Twelve o'clock – Two Fat Pigs, one about Thirty-five, and the other about Twenty score; Thirty-two subscribers £1 each; twenty-one yards distance, three Birds each, three-quarter bore, and 1³/₄ozs of shot. The Gun to be below the elbow till the Bird is loosed from the trap. Tickets to be paid before Shooting commences."

Birmingham Journal 23/10/1852 - Advert

"To Harness Makers. Wanted.

A good workman, in the above line, may meet with constant employment, by applying to Mr. *James Deeley*, TALBOT INN, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/10/1853

"On Wednesday, *James Deeley*, landlord of the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, was fined 10s and costs, for permitting drinking in his spirit shop on the Sunday previous."

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/3/1857

"Staffordshire Lent Assizes.

Thomas Davies, 27, miner, Benjamin Dean, 17, miner, John Nicolls, 18, miner, Henry Newell, 18, miner, Phineas Kendrick, 17, brickmaker, Thomas Meek, 21, forgerman, and Charles Bickley, 17, miner, were indicted for feloniously assaulting Joseph Boyer, on the 8th of March, 1857, at the parish of Rushall, and stealing from his person two half-crowns and a shilling, his moneys. Mr. Motteram appeared on behalf of the prosecution. Mr. Scotland had been retained to defend all the prisoners except Davies; but being engaged in conducting the prosecution against Kempson Walker in another court, and no other counsel being present, Mr. Sill, from the office of Messrs Duignan and Hemmant, the attorneys for the defence, cross-examined the witnesses who were called in support of the prosecution.

Several witnesses were examined, and from their combined testimony it appeared that on the evening in question the prosecutor was drinking at the TALBOT INN, in Walsall, which place he left about midnight, and proceeded towards Brownhills. When he got to the Butts he was attacked by three men, and knocked down and robbed. The son of the prosecutor and his wife were following him along the road, and when they came up one of the men who had been abusing the prosecutor seized the woman, were upon her husband struck him. The prisoner Davies was identified by the son's wife as the person who had hold of her; and when in custody he made a statement admitting that he had assaulted but not robbed the prisoner, and he implicated the other prisoners. Mr. Scotland, who had entered the Court, addressed the jury on behalf of his clients.

The jury acquitted all except Davies, and him the learned Judge sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

There was another indictment against all the prisoners for assaulting and robbing another man, at the same time and place, but no evidence was offered on it.

With this case the labours of Mr. Justice Crowder in connection with the Stafford Assizes terminated, and the Court rose at twenty minutes to eleven o'clock."

Walsall Free Press 11/6/1859 - Advert

"Valuable Retail Shops, Old Licensed Public-House, and Other Properties, in the Market Place and Bridgeman Street, Walsall. Notice Is Hereby given, that the Sale advertised to be held at the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, on Wednesday, the 22nd of June instant, at Seven o'clock, Will Not Take Place. Saml. Wilkinson, jun. Walsall, 10th June, 1859."

Allen's, carriers to Aldridge, left from here every Tuesday and Saturday afternoon. [1861], [1865]

James Deeley was also a brass furniture manufacturer. [1861]

1861 Census

9, Digbeth – TALBOT INN

[1] *Thomas Hughes* (49), victualler, born Darlaston;

[2] *Sarah Hughes* (52), wife, born Darlaston;

- [3] Hannah Hughes (28), daughter, born Darlaston;
- [4] Marian Hughes (26), daughter, born Darlaston;
- [5] George Thacker (26), man servant, born Kidderminster;
- [6] Daniel Barnsley (40), lodger, bill poster and messenger, born Manchester;
- [7] Charles Parker (41), lodger, horse breaker, born Lincoln;
- [8] George Coates (30), lodger, bill poster and messenger, born Tettenhall:

Birmingham Journal 11/5/1861 - Notice

“Re *Thomas Hughes*, of Walsall, Licensed Victualler, A Bankrupt.

To Publicans, Parties Furnishing, Brokers, and Others.

Peremptory and Unreserved sale, at the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, Staffordshire, By James Lowe.

To be Sold by Auction (by order of the Assignees of the above-named bankrupt), on the above Premises, on Tuesday next, May 11th – the valuable Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of the above well situated Old-Licensed Inn, together with (in lots), the whole of the neat and clean Household Furniture, Brewing Plant and Utensils, Fittings, Fixtures, and Effects, comprising tent Bedsteads, Mattresses, capital feather Beds, bed Linen, Washstands and Dressing Tables, oak and other Chests of Drawers, Carpet, &c, eight-day Clock in zebra wood case, mahogany Tables, capital Bagatelle Board, 5¼-octave Cottage Pianoforte in rosewood case, 5-motion Spirit Fountain, 6-pull Ale Machine with stop taps, liquor shop Counters, tables, benches, and Fittings, copper and pewter Measures, Cups, Jugs, and Glasses, Pier Glasses, 180-gallon copper Furnace, well-seasoned store Casks, Hogsheads and half Hogsheads, Coolers and Mash Tubs, Malt Mill, gathering and other Tubs, lead wort Piping, Kitchen Requisites, and numerous other Effects.

For full particulars see catalogues, to be had of the Auctioneer, 14, Cannon Street, Birmingham.

Sale to commence at half-past ten o'clock precisely.”

London Gazette 4/6/1861

“George Williams Sanders, Esq, one of Her Majesty’s Commissioners authorized to act under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, bearing date the 20th day of April, 1861, and filed in Her Majesty’s District Court of Bankruptcy, at Birmingham, against *Thomas Hughes*, of the TALBOT INN, Digbeth Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, Dealer and Chapman, has appointed a public sitting for the allowance of the Certificate under such Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, to be holden on the 24th day of June next, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon precisely, at the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, at Birmingham, when and where any of the creditors of the said bankrupt, who shall have given due notice of his intention to oppose, may be heard against the allowance of such Certificate, and the same will be allowed unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary, or such other order will be made therein as the justice of the case may require.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/5/1862 - Advert

“1862. For This Season. Open to Trot any Travelling Stallion in Great Britain.

Champion, the property of W. Yeomans and Brothers, Pennymore Hay, near the Four Ashes, Wolverhampton, will serve Mares this season. He was bred by Mr. Charles Groom, Snape Abbey, Suffolk. At £3 3s each Mare, and 5s the Groom, the Groom’s fee to be paid at the time of serving, and the remainder at Midsummer next.

Champion as a trotter stands unrivalled in England, and for colour, temper, symmetry, constitution, and actions, is not to be surpassed. He is a splendid and well-bred horse; stands 16 hands high; colour, a rich bay; perfectly sound; he has proved himself sure, and his colts are universally popular.....

On Wednesday Champion will be at the BLUE PIG, Bilston, from nine till ten; at the GIFFARDS ARMS, Cock Street, Wolverhampton, from twelve till four; at the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, stop all night.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/4/1863 - Advert

“TALBOT INN, Walsall.

To be Let, that above Old-established Wine and Spirit Vaults, situate in the centre of the market.

Apply to the proprietor, whose sole cause of leaving is illness.”

Walsall Free Press 25/4/1863 - Advert

“TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall.

To Sold By Auction, by Mr. J. Osbourn, upon the premises as above, on Monday next, April 27th, 1863, all the Household Furniture and other effects, belonging to Mr. *James Deeley*, who is leaving the town, comprising mahogany and other chairs, dining and other tables, handsome Eight-day time piece, sofas, mahogany, iron, and other bedsteads, mattresses, prime feather and flock beds, night chair, mahogany and painted washstand and dressing tables, chests of drawers, dressing glasses, handsome pianoforte, Spanish mahogany side-board, ornament, kitchen requisites, &c, also an excellent rick cloth, with poles, four vices, pair of bellows, sash frames, counter, desk, three ladders, &c.

NB – The whole to be sold without the slightest reserve, not having been taken to by Mr. *Samuel King*, who has taken the above Inn.

Sale to commence at Ten o'clock, under the usual conditions.”

Walsall Free Press 12/12/1863 - Advert

“*Samuel King*, TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, Begs to announce that he has commenced Dealing in Hay and Straw.

All orders punctually attended to, and delivered on the shortest notice.”

Samuel King was also a hay and straw dealer. [1864], [1865]

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/4/1864 - Advert

“For this Season, the fastest Trotting Stallions in Great Britain, Brown Orville and Champion, the property of J. Yeomans and Brothers, Pennymore Hay, near the Four Ashes, Wolverhampton, will Serve Mares this Season. At £2 2s each mare, and 5s the groom. The groom’s fee to be paid at the time of serving, the remainder to be paid on or before the 24th of June next, or 10s extra will be charged for collecting.

Brown Orville is descended from the first blood and fastest trotters in the kingdom; and for strength, symmetry, action, and breeding as a nag there can be among judges but one opinion. He has proved himself a sure foal-getter.

Tuesday, April 12th, TALBOT, Digbeth Walsall, from twelve till four, to WHITE HORSE, Wednesbury, for the night.

Champion takes this round on Monday, April 18th”

Walsall Free Press 30/4/1864 - Notice

“To the Master Builders of Walsall and the Public Generally.

The Operative House Carpenters and Joiners of Walsall, respectfully inform the Master Builders and the public generally, that on and after Monday, the 2nd day of May, 1864, it is our intention to commence work at Seven o’clock on Monday mornings, and to cease working at half-past Five on the first five evenings of the week, and Four o’clock on Saturdays.

By order of the Committee.”

AND

“Notice! Notice!!

To The Master Builders of Walsall.

We, the Operative Bricklayers of this Town, beg to inform you, our employers, that it is our intention to ask you for the same privilege that our Fellow Workmen in the surrounding district are enjoying, namely: To commence work at Seven o’clock on Monday Mornings, and to leave at half-past Five every day except Saturday, on which day the Working Hours shall terminate at Four pm.

The above alteration to commence May 2nd.

By acceding to our proposal you will much oblige.

Yours &c. The Operative Bricklayers of Walsall.

TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall. April 15th, 1864.”

Tufft, a carrier to Wolverhampton, left from here daily. [1865]

Birmingham Daily Post 26/1/1865 - Advert

“Found Straying, at Walsall, on the 13th inst, and now in the possession of Mr. *John Young*, TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, an Iron Grey Mare Pony, 11 to 12 hands high, about 7 years old, rough coat, and in good condition. If not claimed by the 28th inst, will be Sold to defray expenses.”

Birmingham Gazette 29/11/1865

“County Court. . . . *Ireson v. Young*. This was an action brought by the plaintiff, Henry Ireson, who is a fish dealer of Birmingham, to recover the sum of £5 from *John Young*, of the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, for damages sustained by reason of the defendant detaining a cart belonging to plaintiff for seven days. Mr. Ebsworth appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Mathews (from the office of Mr. Wilkinson) for the defendant. The facts of the case were simply these: the cart had been placed upon a piece of ground belonging to defendant, who seized it and stated he would retain it till the plaintiff paid 7s for the right of passing along the lane leading to the ground in question, but ultimately he returned it. The cart was detained for seven days, and the plaintiff had been compelled to hire another cart, and the action was to recover damages for the costs plaintiff had been put to in hiring a cart, and the loss he had sustained through inability to attend market. Verdict for the plaintiff for £2 10s to be paid in six weeks.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/12/1865

“Julia Collins, a respectably-dressed female, was charged with having in the early part of July last stolen a quantity of bed linen, the property of Mr. James Harding, landlord of the RAILWAY HOTEL, Station Street, and with having in the latter part of the same month stolen a counterpane, a sheet, a table cloth, and toilet cover, the property of Mr. *John Young*, landlord of the TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth. The prisoner, in company with a man whom she represented to be her husband, had lodged for about a fortnight at each place, and after she left these articles were missed. The prisoner, who pleaded guilty to each charge, was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 30/3/1867

“*John Young*, landlord of the TALBOT INN, pleaded guilty to having permitted beer to be consumed on his premises after one o’clock on Thursday morning last, and was fined 5s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/4/1869 - Advert

“That through-bred prize stallion, ‘Dagobert,’ for 1869, the property of J. Yeomans and Brothers, Pennymore Hay and Four Ashes, Wolverhampton. Thorough-bred mare, £6s 6d; other mares, £3 3s; grooms fee 5s; to be paid at the time. Will attend, health permitting, as follows.

Tuesday, through Shenstone and Sutton, to the TALBOT, Digbeth, Walsall, for the market, and night.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/10/1870 - Advert

“Wanted, a steady, industrious Man as Brewer an Ostler. Good character indispensable.
Apply, TALBOT INN, Walsall.”

1871 Census

9, Digbeth

- [1] *John Young* (50), publican, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Anne Young* (50), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Ellen Young* (19), sister, born Dudley Port;
- [4] *Betsy Wood* (20), general servant, born Bilston;
- [5] *Robert Rime* (54), ostler, born Shropshire;
- [6] *John Wilkes* (40), visitor, brick maker, born Manchester;
- [7] *Joseph Page* (60), visitor, miller, born Warwickshire;
- [8] *Jesse Weight* (20), boarder, bricklayer, born Measham, Derbyshire;
- [9] *William Davies* (19), boarder, bricklayer, born Measham, Derbyshire:

The house was run by *Richard Austin* and Co. [1873]

Midland Examiner 26/9/1874 - Advert

“Mastiff Puppies For Sale. Given Prize letter at the Walsall Dog Show.
Apply to Mr. *Peacock*, TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/11/1876

“*John Draper*, Paddock Lane, was charged with having on Friday, the 3rd inst, committed wilful and corrupt perjury. Mr. *Williams* (of the firm Messrs. *Duignan, Lewis and Williams*) appeared for the prosecutor, *William Tully*, George Street. The evidence adduced was to the effect that on the day named the defendant swore that the complainant has assaulted a young man named *George Wilkes* in Park Street, and pursued him to the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, where the landlord interfered and prevented his renewing his attack, the result of the evidence being that *Tully* was convicted of assault. On this occasion witnesses were called who deposed that the defendant on leaving the court boasted that he had ‘done’ *Tully*, and that he had been waiting two years for the opportunity; and that he did not know whether the assault was committed by *Tully* or by a young man named *Jones*. In addition, *Jones* came forward and admitted that he really did fight *Wilkes* and that *Tully* was not present at the time.

George Wilkes was next charged with having committed perjury under the same circumstances. *Jones*, on being again put into the box, admitted, in answer to Mr. *Holden*, that when giving evidence of the 3rd he said he didn’t know the name of the person who had committed the assault, although he should know him again if he saw him. The Bench dismissed *Wilkes*, but committed *Draper* for trial, remanding him, however, till Wednesday for completion of the depositions.”

[At the Staffordshire Winter Assizes on 29th November, 1876, *John Draper*, 22, saddler, was found guilty of perjury and sentenced to twelve months’ imprisonment.]

Walter Henry Peacock = *Henry William Peacock*

1881 Census

9, Digbeth

- [1] *Walter Henry Peacock* (34), licensed victualler, born Bridgwater, Somerset;
- [2] *Elizabeth A. C. Peacock* (31), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Walter Peacock* (13), son, scholar, born Bridgwater, Somerset;
- [4] *Charles Collins* (63), visitor, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/5/1883

“A petition has been filed in the Walsall Bankruptcy Court, on behalf of *William Walter Peacock*, of the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, licensed victualler, and wine, spirit, and ale merchant, with liabilities estimated at £2,600; solicitor, Mr. F. Bill, Walsall.”

London Gazette 1/6/1883

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, In the Matter of a Bankruptcy Petition against *Henry William Peacock*, of the TALBOT, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Keeper of an Inn, Licensed Victualler, and Wine and Spirit Merchant.

Upon the hearing of this Petition this day, and upon proof satisfactory to the Court of the debt of the Petitioner, and of the trading, and of the act or acts of the Bankruptcy alleged to have been committed by the said *Henry William Peacock* having been given, it is ordered that the said *Henry William Peacock* be, and he is hereby, adjudged bankrupt.

Given under the Seal of the Court this 28th day of May, 1883.

By the Court, F. F. Clarke, Registrar.

The First General Meeting of the creditors of the said *Henry William Peacock* is hereby summoned to be held at the office of this Court, Lichfield-street, Walsall, on the 13th day of June, 1883, at three o’clock in the afternoon, and that the Court has ordered the bankrupt to attend thereat for examination, and to produce thereat a statement of his affairs, as required by the statute.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1886 - Advert

“To Be Let, on 24th June, the TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth, Walsall.
Apply to Mr. J. Noake, Freer Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/8/1888 - Advert

“Walsall Florist Society.

The Ninth Annual Floral and Horticultural exhibition will be held on St. George’s Hall, on Monday & Tuesday, August 27 & 29.

Refreshments will be supplied by Mr. *John Donnelan*, TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses.

Mr. Herbert (instructed by Mr. Gillespie) also applied for a license for *Samuel Bowen*, of the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, for singing and playing on Tuesday, Saturday, and Monday evenings. The applicant said he was a quarterly tenant of the house at an annual rental of £185, but he paid weekly. Granted for the club-room, on Tuesday evenings.”

1891 Census

9, Digbeth – TALBOT INN

- [1] *Samuel Bowen* (51), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Eliza Bowen* (49), wife, born Penkull, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Samuel R. Bowen* (26), son, assurance agent, born London;
- [4] *John F. Bowen* (24), son, die sinker, born Battersea, London;
- [5] *Eliza A. Bowen* (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Bertha A. Bowen* (14), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Howard A. Bowen* (12), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [8] *Florence E. Bowen* (11), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [9] *Elsie M. Bowen* (9), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [10] *George H. Bowen* (7), son, scholar, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.

Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith (Messrs. Pearman-Smith and Sons) applied for the justices’ sanction to plans for alterations to the TALBOT INN, on behalf of Bents’ Brewery Co., the owners.

The Chief Constable opposed the application.

Mr Smith said the matter came before the Bench on July 19th, but it was then adjourned until the Brewster Sessions, so that the magistrates who then heard it might view the premises. He believed the only objection was that there was a right of road to an adjoining property through the middle of the licensed premises. It was one of those old premises in Walsall, and the difficulties had tried to be overcome by the owners, who had made endeavours to purchase the road round the rear of the licensed premises, but unfortunately nothing had been settled.

In answer to Mr. Loxton, Mr. Smith said the right of way could not be shut up on account of the premises at the back, but he did not know that the way was connected with any other house than the one with whose owner they had been endeavouring to negotiate.

Mr. Smith put in plans of the proposed alterations, and explained that there would be a curtailment of the licensed area. They were giving up a place formerly used as a bottling stores, and he remarked that from time to time for years they had been before the Bench with reference to alterations, and various suggestions had been made by the Chief. They had blocked out windows and doorways to carry out those suggestions to enable them to lay out the house to proper police supervision. He believed the Chief Constable’s only objection was the right of way going through the middle of the licensed premises, but that was a matter that it had been found impossible to deal with or do away with. And with regard to the licensing authorities the house would be no more difficult to supervise than it was today, and it was a right of road that had existed for many years.

The Chief Constable said that when the plans were first submitted he was rather in favour of supporting the application, only his attention was called to this right of road. Having seen the road, and also the occupier of the property to which it led, he was compelled to oppose any alterations that would place the premises in a position which Mr. Smith suggested, for the reason that the landlord would practically have no control over the premises that were separated from him and there was nothing to prevent anyone from going through those premises from the TALBOT when occasionally required. The police would not have any control over the place at the back.

Application refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

“The application of *Nancy Lowe*, TALBOT INN, Digbeth, for a billiard license was departed from, no one appearing in support.”

Edward Bethell = Edward Bethel

1901 Census

Digbeth – TALBOT INN

[1] *Edward Bethell* (34), licensed victualler, born Liverpool;

[2] *Annie Bethell* (35), wife, born Chester;

[3] Edmund Bethell (5), son, born Chester:

Plans for alterations were approved on 31st August 1900.

Walsall Advertiser 30/8/1902

“A charge of ill-treating a cat on August 7th was preferred against William Williams, of 55, Dalkeith Street, and Thomas Macdermitt, 3, Portland Street. Mr. Barrows prosecuted. He called Mr. *Bethel*, the landlord of the TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth. He stated that on the Thursday evening named in the charge, he left the two defendants with another man, in the bar of his place for a few minutes. From where he stood he was able to keep an eye on the third man, who never moved. When he returned to the bar McDermitt was in a stooping position, with his hands underneath the sofa. He got up, wiped his hands, and then both defendant walked out together. Looking under the sofa, he found his kitten bleeding from the nostrils, and gasping for breath. He thereupon ran out and gave and gave the defendants into the charge of a policeman.

Mr. G. H. Kitchin deposed to examining the kitten in question. It was paralysed in the hind quarters from breakage of the spine, and its near fore leg was almost torn from the body. It was dying, and he therefore poisoned it.

Williams denied any knowledge of the affair, and was discharged. Macdermitt was fined 60s and costs (18s 6d), or 21 days' imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/12/1902

“Walsall Early Closers F.C. The third in a series of smoking concerts was held in connection with the above club on Wednesday evening at the TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth, and was a great success. The new billiard room was decorated for the occasion, and Mr. H. Mills presided at the piano. Mr. Busby was in the chair. An excellent programme was compiled as follows: Pianoforte solo, Master Walters; song, ‘Marguerite,’ Master Walters; song, ‘True till death,’ Mr. Hens; song, ‘Bonny Mary of Argyle,’ Mr. Busby; comic song, ‘It was a sad day for me,’ Mr. G. Bates; recitation, ‘The Midnight Charge,’ Mr. F. Bennett; song, ‘Just as the sun went down,’ Mr. Huskins; comic song, ‘It’s a thing I never interfere with,’ Mr. Thorney; recitation, ‘The Dover Express,’ Mr. Huskins; comic song, ‘The Wax Work Show,’ Mr. J. Lord; comic song, ‘Woman,’ Mr. H. Dabbs; recitation, ‘The Lifeboat,’ Mr. Huskins; comic song, ‘Can’t he take my word’ (encore, ‘I wonder what he’s going to do next’), Mr. Thorney.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/8/1906

“On Wednesday of this week, Mr. W. H. Westwood, secretary of the Walsall Theatres Company, introduced one of our representatives to a gentlemen who, after 25 years' absence, has come back to Walsall, to take charge of the bars in connection with the Grand Theatre here, viz, Mr. *Harry W. Peacock*. By the old school, of the halcyon days of athleticism in Walsall, Mr. *Peacock* will be remembered as host of the TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth, from about 1871 to 1881, and frequently promoter of and caterer of athletic festivals which in those days used to flourish in the Arboretum, and in which not a few of our public men and leading tradesmen of to-day showed their prowess to such an extent as to make Walsall a nursery of sport, and the envy of larger towns in the Midlands, for the prowess of its sons in almost every branch of athletics. For many years Mr. *Peacock* catered for the wants of the Walsall cricketers at the Chuckery – in the late palmy days of ‘Jack’ Brown, the late ‘Bob’ Leighton, Mr. E. Hurst, &c, and with a shake of the head did he recall the wretched weather on the occasion of the three days' match at the Chuckery, between 22 of Walsall and District and an All England Eleven, which included Dr. W. G. Grace and the late Dr. E. M. Grace. Those were the days when Walsall Races were in full swing, and most of the race horses were stabled at the TALBOT hostelry.

An interesting personality, Mr. *Peacock* in the course of chatting with our representative, recalled many interesting episodes of Walsall life a good generation ago, since which he had been on business in Birmingham, a portion of the time at the Central Restaurant, Corporation Street, &c.

To playgoers, Mr. *Peacock*'s son Harry is well known as ‘Leonard Russell,’ a baritone of ‘Florodora’ fame, who has met with so much success in high class opera; and who, by the way, takes part in a new production next Monday at Nottingham of ‘The Sweet Girl,’ by Miss Claudia Lasell’s Company, which we understand is likely in the near future to visit Walsall. Mr. *Harry Peacock* (Leonard Russell) is an old boy of Queen Mary’s Grammar School, where he held a scholarship for three years, which he had won somewhat coincidentally; he happened to be home on vacation from Grange House Academy, Leominster, and replying to an advertisement as to a competition for a scholarship at Queen Mary’s, went in and won it. We expect to hear shortly that ‘The Sweet Girl’ is booked for Walsall during the season bringing with ‘her’ Leonard Russell.”

1911 Census

9, Digbeth - TALBOT

[1] *Edward Bethell* (44), publican, born Liverpool;

[2] *Annie Bethell* (45), wife, married 24 years, born Chester:

Walsall Advertiser 26/7/1913

“John Freeman (25), a boatman, 29, Proffitt Street, was charged with stealing one head collar, three manger chains and one head brass, total value 15/-, the property of Percy Claridge, of 60, Wednesbury Road, on Saturday last.

Prosecutor said he stabled his horses at the back of the TALBOT INN, Digbeth. At 5.45 on the day in question he went to the stables to see that everything was in order, and on opening the doors saw prisoner climbing them. He closed the doors at once

and went for the police. The stable gates were 8 feet high. Prisoner worked for witness one day last week, but did but see him afterwards and did not ask for his money.

Cross-examined by prisoner, witness said he did not see him cut the brass from the bridles, but saw him take them from his pocket.

Police-constable Harcourt said that while on duty in the market on Saturday he was called to the inn and found prisoner in the stable. He noticed the chains hanging from his pocket and the head collar in his hand. He found the head brass with the leader and two more chains when searching witness at the station. Visiting the stables later, witness found a hand-cart against the gates as if for someone to climb over from it. When charged, prisoner, who was under the influence of drink, replied, 'No, sir.'

Prisoner said the things were placed behind the door for a 'trap' and he fell into it.

The Chief Constable said accused had been arrested under various names and had been given six weeks for larceny.

A sentence of six weeks' hard labour was imposed."

Walsall Observer 5/2/1916

"The general annual licensing sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday morning.....

The justices view with increasing displeasure the practice on the part of some license holders of permitting drinking in the passages, entries and gateways attached to their licensed houses. They call particular attention to four houses visited by them, namely, the NEW INNS, Park Street (in which case an undertaking had previously been given that the practice should be discontinued); the DURHAM OX, the TALBOT, and the TURKS HEAD.

In addition, the sanitary arrangements of these houses was most unsatisfactory. Objection is taken in open court on behalf of the Licensing Committee to the renewal of these four houses, and will be put back until the adjourned general annual licensing meeting, at which the personal attendance of the licensees will be required....."

Walsall Observer 26/2/1916

"The adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

TALBOT, Digbeth. In this case Mr. Pearman-Smith also appeared for the license-holder (*Edward Bethell*). Chief Inspector Balance said people used the yard for undesirable purposes. The present licensee had been there for sixteen years, and the house was well conducted.

Adjourned for a month for plans of the licensed area to be deposited.

It was intimated that the licensees would be responsible for any drinking taking place in the entries."

Evening Despatch 24/3/1916

"A further sitting of the Walsall Licensing justices was held today.....

The Justices also agreed to renew the licenses of the TALBOT and TURKS HEAD on certain suggestions made by them as to the alterations being met by the owners of the houses."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/7/1916 - Roll of Honour

"Private *Edward Bethell*, son of Mr. *Edward Bethell*, proprietor of the TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth, Walsall, has been slightly wounded in the left shoulder, and arm, and has been sent to a Birmingham hospital. He has two brothers-in-law who have also been wounded."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth. £1 19s 9d."

Lichfield Mercury 5/11/1926

"A scene at the TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth, had a sequel at Walsall on Tuesday, when George Edis, engineman, Hollyhedge Lane was fined £5 and ordered to pay £3 2s as compensation for having (1) assaulted *John Henry [sic] Brotherton*, the licensee; (2) refused to quit the licensed premises, and (3) damaged an urn to the amount of £3 2s.

Mr. H. H. Jackson (prosecuting) said that on October 23rd Edis was ordered to leave as he was quarrelsome. Without more ado he picked up the lid from a hot water urn and threw it at the landlord, hitting him at the back of the head and rendered him unconscious for half an hour. When Mrs. *Brotherton* sent for the police Edis threw a tumbler at her but she 'ducked' and it missed her. Not content with that he seized the urn as if to throw that as well, but dropped it and the contents went all about the place. *Brotherton*, in evidence, said he remembered nothing after being 'knocked out.' He had turned to serve a customer when the missile struck him.

Edis had a bad record, this being his 22nd appearance, but Mr. A. F. Griffin gave an assurance that he was trying to go straight and was now in regular employment.

Mr. T. A. Smith (chairman) said the Bench were determined to protect licensees. Walsall was reported to be the most sober town in Great Britain, and some of the credit for this attached to the landlords of licensed houses, who must be supported in doing their duty."

1939 Register

9, Digbeth – TALBOT HOTEL Public House

[1] *Frederick Lord*, date of birth 22/9/1880, licensee, married;

[2] *Lucy A. Lord*, dob 18/5/1878, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Florence E. (Lord) Wood, dob 2/7/1907, barmaid, single:

Walsall Observer 13/7/1940 - Marriages

“On Saturday, July 6, 1940, by special; license, Sergeant Thomas Wood, third son of the late Mr. A. Wood and Mrs. C. Lowbridge, of Alexandra Road, to Elsie, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *F. Lord*, of TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth, £5 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth (Second donation). £1 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Lord*, TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth. £0 10s 1d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

TALBOT HOTEL, Digbeth. £33 0s 0d.”

It closed in January 1963.

It was demolished in March 1963.

TANNERS ARMS

3, Day Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Henry Newton, Day Street, Walsall

W. Newlove

Mrs. Newlove, Caldmore, Walsall

William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1925)

LICENSEES

Mrs. Sarah Fletcher [1867] – **1872**);

William Shenton (**1872** – []

William Shenton Jnr. [1880];

William Sutton [1881] – **1888**);

Charlotte Sutton (**1888** – [];

Mrs. Charlotte Broadhurst [1891] – **1928**);

Charles Josiah Lester (**1928** – **1939**);

Cyril Vernon Sleigh (**1939** – **1940**);

George Thomas Rathbone (**1940** – **1950**);

Daniel Smith (**1950** – **1957**);

Howard Large (**1957** – **1959**);

Arthur William Parkes (**1959** – **1962**);

James Henry Smith (**1962** – [1966]

NOTES

It was originally an unnamed beerhouse.

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

It had a six-day license.

It was originally the CURRIERS ARMS. [1863], [1872]

It became known as the STORES.

The name was changed to TANNERS ARMS.

Walsall Free Press 25/7/1863 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Private Treaty, Ten Freehold Houses, in the Foreign of Walsall, well-built, and in good Repair, situate in Day and Chapel Streets. One, that old-established Public House, the CURRIERS ARMS, with five houses in Day and Four in Chapel Streets adjoining, all tenanted except one. Annual rents £84 12s. May be bought to turn in over 10 per cent. Two thirds of the purchase money may remain on Mortgage at 4½ if required. Apply at 18, Bridge Street.”

1871 Census

3, Day Street

- [1] *Sarah Fletcher* (38), widow, publican, born Bilston;
- [2] *Alice M. Fletcher* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [3] *Martha Fletcher* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

1881 Census

3, Day Street

- [1] *William Sutton* (27), beerhouse keeper, born Tipton;
- [2] *Charlotte Sutton* (26), wife, born Kensham, Gloucestershire (?);
- [3] *Ann Sutton* (1), daughter, born Walsall:

1891 Census

3, Day Street

- [1] *Alfred Broadhurst* (41), caster, born Walsall;
 - [2] *Charlotte Broadhurst* (36), beerhouse keeper, born Kingham, Worcestershire;
 - [3] *Annie Sutton* (11), daughter in law, scholar, born Walsall;
 - [4] *Polly Sutton* (9), daughter in law, scholar, born Walsall;
 - [5] *Treasa Broadhurst* (7 months), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [6] *Annie Bedder* (18), general servant, born Oakengates, Shropshire:
- [It appears that Charlotte Sutton married Alfred Broadhurst after William Sutton died.]

1901 Census

3, Day Street

- [1] *Alfred Broadhurst* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
 - [2] *Charlotte Broadhurst* (46), wife, born Kingham, Worcestershire;
 - [3] *Mary A. Sutton* (19), daughter in law, born Walsall;
 - [4] *Teresa Broadhurst* (10), daughter, born Walsall;
 - [5] *Lily Broadhurst* (9), daughter, born Walsall:
- [Charlotte was actually the license holder.]

Mrs. *Charlotte Broadhurst*, beer retailer, 3, Day Street. [1904]

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air Rifle League. [1906]

Walsall Advertiser 19/1/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

Mrs. *Charlotte Broadhurst*, 3, Day Street, was unanimously elected member of the society.”

1911 Census

Day Street – The STORES

- [1] *Charlotte Broadhurst* (55), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Kinsom, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Teresa Broadhurst* (20), daughter, assistant in business, born Walsall;
- [3] *Lillian Broadhurst* (19), daughter, milliner, born Walsall;
- [4] *Kathleen Finegan* (9), niece, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 9/2/1924

“.....The STORES, said Chief Inspector Cooke, had only one living room, and that was hardly fit to live in. There were three bedrooms, one of which was used as a sitting room The trade was about seven barrels a week.

Replying to Mr. Langley, the witness [at the annual licensing sessions] agreed that the proposed alterations allowed for a great improvement in the domestic accommodation. The licensee, Mrs. *Broadhurst*, had been on the premises 45 years and had held the license 35 years, and both she, and her daughter, who assisted her, were widows.....”

Rugeley Times 22/7/1939

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers Society, held on Thursday, at ROUGH HAY TAVERN, Darlaston, there was a good attendance of members.....

Cyril Vernon Sleigh, TANNERS ARMS, Day Street were elected members of the society.”

1939 Register

3, Day Street (2 of 5)

- [1] *Cyril V. Sleigh*, date of birth 21/4/1894, public house manager, married;
- [2] *Mercy Sleigh*, dob 30/9/1901, household duties and bar work, married;

Cyril Vernon Sleigh – see also OLD STILL.

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

TANNERS ARMS, Day Street. £1 2s 10d.”

Daniel Smith – see also OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Bloxwich.

A full license was granted on 4th February 1960.

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....

TANNERS ARMS, Day Street, Walsall.”

Demolished

Rebuilt

TANNERS ARMS

71, (70), Hatherton Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Paddock

William Wilkes

Messrs. Yardley and Co. Ltd. (leased)

South Staffordshire Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Webster [1858]

John Arblaster [1864] – [1870]

Stephen Hunter [1871] – [1874]

William Wilkes [1881] – **1888**;

William Mitchell (1888 – 1892);
James Barnes (1892 – 1901);
Thomas ‘Tommy’ Powell (1901 – 1907);
Patrick Donlon (1907);
Mrs. Jane Duddy (1907 – 1909):

NOTES

70, Hatherton Street [1881]

71, Hatherton Street [1891]

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....

Edward Webster, Hatherton Street. Refused.”

Edward Webster, beer retailer, 71, Hatherton Street. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 15/5/1858 - Advert

“Desirable Property, At Walsall.

Mr. Chattock will Sell By Auction, at the NEW INN, Walsall, the TANNERS ARMS public house, and Four Houses adjoining, with the workshops thereto belonging, eligibly situated in Hatherton Street, contiguous of several manufactories and work, further particulars will appear in future advertisements and bill, to be had of Mr. Jackson, Solicitor, West Bromwich; or Mr. Chattock, Surveyor and Auctioneer, 65, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 11/10/1862 - Advert

“To Publicans.

To be Let, the TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, fitted up with counter, gas, shelves, &c, and workshop attached.

Apply to John H. Cooper, 12, Wolverhampton Street.”

Walsall Free Press 18/10/1862 - Advert

“To Publicans.

To be Let, the TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street. Coming in moderate, and to be taken to at a fair value.

For particulars apply on the premises.”

John Arblaster, beer retailer, 71, Hatherton Street. [1864], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

John Arblaster, TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street applied personally for licenses, but their applications were refused.”

1871 Census

71, Hatherton Street – TANNERS ARMS

[1] *Stephen Hunter* (23), currier, born Birmingham;

[2] Harriet Hunter (28), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Stephen Hunter (15 months), son, born Walsall;

[4] William H. Hunter (1 month), son, born Walsall;

[5] Jane Parsons (16), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Stephen Hunter, beer retailer, 71, Hatherton Street. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 21/9/1874

“Walsall Dog Show Toy Dogs (Rough-coated), Dogs or Bitches, not exceeding 6lbs in weight (seven entries).....

2nd ‘Topsy’, 15 months, Mr. *Stephen Hunter*, TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, Walsall.”

Stephen Hunter – see also BARREL.

1881 Census

70, Hatherton Street

[1] *William Wilkes* (31), cooper and brewer, born James Bridge;

[2] Lucy H. Wilkes (30), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Eliza Wilkes (6 months), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] Lucy M. Cooper (13), domestic servant, born Walsall;
[5] John Smith (24), lodger, printer, born Darlaston:

1891 Census

71, Hatherton Street

[1] *William Mitchell* (42), beer dealer, born Barford;
[2] Maria Mitchell (41), wife, born Wednesbury;
[3] Emma Mitchell (21), daughter, born Wednesbury;
[4] Maria Mitchell (10), daughter, born Walsall;
[5] William Mitchell (8), son, born Walsall;
[6] Susan Mitchell (6), daughter, born Walsall:

James Barnes = James Baines

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1892

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....
The Chief-constable then gave formal notice that he intended to oppose the renewal of the following licenses.....
The TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, for the same reason [the licensee was not the real owner and occupier].”

Walsall Observer 1/10/1892

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday.....
Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for the removal of the license of the TANNERS ARMS beerhouse, Hatherton Street.
The Chief-constable explained that the license was in the name of *William Mitchell*, who had been a manager. An application was made for the license to be transferred to a man named *James Baines*, and he (the Chief-constable) then opposed on the ground that no license existed, *Mitchell* not having been the real resident, holder, and occupier, as required by the Act. The magistrates, however, decided to grant a transfer till that day, and he (the Chief-constable) was advised that in consequence of this step he would not likely gain his point should the case go to appeal.
Mr. Loxton said the transfer was granted without prejudice to the Chief-constable.
The Chief-constable said he was advised that this did not make any difference. Should he ever have to deal with a similar case, he should raise the question by issuing a summons for selling without a license Renewed.”

James Baines, beer retailer, 71, Hatherton Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 5/7/1902

“James Spicer, 92, Hatherton Street, was summoned for assaulting Ann Spicer (his wife), on June 23rd. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.
Complainant’s statement was to the effect that she went into the TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, on the previous Monday, and when she got put into the street her husband knocked her down and kicked her. She had not been living with him this year, and had kept herself by working as a laundress.
A witness supported this statement.
The defence was a denial of the assault, it being said that the complainant knocked against defendant and slipped down.
A fine of 5s and costs was imposed.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.
List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....
TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street. 4s 9d.”

Thomas Powell, beer retailer, 71, Hatherton Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

“Walsall Air-Gun League.
The first annual meeting of the above was held at the CRITERION, Stafford Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smallwood presided, and there was also present Messrs. Hicken (EAGLE), G. Smith (OLD KINGS ARMS), *Powell* (TANNERS ARMS), E. James (PLUMBERS ARMS), McDonald (CRITERION), Cliffe (GOLDEN EAGLE), Hunt, E. Towe (treasurer), and Mason (secretary).....
The undermentioned clubs with power to add to their number, were elected to the League for the forthcoming season: The WHITE HART (Walhouse Street), TANNERS ARMS, OLD KINGS ARMS, EAGLE, PLUMBERS ARMS, CRITERION, GOLDEN EAGLE, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, OAK, and DUKE OF YORK.
There was no other business of public interest.”

Jane Duddy = Jane Dudley

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 3rd February 1909.

Walsall Advertiser 22/5/1909

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, 1909, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, Beerhouse. Licensee, *Jane Duddy*.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The principal meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, when eight beer-houses and one ale-house, the licenses of which had been referred by the licensing justices, were dealt with, and in each instance the houses were referred for compensation, which means in due course the houses will close.....

TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street. The owner is Lord Hatherton, and the premises are let on a lease to Messrs. J. J. Yardley and Co. Ltd., the tenant being Mrs. *Jane Dudley*.

Mr. Grundy Newman, who appeared for the lessees and tenant, said the lease had ten or eleven years to run, and the tenant was paying a rental of £60, for which two adjoining cottages were included. The tenant was also tied to take 150 quarters of malt under the lease from Messrs Downing's trustees, who were the lessees for a long time under Lord Hatherton, the ground landlord.

Mr. Heyes (Hand and Co., Stafford), said he appeared for Lord Hatherton, who as the ground landlord, and on whose behalf he should have something to say when the bench had decided as to whether or not the license should be referred.

The Magistrates' Clerk: The magistrates have to decide as to whether you are entitled or not. (To the Bench): Will you admit Lord Hatherton?

Mr. Newman said he could not see what claim Lord Hatherton had, seeing that the ground rent was only 19s a year.

Mr. Loxton pointed out that the authority had power to refuse or renew the licenses; therefore, all persons interested would be given an opportunity of being heard.

Mr. Heyes contended that the question of compensation must be dealt with at a supplementary meeting.

Mr. Loxton said technically this was so, but if there was going to be a dispute as to whether Lord Hatherton was entitled to be heard that must be settled at the proper meeting.

Mr. Jackson drew attention to Rule 21 of the Act, which, he said, met the whole thing.

Mr. Loxton: We will take it that Lord Hatherton is on the register as the ground landlord, and leave the technical question to be settled afterwards.

Mr. Newman said undoubtedly it was for a future occasion to decide that point.

It was therefore agreed to leave that question, but Mr. Heyes told the authority that he did not agree with the figures that were submitted on behalf of the lessees or tenant – rent or anything.

Mr. Newman: Then perhaps you will give us the correct ones. You have the lease in your possession. – Mr. Heyes: Yes; it is dated 27th February, 1856, and the terms are for 99 years, at an annual ground rental of £2.

Mr. Newman: Not legally. It is in one property. We don't apportion between owners.

Mr. Newman said a certain portion of property comprised within the lease was not licensed premises.

Mr. Loxton: That can be settled by giving 21 days' notice.

Inspector Ballance having given formal evidence, Mr. Newman said he was instructed on behalf of the parties whom he represented not to contest the license; further, he did not propose to waste time by calling evidence. He should like it to be understood that he did not admit the accuracy of the evidence given in the report of the renewal authority to the compensation authority. He would, however, be prepared to give figures at the proper time. He did not know what Lord Hatherton would consider his reversion to be worth. That, of course, was an additional item. It was an ante-'69 beer-house, and so far as his clients were concerned the amount of compensation was put at £1,500 or £2,000. Of course, he did not want to bind himself to that amount, as so many people were interested in it. It must be borne in mind that an increasing trade was being done in the house.

Mr. Heyes thought they might establish the principle that Lord Hatherton was entitled to something whether it be large or small.

Mr. Loxton: Hadn't you better discuss the point with Mr. Newman? – Mr. Newman: Lord Hatherton has not contributed anything to the compensation fund.

Mr. Heyes said no claim had been made. In similar cases Lord Hatherton did allow something for the compensation fund.

Mr. Newman: I am delighted to hear it.

A discussion took place between Messrs. Newman and Heyes, but the result was not disclosed.....

The Bench having heard each case separately retired to consider their decision. In returning, the Mayor intimated that the renewals authority report would be adopted, and all the houses referred for compensation.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1909

“A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall, on Thursday, Sir Edward T. Holden presiding over a full Bench of Magistrates.....

The principal matter under discussion was the question of compensation respecting the TANNERS ARMS, beerhouse, Hatherton Street. Mr. A. Everett, of Hand and Company, Stafford, represented Lord Hatherton, the ground landlord, and Mr. S. A. Newman (Walsall), appeared for other parties interested, viz, Messrs. Downing, the holders of the sub lease, Messrs. Yardley and Co, the sub-lessees, Mrs. *Dudley*, the annual tenant, and Mr. James Henry Stephens, the Receiver of the first mortgage debenture holder. Mr. S. A. Newman put in the necessary agreement as to the compensation claimed, this amounting to £1,885. He further stated

that his clients disputed the right of the ground landlord, Lord Hatherton, to a share of the compensation.

Mr. Everett thereupon went into the legal question, and quoted the case of Peter Walker and Co., and the Corporation of Liverpool, respecting a license which, he said, conclusively proved that the ground landlord had a right to a share of the compensation. He stated that the Liverpool Corporation were the ground landlords, and Lord Justice Farrell had held that the persons who had a legal interest in the premises were those who were entitled to compensation. He held that Lord Hatherton had a legal right, as he was the ground landlord, to participate in the compensation.

Mr. Newman replied that at the time the lease was granted by Lord Hatherton, the license was not in existence, nor was the building erected. The license was, to some extent, due to the ingenuity of someone else, and not the ground landlord, but when it became a case of a sum of money being divided the ground landlord had come in, and had asked as much as 25 per cent of the money.

Mr. C. A. Loxton (the Magistrates' Clerk) asked whether the Liverpool case was ever contested.

Mr. Everett: No.

Mr. Loxton: Then it is hardly a decision is it?

Mr. Everett replied that the amount to be divided was left to a county court judge, and if the judge had held that the ground landlord had nothing to do with the matter he would have refused to grant any compensation, whereas in this case a substantial sum was granted. Under those circumstances he held that the case was one he was quite justified in quoting.

Mr. Newman, however, argued that the Liverpool case was simply sent to the county court judge to divide the compensation, which had previously been fixed, whereas in the case before the Court that day the compensation had not been decided.

Mr. C. A. Loxton then asked whether Lord Hatherton had contributed anything to the Compensation Fund.

Mr. Everett replied that there were about twenty houses in which his Lordship was interested in the matter of compensation for ground rent, and it had been his practice to allow the tenants to deduct so much from their rents to meet the ground landlord's contribution to the fund. In this case this had not been done, but his Lordship was quite willing that any proper allowance should be made for his share to the Compensation Fund.

The Magistrates said they had decided that Lord Hatherton had no claim to a share of the compensation, and they were willing to grant a case for a higher Court, whereupon Mr. Everett intimated that it was the intention to appeal against the decision, and to give the usual notices.....

The Magistrates decided to hold a further private sitting to go into the question of figures with the solicitors.

The decisions will be announced at a later date."

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

Jane Duddy, TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street.....

Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman appeared in the case of the TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, and applied for the renewal of the license.

Matters affecting this house are at present the subject of an action in the High Court, and after an argument between the Magistrates' Clerk and Mr. Grundy-Newman as to the advisability of proceeding with the case before a decision had been given the Magistrates, after retiring, deferred it until the adjourned sessions."

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

TANNERS ARMS. Mr. S. A. Grundy Newman applied for a provisional license for the above house, under rule 43 of the Licensing Act of 1904.

Mr. Muncaster stated that the claim for compensation was lodged on or about August 19th. In cross-examination he stated that on June 15 notice was sent that compensation had become payable in respect to the house. In February last year a provisional license was granted. The compensation had not yet been paid.

Mr. Bewlay was called to give evidence as to the value and Mr. Newman said that if the magistrates were going to hear objections on annual value, any attempt to go into the question would be prejudicial to the parties concerned as also to the case before the High Court, and he was advised that the proper course was not to take any further part in the proceedings. He asked to be excused from doing so.

The Bench refused the application on the grounds that the house was not of the statutory value. Notice of appeal was given."

Closed.

Walsall Observer 27/3/1943

"Having spent about four years at Caldmore Church School, chiefly in learning something of the 'three Rs,' little *Tommy Powell* was considered to have had sufficient education to equip him for the life of an ordinary working man. So at the age of eight years he began to earn something towards his maintenance. It was half-a-crown a week for what he was able to do for a Walsall chain-front maker named Archer. Four years later he began working in the casting trade. That was to be the chief occupation of his life; but though he worked hard and for long hours for many years Mr. *Powell* has been lucky enough to enjoy good health, and to-day at the age of nearly 81, he is still fairly fit apart from foot trouble.

On Wednesday he and his wife celebrated their diamond wedding at their home at 22, Lysways Street, for they were married at the Mount Church on March 24, 1883, when they were but twenty and nineteen respectively. Mrs. *Powell* is, if anything, in better trim than her husband, for she is still able to do all her own housework and has sight good enough to enable her to thread a needle,

without the aid of glasses.

Mr. *Powell*'s longest spell with one employer was at the works of Broadhurst & Co., Hatherton Street, where he remained for twenty years until about 1901. That marked the end of his industrial life; but he afterwards engaged in the licensed trade, first as licensee of the TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, and then some sixteen years before his retirement at the VINE INN, Hall Lane.

Mr. and Mrs. *Powell* have had two sons and three daughters and there are four grandchildren, two serving in the Army, and one grandson."

TANNERY

Burrowes Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1983]

[Sandwell Evening Mail 2/10/1992 - Advert](#)

"Cheers! Have a free drink on us.

Cheers! Here's your chance to have Another drink Free on the *Evening Mail*. We've got thousands more Free pints to give away and the toast of the Midlands is once again Ansells! Yes, it's Free Beer time again at over 100 selected Ansells houses throughout the Midlands. Thousands of *Evening Mail* readers toasted the August Bank Holiday with our last two-pints-for-the-price-of-one opportunity. Now, for the next seven days, we are delighted to repeat the chance. You can enjoy a sparkling glass of beer or lager – or a generous measure of wine – Absolutely Free – when you buy an equivalent drink. Simply cut out the coupon below, fill in your name and address and take it along to any of the listed venues.....

Walsall: The TANNERY."

[2005]

Closed [2007], [2014]

Demolished [2015]

TAVERN IN THE TOWN

12, Bradford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Downing, maltster, Smethwick

Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939) [1980]

LICENSEES

William James [1841]

Henry Smith [1841] – [1865]

Mrs. W James []

George Dutson [1868] – [1870]

Charles Walter Marsh [1871] – [1881]

Mrs. Elizabeth Obery Marsh [1891] – **1901**;

Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Cartlidge (1901 – 1909);
Frederick Brewer (1909 – 1924);
Mrs. Mary Brewer (1924 – 1944);
William Bayliss (1944 – 1945);
Edith Bayliss (1945 – 1956);
Albert George Allen (1956 – 1963);
Raymond Howard Hattersley (1963 – [1966]
Tony Fenton [1985]
Graham Pinches [1994]

NOTES

It was situated opposite to the cenotaph.

It was originally the TURF TAVERN.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/3/1841

“Walsall Election Committee in the House of Commons a petition complaining of the return of Mr. Gladstone for the borough of Walsall, by reason of his having been by himself, his agents and managers, guilty of bribing and treating the electors..... *William James*, late landlord of the TURF, at Walsall, was next examined He had given a treat to several of his friends on the occasion of his leaving the house, but he distinctly swore that it was voluntarily given by himself, and that he did not look to any one for payment, and, on his solemn oath, he never expected to be paid for it. That treat was given a month before the election.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/5/1844 - Deaths

“On Wednesday last, Fanny, wife of Mr. *William James*, late of the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, Walsall, aged 64 years.”

H. Smith issued tokens from here.

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/6/1855 - Advert

“Ten Shillings Reward. Lost a Liver and White and much ticked Pointer Dog. The tip of his tail has been cut off recently. Any one finding the same and will bring it to Mr. *H. Smith*'s, TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, Walsall, shall receive the above Reward.”

Birmingham Journal 27/10/1855

“Hannah Murray was on Monday brought up on remand before the Magistrates, at the Guildhall, on the following charges. Mrs. *Eliza Smith*, wife of the landlord of the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, said that the prisoner had been in her service for four months, and left about a month ago. During the time she was her servant she missed several things. On the 16th instant the accused came for an old apron, which she stated she had left behind her. The witness asked her about the missing things, and particularly a skirt that had been lost, and she said she knew nothing about them. However, it was found she was at the moment wearing the skirt. Police-constable Humphreys stated he was sent for by the prosecutrix, and told the prisoner the charge against her. The latter said the skirt was the only thing she had taken, and she hoped her mistress would forgive her. There was another charge against the accused, preferred by Mrs. Phoebe Arch, wife of a retail brewer in Dudley Street, who said the prisoner lived with her for four weeks, and left on the previous Monday. The umbrella and towels produced were her (the witness's) property. The Bench convicted summarily, and for each offence sentenced the prisoner to one month's hard labour. The Mayor addressed some judicious advice to her, and hoped she would take warning for the future, as such a course of conduct, if continued, would inevitably terminate in transportation, or some other punishment equally severe.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/12/1857

“An inquest was held on Wednesday evening, before Mr. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, at the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, on the body of a boy nine months old, son of a travelling showman, named William Preston, and who died from the effects of an overdose of laudanum administered by his parents. The father of deceased deposed that on Monday night, about eight o'clock, he took a small bottle to the shop of Mr. Samuel Day, chemist, Digbeth, and asked for a pennyworth of tincture of rhubarb, stating that he wanted it to give his child, who was suffering from a stomach-ache. Mr. Day took the bottle from him, and poured something into it, observing that five or six drops would be a proper dose for a child of the age described. About a quarter of an hour afterward the mother administered to deceased seven drops. The child went to sleep almost immediately, and in about another quarter of an hour appeared to be slightly convulsed. Witness wrapped it up in a rug, and carried it to Mr Day, who, on being asked what he had given him, answered 'laudanum'. Mr. Day then gave the child some liquid, stating it would take no harm. This remedy had no effect, and Mr. Day recommended witness to apply to a doctor. He accordingly went to Mr. Fletcher (the coroner), and that gentleman at once said there were not the slightest hopes of recovery. Mr. Fletcher ordered some remedies, which were applied during the whole night, but the child expired early on the following morning. Witness denied that Mr. Day, at the time he gave him the medicine, said it was laudanum, or cautioned him as to giving more than two drops. Mr. Day was next examined, and distinctly affirmed that the last witness asked him for a pennyworth of laudanum, and that he

answered he had an objection to sell laudanum, especially for a child, particularly cautioning him not to give it more than two or three drops. Witness also denied that Preston had stated the age of the child, but merely said he wanted the medicine for a child who had a pain in the stomach.

Mr. Hall, assistant to Mr. Day, corroborated his employer's statement; and a verdict was returned that death had been caused by the accidental administration of an over-dose of laudanum."

Walsall Free Press 15/1/1859

"*Henry Smith*, landlord of the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, was charged with having knowingly suffered common prostitutes to assemble at his house. Police-constable Ferres said he visited the house at about a quarter past twelve o'clock on the night of Saturday last and found five prostitutes. The women were not being supplied with refreshments. Mr. Ebsworth, solicitor for the defence, after addressing the Bench on behalf of his client, called a witness named Lee, who said she was waiting in the bar-room of the TURF TAVERN when the officer came in. There were only four women in front of the bar when the officer came in. The parties were Mr. *Smith's* daughter, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Kendrick, and a stranger woman. There were also four or five men in at the time. Neither of the three women she had named were prostitutes. The stranger woman she did not know, but thought she came to take one of the men away. The Magistrates said there was a doubt in the case, and they would give defendant the benefit of the doubt. Chief-constable Cater said that this house was becoming as bad as the BULLS HEAD in Upper Rushall Street was. Highway robberies were becoming very frequent in the vicinity of the house, and *Smith* might depend upon it that the police would keep a strict surveillance upon the house. Mr. Ebsworth thought it would have been as well if Mr. Cater had refrained from these remarks, as it might tend to prejudice the minds of the Magistrates against his client, who was now to be charged with having kept his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours. Mr. Cater said the remarks he made were relative to the case disposed of, and not to the one now about to be gone into, and therefore they could not prejudice the minds of the Bench in disposing of the next case. Mr. *Smith* was then charged with having kept his house open during prohibited hours. The evidence in this case was the same as in the last. The officer found the house open and a number of people in the bar. Mr. Ebsworth contended that the house was not open for the sale of drink, and again observed that he considered it was irregular in Mr. Cater to make observations upon the general conduct of a house before the hearing of the case. The Bench after a short consultation sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 2s 6d and costs."

1861 Census

12, Bradford Street

[1] *Henry Smith* (49), victualler, born Norton [Norton Canes?], Staffordshire;

[2] Eliza Smith (41), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Sarah Jane Smith (14), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] Eleanor Mary Smith (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Caroline Eliza Smith (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Harriet Emily Smith (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] Clara Emma Smith (6), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] Alice Maria Smith (4), daughter, born Walsall;

[9] Richard Henry Smith (8 months), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 27/7/1861

"Mr. Matthews, on behalf of Mr. Lynex, the collector, opposed an application of *Henry Smith*, for a transfer of the TURF TAVERN, in Bradford Street. The ground of opposition was that the present proprietor of the TAVERN owed the Commissioners £6 for gas, and that if the license was transferred it might not be very easy to recover that money. The application for transfer was refused. Mr. Matthews then made an application for the recovery of the amount, which was granted. An arrangement was come to, by which the money due was to be paid by the transferee within a month."

Walsall Free Press 11/1/1862

"An old man named Joseph Stringer, who had been an inmate of the union workhouse for some time, received information that a sum of £40 had been left him, and he accordingly left the house on Monday week to secure the possession of it. On Tuesday night he went to lodge at Mr. S. Shepherd's, Rushall Street, where it was known that he was in possession of a large sum of money. On Wednesday he was observed to be in a drunken condition, and was seen in that state at the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, the same night. In consequence of the offensive and disgusting language he indulged in, he was turned from the public house into the street, and sustained, it is said, a fall from the steps, which inflicted a severe wound on his forehead. At a later hour of the evening he was conducted, or made his way home in a perfectly incapable condition, wounded, and, without any money upon him. He was conveyed to the workhouse on Saturday, where he expired on the following morning, after having made a statement to the effect that he had been attacked by a man and woman, and robbed of the residue of the money he had received on Tuesday. They seized upon him (he said) after he was expelled from the tavern, threw him into the brook, and held him with his head under water until they had secured his money.

On Monday an inquest was held on the body, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, at the workhouse. Mr. Matthews was in attendance to watch the case on behalf of the police.

Mrs. Shepherd, of No.12 Court, Lower Rushall Street, was the first witness called. She deposed that her husband and deceased went to Atherston, on Monday week, in order to receive the sum of £40 0s 0¼d, which was coming to deceased in consequence of some legal proceedings. He got the money on Tuesday, and remained in Birmingham to settle his lawyer's bill, amounting to £11 7s 1d, and to pay other debts, while her husband returned home to Walsall. On Tuesday night deceased returned and slept at

witness' house during that night. On Wednesday morning he counted his money before witness, and she saw that he had £26 in sovereigns, two half-sovereigns, and some silver. He then went out and she did not see him again until that night, when some one brought him to her door in a drunken condition, and pushed him into the house. She did not know who brought him home. He was soaking wet from head to foot, appeared to be very drunk, and was wounded on the forehead. He had not a single farthing of money about him. She put him to bed, but up to the time of his removal to the workhouse she could get nothing intelligible from him, except that some one had attacked him, threw him into the brook, and robbed him of his money. He was removed to the workhouse on Saturday last.

Mr. Shepherd (husband of last witness) was next called. His evidence coincided with that of Mrs. Shepherd. He produced the lawyer's receipt for the money paid by deceased.

As it was requisite to order a post-mortem examination of the body, the Coroner did not think it necessary to examine any more witnesses on that occasion; and the inquisition was accordingly adjourned to Friday.

The inquest re-commenced in the Board Room of the workhouse, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

On this day Dr. Burton was examined. He deposed that on the 7th of January he made a post-mortem examination of the body of Joseph Stringer. He found the body, externally, in a healthy condition, with a slight contusion below the left knee-cap, an abrasure of the cuticle on the inner and back part of the left arm, a scab (as of an abrasure) on the left side of the nose, and another scab on the forehead above the left eye. Internally the Doctor found the body to be very much diseased – the brain, the lungs, the liver, the spleen, the heart, and various membranes, being all more or less seriously affected. The Doctor gave a most minute and interesting description of the condition of the internal parts of the body. From the entire post-mortem examination he deduced that death was the result of a combination of different diseases and ailments, and that it was fairly attributable to natural causes, so far as the existence of those causes dated from a period anterior to that of the late violence to which he had heard deceased had been subjected. It could not be denied that much exertion or excitement, or the immoderate use of spirituous stimulants, might have hastened the event. The diseased condition of the membrane of the brain, of its principal blood vessels of supply, the infusion of fluid in the cavity of the skull, and the clot of blood in the vessel of the heart, combined with a variety of other ills accelerated death. With respect to the latter cause the Doctor wished to say that it was yet a disputed point among medical men whether the coagulation of the blood at the heart, in the manner he had described, was the cause or the result of death. In his opinion death was natural. He had looked carefully for marks of violence but could find none of the least consequence. Death probably immediately resulted from a sudden action or sudden want of action in a very diseased system, and there was most certainly no evidence that it was the result of violence. After this very conclusive evidence on the part of the Doctor the Coroner did not think it necessary to call any other witnesses.

The jury immediately returned a verdict that the deceased came by his death by Natural Causes, hastened by intemperance.

With respect to other features of this affair, there seems to be no doubt that the unfortunate deceased was attacked and robbed of some £28, as mentioned in the early part of this report. Two women of ill-fame of the town are in custody on, we believe, pretty strong suspicions. They will doubtless be brought before the magistrates in due course."

Birmingham Daily Post 14/1/1862

"....Elizabeth Pearce, a woman of bad character, was charged in company with Ellen Carr (since absconded) with having assaulted one Joseph Stringer (since deceased), and robbed him of £25 committed for trial at the next Staffordshire Assizes. The case occupied nearly five hours in hearing, during which time the Court was densely crowded."

[At the Staffordshire Lent Assizes, in March, 1862, Elizabeth Pearce and Ellen Carr, were discharged, the evidence being for from conclusive.]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 15/2/1868 - Deaths

"On the 3rd inst, at the WISEMORE TAVERN, Walsall, aged 63 years, Fanny, the beloved wife of Edward Newey, and daughter of the late Mrs. *W. James*, of the TURF TAVERN."

London Gazette 4/2/1870

"*Henry Smith*, of No.36, Teddesly-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, out of business, and previously thereto of Station-street, Walsall aforesaid, out of business, formerly of Burntwood, in the said county of Stafford, Farmer, and previously of the TURF TAVERN, Bradford-street, Walsall aforesaid. Licensed Victualler, adjudicated bankrupt on the 6th day of October, 1869. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 21st day of January, 1870."

Henry Smith – see also OLD PEAL AND NELSON.

George Dutson = John Dutson

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1870

"A woman who gave the named of Jane Maginnis, but refused to state where she lived, was charged with having on Tuesday evening, stolen a purse containing 12s 6d from the person of Mrs. H. Taylor, Sheffield. On Tuesday evening the prisoner left the WHITE HORSE public-house, Park Street, in company with two men, and at once made an unsuccessful attempt upon the pocket of a woman who was standing at a shop window close by. Then she followed Mrs. Taylor into the shop of Mrs. Morton, boot and shoe dealer, and sat down by her side, but one of the two men, who had posted themselves at the shop window, calling out, 'Jane,' she left the shop again almost immediately. Sergeant Drury, who had been watching the movements of the party, then entered the shop, and in consequence of what he said, Mrs. Taylor discovered that the purse had disappeared from her dress pocket. He went in pursuit of the prisoner, and apprehended her at the TURF TAVERN, but found her confederates got clear off. The stolen

purse was not found. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to four months' imprisonment with hard labour. The Bench ordered 8s which were found in her possession to be given to the prosecutrix."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/4/1870

"John [sic] *Dutson*, landlord of the TURF TAVERN, Walsall, and of a beerhouse at Reeves's Wood, Birchills, was charged with having had his beerhouse open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours on Sunday last.

Defendant, who admitted the charge, was ordered to pay a fine of 10s and costs, and to have the conviction endorsed upon the back of his license."

1871 Census

12, Bradford Street

[1] *Charles Walter Marsh* (36), commercial clerk, born Blymhill, Staffordshire;

[2] *Martha E. Marsh* (23), wife, born Kentish Town, Middlesex;

[3] *Charles T. Marsh* (3), son, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Walter Marsh* (1), son, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 14/9/1871 - Advert

"A strong Boy Wanted, to attend the Stables and out-door Work.

Apply at the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, Walsall."

Birmingham Daily Post 4/2/1876 - Advert

"Whitechapel Dogcart, in good condition, for Sale.

Apply, TURF TAVERN, Walsall."

1881 Census

12, Bradford Street

[1] *Charles W. Marsh* (46), licensed victualler employing 1 man and 1 girl, born Blymhill, Staffordshire;

[2] *Martha E. Marsh* (33), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] *Charles T. Marsh* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Walter Marsh* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *Elizabeth Marsh* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] *William Marsh* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] *Ada Mary Marsh* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] *Alice Marsh* (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[9] *John Frederick Marsh* (1), son, born Walsall;

[10] *Harriet Aston* (17), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 4/7/1885 - Advert

"Contract finished. Four useful Cart Horses, clean legged, young, and sound; prices £10 to £20; also Cart Mare, close on foaling, £12; the above are direct from hard work; they are warranted; also Two to hire out for a few months.

Apply, Ostler, TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, Walsall."

1891 Census

12, Bradford Street – TURF TAVERN

[1] *Elizabeth O. Marsh* (43), widow, publican, born Smethwick;

[2] *Charles J. Marsh* (27), son, clerk, born Walsall;

[3] *Walter Marsh* (21), son, clerk, born Walsall;

[4] *Elizabeth Marsh* (19), daughter, assistant, born Walsall;

[5] *William Marsh* (17), son, stoker on railway, born Walsall;

[6] *Ada Marsh* (15), daughter, assistant, born Walsall;

[7] *Alice Marsh* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] *John Marsh* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[9] *Jane Marsh* (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[10] *John J. Ellis* (41), brother, currier, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 30/7/1892

"A project emanating from Lodge 200 of the Loyal Caledonian Corks has been on foot for a considerable time for the formation of a Grand Lodge of Corks for Walsall. This took practical shape last Tuesday evening, when the ceremony of forming the lodge and electing its members was gone through at the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street. The chief officers of the Order came over from Birmingham to assist the Walsall brethren. Speeches were made by the chief captain and other officers embodying the principles of the lodge, and the work which will be entailed; and the organisation of such a lodge, it was hoped, would materially spread the cause of Corkism, which could be done if unity and individual labour amongst the members were combined....."

Walsall Advertiser 26/1/1895

“On Saturday the annual meeting of the Walsall district of the Caledonian Corks was held at the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street a large and representative gathering from the fourteen lodges comprising the district.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/9/1898

“The town of Walsall has not only supplied a great many saddles and bridles for the Cavalry of the Egyptian and Soudanese Army, but, as is already well known, has furnished three of the gallant 21st Lancers who made the memorable charge against such odds at the battle of Omdurman. One of the three is Trooper Harry *Marsh*, son of the hostess of the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street. On Tuesday morning Mrs. *Marsh* received a short letter from her son, who at the time of writing was at Atbara, well on the way home. It ran:

‘September 5th Atbara.

The fighting is over, everything all quiet, and we are making our way back to Cairo. As to my regiment in their first engagement, there were as near as I can tell you for certain, nineteen actually killed, and about thirty or forty wounded – more or less severely. Luckily, I got through unhurt, but my horse died through wounds received in the same charge. It was terrible.

We little expected there were a quarter of the number, and they do fight, perhaps not with bravery, but with fanaticism.

My opinions are all altered. The Soudan is a terrible country for Europeans. It has played me up, but I shall soon pick up again in Cairo.

Your loving son. H.M.’.....”

Walsall Advertiser 10/6/1899 - Advert

“Lady’s Bicycle for Sale; new a fortnight ago, but too small. £10 machine, will take £6.

Apply, TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1901

“On Thursday evening the quarterly meeting of the Walsall and District United Friendly Societies’ Council was held at the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street.....”

1901 Census

12+13, Bradford Street – TURF TAVERN

[1] *Elizabeth O. Marsh* (53), widow, hotel manageress, born Handsworth;

[2] Walter Marsh (30), son, clerk, born Walsall;

[3] Ada Marsh (25), daughter, confectioner, born Walsall;

[4] Alice Marsh (23), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;

[5] John Marsh (21), son, clerk, born Walsall;

[6] John Ellis (51), half brother, currier, born Walsall;

[7] Louise Higgings (20), general servant, born Worcester:

Elizabeth Cartlidge = Elizabeth Cartledge

Walsall Advertiser 16/11/1901

“On Monday last a capital smoking concert was held at the TURF TAVERN HOTEL, Bradford Street, on behalf of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants’ Orphan Fund. There was a large and influential company present. The chair was taken by Councillor E. Shelley. The singing of Mr. S. Brown was the feature of the evening; also Mr. Aldridge, who gave ‘Watch me tonight’ in grand style. The comic singing of Messrs. Morris and Thorpe fairly brought down the house; the piccolo playing of Mr. Blower was a special treat, and the humorous contribution by Mr. Kirby, ‘Smith, Brown, and Jones’ was perfection. A vote of thanks was given from the Chairman to Mr. *Cartlidge* (TURF TAVERN) for providing the artistes. The following was the programme.....”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Mrs. *Elizabeth Ann Cartlidge* (for whom Mr. Walford appeared) was required to answer questions as to the entrances to the yard of the TURF TAVERN. Part of the back premises were let off, and Messrs. Fenton at present had a right of entrance to the yard. Adjourned to next Thursday.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Thursday.....

The next case was of the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street. This was objected to by the magistrates because of a common entry leading to other premises and to Hall Lane.

Mr. Walford (solicitor) pointed out that the adjoining premises were held under lease, and there was a right of way along the entry. There was no license now existing at the Hall Lane end of the passage, so that the licensed area was compact. License renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1905

“The annual Brewster session were resumed on Tuesday at the Guildhall, for the third day.....

Mr. Walford made an application for the approval of plans for rebuilding the house, or in the alternative for a new license for the proposed premises, in regard to the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, on behalf of Mrs. *Cartledge* and the Highgate Brewery Company, Lord Bradford being the freeholder. Mr. Walford said the application had previously been before the Court, and it would come under the form of a new building. It would not actually be a new building, but it was necessary that something should be done to the front. The outside was white plaster, and it required to be renewed. His clients thought it would be an improvement if they brought the front of the building in accordance with the surrounding buildings.

Mr. Loxton: If the magistrates sanction this the old license would be surrendered?

Mr. Walford said that was so. They wanted a provisional grant for a new license.

Mr. Loxton: It raised the important point of compensation.

Mr. Walford: You mean if you took away the license we should not get compensation?

Mr. Loxton: Certainly you would not.

Mr. Walford: I think we have sufficient confidence in the magistrates on that.

Mr. Loxton: If you receive this license you have a monopoly value, and the old license is gone.

Mr. Walford: I agree.

The application was granted provisionally, the magistrates intimating that they would instruct Messrs. Fowler and Bewlay to value the premises as to the monopoly value.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/4/1909

“Mary Eileen Cooney (28), a widow, of Chasetown, was charged with being disorderly on licensed premises and refusing to quit the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, on Monday evening, and further, with breaking five glasses, 1 decanter and 1 glass water bottle, the value of 6s 3d. Howard *Cartlidge*, the landlord of the TURF TAVERN, said that at 10.40 on Monday night prisoner was in the bar with a man. She made use of a filthy remark, and he requested her to leave. This she refused to do, and upon his going round to eject her, she picked up a glass and threw it at his wife. She then smashed up other glasses like matchwood. She might have done £30 worth of damage.

Mrs. *Cartlidge* corroborated her husband’s evidence.

Prisoner said that she did smash the things up in temper, but whatever she did was under great provocation. She was badly bruised about the arms, which was caused by the landlord. She was quiet enough.

A fine of 5s and costs and 6s 3d damage was imposed, or seven days in default.

Prisoner asked for time to pay, but the Bench refused, saying she could send her friends for the money. This she would not do because she did not want her brothers to know of her disgrace. She would do the time.

Eileen then went to the cells.”

Elizabeth Ann Cartlidge – see also UNION.

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1910

“Four men named Thomas Clarke (28), 58, Lower Hall Lane; Alexander Jardine (26), 11, Adams Row; Edward Pymm (21), 4, Freer Street; and Henry *Brewer* (29), TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, were summoned for gaming with cards in Calderfields on March 20th.

Police-constables Collins and Johnson deposed to seeing the defendants in company with a number of other men, playing with cards and money on a public footpath, opposite Mr. Caunt’s farm. When they saw the officers they ran away, and the four defendants were eventually caught.

The defendants denied participating in the game, and said they simply walked through the fields.

The Bench thought there was a doubt in the case, and dismissed it.”

1911 Census

Bradford Street – TURF TAVERN

- [1] *Frederick Brewer* (39), public house manager, born Lichfield;
- [2] Mary Brewer (38), wife, married 15 years, born Walsall Wood;
- [3] Frederick Brewer (13), son, school, born Walsall;
- [4] Doris Brewer (8), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [5] Harold Brewer (2), son, at home, born Walsall;
- [6] George Bevington (20), barman, born Clayhanger;
- [7] Emma Hill (19), domestic servant, born Pennsylvania (British subject):

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, Walsall, 11s 0½d.”

Birmingham Mail 9/2/1915

“John Melvin (30), of the West Yorkshire Regiment, whose address was given as Whitehall Road, was charged at Walsall today with wilfully smashing a plate glass window at the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, doing damage to the extent of £3 10s. Evidence was given that Melvin last night went to the public house in a drunken condition, and the licensee, *Frederick Brewer*,

accordingly refused to supply him and also prevented a woman who was present from allowing prisoner to drink out of her glass which she offered him. Melvin thereupon became abusive and had to be ejected. He threw a glass at the landlord. The missile missed its intended mark but smashed a window. Prisoner, it was said, called all the customers cowards and said they ought to be in the trenches.

Melvin stated that he was due to go back to his regiment in France, and the Bench adjourned the case to enable him to return to the front.”

Lichfield Mercury 2/6/1916 - Advert

“Bar-General wanted; good wages, good home; reference required; experience not necessary.
Apply, *F. Brewer*, TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 22/9/1917 - Notice

“Football. Walsall and District Munitions Works League.

At a Meeting held on Tuesday last, it was decided to leave the League open until Monday Next, September 24th.

Communications were received from the following Clubs: Brownhills Albion, Talbot-Stead, Streetly Ammunition Works, Hales’s Works (Walsall), Heath Hayes Coronation, Heath Hayes Vics, Celtic (Wolverhampton), Rubery Owens (Darlaston), and Harvey’s Works (Walsall).

Meeting on Monday Next, September 24th, at TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, Walsall, at 7.30.

Entry Fee, 7s 6d; Deposit, £1.

Clubs wishing to join should make application at once to G. H. Thornton, 18, Eastbourne Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street. £2 15s 1d.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 22/11/1924

“Mr. *Frederick Brewer*, of the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, Walsall, who died October 10th last, left estate of the gross value of £1,546 18s 1d, with net personalty £956 10s. Administration of the estate has been granted to his widow, Mrs. *Mary Brewer*, of the same address.”

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street.”

1939 Register

12, Bradford Street

[1] *Mary Brewer*, date of birth 8/5/1872, manageress licensed house, widowed;

[2] Harold Brewer, dob 23/5/1908, auto electrical engineer, single;

[3] Jessie (Dean) Perry, dob 31/12/1902, bar general, single;

[4] Nancy M. (Bruce) Barron, dob 30/11/1919, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 27/4/1940 - Advert

“Bar-General Wanted, live in.

Apply, TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, £8 11s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 14/2/1942 - Advert

“Respectable Charwoman, mornings.

Apply, TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street. £10 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street. £20 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 20/1/1945

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....

The chairman sympathetically referred to the death of two members of the society, Mr. *William Bayliss* of the TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street, and Mr. Howard Freeman, COTTAGE INN, Coalpool.”

Walsall Observer 17/2/1945

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....

The following were elected members of the society..... Mrs. *E. Bayliss*, TURF TAVERN, Bradford Street.”

The name was changed to TAVERN IN THE TOWN in July 1969.

Walsall Observer 26/7/1985

“A vegetarian’s Utopia has opened in Walsall. The TAVERN IN THE TOWN in Bradford Street has undergone £150,000 re-furbishment and as part of the new look landlord *Tony Fenton* has produced a vegetarian menu. All the usual meat goodies are on offer, but vegetarians can tuck into lentil lasagne and sea food pie. *Tony* used to be a chef, but said he has felt healthier since giving up meat a year ago.

The interior of the pub has the 1920s Orient Express look and will now be open from 5.30pm to appeal to Walsall businessmen after they finish work. *Tony* said the pub would also cater for shoppers who wanted a drink.....”

[1986]

Its name was changed to BUSHWACKERS.

Sandwell Evening Mail 1/1/1994

“The January sales are going down a treat with drinkers at a Midland local. For *Graham Pinches* has slashed prices at his pub, the BUSHWACKERS [sic] in Walsall town centre.”

Graham Pinches – see also DILKE ARMS.

Closed

It was converted into a turf accountant’s shop.

TEDDESLEY ARMS

72, (73), (75), (12), Teddesley Street / Warwick Street, Ryecroft, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Mary Bowler, 74, Lichfield Street, Walsall

William Utting

Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd. (leased)

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

John Bowler [1857] – [1859]

Mrs. Bowler [1859]

Thomas Middlebrook [1860] – [1870]

Thomas Utting* [];

William Utting* [1871] – [1876]

Albert Beebee [1879];

James Biddulph [1881] – **1896**;

Edgar Biddulph (**1896** – **1901**);

Eli Walker Fletcher (**1901** – **1902**);

Alfred Barlow (1902 – 1904);
John Thomas Chadd (1904 – 1905);
Claude Ernest Pringle (1905 – 1908);
Thomas Edge [1912] ?
William Edward Dutton (1908 – 1917);
Mary Ann Dutton (1917 – 1919);
Joseph Osborne (1919 – 1928); manager
Sidney New (1928 – 1932);
George Edward Payne (1932 – 1938);
Bernard Joseph Hordern (1938 – 1952);
George Edward Smith (1952 – 1954);
Stanley William Calvert (1954 – 1956);
Selwyn Holden (1956 – 1957);
Leslie Johnson (1957 – 1958);
John William Walls (1958 – 1962);
John Edward Ball (1962 – 1965);
Maurice William Cogin (1965 – 1967);
Ronald Donald Eaton (1967 – []

NOTES

75, Teddesley Street [1861]
73, Teddesley Street [1868]
12, Teddesley Street [1871]
72, Teddesley Street [1881], [1891], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1932], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....
John Bowler, Teddesley Street. Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Annual Licensing Day..... The following beerhouse keepers applied for victuallers’ licenses.....
John Bowler, Teddesley Street, Walsall. Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 18/6/1859 - Advert

“To be Sold cheap, a Derby Kitchener and Cooking Apparatus, nearly new. May be seen fixed until the 27th instant; Also a small flat-topped fancy Stove, with piping; a Nicholls’ improved patent Weighing Machine; and six 56lbs and one 28lb, one 14lb, and one 2lb Weights.
Apply to Mr. *Bowler*, TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street.”

Walsall Free Press 30/7/1859 - Advert

“Mrs. *Bowler*, TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street, has an excellent Club Room, 31ft by 12ft, connected with her establishment, and would be happy to arrange with any club requiring accommodation.”

Walsall Free Press 19/11/1859 - Advert

“To Be let, a Public House, called the TEDDESLEY ARMS, in Teddesley Street, with Shopping, Fixtures, Brewing Utensils, &c, to be taken at a valuation.
Apply on the premises.”

Thomas Middlebrook = Thomas Middlebrooke

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....
Thomas Middlebrook, Teddesley Street. Granted.”

1861 Census

75, Teddesley Street
[1] *Thomas Middlebrook* (33), victualler and miner, born Rushall;
[2] Caroline Middlebrook (32), wife, born Rushall;
[3] John Middlebrook (12), son, born Rushall;
[4] Maria Middlebrook (8), son, born Rushall;

- [5] Arthur Middlebrook (6), son, born Rushall;
[6] Jane Middlebrook (3), daughter, born Rushall;
[7] Henry Middlebrook (1), son, born Rushall:

Thomas Middlebrooke, retailer of beer, Teddesley Place. [1862]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 23/3/1862

“Marshall of Walsall will run Poley or Tomkinson 200 yards for £10 or £15 a side, or Lambert of Westbromwich 120 yards if he will give him one yard start, or 200 yards level for the like sum. To come off at the Aston Cross Grounds, or on a fair turnpike road, in two months from the first deposit. Money ready any night next week, at *T. Middlebrook*'s TEDDESLEY ARMS INN, Teddesley Street, Walsall.”

Thomas Middlebrook, beer retailer, 72, Teddesley Street. [1865]

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/12/1866

“On Thursday morning, a young man named Aaron Stokes, a bricklayer, living in Ablewell Street, burst a blood vessel while coughing violently, and expired before he could be removed to the TEDDESLEY ARMS INN, Teddesley Street, where he was dwelling at the time.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/11/1867

“Royal Albion Coursing Grounds, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton.

Great Monster Rabbit Coursing Sweepstake, for Small Sized Dogs only. On Monday, Nov 18 and 25, W. Boston will give £6 10s to be coursed for; first prize £5, second £1, third 10s. Entrance for dogs 19½in 5s, 18½in 4s, and 17½in 3s each. Entries to be made to Mr. Burrell, DOG AND PHEASANT, Oldbury; or Mr. *Middlebrook*, TEDDESLEY ARMS, Walsall; or at the grounds.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/12/1867

“The Great Rabbit Coursing Sweepstakes will come off at the Albion Grounds, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Dec 26, 27, and 28, when Messrs. Boston and Taylor will give £25 to be run for by large and small dogs; dogs of large size £15, entrance 10s each; small-sized dogs 19½in 7s, 18½in 6s, and 17½in 5s each. Entries to be made to Mr. Burrell, DOG AND PHEASANT, Oldbury; or Mr. *Middlebrook*, TEDDESLEY ARMS, Walsall; or at the ground. Entries close on the morning of running. A good supply of rabbits on hand.”

Walsall Free Press 25/1/1868

“On Sunday morning last Mrs. Toomer, wife of Mr. Joseph Toomer, carpenter, Warwick Street, awoke and found her child – a boy of four days old – lying dead beside her in bed. On Wednesday, an inquest was held at the TEDDESLEY ARMS, by A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner; and it appeared that mother had unconsciously ‘overlain’ the child, the jury returned a verdict of Death from Accidental Suffocation.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 12/9/1868

“Bellevue Grounds, Moat Road, Walsall. Mr. Noake, the proprietor of the above grounds, will give £6 10s to be run for in an All England Handicap race of 125 yards, to take place on Walsall wake Monday and Tuesday, Sept 21 and 22. Entries 1s each no acceptances made to Mr. *Middlebrook*, TEDDESLEY ARMS, Walsall; Chidlow, OLD QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; Russell, Bloxwich; or at the grounds. Any one entering falsely disqualified.”

London Gazette 2/12/1870

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Thomas Middlebrook*, of the TEDDESLEY ARMS INN, Teddesley-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Miner.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Joseph Edward Sheldon, of No.51, High-street, Wednesbury, in the county of Stafford, on the 15th day of December, 1870, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

Dated this 29th day of November, 1870.

Joseph E. Sheldon, Attorney for the said Debtor.”

* probably the same person

1871 Census

12, Teddesley Street – TEDDESLEY ARMS

- [1] *William Utting* (24), public house and currier, born Fakenham, Norfolk;
[2] *Emily Utting* (23), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Samuel Utting* (1), son, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session..... The licenses of the undermentioned were renewed with cautions, viz: *William Utting*, beerhouse keeper, Ryecroft In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Ryecroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/11/1879

“The following have filed petitions for liquidation in the Walsall County Court.....

Albert Beebee, TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street, Walsall, licensed victualler; liabilities £300; solicitor, Mr. Crump.”

1881 Census

72, Teddesley Street

- [1] *James Biddulph* (41), licensed victualler, born Lichfield;
- [2] Susan Biddulph (39), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Joseph Biddulph (16), son, saddler, born Walsall;
- [4] Elizabeth Biddulph (13), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Agnes Biddulph (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1884

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions were held yesterday.....

The licenses of *James Biddulph*, TEDDESLEY ARMS which had been suspended from the previous Sessions, were renewed, with a caution to the parties to be more careful in the future.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/8/1885

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, George Rutledge, Wolverhampton, was convicted of having, on the 4th July, stolen two gig-lamps, a gig-apron, and a gig-cover, the property of Henry Beebee, of the CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Green Lane, and was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. It seemed he purloined the articles whilst at the prosecutor’s house, and went the same day to the TEDDESLEY ARMS, where he offered the lamps to the landlord, Mr. *Biddulph*, for 4s. Mr. *Biddulph* felt convinced that the lamps had been dishonestly come by and detained them, and the prisoner made good his escape for the time being, but was secured by Detective-sergeant Drury this week.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/1/1891

“Yesterday Mr. T. H. Stanley held an inquest at the TEDDESLEY ARMS on the body of Elizabeth Lee (29), who committed suicide at the house of her husband, Harry Lee, William Street, early on Saturday. The evidence bore out the particulars already published, with some additions. The husband said in consequence of Dr. Oliver’s advice that the deceased should be watched, he had got his father and mother to live with him and his wife. Mrs. Lee, senr., said that the deceased for a few weeks before her death seemed better than usual. When witness heard the children crying, she found her daughter-in-law in a half sitting position on the bed, and thought she had fallen asleep in that posture. She tried to move her, and being unable, called in Charles Reynolds, a neighbour.

Verdict, Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity.”

1891 Census

72, Teddesley Street – TEDDESLEY ARMS

- [1] *James Biddulph* (52), general saddler, born Lichfield;
- [2] Susannah Biddulph (49), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Elizabeth Biddulph (23), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Agnes Biddulph (21), daughter, machinist, born Walsall;
- [5] James Biddulph (18), son, currier, born Walsall;
- [6] Edgar Biddulph (16), son, currier’s apprentice, born Walsall;
- [7] Walter Biddulph (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Clara Biddulph (9), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1892

“On Wednesday evening a dinner was held in connection with the Money Club held at the TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street. About forty sat down, Mr. Bates being in the chair, and Mr. Cooper in the vice-chair. A number of toasts were submitted, interspersed with songs and music. A most enjoyable evening was spent.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/6/1892

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, Howard *Biddulph*, no fixed abode, was charged with doing wilful damage at the house of his father, the TEDDESLEY ARMS. The accused went to the house on Monday night and abused his sisters. He was turned out, but at midnight he returned and did damage to the yard door and the kitchen to the extent of 25s. He also forced his way into the house and threatened his father.

He was ordered to pay a fine of 40s and costs and 25s damages, with the option of one months’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/3/1894

“Political Notes. Conservative.....

Next Wednesday Mr. Gedge will hold a Conversational Meeting in St. George’s Room, Pursehouse Street. Afterwards Mr. Gedge will be initiated an honorary member of the Perseverance Lodge of the National United Order of Free Gardeners at the TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/4/1894

“Sydney Roper, 40, Pool Street, was charged with stealing water, the property of South Staffordshire Waterworks Company. Defendant pleaded guilty. Dr. Showell Rogers (Birmingham) appeared for the prosecution, and said that water stealing was becoming very rife especially during the last year or two.

William Kirkman, water inspector in the employ of South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, said that on the 30th March, he was driving along Teddesley Street, when he saw defendant fetch three buckets of water from the back of 43, Teddesley Street, and commence to clean the front of the premises of the TEDDESLEY ARMS, kept by Mr. *Biddulph*, with it. There was no water paid for on the premises of the TEDDESLEY ARMS.

Finced 7s 6d, including costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/4/1894

“National United Order Of Free Gardeners. On Tuesday evening last an adjourned meeting of delegates was held at the Perseverance Lodge House, Teddesley Street, for the purpose of forming a new district in connection with the above Order. After the confirmation of the minutes, it was unanimously resolved that the district be named ‘the Walsall New District.’ The officers and management committee were then duly elected. The district house is the TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/7/1898

“On Tuesday afternoon Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the TEDDESLEY ARMS INN, Walsall, touching the death of Mary Edmonds, aged 74, who resided with her son at 42, Warwick Street. The evidence showed that the latter, on returning home from a factory picnic on Saturday night, heard a fall, and found deceased lying at the bottom of the stairs in an unconscious state. She afterwards regained consciousness for a brief period, and informed a neighbour that she was searching for something when she fell downstairs.

Dr. Hawley said that both wrists were broken, and deceased died from shock, as the result of the injuries she received.

The jury returned a verdict of to that effect.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1900

“The following interesting letter has been received by Mr. *Biddulph*, TEDDESLEY ARMS, from Pte. Sturgess, of the 91st Highlanders, who it will be remembered had an enthusiastic send-off from that house on re-joining the colours.

‘Modder River. December 29th, 1899. South Africa.

I am very glad to tell you that me and Charlie are in the best of health, and going along as well as can be expected. We have another engagement, this one being Magersfontein, which is situated about five miles from Modder River, and 15 miles from Kimberley. The Highland Brigade fared badly, owing to the strong position that the Boers had held, and the plain we had to cross to reach them. Our artillery, both naval and land, did a lot of excellent work, shelling the trenches while we advanced under their fire of deadly hail of shrapnel shell, which lasted for nearly three days. The division casualties were numbered at about 800 men killed and wounded. The Boers seem to have a notion of looking for officers in all engagements, as I expect that they think that if they wash them all out we shall be no good; but they found that out at Magersfontein. As each line got rebuked there was another one formed, and they got what they were asking for, as there was no mercy shown when we charged them with bayonets – a weapon that they don’t like, and if possible get away as quick as possible. Our brigade lost the General, who was shot through the chest and leg, and Major Robinson and two lieutenants. The Black Watch lost 17 officers killed and wounded, the Seaforths lost 2, the Highland Light Infantry 3, and the Gordons 2. You can see that they mean to pop as many of them as possible. We hear that Lord Bob Roberts and Kitchener are gazetted to South Africa, but they will be on the road by this time, and we wish them all God speed, as the army out here are in need of such men as they are. I don’t know if you remember A. Martte, a young fellow that ’listed with me and C. Thacker; he was one of the unfortunate ones at Magerfontein, where he had three of his ribs fractured, and has since gone down to Wynberg Hospital. Charlie is officers’ servant, and his boss (Lieutenant Graham) got wounded, so he has gone down to look after him in hospital, so that we can say that Charlie will have rare time of it for a week or two. We had a very poor Christmas up here. We were to have had all the good things imaginable, but have not received anything as yet, only a bit of cheese, which is the first since we left board ship. Everything here is very expensive. I have not seen beer since we left De Aar, and that was fivepence a pint, and only allowed one per diem. We are allowed one pound of bread every day, and you cannot buy more for love or money, and one pound of meat, with a bit of jam about four times a week. All the cry is with the brigade that they wish the Boers would come out of their hiding places and attack us, so as we could get a little of our own back; but they know a trick worth two of that. They are at home behind a boulder or sheltered in a trench, so they can rest their rifles, and have nice pot shots at us, but we see them off when we fix bayonets – stop for nothing. It would be our delight to catch them on the hop, and we shall do before long, as they cannot go much further this way as they will have to break up before reaching Kimberley, and then we shall show them what British steel is made of, and no mercy, as they have shown us none, only frauds of flags of truth.

Pte. T. Sturgess’.”

Walsall Observer 24/11/1900

“On Monday night a large meeting of Free Gardeners was held at the TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street, when Lodge

Perseverance had the honour of initiating the Right Honourable Sir Arthur D. Hayter, Bart, MP, and Mr. J. F. Addison as honorary members of the Order.....”

1901 Census

72, Teddesley Street – TEDDESLEY ARMS

- [1] *Eli Fletcher* (24), publican, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Eliza Ann Fletcher* (24), wife, born West Smethwick;
- [3] *Mary Allen* (29), visitor, waitress, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Maria Allen* (17), domestic servant, born Bloxwich;

Walsall Advertiser 12/9/1903

“Air-Gun Shooting.....

TEDDESLEY ARMS v. The STORES. This match was shot off at the TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street, on Wednesday, and resulted in a very close finish. The visitors shot first, and compiled a total of 403, to which the home team replied with 407, thus winning a very close game by four points. G. Woodward, E. Salloway, and W. H. Lee shot exceedingly well for their respective sides.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1904

“A smoking concert was held on Monday night, when a presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. *F. Barlow* on their leaving the TEDDESLEY ARMS. The chair was taken by Mr. Hall and the vice-chair by Mr. H. Chell. A capital programme was rendered by Messrs. Harry Mills, Howard Mills, C. Hawker, Adshead, Hall, F. Taylor, E. Craddock, and B. Aulton. During an interval Mrs. *Barlow* was presented with a handsome gold brooch and Mr. *Barlow* with a silk umbrella, both making suitable replies.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/3/1909 - Sales by Auction

“Tuesday, March 30. By Mr. A. Busst: Sewing machines at TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street, at 2pm.”

1911 Census

TEDDESLEY ARMS

- [1] *William Dutton* (42), manager public house, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mary Dutton* (40), wife, married 17 years, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Doris Dutton* (14), daughter, born Oldbury;
- [4] *Elsie Dutton* (12), daughter, school, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Dora Dutton* (7), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [6] *Polly Cradick* (17), domestic servant, born Walsall;

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street. £0 19s 5½d.”

Walsall Observer 7/9/1918 - Advert

“Preliminary.

Fox & Harrison, F.A.I., are favoured with instruction to offer for Sale by auction, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, 15th October, 1918 (unless previously disposed of privately), the undermentioned Four Licensed Houses.

The Full Licensed House, LITTLETON ARMS INN, Corner of Hatherton Street, and Littleton Street, Walsall.

The Full Licensed House, DUSTY MILLER INN, Corner of Butts Road (and facing down Hatherton Street, Walsall).

The Full Licensed House, TEDDESLEY ARMS INN, Corner of Warwick Street and Teddesley Street, Walsall.

The Ante '69 Beerhouse, Old Wilkin Inn, Corner of Wilkin Road and Hednesford Road, Norton Canes, Brownhills.

Full particulars will be announced later.

Auctioneers Offices, 51, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall. Telephone 198.”

Mary Ann Dutton – see also ROYAL GEORGE, Bilston.

Joseph Osborne = Joseph Osbourne

Walsall Observer 5/4/1924

“W. O. E. Utting, Deceased. For Sale by Private Treaty, the well-known, fully licensed, Public houses, the LITTLETON ARMS (leasehold), Littleton Street; the TEDDESLEY ARMS (leasehold), Teddesley Street; the DUSTY MILLER (freehold), Butts Road, Walsall; and the freehold beerhouse Old Wilkin, Hednesford Road, Brownhills.

Apply: The Owners, namely W.O.E. Utting's Trustees, 117, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/12/1924

“An unusual story was told at Walsall County Court, on Thursday, in a case in which the Highgate Brewery Co., Walsall, sued William Utting, electrical engineer, Lower Forster Street, for £5 damages, and also applied for an injunction to restrain the man from trespassing on the company's property.

Defendant did not appear, and was not represented, but it was stated that he had written to the Registrar intimating although he denied liability, he had paid the amount claimed into court.

Mr. A. J. Long (instructed by Mr. C. L. Hodkinson), who appeared for plaintiffs, said the allegation against Utting was that he had wrongfully entered on one of the company's houses, the LITTLETON ARMS, Hatherton Street, and had painted out the word 'Highgate' from the sign 'Highgate Ales and Stout.'

Replying to Judge Tebbs, counsel said he did not know what defendant's object was in doing this. His only conclusion was that he was one of the lessors of the property of the brewery company. The incident occurred on October 28, and on November 5 Utting painted out similar words on the front of the TEDDESLEY ARMS INN, Littleton [sic] Street, which was also one of plaintiff's houses.

Samuel Tongue, manager of the LITTLETON ARMS, spoke to seeing Utting climb a ladder and paint out the word 'Highgate.' Judge Tebbs: Why didn't you – but I suppose you could not. I was going to ask you why you did not pull the ladder down (laughter).

Joseph Osbourne, manager of the TEDDESLEY ARMS, said at his house the word 'Highgate' was painted out by a workman, whilst Utting and his sister looked on. He did not know why it was done.

Counsel: It is a long story. It arises from an order made by Justice Russell seven years ago.

Judgement was eventually given for the amount claimed with costs and the injunction sought was granted."

Sidney New – see also BAKERS ARMS.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

"More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company's acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street."

1939 Register

Teddesley Street – TEDDESLEY ARMS Public House

[1] *Bernard J. Hordern*, date of birth 27/8/1883, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Catherine Hordern*, dob 25/1/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street, £5 5s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/8/1942

"The holiday stay-at-home appeal was well observed in the Butts district, especially in Warwick and Teddesley Street. On the Bank Holiday a tea party, followed by an entertainment was provided for the children, who thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Music was played during the evening, as well as on each evening during the week.

Singing and dancing competitions were held, with encouragement in the way of prizes. The week was well rounded off with a church service, conducted by the Rev. C. G. M. Ravizotti, Vicar of St. Mark's. Praise is due to the organisers, Mr. F. Yarnell and Mr. H. Smith, who were assisted by a committee, and by Mr. *B. Hordern*, of the TEDDESLEY ARMS."

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Hordern*, TEDDESLEY ARMS. £0 13s 0d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street. £1 5s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

TEDDESLEY ARMS, Teddesley Street. £1 4s 2d."

George Edward Smith – see also BELLE VUE.

Selwyn Holden – see also BELL.

Closed

Demolished pre 1977.

The site was used as part of Butts Primary School.

THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN

125, Elmore Green Road (34, Elmore Green) / Alfred Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

John Somerfield

Matthew J. Somerfield

Messrs. Leary and Sons, Walsall

Manchester Brewery Co. Ltd.

Edward Somerfield, Bloxwich

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Somerfield [1861] – [1881];

Matthew John Somerfield [1886] – **1889**;

William Webster (**1889 – 1891**);

Jane Parker (**1891 – 1893**);

Joseph Wintle (**1893 – 1897**);

William Farrington (**1897 – 1899**);

John Smith (**1899 – 1902**);

William Bennett (**1902 – 1905**);

Joseph Vincent Greensill (**1905**);

John Walsh (**1905 – 1906**);

John Eyden (**1906 – 1908**);

James Bradbury (**1908 – 1910**);

Samuel Jones (**1910 – 1913**);

William Henry Roberts (**1913 – 1916**);

Mrs. Maria Roberts (**1916 – 1933**);

Hugh Morrison (**1933 – 1934**);

Joseph Edward Bowen (**1934 – 1938**);

Joseph Henry Fellows (**1938 – 1940**);

William Devey (**1940 – 1946**);

Edith Devey (**1946 – 1954**);

Samuel Godfrey Plimmer (**1954 – 1966**);

William Lewis (**1966 – []**)

Paula Hodgson [2006]

NOTES

34, Elmore Green [1871]

125, Elmore Green Road [1881], [1901], [1939]

THATCHED COTTAGE [1861], [1900]

It was known locally as the “Thatch”.

Walsall Free Press 2/2/1861

“John Hurley was charged with assaulting sergeant Martin of the Bloxwich police station, while in the discharge of his duty – that is to say, while arresting him on a commitment signed by Mr. Day. Complainant was sworn, and deposed that he went to the THATCHED COTTAGE beerhouse, Bloxwich, last night, for the purpose of arresting prisoner and a commitment issued against him last April. Prisoner made a most desperate resistance, and struck and kicked witness, and also another constable. Mr. Martin

here exhibited the great coat of the other constable, which was very much torn. Witness declared he never had to do with such a desperate character in his life. Police-constable No.19 confirmed Martin's evidence. Prisoner made a rambling, incomprehensible kind of defence. Fined £_ and expenses, or one months' imprisonment, in addition to the punishment due on the former commitment, which was for a like offence."

1861 Census

Elmore Green

- [1] *John Somerfield* (37), public house and awl blade maker employing 1 man and 2 boys, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Jane Somerfield (35), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Sobey Aske [*Sobiaske?*] Somerfield (12), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Mary Jane Somerfield (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Emma Somerfield (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Edward Byot (10), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Sarah Lane (17), public house servant, born Bloxwich;
- [8] William Hiley (15), awl blade maker's assistant, born Bloxwich:

John Somerfield, retailer of beer, Bloxwich. [1862]

Birmingham Gazette 8/9/1863

"Yesterday being the adjourned licensing day, the magistrates present at the Petty Session proceeded to dispose of the applications left from the previous licensing day. Mr. Mathews again appeared in the case of *John Summerfield*, THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Elmore Green, Bloxwich, whose application for license had been adjourned in order to afford the Bench an opportunity of examining the premises.

The Mayor stated that the premises had been examined, and being found fit for the purpose the Bench had agreed to grant the application."

John Somerfield was also an awl blade maker. [1864], [1865]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 13/2/1864

"Young Hicken of Bloxwich will fight any lad of the same place, for £10 a side, at 7st 10lb or 7st 12lb (Reuben Smith preferred). Money ready at Mr. *Somerfield's* THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich."

Walsall Free Press 26/11/1864 - Notice

"A Sick And Burial Society will commence at the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Elmore Green, Bloxwich, on Monday Evening next, November 28th, 1864. Further particulars may be known by applying to the Landlord."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 8/2/1868 - Advert

"For Sale, Two Flat Pit Ropes, one 250 yards long; one ditto, 200 yards long. Apply at *J. Somerfield's*, THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich."

Walsall Free Press 9/10/1869

"On Monday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Coroner for the Borough, held an inquest at the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, upon the body of Walter Williams, aged 13. It appeared from the evidence that deceased was engaged as a runner in the Station Colliery belonging to Mr. Lindop, and about eleven o'clock on Saturday forenoon the deceased was engaged in pushing a 'dan', or small waggon, along the tramway in the pit, when a quantity of rock fell upon him from the roof of the pit, and killed him on the spot. The deceased, immediately on being brought out of the pit, was conveyed to the residence of his parents in New Street, Bloxwich. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidentally Killed."

1871 Census

34, Elmore Green – THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN

- [1] *John Somerfield* (47), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Jane Somerfield (45), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Jobey (?) A. Tranter (22), daughter, married, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Mary Jane Somerfield (15), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Matthew J. Somerfield* (8), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Sarah D. Somerfield (5), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Richard Tranter (3), grandson, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Sarah J. Tranter (8 months), granddaughter, born Bloxwich:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/6/1872

"Goodwright's brown and white dog Sailor and Taylor's brown dog Jack (both of Bloxwich) were the next on the ground to run 200 yards at catch weight, for a stake of £20. Betting started at even money, and finished at 2 to 1 on Sailor. Mr. Starkey started them well away together. Sailor went away at a good pace, held the lead throughout, and won easily by three yards. Mr. *Summerfield*, THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich, was referee."

1881 Census

125, Elmore Green Road – THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN

- [1] *John Somerfield* (59), widower, licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Matthew J. Somerfield* (18), son, joiner, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Richard Tranter (13), grandson, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Hannah Byll (?) (18), domestic servant:

Evening Star 9/6/1882

“On Wednesday night a well-attended meeting of miners was held at the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich, to consider the Permanent Provident Society, and Organisation. Mr. Thomas Stanley presided.
....‘That we hereby agree that the money shall be stopped at the pay office as the field pay has been heretofore.’.....”

Walsall Observer 27/6/1885

“An inquest was held at the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich, on Monday evening, before T. Howard Stanley, Esq, coroner, touching the death of John Ball, aged 64 years, miner, lately residing at 8, Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich. From the evidence it appeared that on the 19th December last, deceased, whilst engaged at work in one of the pits of the Norton-Cannock Colliery Company, received a severe wound by the fall of a piece of coal on a part of his forehead where he had sustained a severe injury some years previously. The second wound produced inflammation, followed by disease of the bone. In the opinion of Dr. Somerville the deceased died from blood poisoning, the result of the absorption of pus from the wound. The inquiry was adjourned till Monday next, to enable the Coroner to communicate with the Inspector of Mines.”

John Somerfield – see also BLUE PIG.

Lichfield Mercury 26/11/1886

“At the Cannock Petty Sessions on Monday, George Sperrings, landlord of the Dog Inn, Great Wyrley, was summoned for assaulting *Matthew John Somerfield*, landlord of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich, at Wyrley, on Monday week. Defendant’s goods were being sold up by Mr. Fellows, auctioneer, and on his fowls being put up for auction, complainant bid for them. Defendant objected to his bid, but the auctioneer accepted it, and then Sperrings struck *Somerfield*. Walter Davis, Stafford Street, Walsall, who assisted the auctioneer in conducting the sale, witnessed the assault, as did also Joseph Jeffreys, a man who had been put in possession at the Dog Inn. The Bench ordered defendant to pay 22s 6d, including costs.”

Lichfield Mercury 30/11/1888

“On Monday, Mr. T. H. Stanley, borough coroner, held an inquest at the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, on the body of John Salt (35), a fireman at the Norton Cannock Colliery. George Ball, a miner in the same employ, stated that on the 21st inst. the deceased called to him to go and take out some bars for the purpose of dropping the roof to make it higher. They first put two or three trees for the purpose of supporting the middle of the bars, and after examining the roof to see if it was safe witness removed one of the end trees. The deceased then began to remove the one at the other end, and after a short time it came out, and the first part of the roof fell. He raised himself up against the side, but a second part of the roof came down and doubled him up, with his head between his legs. It took a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes to dig him out, and then he was dead. Witness had previously warned him that it was not safe to go under the roof. The proper way was to drop the roof yard by yard, and set fresh timber. Hugh McGowan gave corroborative evidence, and a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Matthew J. Somerfield – see also SPREAD EAGLE.

1891 Census

125, Elmore Green Road – THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN

- [1] *Jane Parker* (51), widow, licensed victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] William Parker (17), son, painter (apprentice), born Bilston;
- [3] Eveline Parker (12), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Cecilia Parker (16), daughter, born Bilston;
- [5] John Donnellan (3), godson, born Walsall;
- [6] William Bennett (37), barman, born Bilston;
- [7] Theresa Bennett (33), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 31/12/1892

“On Saturday night a man named Henry Preston, 35, Elmore Row, met with a fatal accident at Messrs. Thomas’s colliery. Deceased was assisting some sinkers, one of whom sent him to fetch a morta board. As he did not return, search was made for him, and he was found dead in a new engine-house which is being erected. It is supposed that he slipped from the scaffolding in this engine-house, and falling a distance of 13 feet broke his neck.
On Tuesday, Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN on the body. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/12/1893

“Thomas Conner, collier, Little Bloxwich Lane, was charged with refusing to quit the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich. He went to the house, wanted to make bets for fighting, and when told by the landlady, *Caroline Wintle*, to leave, he used a filthy expression and refused. Fined 20s and costs, or 21 days’ imprisonment.”

William Farrington – see also GREEN MAN.

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1897

“Joseph Alfred Harvey (24), labourer, of Alfred Street, Bloxwich, and John Shaw (23), labourer, of Hyde, Lancashire, were charged with having stolen 11s 8d from the person of Thomas Gill, a collier, living at Morris’s lodging house, Bloxwich. Prosecutor on Thursday night went to the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, having the money then in a handkerchief in his pocket. Prisoners were there drinking. Prosecutor, after leaving the public house, was passing down Alfred Street, when the two prisoners pushed him into an entry, and while one of them held his hands the other took the money. William Rigby, a hawker, spoke to hearing a struggle in an entry in Alfred Street. Harvey struck a match, and said, ‘There’s no more money on the floor’. The two prisoners went down the street, and Gill then alleged that they had taken his money. Police-sergeant 3 (Willets) arrested the prisoners, and charged them. They made no reply. In the entry in which it was alleged the struggle took place the officer found an eye-shade belonging to the prosecutor. Both prisoners now pleaded guilty, and they were each sentenced to 21 days’ with hard labour.”

John Smith was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

Walsall Observer 16/6/1900

“On Sunday morning Sarah Ann Walker (67), widow, who lived with two married daughters at Elmore Green, Bloxwich, was found in a dying state in a coppice known as Dales Wood, Bentley. The statement made at the time was that about half past nine on Sunday morning a man named Daniel Poole was on his land looking after some cattle which had strayed, when he discovered deceased, who was in a shocking plight, her wrists and face being badly bruised, and her clothing saturated with blood. Knowing the woman he called her by name, and she opened her eyes and said she was very ill, and that she had been lying in the wood all night. Assistance was obtained from a cottage near by, but deceased rapidly sank, and died very shortly afterwards.

At the Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, a man named Jabez Pugh (28), a miner, of Field Street, Bloxwich, was charged with causing the death of the deceased.

Inspector Oakden said that about midnight on Sunday he arrested prisoner on suspicion of having caused the woman’s death, and told him that he was the last person seen in her company. Prisoner replied, ‘Yes.’ Witness applied for a week’s remand, which was granted.

The inquest was held on Wednesday morning, at the WHITE LION, Short Heath, by the County Coroner (Mr. T. A. Stokes), the accused Jabez Pugh being present, and was represented by Mr. A. J. Glover.

Mary Ann Beddow, 19, Elmore Green, Bloxwich, said that the deceased was her mother, and lived with her. Her mother was the widow of John Walker, farm labourer, of Bloxwich. She last saw her mother alive at 10.45pm on Saturday, when she went out of the house with a small whisky bottle. Witness saw Jabez Pugh on that night at about 10.30pm in the passage to the BULLS HEAD INN, which was a short distance from her house. The prisoner paid for a pint of ale at the BULLS HEAD for witness, her mother, and her niece. He also paid for some drink for witness and her mother at the GEORGE INN. They left him in the GEORGE, and went home, and immediately after they got in her mother went out without saying anything as to where she was going. Prisoner was dressed in uniform when they met him. In consequence of what she was told, she went to a small wood at Bentley on Sunday morning, and found her mother there dead.

Joseph Beddow, husband of the last witness, said that on Saturday last, at twenty-five minutes to eleven, Mrs. Walker went out. Witness heard Pugh call her to go and have a drink. Prisoner’s wife was ill, and he (prisoner) asked deceased to visit her, but she refused, and he then asked her to go and have a glass. They started over towards the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN. She did not come back that night, and, when he saw her on Sunday morning in the wood near Bentley, she was just dying. She was bleeding when he saw her.

John Smith, landlord of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, said that about five minutes to eleven, the deceased came to his house. Witness’s wife served her with some whisky. She was quite sober at the time, and was alone.

Fanny Hawley, Front Lane, Short Heath, said that on Saturday night, between twenty minutes and a quarter to eleven, she was walking in the direction of Bloxwich Railway Station with a young man, named John Jarvis. Witness saw Mrs. Walker, and a man in uniform with her, going in the direction of Bentley, where deceased was found.

Daniel Poole, Front Lane, Short Heath, said that on Sunday morning he was in his garden about 9am, when he saw something lying in a wood, about 40 yards away. He went down, and found the deceased (Sarah Ann Walker). Witness spoke to her, and she opened her eyes and said, ‘I am very bad, Dan’. The wind blew deceased’s bonnet aside, and showed him that she had a blackened eye. Witness asked her if she had been quarrelling with her daughter or anybody, and she said, ‘No’. Witness then asked her what brought her with a black eye, and she replied, ‘I have tumbled down, Dan’. Deceased said that she would like a cup of tea, and witness went to get one. On going back he saw a young woman, named Elizabeth Anson, and told her that Mrs. Walker was lying down and wanted some tea. They went back to the deceased together and tried to lift her up, but she refused to rise. A man who came up said that he would go to Bloxwich and tell Mrs. Beddow, and witness then went back home, not thinking that

deceased was in such a dangerous condition. He saw no marks except the black eye. There was a footpath through the coppice, used by workmen as a short cut. The deceased was lying across the footpath, which was about 200 yards from the turnpike road. In answer to Mr. Glover, witness said that deceased made no complaint about anyone, and he saw no blood anywhere. Deceased was quite sensible when she spoke to him. Witness had never seen deceased drunk, but he knew that she was given to drinking. Hannah Gosling, living at Beechdale Cottage, on the canal side, said that on Sunday morning she went into the coppice at the bottom of her house. Daniel Poole and Elizabeth Anson told her about Sarah Walker being in the coppice, and witness took her a cup of tea, and saw that her eye was discoloured and the bridge of her nose disfigured. Witness asked deceased what brought her there, and she said she did not know. Witness asked if she had been quarrelling with anyone at home, as she frequently did, but she replied that she had not. Witness asked her how long she had been there, and she said she had been there all night. Witness then asked her how she came there, and she said she had been brought there, but she did not know who by. Witness lifted her up, and she died with her head on witness's knee. Witness saw her about ten o'clock, and at 10 minutes to 11 she died. Her clothing and boots were saturated with blood, and her wrist was frightfully blackened.

Police-constable Dodge (256), of the County Police, stationed at Short Heath, said that on Sunday morning, from information he had received, he went down to the coppice at Bentley at 10.55am. The woman was dead when he arrived, and he removed the body to the WHITE LION. He examined the body and found that the face and wrists were discoloured, and her clothes were saturated in blood. The place where she was found was about a mile from where she lived. On information received he went to the coppice again on the morning of the inquest, and found marks of a severe struggle having taken place about 200 yards from where the body was found. He had been given a flask containing some whisky which was found there, and there were marks showing that a man had knelt.

John Smith, of the THATCHED HOUSE, identified the flask as one that the deceased brought to his house on the Saturday night. The officer, continuing, said deceased appeared to have struggled towards the cottage where she once lived, as she was found at a distance of only 50 yards from the cottage while the marks of the struggle were 240 yards away.

Ernest Dodge, son of the last witness, said that he found the flask about 250 yards away from where the woman was found. He found it at about 8.30 on Tuesday night. He also saw signs of a struggle.

Jabez Pugh, collier, in the employment of the Springhill Colliery, Essington, having been duly cautioned, said that on Saturday night he was in uniform. He saw Mrs. Walker about 9.30pm on the Saturday night, when she was in the BULLS HEAD INN. He treated her to a glass of whisky, and had a pint of ale himself. She went out, leaving him drinking with another man. Later on he saw her in the GEORGE, where he had a pint of ale, and she had some more whisky, and, then she went away again. He did not go and call Mrs. Walker out on that night, and he did not ask her to go and have another drink with him. He saw her outside her house, but he did not walk off with her towards the THATCHED HOUSE. He was not walking in the direction of Bentley with her at about a quarter to eleven, and the last occasion on which he saw her was when she was leaning against her door shouting just before eleven. He had not asked Mrs. Walker to attend to his wife, as he had got one woman who was doing that work. There was a route march in the afternoon and there were a lot of the volunteers in uniform about the town. There were also militiamen about. He reached home at 12 o'clock, and between 11 and 12 he was walking about. The BULLS HEAD was about half a mile from his house, and going home he met several people he knew, but spoke to no one. The blood on the white cuff of his tunic was caused by his nose bleeding outside the GEORGE. The shoulder strap which was torn had been unstitched for some time, and the belt hook which was missing had been lost for months. With regard to the dirt on the trousers he had no idea how they got in such a state. There was also blood on his belt, but that got on from his nose at the same time as the other did on the cuff. The torn bayonet frog which was produced was an old one, and the one he wore on Saturday was in his house somewhere. Both himself and Mrs. Walker were sober. When he got home he spoke to no one except his wife. There was not a woman named Allen in the house when he reached home at twelve.

Eliza Allen, Field Street, Bloxwich, said that she was a near neighbour of Pugh's, and had known him for some time. She was in and out of Pugh's house all Saturday night, and the last time she went there was at twenty minutes to two in the morning. Witness left the house at two o'clock, and Pugh had not arrived at that time. Witness was absolutely certain on that point. There was no one in the house except Mrs. Pugh, who locked the door when witness left for the last time.

Dr. J. T. Hartill, MRCS, LRCP, police surgeon, in practice in Willenhall, said that he had made a post mortem examination on the body of the deceased on Tuesday, and found recent bruises and abrasions on both knees. The clothing worn by the woman was saturated with blood, and the external injuries would not account for the saturation. He attributed death to collapse and shock, due to rupture of the liver, injury to the kidneys, and effusion of blood into the peritoneum. He was further of the opinion that these conditions were brought about by violence, and that not long before her death the woman passed some bloody fluid from the right kidney. It seemed to be impossible that three conditions, namely, a rupture of the liver, a bruised kidney, with blood in considerable quantity in the cavity of the abdomen, could be present in combination except as the result of external violence. He would describe the woman as being unhealthy, although possessed of a strongly built frame. It would have needed considerable violence to have caused the symptoms found. A person might live for twenty four hours after the injuries. He thought that the bruises on the face and knees were the result of a fall. The blood on Pugh's tunic &c, might have been caused in the manner stated by him.

Thomas Oakden, inspector of police at Willenhall, said that on Sunday afternoon he saw the body of the deceased and called in Dr. Hartill. About 11.30 that night, witness, assisted by Inspector Marshall, (Walsall Police), arrested prisoner at his own house, from whence he was taken to Bloxwich Police Station. Prisoner, on being told that he was arrested for being the last person who was seen with deceased, answered, 'Yes'. Prisoner seemed quite cool and collected. Witness took possession of prisoner's uniform, the trousers were covered with dirt, the belt hook on the tunic was lost, and the shoulder strap torn partly off. Afterwards he found the damaged bayonet frog between the bed and the mattress. The distance from deceased's house to the wood was about a mile. Inspector Marshall, of the Walsall Police, in charge of the Police Station at Bloxwich, said that he went with the last witness to Pugh's house, and found the belt at the bottom of the steps leading into the cellar.

Sergeant Eaton, sergeant instructor to E Company of Bloxwich Volunteers said that Jabez Pugh was a member of that Corps, and

that on Saturday there was a parade. Pugh was present, and was dressed in the clothes produced. Witness dismissed them about 6pm. Witness said that he would have noticed the shoulder strap had it been torn on parade. Witness did not know of anyone who had two frogs, but Pugh might have had two. At 9 o'clock on Saturday night witness thought that there might have been about 30 volunteers in uniform at the BULLS HEAD.

In answer to Mr. Glover, witness said that although there was no close examination he was sure that he would have noticed the tunic if it had been torn. Prisoner had been in the Volunteers for 10 years, and witness for two, so that it was possible to have had two of the frogs without witness knowing.

The Coroner having summed up, the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder by some person or persons unknown.”
[Pugh was found not guilty at Stafford Assizes.]

Plans for alterations, including knocking three rooms into two were approved on 31st August 1900.

1901 Census

125, Elmore Green Road

[1] *John Smith* (29), public house manager, born Lichfield;

[2] *Lucy Smith* (33), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *Jack Smith* (2), son, born Tettenhall;

[4] *Lilly Lowbridge* (20), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 10/1/1903

“Today was the adjourned transfer day. Transfers of full licenses were granted in the case of....

Mr. J. N. Cotterell renewed his application for the granting of a transfer of the OLD OAK, Upper Hall Lane, from Mark Knight to *Herbert Tuckley*, who had been temporarily in authority for the last few weeks. He said that *Tuckley* had been a license holder upwards of twelve years, during which time no complaint or conviction had been registered against him. In September 1901, he left the FOUR WAYS, Birchills, and became steward of the Birchills Working Men's Club, at 35s a week. Not liking club work, however, he applied, or intended to apply to be granted the license of a house in Ablewell Street, but was given to understand that he could not hold a license while steward of a club. He therefore gave up his appointment at the club, which he had had absolutely nothing to do with since. In July he was granted a temporary authority in respect of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, but he gave up that house very quickly, through a misunderstanding as to takings. Though a man of some means *Tuckley* had to earn his living, and for that reason he was applying for this transfer The justices after a short retirement, decided to grant the transfer.”

Joseph Vincent Greensill was fined £10 and costs for permitting drunkenness and £2 and costs for permitting gaming, on 2nd June 1905.

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Black List From Bloxwich. *J. V. Greensill*, THATCHED TAVERN, Bloxwich, had been fined for permitting drunkenness and also for allowing gaming.....

The Chief Constable said there was one other objection he had taken, to the renewal of the license of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, on the ground of convictions. On April 19th of last year the then tenant, named *Joseph Vincent Greensill*, was fined £10 and costs for permitting drunkenness, and £2 and costs for permitting gaming in his house. *Greensill* left the house and the license was then taken by *John Walsh*, the present tenant, who bore an excellent character, and had conducted the house very satisfactorily since he had taken it over.

Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared on behalf of the owners, and the licensee. He said he believed the house to be worth from £3,000 to £3,500. The circumstances were very hard for the owners. *Greensill*, who was one of the *Greensill*'s from Wyrley, which family had held the licenses for a great number of years, was put into the house. It was found that he was a man of excellent character and reputation, and after he took to the house, through some extraordinary reason he seemed to go wrong, and this charge was brought against him and he was convicted. The charges were practically under the same circumstances. There was one man drunk on the premises at the time the police came in, and two men were shooting with an air-gun for a quart of ale. Those charges were admitted, but having regard to the fact that the owners had put in a bonafide tenant whose character was beyond reproach, and no owners could do more, he asked them to renew the license. He thought it would be a terrible thing if the owners were punished, after the house had been conducted excellently ever since the convictions, and up to the time before the convictions.....

The Chief Constable said the house had been conducted properly of late, and the present tenant was a man of good character. Mr. Holden said the Bench had considered the case of this house very carefully, and they were pleased to hear that the house was being conducted properly. They took some time in considering whether they should grant the license owing to the complaints made and the fines inflicted of the bad management in the past. They had decided to renew the license, and hoped and trusted that such a thing would not occur again, and that would be a warning, not only to this house, but to all houses in Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/12/1906

“Public Music and Singing License.....

THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Elmore Green, Bloxwich, every Monday in club-room from 7.30pm to 10.45pm.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/8/1907

“A miner, named Isaac Lowe (39), of Dudley Street, Bloxwich, was charged with being found on enclosed premises, the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich, on the 7th inst.

John Eyden, landlord, stated that he went to bed just after eleven o'clock the previous night, leaving his wife and friends in the sitting room. About 12.30 am he was woke up and told that there was someone in the yard, and on looking in the yard witness found prisoner in the closet, sitting down asleep. He had been to the house in the afternoon and he had put him outside, as he wanted drink on the 'trust' and was refused. In order to get on the premises, which witness securely locked before going to bed, prisoner would have to climb a wall about seven feet high. A straw hat, which prisoner was wearing in the afternoon, was found in the yard after prisoner had left.

Elizabeth *Eyden*, wife of the landlord, gave evidence.

Police-constable Gibbs (54) gave evidence to arresting prisoner, who on passing the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN said, 'Bring my old straw brimmer' to the landlord, and afterwards said he had been on the drink for a week and did not know how he got in the yard.

Prisoner said he was the worse for beer, and did not know how he got there.

The Bench said that prisoner must think himself lucky that the prosecutors did not wish to press the case; it would be dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1908

“William Baker, 13, Alfred Street, Bloxwich, was found in a drunken state in the passage of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN by Police-constable Baker (31) on the 27th ult. The landlady had seen the man enter the house drunk and had just ordered him out when the officer went in.

Defendant said that since Alderman Dean got him compensation for his hand, the police had been watching him up and down the street.

A fine of 5s and costs was imposed.”

Lichfield Mercury 5/3/1909

“At the Walsall Quarter Sessions on Saturday, before the Recorder (Mr. E. A. Owen), Thomas Gittings (33), miner, was indicted for stealing six fowls, value 16s, the property of *James Bradbury*, licensee of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich. Mr. Lort Williams prosecuted. Evidence was given that on the night the prosecutor's fowl pen was robbed prisoner called at the public house and was afterwards seen in the back yard. A trail of feathers was discovered all the way to the house where he lived, and footprints corresponded with boots which he was wearing. He was also shown to have tried to dispose of two of the fowls. He was found guilty, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.”

Midlands Evening News 9/10/1909

“A fine of 10s and costs, with the alternative of 14 days imprisonment, was imposed upon Samuel Allcock, Alfred Street, Bloxwich, for assaulting *James Bradbury*, landlord of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich, and also for being drunk and disorderly in Albert Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/10/1909

“Under the auspices of the Bloxwich Town Football Club, a very successful concert was held at the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN on Monday. There was an exceedingly large attendance and an admirable programme was greatly appreciated, encores being frequent.....”

Walsall Advertiser 5/11/1910

“Loyal Caledonian Corks.

The quarterly meeting of the Walsall district was held on Saturday, at the WOOLPACK, Hotel, Digbeth. There were fifty-eight delegates present, representing twenty-seven lodges Secretary's report.....

Permission had also been granted for the removal of Lodge 207 from the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN to the STATION HOTEL, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

THATCHED HOUSE, Bloxwich, 1s 10d.”

Walsall Observer 1/7/1916 - Deaths

“On the 25th ult, at THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich, *William Roberts*, the beloved husband of *Maria Roberts*, aged 50. *In the midst of health we are in death.*

Mrs. *Roberts* and Family wish to thank all friends for sympathy in their sad bereavement, and also for beautiful flowers sent.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Bloxwich. £1 14s 0½d.”

Bilston and Willenhall Times 17/2/1934

“Stated to have borne an exemplary character during over 21 years’ service in the army, William Beech (46), 129, Stafford Street, Walsall, was charged at Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, with stealing, by means of a trick, the coal allowance ticket, value 14s, the property of Miss Annie Dorrington, general dealer, of Thirty House Row, Essington.

It was explained that Beech had been employed at the Littleton Colliery Company and was therefore entitled to allowance coal. Miss Dorrington said she bought the ticket from Beech in September when he was lodging with one of her neighbours. The ticket was for 16 cwts of coal and she gave 11s in cash and 3s in goods. She had not received the coal.

Frank Kitson, miner, of Thirty House Row, said just before September 16th Beech, who was then lodging with him, asked him if he could sell the ticket, and in consequence witness saw Miss Dorrington who agreed to purchase the ticket. She told witness to keep the ticket and arrange for the delivery of the coal. Beech asked for the ticket to be returned, stating that he wanted it to see to the drawing of the coal. He left on September 25th, taking the ticket with him and did not return.

Hugh Morrison, licensee of the THATCHED TAVERN, Bloxwich, said he bought the ticket from Beech for 8s on September 25th, and received the coal on September 29th.

PC Till said that on November 15th he saw Beech at Walsall and read over to him a summons charging him with the offence, and he replied that he did not have all the money. He admitted having had the 11s and the goods to the value 3s. The summons was returnable for December 4th, but Beech did not appear, so a warrant was issued.

He was arrested at at 7.30pm on Tuesday, February 6th, and in reply to the charge said, ‘I am sorry. It’s the first time I have ever been in trouble. I’ll see it doesn’t occur again.’

PC Till remarked that Beech had served in the South Staffs Regt. for over 21 years, and had been on the North West Frontier of India, Afghanistan, South Africa, and also served in the Great War. Throughout his army career he had borne an exemplary character. In his civil life he also had a good character.

Beech expressed his regret and said he was willing to repay the money to Miss Dorrington.

The chairman (Mr. J. Legge) told Beech it was a pity he had done such a thing, having regard to his good character. It was rather a shabby thing to sell coal to a person and then not deliver it. Owing to his good record the Bench would take a lenient view.

A fine of £1 with 10s special costs was imposed.”

1939 Register

125, Elmore Green Road – Inn (2 of 3)

[1] *Joseph H. Fellows*, date of birth 24/7/1904, licensee and machine moulder, married;

[2] *Marjorie (Fellows) Griffiths*, dob 17/12/1910, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

THATCHED HOUSE, Elmore Green, £1 1s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, Elmore Green. £2 11s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

THATCHED HOUSE, Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich. £1 10s 0d.”

Samuel Godfrey Plimmer – see also DOG AND PARTRIDGE.

[2007]

Its name was changed to the THATCHED TAVERN. [2009]

[2013]

Closed [2015], [2016]

It was converted into a shop. [2017]

THREE CROWNS

Blue Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Emanuel Benton [1834] – [1850]

William Watton [1853]

Emanuel Benton [1871]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Emanuel Benton, retailer of beer, Blue Lane. [1835], [1850]

Emanuel Benton, beer retailer, Blue Lane. [1849], [1850], [1871]

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/3/1853 - Advert

“Geo. Allin will Sell by Auction, at eleven o’clock on Thursday next, March 24th, 1853, at the THREE CROWNS INN, Blue Lane, Walsall, part of the clean and useful Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, Public House Fixtures, &c, comprising deal screens, quantity of deal seating, tap counter, glass shelves, cupboards, oak and other tables, Windsor and other chairs, two clocks, eight capital ale casks, pair excellent 100-gallon copper furnace and fittings, and numerous other effects belonging to Mr. *William Watton*, who is leaving.

The House and Premises to be Let, and any portion of the fixtures may be taken to at a valuation prior to the sale.

Particulars in catalogues to be had at the Auctioneer’s Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

THREE CROWNS

New Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Mayo [1818]

J Butler [1822]

John Webb [1835]

NOTES

Richard Mayo was also a stirrup manufacturer. [1818]

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 16/2/1835 - Advert

“A Snug Public house of Good Business, in New Street, Walsall – Coming-in low.

By John Rodway. To be disposed of by private treaty, the Licenses, Good-will, and Possession of the good accustomed old Licensed Public House, known by the name or sign of the OLD THREE CROWNS, excellently situated for business in New Street, Walsall, which is a populous and manufacturing part of the town. The present premises are low rented and in every respect convenient for the business. The coming-in will be trifling.

For further particulars and to treat apply to Mr. *John Webb*, upon the premises, who is leaving solely on account of other engagements, or to John Rodway, Auctioneer, &c, Edgbaston Street, Birmingham.”

THREE CROWNS

Sutton Road, Hayhead, (Wood End), (The Bridge), WALSALL

OWNERS

Lady Scott, Great Barr Hall
Arthur Beebee Ltd., Sandwell Street, Walsall (acquired in 1910)
Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1924)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

Ralph Allen [1834] – [1845]
Mrs. Martha Allen [1849] – [1851]
Joseph Allen [1858]
Martha Allen [] – **1859**)
John Allen [1860] – [1861]
Thomas Allen [1867] – [1870]
James Allen [1868] – [1884];
Mrs. Prudence A Allen [] – **1888**);
Alfred George Allen (**1888 – 1910**);
Thomas Parkes (**1910 – 1911**);
George Snow (**1911 – 1913**);
Thomas Parkes (**1913 – 1915**);
Mrs. Ellen Parkes (**1915 – 1921**);
James Percy Boon (**1921 – 1929**);
William Hargrove (**1929 – 1930**);
George Henry Johnson (**1930 – 1932**);
William Read (**1932 – 1933**);
Frank Morgan (**1933 – 1942**);
Henry Pountney Cullen (**1942 – 1946**);
John Aubrey Jones (**1946 – 1948**);
Frederick Edwards Shelley (**1948 – 1954**);
John David Robinson (**1954 – 1956**);
Henry William Bown (**1956 – 1958**);
Ronald Philip Gadd (**1958** – [1966]
Linda Ann Schofield [1984]
Jim Galvin [1990]

NOTES

Wood End [1849]
Hayhead [1860], [1932]

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 15/2/1830 - Advert

“Sale at the THREE CROWNS, Wood End, in the Foreign of Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by J. Farrington, on Friday next, February 19, all the live and dead Stock, Household Furniture, Brewing and Dairy Utensils, Implements of Husbandry, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. John Hildick, comprising a very useful horse of the cart kind; mare in foal, a three-year old filly, very promising for a gig, two broad-wheel carts, drill, ploughs, harrows, and winnowing machine, straw, corn, and manure, a large quantity of potatoes, and a variety of other effects.

Sale to commence at ten o'clock precisely.

The Farming Stock will be sold first.

Particulars in catalogues, which may be had at the office of the Auctioneer, Walsall, or on the premises.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/12/1836 - Marriages

“On Saturday last, at Walsall, by the Rev. John Meridyth. Mr. William Wilson, of Great Barr, to Harriet, daughter of Mr. *Ralph Allen*, of the THREE CROWNS, Hay Head, near Walsall.”

1851 Census

Wood End – THREE CROWNS

[1] *Martha Allen* (58), widow, publican, born Epstone, Staffordshire;

[2] *James Allen* (35), son, farmer of 100 acres, 3 labourers, born Stanton, Staffordshire;

[3] Prudentia Ann Allen (25), son's wife, born Thorpe, Derbyshire;

- [4] Ann Allen (1), son's daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] William George Allen (3 months), son's son, born Walsall;
- [6] Jane Brindsley (20), house servant, born Tong, Shropshire;
- [7] James Bayley (25), farmer's labourer, born Birmingham;
- [8] William Spare (23), farmer's labourer, born Norton, Leicestershire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/12/1853

“On Monday, *James Allen*, THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton, was fined 5s and costs for Sunday trading.”

Walsall Free Press 22/8/1859 - Deaths

“On the 13th ult, aged 63, Mrs. *Martha Allen*, of the THREE CROWNS INN, Hay Head, Great Barr, highly respected by all who knew her.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/9/1863

“George Pocock was charged with having, on the 20th of August last, stolen from the person of James Graham the sum of £2. The parties were ‘mates’ and had been reaping together, and on the night in question they slept in the bar room of the THREE CROWNS public house, on the Sutton Road. In the morning the prosecutor missed the money, and charged the prisoner with taking it. Prisoner admitted the charge, and said he would return the money when they got to the field. Instead, however, of going to the field where prosecutor and he were to meet, and where they had some corn to cut, he decamped, and was apprehended in Berkshire. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, committed the prisoner, who reserved his defence, to take his trial at the next Quarter Sessions for the borough.”

[At the Borough Quarter Sessions on 23rd October George Pocock was acquitted.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/7/1866

“John Davis, wagoner, who had been found, about one o’clock on Sunday morning last, getting up to a bedroom window in the house of Mr. *Allen*, landlord of the THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, was sentenced to 21 days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Free Press 30/3/1867

“*James Allen*, landlord of the THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, was fined 1s and costs, for having had his house open between the hours of four and five o’clock on Sunday afternoon for the sale of liquor.”

Thomas and *James Allen* appear at the THREE CROWNS, Hayhead, in the same 1868 Directory.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/10/1868

“At the Police Court, on Thursday, William Taylor was charged with stealing one gander and two geese, from the premises of Mr. *James Allen*, landlord of the THREE CUPS [sic] INN, Sutton Road. Mr. Bayley, of Wednesbury, prosecuted. Prudentis Ann *Allen*, the wife of the prosecutor, stated that on the 24th of January last, she saw the geese and gander safe, but on Sunday, the 26th of that month, she missed them. Information was given to the police, and on the following Friday Detective-serjeant Wood brought some legs and a head which she identified as those of the missing gander. She knew the head because the gander was a very old one and had lost one eye; and the right leg she was also able to identify because a horse once trod upon it. Richard Hall, pawnbroker, Stafford Street, proved having purchased two geese and a one-eyed gander with an injured leg from the prisoner on the 25th January, and stated that he gave him 14s 9d and some ale for the three, and sold the gander to a person named John Hubble.

Detective-serjeant Wood gave evidence to show that he found the gander that was identified by the prosecutor at the house of Hubble; and the prisoner was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

1871 Census

Sutton Road – THREE CROWNS

- [1] *James Allen* (54), farmer of 130 acres, born Stanton, Staffordshire;
 - [2] *Prudentia A. Allen* (55), wife, born Thorp, Derbyshire;
 - [3] Annie Allen (21), daughter, born Great Barr;
 - [4] William G. Allen (20), son, born Great Barr;
 - [5] Fanny Allen (18), daughter, born Great Barr;
 - [6] Frederic C. Allen (14), son, born Great Barr;
 - [7] Mary A. Allen (12), daughter, born Great Barr;
 - [8] John J. Allen (8), son, born Great Barr;
 - [9] Elizabeth Allen (6), daughter, born Great Barr;
 - [10] *Alfred G. Allen* (4), son, born Great Barr;
 - [11] Emma Stokes (22), general servant, born Walsall:
- [Prudentia Allen was probably the same as Prudence.]

1881 Census

THREE CROWNS INN

- [1] *James Allen* (65), farmer of 140 acres employing 3 men, born Hanton, Staffordshire;

- [2] *Prudentia Allen* (55), wife, born Thorp, Derbyshire;
- [3] William Allen (29), son, born Walsall;
- [4] John Allen (18), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Alfred Allen (15), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Joseph Jones (35), servant, agricultural labourer, born Sutton Coldfield;
- [7] Mary Branch (15), domestic servant, born Swansea, Wales:

James Allen was fined 10s and costs, on 7th March 1884, for opening his house before 12.30 on 2nd March.

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1884

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions were held yesterday.....

The licenses of *James Allen*, THREE CROWNS which had been suspended from the previous Sessions, were renewed, with a caution to the parties to be more careful in the future.”

Lichfield Mercury 16/3/1888 - Advert

“The THREE CROWNS, Hay Head, Sutton Road, Walsall.

Important Sale of Live and Dead Farming Stock, Household Furniture, &c.

Mr. T. Day, Junr, is favoured with instructions from the Executors of the late Mr. *Jas. Allen* to Sell by Auction, on Wednesday and Friday, March 21st and 23rd, 1888, the whole of the Live and Dead Farming Stock. Comprising 7 Cart Horses and 1 Nag Horse; 14 Head of Shorthorn Cattle, including 4 capital young Dairy Cows, 4 promising Coloury-in-Calf Heifers, 3 Barren Beasts, 2 Yearling Heifers, and 1 Yearling Bull; 29 Shropshire Ewes and their Lambs; 25 Pigs comprising Gilt and 7 Pigs, 2 Empty Sows, 2 Fat Pigs (about 12 scores), 2 Gilts, and 11 capital Store Pigs; 25 Couples of Fowl, 2 Drakes and 6 Ducks. The Usual Assortment of Agricultural Implements necessary for working 150 acre Farm. The Household Furniture consists of Dairy, Kitchen, and Bar Requisites, Sitting Room and Parlour Furniture, Pianoforte, the Contents of Five Bedrooms, and numerous other Effects.....”

1891 Census

Sutton Road – THREE CROWNS

- [1] *Alfred G. Allen* (24), unmarried, farmer and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Lilly Allen (26), sister, born Walsall;
- [3] Jane Weston (15), general servant, born Newcastle;
- [4] William Tag (50), waggoner, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1892

“At the Walsall Petty Sessions *Alfred Allen*, THREE CROWNS INN, licensed victualler and farmer, was summoned for having a half-gill and a quarter-gill measure which were unstamped, for having five 56lb, two 28lb, one 14lb, and two 27lb weights which were light, and a scale which was 9lb against the purchaser. The Town Clerk (Mr. J. R. Cooper) prosecuted; and Mr. Jackson (Stanley and Jackson) defended.

The Town Clerk said that the unstamped measures were correct, so that he did not ask for a penalty with regard to them. He called the inspector (Mr. Whitworth), who stated that in a barn he found the weights and scale, which defendant told him were used for weighing oats and other things. The 56lb weights were from 6oz 4dr to 1oz light, one of the 7lb weights was 2oz 10dr light, and one of the 28lb weights 2oz 2dr light, the others being 1oz 12dr, 10dr, and 6dr light respectively. Defendant said that he did not use the weights in trade. The Town Clerk said the onus of proof of that lay on the defendant, who, however, could not be called. Mr. Jackson, for the defence, said that these weights and the scale were only used for obtaining rough estimates of the weights, and could be no injury to anyone.

The Bench ordered defendant to pay the costs on the first summons and 5s and costs on each of the others.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1892

“Walsall Harriers. Twelve members, good and true, pioneered by the faithful Sam Holmes (not Weller) had a very pleasant spin of about seven miles through some of our green birder-land of the ‘black country’ and starting at the good pace up Snowden, down Calder, taking the open at Sutton Road, via the canal side, up Daisy Bank (devoid of daisies now), along Skip Lane, out by the THREE CROWNS, down to the ‘Smith,’ through ‘Cuckoo Nook,’ over the gate into Bosty Lane, at a very sharp bat into the Aldridge Road, down Mellish, and home to the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street. The following ran: Sam Holmes (captain), J. Mold, S. Williams, Lawton, Lloyd, C. Bourne, W. Satchwell, J. Newton, H. Kingdom, Brandrick, Bayley, and Davis. Today they run to the COTTAGE INN (vice-president), Mr. F. Liggers, at 3.30.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/2/1894

“Sydney Smith and John Smith (father and son), travelling gipsies, were charged with stealing a truss of hay, value 3s 6d, the property of *Alfred George Allen*, THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the prosecution. Richard Wanwood, Gillity Greaves, Sutton Road, said he was engaged by Mr. *Allen* to cut two tons of hay. There were 25 trusses of hay in the rick yard. He subsequently missed one truss of hay which he found in a ditch near to defendant’s van, on the highway. He identified part of it as belonging to Mr. *Allen*.

Police-constable Parsons gave evidence as to arresting prisoners near Shenstone. In reply to the charge, the father said they stole no hay; but the younger defendant said they had bought the hay for 6d, at Burton-on-Trent.

Mr. James said no jury in the world would convict merely on the identification of the hay, and the case would be dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/11/1895

“*Alfred Allen*, landlord of the THREE CROWNS public-house, Sutton Road, was summoned for having kept open and sold during prohibited hours on Sunday.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who defended, pointed out that his client thought that Daw End, whence the customers came, was outside the three mile radius, and the Bench dismissed the case with a caution, on payment of costs.

The five men – John, Enoch, and Jonah Fergusson, William Anson, and William Martin, who comprised the customers, were each fined 1s and costs for having been on licensed premises during prohibited hours.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against. Licensed Victuallers.....

Alfred Allen, THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, November 29th, 1895, selling during prohibited house, to pay costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/6/1900

“Yesterday, Mr. H. A. Pearson held an inquest at the BELL INN, Birmingham Road, Great Barr, respecting the death of Anthony Cunningham (70), labourer, who died on Monday evening. Deceased was employed by Mr. *A. Allen*, farmer, of the THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road, and was standing on a ladder reared up to a threshing-machine, when he was seen to fall with the ladder to the ground. He was picked up, but it was thought he had broken his neck, as death ensued almost immediately. A post-mortem examination, however, showed death to be due to syncope, resulting from cardiac degeneration. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/6/1900

“Thomas Bayliss (36), labourer, of no fixed abode, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road, when requested by the landlord, *Alfred G. Allen*.

It seemed that the defendant, with another man, were in complainant’s house the day previously, and because of their disorderly conduct were ordered to leave. They, however, refused to go, and the defendant’s mate threatened to burn the complainant’s ricks down if they were put out. With that the other man went away but the defendant commenced to use bad language and it was only with difficulty that he was ejected.

Fined 5s, including costs, or in default 7 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/6/1901

“*Alfred Allen*, of the THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road, was summoned for driving a vehicle without a light in Ablewell Street, on May 21st, and was fined 5s, including costs.”

Lichfield Mercury 19/9/1902

“John Whitehouse, 42, Hill Street, Walsall, was charged with stealing two fowls, the property of George Hawley, dealer, Beacon Cottage, Barr Beacon, on Sept. 12.

Prosecutor gave evidence that hearing a scuffle with his fowls about 9pm, he went outside and saw two men and a woman running along the lane. A little way off they stopped, and when he got up to them, they asked him what was the matter. Witness commenced to call for help, and the prisoner, whom he could easily identify in the moonlight, walked back with him. On the way he stopped to pick something up, and witness found the fowl produced at that spot. The wire netting of the fowl pen was broken and two fowls missing. Next day witness accompanied PC Jackson and Detective Smith to Walsall, and identified the prisoner in the street. Prisoner, however, said he was at the THREE CROWNS INN at the time in question.

Alfred George Allen, landlord of the THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road, stated that on the date in question the prisoner, another man, and a female, brought a puppy he had lost to his house. He rewarded them with 2s and served them with four pints of ale. They left about 8.30pm and returned again about 10 o’clock, afterwards leaving together about 10.30. Whilst away, they would have time to go to the house of the prosecutor.

PC Jackson spoke of the condition of the fowl pen and to finding feathers in the lane. When charged with the offence, prisoner said he was at the THREE CROWNS until nearly eleven o’clock, and denied having been with a female at all.

Prisoner, who elected to be dealt with summarily, was sentenced to 14 days’ hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/3/1903

“John Toon, SWAN INN, Dudley Street, was summoned for allowing his horse to stray in Belvidere Road, on March, 30th, and *Alfred Allen*, THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, was charged with a similar offence.

Police-constable Maskell proved the cases, and defendants were ordered to pay the costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1904

“For allowing five calves to stray on the Sutton Road on May 1st, *Alfred Allen*, THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road, was fined 5s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1905

“The members of the 2nd VBSSR had another battalion drill on Saturday, which developed into an interesting field day. With the exception of the two Wednesbury companies, the battalion concentrated at the Walsall Drill Hall, and proceeded to Great Barr.

The Wednesbury companies marched over the Delves in charge of a convoy, which they were endeavouring to get through to Aldridge. The headquarters of the attacking force were at the THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, and, with companies and sections thrown out in various directions, they succeeded in capturing the convoy, which was ultimately 'held up' near the reservoir....."

Walsall Advertiser 30/4/1910

"The Walsall Transfer Sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday morning.....

Mr. F. S. Wilson applied for a further temporary authority in respect of the THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road. He stated that the house had been purchased by Mr. Arthur Beebee. They had found out that their proposed tenant was an undischarged bankrupt, and they made that application so that he might obtain his discharge, as they were confident he would be a good man for the position. That license had only been transferred three times in 120 years, during which time it had been in the *Allen* family. The application was granted."

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

"A. Beebee's Noted Home-Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.

Houses.....

THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, Walsall."

1911 Census

Sutton Road – THREE CROWNS

[1] *Thomas Parkes* (49), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Ellen Parkes* (50), wife, married 26 years, assisting in the business, born Walsall;

[3] *Thomas Edward Parkes* (16), son, county court clerk, born Walsall;

[4] *Edward James Parkes* (76), father, widower, retired coach trimmer, born Wolverhampton;

[5] *Louisa Anslow* (18), general servant, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Observer 28/11/1914 - Advert

"For Sale, large Float, in grand condition; or would exchange for a good Cob.

Apply, *Thos. Parkes*, THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, Walsall."

Walsall Observer 19/12/1914 - Advert

"For Sale, a few grand young geese.

Apply, *Thos. Parkes*, THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, Walsall."

Walsall Observer 28/11/1914 - Advert

"Wanted, as General, person 30 to 40 years of age.

Apply, *Parkes*, THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road."

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1915

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday) at the Guildhall.....

The following transfers were granted.....

THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, from *Thomas Parkes*, deceased to *Ellen Parkes*."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road. £0 14s 8½d."

Walsall Observer 4/5/1918

"Gunner *Thomas Edward Parkes*, Royal Field Artillery, son of Mrs. *Ellen Parkes*, THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, officially reported missing since the opening of the German offensive on March 21, is a prisoner of war, unwounded, in Germany, a postcard to that effect, dated March 28, having been received from him. A single young man, he went out to France in August last. Before joining the Army he was a clerk at the County Court, and was a member of Walsall VTC."

Walsall Observer 6/7/1918 - Advert

"Hens, laying, 50 to select from; also Kid Goat.

THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road."

Walsall Observer 5/4/1924

"As a result of recent negotiations, the freehold licensed properties belonging to Messrs. Arthur Beebee Ltd, which include the DURHAM OX, Park Street; OLD STILL, Digbeth; THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road; Red Lion, Aldridge; MALT SHOVEL, Lower Rushall Street; GOLDEN LION, Birchills Street; the off license, 6, Camden Street; the brewery in Sandwell Street; and the lease of the FOX INN, Stafford Street, have been sold to the Highgate Brewing Co. Ltd, through Messrs. Fox and Harrison, FAI, of Walsall."

William Hargrove – see also BROWN LION.

George Henry Johnson – see also TURKS HEAD.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows.....

Highgate houses.....

THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road.”

1939 Register

Sutton Road – THREE CROWNS INN Public House (2 of 3)

[1] *Frank Morgan*, date of birth 22/4/1887, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Lily Morgan*, dob 15/6/1891, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Evening Despatch 7/3/1940

“Walsall licensing justices today..... The final special removal of the license of the THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, to new premises erected at the rear, was granted.”

Walsall Observer 27/4/1940 - Advert

“Bar-General, experienced, new house; at once.

Apply, THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road, Walsall.”

AND

“Barmaids, used to good-class trade; new house, M&B; at once.

Apply, THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road, Walsall.”

AND

“Barmen for weekends, experienced preferred; good-class trade, M&B.

Apply, THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 4/5/1940

“Walsall transfer sessions held at the Guildhall on Thursday.....

‘I don’t like to say it is the best in the borough, but it is certainly a wonderful house’ remarked the presiding justice announcing the grant of a special removal of the licence of the old THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, to premises that have been erected to a new building line, with the result that the site of the old house will be thrown into an important highway improvement.”

Walsall Observer 11/5/1940

“.....the general contractors for the Beacon Inn [Great Barr] (as well as for the new THREE CROWNS on Sutton Road, recently opened) were Deacon and Boardman, Ltd, Algernon Street, Walsall, and for both houses also the restful lighting-without-glare system was installed by the Truman Electrical Co, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 8/6/1940

“More public air-raid shelters are to be provided by the Walsall Town Council as follows.....

Old THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road, approximate accommodation for 35 persons at an estimated cost of £100.”

Walsall Observer 20/7/1940 - Letter to Editor

“Sir, Now that it has outlived its usefulness in its original form, the old THREE CROWNS INN on the Sutton road offers the opportunity of valuable or ominous use. I notice this week that the windows are wide open, giving access to all rooms. The cellars are open too, and they would easily hold 20 or 30 men. The house commands a view of important main roads.

The point is obvious. Such a building would be a stronghold if taken by parachute troops; but, on the other hand, it would make an ideal LDV centre. Can something be done?

Yours, etc, ‘Awake’.”

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road. £5 4s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 22/11/1941 - Advert

“THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road, Walsall.

Dance on Wednesday next, November 26th, 1941. 6-30 – 10-0pm.

Ace of Spades Band.

Admission 2/- Refreshments.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road. £25 13s 2d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

THREE CROWNS INN, Sutton Road. £0 0s 5d.”

London Gazette 3/9/1984

“*Schofield, Linda Ann* lately residing and carrying on business at The THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road Date of Order – 9th August 1984.....”

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

“Free Pint of Carling.

With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We’ve a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....

Where to get your Free pint.....

THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, Walsall.”

[2008]

Closed [2011], [2017]

Express & Star 29/7/2017

“The owners of an illegal car wash set up on the site of a former pub once touted as a space for million pound mini mansions have been ordered to stop trading. The former THREE CROWNS pub on Sutton Road closed in 2007 and at one stage was set to be converted into a luxury home with indoor swimming pool, six bedrooms, five bathrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen and gym. Four other six-bedroom homes worth about £1 million each were planned to be built alongside the 1930s building, however plans were refused in 2010 and the site has since been used as an illegal car wash.

At a planning committee meeting next week, Walsall Council bosses are set to agree to proceed with enforcement action demanding that the car wash ceases and that a caravan being used as living accommodation on site be removed. The owners will be given three months to comply with the authority’s demands, which are to stop trading and clear the site, or face legal action.

Councillor Chris Towe, who represents the Pheasey Park Farm ward where the building is located, said, ‘In its heyday, the THREE CROWNS was a well used pub and it was a real landmark within the community. I have always considered the building to be something of an iconic building too, it was a key part of the area. Plans to build apartments on the site have been put forward over the years, which I really supported because I wanted us to keep the building but see it brought to life again. There was also a plan to turn it into one property but unfortunately for the applicant that couldn’t be done. It is looking a bit sorry for itself these days, the building is damaged and it doesn’t look great, so if the council want to pursue this action then I have to support that. It is on a key route into Walsall as well, so the worse it looks the more it will put people coming to Walsall.’

The owners of the car wash were given temporary permission to use the site in 2011 but the council are now looking to move them off to improve the chances of regenerating the site.

Walsall Council’s head of planning, Steve Pretty, said, ‘The hand car wash use previously gained temporary consent on this vacant site to allow for long term regeneration plans to come forward, such a scheme has not been forthcoming. The long term use of the site for a hand car wash is considered unacceptable as it has a detrimental impact on the visual amenity, of this prominent site and on the surrounding area, which is also important due to the location within the greenbelt.’”

Express & Star 22/6/2019

“A proposal to demolish an ‘iconic’ disused Walsall pub and replace it with luxury housing has taken a step forward. Walsall Council’s planning committee gave the go-ahead for the creation of an access road to a conservation area next to the THREE CROWNS INN on Sutton Road. Members unanimously approved the plan at a meeting last week without debate. The application is in connection with an existing proposal to tear down the empty pub and construct seven five-bedroom executive homes on the Green Belt site. There had been strong opposition to that proposal and planning officers had initially recommended refusal due to concerns over the impact the huge buildings would have on the conservation area. Residents had also called for the retention of the THREE CROWNS, calling it ‘iconic’ and an outstanding example of a 1930s pub building. But members disagreed and said the development would meet a need for more ‘aspirational housing’ in Walsall. The derelict building, which has been empty for more than a decade, with the boarded-up pub being labelled an ‘abomination.’”

Express & Star 23/7/2019

“A severe fire took place at a derelict pub in Walsall last night, thirty firefighters battled the blaze at the former THREE CROWNS

INN pub on Sutton Road. West Midlands Fire Service was called at 2.55pm. It is not yet known what caused the blaze. The pub was due to be torn down, after Walsall Council approved plans to build seven five-bedroom homes in its place.

A West Midlands Fire Service spokesman said, 'We have six crews about 30 firefighters in attendance. It is a severe fire at a three-floor public house. Two firefighters are wearing breathing apparatus and we have got two hose reel jets and one main water jet on the blaze.'

Police were in attendance to control traffic. Firefighters were planning to find out the cause of the blaze once the fire was extinguished."

Express & Star 28/2/2020

"A derelict pub which was set on fire last year will finally be demolished to make way for seven new homes – after sitting empty for more than a decade. The former THREE CROWNS INN, on Sutton Road, Walsall, was set alight in March 2019, just hours after planning permission was granted to demolish the building. A total of 30 firefighters tackled the severe blaze at its height, which took more than three hours to completely extinguish. The pub has sat empty since it closed in 2007 and has been neglected since the fire. But this month planning permission for the building to be demolished was finally granted. Work can now go ahead on building the seven new detached five-bedroom homes.

Leader of Walsall Council, and also ward councillor for Pheasey Park Farm, Mike Bird said the delay was because of negotiations being held with the land owners about keeping some of the green belt land back for nature conservation. He said, 'I think the residents who live in the vicinity, and who have questioned when things are going to get moving, will be pleased to know that the application to demolish the site has been approved. We hope now that demolition will happen as quickly as possible.' He added, 'The pub is in a very sorry state at the moment. There has been quite a delay but it was due to ecological reasons. We hope things will get moving very quickly now. We have been negotiating with the land owners about some of the land behind the site, about keeping it as a nature conservation area, but this has now been solved.'

The decision was originally delayed a year ago when the application first went to Walsall Council's planning committee, because the land is greenbelt and the application had to be referred to the government. Councillor Bird said he hoped demolition might take place in a matter of weeks."

THREE CUPS

17, (7), (8), Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Rathbone, factor, Birmingham
Mrs. F. Eglinton
Robert Breese, Park Street, Walsall
Joseph Russell
Ansells Ltd. [1921], [1925]

LICENSEES

John Scudamore [1812] – **1836**
Maria Scudamore [1841] – [1845]
Thomas Spurrier [1847] – [1850]
George Shelley [1851]
Thomas Hartland [1855]
Thomas Hawkes [1857] – **1862**;
Ann Hawkes (**1862 – 1866**);
Charles Day (**1866 – [1870]**)
James Whittall [1871] – [1875];
Mrs. Mary Whittall [];
Joseph Lander [1879] – [1881];
James Rowley [1882] ?
Henry Kirkham [1885];
William Slater [] – **1886**);
William Wilson (**1886 – 1891**);
Joseph Russell (**1891 – 1901**);
Lawrence [1896] ?
Charles Worley [1900] ?
William Plant (**1901 – 1911**);
Joseph Russell [1908] ?

Thomas Poole (1911 – 1921);
John Smith (1921 – 1924);
John Henry Brown (1924 – 1934);
John Durrant Brown (1934 – 1936);
Charles Baxter (1936);
Samuel Hollies (1936);
Elizabeth Hollies (1936 – 1937);
Joseph Seagar (1937 – 1938);
William Rickards (1938 – 1939);
Thomas Guest (1939 – 1940);
Florence Joan Guest (1940 – 1942);
William Heeley (1942 – 1950);
Arthur Yardley (1950 – 1952);
John Dilworth (1952);
William Ernest Cooling (1952 – 1953);
Stanley Lee (1953 – 1955);
Frederick Devaney (1955 – 1956);
Samuel Brotherton (1956 – 1959);

NOTES

7, Park Street [1860], [1861], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872], [1873], [1881]
8, Park Street [1861]
17, Park Street [1891], [1892], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1932], [1940]

CUPS [1892], [1909], [1915], [1940], [1941], [1944], [1945]
THREE CUPS HOTEL [1940]

Jones, a carrier to Birmingham, Stratford &c, left from here every Monday. [1822]
John Ling, a carrier to Manchester and Liverpool, left from here every Sunday and Tuesday. [1822]

A carrier left here, each Tuesday, for Cannock. [1830s]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 16/7/1832 - Advert

“Sale at the THREE CUPS, Park Street, Walsall, By J. Farrington.

To be Sold by Auction (under distress for rent) To-morrow (Tuesday) July 17, five excellent Horses, removed for convenience of sale to Mr. *Scudamore's* – comprising a stout grey horse, five years old, of the cart kind, brown mare, aged, stout grey mare, five years old, ditto yearling horse, colt and stout black horse.

Sale to commence at two o'clock precisely.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/1/1836 - Deaths

“On the 14th instant, after a short illness, in his 54th year, Mr. *John Scudamore*, maltster, and landlord of the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, Walsall. He was deservedly respected by his friends, and his death is deeply lamented by his family and connexions.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 20/11/1843 - Notice

“If the Horse which was left at the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, Walsall, on the 5th of November inst. by Mr. Lane, is not fetched away on or before three o'clock in the afternoon of tomorrow (Tuesday) the 21st day of November, the same will be Sold by Auction to defray the expenses.

Walsall, Nov. 18, 1843.”

Commercial house and livery stables. [1845]

Birmingham Journal 29/5/1847

“Mary Ann Parsons was placed in the dock, charged by Mr. *Thomas Spurrier*, of the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, in whose service the prisoner had been living until this last fortnight, with having while in his service stolen one shawl, one pair of drawers, five pieces of silk, and a quantity of other articles, his property. The wife of the prosecutor being sworn, stated that one evening in the last week she observed the prisoner pass her house with the shawl (one of the articles in question) on her person, and which she at once identified. She named the circumstance to her husband, who called upon Mr. Rofe, the chief constable of the borough, on whose recommendation a search-warrant was procured; she accompanied Mr. Rofe to the prisoner's mother's house, where she saw the property in question taken from the prisoner's box by him (Mr. Rofe). Mr. Rofe deposed to searching the boxes of the prisoner, whom he also apprehended. She stated that she had bought the shawl of a travelling hawker, who was in the habit of coming to the house of prosecutor. She was fully committed for trial.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/6/1847

“Walsall Quarter Sessions.

Mary Ann Parsons pleaded guilty to an indictment for stealing one shawl and a quantity of other articles of wearing apparel, the property of her master, Mr. *Thomas Spurrier*, on the 5th of May last, at Walsall. The prosecutor recommended the prisoner to mercy, and the Court sentenced her to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for one calendar month.”

Wilkes, a carrier to Bloxwich, left from here daily. [1849]

Ickers, a carrier to Cannock, left from here every Tuesday at half past 4. [1849]

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/2/1850 - Advert

“To be Disposed of by Private Contract, by H. Farrington, the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of that old established Inn, and Market Tavern, known as the THREE CUPS, in the occupation of Mr. *T. Spurrier*, well situated in Park Street, being the principal leading thoroughfare of Walsall, and now doing a good business.

The above is a most desirable opportunity to any person wishing to take to an old established trade, as sufficient reasons will be given by the present proprietor for giving up the business.

Coming-in about £300.

For particulars, apply to H. Farrington, Appraiser, Lichfield Street; or to the Proprietor, Walsall.”

Birmingham Journal 23/11/1850 - Advert

“One Pound Reward.

Lost, on Tuesday evening last, from the Stabling of the THREE CUPS, Park Street, a Brown Bitch Greyhound; black nose, scar on loin and hind-leg, and answers to the name of ‘Gip.’

Any person restoring the same to the owner, Mr. David Walker, SWAN INN, Bloxwich, shall receive the above Reward.”

1851 Census

Park Street

[1] *George Shelley* (38), innkeeper, born Walsall;

[2] Ann Shelley (44), wife, born Colwich, Staffordshire;

[3] Thomas Shelley (13), son, born Walsall;

[4] Edwin Shelley (11), son, born Walsall;

[5] John Loat (21), servant, born Walsall;

[6] Mary Parkman (26), house servant, born Aston, Warwickshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/2/1855 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Thomas Hartland*, sign of the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, Walsall..... four substantially erected Dwelling Houses, near to the Stafford Street toll gate.....”

Thomas Hawkes = Thomas Hawkins

Walsall Free Press 7/2/1857

“William Wootton, a bullet-headed looking fellow, dressed in the garb of an excavator, was charged with obtaining money under false pretences. *Thomas Hawkes* is the landlord of the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street. The prisoner went to his house on Thursday night, and began to tell – at least we believe he told – a very deplorable tale about a very deplorable accident which had happened at one of his pits. We must here tell our readers that he represented himself as a collier in a very large way; and this tale was, that he had lost seventeen horses and three men. He had given all his money to the widows of these poor creatures, and he just wanted to borrow three shillings. This amount the landlord of the THREE CUPS lent him, and the prisoner having promised that he would on the following day take a load of coal to him. William Letts is a provision dealer in Blue Lane. About a quarter to ten o’clock on Thursday night, he was sitting in the ODD FELLOWS ARMS. The prisoner was there also. He represented himself as Mr. Knowles, of Pelsall Wood. Here he reiterated that same pitiful tale, and asked the witness if he would be kind enough to lend him four shillings. Witness refused to do it, and the prisoner immediately left. He followed him, and found him ultimately at the RED LION, where he was taken into custody. The Bench thought there was sufficient evidence to send the case to the Sessions. To that tribunal he was consequently committed.”

Walsall Free Press 18/7/1857

“William Henry Duignan, Esq, solicitor, appeared to a complaint against him of allowing his dog to be at large on Saturday morning. Mr. Duignan admitted the fact, but at the same time stated his servant man had opened the gates, and the dog had for a short time obtained his freedom. The Bench were about to fine him five shillings and expenses, but Mr. Duignan objected to this as an unusual if not an illegal fine. The penalty inflicted was one shilling and expenses. *Thomas Hawkes*, at the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, was fined for the same offence 2s 6d and expenses. Now we have no desire whatever to call into question, or interfere with, any decision of the Guildhall Bench of Magistrates; but here are two cases brought before them precisely of the same character, and presenting exactly the same features, but are treated in different ways. Surely one of the defendants must have been favoured, or the decision towards the other must have been wrong.”

Walsall Free Press 1/8/1857

“Benjamin Jones, a driver for Mr. Bird, of the BRADFORD ARMS INN, charged *Thomas Hawkes*, landlord of the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, with an assault under the following circumstances: The complainant drove the defendant and some others to Chillington on Thursday, but no gratuity having been given, he called on *Hawkes* the following night to ask for the same, when complainant told him he was sadly too fast, and struck him. Several witnesses were called who testified that the complainant was very abusive, and gave great provocation to the defendant. Mr. Sill defended. The case was dismissed.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1858

“Brewster Sessions.....

Mr. Day expressed his surprise that there was no report against the landlord of the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, whose house was one of the most disorderly in town. Fights were of common occurrence in the house. On one occasion he had himself to interfere to save some children who were in danger of being killed in one of these rows. They had been told by Mr. Cater that what the police did not see they could not make a report of; but if the case were adjourned for eight days, he was prepared with, and would produce evidence to show, that on one occasion, when a fight was going on, a public officer was present. Unless therefore the officer was at the time mesmerised, he must have seen the fight as well as the other by-standers. Another source of complaint, by the residents in the vicinity of the THREE CUPS, was the musical performance kept up in the house every Sunday evening, and which was the means of attracting crowds of people to the house, to the great annoyance not only of the residents in Park Street, but also to the passers by. Mr. Day contended that it was almost impossible for the police to have escaped noticing some of the disorderly acts of Mr. *Hawkes*, who not unfrequently shut his house, and after turning off the gas, lighted lamps and placed them on the counter.

After hearing the remarks of Mr. Day, the Bench consented to an adjournment of the application for eight days.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1858

“There was a full Bench of Magistrates at the adjourned Licensing Court, which was held in the Guildhall yesterday, for the purpose of considering those cases of licensed victuallers whose licenses were suspended at the former Court.....

In the case of Mr. *Hawkes*, landlord of the THREE CUPS public-house, in Park Street, whose license had been suspended from the last Court day, Mr. Smith, solicitor, of Birmingham, appeared for the applicant. Mr. Wilkinson, solicitor, appeared for Mr. Day (one of the borough Magistrates), who had objected to Mr. *Hawkes* receiving a certificate. That gentleman had instructed him (Mr. Wilkinson) to inform the Bench that now he had no objection that Mr. *Hawkes* should receive his license, hoping that the suspension in question would tend to make him prudent in the future management of his house. After a few observations by Mr. Smith, as to the cause of the obstruction by Mr. Day – circumstances as related by the learned gentleman which occurred twelve months ago – Mr. *Hawkes* obtained his certificate, and the Licensing Court proceedings terminated.”

Walsall Free Press 24/11/1860 - Notice

“Court Garibaldi, No.3533, of the Ancient Order of Foresters, was Opened at the House of Mr. *Thomas Hawkes*, THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, Walsall, on Wednesday, the 14th of November, 1860.

Any Friend feeling a desire to become a Member of this Society may obtain every information from the Secretary Mr. H. J. Duignan, 35, Day Street.”

[This was repeated for several weeks.]

1861 Census

8, Park Street

- [1] *Thomas Hawkes* (31), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ann Hawkes* (30), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Thomas Hawkes* (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *James Hawkes* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *William Hawkes* (2), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Ann Hawkes* (7 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Ann Hartley* (36), general servant, born Wednesfield;
- [8] *Susannah Feredy* (19), general servant, born Bilston;
- [9] *William Reynolds* (18), manservant, born Treason (?), Staffordshire:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/5/1862

“A match has been made between S. Tolty and C. Fowler (both of Walsall) to run 120 yards at Aston Cross Grounds, Birmingham, June 9, for £10 a side. £5 a side is in the hands of Mr. *Thos. Hawkes*, of the THREE CUPS INN, Walsall, who is to be the final stakeholder, and a further deposit of £1 a side is to be made May 19, at Mr. David Wood’s, Caldmore, Walsall. Mr. J. Coates of Birmingham is to be referee, and the men are to go by mutual consent in 15 minutes, or by report of pistol. To be at the scratch at three o’clock.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/5/1862

“William Lyons, fish hawkker, was charged with having behaved in a disorderly manner, in the house of Mr. *Hawkes*, the THREE CUPS INN, on Saturday last. He was convicted and fined 1s and costs, or seven days’ imprisonment.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 17/8/1862

“W. Springthorpe and C. Poley. These Walsall men continue to make good their various deposits for their 100 yards match, for

£10 a side, which comes off at Aston Cross Grounds on Monday, Aug 25. A further deposit of £1 10s a side must be made at Fleming's, the RING OF BELLS, Walsall, on Monday, Aug 18, and the final on Saturday, Aug 23, at the final stakeholder's (Mr. Hawkes's), the THREE CUPS INN, Walsall."

Walsall Free Press 20/12/1862 - Deaths

"On the 15th inst, aged 36 years, Mr. *Thomas Hawkes*, of the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street; deeply regretted."

Walsall Free Press 13/2/1864

"On Thursday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the THREE CUPS, Park Street, upon the body of William *Hawkes*, aged five years, son of the landlady, Mrs. *Hawkes*. From the evidence it appeared the deceased came by his death under the following circumstances.

During the recent severe weather, a fire had been kept in the bed-room where deceased slept, and, about a quarter past seven o'clock, on Monday morning, the poor little fellow, in the absence of the servant, got to the fire, and lighted a piece of paper with which he accidentally ignited his clothes. Before the flames could be extinguished, he was so severely burned that he died in the course of the same evening. The Jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Walsall Free Press 3/2/1866

"Mrs. *Ann Hawkes*, landlady of the THREE CUPS, Park Street, was charged with having, on the 24th inst, had her house open between the hours of one and four.

Mr. Matthews, who appeared for the defendant, admitted the charge, but stated that there had been a supper at the house, and defendant had neglected to apply for an extension of time.

As this was defendant's first offence, she was only fined 2s 6d and costs."

London Gazette 29/6/1866

"*Ann Hawkes*, of Park-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the Court of Bankruptcy, for the Birmingham District, on the 31st day of May, 1866, which said Petition and the proceedings thereunder were, on the 18th day of June, 1866, transferred to the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass her Last Examination, and make application for her Discharge, will be held at the said Court, at the Court-house, Goodall-street, Walsall, on the 28th day of July next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Frederic F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. Samuel Wilkinson, junr., of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/11/1866

"At the County Court, on Saturday, A. M. Skinner, Esq, Judge, presiding, the following bankruptcy cases were dealt with:—*Ann Hawkes*, licensed victualler, Walsall. Adjourned last examination. Certain accounts ordered at the last examination having been just filed, a further adjournment until the 13th of December was made....."

1871 Census

7, Park Street

- [1] *James Whittall* (36), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Anne Whittall* (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Clara A. Whittall* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Lizzie A. Whittall* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Frederick Whittall* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Helen Whittall* (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Alice Whittall* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Anne Whittall* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Alexander Whittall* (2), son, born Walsall;
- [10] *Emma L. Whittall* (5 months), daughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 21/9/1874

"Walsall Dog Show Black and Tan Terriers, Dogs or Bitches (twenty-four entries).....

3rd 'Guess', 2 years 4 months, Mr. *James Whittall*, THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

"Defensio, Non Provocatio. Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the Merchandize Marks Act, 1862, and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord

Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association. Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association. Agents For Staffordshire.....

Walsall: S. Tonks, ROYAL OAK INN, 28, Ablewell Street; F. Weston, BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street; G. Holden, ODD FELLOWS ARMS, 1, Stafford Street; G. Smith, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street; *J. Whittall*, THREE CUPS INN, Park Street; J. H. Newell, ROYAL OAK Brewery, Pleck."

James Whittall – see also IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street and FITTERS ARMS.

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1879 - Avert

"Notice Of Removal.

THREE CUPS, Park Street, Walsall.

Mr. *J. Lander* (Sole proprietor of the above House) Begs to inform his friends and the public generally that he has Removed from the COACH AND HORSES, Ablewell Street to the THREE CUPS, Park Street, where he hopes to receive a continuation of the liberal support he has had hitherto.

Wines, Spirits, and Ales, Of the finest qualities, in large or small quantities.

Families Supplied With Ales, &c."

[The advertisement was published regularly for several months.]

1881 Census

7, Park Street

- [1] *J. Lander* (51), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Emma Lander (48), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary A. Lander (26), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Ernest B. Lander (18), son, insurance agent, born Chester;
- [5] Sidney N. Lander (8), son, scholar, born London;
- [6] Caroline Price (20), waitress, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] Ellen Swan (18), general servant, born Pelsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/2/1885

"Yesterday, at the Guildhall, *Henry Kirkham*, the THREE CUPS INN, Park Street, was, on the evidence of Sergeant Gore and Police-constable M'Garry, fined 20s and costs for having his house open at prohibited hours, viz. 12.15 on the previous Wednesday morning, when seven men were found in the smoke room, with glasses of liquor before them. The defendant was away from the house at the time."

Henry Kirkham – see also UNION TAP HOUSE, Wolverhampton, BARREL, Horseley Fields, Wolverhampton, DOG AND PHEASANT, Darlaston, and OLD BUSH, Darlaston.

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

"At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Cotterell applied on behalf of *William Wilson*, the THREE CUPS, Park Street. Re-fused."

1891 Census

17, Park Street – THREE CUPS INN

- [1] *William Wilson* (31), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Wilson (31), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary Wilson (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Frank Wilson (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] William Wilson (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Alice Wilson (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Harry Wilson (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Thomas Wilson (18 months), son, born Walsall;
- [9] Harry Taylor (77), visitor, currier, born Manchester;
- [10] Betsy Taylor (61), visitor, born Birmingham;
- [11] Mary Wilson (27), sister, waitress, born Walsall;
- [12] Emma Turner (20), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [13] Annie Cherrington (13), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 7/4/1892 - Advert

"Wanted, smart, active Girl, 17 or 18, as Under Barmaid.

Apply, by letter only, stating experience and terms.

CUPS, Park Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/9/1897 - Advert

“To be sold cheap, two National Cash Registers, in perfect order.
Apply, *J. Russell*, CUPS, Park Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The magistrates also want you to report to them at the next meeting with regard to the use of the THREE CUPS, in Park Street, and the RISING SUN, Green Lane. Whether these houses are being used solely for purposes under the Licensing Act.....

Mr. Loxton announced that the hotel licenses would be renewed with the exception of the THREE CUPS, and the RISING SUN INN.....

With regard the THREE CUPS HOTEL and the RISING SUN INN, the questions were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, and the clerk was directed to serve notices requiring the attendance of the licensees to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, and especially as to their houses being used for betting or other activities otherwise than purposes under the Licensing Act; and also for the licensee to show their adaptability for the carrying on of their licensed premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/9/1899

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The THREE CUPS and the RISING SUN. The renewal of the licenses of these houses had also been postponed, notice having been given for the Bench that the occupiers, Mr. *J. Russell* and Mr. D. Noake respectively, would be required to come and give evidence as to whether the house had been properly conducted, having special reference to gambling, and also whether they were a necessity.

Mr. Disturnal (instructed by Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith) appeared on behalf of Mr. *Russell*; and Mr. Plumptre (instructed by Mr. H. H. Jackson on behalf of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Association) for Mr. Noake.

In regard to the THREE CUPS, Mr. Loxton said the Chief Constable had been requested to make a report on the conduct of the house.

The Chief Constable had a long report in front of him, but Mr. Disturnal at once rose, and argued that the applicant for the renewal of a license was entitled to have it renewed unless objection were made in proper form, and substantiated on evidence..... [There is then a lengthy discussion of legal matters.]

The justices then retired to consider the points raised, and after about three quarters of an hour’s deliberation they returned, and Mr. Loxton read out the decision as under.

With regards to the renewal of the license of the THREE CUPS and the RISING SUN, the magistrates having heard the arguments of Messrs. Plumptre and Disturnal, ruled the justices, having required the licensees to attend and apply for renewal, it is incumbent upon them to do so. At the same time, these are the first licenses brought up on notices until some affirmative evidence is given against them. Mr. Taylor can you give any evidence, or do you wish to ask for an adjournment?

The Chief Constable said he was not there to object, and had not given notice. He could offer no evidence except as to the number of houses in Park Street.

Mr. Loxton: Can you give affirmative evidence on the question of betting. – Chief Constable: None whatever.

Mr. Loxton: You cannot? – Chief Constable: I cannot.

Sergt. Pritchard was then put into the box, and gave evidence as to the number of houses there are in Park Street. He had known the THREE CUPS for some 17 years, and there has been no complaint against it to his knowledge.

Mr. Jupp: Do you know of any cases of betting in that house? – Witness: Not of my own knowledge.

Do you know a man named Reay? – I know him, but I don’t think he goes there betting.

Do you know Stone? – I know him, but I don’t know of my own knowledge that betting takes place there.

The Chief Constable said if the magistrates had instructed him privately to get information three or four weeks before, he might have got some information.

Mr. Disturnal (interrupting): That is amusing (laughter).

The Chief Constable said it was impossible to get any evidence, as the matter was made public, and people were put on alert.

Mr. Disturnal said no one had made a charge against the landlord of the THREE CUPS, and no one had made a charge against anyone who had used the house as a betting house. It was idle to think for a moment that such a case could be made out against the house – at any rate there was no evidence before the Court. He submitted that it was idle to argue whether the license were needed or not in Park Street, seeing that it had been there sixty years, and the population and requirements had increased enormously.

.....The Mayor said the magistrates had decided to renew both licenses.”

Walsall Observer 17/11/1900

“Mr. F. Bill applied for the transfer of the THREE CUPS, Park Street, from *Joseph Russell* to *William Plant*.

The applicant *Plant* was called and gave evidence that he was a manager.

In reply to Dr. Lynch, he stated that he had been a cellarman at the THREE CUPS. He denied that he had acted as messenger to carry telegrams from the Post Office.

Dr. Lynch: Do you keep a telephone in the house, or was there a telephone in the house?

Witness: Yes.

Dt. Lynch: What do you use it for?

Witness: I don't know, I don't use it.

Dr. Lynch: Was it used for betting purposes?

Witness: I don't know.

Dr. Lynch: Do you swear you don't?

Witness: Yes. I swear it.

Mr. Bill: There is no telephone in the house now?

Witness: No.

Dr. Lynch: I want to know whether he is a dummy to cover Mr. *Russell*. I want to find out if the man is a tenant.

Mr. Bill: In the case of a full license it is not necessary for a man to be a tenant. If anything goes wrong the man is responsible.

Dr. Lynch: Quite so, and he can be turned out and another put in, and another and another if necessary.

Dr. Lynch (to witness): Has the gambling which was carried on in that house been removed to School Street?

Mr. Bill: You are asking the man to incriminate himself.

Mr. Jupp: In other words, have you or Mr. *Russell* taken a house in School Street?

Mr. Bill: How can he answer for what Mr. *Russell* has done?

Mr. Jupp: Have you taken a house?

Witness: No. I have not.

The magistrates ordered this to stand over until the next Sessions, a temporary authority being granted in the interim."

Joseph Russell was a well known commission bookmaker, Wisemore. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

William Plant, THREE CUPS."

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

"The adjourned annual meeting of the Walsall Football Club was held at the CUPS HOTEL, Park Street, on Wednesday evening, Mr. W. J. Lee being in the chair. It was explained that the meeting had been called to complete the election of a committee and also to devise means to extinguish the debt which at present exists it was decided to commence a shilling fund, and it was also decided to have collecting boxes at the various licensed houses throughout the town."

Walsall Advertiser 16/4/1910

"The annual meeting of the Walsall Branch of the Typographical Association was held at the THREE CUPS HOTEL, Park Street, on Monday evening....."

1911 Census

17, Park Street

- [1] *Thomas Poole* (40), hotel manager, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Poole* (39), wife, married 10 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [3] *Tom Poole* (9), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Norman Poole* (2 months), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Amelia Sarah Richards* (41), visitor, born Walsall;
- [6] *Ellen Richards* (25), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [7] *Elizabeth Frances Foxall* (19), assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [8] *Martha Neale* (29), assisting in business:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

THREE CUPS, Park Street, Walsall, 4s 6d."

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1915

"A conference of local and district clubs was held, under the auspices of the Walsall and District Football Association at the CUPS HOTEL, Park Street, on Tuesday evening, to consider the question of arranging friendly matches during the ensuing season. In a circular letter which the secretary of the Association (Mr. E. Smith) had sent to the various clubs, it was pointed out that the F.A. had decided that no cups, trophies, or medals must be competed for, and no payments made to players; while one-third of the gate-money taken at matches must be devoted to charity; but it was thought that it would be in no way against the spirit of keen anxiety prevalent at the present time on account of the War, if a series of matches were arranged for the recreation and entertainment of those who are ineligible for Active Service or at work on Munitions. 'Indeed', the circular continued, 'it almost seems necessary that this should be done in order to relieve the tension and strain caused by present working conditions'."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
THREE CUPS, Park Street. £1 1s 0d.”

South Staffordshire Times 22/11/1919

“Mr. *Joseph Russell*, of Longwood House, Mellish Road, formerly of Park Street, Walsall, licensed victualler, who died on July 30th last, left an estate of the gross value of £56,935 15s 5d, with net personalty £26, 252 3s 1d.”

‘Walsall Pubs: A History’ by John Cockayne

“.....In 1925 it was an Ansell's house, the survey of that year describing it being an ‘old property in very good order’, the Public Bar was 33’6” x 15’10” x 11’3” with a Bar snug, Smoke Room, Club Room, and four bedrooms.”

John Harry Brown – see also PRINCE, NEW INN, RED LION, NEW STATION.

Walsall Observer 18/11/1939

“In a list of license transfers were two instances where a wife is taking over now that her husband had been called to the Colours, the license of the ROSE AND THISTLE, Wednesbury Road, being transferred to Hilda Summer, and that of the CUPS, Park Street, to *Florence Joan Guest*.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1940

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District licensed Victuallers’ Society at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Street on Thursday.....
Mrs. *Florence Guest*, THREE CUPS HOTEL, Park Street.”

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
CUPS HOTEL, Park Street, £1 19s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 10/5/1941

“Well-known for many years as a licensee in Walsall and Birmingham, Mr. *John Harry Brown* died on Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Cronin, of the FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, with whom he had resided since he retired about eight years ago. He was in his 79th year, and had been ill for about a month.
Eldest son of John Brown, a well-known Walsall cricketer, who for twelve years headed the town club’s batting averages (and who had at times played with or against some of the most famous men of his time, including the Graces, Parr, Minn and Daft), the late Mr. *Brown* himself, like several of his brothers, took an active part in the game and assisted the town club.
He left the currying trade to take his first licensed house, the PRINCE BLUCHER, Stafford Street, and among other Walsall licenses he held were those of the NEW INNS and the CUPS HOTEL, Park Street. He had been at the latter before his retirement and it was while he was there that his wife died eleven years ago. He had been a member of both the Walsall and Birmingham licensed victuallers’ societies. He leaves six sons and a daughter. The funeral took place at Ryecroft Cemetery on Thursday.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
THREE CUPS HOTEL, Park Street. £13 13s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 16/1/1943

“John Frederick Smith (26), aircraft worker, 15, Eldon Street, did not appear to answer a summons for wilfully damaging six drinking glasses and a jug, valued at 10s, at the CUPS HOTEL, Park Street, on December 24. He sent a letter in which he said ‘I tried to quell the bother and in the scuffle may have unknowingly done the damage complained of.’
Leslie Arthur Allman, Birchills Street, stated that he was in the lounge whilst there was a row going on in the passage outside, and Smith, in attempting to pick up a chair, knocked over a table on which the glasses and jug were standing, with the result that they fell to the floor and were broken.
Further evidence having been given by *William Heeley*, the licensee, and Police-constable Doughty the magistrates imposed a fine of £2 and ordered the defendant to pay in addition 10s for the damage and £2 10s special costs.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
THREE CUPS HOTEL, Park Street. £2 11s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 5/2/1944 - Advert

“Wanted, a Woman Cleaner, mornings only, 8 till 11.
Apply the CUPS, Park Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1945 - Advert

“Bar Help Wanted, several barmaids kept.
The CUPS, Park Street, Walsall.”

William Heeley – see also COTTAGE.

It closed on 27th May 1959.

THREE HORSESHOES

Lichfield Road, Rushall, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Eaton [1818] – [1844]

Henry Cooper [1845] – [1850]

Edward Edgerton [1854] – [1862]

Henry Egerton [1861]

Joseph Yates [1868]

John White [1872]

NOTES

An auction was held at the house of Mr. *Thomas Eaton* on Friday the 23rd day of May, 1828.

Staffordshire Gazette 18/5/1839

“Mr. *Eaton*, landlord of the THREE HORSE-SHOES, Rushall, charged Thomas Emery with an assault, and with refusing to leave complainant’s premises on the 21st of April last. Emery came in a quarter before ten at night, and at first he was told he could not have a drink, but on his promising to quit as soon as he had taken it, some was drawn for him, and the landlord went to bed leaving his wife up. When Emery had finished the ale he wanted more, which Mrs. *Eaton* objecting to fetch, he used the most violent language. The landlord was called up, and on his coming down stairs a scuffle ensued, the defendant striking him violently several times. The Bench fined Emery 2s 6d and costs, and in default of payment he was committed for a fortnight to Stafford gaol.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/3/1844 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, by T. Franklin, at the House of Mr. *T Eaton*, the THREE HORSE SHOES, Rushall, on Wednesday, the third day of April, 1844, at six o’clock in the evening subject to conditions then to be produced:

All that well-accustomed Freehold Public House, called the THREE HORSE SHOES, situated in the centre of the village of Rushall, and fronting the Walsall and Lichfield Turnpike Road, with two large Club Rooms, excellent Sleeping Rooms, large Front Parlour, capital Kitchen, Brewhouse, spacious Cellaring, Store Rooms, Blacksmith’s Shop, and convenient Out-Offices.

The above desirable Premises are well situated for a Wheelwright, Blacksmith, or for Parties wishing to connect any other Trade with the Public Business. Two large Societies meet at the house, which is doing a good share of business. Payments are low, and immediate possession may be had. Part of the purchase money may remain on mortgage. There is likewise a Pew in Rushall Church to be disposed of at the same time. If the Premises are not sold, the House will be let to any respectable Tenant, and the Fixtures, Stock, &c. taken at a valuation.

About five acres of excellent Land may be rented with the House if required.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, Walsall; or to Mr. *T. Eaton*, who will shew the Premises.”

Henry Cooper was also a butcher. [1845], [1849]

Edward Edgerton = Edward Egerton

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/5/1854

“Staffordshire Adjourned Sessions.....

The following prisoners were found guilty during the day, and were sentenced.....

Thomas Startin, for stealing a child’s coat from the THREE HORSE SHOES, Rushall, the property of *Edward Egerton*, three months’ imprisonment.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

“Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Edward Egerton, licensed victualler, the THREE HORSE SHOES, Rushall, was fined 7s 6d and costs, for having three unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders.”

1861 Census

Lichfield Road, Rushall

- [1] *Edward Edgerton* (44), victualler and mine sinker, born Shunley, Shropshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Edgerton* (40), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Eli Edgerton* (17), son, butcher, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Miriam Edgerton* (14), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Edwin E. Edgerton* (12), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Job Edgerton* (9), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [7] *Thomas Edgerton* (6), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [8] *Joseph Edgerton* (4), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [9] *William Edgerton* (1), son, born Rushall;
- [10] *Elizabeth Blanton* (19), general servant, born Market Weston, Shropshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/6/1861

“Mr. *Henry Egerton*, THREE HORSE SHOES, Rushall, was fined 10s and costs for an assault on Mr. Henry Beech, farmer, occasioned by a dispute about impounding a horse.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1868

“Rushall, Tuesday. Adjourned Licensing Meeting.

Mr. Glover applied on behalf of Mr. S. Harrison, the HAWTHORNE TREE free beerhouse, Walsall Wood, for a spirit license. Mr. Dale (from the office of Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) opposed the application, on behalf of Mr. T. Jackson, the RED LION INN, and it was refused.

Of the holders of existing licenses, Alfred Stokes, RAILWAY INN, Pelsall; Thomas Jackson, RED LION INN, Walsall Wood; and James Parkes, Daw End, were cautioned.

The licenses of *James Yates*, (?) the THREE HORSE SHOES, Rushall, was suspended, and the case of Charles Taylor, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Walsall Wood, was adjourned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/9/1872

“The annual licensing meeting took place yesterday at the Police Court.....

John White, THREE HORSE SHOES, Rushall, Mr. Rowland, Birmingham appeared in support of the application, which was refused.”

THREE MEN IN A BOAT

Stephenson Avenue, Beechdale Estate, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Thomas Hateley (1958 – 1959);
James Salmon (1959 – 1961);
William Raymond ‘Bill’ Bonham (1961 – [1966])

NOTES

It opened on 4th September 1958.
The license was transferred from the BRIDLE CUTTERS ARMS.

William Thomas Hateley – see also BRIDLECUTTERS ARMS.

William Raymond Bonham was married to Betty.

He was the father-in-law of Edward Levy of the NAGS HEAD (BEACON WAY), Little Bloxwich.
See also KNAVE OF HEARTS.

[1984]

Closed

[Express & Star 17/5/2021](#)

“A former pub has been demolished and foundation work for 12 homes has begun. The new houses are being built on the site of the former THREE MEN IN A BOAT pub site on Stephenson Avenue, Walsall, by the Longhurst Group. The site was also the home of the group’s offices, before they were relocated to Stephenson Square.

Nick Worboys, director of development and sales at Longhurst Group, said, ‘We’re delighted with the progress being made on this site and we’re looking forward to seeing this new affordable housing provision being delivered. As outlined in our Improving Lives strategy, we’re committed to building the homes people want, where they’re needed most and we know these homes will be a great asset to residents of Beechdale. The redevelopment of this site has been a priority for us as a group since we relocated our offices onto Stephenson Square a number of years ago. It’s stood redundant since then and we’re delighted to see our development aspirations becoming a reality. I want to thank residents in the local area for their understanding and cooperation while building works are taking place. We also hope that this work will help combat the anti-social behaviour that we know can take place at times.’

The 12 two-bedroom homes that are built on the site will be available for affordable rent and are scheduled for completion in December.”

[Express & Star 30/4/2022](#)

“A dozen affordable homes have been built on the site of a former pub where the band that became Slade once rehearsed at. Housing provider Longhurst Group has transformed the previously derelict site at Stephenson Avenue, Beechdale, Walsall, with the two-bedroom homes, which have been made available on an affordable rent basis. The site, which was once the THREE MEN IN A BOAT pub, was most recently the group’s offices on the estate, but had stood empty since 2015 when they were relocated to Stephenson Square. The homes, which were partly funded through money received from the sale of 40 Longhurst Group properties through the Voluntary Right to Buy pilot in the West Midlands, have now been handed over by contractors and new residents have started moving in.”

THREE SWANS AND PEAL

16, Peal Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Mary Sheldon, widow, Walsall Street, Willenhall
William Jackson, High Bullen, Wednesbury

LICENSEES

George Adderley [1811] – [1835]
Samuel Sumner [1841] – [1861]
Susan Sumner [1861]
Louisa Sumner [1862]
William Edwin Perigo [1864] – **1865**;
Mrs. Selina Taylor (**1865** – [1866]
William Wood [] – **1868**);
John Dealey (**1868** – []
Joseph Done [1871] – **1891**);

NOTES

THREE SWANS [1754], [1822], [1828], [1830], [1841], [1842]

THREE SWANS AND PEAL [1837], [1850], [1864], [1866], [1867], [1868], [1871], [1872], [1873], [1887], [1890]
SWAN AND PEAL [1864], [1865], [1868]

It was known locally as 'The House that Jack Built'.

It was a coaching house on the Wolverhampton to London route. [1754]

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1837 - Deaths

"On Tuesday last, aged 86, Mr. *George Adderley*, many years landlord of the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, Peal Street, Walsall."

Samuel Sumner = Samuel Sumners

1851 Census

Peal Street

- [1] *Samuel Sumner* (46), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Eliza Sumner (47), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Ellen Clary (18), house servant, born Ireland;
- [4] Richard Green (67), lodger, bridle cutter, born Little Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [5] Richard Turpin (41), lodger, painter, born Bath;
- [6] George Richard Turpin (18), lodger's son, painter, born Ireland;
- [7] Andrew Clark (18), lodger, porter, born Stowe, Gloucestershire;
- [8] William Moss (54), lodger, stone mason, born Stowe, Gloucestershire;
- [9] George Moss (28), lodger's son, stone mason, born Rudeley, Staffordshire;
- [10] Thomas Morris (30), lodger, porter, born Wellington, Shropshire:

1861 Census

16, Peal Street

- [1] *Susan Sumner* (67), widow, innkeeper, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Alfred Tibbetts (12), grandson, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Charlotte Bradbury (16), servant, born Wednesfield;
- [4] John Wallace (35), boarder, painter, born Brighton, Sussex;
- [5] Charles Smith (36), boarder, painter, born Worcester;
- [6] Thomas Smith (15), boarder, scholar, born Worcester;
- [7] Robert Brown (41), boarder, harness maker, born Scotland;
- [8] Henry T. Holt (20), boarder, wheelwright, born Cheltenham;
- [9] Thomas Staffins (38), boarder, japanner, born Kent;
- [10] James Preston (47), boarder, blacksmith, born Houghton, Leicestershire;
- [11] William B ____ (24), boarder, carrier, born Newcastle upon Tyne;
- [12] Thomas Holt (49), boarder, plater, born Walsall;
- [13] Thomas Humphreys (45), boarder, gentleman, born Trefeglwys, Montgomeryshire;
- [14] William Willetts (22), boarder, harness maker, born Halesowen;
- [15] Matthew Johnson (45), boarder, labourer, born Fillongley, Warwickshire:

William Edwin Perigo = William Edwin Perigos

Walsall Free Press 12/3/1864

"John Connelly was charged on a warrant with having, on Tuesday last, assault Mr. *Perigo*, landlord of the SWAN AND PEAL public-house, Peal Street. It appeared that the prisoner had gone into complainant's house, and created a disturbance, and, on Mr. *Perigo* attempting to turn him out, he assaulted him, and threatened to run a knife into him. James Blakemore and Samuel Perry having corroborated the complainant's statement, the prisoner was sentenced to pay a fine of 10s and costs, or, in default, to be imprisoned for twenty-one days."

Walsall Free Press 14/5/1864 - Advert

"Pig To Be Given Away.

Opening of the Quoit Ground and Skittle Alley, Mr. *W. E. Perigo's*, THREE SWANS AND PEAL, Walsall.

A capital Ground in good Order.

Whit-Monday, May 16th, 1864.

Bowling for the Pig Commences at Eleven in the Morning.

Good Accommodation for Travellers."

Walsall Free Press 18/6/1864 - Advert

"A Pig To Be Bowled For, On Monday, June 20th, 1864, at *W. E. Perigos's*, THREE SWANS AND PEAL, Peal Street, Walsall."

London Gazette 13/12/1864

“This is to give notice, that the Court acting in the prosecution of a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, at Birmingham, on the 12th day of October, 1864, by *William Edwin Perigo*, of Peel-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, formerly of the same place, Licensed Victualler, Bridle Buckle Plater, and Dealer in Clothes, trading in the name of *William Perigo*, did, on the 5th day of December, 1864, grant the Discharge of the said *William Edwin Perigo*; and that such Discharge will be delivered to the bankrupt, unless an appeal be duly entered against the judgment of the Court, and notice thereof be given to the Court.”

Walsall Free Press 11/3/1865 - Advert

“THREE SWANS & PEAL, Peal Street, Walsall.

To Be Let, the above Old Licensed Public House, now doing a good trade. Entry to suit convenience.

Apply to Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 7/10/1865

“Thomas Cook, landlord of the RED LION, Park Street; Henry Perkins, landlord of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Birmingham Street; and Mrs. *Taylor*, landlady of the SWAN AND PEAL, were charged with having had their houses open to entertain friends; each was cautioned and ordered to pay costs.

The Mayor intimated that in all cases where victuallers require to keep their houses open beyond the time fixed by law, they should apply to the bench in petty session for a special license.”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/10/1866

“At the Free Library, yesterday, Mrs. *Taylor*, of the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, Peal Street, was fined 5s and costs for having sold ale during prohibited hours on the afternoon of Sunday week.”

London Gazette 27/11/1866

“*Selina Taylor*, Widow, of Peel-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Stafford, holden at Walsall, on the 5th day of November, 1866, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass her Last Examination, and make application for her Discharge, will be held at the said Court, on the 12th day of December next, at the Court-house, Goodall-street, Walsall, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Frederick F. Clarke of Walsall is the Official Assignee, and Mr. Samuel Wilkinson, Junior, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/12/1866

“At the County Court on Wednesday, the under-mentioned bankrupts came before A. M. Skinner, Esq, QC, Judge, for their last examinations and orders of discharge.....

Selina Taylor, licensed victualler, Peel-street, Walsall, supported by Mr. Dale (from the offices of Messrs. Duigan, Lewis and Lewis), Mr. Mathews (from the office of Mr. Wilkinson) appearing for the assignee. Certain accounts, which were ordered at the last examination, not having been filed in time, the examination was adjourned until the 23rd of January.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/1/1867 - Advert

“To be Let, with immediate possession, the Old-licensed Public House, called the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, 16, Peal Street, Walsall. In-coming not to exceed £120.

Apply at the Offices of Mr. Sheldon, Solicitor, Wednesbury; or to Mr. Horobin, Auctioneer, Walsall.”

London Gazette 5/2/1867

“*Selina Taylor*, Widow, of Peel-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, adjudicated bankrupt on the 5th day of November, 1866. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 23rd day of January, 1867.”

Walsall Free Press 8/8/1868 - Advert

“Court Of Exchequer Of Pleas.

Sheldon v. *Wood* and Another.

THREE SWANS AND PEAL, Peal Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction by John Osbourn, upon the premises as above, on Tuesday Next, August 11th, 1868, under an execution from the above Court, and Distraint for Rent, all the Household Furniture, Brewing Plant, and other Effects, belonging to Miss F. *Wood*, &c, comprising chairs, tables, bedsteads and beds, bed-linen, pianoforte (quite new by Harris), bagatelle board, balls and cues complete, 5-pull beer machine, 2 large copper boilers, 14-bushel mash tub, ale barrels, licenses, &c, &c.

Sale to commence at Ten o'clock, under the usual conditions.”

London Gazette 25/9/1868

“*William Wood*, of No.33, Duncalfe-street, in the foreign of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, out of business, formerly of the THREE SWANS AND PEAL INN, Peal-street, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, and before then of No.22, Lower Hall-lane, Walsall aforesaid, Auctioneer and Valuer, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 19th day of September, 1868, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar,

on the 6th day of October next, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely, at the Court-house, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. Thomas Brevitt, of Darlaston, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/12/1868

"Walsall Bankrupts.....

William Wood, licensed victualler, Walsall, came up for his adjourned last examination and passed, conditionally on his paying into court £3 2s 6d, the value of certain furniture in his possession at the time of his bankruptcy."

Demolished

Rebuilt

1871 Census

16, Peal Street

- [1] *Joseph Done* (40), publican, born Hatherton, Staffordshire;
- [2] Ann Done (40), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Sarah A. Done (15), daughter, scholar, born Aldridge;
- [4] Charles Done (13), son, scholar, born Aldridge;
- [5] Jemima Done (11), daughter, scholar, born Aldridge;
- [6] Hannah Done (9), daughter, scholar, born Aldridge;
- [7] Maryann Ellis (23), general servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [8] Thomas Done (48), boarder, wheelwright, born Hatherton, Staffordshire;
- [9] James ___beater (25), boarder, harness maker, born Scotland;
- [10] Richard Price (27), boarder, saddler, born Nottingham;
- [11] William F ___ (32), boarder, saddler;
- [12] Samuel Hill (27), saddler;
- [13] Frederick Howard (33), boarder, saddler;
- [14] Margaret Howard (22), boarder;
- [15] William Spears (33), boarder, cooper:

Walsall Free Press 8/7/1871

"Louisa Lynes was fined 1s 6d and costs, for having broken a drinking glass the property of *Joseph Done*, of the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, Peal Street."

Birmingham Daily Post 24/1/1873

"At the County Court, on Wednesday, before Mr. A. Martineau, QC, Judge, *Joseph Done*, of the THREE SWANS AND PEAL INN, Peal Street, brought an action against Mr. C. W. Stevens, inspector of nuisances, for the sum of £10 as damages for trespass and improper seizure of the carcass of a sow pig belonging to plaintiff. Mr. Dale (from the offices of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Young, instructed by Mr. Gillespie (of the firm of Messrs. Wilkinson and Gillespie) for the defendant. In October last, the plaintiff had the sow in question killed, and sold the skin to a man named Roberts. While the remainder of the carcass, less intestines and head, was hanging in plaintiff's brewhouse, the Inspector visited the place, and pronounced the flesh unfit for human food, an opinion that was confirmed by Mr. Clarke, the assistant to Dr. Drewry, the medical officer of health. The plaintiff was then summoned for being in possession of meat which was unfit for human food, but the Bench after inspecting the carcass which had been seized, stopped the present proceedings. The plaintiff was examined and cross-examined, and he stated that the sow had suffered from a diseased shoulder for some time before he killed it, that he gave the head to a collier for his dog, and buried the intestines, and that his intention was to boil down the other parts of the carcass for pig food. His Honour then adjourned the case until some day in February, to be hereafter fixed, he having first ascertained that there was no probability of finishing the case that night."

Walsall Free Press 25/1/1873

"Ann Thornhill was charged with having stolen from the house of *Joseph Done*, landlord of the THREE SWANS AND PEAL public house, one table cloth, value 1s 6d. It appeared that on Tuesday morning the prisoner called for a glass of brandy, and remained reading the newspaper for about an hour and a half, when she called for a second glass of brandy. After the prisoner had left the house the cloth was missed, and was pledged the same day at Mr. Marshall's pawn shop, Ball Street, by the prisoner for 1s. Detective-sergeant Wood proved the apprehension of the prisoner. The prisoner, who elected to be tried by the Bench, was sentenced to six days' imprisonment."

Walsall Free Press 24/5/1873

"John Wilton Smith was charged with having stolen from the THREE SWANS AND PEAL public house, a hay knife, a bricklayer's hammer, and two brass taps, value 10s, the property of *Joseph Done*. It appeared a month ago the prisoner, who lodged with the prosecutor, left his house and took the articles, which were kept in a pantry, away. Prisoner, who had been apprehended at Wednesbury by Detective-sergeant Drewry, admitted the charge, and having elected to be tried by the Bench was sentenced to 21 days' hard labour. Prisoner was further charged with having stolen one truss of hay, the property of Joseph Freeman, and the charge having been proved, he was sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour."

Walsall Free Press 30/8/1873

“Harriet Baynton and Jeremiah Trysull were charged with having stolen a silver watch, valued £7, the property of William Lowe. It appeared that on Saturday, the 9th inst, all the parties were in the SWAN AND PEAL public-house, Peal Street, and prosecutor went to the bar and requested the girl who was there lend him a needle and thread to sew a brace button on, and the female prisoner offered to sew it on for him. She did so, and in about ten minutes afterwards he missed his watch, and accused Baynton of taking it, but she denied all knowledge of it. Elizabeth Gabbes, sister of the female prisoner, said that on Sunday, the 10th inst, the female prisoner told her that she (prisoner) had stolen the watch, and that the male prisoner had sold it. Levi Evans, landlord of OLD NELSON AND PEAL, said the male prisoner came to his house and said, ‘I have something here I can sell cheap – it came cheap;’ but as someone came to the bar window the prisoner went away and came back in about half-an-hour and produced the watch, which was a silver one, with a silver dial and gold letters. Prisoner offered to sell the watch for £4 and said it cost £7 10s. Detective-sergeant Drury proved the apprehension of the female prisoner, who denied all knowledge of the watch. The male prisoner, who had been apprehended at Oldbury, also denied, when taken into custody, all knowledge of the watch. The prisoners, who pleaded not guilty, were remanded for a week.”

[At the Borough Quarter Sessions at the Guildhall, on 19th September, Harriet Baynton, who had previously been convicted, was sentenced to four months’ imprisonment, including two weeks’ solitary confinement, and Jeremiah Trysull to three months’ imprisonment, including one week’s solitary confinement.]

Walsall Free Press 13/12/1873

“Ellen Smith, for having on the 1st inst, been drunk and disorderly, and refusing to quit the THREE SWANS AND PEAL public house, was sentenced to pay a fine of £5 and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for one month – she had been previously convicted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/10/1876

“*Joseph Done*, of the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, was fined 2s and costs for having three quart jugs each a quarter of a pint deficient.”

1881 Census

16, Peel Street

- [1] *Joseph Done* (51), publican, born Hatherton;
 - [2] Ann Done (50), wife, born Bloxwich;
 - [3] Jemima Done (21), daughter, barmaid, born Aldridge;
 - [4] Sarah Targett (25), daughter, widow, barmaid, born Aldridge;
 - [5] Thomas Willet (33), general servant, born Coggeshall, Essex;
 - [6] John Ross (51), lodger;
 - [7] George Hughes (51), lodger, no occupation;
 - [8] Jane Lovebridge (45), lodger;
 - [9] Annie Targett (7), granddaughter;
 - [10] Jarvis Bath (23), lodger;
 - [11] Mary Ann Parker (62), lodger, born Nottingham;
 - [12] Francis Parker (62), lodger;
 - [13] Ellen Parker (18), lodger, born Hanley, Staffordshire;
 - [14] John Beech (44), lodger, born Stoke on Trent;
 - [15] Walter Waite (51), lodger, born Lozanbury;
- [This is a very untidy and disorganised entry.]

Birmingham Post 1/1/1887

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Joseph Done*, the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, Peal Street, was on the evidence of Police-sergeant Alden and Police-constable Bowen, fined 40s and costs for having his house open after ten o’clock on Christmas Day. The Bench also ordered his license to be endorsed.”

Walsall Observer 24/9/1887

“Walsall Licensing Sessions

The adjourned annual licensing meeting was held yesterday, at the Sessions Court.....

Applications which had been adjourned owing to the tenants having been convicted during the past year.

The following were granted.....

THREE SWANS AND PEAL, Peal Street.”

Birmingham Post 23/12/1890

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, Ann Burn, of no fixed abode, was fined 10s and costs, or fourteen days’ hard labour, for stealing a shawl, the property of Ann *Done*, of the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, Peal Street.”

1891 Census

16, Peel Street

- [1] *Joseph Done* (61), licensed victualler, born Hatherton;

- [2] Ann Done (59), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Annie Targett (17), granddaughter, general servant, born Walsall;
- [4] Kate Lees (29), general servant, born Walsall;
- [5] Edward Meason (40), lodger, brass dresser, born Walsall;
- [6] Gilbert Ingram (61), lodger, packing case maker, born Northfield, Worcestershire;
- [7] Ely Baines (57), lodger, saddler's smith, born Great Barr;
- [8] Stephen Doley (58), lodger, bricklayer's labourer, born Ireland;
- [9] Samuel Drew (40), lodger, poultry dealer, born Walsall;
- [10] William Bloomfield (54), lodger, pensioner, born Walsall;
- [11] Frederick Morgan (39), lodger, barber, born India;
- [12] Frederick Millington (42), lodger, hawker, born Birmingham:

Joseph Done was fined 20s and costs, on 16th May 1891, for supplying a drunken person.

The license renewal was refused at the Adjourned Licensing Meeting on 30th September 1891.

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/10/1891

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the borough took place on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Joseph Done, the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, applied for the renewal of his license, Mr. Plumtre (instructed by Mr. Cotterell) appearing on his behalf and Mr. G. Rose for the trustee to the owner of the property. The Chief Constable opposed on the grounds that the applicant had twice been convicted (in 1886 and 1890), that the house was of a disorderly character, and this license was not demanded by the requirements of the neighbourhood. He adduced evidence on these points, with regard to the license not being needed showing that within a radius of 220 yards there were 12 licensed houses, yielding one such house to rather less than nine private house....

The Bench refused *Done's* application and Mr. Rose gave notice of appeal.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1894

“At the Guildhall, on Monday, James Dyer, keeper of the STORES INN, High Street, applied for the transfer of the license of that house to himself from John Henry Tully, who supported the application. The case was before the court on the previous Friday, the special transfer day, when Tully failed to appear. The Chief Constable (Mr. Taylor) now intimated that he had given notice of objection.

Dyer was sworn and admitted that his wife kept a coffee house and lodging-house in Peal Street, but said he left the PEAL AND NELSON INN because of this, as the Chief Constable told him if he got any other house than this he would have no opposition. Mr. Taylor: I told him I would not agree to his keeping a license if he had a common lodging house a few yards away.

The applicant denied it was a common lodging house, but the Chief Constable explained it was formerly the THREE SWANS AND PEAL, and although not a registered lodging-house was frequented by people on the road who were not of a particularly good character. Proceeding Mr. Taylor said his present objection was that he was not satisfied as to the applicant's present character. Since Dyer had left the PEAL AND NELSON there had been continual uproar in that part of town between his wife and people of the name of Fahy, and something would have to be done about it.

The applicant said he was afraid there was something under the surface as regarded this opposition besides what had come out. It was not much good his doing anything against what the Chief Constable was able to do.

Mr. Loxton said there was no ground for such a statement as this. The magistrates would give him every consideration.

Mr. Brewer asked what he meant by something under the surface? – Dyer: Well, I will tell you; as it may well come out. In Mr. Holden's last election the Chief Constable sent Police-constable Bentley to my house, and he brought me up to his office. He said I hear you are taking an active part in this election, and if such is the case I shall have to oppose your license.

Mr. Moseley: On whose behalf was it? – Dyer: On behalf of Mr. Holden.

Mr. Brewer: Do you want to insinuate that because you were working for Mr. Holden the Chief Constable turned against you and warned you? – Dyer: I give you this statement, and you can take it for what it is worth.

Mr. Taylor asked to be allowed to meet this charge. It was perfectly true that he sent for this man and another man as well. It was at the last election, and he heard Dyer was getting a party of roughs together on behalf of Sir Arthur Holden, and that a man named Hunter, who was well known to the magistrates, was alleged to be getting another party of roughs together for Mr. Ritchie. He sent for both and warned each separately that if they had anything to do with any such thing he should have them bound over to keep the peace. This he did in the interests of the peace of the town.

Mr. Loxton: Certainly, that is obvious.

The applicant here said it was in Mr. Holden's not Sir Arthur Hayter's election.

Mr. Loxton said it was obvious that the Chief Constable acted in the interest of preserving peace.

The Chief Constable added that to show the absence of any personal feeling when the license of the PEAL AND NELSON was opposed he gave Dyer the character of having done his best whilst in charge there.

The Magistrates adjourned the application for a week for evidence in support of the opposition.”

It became a grocer's shop.

It was demolished.

THREE TUNS

Church Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Sansom [1800] – [1822]

William Hardy [1836]

William Nevill Weaver [1841] – [1842]

NOTES

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/12/1831 - Advert

“Snug Comfortable Public House, Walsall.

To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that excellent and well known Public House called the THREE TUNS, situated in Church Street, Walsall, coming-in about £100. The proprietor is leaving in consequence of ill health.

For particulars apply to J. Farrington Auctioneer, Walsall, if by letter. post paid.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/7/1836

“Staffordshire Summer Assizes.

Charles Biddle, George Reeves, and John Reeves, all of them young men were charged with assaulting John Beddow, on the 13th of March, and robbing him of a sovereign and a knife. The prosecutor, who was examined by Mr. Meteyard, stated that he was a miner, and lived at Wednesbury, on the evening stated was paid his wages, with his fellow workmen at the THREE TUNS INN, Walsall; the three prisoners were there playing at cards; he left a little after twelve o'clock, and went down Church Street; when near the Catholic Chapel, the three prisoners attacked him, and one of them put his hands over his eyes; they pushed him against the bank, and then got a knife and cut the bottom of his pocket off.

The prosecutor, who seemed a very simple man, was rigorously cross-examined by Mr. Allen, but though some of his answers showed considerable ignorance, and caused much laughter, he did not materially vary from his original statement, which once or twice he illustrated by grotesque and convincing actions. The main object of the cross-examination was to make out that he might be mistaken in the persons of his assailants. On being asked whether he said before the magistrates that it was John Reeves or one of the others that covered his eyes, he replied ‘he was no scholar, and it was a long time to recollect.’

William Hardy, keeper of the THREE TUNS, and George Colley, a police officer gave some slight confirmatory evidence; and the jury after a few minutes deliberation, found all the prisoners guilty.

The Learned Judge ordered sentence of death to be recorded, remarking that the punishment would be commuted; but as one of them had been before convicted of felony, it might probably with respect to him be transportation; but he would make inquiry into their previous character, and allot punishment accordingly.”

[Charles Biddle and George Reeves were sentenced to 14 years transportation and John Reeves was transported for life.]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 2/10/1837 - Advert

“The THREE TUNS INN, Church Street, Walsall

By R. Adams. To be Disposed of immediately, by private Treaty, the valuable Licenses, Good-will, and Possession of that well-known established House known by the sign of the THREE TUNS INN, most eligibly situated in Church Street, Walsall, where a great scope of in and out-door business is now carried on, the present occupier brewing an average of 30 bushels of malt per week. The Stock, &c, which is low, to be taken to at a fair valuation.

For further particulars apply to R. Adams, Agent and Valuer, Walsall.”

THREE TUNS

48, Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mary Wilson

Clara Wilson

James Stringer
J. W. Brooks, Caldmore, Walsall

LICENSEES

William Mallebar [1801] – [1822]
Ann Malleler [1828] – [1830]
William Stone [1834]
John Moore [1835]
William Wood [1841] – [1842]
Thomas Doody [1845] – [1853]
Silas Nock [1858] – [1862]
Thomas Machin [1864] – **1866**)
Joseph Carver [] – **1868**);
Joseph Wilson (**1868** – [1870]
Mrs. Mary Wilson [1871] – [1880];
Miss Clara Wilson [1881];
James Stringer [];
Samuel White [];
James Broadhurst [] – **1889**);
Thomas Badger (**1889** – **1891**);
Benjamin Walker (**1891** – **1893**);
David Hyde (**1893** – **1902**);

NOTES

Rushall Street [1822]

William Mallebar = William Malleder

1841 Census

Rushall Street

- [1] *William Wood* (45), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Mary Wood, (45), born Staffordshire;
- [3] James Wood (16), born Staffordshire;
- [4] John Wood (7), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Emma Wood (13), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Elizabeth Hodgetts (16), born Staffordshire:

Thomas Doody was also a miner.

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/4/1847 - Advert

“Important Sale Of Freehold Property, in Upper and Lower Rushall Streets, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, By Mr. Thomas Franklin, at the NEW INN, Park Street, Walsall, on Monday, the 5th day of April, 1847, at seven o’clock in the evening, The Following very eligible Freehold Buildings and Land.

Lot II. All that old established and well-accustomed Public House, with Brewhouse, Stable, Yard, and Out-offices, thereto belonging, also situate in Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, and known by the sign of the THREE TUNS, and now in the possession of Mr. *Thomas Doody*; and also those two several Dwelling Houses adjoining the last mentioned, and likewise fronting to Lower Rushall Street; also those four several Dwelling Houses, with the Shopping and Yard thereto belonging, situate in the Court at the back of the THREE TUNS; and also all the Pew, No.112, in the south gallery of Walsall Church.”

1851 Census

Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Thomas Doody* (60), victualler and miner, born Shropshire;
- [2] Eleanor Doody (59), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Samuel Wood (27), son in law, iron moulder, born Walsall;
- [4] Henry Wood (19), son in law, wood brushmaker, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Keefe (18), house servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/7/1853

“Charles Hanson and James Heane, both of Birmingham, were, on Monday last, committed for trial for stealing a pair of brass tongs and a pair of brass candlesticks from the THREE TUNS INN, Lower Rushall Street, the property of Mr. *Thomas Doody*, the

landlord.”

Silas Nock = Silas Knock

1861 Census

48, Lower Rushall Street – THREE TUNS

- [1] *Silas Nock* (28), homemaker and publican, born Rowley;
- [2] Elizabeth Nock (23), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Nock (4), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Charlotte Nock (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Betsy Nock (1 month), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Plyn Westley (9), general servant, born Walsall;
- [7] Adeline Westley (12), visitor, born Walsall;
- [8] Charlotte Swinbourne (15), lodger, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 27/7/1861

“*Silas Knock*, landlord of the THREE TUNS public-house, Lower Rushall Street was charged by the police with having his house open at half-past twelve o’clock on Saturday night, for the sale of liquor. Sergeant Childs deposed that at the hour mentioned, he saw a woman leaving the house with a jug of beer. Police-constable No.8 gave similar evidence. The defendant said that the beer had been drawn and sold before twelve o’clock, and that his servant was cleaning out the shop, when the girl who had had the beer, returned to ask for a candle. She was refused, and the police saw her as she went out. Mr. Cater gave the house a good character, and the Bench dismissed the case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/9/1862

“Yesterday, at the Petty Sessions, *Silas Nock*, of the THREE TUNS public house, Lower Rushall Street, was charged on the information of Sergeant Childs, with keeping his house open for the sale of liquors beyond the lawful hours on Saturday night. The officer found a woman in the house at 12.50, with half a gallon of ale in a jar. The defence set up was that the woman entered the house and was served that ale before twelve o’clock, but that she had been upstairs talking with defendant’s wife, who was ill in bed. The charge was dismissed.”

Thomas Machin = Thomas Meechin

Walsall Free Press 3/2/1866

“*Thomas Meechin*, of the THREE TUNS, Lower Rushall Street, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of drink at twenty minutes to four o’clock on Wednesday last. From the evidence of Police-constable Smith, it appeared that, at the time in question, he met a man with a jug containing malt liquor, which the man, on seeing the officer, threw upon the ground. The officer then went into the house, and the girl who was there said that she had drawn the ale. Fined 10s and costs.”

London Gazette 20/11/1866

“*Thomas Machin*, formerly of the THREE TUNS INN, Lower Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Journeyman Bricklayer, but now of Three Tuns Court, Lower Rushall-street, Walsall aforesaid, Journeyman Bricklayer, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 17th of November, 1866, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 5th day of December next, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely, at the County Court, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. John Glover, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Walsall Free Press 26/12/1868 - Advert

“Old Wharf, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall.

Thomas Parish, Begg to inform his friends for the kind patronage already extended to him since he had commenced in business, and also to inform them that he has purchased the old-established business of the late Mr. *Joseph Carver*, which he intends carrying on in the same straight forward manner which gained for his predecessor such long continued support.

Mr. *Wilson*, formerly with Mr. *Carver*, will continue his employ, and will receive Orders and Accounts as usual, either at the Wharf or at his Residence THREE TUNS, Lower Rushall Street.”

1871 Census

48, Lower Rushall Street – THREE TUNS INN

- [1] *Mary Wilson* (59), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Joseph H. Wilson (27), son, silver plater, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary A. Wilson (24), daughter, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;
- [4] Alfred Wilson (21), son, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;
- [5] *Clara Wilson* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

1881 Census

48, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *Clara Wilson* (23), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Joseph H. Wilson (36), brother, brewer, born Walsall;
- [3] James Stringer (33), brother in law, bridle cutter, born Birmingham;
- [4] Mary A. Stringer (33), sister, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard. . . .
Thomas Badger, the THREE TUNS, Lower Rushall Street did not put in an appearance.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/2/1891

“At the Rushall Police Court, yesterday, *Thomas Badger* the landlord of the THREE TUNS, Rushall Street, Walsall; George Hall, bricklayer, 34, Butts Road, Walsall; and John Cooper, 134, Hatherton Street, Walsall, were charged with being drunk and disorderly on Sunday evening. *Badger* was also charged with assaulting Police-constable Elks.
It seemed that the three men went to the ANCHOR INN, in such a condition that the landlord ordered them out. They created a great disturbance, and when they had been got out into the street with the assistance of the constable, *Badger* assaulted the latter violently, the other two attempting a rescue. They were conveyed to the police station with difficulty, and their behaviour was so bad they were deprived of their shoes. They contrived to break the cell window, however.
Badger was fined 30s and costs, and the other two 20s and costs, an order being also made for payment of the damage to the window.”

1891 Census

48, Lower Rushall Street – THREE TUNS INN

- [1] *Thomas Badger* (36), licensed victualler and currier, born Walsall;
- [2] Phoebe Badger (37), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Annie Badger (22), daughter, born Yorkshire:

Walsall Observer 1/10/1892

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday. . . .
Mr. Bill also applied on behalf of James Francis Aspinall for the removal of a license from the JOLLY BACCHUS, New Street, to land situate at the corner of Arundel Street and Cambridge Street, Palfrey, or premises to be erected at the corner of Windsor Street and Cambridge Street; in the alternative he applied for a provisional grant of a license to the last-named premises
Mr. J. N. Cotterell opposed for Mr. John Ricketts of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Road; Mr. Gillespie, for Mr. Joseph Knight; and Mr. Checkley for Messrs. A. Stanley and J. Bunting.
Mr. Bill also made similar applications on behalf of J. W. Brooks, who, he explained, was the owner of the JOLLY BACCHUS, and of the land at Palfrey to which it was proposed to remove the license. Similar applications, he stated, were made at the annual licensing sessions, when Mr. Brooks intimated that he was willing to have the license removed from the JOLLY BACCHUS, in order that the number of licenses existing might not be increased. He was now prepared to sacrifice another license also, that of the THREE TUNS, Lower Rushall Street, so that the number of licenses in the town would actually be reduced. Mr. Bill laid great stress on the great growth of the Caldmore and Palfrey neighbourhoods, and the need of additional licensed accommodation. The applicants were sworn, and admitted in cross-examination that none of the residents in the locality supported the application. Subsequently Mr. Bill asked to be allowed to refer to the case, and said that Mr. Brooks was prepared to sacrifice not only the two full licenses named, but the license of an out-door as well.
Mr. Gillespie said this proved Mr. Brooks recognised he had no chance without throwing in this makeweight. . . . Refused.”

1901 Census

Lower Rushall Street – The 3 TUNS INN

- [1] *David Hyde* (48), iron caster, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Hyde (48), wife, born London;
- [3] Eliza Hyde (25), daughter, leather worker, born Walsall;
- [4] Louisa Hyde (22), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Hyde (17), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] David J. Hyde (9), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Dora Ruby (27), visitor, harness scholar, born Staffordshire:

David Hyde – see also BARREL.

It was delicensed in 1902.

It was demolished in 1911.

THREE TUNS

Temple Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Boot [1834] – [1835]

TIGER

25, (15), Long Acre Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Whitehouse
Mrs. Ann Lowe, 17, Long Acre Street, Walsall
Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd. [1880]
Joseph Beebee
Messrs. Lord (acquired in 1902)

LICENSEES

Joseph Beebee Jnr. [1849] – [1850]
Arblaster [1852]
George Thornhill [1858]
Benjamin Lowe [1860] – [1865]
Mrs. Mary Higley [1868] – [1871]
Thomas Oswin [1872] – [1873];
Charles Pearson [];
Samuel Bird [1880];
John Young [];
Japeth Worrall [1881];
Joseph Elwell [];
Martin McTighe [] – **1890**);
George Ball (**1890 – 1892**);
George Walker (**1892**);
Edwin Corbett Walker (**1892 – 1898**);
James Dorman (**1898 – 1899**);
Walter Charles Nash (**1899 – 1900**);
Clement Bayliss (**1900**);
William John Baker (**1900 – 1903**);
George Rose (**1903 – 1904**);
Patrick McTighe (**1904 – 1906**);
William Lenton (**1906 – 1908**);
Frederick Mears (**1908 – 1910**);
Henrietta Maria Mears (**1910 – 1913**);
John Thomas Millington [1912] ?
John Taggart (**1913**);
William Ellesmore (**1913 – 1919**);
Emily Ellesmore (**1919 – 1921**);
George Wootton (**1921 – 1924**);

NOTES

15, Longacre [1858]

15, Long Acre Street [1860], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1871], [1873], [1881]
25, Long Acre Street [1891], [1892], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1911], [1916], [1921]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 9/4/1838 - Advert

“To Brokers And Others.

Sale in Long Acre Street, in the Foreign of Walsall, by R. Adams.

To be Sold by Auction, this present Monday, the 9th day of April, a variety of genteel and useful Household Effects, quantity of Books, Vices, Gas Meter, and other Effects, removed for convenience of sale to the TIGER INN, Long Acre Street, in the Foreign of Walsall. The sale to commence at ten o'clock.”

1851 Census

Long Acre

- [1] *Joseph Beebee* (37), cask maker and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Cisila Beebee* (30), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Margaret Beebee* (14), daughter, dress maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Beebee* (12), daughter, at home, born Walsall;
- [5] *Alfred Beebee* (8), son, at school, born Walsall;
- [6] *Henry Beebee* (3), son, at school, born Walsall;
- [7] *Joseph Beebee* (11 months), son, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/1/1852 - Advert

“H. Farrington respectfully announces that he has received instructions from the executors of the late Mr. James Whitehouse to Offer by Public Auction, the second week in February, the following very valuable Estates in Walsall.....
Long Acre Street. All that Public House, known by the sign of the TIGER.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/3/1852 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Henry Farrington, by direction of the Trustees of the will of the late Mr. James Whitehouse, deceased, at the NEW INN, Park Street, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 16th day of March, 1852, at five o'clock in the afternoon.....
Lot 6. All that old licensed Public House and Premises, called the TIGER INN, situate in Long Acre Street, Walsall, occupied by Mr. *Arblaster*, with the pumps of hard and soft water thereto belonging, and also the small house adjoining, and now void.”

Benjamin Lowe = Benjamin Low

Benjamin Lowe was also a shoemaker. [1861]
He came from Wednesbury.

1861 Census

15, Long Acre Street – TIGER INN

- [1] *Benjamin Lowe* (41), victualler and shoemaker, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Ann Lowe* (40), wife, born Darlaston:

Mary Higley = Mary Hegley

Birmingham Daily Post 28/1/1868

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, Samuel M'Cane, an Irish labourer, was brought up on remand, before Messrs. J. Hildick (Mayor), J. Brewer, jun., W. Ward, S. Stephens, and J. Shannon, charged with having violently assaulted Police-constable Smith of the night of the 18th inst. Mr. Barratt (from the office of Mr. Wilkinson) prosecuted. Smith appeared in Court with his head bandaged, and seemed to be still in a very weak condition. He stated that at about twelve o'clock on the night named, he and Police-constable Willetts were called upon to turn some twenty or thirty disorderly men, among whom were the prisoner and the man Shanassy, convicted last week, out of the TIGER INN, Long Acre. On reaching the street, the prisoner and Shanassy began quarrelling, and made two or three attempts at fighting, but complainant interfered, and prevented hostilities. He followed them as far as St Michaels's Square, and then – they having promised him that they would go home – was turning away, when M'Cane dealt him a blow to the right side of the head with some heavy weapon, at the same time saying, 'Take that; that will do for you.' As soon as he could recover from the effects of the blow, he went with Willetts into the entry, and identified the prisoner, whom they found standing up close to the side of the wall, as the man who had struck him. He was then taken into a neighbouring house, where Mr. Hubbard, chemist was fetched, and afterwards he was taken to Mr. Hubbard's shop. Mr. T. P. Hubbard deposed to having dressed the wound on the prosecutor's head, and to the scalp being cut through to the length of about an inch and a half. Mr. F. P. Palmer deposed to the prosecutor being in a very weak condition, in fact, as to be even scarcely able to rise from the bed, when he was called in, adding that, but for the protection afforded by the cap the wound would have been of a very serious character, and that the prosecutor would not be able to resume his duty for some time to come.

Police-constable Willetts repeated the evidence given by him last week with reference to the assault and the rescue of the prisoners from custody.

Witnesses were then called for the defence, and the prisoner was committed for trial at the next Quarter Session for the borough.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/5/1868

“Walsall Quarter Sessions. Simeon M’Cane, 20 labourer, was indicted for having, on the 19th January last, assaulted Police-constable Smith in the execution of his duty. The prisoner was acquitted.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/2/1869

“Quarter Sessions. At the Public Office yesterday, before Messrs. J. Hildick (Mayor), J. Brewer, and H. Highway, the following publicans and beerhouse keepers were each fined 2s 6d and cost for having had their houses open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours.....

Mary Hegley, of the TIGER beerhouse, Short Acre, for having had her house open at five minutes past twelve o’clock Sunday last, at which time Acting-sergeant Ogden found nine men in the house.”

Walsall Free Press 20/3/1869

“*Mary Higley*, landlady of the TIGER public-house, Long Acre, was charged with having had her house open during prohibited hours – namely, at twenty minutes to one o’clock on Sunday morning.

Acting-sergeant Rawle and Police-constable Miner said, at the time in question they saw a man going to the back-gate of the house, and saw him admitted. In about a minute afterwards, he came out again, and in the can which he had, the officers found a quantity of beer.

The man in whose can the beer had been seen, was called by Mr. Ebsworth, who appeared for the defendant, and proved that the beer he had in his can was purchased at a beerhouse in Short Acre.

Case dismissed.”

1871 Census

15, Long Acre Street – TIGER INN

- [1] *Mary Higley* (41), widow, licensed victualler, born Asterley, Shropshire;
- [2] Jane Malpas (21), daughter, leather stitcher, born Shropshire;
- [3] Thomas Malpas (21), son in law, file cutter, born Walsall;
- [4] Emma Higley (18), daughter, leather stitcher, born Walsall;
- [5] Henry Higley (15), son, silver chaser, born Walsall;
- [6] Clara Higley (12), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 8/6/1880 - Advert

“Cannock Brewery Co. Limited require Tenders for Woodwork on the outside TIGER INN, Long Acre Street, Inside with Papering, &c, of the TIGER INN.

All the above are situate in the town of Walsall.

Particulars as to class of work may be obtained at, and Tenders received by Cannock Brewery Co. Limited, Cannock.”

1881 Census

15, Long Acre Street – The TIGER

- [1] *Japeth Worrall* (41), publican, born Aldridge;
- [2] Sarah Worrall (40), wife, born Aldridge:

1891 Census

25, Long Acre Street

- [1] *George Ball* (54), coal miner, born Shropshire;
- [2] Maria Ball (48), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Charles Ball (23), son, coal miner, born Birmingham;
- [4] Maud Ball (18), daughter, domestic servant, born Birmingham;
- [5] Fred Ball (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Harry Ball (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Ernest Ball (7), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1893

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The usual monthly meeting of the management committee was held on Thursday last (having been postponed from the previous Thursday, the day on which the Parliamentary election took place), at Mr. William Brown’s, BLUE PIG INN, New Street.....

New members.... Mr. *Edward Walker*, TIGER INN, Long Acre Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

“At the Guildhall yesterday, before Alderman Holden and Mr. W. E. Blyth, several charges against Walsall publicans were

heard.....

Edwin C. Walker, landlord of the TIGER INN, Long Acre Street, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Long Acre Street, on the 8th inst.

Police-constable Jones (43) said that at about 11.5pm on the 8th inst, he was in Short Acre Street, when he saw defendant outside the TIGER public-house. There had a short time before been a fight there between two women. The defendant was also causing a disturbance, and the officer advised him to go in home. In reply defendant remarked that if it were not for his blue coat he would break his (witness's) neck for him.

Mr. Jackson, for the defence, called Elizabeth *Walker*, 14, James Street, mother of defendant, who said she visited her son's house on the night in question. He afterwards took her home at 10.30, and at that time he was perfectly sober. She had never seen him drunk. He had been under the doctor's hands for some eight weeks, and was not allowed to take beer.

Fred Harrison, Whitehouse Street, also gave evidence, and the magistrates finally dismissed the case."

Walsall Advertiser 19/10/1895

"Walsall Red Star v. Smith's Employes (Short Acre). Played on the ground of the former. At half-time the score was Red Star 4, Smith's 0. In the second half the Star scored five more goals, and the match ended in a win for them by 9 goals to 1. Red Star have open dates. *E. C. Walker*, TIGER INN, Long Acre."

Walsall Advertiser 10/7/1897

"The following were summoned and fined the sums in their names for allowing their dogs to be unmuzzled.....

Edward Walker of the TIGER INN, Long Acre Street, 5s and costs."

Walsall Advertiser 24/7/1897

"*Edward Walker*, TIGER INN, Long Acre Street, was summoned a allowing his dog to be unmuzzled. The unmuzzled dog seen by the officer had a short tail, whereas defendant's bow-wow is a long-tailed canine, and this having been duly sworn to the case was dismissed."

James Dorman = James Dormer

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1898

"Clara Broadhurst, of Hubble's Court, Stafford Street, was summoned for refusing to quit the TIGER INN, Long Acre Street, kept by *James Dormer*.

A fine of 2s 6d and costs, or seven days, was imposed."

Walsall Advertiser 2/7/1898

"Edward Burns (29), labourer, of Burrowes Street, was charged with refusing to quit the TIGER INN, Long Acre Street, kept by *James Dormer*. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson), who prosecuted, said it was one of the worst cases of the kind ever brought in to court.

The landlord gave evidence that prisoner threatened him, got upon the counter and said if he could not get drunk anywhere else he might as well be hung for witness as anyone else. There was list of convictions against prisoner, who now promised to take the pledge if the Bench would give him a chance

Mr. Loxton (magistrates' clerk), remarked that prisoner could take the pledge just as well if the magistrates punished him.

A fine of 10s and costs, with the alternative of 14 days, was imposed."

Walsall Advertiser 16/7/1898

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *James Dormer*, TIGER INN, Long Acre Street, Walsall, was elected a member of the society."

London Gazette 16/6/1899

"Receiving Orders. *Walker, Edwin Corbett*. WHEAT SHEAF INN, Field-street, Bloxwich, Staffordshire, lately residing at Green Lane, formerly at Forge-street, theretofore at the ACORN INN, Lower Rushall-street, formerly at Day-street and theretofore at the TIGER INN, Short Acre, all in Walsall, Staffordshire. Public-house Manager."

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1899

"*Edwin Corbett Walker*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Field Street, Bloxwich, public house manager. The debtor came up for public examination. The Official Receiver (Mr. S. W. Page) was present, and Mr. Evans was for the debtor. The statement of accounts showed liabilities £83 16s 11d, and the only assets were £10 he had paid to the solicitor on account of the proceedings. The debtor examined by the Official Receiver, stated that he worked as a miner until September, 1892, since that time he had been the tenant of the TIGER INN, Walsall, the ACORN INN, Walsall, and now he was the manager of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich, for his brother, Mr. C. C. Walker. At one time he had a small colliery at Pelsall. He attributed his failure to 'illness of himself and family, losses upon the colliery business, and bad trade.'

The examination was adjourned until August 2nd to close."

1901 Census

25, Long Acre Street – TIGER INN

[1] *William John Baker* (22), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Minnie Baker* (24), wife, born Birmingham:

Walsall Advertiser 14/12/1901

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New members. Mr. *William Baker*, TIGER INN, Long Acre Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/6/1902

“The case of *Lowe v. Lord*, which had reference to the validity of a 21 years’ lease of the TIGER INN, Long Acre, Walsall, came before Mr. Justice Farwell, in the High Court of Justice, on Tuesday. The plaintiff retained Mr. Walter Hughes, F.A.I., to give evidence as to value, and after he had been called and Mr. J. Baker, architect of Willenhall, at the suggestion of his Lordship, the parties came to a compromise, the plaintiff agreeing to sell the TIGER INN to the defendant for a sum of £1,250, each paying their own costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/3/1903

“*William John Baker*, of the TIGER INN, Long Acre Street, was charged with having in his possession two unjust pint jugs for use in trade and further with having in his possession measures for use in trade which were unstamped. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for defendant, who pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Whitworth said that on visiting defendant’s premises he found five measures used for trade which were unstamped, three of them practically correct, but two others short by thirteen drams and six drams respectively.

The defence was that the jugs were used in ignorance of their shortage, having been taken with the rest of the stock in the house. They had only been used once.

Fined 10s and costs in the case of the unjust measures, and ordered to pay the costs in the other.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various.....

George Rose, TIGER INN and John Lawton, COMMERCIAL HOTEL.....

The chief difficulty with which the licensees of the TIGER, Wismore, and the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Station Street, were confronted were as to back entrances to their premises. The license of the TIGER was renewed on the undertaking by Mr. F. Cooper (representing the owner) that a small gateway should be closed; and in regard to the COMMERCIAL HOTEL (represented by Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman) the Bench intimated that unless an undertaking was given that the doorway from the yard was built up, and a water closet provided objection would be taken.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/6/1904

“On the application of Mr. Cooper (Addison and Cooper) a temporary authority with respect of the license of the TIGER INN, Long Acre, was granted to Mr. *McTighe*.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

On behalf of the owners of the TIGER, Long Acre Street, Mr. F. Bill applied for approval of plans for taking down a wall between the smoke room and tap room, to give better opportunity of supervision by the proprietor. Also an alteration to the stairs.

The Chief Constable, in answer to the Bench, said he had no objection.....

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had adjourned all the plans, and proposed to visit the houses next Wednesday. They would be glad if the architects would accompany them.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1906

“Yesterday the adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall.....

Several applications for the approval of plans for alterations, had been deferred from the annual licensing meeting for the magistrates to visit the premises. The Bench decided as under.....

TIGER, Long Acre Street, disapproved.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/2/1908

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall.....

The Bench proceeded to hear notices of objection which had been taken by the licensing justices to the renewal of six licences.....

The Chairman announced in regard of the TIGER INN, Long Acre Street (for the owners, Messrs. Lord, Mr. Frank Cooper ap-

peared) that the magistrates visited the house on Wednesday and had decided not to trouble Mr. Cooper this year. The license was therefore renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/11/1909

“The evidence given against John Edward Parkes (20), caster, 27, Birch Street, who was charged with wilfully breaking a plate-glass window to the TIGER INN, Long Acre Street, thereby doing damage to the amount of £2 10s, was to the effect that on Saturday he was quarrelsome with the other customers in the house, and he was requested to leave by Mrs. *Mears*, wife of *Fredk. Mears*, the licensee. He refused to go, and struck at her, and she then had him forcibly ejected. He said he had done three months for one beauty, and he was willing to do another six months for another. When he got outside Sarah Coombs, 56, Short Acre Street, saw him break the window with his clenched fist, and he was eventually arrested by Police-constable Stopford, to whom he admitted the offence. Prisoner said had he no explanation to offer, and he was sentenced to two months’ hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/7/1910

“The singular circumstances surrounding the death of *Frederick Mears* (36), a publican formerly residing at the TIGER INN, Long Acre, Walsall, were investigated by the Wigan Borough Coroner and a jury on Tuesday afternoon.

Mary Ann Mears, sister-in-law, of Countess Street, Walsall, deposed that a week ago Mr. *Mears* left home to go to Blackpool for the good of his health. Whilst there he was taken ill and her nephew saw him board a train en route for Walsall.

Answering the Coroner, witness said her brother-in-law had been drinking heavily of late. His mother died recently, and that seemed to have upset him.

John Barnes, platform inspector at Wigan L&NW station, said early on the morning of June 22nd he saw *Mears* on the platform. He was trembling and seemed excited. After a lot of talk with him witness elicited the fact that *Mears* was going to Walsall and had lost a box. He refused to go on the next train to Walsall and witness took him to the waiting room to see if he would cool down. Subsequently, he found *Mears* wandering on the main line, and he had to stop several trains before *Mears* was led off the station. He appeared to be recovering from a heavy drinking bout.

Police-constable Walker said at about 9.20pm the same night he saw *Mears* wandering about in a field at Wrightington (which is several miles from Wigan). When asked what he was doing there he said his wife was in the field and he wanted her to come to him. He gave his name as *Fredrick Mears*, and said he came from the TIGER INN, which he said was at the Cape of Good Hope. As he was going to the police station, *Mears*, who was very excited and was trembling very much, threw two sovereigns on the ground, he was afterwards conveyed to the Wigan Workhouse Hospital.

Dr. Bradbury, Union Surgeon, deposed to attending *Mears* at the Hospital. He was unable to give any account of himself the first day, but later gave his name and address. He died on Sunday from delirium tremens, caused through excessive drinking of spirits. The Coroner read a letter from Dr. Shore, of Walsall, in which the writer stated he had attended the man on and off for colds, but not for any serious illness. Latterly he had attended him for nervous debility, caused, on *Mears* own statement through excessive drinking of brandy.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.”

1911 Census

25, Long Street

[1] *Henrietta Maria Mears* (41), widow, publican, born Walsall;

[2] *William Ingram* (63), father, brass caster, born Walsall:

John Thomas Millington, beer retailer, 25, Long Acre Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 2/8/1913

“The Walsall Transfer Sessions were held on Tuesday at the Guildhall.....

When the case of the TIGER INN, Long Acre, came up the Mayor remarked on the frequency of the transfers. There had been six transfers of this house since 1900. Mr. Addison, who appeared on behalf of the owners, said the last tenant had been in the house six years.”

William Ellesmore = William Elsmore

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

TIGER INN, Long Acre Street. £0 17s 8d.”

An application to remove the license to the DERBY ARMS, Raleigh Street, was made in 1923. It was confirmed.

The house closed on 29th July 1924.

TIGER

31, (32), (31+32), (27), St. Pauls Street, (St. Pauls Row), (St. Pauls Walk), (Wisemore), WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Clewes Stackhouse, grocer, Park Street, Walsall
Walter Hughes, Walsall
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Henry Boonham [1845] – **1866**);
Hyla Holden (**1866** – []
John Evans [1868] – [1871]
Mrs. Julia Evans [1872] – [1873]
Joseph Yates [1872] – **1890**);
George Mason (**1890** – **1901**);
Edward James Oakley (**1901** – **1902**);
Henry Insley (**1902** – **1911**);
Thomas Webb (**1911** – **1912**);
Alfred Deans (**1912** – **1913**);
Daniel Mayo (**1913** – **1934**);
Kenneth Dawes (**1934** – **1937**);
John Tittley (**1937** – **1938**);

NOTES

St. Pauls Walk [1851]
St. Pauls Row [1861]
32, St. Pauls Street [1860], [1868], [1872], [1892], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1932]
32, St. Pauls Row [1861]
27, St. Pauls Street [1871], [1873]
31+32, St Pauls Street [1881], [1891]
31, St. Pauls Street [1911]

Henry Boonham = Henry Boneham

Birmingham Journal 6/4/1850 - Married

“On the 1st inst, at St. Mary’s Catholic Chapel, (by the Rev. Walter Love) Mr. John Partridge, landlord of the SEVEN STARS, Dudley Street, Walsall, to Helen, eldest daughter of Mr. *Henry Boonham*, of the TIGER INN, Wisemore.”

1851 Census

St. Pauls Walk

- [1] *Henry Boonham* (45), bridle cutter and victualler, born Kingsbury;
- [2] Martha Boonham (50), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Joseph Boonham (18), son, currier, born Walsall;
- [4] Margaret Boonham (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] John Boonham (11), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Wiliam Boonham (9), son, born Walsall;
- [7] James Boonham (7), son, born Walsall;
- [8] Elizabeth Boonham (4), daughter, born Walsall;

Walsall Free Press 19/2/1859 - Advert

“Wanted, a best steel Bit-Filer, who can have constant employment. None but a steady workman need apply. Application may be made to Mr. *Boonham*, TIGER INN, Wisemore, Walsall.”

1861 Census

32, St. Pauls Row

- [1] *Henry Boonham* (55), bridle cutter, born Kingsbury, Warwickshire;
- [2] Martha Boonham (60), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Joseph Boonham (28), son, currier, born Walsall;
- [4] John Boonham (21), son, plater, born Walsall;

- [5] William Boonham (19), son, bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [6] James Boonham (17), son, stirrup maker, born Walsall;
- [7] Margaret Boonham (24), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] Elizabeth Boonham (15), daughter, born Walsall:

Henry Boonham, retailer of beer, 32, St. Paul Street. [1862]
Henry Boonham was also a bridle cutter. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 9/1/1864 - Advert

“Wanted, a best steel Bit-Filer, one accustomed to all sorts of best Work, preferred. None but a steady workman need apply. Inquire at Mr. *Boonham*'s. TIGER INN, Wisemore.”

Walsall Free Press 23/11/1867

“Patrick Morris, labourer, was charged with having, on Monday last, assaulted Patrick Roach. It appeared that a row took place outside the TIGER, St. Paul's Row, and according to the statement of the complainant and Peter Scully, the prisoner struck complainant with a knife. Police-constable Miner, who saw the affair, said that the prisoner was not the man who committed the assault. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, dismissed the case.”

1871 Census

32, St. Pauls Street

- [1] *John Evans* (32), brush maker, born Liverpool;
- [2] *Julia Evans* (31), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Jane Evans (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah A. Evans (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 7/6/1871 - Died

“On the 1st inst., in the 32nd year of his age, *John Evans*, of the TIGER INN, St. Paul's Street, Walsall; deeply regretted.”

1881 Census

31+32, St. Pauls Street

- [1] *Joseph Yates* (41), licensed victualler, born Rushall;
- [2] Julia Yates (41), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Alice Yates (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Joseph E. Yates (7 months), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Ada Yates (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Harry Yates (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Frank Yates (12), son, scholar, born Rushall;
- [8] Florence Yates (7), daughter, born Rushall;
- [9] Sarah Ann Evans (14), stepdaughter, dress maker, born Walsall;
- [10] Jane Evans (19), stepdaughter, dress maker, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 20/10/1883

“Two children are lying in the Cottage Hospital, suffering from severe scalds, the one being *Joseph Yates* (3), son of the keeper of the TIGER INN, St Paul's Street, the injuries having been occasioned by a fall into a vat of boiling water; the other being Mary Ann Careless (2½), daughter of parents living in the same street, her injuries having been caused by the upsetting of a cup of tea.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/3/1885 - Advert

“To Be Let, with Immediate Possession, and old-established Inn, fully licensed, in good thoroughfare; owner giving up on account of ill health.

Apply to Mr. *J. Yates*, TIGER INN, St. Paul's, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 9/5/1885

“*Joseph Yates*, of the TIGER INN, St. Pauls, was summoned for having his house open for the sale of liquor after ten o'clock on Sunday, the 26th April. Police-sergeant Bailey and Police-constable Thorpe proved that on Sunday night after ten o'clock they met a woman coming from defendant's house with a jug containing beer. They went back with her to the house, and defendant told them that the beer had been paid for by the woman's husband before 10, and that she had only been to fetch it. Defendant stated the same thing in reply to the charge, and the summons was dismissed on payment of the costs.”

1891 Census

31+32, St. Pauls Street

- [1] *George Mason* (57), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Emma Jane Mason (31), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Jane Holden (61), mother in law, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 7/10/1893

“On Thursday the employés of Mr. A. Lynex, builder, of this town, held their annual supper at the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street. Host *Mason* catered in his usual admirable style, and gave general satisfaction to all concerned. Under the presidency of Mr. Lynex, who is always pleased to meet his employés on these occasions, a very enjoyable evening was spent. In the few remarks made by Mr. Lynex, he impressed on the company the advantages of both to man and master of these gatherings, from a trade point of view it creates a good feeling between employer and employés, and if more of this sort of thing was done we should hear less of strikes and discontented employés. At the close of the evening’s entertainment everyone departed well pleased.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/12/1893

“On Thursday afternoon last an inquest was held at the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street, on the body of Matthew Hendry, aged 27, of 7, School Terrace, who died under peculiar circumstances on Monday last.

Hugh Hendry, 24, Walhouse Street, a brown saddler, said the deceased was his son, and resided at 7, School Terrace. He was a caster’s pattern make by trade. He last saw him alive a fortnight ago.

Sarah Noake said she was the wife of Benjamin Noake, and lived at 6, School Terrace. Her husband was an insurance agent. On Tuesday last about 10.35, the wife of deceased called her into the house, and she went upstairs, and he said to her ‘I’m choking Mrs. Noake.’ She gave him some brandy and water, and he vomited a large amount of phlegm. He died about eleven o’clock in her presence, and deceased’s wife was also there. The doctor was present, but deceased was unconscious and could not speak to him. When she was called in deceased’s wife did not say what was the matter with him.

Police-constable Pritchard said he made enquiries into the case. He ascertained that some six months ago deceased attended the Queen’s Hospital, Birmingham, and was said to be suffering from metallic-poisoning. Since then he had been treated for an ulcer on his left leg, and he went to the Cottage Hospital on Monday last and was seen by Dr. Stearn.

By a Juryman: He had made all the enquiries possible, and had not heard that deceased had fallen down the cellar steps.

Dr. Sydenham, assistant to Dr. Wilson, said that on Wednesday morning last he saw deceased about eleven o’clock. He was in a dying condition, and witness could do nothing more for him than wet his lips with brandy. He died in about ten minutes afterwards. He could not judge as to the cause of death at the time, and at the request of the Coroner he made a post mortem examination of the body, finding death was due to fatty degradation of the heart. There was a mark on his left leg, but that had nothing to do with the cause of death.

A verdict the deceased died through Heart Disease was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/11/1895 - Advert

“Copper Boiler, to hold 160 gallons, good order, for Sale; price £4 10s.

To be seen at the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/12/1895

“R.A.O.B. On Tuesday evening last many of the brethren of this order assembled under the banner of the ‘Earl of Bradford’ Lodge, held at the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street, for the purpose of taking part in the ceremony of the installation of a brother to the honoured degree of knighthood of the order of merit. Several lodges in the district were well represented, the brethren attending in full regalia. The Grand Primo of South Staffordshire (Sir J. A. Blolshaw, K.O.M.) occupied the chair, supported by his Grand Lodge officers. After the usual routine of business had been dispensed with the knight elect, Bro. Leonard Aulton, amid loud applause, was presented to the Worthy Grand by Sir Jeff C. Croke, K.O.M., and Sir Harris Davis, K.O.M.”

1901 Census

31, St. Pauls Street

[1] *Edward Oakley* (24), publican, born Upton on Severn;

[2] *Clara Oakley* (24), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Lilly Oakley* (2), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] *William Oakley* (9 months), son, born Walsall;

[5] *Alice Bromley* (15), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1904

“As the result of a smoking concert at the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s, under the auspices of Messrs. *Insley* (proprietor), W. Patten, W. Webster, &c. a few weeks ago, Mr. *Insley* has been enabled to supply a loaf of bread and a quart of soup to over 200 unemployed.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1907

“On Wednesday night at a smoking concert, held at the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street, advantage was taken of the occasion to present to Mr. *H. Insley*, ex-detective officer of the Staffordshire constabulary, who had for seven years been a licensed victualler in Walsall, with a gold albert and seal, which had been subscribed by his friends in honour of his birthday and as a mark of esteem. The presentation was made by Mr. C. Essex of Birmingham, who spoke of the many years acquaintance with Mr. *Insley*, both when he was a police officer and since he had been a licensed victualler, and had always found him ready to give a helping hand and always respected by every one he came into contact with. The presentation was subscribed for by his friends in four shires, and he was sorry that it was not accompanied by a presentation to the hostess, but he wished the hosts and hostess long life and prosperity. Other testimony of the worth of the host and hostess having been added by Mr. W. Wynn (chairman), H. Wallace, J. Elliott, and others. Mr. *Insley*, in response, thanked the subscribers heartily, both those who were fifty miles away and those near at home. The musical programme was contributed to by Messrs. E. Blake, C. Essex, W. Wynn, H. Wallace, B. G. Pallen (comedi-

an), and Califra (who gave a violin solo from Il Travatour).”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1909

“On Monday evening there was a smoking concert and some presentations at the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s, primarily to do honour to Mr. Wm. Patten, grocer, Pleck Road, for which some forty of his friends foregathered. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. Webster, who during the evening presented Mr. Patten with a framed congratulatory address and a gold medal, on attaining his 62nd birthday, and spoke in eulogistic terms of his business capacity, and the respect in which he was held. Mr. *Insley* (vice-chairman) also made a presentation of a gold scarf pin to Mr. Charles Docksey, whose 40th birthday also happened on Monday. During the evening songs were given by Messrs. Simmons, H. Selvey, T. H. Watson, W. Paten, W. Johns, A. Stephens, and Thomas Bird, and at the close votes of thanks were accorded the chairman, vice-chairman and contributors to the programme.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/3/1909

“A handsome illuminated address, accompanied by a gold scarf pin and a brooch, was, at a smoking concert, at the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street, on Wednesday night, presented to Mr. and Mrs. *Insley* (host and hostess) in recognition of their birthdays, and of their having been for eight years the landlord and landlady at this house. The address, which had in it very realistic portraits, was worded as follows:

‘Presented to Mr. and Mrs. *Insley*, host and hostess of the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street, Walsall, on their birthdays, 16 and 17, March 1909. We, the undersigned, ask you to accept this illuminated address, with the presents subscribed by your friends, as a token of the great esteem in which you are both held. We thank you for your kindness and consideration, which we have had the pleasure of enjoying for the last eight years you have been at the TIGER INN, and we hereby take the opportunity of heartily wishing you both long life and prosperity, and we pray to the Almighty to spare you both for many years to come.’

The address, which was the work of Mr. J. Symons, of St. Paul’s, was signed by numerous subscribers. In the absence of Councillor Oswin, who wrote expressing his regret that he was kept away by business affairs, Mr. W. Webster presided, and made the presentation, referring to the courteous and obliging way Mr. and Mrs. *Insley* had always acted. Mr. Tisdale also spoke in high terms of Mr. *Insley*, whom he had known for twenty-five years, both as a police officer and a landlord.

In responding, for himself and wife, Mr. *Insley* thanked the subscribers, and the generous friends they had found in Walsall. A programme was afterwards given, to which Messes. E. Brettel (piccolo solo), Bates, Selvey, Crumpton, Stevens, and others, contributed.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/9/1909

“To palm off a common article as something of value is no new trick, but it was the modus operandi adopted by Thomas Harris (45), labourer, of no fixed abode, and Patrick Keogh, weaver, no fixed abode, in an attempt to obtain money from *Henry Insley*, the landlord of the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street, on Tuesday. Mr. *Insley*, however, remembered the old adage ‘all is not gold that glitters,’ and despite the fact that it was marked ‘18 carat,’ he readily detected that a chain which was worth a few coppers only, and the suggested transaction, as the result of which the ‘jewellery merchants’ hoped to be richer by 15s, did not take place.....” [Thomas Harris and Patrick Keogh, were sentenced to one months’ hard labour each, for attempting to obtain money by false pretences.]

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....

The ninth annual meeting of the sick and dividend society connected with TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street, was held under the chairmanship of Mr. W. Webster (president) on Thursday of last week.

Mr. Walter Wynn (secretary) read the balance sheet for the year, which showed: takings for the year, £68 6s 2d; expenditure, £11 15s 6d; leaving £56 10s 8d. The sum left in the reserve fund was £8 10s 8d and the sharing for the year worked out at 13s 4d per member.

The Secretary remarked that there were 72 full members, and he was pleased to say that there had lately joined no fewer than 50 new members. A great deal of credit was due to the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Insley*) for the increase in membership, and for the valuable assistance they had at all times given to the club during the eight years they had been at the TIGER.

The Chairman endorsed the secretary’s remarks concerning the valuable help given by Mr. and Mrs. *Insley*, and the good fortune which attended the club’s affairs during the past year.

A vote of thanks was passed to all the members for their services, and the officers who were elected for the ensuing year were: President, Mr. W. Webster; vice-president, Mr. W. Payne (both of whom are honorary members); treasurer, Mr. *H. Insley*; secretary, Mr. Walter Wynn. The whole of the committee were re-elected.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Webster (the chairman) and suitably responded to, and a collection was then made for a member who was ill and had been unable to work for many weeks, and this having been thankfully accepted was gone through.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/11/1910

“Samuel Atkins (28), and Samuel Southall (28), miners, of Wisemore, were charged with breaking and entering the parish church of St. Michael, Rushall, with intent to steal therein, on the 26th June.

Mr. F. J. Wrottesley prosecuted, and said that on the 25th June, a man named Bagnall overheard the prisoners at the TIGER INN, Wisemore, talking about breaking into a church. They asked him to go with them, but he refused. The next night (Sunday) the church was broken into. Some buttons were found underneath the window of the vestry, and after Southall had been arrested it was found that some buttons were missing from his clothing, and it was found the buttons remaining on his clothing corresponded with those found at the church.

The jury found the prisoners guilty.
Atkins was committed for ten months, and Southall for six months.”

1911 Census

31, St. Pauls Street

[1] *Henry Insley* (48), licensed victualler, born Derby;

[2] Harriet Insley (42), wife, married 20 years, housewife, born Cradley Heath;

[3] Sarah Shaw (28), sister in law, domestic, born Cradley Heath:

Alfred Deans – see also CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street. The Sick and Dividend Society in connection with this house is in a flourishing condition, and at the ‘share out,’ which took place on Thursday evening, 70 members drew 6/9 each, and the only other member (there are 71 on the rolls) got 3/5. The receipts amounted to £69 16s 10d, the reserve brought forward being £8 6s 8d, and that being carried forward being £6 13s 7d.”

Walsall Observer 23/6/1917 - Roll of Honour

“Private Joseph *Mayo*, son of Mr. and Mrs. *Mayo*, of the TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street, is in hospital at Brighton, having had his left leg amputated as a result of wounds received on May 12 while in action in France with the South Staffords. He was also wounded in the left arm. Twenty-four years of age, he enlisted in March 1915 and had been abroad eight months. Before enlisting, he was employed by Messrs. Geo. Mason Ltd. as a grocer’s assistant. One brother has served since September 1914, and the other, who is still under 18, is about to join the Navy.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
TIGER INN, St. Paul’s Street. £1 2s 3d.”

Kenneth Dawes – see also KING GEORGE VI.

It closed on 16th November 1938.

The license was transferred to the new TIGER, Walstead Road.

TIGER

Walstead Road, Yew Tree Estate, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Tittley (1938 – 1945);

Joseph Edward Bowen (1945 – 1960);

Albert Victor Lucas (1960 – [1966])

NOTES

It opened on 17th November 1938.

The license was transferred from the old TIGER, St. Pauls Street.

1939 Register

Walstead Road – TIGER INN (3 of 4)

[1] *John Tittley*, date of birth 18/9/1898, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Gladys Tittley, dob 22/11/1901, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Stanley J. Tittley, dob 22/10/1923, fitter, motor bodies apprentice, single;

Walsall Observer 28/12/1940

“Of all the dangers to the public, a man under the influence of drink driving a vehicle is certainly one of the most serious,’ remarked the presiding magistrate (Mr. A. A. Fraser Wood), when imposing a fine of £10, with £2 18s 6d costs, on Alfred Coleman (39), lorry driver, 18, Somerfield Road, for driving a motor car when under the influence of drink to such an extent as to be incapable of exercising proper control. With Mr. Fraser Wood sat Mr. W. R. Wheway and Miss Windle.

Prosecuting, Mr. W. T. Isaac stated that when driving along Broadway North at about 11 o’clock on Wednesday night, December 18, Coleman collided with the refuge island near the junction of Prince’s Avenue. After completely demolishing one bollard and knocking down another, the car turned over on its roof. When assistance arrived, Coleman and his companion (owner of the car) were extricated from the car.

John Titley, licensee of the TIGER INN, Walstead Road, owner of the car defendant was driving, told the court that on the night in question they went first to see a friend at the DILKE ARMS, Aldridge Road then another at the WHITE HORSE, Bosty Lane, and afterwards went back to the DILKE ARMS to see a Mr. Harvey. They stayed until 10.20 in order to be able to give two members of the staff a lift to Lichfield Street. Describing the collision in Broadway North, witness said: ‘The night was very dark and I was looking forward towards the kerb when I felt the bump. That’s all I know.’

Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson (defending): In your opinion he was perfectly fit to drive? – Witness: Certainly.

Dr A. B. Davies (police surgeon) detailed to the magistrates the symptoms that led him to certify Coleman to be under the influence of drink.

Police Inspector Lavender, who also expressed the same view as to the defendant’s condition, stated that the accused told him he had ‘had a drink or two’, and that ‘drink is a matter of routine with me.’

Further evidence that the defendant was under the influence of drink was given by Stephen George Day, 86, Broadway North, and Police-constable Brazier.

Coleman in the witness box, said he had five half-pints of ‘mild’ on the night in question. He was looking for the white line when he had the accident, which caused him to hurt his shoulder and receive cuts on the face and knee.

Told that the defendant was engaged on work of national importance, the magistrates refrained from suspending his driving license on his undertaking not to drive anything but his lorry for the next three months.”

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

TIGER INN, Walstead Road. £2 0s 4d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

TIGER HOTEL, Delves. £9 10s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 27/3/1943 - Notice

“War Charities Act, 1940.

Notice Is Hereby Given that it is proposed to apply to the Council of the Borough of Walsall for the Registration under the above Act of the TIGER HOTEL Comforts Fund, the object of which is to send regular sums of money to customers or their relatives serving with H.M. Forces. The administration centre of this Fund is at the TIGER INN, Walstead Road, Walsall.

Any objection to the proposed Registration should be made to the aforementioned Council in writing within 14 days from the day of this notice.

A. J. Holder, Hon, Secretary.

J. Titley, Treasurer.

TIGER HOTEL, Walstead Road, Walsall. March 24, 1943.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/4/1943

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.....

Mr. *J. Titley*, of the TIGER INN, Walstead Road, was elected a member of the Executive Committee.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

TIGER INN, Walstead Road. £1 10s 1d.”

Walsall Observer 18/3/1944

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held at the CRITERION HOTEL, Stafford Street, Walsall. Mr. C. W. Garfield (president) occupied the chair, and Mr. T. Hawkins (vice-president) the vice-chair. The President made sympathetic reference to the sudden death of the Magistrates’ Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton), and as a mark of respect the members stood for a short time in silence. Sympathy was also expressed with Mr. James Bird and his wife and Mrs. Garfield in their illnesses. Mr. George Peach, KINGS HEAD, Stafford Street, Willenhall, and Mr. Sidney Wood, of the NEW INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, were elected members of the committee. Mr. Herbert Dallow, of the OLD CROWN INN, Willenhall, was elected a member of the society. A message was read from Mr. M. F. Harrison, secretary, expressing his thanks and greetings for

the kind wishes extended to him on the occasion of his 85th birthday. The arrangements made for the forthcoming charity ball on Friday May 19, were reported. The society is arranging to co-operate with the appeal of the Mayor in aid of the Red Cross and St. John Staffordshire appeal, and a box collection will shortly be made. The next meeting will be at the TIGER INN, Walstead Road, on April 13.”

Joseph Edward Bowen – see also CAMBRIDGE.

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

“Free Pint of Carling.

With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We’ve a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....

Where to get your Free pint.....

TIGER, Walstead Road, Walsall.”

Black Country Bugle 9/9/2010 - Letter from Carole Holden

“The TIGER pub has been around all my life as I was born in 1943. Yew Tree Estate was only small until the mid 1950s and was surrounded by farmer’s fields and common land.

I remember the garden at the back of the TIGER with a large veranda where the grown-ups could sit and have a drink while we children played on the large lawn. The bar was the door to the left, the off-sales was the door in the middle and the smoke-room, gents only room and garden were reached through the door on the right.

Some of the children living on the estate would walk across the car park to get to Delves Infants School in Bell Lane (me included).....

I had my wedding reception at the TIGER pub on Wednesday October 9th 1968. The smoke-room and gents only room had been knocked into one larger room.....”

[2017]

TOMMY’S BAR

10, Freer Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Perks and Company, brewers, Burton on Trent [1856]

George William Moore

Bass, Ratcliffe and Gretton Ltd.

R. P. Culley and Co. Ltd, 15, Moorfields, London [1935]

Worthington and Co. Ltd., Burton on Trent (acquired on 23rd September 1957)

LICENSEES

James Fisher [1856] – [1860]

George Moore [] – **1865**);

George Holloway Moore* (**1865** – []

George William Moore* [1871]

Sidney Benton [1881] – [1888]

Richard Shutt [1901]

George William Moore [] – **1903**);

George Moore (**1903** – **1935**);

Arthur F Shutt (**1935** – **1951**); manager

Maud Shutt (**1951** – **1952**);

Harry Sydney Dutton (**1952** – **1959**);

Jeffrey Albert Attwood (**1959** – **1964**);

Roger William Mould (**1964** – **1965**);

Patrick John Rush (**1965** – **1966**);

Henry McBeth Fairfull (**1966** – []

NOTES

It was originally the STORES.

LIQUOR VAULTS [1881], [1888]

It was known locally at “Shutt’s”.

Walsall Free Press 22/11/1856

“Perks & Co., Brewers, Burton-Upon-Trent.
STORES, Freer Street, Walsall.
Agent, *James Fisher*.”

Walsall Free Press 25/3/1865 - Advert

“Notice Of Removal.

Mr. *George Moore*, in returning thanks to his friends and the public for the liberal patronage bestowed upon him during the sixteen years he occupied the STORK HOTEL, begs most respectfully to intimate that he has removed to No.10, Freer Street, where he intends carrying on the business of a Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Wine, Ale, Porter & Spirits, and earnestly solicits a continuance of that support with which he has hitherto been favoured, and which he trusts by prompt attention to orders and moderate charges to merit.

Mr. *M.* begs to intimate that parties can be supplied with small quantities of any article upon moderate charges, and equal in quality to that supplied in wholesale quantities.

Mr. *M.* has always on hand large quantities of Sparkling Wines of various descriptions; also Ellis (of Ruthin) and Roughsedge & Co’s celebrated Soda Water, Lemonade and Potass Waters.

Guinness’s Bottled Stout. Bass & Co’s Bottled Ale.

N.B. An extensive and well assorted Stock of British and Foreign Cigars.
10, Freer Street, 25th March, 1865.”

* probably the same person

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/6/1865

“At the Petty Sessions yesterday, the following licenses were transferred.

Wholesale and Retail Wine and Spirit STORES, Freer Street, from the executors of the late *George Moore*, to his son, *George Holloway Moore*.”

Walsall Free Press 26/8/1865 - Notice

“George Moore, Deceased.

All Persons who stand indebted to the Estate of *George Moore*, late of Walsall, in the County of Stafford, Wine and Spirit Merchant, and Licensed Victualler, deceased, are requested to pay the amount of their respective debts to Mr. *George William Moore*, of No.10, Freer Street, Walsall, aforesaid, Wine and Spirit Merchant, and Ale and Porter Dealer; and all persons who have any claims or demands against the said Estate are requested to send full particulars thereof to the said *George William Moore*, in order that the same may be examined, and, if found correct discharged.

Dated this Fourth day of August, 1865.

William Thomas, Solicitor to the Executors of the said *George Moore*, deceased.”

1871 Census

10, Freer Street

- [1] *George W. Moore* (37), wine and spirit merchant, born Walsall;
- [2] *Henrietta Moore* (34), wife, born Wightwick;
- [3] *Henry H. Moore* (6), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *George Moore* (5), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Maria J. Sproson* (35), sister in law, unmarried, visitor, born Wightwick;
- [6] *Sarah Owen* (18), domestic servant, born Llanidloes, Montgomeryshire;
- [7] *Jane Owen* (14), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1881 Census

10, Freer Street – LIQUOR VAULTS

- [1] *Sidney Benton* (32), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Louisa Benton* (25), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Gertrude Benton* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Marie Benton* (6 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Jane Goodwin* (14), general servant, born Greet Green:
[Greet Green is part of West Bromwich.]

1901 Census

10 Freer Street

[1] *Richard Shutt* (38), public house manager, born Walsall;

[2] *Mary J. Shutt* (37), wife, public house manageress, born Walsall;

[3] *Richard Shutt* (16), son, wine merchant's clerk, born Walsall;

[4] *Arthur F. Shutt* (13), son, born Walsall;

[5] *John Gillee* (52), boarder, brown saddle foreman, born Northallerton, Yorkshire:

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1908 - Advert

"T. Boulter & Son, Shire Oak (Near Walsall), Brewers, Maltsters, Spirit & Hop Merchants.

Noted Home-Brewed Ales And Stouts.

Guaranteed Brewed From Pure Malt and Hops Only.

The SHIRE OAK INN, which is within ten minute's walk of Walsall Tramway terminus at Walsall Wood, has been thoroughly renovated, and an excellent Bowling Green put down.

An Entirely New And Up-To-Date Brewing Plant has been installed, ensuring that our Ales and Stouts are of the finest possible quality.

Our Ales are to be obtained at the MINERS ARMS, Rushall.

FOUR CROSSES, Sheffield.

The RESTAURANT, Bridge Street, Walsall (Mr. P. Claridge's).

THE STORES, Freer Street, Walsall.

The Swan, Stonnall."

No.243 Cork Lodge was held here. [1911]

Walsall Observer 6/3/1915 - Advert

"Wanted, good General, aged about 20; sleep out.

Apply with references, The STORES, Freer Street."

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

"....while the licenses of two Freer Street houses – MARKET TAVERN and STORES – were renewed subject to plans for alterations and renovations."

1939 Register

10, Freer Street – The STORES Public House

[1] *Arthur F. Shutt*, date of birth 18/1/1888, manager licensed house, married;

[2] *Maud (Shutt) Tapper*, dob 25/6/1902, unpaid domestic duties, manageress licensed house, married;

[3] *Richard Shutt*, dob 4/5/1862, retired, widowed:

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

"Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

The STORES, Freer Street. £1 0s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

STORES (The), Freer Street. £2 10s 0d."

Walsall Observer 19/2/1944

"Shortly after descending from a bus in the vicinity of the STORK HOTEL, Lower Bridge Street, *Richard Shutt*, aged 81 years, of the STORES public house, Freer Street, was knocked down by two youths who were running along the pavement. The result was that Mr. *Shutt* had to undergo an operation on his left leg at the General Hospital on Wednesday, as he was found to be suffering from a fracture. He is making satisfactory progress."

Harry Sydney Dutton –see also FORGE AND FETTLE.

A new building opened as the PEN AND WIG in 1961.

Henry McBeth Fairfull – see also QUEEN STREET TAVERN.

Its name was changed to TOMMY'S BAR [2004]

[2007]

It was renamed the LOUNGE. [2010], [2017]

TOWN END TAVERN

4, Green Lane, Towns End Bank, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Holden [1853] – [1865]

John Holden [1871]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 30/1/1853

“*John Holden* of the TOWNS END TAVERN, Park Street, Walsall will give a silver collar to be ratted for, 5 rats each, on Monday, Feb 7. Entrance fee. The dogs not to exceed 6lb. A god supply of rats, and the use of the pit gratis.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 30/10/1853

“Rueben Craddock of Bloxwich will run Bowen of Darlaston one mile, for £10 a side, provided Bowen will give him 30 yards start. Money ready at *John Holden's*, TOWNS END TAVERN, Walsall.”

John Holden, beerhouse, Town End. [1858]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/1/1860

“R. Longmore of Walsall will accept the challenge of Dan Thomas (the Welshman) at his own weight 8st 8lb for £50 a side, the fight to come off in ten weeks. If this will suit Thomas he can consider himself matched, as Longmore has left £5 in the hands of the Editor of *Bells Life*. Articles to be sent to Longmore, at *J. Holden's*, TOWN END TAVERN, Town End Bank, Walsall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 3/2/1861

“T. Hayes of Intake begs to inform the pedestrians of all England that he has the champions walking belt, value £25, which was presented to Berridge on July 3, 1853, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and that he intends it to be walked for on Monday and Tuesday, March 11 and 12, in an All England Handicap of three miles, at the Albion Grounds, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton. Entrance 1s 6d, and acceptances 2s 6d each. All entries to be addressed to Mr. *John Holden*, TOWNSEND TAVERN, Walsall, or to Mr. W. Vickers, WHITE HART, Wolverhampton, on or before, Feb 27; and the acceptances to close on Wednesday, March 6. Anyone entering falsely will be disqualified. The winner will receive the belt, the second £2, and the third 10s. Stamps as cash. The belt can be seen anytime at Mr. *John Holden's*, TOWN END TAVERN, Walsall.”

1861 Census

Green Lane – TOWN END TAVERN

- [1] *John Holden* (37), retail brewer, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Holden (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Harriet Holden (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Helen Holden (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Fanny Holden (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Clara Holden (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Joseph Jackson (22), boarder, carpenter, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertise 22/6/1861

Wolverhampton County Court. *Holden v. Vickers*. The plaintiff in the action is the landlord of the TOWN END TAVERN, Walsall, and the defendant is the host of the WHITE HART INN, Worcester Street, Wolverhampton. The action was brought to recover the sum of £5, the value of the champion's walking belt. The plaintiff's account of the transaction was that having some three months previously become possessed of this belt from one Bill Kite, he on the 21st of February re-sold it to Vickers, the defendant, the agreement being that Vickers was to give him (plaintiff) £5 for the belt if it were walked for and got off, and if not he was to take it back. The belt was handed over to the possession of the defendant, and the match having been duly announced in *Bells Life*, came off on the 25th and 26th of March, at the RING OF BELLS, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton, when the belt was won

by a noted pedestrian, named Mills. Plaintiff himself ran, but was unsuccessful. After the match defendant represented that he had been a loser by the affair, and offered plaintiff £2 2s 6d for the belt, which he refused to accept, and hence the present action. Defendant's version of the affair was that he was first spoken to by the former owner to about the belt by Hayes, and he suggested the RING OF BELLS as a place where he would be likely to get the belt off. Williams the landlord, would not let the ground to Holden, he being a stranger, and, accordingly Vickers took it in his own name, merely as a friendly service. During the match plaintiff and his friends created a disturbance, disputed the decision of the referee, and insulted all present, so that scarcely anyone came the second day. Defendant had no hand in taking the money, but after the match he made out a balance sheet, and offered the plaintiff the surplus, £2 2s 6d. That morning to avoid litigation defendant said he had offered to make up the sum to three guineas out of his own pocket.

His Honour accepted defendant's account of the transaction as the more probable story, and at his suggestion the plaintiff consented to judgement of £3 3s without costs."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/5/1862

"J. Stokes of Bloxwich will run Elwell of Brierley Hill, or Price of Tipton 120 yards if allowed two yards start; or will run B. Acland of Dudley the same distance level. Either of the matches, for £5 or £10 a side, can be made any evening next week at J. Beard's, NEW INN, Pinfold Bank, Bloxwich; or at *J. Holden's*, Town End Bank, Walsall."

Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/10/1865

"Mr. *John Holden*, in returning his grateful thanks to his numerous friends and the sporting public generally for the liberal patronage so kindly conferred for the last 15 years, begs most respectfully to inform them that he had removed from the TOWNS END TAVERN to the HEARTS OF OAK INN, Town's End Bank, Walsall (a few doors above his late residence) at which place he respectfully solicits a continuance of past favours. Sparring, ratting, &c, still carried on as usual, for which his large and commodious room is well fitted up."

John Holden was also a retail brewer. [1871]

TRAVELLERS REST

Lichfield Road, (Walsall Road), Walsall Wood, (Rushall), WALSALL

OWNERS

Robert Henry Walker Ball
Lichfield Brewery (acquired in 1910)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1927]

LICENSEES

Absalom Rex [] – **1865**);
Dorothy Davies (**1865** – []
Henry Roe [1868] – [1871]
William Dobbs [1874] – [1875]
William Davis [] – **1876**);
Eliza Stokes (**1876** – []
Joseph Whitehead [1891] – **1895**);
Samuel Andrew Birch (**1895** – [1899]
Niphi Birch [1900] – **1902**);
Henry Wood (**1902** – []
John Rae McLean (**1903** – [1904]
John Wesley [1906] – [1932]
Thomas E Fenn [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

Walsall Free Press 13/2/1864 - Advert

"To Be Let, The TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood. Immediate possession.
Apply on the premises."

Absalom Rex = Absalom Rix

Walsall Free Press 12/11/1864

“Rushall Petty Sessions..... *Absolom Rix*, landlord of the TRAVELLERS REST, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer at five minutes to eleven on Sunday, the 30th of October. Police-constables Hill and Astbury proved the case, and said that on visiting the house they found four men, two of whom, the landlord said, were lodgers, and the other two neighbours. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant, as it was his first offence, to pay a fine of 10s and 10s 6d costs.”

Walsall Free Press 7/1/1865 - Advert

“TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood.

To Be Sold By Auction, by H. Farrington (without reserve,) Tuesday next, January 10th, 1865, all the Useful Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, Stock-in-Trade, and Effects, belonging to Mr. *A. Rix*, who is leaving.
Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock, conditions as usual.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/5/1867

“On Monday Mr. E. Hooper, district coroner, held an inquest at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Walsall Wood, on the body of George Allcott, aged 46, an engineer, who on the preceding Friday, by some means fell among the machinery at the work of his employers Messes. W and J. Beddoe, brickmakers, Stubber's Green and was literally torn to pieces between two large cog wheels, used for pulverising clay. There was no one with him at the time, but, as he was known to have frequently stepped over one of the cogs, it was supposed that he was doing so on this occasion, when he slipped, and his clothes were caught by the cogs, and he was thrown down. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

1871 Census

Walsall Wood – TRAVELLERS REST

- [1] *Henry Roe* (33), publican, born Walsall Wood;
- [2] *Sarah Roe* (25), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Isaac Roe* (4), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] *Rebecca Roe* (2), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] *Joseph Gauden* (41), general servant, born Merriden, Warwickshire:

Walsall Free Press 25/1/1873

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before J. E. Bealey, B. Bloomer, and J. Harrison, Esqs, a carter named Michael Malvin was sentenced to pay a fine of 5s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for 14 days, for having on the 17th inst, left his horse and cart unattended on the highway, in front of the TRAVELLERS REST public house.”

William Dobbs = William Dabbs

Midland Examiner 14/11/1874

“At the Rushall Police Court, on Tuesday, before Messrs. J. Harrison, F. James, and S. Stokes, *William Dabbs*, landlord of the TRAVELLERS REST, was charged with having permitted drunkenness in his house on the 24th ult. Police-constable Hill stated that he visited the house at twelve o'clock on that day, and found four men there drunk; at one o'clock he saw the same men drunk; at two o'clock he found some of them there, and called the defendant's attention to them, and at eight o'clock at night he also found a drunken man in the house. He was fined £2, and the costs, 14s 6d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1875

“Rushall Licensing Business. For the first time in many years there were no applications for new licenses. For renewal there were 46 ale-house licenses, and 26 beerhouse licenses (including licenses for sweets). During the year there had been no offences on the part of the holder for any one of these to call for suspension, but the following five persons were cautioned, viz.....
William Dabbs, TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/9/1876

“Rushall Licensing Business. On the application of Mr. Williams (of the firm of Messrs Duignan, Lewis and Williams) the name of *Eliza Stokes* was inserted in the register of licenses as the owner of the TRAVELLERS REST, in place of *William Davis* deceased.”

Walsall Observer 11/4/1885

“On Tuesday morning, E. Hooper, Esq, (District Coroner), held an inquiry at the TRAVELLERS REST public house touching the death of Julia Elizabeth Fox, forty-four years of age, who committed suicide on the previous Friday morning by cutting her throat with a table knife.

Joseph Fox, miner, deposed that deceased was his wife, and had been in very bad health for a considerable time. She had complained of severe pains in her head, and had been an in-patient at the Birmingham and Midland Counties Eye Hospital, of which institution she was an out-patient at the time of her death. Deceased had an ulcer in one of her eyes, and sometimes she asked him to get up and bathe her eye, she often being in great agony. Witness last saw his wife alive about ten o'clock in the morning, when he left home to go to church. He had not been in church long before his little girl came and told him what had happened. He im-

mediately went home, and found his wife upon the bed, with her throat cut. They kissed each other, and deceased tried to kiss her little children. Witness called in Dr. Finlay, of Walsall, who happened to be in the neighbourhood at the time, and that gentleman, after deceased had been removed to a sofa, sewed up her throat. Deceased told her husband that the wound was self-inflicted, and when she came to herself she found out what she had done.

In reply to the Coroner, witness said the knife was kept in a drawer amongst other knives. She was not insured, but was in a club held at the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN. On one occasion she told him the pain from her eye and in the back of her head would drive her out of her mind, and she was afraid she should have to be taken away.

The Coroner said he did not wish to distress witness any more than was necessary by asking questions, and enquired whether the jury were satisfied.

The whole of that body agreed that further examination of the witness was unnecessary, and it was intimated that they had no questions to ask.

Benjamin Fox, son of the deceased, deposed that he saw his mother in the house about half past nine in the morning, in company with his sister. He went out, and returned again about half past eleven. Whilst in the yard he heard a noise such as might be made by a dog, and went to look in the closet. He pushed the door, but could not open it, and went away. Directly after he heard the noise again, and found the closet door open. He then saw his mother with a large cut in her throat, the blood flowing freely on to her apron and on to the floor. The knife lay by her side. Witness immediately raised an alarm, and Mrs. Price came. His mother was conveyed into the house, where she died about half past two o'clock the same day. Both his mother and his father were religious.

The Coroner, in summing up, said that according to the evidence the case was very clear, and there appeared to be no doubt that the act had been committed with the instrument produced. If the jury thought fit, he would adjourn the inquest for further evidence; but he did not think that course necessary.

Police-constable Alldritt stated that he suggested to the doctor to ask deceased some questions, and she replied that she cut her throat with the knife because she could not find the razor. She also told witness that she was going to do it before, but she saw witness, who happened to be in the yard.

The Coroner said there was no doubt deceased died from the wound in the throat; and the jury were unanimous in returning a verdict to the effect that deceased Committed Suicide whilst in an unsound state of mind."

1891 Census

Walsall Road – TRAVELLERS REST

[1] *Joseph Whitehead* (34), licensed victualler, born Bedworth, Warwickshire;

[2] *Annie Whitehead* (29), wife, born Lichfield;

[3] *Ernest Whitehead* (4), son, born Lichfield;

[4] *Thomas Jones* (50), boarder, coal miner, born Hednesford;

[5] *Alice Jones* (22), domestic servant, born Kingswinford:

Joseph Whitehead – see also NEW INN, Bloxwich.

Birmingham Daily Post 21/8/1891

"Lichfield. The annual licensing sessions were held yesterday.....

Mr. Dale (Birmingham) applied on behalf of *Joseph Whitehead*, of the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Walsall Wood, for a full license for the premises formerly known as the Anchor Inn. The Bench refused the application, as they did not think that the license was required in the district named."

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1893

"The annual Licensing Sessions for this district took place at the Rushall Police Court on Monday morning. The magistrates present were Messrs. F. James, W. H. Brookes and J. Naylor.

Superintendent Barnett opposed the renewal of the licenses of the following houses.....

TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, on the ground that the premises were difficult to supervise on account of insufficient fencing at the back the police required certain alterations deferred until the Adjourned Sessions, and then, if the alterations had been effected, the license would be renewed."

Walsall Advertiser 6/7/1895

"On Monday, at the Rushall Police Court, a temporary authority for the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, was granted by the Bench to *Samuel Andrew Birch*."

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

"The forty-third annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New members..... Mr. *Samuel Andrew Birch*, TRAVELLERS REST INN, Walsall Wood."

Walsall Advertiser 10/10/1896

"Police-constable Trusswell seems to have had a lively time at Walsall Wood during the past fortnight, for in addition to the above charges heard at Rushall on Monday he had caused a third summons to be issued against *Samuel Tinsley*, miner, for having been drunk and disorderly on the 19th ult. The officer informed the Bench that defendant was thrown out of the TRAVELLERS REST,

Walsall Wood, at 10.25pm on September 19th. He was drunk, shouting, and making use of bad language. It being defendant's first offence he was let off on payment of costs."

Walsall Advertiser 28/1/1899

"Mr. H. A. Pearson held an inquest on Wednesday at the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood. It was stated that the deceased was taken ill on Sunday afternoon at the Sunday school, and on arriving home suddenly expired. From a post mortem examination it was found that death was due to cardiac failure. A verdict was passed accordingly."

Lichfield Mercury 10/3/1899 - Advert

"Seed Potatoes for Sale, Findlay's 'Up-to-Date'.
Apply *Samuel Birch*, TRAVELLERS REST INN, Walsall Wood."

Walsall Advertiser 10/6/1899

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....
A funeral donation of £3 was voted to Mrs. Birch on the death of her husband, Mr. *Samuel Andrew Birch*, who joined the society on 15th August, 1895."

Lichfield Mercury 8/9/1899

"Rushall Licensing Sessions. These annual sessions were held on Monday.....
So far as the old licenses were concerned, they would be renewed, but there was one rather peculiar case – the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood. The holder of the license died a short time ago, and a temporary authority was granted to his widow, and as a matter of fact she should have applied for an extension of it at the last Petty Sessions there. For some inevitable cause this was not done, and the day she should have applied for the transfer of the license in her own name; but she had, unfortunately, herself died the previous evening. There was no family, and it would be a question for consideration, upon application being made, as to how they should deal with that particular license. However, when it came before them it would be considered in its merits, and endeavours made to do justice to the representatives of the deceased person."

Walsall Observer 25/8/1900

"On Thursday evening, the 16th inst, a splendid supper was provided at the TRAVELLERS REST, by Mr. and Mrs. *N. Birch* in connection with the Foresters. About sixty members and friends sat down....."

1901 Census

Lichfield Road – TRAVELLERS REST INN

- [1] *Nephi Birch* (32), licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] Clara Birch (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Harry Hateley (16), son, brickmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] Edith Hateley (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Annie Hateley (11), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Ethel M. Birch (6), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] Lilian A. Birch (3), daughter, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Advertiser 7/9/1901

"Mr. G. C. Lewis submitted plans of alterations at the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood. He explained that the licensed area of drinking accommodation would not be increased, but it was intended to build a new club room over the kitchen and turn the old club room into two bedrooms. Plans approved."

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1902

"A temporary transfer of the license of the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, was granted from *Nephi Birch* to *Henry Wood*."

London Gazette 11/11/1902

"Adjudications. *Birch, Nephi*, 11, Feather-street, Flint, in the county of Flint, lately residing and carrying on business at the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, Staffordshire, miner, lately Licensed Victualler."

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/11/1902

"*Henry Wood*, of the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 1st inst. He was fined £3 and costs."

Lichfield Mercury 5/12/1902

"*Henry Wood*, landlord of the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, charged at the Rushall Petty Session for permitting drunkenness, writes to say that he did not assist the man, Walters to a seat when he entered his house."

John Rae McLean – see also ROVERS REST.

Lichfield Mercury 6/3/1903

“*John Rae McClean*, landlord of the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood applied for the renewal of his license. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared on behalf of the owner, Mr. Ball, Lichfield, and the licensee.

Supt. Salt opposed the renewal, and said his objections were that the license was not required, that the house was of a disorderly character, and on November 24, 1902, *Henry Wood* was convicted for permitting drunkenness and fined £3 and costs, and for selling liquor to a drunken person was ordered to pay the costs. The premises were in a dilapidated state, but since the notice was served some repairs had been done, so that objection was probably removed. He had other evidence to call as to the second ground of objection.

PC Lockley was then called, and gave evidence that on Oct. 18 he saw a man going out of the house drunk and using bad language. The man, whose name was John Turner, was summoned on November 10 and fined 10s and costs.

Cross-examined: He did not see where the man got his drink.

Mr. Jackson, in addressing the Bench, pointed out that for 15 years the house had held an excellent character, and there had been no complainant. With regard to the evidence as to disorderly character, he almost wondered at the police giving evidence they had. Possibly the explanation was that the man had no refreshment at the house, but had been turned out by the landlord. They might presume that was the case. About £200 had been spent on the premises. *McCLean* was a bona-fide tenant, and had paid £140 to go into the house, and he thought that would be a guarantee that the licensee would conduct the house properly. He thought that the house had a very good record. and he asked the Bench to renew the license.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1904

“Application was made, on Monday, at Rushall, for a temporary transfer of authority, in respect of the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, from *John Rae McClean* to *John Wesley*. The matter was adjourned for inquiries to be made.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/10/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *John Wesley*, TRAVELLERS REST INN, Walsall Wood, was elected to fill the vacant seat on the Executive Committee.”

Lichfield Mercury 14/2/1908

“The annual Licensing session for the division of Rushall were held on Monday.....

Application was made for the TRAVELLERS REST, for sanction to certain alterations, and it was stated these would lead to better supervision of the smoke-room and snug. Application refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1910

“There was a full Bench of Magistrates present at the Licensing Sessions for the Rushall Division, held on Tuesday, at the Rushall Police Court.....

The first objection heard was that of the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, the owner of which is Mr. Robert Henry Walker Ball, and the licensee Mr. *John Wesley*. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared on their behalf.

Superintendent Salt, in his evidence, said that the house was ‘tied’ for beer and spirits, but was free for wines and bottled goods. The licensee was a quarterly tenant. There had been two transfers in the last ten years, and no convictions during the last five years. He considered that house was an insanitary one, especially the yard and stabling; there was no accommodation for visitors. The ceilings were low, and the accommodation for the licensee was sparse. There were three more houses within 500 yards. Redundancy was the principle objection to the renewal.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jackson as to why the house was objected to in preference to any other, the Superintendent said that he only acted on instructions. He admitted that there were no visitors at Walsall Wood, so that accommodation was not wanted. It was a house of great convenience to canal boatmen, who stabled their horses there at night, and was the only house in the district that had such convenience. Between Shelfield and Shire Oak there were only seven houses on the main road, and this house was used largely as a house of call by market gardeners.

Mr. H. H. Jackson addressing the Bench, urged that the house was badly needed. It was of great convenience to boatmen, as many as eight or ten horses being stabled there every night; it was also used largely by market gardeners, there being good space in front of the house for carts. The tenant had been there six years, and paid £50 a year rent, besides the rates, taxes, and license duties. That spoke for itself as to the house being a profitable one. The takings averaging £25 10s 6d per week. If refused the compensation would work out very large. Redundancy was the matter of complaint, and yet under any circumstances there could not be any house better, and they said that there were none as good. The house had been picked out, which he thought was unfair, as there was nothing against it. He also had a letter from the Dock, Wharf, and Riverside and General Workers’ Union of Great Britain and Ireland stating that the house was of great convenience to boatmen, and he also put in a memorial signed by about 140 people – market gardeners, boatmen, and other customers – stating that the house was of great convenience to them. If there was any house the license of which should be renewed in the whole of Walsall Wood, it was the house in question.

Mr. H. E. Farmer (architect) gave evidence as to the house, and said it was well kept, and had recently been painted and papered. The living accommodation was quite good, and apart from the house, which he thought was a great advantage.

The licensee (Mr. *John Wesley*) also gave evidence as to the trade of the house and its accommodation, and in answer to Superintendent Salt, said the supervision was perfect. In reply to the Bench witness said he sold more beer than spirits.

After a short adjournment the Bench decided to renew the license.”

Lichfield Mercury 18/11/1910

“Messrs. Gray and Walker (in conjunction with Messrs. Hutton, Thompson and Colbourne) held an important sale of licensed property, forming the estate of the late Mr. R. H. W. Ball, of Lichfield, at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, last week. A fully licensed freehold house called the TRAVELLERS REST, let to Mr. *John Wesley*, with a cottage adjoining, was also sold to the Lichfield Brewery Company, for £1,500.”

It boasted “Lichfield Ales, Wines & Spirits” on the wall. [c.1911]

1911 Census

Lichfield Road

- [1] *John Wesley* (51), innkeeper, born Bentley Farm, Bentley, Staffordshire;
- [2] S. A. Wesley (46), wife, married 28 years, born Gloscote, near Tamworth;
- [3] Mollie Wesley (19), daughter, assisting in business, born Chasetown;
- [4] Donia Wesley (16), daughter, assisting in business, born Chasetown;
- [5] May Wesley (15), daughter, assisting in business, born Chasetown;
- [6] Jack Wesley (14), son, school, born Chasetown;
- [7] Lizzie Wesley (9), daughter, school, born Chasetown;
- [8] Nellie Wesley (8), daughter, school, born Chasetown;
- [9] Fred Appleby (19), pianist and general servant, born Walsall;
- [10] Lottie Cresswell (16), house maid, born Walsall Wood;
- [11] Jack Pinchers (29), visitor, born Walsall Wood;

Lichfield Mercury 26/7/1912

“*John Wesley*, licensee of the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Walsall Wood, was charged with being drunk in charge of a pony and trap in Bird Street, Lichfield, the previous day. Mr. G. Birch, Lichfield appeared for the defendant.

Pc G. Bailey said that about 6-30pm he was in company with Pc Eley, by the Clock Tower, in Bird Street, when he saw defendant with two other men driving by him in a trap. Witness started to follow the trap, and in turning the corner into Sandford Street, he saw the trap swerve across the road into the post by Mr. Brown’s office, and knocking down a man named Collins, who was standing talking to two other men. The pony went down on its knees, and threw the defendant out of the trap. When witness arrived on the scene the defendant had just got into the trap again. Pc Eley asked him to get out, which he did after a little delay, and he was taken to the police station.

Cross-examined by Mr. Birch, witness said that the trap went right to the far side of the road and on to the pavement, instead of keeping to the left side.

Pc Eley gave corroborative evidence.

James Collins, 40, Townfields, said that he was standing on the corner of Sandford Street, about 6-15pm on the date mentioned.

He was with his back towards Bird Street, conversing with two men, when suddenly he received a violent blow in the shoulder which knocked him down causing an injury to his head. He was taken to the Nursing Home, and his injuries were attended to. He afterwards found that it was the pony’s head which struck him.

John Mallarney, labourer, 58, Sandford Street, one of the men to whom the last witness was talking spoke to seeing the last witness knocked down.

Ps Jones said that he saw the defendant brought to the Police Station in a drunken condition. Defendant asked to see a doctor, and one was fetched. Defendant was not satisfied, and a second doctor was secured.

Mr. Birch, for the defence, submitted that the charge had not been made out. The corner of Sandford Street was a very difficult one to get round, and when his client was thrown out, it caused him to be in a very dazed condition when he was taken to the Police station, and probably the last witness thought he was drunk.

Frederic Appleby, pianist, the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Walsall Wood, was called for the defence and stated that he was with the defendant in the trap. They had put the pony and trap up at the George the Fourth Inn, and started home about 6-30pm. When they got to the corner of Sandford Street the pony became frightened at the men standing at the corner. He was quite sure that it was an accident that the defendant was thrown out, as in his opinion defendant was quite capable of driving. In reply to questions by Superintendent Oakden as to defendant’s condition witness said that in his opinion the defendant was not sober, and he was not drunk. He would be a about ‘half and half.’

A fine of 10s and 19s 3d costs was imposed.”

AND

“Frederick Appleby, TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, was summoned for riding a bicycle on the footpath in Ogle Lane, Brownhill, on June 29th. Pc Oaks proved the case. Defendant said he rode on the path as the road was rather rough, and he was afraid of getting a puncture. He was ordered to pay costs, 6s.”

Lichfield Mercury 14/3/1913

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Rushall Division took place on Monday, when Sir E. T. Holden presided over a full Bench.

Mr. Jackson also applied for the renewal of the license of the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Walsall Wood, for the Lichfield Brewery Company, and stated that the ground for opposition was that the tenant, *John Wesley*, had been fined at Lichfield for being drunk in charge of a horse and trap. Mr. Jackson said *Wesley* had been a license-holder for nine years, and previously kept the Queen’s Hotel, at Chasetown, for eight years, so that it was the first complaint against him for 17 years. As a matter of fact, the offence was not against the tenor of his license, and he urged that it would be a distinct hardship to penalise the licensee for a slip which

had nothing to do with the management of the house.
The license was renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/8/1913

“Mr. *John Wesley*, host of the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, gave his customers an annual outing on Sunday. Upwards of 45 left Walsall Wood in brakes at 2.45pm, and an enjoyable ride was taken through Shenstone and Little Hay, returning via Lichfield.”

Lichfield Mercury 7/11/1913 - Advert

“TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood (Adjoining Tram Terminus).

Winterson & Sons have received instructions to Sell by Auction, on Wednesday Next, November 12th, a quantity of Household Furniture, comprising Oak Corner Cupboard, Oak Chest, Inlaid Mahogany 8-day Grandfather Clock, Tables Chairs, Chests of Drawers, Toilet Tables, Oak-Grained Housekeeper’s Cupboard, Sofa, 3 Bar Tables, Mahogany Sideboard, Sundry Crockery, and Effects.

Sale at 2-15. Catalogues from the Auctioneer.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/2/1927

“The licensing Sessions for Rushall....

It was stated that the following licenses were to be opposed on the ground of redundancy.....

TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood.....

Sir Reginald Coventry, K.C., and Mr. A. J. Long supported an application by Mitchell and Butlers, Ltd, for the removal of the TRAVELLERS REST license from Walsall Wood to the corner of College Road and Hawthorn Road, Perry Common, a district where the Birmingham Corporation are building 1,350 houses. Mr. H. Wilson opposed for the Holt Brewery Company, the owners of the Golden Cross, and Mr. Norman Carr, the Rev. W. W. Cotton, and others.

It was stated that the new house proposed by Mitchell and Butlers would have a bowling green and spacious kitchen arrangements.

The Bench refused the application.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1927

“At the Rushall Licensing Sessions, on Tuesday.....

Objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses.....

On the ground of redundancy.....

TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/11/1935

“A licensee bearing the honoured name of *John Wesley*, who held the license of the TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, for over 30 years, has just died. He formerly held the license of the Queens Hotel, Chasetown, for nine years. Deceased, who was interested in all forms of sport, leaves two sons and five daughters. The husbands of two of his daughters are licensed holders, Mrs. C. Nicholls, WHITE LION, Darlaston, and Mrs. J. Lowe, RED LION, Moxley. Mr. *Wesley*’s wife died some thirteen years ago.”

1939 Register

Walsall Road – TRAVELLERS REST INN

- [1] *Thomas E. Fenn*, date of birth 22/2/1899, licensee, married;
- [2] *Helen I. Fenn*, dob 8/7/1902, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *John Thomas Fenn*, dob 12/12/1928, at school, single;
- [4] *Lily (Leek) Yates*, dob 13/8/1916, housemaid, single:

Walsall Observer 2/8/1941 - Advert

“To Mr. and Mrs. Watkins, The Wheel Inn, Brownhills.

I apologise for the statements I have made about you both, and the near future I shall not repeat them again.

Ada Beddows, The Cottage, TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood. July 25, 1941.”

Walsall Observer 28/11/1942 - Deaths

“Barnes. In loving memory of our devoted sister, May (formerly *Wesley*), TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood, who died at her home, Mansfield, Nov. 18, 1942.”

Walsall Observer 12/12/1942 - In Memoriam

“In treasured memory of our dear mother, Sarah Ann *Wesley* of TRAVELLERS REST INN, Walsall Wood, who died Dec. 11, 1922.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
TRAVELLERS REST, Walsall Wood. £2 1s 6d.”

Demolished

TURF TAVERN

13, Wolverhampton Road, (99, The Green), Short Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Enoch Bickley, Green, Bloxwich
William Bickley
William Wilkes
Mary Wilkes [1901]
Frank Wilkes
Thomas and Matthew Wilkes [1907]
Frank and Joseph Wilkes [1925]
Mrs. Doris Hiscott-Wilkes [1992]

LICENSEES

Enoch Bickley [1865] – [1868]
William Bickley [1868] – [1878];
William Wilkes [1881];
Mrs. Mary Wilkes [1888] – **1904**);
Frank Wilkes Snr. (**1904 – 1925**);
Frank Wilkes Jnr. (**1925 – 1985**);
Doris and Zena Hiscott-Wilkes [2001] – [2003]
Doris Hiscott-Wilkes [2006] – [2007]
Zena Hiscott-Wilkes [2014]

NOTES

99, The Green [1871]
13, Wolverhampton Road [1881], [1891], [1901], [1939], [1940]

It was known locally as “Tinky’s”.

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a brewery at the rear.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/2/1865

“Young Lawrence (alias Lampy) of Bloxwich will fight Sam Taylor at catch weight, for £5 or £10 a side, and will meet him on Monday at *E. Bickley*’s, TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich, to make a match.”

Walsall Free Press 3/2/1866

“*Enoch Bickley*, TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich, pleaded guilty to having permitted beer to be consumed on his premises at half-past eleven on the night of the 27th ult, and was sentenced to pay a fine of 5s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 27/10/1866 - Advert

“Sale At The TURF TAVERN INN, Bloxwich.

To Be Sold By Auction, by H. Farrington, on the premises as above, on Monday, November 5th, 1866, Household Furniture and Effects, comprising 4-post and French bedsteads, palliasses, painted dressing chest, cane seat chairs, painted wardrobe, mahogany loo table, 2-leaf mahogany table, mahogany chiffoneer, six mahogany chairs and two elbow chairs, wrought iron Furnace and other effects, removed for convenience of Sale to the above Inn.

Sale to commence at Two o’clock in the Afternoon, conditions as usual.”

Walsall Free Press 8/2/1868

“*Enoch Bickley*, the TURF TAVERN (beerhouse), was charged with having, on the 27th ultimo, had his house open during prohibited hours.

Police-constable Acton said that at twenty minutes past eleven on the night in question he visited the house and found 20 men in the tap-room, and several jugs and glasses with liquor in them. The landlord's son told him that they had had a housewarming supper, and that he had been to Walsall and seen Mr. Cater, who said it would be all right for an hour or so if the company were orderly.

The landlord's son was called for the defence, and said that it was only fifteen minutes past eleven, and that he was trying to get the men out. No ale was filled after eleven o'clock, and the officer after leaving, went into a public house and had some drink. On being questioned upon this latter point by the bench, witness said he had been told that the officer had gone to another public house to drink.

The Bench cautioned the witness against hearsay evidence, and told him that if had any charge to make against the officer, he must make it in writing, and it would be investigated by the Watch Committee, and then sentenced the defendant to pay £1 and costs. The Chief of police said that Acton, who had been in the force several years, and wore a good conduct stripe, was one of the steadiest men in the force."

William Bickley, carpenter and beer retailer, Short Heath. [1868]

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

"Walsall Annual Licensing Day, Wednesday applications for new licenses for the sale of spirits.....

Mr. Glover applied, on behalf of *William Bickley*, landlord of the TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich, and, in his remarks, said his client had been refused his license because of the proximity of his house to the SPOTTED COW.

Mr. Brewer: How far is it from the cow's father? (Laughter.)

Mr. Glover: The Bull, you mean. Well, I can't say; but that is only the head of the cow's father, for it is merely the BULLS HEAD.

The Mayor announced that the Bench had decided not to grant any new licenses this year."

William Bickley was also a carpenter. [1871]

1871 Census

99 The Green – TURF TAVERN

- [1] *William Bickley* (35), carpenter and publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Elizabeth Bickley (32), wife, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [3] Mary Ann Bickley (8), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Elizabeth Bickley (4), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Ann Maria Bickley (2), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Martha Pritchard (18), general servant, born Bromley, Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

"Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

Mr. Gillespie (of the firm of Messrs. Wilkinson and Gillespie) applied for a victualling licence for *William Bickley*, of the TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich.....

The magistrates retired, and on their return into court stated that the licensing justices would visit the houses of *William Bickley* and would give their decision at the Adjourned Licensing Session."

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1876

"The annual licensing session took place at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The new applications were proceeded with as follows.....

William Bickley, beerhouse-keeper, Bloxwich, for a victuallers' license, supported by Mr. Gillespie (of the firm Messes. Wilkinson and Gillespie), and opposed by Mr. Glover for the owners of other houses, and Mr. Chidley (from the offices of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) for the Temperance Society. The last named gentleman opposed in all subsequent cases on behalf of the society. Refused."

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1877

"The annual licensing session for the borough of Walsall took place yesterday, at the Guildhall.....

The applicant's for full licenses..... *W. Bickley*, TURF TAVERN beerhouse, Bloxwich, supported by Mr. Gillespie (of the firm of Messrs. Wilkinson and Gillespie), and opposed by Mr. A. Baker, on behalf of William Plant of the SPOTTED COW INN. Refused."

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/8/1878

"The annual licensing session for the borough was held yesterday.....

William Bickley, the TURF TAVERN, The Green, Bloxwich, applied for a victuallers' license for his beerhouse. Mr. Gillespie appeared for the applicant, and Mr. Baker opposed on behalf of the landlord of the SPOTTED COW. Refused."

A wine license was granted pre 1881.

1881 Census

13, Wolverhampton Road – TURF TAVERN

- [1] *William Wilkes* (52), publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary Wilkes* (47), wife, born Wyrley;
- [3] *Ada Wilkes* (24), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Thomas W. Wilkes* (21), son, locksmith, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Mathew Wilkes* (20), son, locksmith, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Martha Wilkes* (17), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Frank Wilkes* (16), son, horse dealer, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Annie M. Wilkes* (13), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [9] *Mary Wilkes* (11), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [10] *Leah Wilkes* (7), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [11] *Charlotte Dunn* (18), general servant, born Short Heath, Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/10/1888

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, Frank Wilkes (24), was brought up in custody charged with having done wilful damage to the amount of £12 10s, at the house of his mother, the TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich, who in her evidence said that although the damage was nominally put at £12 10s it really was very much more. The evidence showed that a few months since the defendant’s wife left him, and his mother allowed him to come to live with her. His behaviour there was anything but good, and his mother had to take out against him a summons for threats and wilful damage, which was served on Monday morning. His mother afterwards kept out of his way, fearing him; and in the evening she was in a neighbour’s house, when he began to abuse his brother and a man named Thomas Jevons, who had been in the house since Saturday for the protection of the mother, and at last struck Jevons, who knocked him down. He managed to possess himself of the poker as he lay on the floor, but it was taken from him, and Jevons got him on his legs and forced him to the front door. Two women being in the way, however, he did not get him into the street, but put him into one of the rooms, and shut the door upon him. There he took up another poker, and beginning with the portraits of his deceased father and his mother, smashed thirteen pictures, two plate-glass doors, various articles of furniture, and other things, not desisting from his mad work of destruction until a policeman arrived.

He was remanded until tomorrow, bail being refused, some other charges arising out of the same row also standing over.”

Lichfield Mercury 2/11/1888

“At the Walsall Guildhall, Frank Wilkes (24) was brought up on remand with having destroyed portraits and other things, the property of his mother, *Mary Wilkes*.

Mr. Gillespie appeared on his behalf, and asked that the case might be adjourned for a week, and the prisoner liberated on his recognisances with a view to his going abroad at once, in accordance with an arrangement made by his family.

After some discussion the prisoner was bound over in his own recognizance in £50 to appear today, the clerk telling him that it was open to the magistrates to estreat the recognisances if they thought fit, but he did not suppose they would do so as long as defendant kept out of the country.”

1891 Census

13, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Mary Wilkes* (56), widow, born Wyrley;
 - [2] *Matthew Wilkes* (29), son, lock maker, born, Birmingham;
 - [3] *Annie M. Wilkes* (23), daughter, born Bloxwich;
 - [4] *Mary Wilkes* (20), daughter, school teacher, born Bloxwich;
 - [5] *Leah Wilkes* (16), daughter, born Bloxwich;
 - [6] *Sarah Wood* (22), servant, born Birkenhead;
 - [7] *Sarah Stokes* (29), servant, born Bloxwich:
- [No occupation is given for *Mary Wilkes*.]

Walsall Advertiser 10/8/1895

“At 9.15 on Wednesday morning information was brought to the Bloxwich Police Station, by Alfred Taylor, of Bell Lane, that a rick belonging to Mrs. *Mary Wilkes*, of the TURF TAVERN, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, and situated in a field in Mill Lane, had been set on fire by a little lad about the age of eight years. Three officers proceeded to the scene of the fire, and with the aid of a hand-pump extinguished the flames. The damage was estimated about £7, but the rick was not insured.”

Mrs. *Mary Wilkes*, beer retailer, Wolverhampton Road. [1896], [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1899

“Walsall County Court.

There was a case down for hearing in which John Jordan, baker, of Park Road, Bloxwich, sought possession of certain property now held by *Mary Wilkes*, widow, of the TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich. The property includes about 500 square yards of land, upon which are two dwelling-houses, of the annual value of £28 12s. Plaintiff also claimed £32 9s for mesne profits on the said premises from the 1st November, 1897, since which date he claimed to have been entitled to possession.

Mr. Baker, who appeared for the defendant, now stated that the plaintiff had discontinued his action. On behalf of his client he asked for costs. These were granted, on the higher scale.”

Walsall Observer 6/1/1900

“The employees of the Mill Lane Works, Bloxwich, partook of their usual free supper, which took place on Friday evening, the 29th ult, at the TURF TAVERN, Wolverhampton Road.....”

1901 Census

13, Wolverhampton Road – TURF TAVERN INN

- [1] *Mary Wilkes* (66), widow, victualler, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [2] Leah J. Wilkes (26), daughter, domestic help, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Lizzie Parsons (22), general servant, born Wyrley, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Mary Wilkes, TURF TAVERN.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

Mr. Loxton read a list of decisions (some of which had been given the previous day), and stated that in the case of some of the renewals the magistrates were of opinion that they were not required, but as they were taken out prior to 1869 they had been granted in order to give the owners an opportunity of considering their position and making any suggestions they thought necessary. The decisions included the following.....

TURF TAVERN Bloxwich, renewed on an undertaking to build gates.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/7/1904

“Tuesday. The magistrates granted the following applications for transfers of licences.....

TURF TAVERN, The Green, Bloxwich, J. Wootton and S. Wootton (executors of *Mary Wilkes*) to *Frank Wilkes*.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/10/1906

“Sarah Jones (55), Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, on Saturday.

Police-sergeant Cattermole stated that he was called to the TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich, when he found the landlord trying to eject the prisoner, who was very drunk and disorderly.

The Chief Constable stated that prisoner was put on the ‘black list’ in September, 1903, but since had served eight separate months’ imprisonment.

Mr. Crump: You think the black list a failure? – The Chief Constable: As far as this woman is concerned, it is. One months’ hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/8/1907

“*Frank Wilkes*, Bloxwich, was summoned for persistent cruelty to his wife, Agnes Mary *Wilkes*, 473, Leamore.

Mr. R. A. Wilcock (Wolverhampton) applied for an adjournment on the grounds that the summons was only served on Wednesday and there had not been sufficient time to get up a defence.

Mr. Carl Douglas, who appeared to prosecute, opposed the application, as complainant had had twenty years unhappiness, and the wife would be separated from the children during the adjournment.

Ultimately, however, the case was adjourned for fourteen days, by arrangement.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/10/1909

“The annual supper given by the host of the TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich, Mr. *Frank Wilkes*, was held at the hostelry on Thursday evening, when some fifty guests did ample justice to the good things set before them. A musical evening was contributed during the evening and much enjoyed, the artistes being Messrs. W. Lounds, C. Bonser, F. Painter, T. Hykin, and others. A vote of thanks to the chairman and host and hostess, followed by the singing of the National Anthem, brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.”

1911 Census

13, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Frank Wilkes* (46), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Agnes Mary Wilkes (43), wife, married 23 years, born Coven, Staffordshire;
- [3] Leah Wilkes (20), daughter, helps in business, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Frederick Wilkes (16), son, school, helps in business, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Frank Wilkes* (16), son, school, helps in business, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Ernest Wilkes (13), son, school, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Joseph Wilkes (10), son, school, born Bloxwich;

[8] Leo Wilkes (8), son, school, born Bloxwich:

Frank Wilkes, beer retailer, 13, Wolverhampton Road. [1912]

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich, 2½d.”

Walsall Observer 28/11/1914

“The meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held at the CROWN INN, Lower Hall Lane.....
New members..... *Frank Wilkes*, TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich. £3 0s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 13/12/1924

“.....The desirability of there being two licensees for one house was questioned upon an application being made by Mr. J. D. Evans for the transfer of the license of the TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich, from the name of the late *Frank Wilkes* to his executors, *Frank Wilkes*, jun, and Joseph Wilkes.
‘I know licenses have been granted to two persons’. Remarked the Magistrates’ Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton), ‘but it is preferred that there should be one holder.’
Mr. Evans replied that he had had no opportunity of discussing which of the two executors should hold the license, and the Bench granted a temporary transfer, pending a decision on the point.....”

Walsall Observer 5/6/1926

“New Hope in Coal Situation.
How Unemployment and Relief Have Increased During the Fifth Week of Stoppage.....
Soup kitchens were yesterday opened by the Walsall Miners’ Distress Committee in the Bloxwich and Leamore districts for the feeding of about 2,000 members of miners’ families. The stations were – BLUE PIG INN (1,300 fed), TURF TAVERN (160), Field Street School (175), BLACK HORSE, Leamore (250), Blakenall Church Schools (250), and the NAGS HEAD, Little Bloxwich (150). Although the committee are short of funds, they are taking the risk of carrying on the feeding for at least a week, and will continue if more money is forthcoming. It is estimated that the week’s effort will cost about £100. Seventeen gallons of milk, which have been given daily by Mr. Sid Field, of Blue Lane, have also been distributed this week.”

1939 Register

13, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Frank Wilkes*, date of birth 30/10/1894, beerhouse keeper, married;
- [2] Emily Wilkes, dob 10/5/1894, unpaid domestic duties and bar hand, married;
- [3] Agnes (Wilkes) Clews, dob 17/10/1923, shorthand typist, single;
- [4] *Doris (Wilkes) Hiscott*, dob 12/8/1925, at school, single;
- [5] Frank Wilkes, dob 3/9/1933, at school, single:

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
TURF TAVERN, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich. £1 14s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 17/6/1944 - Marriages

“On June 10, 1944, at St. Peter’s R.C. Church, Bloxwich, Father Hanrahan officiating, Albert Victor, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Clews, of Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich, to Agnes Sarah, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *Wilkes*, of the TURF TAVERN, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich.”

Birmingham Mail 10/2/1945 - Engagements

“The engagement is announced between Ronald, only son of Capt. H. J. and Mrs. Hiscott, Turk’s Head, Birmingham, and Doris, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *F. Wilkes*, TURF TAVERN, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Observer 21/7/1945

“How he kept observation through a service hatch at the TURF TAVERN, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, and heard bets being made on horse and dog races, was told by a police-constable at Walsall Magistrates Court on Monday, when Charles Heeley (30), a miner, of 45, Keats Road, was summoned for using the TURF TAVERN for the purposes of betting with persons resorting there-”

to between May 19th and June 15th. *Frank Wilkes*, the licensee of the TURF TAVERN, was summoned for permitting his premises to be used for betting and his brother *Joe Wilkes*, who shared the management of the tavern with him, was summoned for aiding and abetting him in the commission of the offence. Mr. Frank Cooper prosecuted, and Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson represented the brothers *Wilkes* who pleaded not guilty, and also appeared for Heeley who pleaded guilty.

Police-constable Storer said that at 1.35 on Saturday, May 19th he kept observation in the passage of the TURF TAVERN, where he was able to see through a service hatch into the bar and two smoke-rooms. While *Joe Wilkes* was serving at the bar he saw Heeley receive slips of paper from several customers. Later a man handed a slip of paper and some money to Heeley, who asked him what it was. The man replied, 'A bob each way on Oatflake, and a bob each way on 'The Shah'.' Heeley then went into the front smoke-room where *Frank Wilkes* was sitting and received slips of paper and money from two customers. While *Wilkes* was still in the smoke-room he heard a man say, 'Two bob each way,' and Heeley replied, 'All right.' Witness was of the opinion that both brothers were aware that Heeley was taking bets.

Continuing, witness said he also kept observation in the passage on June 2, Friday June 8, Saturday June 9, and Saturday June 16. On one occasion he heard *Joe Wilkes* say to Heeley: 'There's one over there for you Charlie.' Heeley went over to a group of men and received slips of paper from several of them. Witness also heard the names of horses and dogs mentioned and on Saturday 9 he himself placed a bet with Heeley in the presence of *Joe Wilkes*. He handed Heeley a pound note and received 16s change. On no occasion did Heeley purchase or consume any drink on the premises.

Questioned by Mr. Hodgkinson police-constable Storer said he always went to the TURF TAVERN in a lorry, and made his notes in the cab of the lorry about ten minutes after he left the public house.

Police-constable Banks, who accompanied police-constable Storer on June 9th corroborated his evidence, although, when questioned by Mr. Hodgkinson, said he believed that Storer handed Heeley some coins when he placed the bet. They had made notes in conjunction with each other.

During the lunch adjournment the justices made an inspection of the TURF TAVERN, as there was some doubt as to whether it was possible to get a full view of the bar through the service hatch.

Inspector Brumhill said that on Saturday June 16th he went to the TURF TAVERN with Temporary Sergeant Mason and other officers, and made a thorough search of the premises. Heeley was standing in the passage holding a sporting paper and in his possession were found 18 betting slips relating to horses running at Ascot and Pontefract and dogs running at Wolverhampton, 7 paying-out slips, two copies of the '*Sporting Chronicle*,' 24 sweep letter cards, and £17 7s 3d. The other people on the premises were searched, but nothing relating to betting was found. *Joe Wilkes* told witness that he was in partnership with his brother and although the license was in *Frank's* name they shared the management of the business, and both lived on the premises. When told why the house was being searched *Joe* replied: 'I have not seen any bets being taken. If I had seen I should certainly have stopped it.' *Frank* replied: 'I have no explanation to give, I have seen no betting going on, and I did not know betting was going on.'

Frank Wilkes said that the license of the TURF TAVERN had been owned by his family for over 60 years and he himself had held it for 20 years. He had never seen betting going on. The house had always been very strictly supervised and no games of any kind were permitted. Heeley was a fairly regular customer, but he did not know he was interested in betting.

Mr. Cooper: Do you seriously mean to tell the Bench that you did not know Heeley was taking bets for an office only one minute's walk from your premises. – *Wilkes*: No, I did not know.

Joe Wilkes also declared that he had never seen bets being taken, 'If I had noticed anyone taking bets, I should certainly turn him out,' he said. He suggested that police-constable Storer's evidence was entirely untrue. After the premises were searched Heeley told him that he had taken bets in the street although he and never taken any on the premises.

Gilbert Wilkes of 'Adelaide,' Stafford Road, Bloxwich, and Thomas Walsh of 157, Field Street, who were regular customers of the TURF TAVERN stated that they had never seen any betting going on.

After a short retirement the magistrates (Messrs. A. E. Hurst, S. A. Eglington, and Mrs. G. V. Walters) found all the defendants guilty. They fined the brothers £10 each and ordered them to pay a total of £__ 2s 6d costs. Heeley was fined £10 and was allowed 28 days in which to pay it."

A full license was granted on 2nd February 1961.

Frank Wilkes Jnr. died in 1985.

1986 Probate

"*Frank Wilkes* of TURF TAVERN, Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, Walsall, died 22 February 1985. Probate, Birmingham, 6 February, £129,134."

It was Grade II listed in 1996.

Zena Hiscott-Wilkes was the daughter of *Doris*.

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

It was Walsall CAMRA Pub of the Year 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003

[2017]

TURKS HEAD

29, Digbeth, (Adams Row), WALSALL

OWNERS

Mary Payne, Wesley Rocks, Cheddleton, Staffordshire
Bent's Brewery, Liverpool
J. W. Fletcher, wine merchant, Walsall (leased 1904)
Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd.
Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

Robert Middlemore [1813] – [1822]
Francis Middlemore [1828]
Mrs. Middlemore [] – **1831**);
George Forster (**1831** – [1834]
William Winter Lates [1841]
G Shotton (**1843** – [1844]
James Brown [1845]
Robert Newman [1849] – [1851]
William Payne [1852] – **1857**);
John Jones (**1857** – [1858]
Douglas [1858]
Amos Tomes [c.1860]
Ann Tomes [1861]
John Brown [1861] – [1862]
Wilson [1864]
John Smitheman [1864] – [1865]
Sarah E Taylor [1871]
Richard Austin [1872];
Thomas Lawley [1872];
John Dace [1881] – **1887**);
George Sedgwick (**1887** – **189**_);
Walter James Bird [1891] (**189**_ – **1907**);
James Henry Hobson (**1907**);
Harry Ernest Ballinger (**1907** – **1909**);
Frank Clarke (**1909** – **1915**);
George Barrett Crawford (**1915** – **1921**);
Thomas Moran [1921] ?
Edward Lloyd (**1921** – **1932**);
Ralph Davis (**1932**);
George Henry Johnson (**1932** – **1933**);
William Henry Nicholls (**1933** – **1939**);
James Watson (**1939** – **1941**);
William Bayliss (**1941** – **1944**);
Wilfred Stokes (**1944** – **1948**);
Frank Harold Newell (**1948** – **1950**);
George Frederick Whitten (**1950** – **1951**);
Clifford Bullers (**1951** – **1953**);
Charles Green (**1953** – **1958**);
Patrick Cavanagh (**1958** – **1960**);
Joseph Sidney Kendrick (**1960** – **1961**):

NOTES

It was situated opposite to the TALBOT.

It also had an entrance in Lower Hall Lane.

OLD TURKS HEAD [1880]

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/3/1806

“.....At Two Guineas and a Crown each Mare. The high bred horse George, the property of James Preston He will be at..... the TURKS HEAD, Digbeth, Walsall, every Tuesday.....

During the season he will always attend if not prevented by sickness or lameness He is a sure foal-getter, and his Stock is very much approved of. The money will be collected at Midsummer next.”

Robert Middlemore, victualler, Digbeth. [1813]

‘The History and Directory of Walsall’ by Thomas Pearce 1813

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Lodges.....

Loyal Britons, No.4, held at TURKS HEAD, Digbeth, supposed number about 150, instituted 1809, surgeon Mr. Weaver, secretary Thomas Bache.”

AND

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Additional Friendly Societies, known by the name of Gift Societies.....

A Gift, or permanent fund, held at TURKS HEAD, Digbeth.”

A coach left from here to Birmingham every morning (Sunday excepted) at 9, and returned at 7. [1822]

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 27/11/1826 - Advert

“On Monday the 4th of December, 1826, a Grand Procession, to consist of the following united Lodges of Walsall, will take place to St. Matthew’s Church, in aid of the Fund for re-building and enlarging the Blue Coat and National School, viz. The Odd Fellows from the BULLS HEAD; Odd Fellows from the ROYAL OAK; Loyal Britons from the TURKS HEAD; the Grand Lodges of Queerfellows from the WATERING TROUGH; Loyal and Benevolent Fellows from the WATERLOO TAVERN; and Loyal Union Friendly Fellows from the SPREAD EAGLE; when the company of any visiting Brother belonging to any of the above Lodges, with their Friends will be esteemed. The Sermon by the Rev. Luke Booker, LLD and FRSL, Vicar of Dudley. In the course of the service, several pieces of Select Music from the works of Handel and Kent, will be performed by the Walsall Choir, with Assistants from Lichfield Cathedral. The Organ by Mr. Eyland. Divine Service will commence at eleven o’clock.

By direction of the Delegates of the above Orders.

Addison Richards, Secretary. Walsall, Nov 22, 1826.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/3/1827

“Patshull, the property of Mr. Henry Arthur, of Hednesford. This beautiful high-bred Horse, will cover this Season, at Cannock. Thorough-bred mares, 7 sovereigns; half-bred mares, two sovereigns, and five shillings the Groom He will be at the TURKS HEAD, Walsall, on Tuesdays.....”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 2/4/1827 - Died

“On Wednesday, Mr. *Middlemore*, of the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall.”

The Tally Ho coach to Birmingham left from here every morning at 9. [1828]

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1829 - Married

“Yesterday week, at Walsall, Mr. John Fairfield, of the BARLEY MOW, Church Street, to Ann Letitia, eldest daughter of the late Mr. *Robert Middlemore*, of the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/10/1830 - Married

“On the 16th instant, at Walsall, by the Rev. J. Baron, MA Vicar, Mr. Thomas Kirkpatrick, to Elizabeth, second daughter of the late Mr. *Middlemore*, of the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1831

“The Coronation. The bells commenced ringing at a very early hour, and in the more advanced part of the day the members of the different lodges assembled in their respective rooms preparatory to joining in procession, in honour of the occasion.....

The following is a list of the Lodges which formed the procession, and the house at which they are held. They had seven banners waving, and were accompanied by an excellent band.

Senior Lodge of Odd Fellows – BULLS HEAD.

Grand Lodge of Modern Druids – BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD.

Odd Fellows – ROYAL OAK.

Queer Fellows – WATERING TROUGH.

Two Lodges from the WATERLOO TAVERN.

Loyal Union Fellows – SPREAD EAGLE.

Fellows of Support – TURKS HEAD.

Social Fellows – TALBOT INN.

True Hearted Fellows – MALT SHOVEL.

The procession extended in length to about a quarter of a mile. The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the attendance being more numerous.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/11/1831

“The Lodge of Loyal and Ancient Britons held their annual feast at the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall, on Monday last. An excellent dinner was provided on the occasion, and the utmost hilarity prevailed.”

George Forster = George Foster

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 25/4/1831 - Advert

“TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall, April 23, 1831.

Mr. *George Forster* respectfully informs his Friends and the Public, that he has entered upon the above respectable and old established Commercial and Travellers’ Inn situate in Digbeth, Walsall (late in the occupation of Mrs. *Middlemore*), and solicits a continuance of the favours for many years conferred on her; at the same time he begs to state, that he had made considerable improvements in the interior of the house and the stabling departments, and will use every exertion to give general satisfaction to his customers on reasonable terms.

NB. the House-warming is fixed for Wednesday the 4th day of May next, when the company of any Friend will be esteemed a favour.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/1/1833 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Premises In Walsall.

To Be Sold by Auction, By T. Bowen, on Tuesday, the 29th day of January instant, at the TURKS HEAD INN, in Walsall, in the County of Stafford, by direction of the Trustees named in the will of Mr. *Middlemore*, deceased, at five o’clock in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will then be produced.

All that old established and respectable Commercial Inn, the TURKS HEAD, situate in Digbeth, in Walsall aforesaid, and now in the occupation of *George Forster*, with a small House thereto adjoining fronting the public street, in the occupation of William Middlemore.

The Inn consists of excellent parlours, kitchen, bar, eight sleeping rooms, a capacious club room, and good cellaring, with a brew-house, a range of stables recently erected, and other outbuildings, with an entire yard.

The whole of the premises are in good condition, replete with conveniences, and desirably situated in one of the principal streets in the town for business.

A coach runs from the Inn twice a day to Birmingham and back.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. Marklew, Solicitor, or the Auctioneer, both of Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/5/1833

“During the night of Monday week the back kitchen belonging to the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall, in the occupation of Mr. *George Forster*, was entered by means of removing some glass from the window, and a large quantity of table linen and other articles stolen therefrom.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/7/1834

“On Monday last the members composing the Grand Lodge of Friendly Fellows of Support had their usual feast in their lodge-room at the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall. Conviviality and good humour characterized this meeting, and parties separated at a late hour.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 21/3/1836 - Advert

“Sale At The TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall, By Farrington and Son.

To be Sold by Auction, at the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall, on Tuesday the 29th day of March inst, at three o’clock in the afternoon – that handsome Waggon Stallion, Thunderbolt. He is a beautiful dark grey, rising three years old, stands upwards of 17 hands high, possessing immense power, with remarkably clear flat legs.

He was got by Mr. Kendrick’s grey horse out of a very powerful mare, and has proved himself a sure foal-getter.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/5/1836 - Died

“On Saturday last, after a long illness, aged 63, Mr. *George Forster*, of the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall.”

1841 Census

Adams Row

[1] *William Lates* (25), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Maria Lates* (20), born Staffordshire;

[3] *Ann Lates* (1), born Staffordshire;

[4] *Charles Lates* (11), born Staffordshire;

- [5] Eliza Wright (25), fs;
- [6] Betsy Wright (20), fs;
- [7] Andrew Poole (24), labourer, born Staffordshire;
- [8] George Redfern (30), commercial traveller;
- [9] Elizabeth Withers (13), NK, born Staffordshire:

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/6/1841 - Advert

“The TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall.

To be Disposed Of, the Lease (of which ten years are unexpired), Licences, and Possession of the above old and well-established Inn and Market House, situate in the Market-place, Walsall, having for many years done a great scope of business.

To Parties desirous of entering into the Public Business, such an opportunity seldom offers, as the purchaser will only be required to take to the necessary Fixtures and Stock in Trade, which is very low, and Brewing Utensils, which would not exceed £200. For further particulars apply to Mr. *Lates*, on the premises; or to Mr. H. Farrington, Appraiser, High-street, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/7/1841

“On Friday, the 9th instant, a party of about sixty-four gentlemen, in the Liberal interest, assembled at the house of Mr. *W. W. Lates*, the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall, in celebration of the return of Robert Scott, Esq. as MP for that borough.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/5/1843 - Advert

“That old-established Inn, known by the sign of the TURKS HEAD, Digbeth, is now to be Let, with immediate possession, together with the Licences, &c.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1843 - Advert

“*G. Shotton* begs to inform his numerous friends and the public, that he has taken that very old-established Commercial House, known by the sign of the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall, and respectfully solicits the patronage of those Gentlemen who formerly supported the house, having excellent Beds and plenty of good Stabling.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/7/1844 - Advert

“TURKS HEAD, Walsall.

G. Shotton begs to inform his friends and the public that his Housewarming Dinner will take place on Friday, July 26, when the company of any gentleman will be esteemed a favour. Tickets, 5s each.”

Thomas Thornloe, a carrier to Birmingham, left from here daily at half past 1. [1849]

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/3/1850 - Deaths

“On the 10th instant, at Everton, Liverpool, Arabella, relict of the late Mr. *George Forster*, formerly of the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall, aged 70 years.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/2/1851

“Thomas Green was committed to the house of correction for 21 days, as a vagrant. It appeared he had been begging on Saturday last, and was very abusive on many occasions when refused relief, and that he behaved so badly at the liquor shop of the TURKS HEAD INN, that Mrs. *Newman*, the landlady, was under the necessity of turning him out, when he shortly returned and knocked out one of the shop windows.”

1851 Census

Digbeth

- [1] *Robert Newman* (52), publican, born Colbey, Leicestershire;
- [2] Sarah Newman (55), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Sarah Ann Withers (22), niece, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah Blount (18), servant of all work, born Birmingham;
- [5] Thomas Holden (24), servant, labourer in stables, born Walsall;
- [6] Thomas Warren (33), visitor, painter, born Liverpool:

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/10/1851 - Advert

“Walsall. Sale at the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth.

H. Farrington respectfully announces that he is favoured with instructions from Mr. *Robert Newman*, who is leaving the above Inn, to Offer by Public Auction, on the premises, on Thursday and Friday next, October 23rd and 24th, all the clean and useful Household Furniture and effects, comprising excellent eight-day clock, bagatelle board, counter, with mahogany top; neat painted shelves, with eleven excellent spirit casks; handsome mahogany fountain, with ten brass taps; capital four pull beer machine, excellent copper and iron furnaces, pair of ale vats and piping, capital mash tub, new malt mill, well seasoned Brewing Utensils, about 300 gallons of Ale, a quantity of excellent Wines and Spirits, Hops, &c, and other effects; particulars of which appear in catalogues, to be had at the Office of the Auctioneer, Walsall.

Sale to commence each morning at ten.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/1/1852 - Marriages

“On Friday, the 2nd instant, at St. Matthew’s Church, Walsall, by the Rev. R. Hawes, curate, Mr. *William Payne*, of Brewood, to Mrs. *Middlemore*, of the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/6/1854

“Considerable sensation has been occasioned in Walsall by the discovery of the body of a child, whose death there is reason to believe has been caused by wilful violence; and the sensation has been increased by the apprehension of the supposed mother, on suspicion of being the perpetrator of the crime.

On the evening of Thursday, the 1st inst, during some cleansing operations, Mrs. *Payne*, the wife of the landlord of the TURKS HEAD public house, Digbeth, drew from out of the fireplace in a bedroom a quantity of rubbish which was partly up the chimney, and which proved to be the body of a full-timed perfect male child, that had not been born long before it expired, concealed in an apron, an old waistcoat, a piece of carpeting, and some straw. The body, which was in a state of advanced decomposition, had a piece of linen, apparently a garter, twisted very tightly twice round the neck, with a knot on the left side. From a post mortem examination, since made, it is alleged that the child was born alive, and that death resulted apparently from the tightened cord. After the shock of the discovery, Mrs. *Payne* recollected that about four months since – the time at which it is supposed the child was born – she had living with her a servant woman, who was evidently in the family-way, and who one morning left her service suddenly without assigning any valid reason for going. At that time the woman had been Mrs. *Payne*’s employ only about five weeks. She at first stated that her name was Heath, but afterwards confessed that it was Mary Ann Yates, and that she was the wife of a man who was the undergoing a term of transportation for burglary.....”

[Mary Ann Yates was charged on suspicion of being the murderess of the child; no evidence was offered and she was discharged.]

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 23/2/1857 - Advert

“TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by John Osbourn, on Thursday next, February 26, at six o’clock in the evening, the Licences, Goodwill, and Possession of that old-established well-known Commercial Inn, as above, situated in the centre of the Market.

The Stock and Fixtures to be taken at a valuation.

An opportunity like the present rarely occurs, as, by an active couple, an independence may be made in a few years.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/5/1857 - Notice

“Re *William Payne*’s Assignment, for the Benefit of his Creditors.

All Creditors having Claims against the estate of *William Payne*, late of the TURKS HEAD, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Victualler, who have not already executed the above deed of assignment, or assented thereto, are requested to execute the same or signify their assent thereto, and forward full particulars of such claims to me within fourteen days from the date hereof, otherwise they will be peremptorily excluded from all benefit arising therefrom, as a first and final dividend of the above estate will immediately afterwards be made and paid.

Dated this 12th day of May, 1857.

By order, William Thomas, Solicitor, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 25/7/1857

“*John Jones*, of the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, was charged with having his house open for the sale of drink at half-past twelve o’clock on Saturday night. Fined five shillings and costs.”

Birmingham Journal 3/4/1858 - Advert

“Valuable Opportunity for Breeding.

To Cover this Season, the property of Mr. Nix, Sutton, that celebrated Horse, Volunteer, the Winner of five Agricultural Prizes, and patronised by Lord Galway and other Noblemen, at Two Guineas each Mare and Five Shillings the Groom.....

Volunteer will be at the TURKS HEAD, Walsall on Tuesday.....

As a proof of the high estimation Volunteer stands in as a stock getter, he has travelled with good success six seasons in one circuit and is the sire of many first class hunters.”

Walsall Free Press 10/7/1858

“To be Let, a Cottage and the Stabling belonging to the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, Walsall.

For particulars apply to John Douglas, 27, Lichfield Street.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/8/1858

“On Wednesday Mr. Bennett Jnr, applied to the magistrates on behalf of Mr. *Douglas*, of the TURKS HEAD, for a certificate of license. In making his application Mr. Bennett said the outgoing tenant of the TURKS HEAD had refused to give up the license unless a certain amount was paid, and under these circumstances he considered the Bench might look upon this license as lost, and proceed accordingly, to give the ingoing tenant a certificate, which would entitle him to carry on the business till October next. Mr. Darwall, the magistrates’ clerk, said the license was not lost, and therefore the magistrates could not grant a certificate. The application was therefore refused.”

AND

Walsall Free Press 14/8/1858

“Mr. Barnett applied on behalf of Mr. *Douglas*, the present tenant of the TURKS HEAD Public-house, for a new license, and said last week he had applied to have a copy of the certificate endorsed by the Bench, but now applied under the 14th section of the 8th George IV, for a new license. In making the application, Mr. Barnett said the license for twelve months was £18, and for the four of which have yet to run of the current year, Mr. *Douglas* had offered four pounds to the out-going tenant. The money had been left at Mr. Darwall’s office, and intimation made to Mr. *Jones*. Mr. Shannon wished to know whether Mr. *Jones* was aware of the present application being made. Mr. Barnett having replied in the negative, Mr. Darwall said the question for the consideration of the Bench was whether the house was vacant. After some further conversation the case was adjourned till Monday, in order to allow Mr. *Jones* to be served with notice of the application.”

Walsall Free Press 31/12/859

“James Reynolds, of the military train, was charged with having, on the night of Tuesday last, assaulted PC Atkins. It appeared that the prisoner had gone into the TURKS HEAD public house, in Digbeth, and on being refused a drink which he called for, in consequence of the landlord considering him tipsy, he struck at the landlady, who called in PC Atkins, and requested him to eject the prisoner. On the officer attempting to remove him, he (Reynolds) assaulted him, and for so doing he was sentenced to pay a fine of 40s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for one month.”

Birmingham Journal 7/4/1860 - Advert

“TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, Walsall.

By R. L. Courtney. To be Let, and immediate possession may be had, of that well-known Commercial Inn, Market House, and Retail Liquor Shop, now doing a good fair trade. The House consists of Front Liquor Shop, Bar Parlour, back Parlour, large Kitchen, or Tap Room, Commercial Room, large Club Room, eight Bed Rooms, convenient Brewhouse, excellent Cellars, large Yard, with Gate Entrance from Digbeth and Hall Lane, four Stables, Cart house, Piggeries, and a small Dwelling House. The above presents an excellent opening for any energetic business man. It is disposed of solely on account of the present Proprietor being compelled to devote the whole of his time to another business.

Apply to R. L. Courtney, Auctioneer, High Street, West Bromwich, for further particulars.”

Walsall Free Press 14/4/1860 - Advert

“TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by H. Farrington, without reserve, under a Bill of Sale, on Monday the 23rd of April, 1860, all the valuable Liquor Shop Fittings, Household Furniture, Stock-in-Trade, and Effects at the above Inn, particulars of which will appear in catalogues, and in next week’s paper.”

London Gazette 30/4/1861

“*Amos Tomes*, late of Walsall, Staffordshire, out of employment. – In the Gaol of Stafford.”

London Gazette 11/6/1861

“*Amos Tomes*, late of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, in lodgings and out of employment, previously of the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, and likewise being occasionally a Draper’s Assistant, formerly of Walsall aforesaid, Beer-house Keeper and Licensed Brewer and Dealer in Tobacco, and occasionally a Draper’s Assistant.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/7/1861

“At the Stafford County Court on Tuesday, the following insolvents.....

Amos Tomes, licensed victualler, Walsall. Mr. Walker supported, and Mr. Hunt of the Oxford circuit, instructed by Mr. Barnett, appeared to oppose. This case had also been adjourned for the amendment of schedule. It was again adjourned for the production of a book of importance, which was missing.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/10/1861

“At the Police Court, on Monday, Elizabeth Blewitt and William Ruffles were charged with having uttered counterfeit coin. On Saturday night last the female prisoner went to The TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, asked for some drink, and tendered in payment a florin, which afterwards proved to be base. Mrs. *Brown*, the landlady, not suspecting anything, gave her the proper change, and ten minutes afterwards the prisoner again went to the same place, and called for some drink to which she was served by the husband of Mrs. *Brown*. This time she tendered a half-a-crown. On examination Mr. *Brown* discovered that the coin was not a good one, and he sent for the police. Mr. *Brown* told the prisoner that the half-a-crown was bad, and she said, ‘Is it? I’ll take it back to those who gave it to me.’ He kept the half-crown, and the prisoner went away, but came back in a few minutes afterwards, bringing a shilling, which also proved to be bad. In the meantime Detective Harrison and Police-constable Simmons arrived, and she told them she had the money from a house in Talbot Yard, where she would take them. She took them there, and they found the male prisoner in the house. Detective Harrison searched him, and found some good money in his pocket; but while he was being searched he was observed to throw something away, which, when picked up was found to be a base half-crown. They were taken into custody, and conveyed to the police-station. From subsequent inquiries made by the police it was ascertained that the male prisoner had on the same night passed a counterfeit shilling at the house of Mr. Cooke, RED LION INN, Park Street. They were both remanded till Thursday, for the purpose of communicating with the Mint authorities.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 14/12/1862

“T. Smith of the TURKS HEAD, Walsall, will match a lad, 17 years of age, to run any lad in England under 18, from 400 yards to

five miles, for £10 a side. An answer through *Bells Life* will be attended to.”

John Smitheman = John Smitherman

Walsall Free Press 13/2/1864 - Advert

“TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, Walsall.

John Smitherman begs most respectfully to inform the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood that he has taken the above Inn, and hopes by supplying the finest qualities of Ales, Wines, and Spirits, upon the most reasonable terms, and by strict attention to the comfort and convenience of his customers, to merit a fair share of patronage.

An Ordinary every Tuesday and Saturday, for the convenience of parties attending the Market.

Chops, Steaks, &c, on the Shortest Notice.

An Excellent American Bowling Alley.

Good Stabling.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1864

“Annual Licensing Session.....

On the application of Mr. Wilson, the license of the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, now closed, was entrusted to the owner, Mr. Payne, who was stated to have let the premises to a Mr. Austin.”

1871 Census

29, Digbeth

[1] *Sarah E. Taylor* (26), unmarried, manageress of Wine and Spirit Stores, born Belper, Derbyshire;

[2] Jane Hanacker (40), assistant at Wine and Spirit Stores, born Lichfield;

[3] Ann Bibb (22), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/11/1872

“*Thomas Lawley*, manager of the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, for Messrs. Fletcher, was charged with assaulting Henry Beard, tailor, Ablewell Street. Mr. Gillespie (of the firm of Messrs. Williamson and Gillespie) appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Dale (from the office of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis, and Lewis) for the defence.

The evidence in support of the charge was to the effect that on Monday night the complainant went into the defendant’s house with a friend named Henry Kates, and was ordered out, with a threat of being kicked out if he did not go. He went, but getting tired of waiting in the street for his companion, he put his head inside the door and called Kates, and at once the defendant ran at him, knocked him down, and beat and kicked him with great violence until he became unconscious.

Kates deposed that the defendant beat Beard’s head against the floor; and Mr. H. Hart, assistant to Dr. Pattie, deposed to the complainant’s head being cut at the back and over the left eye, in addition to being bruised all over. There were also severe bruises on the ribs and elsewhere.

The defence was that the complainant was disorderly, and that there was a regular fight in the attempt to get him out of the house. The defendant was sentenced to one month’s imprisonment, without the option of a fine.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 1/3/1876

“*William Clenton*, the landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE, Wolverhampton Street, was summoned for being disorderly and refusing to quit the TURKS HEAD, in Digbeth.

The landlady of the latter house said defendant wanted to have some drink after half-past ten (their usual closing time) and it was refused him. He then became violent and would not leave the house for some time.

Defendant was fined 10s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/9/1879 - Advert

“On View at the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, Walsall.

To be Sold, handsome full-plumed Preserved Peacock, in good condition, framed and glazed; late the property of W. Coath, Esq, The Shrubbery. The bird was shot by the late owner.

Price and full particulars may be obtained as above.”

1881 Census

29, Digbeth

[1] *John Dace* (45), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Martha W. Dace (44), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Lizzie J. Dace (15), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Alice E. Dace (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Charles J. Dace (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Philip M. Dace (9) son, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] Addison J. Dace (5), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 30/8/1884 - Advert

“To Be Let, a Cottage, with large Garden, situate in Queen Street, Palfrey, in the occupation of Mrs. Steel.

Apply to *John Dace*, TURKS HEAD, 29, Digbeth.”

1891 Census

29, Digbeth – TURKS HEAD INN

- [1] *Walter J. Bird* (43), public house manager, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth J. Bird (38), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Teresa M. Bird (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Walter Bird (7 months), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Mary Bissell (53), mother in law, born Wales;
- [6] Janet Goodson (23), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Birmingham Daily Post 20/4/1892

“Yesterday, Mr. T. H. Stanley (coroner) held an inquest at the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, Walsall, on the body of Thomas Douglas (36), a retired naval petty officer, who committed suicide on Friday night or early Saturday morning. The evidence bore out and supplemented the particulars already published, showing that the deceased retired from the navy in October last with a pension of about 10s 8d a week, and for a time lived with Mrs. Masterman, one of his sisters, in Bradford Street. On Tuesday, the 12th, he went to live with another sister, Mrs. Rankin, in Adams Row, and on Friday he appeared quieter than usual, and in the evening complained that pains in the bowels, from which he had suffered from the time of a cruise in the Indian Seas, were worse than usual. He also complained of noises in the head, that his hearing was defective, that he had been trying to read, but could not understand what he was reading, and that he thought he would go back to Portsmouth on the morrow and enter the hospital, as he felt he wanted looking after. He had, his sister said, been invalided because of an affection of one of the eyes. At about eleven o’clock she left him on the sofa, where he was going to sleep, and at daybreak she heard a chair being moved, but took no notice of it, thinking that her brother had been making up the fire. At about seven o’clock her daughter went into the room, and saw that he had knocked the chairs over which had been put by the side of the couch, and that he had thrown off the blankets; and on the matter being reported to her witness went and found that he was lying with his face buried in a pillow, and was, in her opinion, dead. She then sent for the police and for a surgeon. Police-constable Pritchard said he went to the house at about nine o’clock and found that the deceased had a twisted handkerchief tied tightly round his neck, with a knot in the front, which was fastened in such a way that he could not undo it, and had to cut the handkerchief. Hearing a rattling noise in the throat when he had released the handkerchief he thought the man was not dead, and tried artificial respiration, but without success. In the deceased’s pockets he found £1 5s 8d in money, a circular from the town clerk showing that the deceased had been unsuccessful in an application for the post of caretaker at the free library, and part of a letter which he had written making application for a position of surgery porter. Dr. J. S. Wilson said he reached the house about ten o’clock and found that death had resulted from strangulation. Mrs. Rankin, recalled, said her brother was depressed through not being able to get employment. A verdict of Temporary Insanity was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/2/1893

“Yesterday at the Guildhall, Frederick Adams, Dudley Street, a young man, was charged with having assaulted *Walter Bird*, keeper of the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth. The complainant said the defendant was turned out of the house on the 18th inst. for using bad language, but he returned and renewed the offence, and when an attempt was made to turn him out again he got down on the floor, and, barking like a dog, fastened his teeth in the complainant’s leg. He bit some other people in the house, and also tried to bite his brother and a postman who took him home. The defendant said he was so drunk that he did not know what took place, but this was denied. He was fined 10s and costs, or ten days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/11/1899

“Walsall and District Reserve Fund.
Third List of Subscriptions.....
Collected by Teresa *Bird*, TURKS HEAD, Digbeth, 10s.”

1901 Census

Digbeth – TURKS HEAD

- [1] *Walter J. Bird* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Bird (48), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Teresa M. Bird (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Walter Bird (10), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Alfred Bird (7), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary Jones (14), general servant, born Stubbings Green, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1903 - Notice

“Walsall And District Hospital.
List of Workpeople’s Contributions received by the Treasurer from August, 1902, to July 24th, 1903.....
Walter Bird, TURKS HEAD, Digbeth. 5s 6d.”

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

"...a note from the Clerk to the Licensing Justices in 1904 said that 'a slaughtering business is carried on in part of the licensed premises. The premises are very dirty. Renewal should be considered by Full Bench.' In 1916 a Special Police Report said that there were four stables 'let off to four different persons, and the yard is used by Messrs. Dean, fish merchants, and Mason & Williams, grocers'"

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

In regard to the renewal of the license of the TURKS HEAD, Digbeth, to *Walter James Bird* (lessees Messrs. Fletcher and Son, owners Mitchell and Butler), the licensee was questioned as to there being a slaughter-house on the premises. It seemed that there had been a slaughter-house in the yard of the inn, but it was now rented by a grocer. It transpired that the owners and lessees of the premises had not been notified, and the matter was adjourned for a week."

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

"The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Thursday.....

Mr. Pearman-Smith and Mr. Walford appeared in the case of the TURKS HEAD, Digbeth, and produced plans. It appeared that Messrs. Mitchell and Butlers who were last week said to be the owners, had leased to Messrs. Fletcher, of Walsall. It was now promised that the house should be painted and papered. It was further stated that the slaughter-house the magistrates had complained about was not part of the licensed area. License renewed."

James Henry Hobson = Henry James Hobson

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

"The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. W. H. Pearman-Smith appeared in support of an application for the transfer of the license of the TURKS HEAD, Digbeth, from *Walter James Bird* to *Henry James Hobson*; and Mr. J. N. Cotterell opposed on behalf of *Bird*. This had been adjourned from the last sessions.

Mr. Loxton said that when the application was first made *Bird* said he did not apply for the transfer – there was some dispute between he and Messrs. Fletcher and Garbett. The application to transfer was now not by *Bird*.

Mr. Cotterell: Certainly not, I oppose the application.

Mr. Pearman-Smith said he applied on behalf of the owners of the house, Messrs. Mitchell and Butler, and the occupier, *Hobson*, under the Act of George IV, Cap 69, Sec 14.

Messrs Mitchell and Butler bought the freehold of the house subject to a lease which had been granted to Messrs. Fletcher and Garbett. That lease expired last Christmas. *Bird* was the tenant of the latter firm, under an agreement entered into in November 1889, which was to terminate by a week's notice or a week's wages. Messrs. Mitchell and Butler merely wished to take possession of the property they had bought, and it was by reason of no act of theirs that *Bird* was dissatisfied.

Mr. Cotterell said that *Bird* had been practically the whole of his life in the service of Messrs. Fletcher, and had managed the TURKS HEAD for nearly twenty years without a single complaint. He was oblivious to the fact that there was an old agreement, and he did not know that the house had been sold. When *Bird* had consented to a temporary authority, Messrs. Fletcher reported to him that they would see that he was fairly dealt with, and properly treated, but promises had been made which had not been fulfilled.

Mr. Loxton: You may say that Messrs Fletcher and Garbett have acted as badly as can be but ——

Mr. Cotterell: I don't say that.

Mr. Loxton said the owners of the house found somebody trying to prevent a renewal of their license, and apparently Mr. Cotterell was asking the Bench to do something so that those people might commence an action against Messrs. Fletcher.

Mr. Cotterell said his point was that when the notices of transfer were taken to *Bird* he refused to sign them.

Mr. Loxton said *Bird* might have any grievance he pleased between Messrs. Fletcher and Garbett, but if he wanted to retain possession of the license he should have retained possession of the house. But he had left and handed over possession. They did not allege misrepresentation by the present applicants, and any quarrel between Fletcher and Garbett and *Bird* had nothing to do with the present application.

Mr. Cotterell said that when *Bird* signed to transfer the license it was on the assurance of Mr. Wilson-Smith ——

Mr. Pearman-Smith: We could give no assurance.

The Chairman: The application is granted."

1911 Census

29, Digbeth – TURKS HEAD

[1] *Frank Clarke* (52), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Mary Anne Clarke* (49), wife, married 29 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[3] *Hilda Clarke* (26), daughter, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[4] *Norman Clarke* (23), son, warehouse clerk, born Walsall;

[5] Dorothy Clarke (18), daughter, assisting in business, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 31/1/1914 - Deaths

“On January 30th, *Walter James Bird*, of the Crown Hotel, Cannock, and formerly of the TURKS HEAD, Walsall; aged 61 years.”
AND

“One of the saddest affairs which has happened in the Cannock district for many years took place at Wedges Mills on Thursday evening. It appears that Mr. *W. Bird*, of the Crown Hotel, Cannock, started from his home about six o’clock to go to the Unionist dinner at the Star and Garter, Wedges Mills, along with Mr. Atkinson, and walked. He appeared to be all right on arriving at the Star and Garter, although he said the walk had knocked him up a bit. He called for a glass of gin and soda, and remarked that the first drop had relieved him. Two minutes later he fell heavily from his seat on to the floor Dr. Smith, who attended him, said that he had broken a blood vessel, and must have been dead soon after he fell.

Mr. Hatton, the chairman, in most sympathetic terms, said the dinner and gathering would be indefinitely postponed. . . .

Mr. Ashworth, who was also affected, referred to the sad affair in a solemn tone. He promised to visit Wedges Mills again when the annual dinner was rearranged. The company then quickly dispersed. . . .

The affair cast a gloom throughout the whole district, for Mr. *Bird* was a well-known publican, who came to Cannock about six years ago, and was at one time proprietor of the TURKS HEAD in Digbeth, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 5/2/1916

“The general annual licensing sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday morning. . . .

The justices view with increasing displeasure the practice on the part of some license holders of permitting drinking in the passages, entries and gateways attached to their licensed houses. They call particular attention to four houses visited by them, namely, the NEW INNS, Park Street (in which case an undertaking had previously been given that the practice should be discontinued); the DURHAM OX, the TALBOT, and the TURKS HEAD.

In addition, the sanitary arrangements of these houses was most unsatisfactory. Objection is taken in open court on behalf of the Licensing Committee to the renewal of these four houses, and will be put back until the adjourned general annual licensing meeting, at which the personal attendance of the licensees will be required. . . .”

Walsall Observer 26/2/1916

“The adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday. . . .

TURKS HEAD, Digbeth. Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson represented the licensee (*George Barratt Crawford*), and Chief Inspector Ballance stated that there had been drinking in the gateway, and the previous landlord was cautioned with regard to it. With this exception the house had been well conducted. The benches in the gateway had now been removed.

Adjourned for a month for plans of the licensed area to be deposited.

It was intimated that the licensees would be responsible for any drinking taking place on the entries.”

Evening Despatch 24/3/1916

“A further sitting of the Walsall Licensing justices was held today. . . .

The Justices also agreed to renew the licenses of the TALBOT and TURKS HEAD on certain suggestions made by them as to the alterations being met by the owners of the houses.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/8/1922

“In connection with Walsall Fur and Feather Society, a members’ table show took place on Thursday last week at the TURKS HEAD, Digbeth. There was a good number of entries, and quality was well up to standard. . . .”

George Henry Johnson – see also THREE CROWNS.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre. . . .

A list of the licensed premises that form part of the properties acquired by Mitchells and Butlers is as follows. . . .

Highgate houses. . . .

TURKS HEAD, Digbeth.”

Walsall Observer 4/11/1939

“‘We have given so many warnings that we have been instructed not to give any more, but to inform the police,’ was the statement made to the magistrates (Messrs. D. E. Parry and D. Jones and Mrs. Cresswell) by a warden giving evidence in one of a number of cases relating to breaches of the lighting regulations. . . .

Other defendants, each fined 10s, were. . . .

James Watson (45), licensee of the TURKS HEAD, Digbeth.”

1939 Register

29, Digbeth (3 of 4)

- [1] *James Watson*, date of birth 23/5/1898, manager licensed house, married;
[2] *Gladys Watson*, dob 4/4/1898, manageress licensed house, unpaid domestic duties, married;
[3] *Edna M. Watson*, dob 10/7/1922, grocery assistant, single;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, £1 3s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 13/12/1941

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held on Thursday.....
Mr. *William Bayliss* of the TURKS HEAD INN, Digbeth, Walsall, was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
TURKS HEAD, Digbeth. £0 5s 10d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
TURKS HEAD, Digbeth. £0 1s 9d.”

William Bayliss – see also TAVERN IN THE TOWN.

Walsall Observer 7/7/1945 - Advert

“Bar-General Required.
Apply, TURKS HEAD, Digbeth, Walsall.”

It closed on 10th December 1961.
The license was transferred to the BROADWAY.

UNICORN

BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Walsall Free Press 21/1/1865

“Walter Bowring was charged with having, on Monday night last, assaulted John Donaldson. From the evidence of the prosecutor it appeared that he, the defendant, and some other parties, were drinking together at the UNICORN beerhouse, Bloxwich, when complainant and defendant’s wife had some words, and she threw a glass at complainant and cut his lip, whereupon the defendant got the poker and inflicted several severe wounds upon the face and head of the complainant, which were profusely covered with bandages. A number of witnesses were examined on both sides; and the Bench after hearing the evidence, considered the assault proved, but as there had been considerable provocation, they sentenced him to pay a fine of 10s and costs, or be imprisoned for 21 days.”

UNION

BLOXWICH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Hadley [1866]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 17/3/1866

“*Joseph Hadley*, beerhouse-keeper, Bloxwich, was sentenced to pay a fine of 5s and costs, for having his house open at fifty minutes past ten on Sunday morning last. The charge was proved by Police-sergeant Martin.”

London Gazette 24/12/1869

“*Joseph Hadley*, of No.61, James-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Bridle Bit Maker, previously thereto of the FORESTERS ARMS, No.4, Proffit-street, Walsall, Retailer of Beer and Bridle Bit Maker, previously thereto of the MINERS ARMS, Leamore-lane, Bloxwich, in the said county of Stafford, Retailer of Beer and Bridle Bit Maker, and previously thereto of the UNION INN, Bloxwich aforesaid, Retailer of Beer and Bridle Bit Maker, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 23rd of November, 1869, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination and make application for his Discharge, will be held at the said Court, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall, on the 25th day of January next, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Frederic F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Abraham Baker, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

UNION

43, (57), (44), Bath Street / 1, Windmill Street, Caldmore, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Marlow, solicitor
William Downing, maltster, Smethwick
G. and W. E. Downing, maltsters, Smethwick
Manchester Brewery Co. [1891]
Highgate Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

Thomas Careless [1818] – [1822]
Samuel Harvey [1828] – [1830]
John Harvey [1834] – [1835]
William Wood [1841] – [1865]
William Chamberlain [1869]
Henry Higgins [1871]
Miss Frances Ridge [1872]
John Douglas [1873] – [1880];
Charles Poppleton [1881] – [1885];
Patrick Dunn [];
Ophraim Knowles [] – 1887);
Fred George Jones (1887 – 1888);
William Pedley (1888 – 1889);
William Burt Blainey (1889);
William Saunders (1889 – 1891);
James Gough (1891 – 1892);
Harry Tully (1892 – 1897);
Samuel Evans Stevenson (1897 – 1898);
Roger William Powell (1898 – 1899);

Francis Ephraim Hay (1899 – []);
Elizabeth Ann Cartlidge [] – 1901);
Miss Florence Maund (1901 – 1905);
Frank Clarke (1905 – 1908);

NOTES

Windmill Street [1849], [1850], [1862], [1871]
1, Windmill Street [1858], [1861], [1864], [1865]
44, Bath Street [1881]
Bath Street [1892]
57, Bath Street [1901]
43, Bath Street

OLD UNION [1870]

Thomas Careless was also a plater. [1818]

William Wood was also a maltster. [1858], [1864], [1865]

1861 Census

1, Windmill Street – The UNION

- [1] *William Wood* (47), victualler, maltster and farmer employing 2 men, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary A. Wood (52), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary A. Wood (21), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] William Wood (20), son, farm labourer, born Walsall;
- [5] Eleanor Wood (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Clara Wood (15), daughter, dressmaker's apprentice, born Walsall;
- [7] Charles Wood (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Elizabeth Wood (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

Walsall Free Press 10/9/1864 - Advert

"A Few of the Malleable Iron Casters of Walsall think that it would be to their benefit to form a Society; all who are of the same opinion are invited to attend the UNION INN, Windmill Street, on Monday next, 12th inst, at 8pm."

Walsall Free Press 24/9/1864 - Advert

"The Malleable Iron Casters have commenced a Trade Protection Society, at the UNION INN, Windmill, Walsall. All men in the trade who wish for a fair day's wages for a fair day's work, are invited to join the same, and may do so by applying as above, on Monday evening, October 3rd, at Eight o'clock."

Walsall Free Press 18/3/1865 - Advert

"The Members of the Coach and Harness Furniture Trade Society are requested to attend a Meeting at the UNION INN, Windmill, on Monday, the 20th, at Eight o'clock in the Evening. As the business is of the utmost importance, every member is earnestly invited to attend."

Birmingham Daily post 28/9/1866 - Died

"On the 22th inst, at the UNION INN, Windmill Street, aged 25, William, the eldest son of *William Wood*, deeply regretted."

Walsall Free Press 19/6/1869 - Advert

"To Farmers And Others.

To Be Sold, about 200 Gallons of Prime Old Ale, at 6d per Gallon.
Apply, UNION INN, Windmill Street, Walsall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/12/1869

"James Oldcroft, James Pearson, and Benjamin Bebb, were charged with having on the 5th inst, been upon the premises of *William Chamberlain*, the UNION INN, Caldmore, at an unlawful hour, viz, twelve minutes past twelve. Mr. Dale (from the offices of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) appeared for the defendants, and entered into a statement, which to some extent was supported by the evidence, to the effect that the defendants found the door of the public-house open, and, knowing that the congregation had left Caldmore Church entered with being unaware that they were doing wrong. The case was dismissed."

Birmingham Daily Post 15/4/1870 - Advert

"Walsall. To be Let, the OLD UNION INN, Windmill Street. Valuation to suit purchaser.
Apply on the Premises."

1871 Census

Windmill Street – UNION INN

- [1] *Henry Higgins* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Eliza Higgins* (52), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Olive Higgins* (18), daughter, barmaid, born Darlaston;
- [4] *Clara Higgins* (14), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Lorna Higgins* (12), daughter, scholar, born Rowley Regis:

Walsall Free Press 24/5/1873

“Henry Perkins, for having been disorderly and refusing to quit the UNION public house, Windmill, on the 10th inst, was fined 5s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for 14 days.

Jonah Hitch, for a similar offence at the same place, was also fined 5s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for 14 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/9/1880 - Advert

“To Be Let, and entered upon immediately, the excellent Old-Licensed Public-House with Liquor Shop attached, known as the UNION INN, and House adjoining, situate in Union Street, Windmill, Walsall, now doing an excellent business. Furniture and Fixtures to be taken in the usual way.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. Farrington & Son, The Bridge, Walsall.”

1881 Census

44, Bath Street

- [1] *Charles Poppleton* (48), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Jane Poppleton* (48), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Thomas Poppleton* (21), son, herald chaser, born Walsall;
- [4] *Charles Poppleton* (19), son, carriage lamp maker, born Walsall;
- [5] *Arthur Poppleton* (14), son, warehouse clerk, born Walsall;
- [6] *Annie Poppleton* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Adelaide Poppleton* (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Harry Poppleton* (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Emma Jones* (17), general servant, born Bromsgrove:

Walsall Observer 5/11/1881 - Advert

“Land and Property for Sale.

Five Houses for Sale, by Private Treaty, situated in Rutter Street.

Apply to *Charles Poppleton*, UNION INN, Windmill Street; or to *Poppleton Bros.*, South Street.”

Walsall Observer 20/1/1883

“*Susannah* and *Charlotte Bagnall*, two young women, residing in Green Lane, were charged with having assaulted a young man named *Charles Poppleton*, of the UNION INN, Windmill Street, on Wednesday night.

It appeared that on the night in question the defendants met the complainant on his way home from work, and assaulted him in Bath Street.

Polly Jackson, *Henry Kropper*, and *Henry Holden* were called for the prosecution, and *Annie Kirby* for the defence.

For some time past there had been some unpleasantness through an application order; and the Bench advised complainant not to cause one of the defendants any more trouble than possible.

The defendants were fined 2s 6d each and costs, or six days imprisonment.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 16/1/1885

“Bankruptcy Examinations.

At Walsall County Court, on Thursday the following passed their public examinations.....

Charles Poppleton, UNION beerhouse, Bath Street.”

William Saunders = *William Sanders*

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1890

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Henry Grosvenor*, West Bromwich Road, was brought up on remand charged with having assaulted Police-sergeant *Marshall* and Police-constable *Brough*. The evidence was to the effect that the officers heard a smashing of glass at the UNION INN, Windmill, and on going towards the house they met the prisoner who furiously attacked them. They got *Mr. Barber*, of the PHEASANT INN, to put his horse in the trap and take *Grosvenor* to the police station, and when he arrived there he was so violent that he had to be strapped down on the ambulance stretcher.

The Bench imposed a sentence of fourteen days’ imprisonment, without hard labour.

‘All right, sir,’ said the prisoner, as he went below.”

1891 Census

57, Bath Street – UNION INN

- [1] *William Saunders* (40), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Selina Saunders (36), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] William H. Saunders (15), son, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [4] Fanny S. Saunders (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Minny M. Saunders (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] John E. Saunders (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Annie E. Saunders (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Ruth A. Saunders (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] George E. Saunders (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] Selina A. Saunders (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [11] Lily D. Saunders (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [12] Susannah Harrison (16), domestic servant, born Stubbers Green, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 10/10/1891 - Advert

“UNION INN, Bath Street, Walsall.

This capital Full-Licensed Corner Public House to Let; doing a good paying trade; moderate rent; tied to Manchester Brewery Company. Ingoing £170; part can remain if desired. Sole reason for selling illness in family. Apply Walter Hughes, Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/9/1892

“Re *William Saunders*. A petition has been filed on the Walsall Bankruptcy Court by this debtor, who is described as of Thorpe Road, clothier, and formerly of the UNION INN, Bath Street, Walsall, licensed victualler, and the usual order has been made against him. Mr. E. Evans, Walsall, is the solicitor for the debtor.”

London Gazette 7/10/1892

“Adjudications. *Saunders, William*, Thorpe-road, Caldmore, Walsall, Staffordshire, formerly residing and trading at the UNION INN, Bath-street, Walsall aforesaid, Clothier, formerly Licensed Victualler.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1893

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last....
Mr. *Harry Tully*, UNION INN, Bath Street, Walsall was elected a member of the Society.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1895

“George Hill (address not given) was charged with having refused to quit the UNION INN, Bath Street, and with having assaulted the landlord, *Harry Tully*. Mr. H. H. Jackson prosecuted, and Mr. E. A. Cotterell defended.
Mr. Jackson explained that defendant went to the UNION INN, and on an altercation arising he threw a jug at another man named Joseph Wood, of Navigation Street. The landlord asked him to quit, and thereupon he threw another jug at him, narrowly missing his head and breaking a number of glasses.
Mr. *Tully* having given evidence, Mr. Cotterell submitted that the case was not really so serious as stated. The quarrel was between the two men both of whom picked up jugs.
Defendant was fined 5s and costs, or seven days, on the first charge, and 10s and costs, or 14 days on the second. A third summons (for assaulting Hill) was dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/8/1895

“National United Order of Free Gardeners, Walsall New District.
On Tuesday evening last the officers of the above District opened what promises to be a most successful lodge of their Order, at the UNION INN, Bath Street. The Grand Secretary (Bro. H. T. Finch) who had come from Leeds to be present at the opening, but was unavoidably detained from doing so, wished the new lodge every success and trusted that the members would do all they could to carry out the benevolent objectives of the Order. The Lodge having been opened by the District Master, a good number of young men were initiated.....”

Walsall Advertiser 19/12/1896

“Mr. T. H. Stanley (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) applied on behalf of Mr. *Henry Tully*, landlord of the UNION INN, Bath Street, for a music and singing license on Thursday evenings. The application was made on account of the opening of a musical society at the public house.
The Chief Constable (Mr. Chris. Taylor) objected, said he was led to believe, on what he considered reliable authority, that this was an attempt to evade the spirit of the Act, with the idea of having a ‘free and easy.’ He had not been aware that the application was to be made that morning or he would have procured evidence. He heard the subscription was to be one penny and that anyone would be admitted a member on payment of that sum. There were no rules, and no proper form of nomination or introduction. He should ask the matter be adjourned until the special licensing meeting.
Mr. Stanley called Archibald Hunt, the secretary of the society, who produced a card containing some rules, and said the subscription was 5s payable in advance.

Mr. Stanley (to Chief Constable): I think you are misled, perhaps not wilfully.

In reply to Mr. Taylor, Hunt said the music would be supplied by the members, and if there was any intention on the part of a member of bringing a special artiste the fact would have to be noted at the previous meeting. A committee was appointed on Tuesday, December 8th, and the minutes could be produced.

The Bench granted the license for the next two nights only on the sworn evidence, but said that no one was to enter the room before the subscription of 5s had been paid. The matter would have to be considered by the Licensing Committee.

The Chief Constable now made application for the books to be produced, as he wished them to be sworn to at the next hearing.

Mr. Stanley: I never heard of such an application. You might as well apply to inspect the books in my office. The request is only made with the object of prejudicing the case.

Mr. Beebee: If the society is bona-fide why should there be any difficulty in the matter.

The Chief Constable: This thing is being carried too far. People in this Court are not very particular what they say.

The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/1/1897

“Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) applied on behalf of Mr. *Harry Tully*, UNION INN, Bath Street, for a music and singing license on Thursdays from 8 to 10.30.

Mr. Jackson said the license was asked for in order that a musical society might be formed in the Caldmore district. Musical societies of a high class character, such as this was intended to be, ought to be encouraged. When application was last made to the Court the Chief Constable denied that this was a bona-fide society, and stated that one penny only was charged each evening for admission. This statement was quite unfounded, and was calculated to prejudice the application.

Mr. *Tully*, in answer to the Chief Constable, denied that he alone was the promoter of the society, and gave a list of names, including Messrs. Heaton, Munro, Cox, Morris, Hunt, and Emery, who desired that such a society should be established. The subscription was 5s per annum, payable to the secretary, he (Mr. *Tully*) being the treasurer. It was agreed, however, that half of the subscription should be returned to the members, as they were only running half term. They would now require the license till April, although if it were found desirable to continue it, they would like permission to apply again.

Mr. Hunt (the secretary) was also called, and denied, in answer to questions, that he said at the last hearing that he had a minute book. What he said was that he had papers consisting of the minutes, and these had been seen by the Chief Constable, but were burned before notice was given to him to produce them. They were, however, copied in the minute book. Proceeding, he said this was a musical society, not an Anarchist society.

Mr. Jackson also intimated that they hoped to get people who sang at the Walsall Musical Society and others to occasionally sing at their meetings. On the opening night they had Mr. Aulton and several other good singers.

The Chief Constable said no one was fonder of music than he was, but he had reason to believe that this was not a bona-fide society. It was promoted by the landlord and would be a ‘free and easy.’ He himself was a member of the Walsall Musical Society, and so was Mr. Jackson, but to become a member of that body one had to be nominated and voted for by the committee, and strangers were not introduced except with the permission of the chairman, while there were numerous rules for the good government of the society. In the case of the current application the secretary stated that a minute book was in existence, and he thereupon sent Inspector Gore to get it, but it could not be found, and all they could procure were four pieces of paper.

Mr. Loxton here said that in its rules (produced) there was no mention whatever of the very first essential, which was how people were to become members of the society.

Mr. Jackson remarked that the rules were not perfect, and that it was a new society.

Eventually the Bench decided to renew the temporary license for a fortnight, intimating that if Mr. Jackson renewed his application at the next special sessions he must be prepared to show that proper rules, &c, were in existence.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/1/1897

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Harry Tully*, UNION INN, Bath Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1898

“*Harry Tully*, of Dudley, was summoned for deserting Clara *Tully*, his wife, of Bernard Street, Walsall, and a separation order was applied for. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the complainant, and Mr. E. Evans for the defence.

Mr. Jackson stated that the parties were married 17 years ago, and had once separated, but on the earnest entreaties of the defendant they came together again, and matters went on well until he disposed of the lease of the UNION INN, Bath Street, when he obtained a considerable sum of money, since which time he had been on a spree, and had neglected his wife. Defendant had gone away altogether, and complainant did not know where he was living, though she had met him casually in the street, and had asked him what he was going to do. In reply he said that he should look after himself, and that she would have to do the same. She, however, did not apply for any allowance as she would rather not be beholden to him, and all she required was a separation order. Without this she was afraid that if she got a home together he would again turn up and break it up.

Complainant gave evidence in support of the summons, and stated that defendant received about £1,000 for the lease of the UNION INN. Mr. Evans said defendant had been advised not to oppose the present application.

The Bench granted a separation order.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/2/1901

“A very successful smoking concert was held at the UNION INN, Bath Street, on Monday, Mr. E. Shelley occupied the chair, and Mr. Hemmings the vice-chair. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and the following programme was gone through: Pianoforte

solo, Mr. Mills; song, 'The Windmill,' Mr. Brown; song, 'They'll want me later on,' Mr. Lyons; song, 'The soldier's song,' Mr. Brown; song, 'The dreamer,' Mr. Lord; song, 'Why didn't they call on me?' Mr. Lyons; song, 'Beautiful isle of the sea,' Mr. Hemmings; song, 'The Bandelero,' Mr. Brown; song, 'True woman's love,' Mr. Deakin; song, 'I wonder what he's going to do next,' Mr. Thorney; song, 'The lost chord,' Mr. Lord; song, 'Can I come in?' Mr. Thorney."

1901 Census

57, Bath Street – UNION INN

- [1] Howard V. Cartlidge (34), journeyman butcher, born Coven Heath;
- [2] *Elizabeth A. Cartlidge* (26), wife, publican, born Cannock;
- [3] Margaret Ed(na?) Cartlidge (5), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Dorothy E. Cartlidge (4), daughter, born Wednesbury;
- [5] George H. Cartlidge (3), son, born Wednesbury;
- [6] Florence A. Cartlidge (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Florence Maund (23), sister in law, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [8] Sarah Maund (20), sister in law, tailoress, born Walsall;
- [9] Eleanor Maund (12), sister in law, born Walsall;
- [10] Patience Heskinson (45), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Florence Maund, UNION INN."

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

"The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

UNION INN, Bath Street. The license of Mrs. *Florence Maund*, of this house, was objected to as not being required, and structurally unadapted.

Mr. Norris Foster (instructed by Mr. Shakespeare) was for the owners, Messrs. G. and W. E. Downing; and Mr. Walford (Wilkinson, Mills, and Walford) for the licensee.

Evidence was given of the number of adjacent licenses. Adjourned for plans."

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

UNION INN. Inspector Ballance gave evidence as to the structure of this house. He said the house was an old one, the rooms were very low and also one or two of the doors, and the back accommodation were very small.

Mr. Fletcher said that he held the house on a lease of £50, with the repairs, inside and out, to attend to. He considered the house was in a fair state of repair.

Mr. Walford (Messrs Wilkinson, Mills and Walford) appeared on behalf of the licensee, and Mr. Norris Foster was for the landlord, Messrs. Downing and the lessee."

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

"The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

The UNION, Bath Street, was also objected to, Mr. Foster appearing for the owners, Messrs. Downing; and Mr. Walford (Wilkinson, Mills, and Walford), for the lessees, Messrs. Fetcher.

Chief-inspector Ballance gave evidence that there were five other licensed houses within 148 paces and a population in the area of only 136 over 16 years of age. Adjourned."

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

"The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

The UNION INN, Bath Street, the IVY HOUSE, and the BARREL, Stafford Street, were referred to the Compensation Authority."

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/5/1907

"The meeting of the Walsall Confirming Authority under the Licensing Act was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday. The houses recommended to the Compensation Authority were the UNION INN, Bath Street (for which Mr. Foster appeared), and the BARREL INN, Wolverhampton Street, the MINERS ARMS, High Street, and the IVY HOUSE, Stafford Street, for all of which Mr. Jackson appeared. The advocates objected to the reference in each case, but the magistrates confirmed the whole of the recommendations of the Licensing Authority."

The license was renewed.

The license renewal was again referred to the Compensation Authority on 25th February 1908.

Walsall Advertiser 29/2/1908

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall.....
The Bench proceeded to hear notices of objection which had been taken by the licensing justices to the renewal of six licences.....
UNION INN, Bath Street. This license was objected to a year ago and the objection again renewed. Mr. C. A. Loxton said the magistrates were satisfied with the figures suggested by Mr. Norris Foster, on behalf of the owners and occupier, and on those figures the Bench would refer the license to the Compensation Authority.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/6/1908

“A full bench of magistrates sat on Wednesday morning to hear applications for renewals and to fix compensation for closed houses.....
In the case of the UNION INN, Bath Street, Mr. Norris Foster (instructed by Shakespeare and Company, Birmingham) announced that the compensation (£1,000) to be allowed by the justices, would be accepted and the house closed.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1908 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1904. Notice as to sending in claims to be treated as persons interested in licensed premises.
The County Borough of Walsall.
Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area having decided at their principal meeting on the 3rd day of June, 1908, and the 5th day of June, 1908, to refuse the renewal of the Licenses of premises specified below.....
The UNION, Bath Street. Alehouse. Licensee *Frederick [sic] Clarke*. Registered Owner Messrs. Downing. Lessee The High-gate Brewery Co.”

UNION

55, James Street, Ryecroft, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Mary Cooper, Ryecroft, Walsall
Benjamin Brittain

LICENSEES

Mrs. Mary Cooper [1861]
William Thomas [1864] – [1865]
John Henney [1868] – [1870]
John Holland Newall [] – **1869**);
Joseph Smith (**1869 – 1870**);
William Painter (**1870**);
Henry Cooper (**1870 – []**)
Jacob Wardle [1872] – [1873]
Benjamin Brittain [1876] – **1889**);

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

55, James Street
[1] *Mary Cooper* (50), widow, born Walsall;
[2] Thomas Cooper (10), son, scholar, born Rushall;
[3] Mary Ann Cooper (8), daughter, scholar, born Rushall:

Birmingham Daily Post 15/9/1864

“At the Police Court, on Tuesday, the persons named below were, on the information of Mr. William Fullett, Inspector of Weights and Measures for the South Staffordshire district, fined in the sums set against their names for having defective scales, weights, or measures in their possession, with 12s costs in each instance.....
William Thomas, UNION INN, James Street, Ryecroft, seven measures, 5s.”

Birmingham Journal 4/4/1868 - Advert

“Clear-Out Sale, at the UNION INN, James Street, Ryecroft, Walsall.

By Edwin Jackson, on Tuesday Next, April 7th, at half-past Ten o'clock, as above – the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession, of this well-established licensed Public House. Also the whole of the Public-house Furniture, Fixtures, and Effects; valuable Brewing Plant, Casks, Utensils; Stock-in-Trade of Spirits, Ales, Cigars, &c, described in catalogues to be had in the place of Sale, or of the Auctioneer, 4, Cherry Street, Birmingham.”

Walsall Free Press 2/5/1868 - Advert

“To Be Let, the UNION INN, James Street, Ryecroft, with an Old License. Rent £19, Coming in under £20. Apply on the premises.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869 - Advert

“To Be Let, the UNION INN, James Street, Ryecroft. Apply, Mrs. *Cooper*, or to Mr. Newell, ROYAL OAK Brewery, The Pleck.”

Walsall Free Press 4/12/1869

“*John Holland Newall*, brewer, Pleck, was summoned before J. E. Bealey and J. Harrison, Esqrs. (at the Rushall Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last), for permitting certain gambling in his public house, the UNION, Ann Street, Ryecroft.

Police-constable Richards visited the house on the 20th November, and found a number of men playing at cards.

Defendant pleaded that he was under the impression the license had been transferred to a person named *Joseph Smith*, and he had seen it advertised in the *Free Press* that the license had been transferred. He had paid £1 at Mr. Wilkinson's office to have the transfer made to Smith.

Inspector M'Crae said Mr. *Newall* had taken proper steps to have the license transferred, but *Smith* had never appeared on transfer day.

The Bench said Mr. *Newall* was the responsible party, having the license, and they were bound to convict; but, taking all the circumstances into consideration, they would inflict the mitigated penalty of 2s 6d and costs. They also stated that there was no reflection upon defendant's character.

Joseph Smith (the party now in possession of the UNION INN) was charged with selling ale without a license. The defendant had obtained an excise license, but had neglected to procure a magistrate's certificate. Defendant, who pleaded ignorance, was fined 5s and costs.

A temporary transfer of the license of the UNION INN was granted from *J. H. Newall* to *Joseph Smith*.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/5/1870

“*Joseph Smith*, landlord of the UNION INN, James Street, Ryecroft, was charged with having, on Saturday, the 26th ult, permitted disorderly conduct, and also with having on the following (Sunday) morning had his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours. At twenty minutes past twelve, midnight, Police-constable Child visited defendant's house, and saw about 20 persons, men and women, on the table there were three pint cups and some glasses. One of the parties asked the officer to drink, and after he tasted the liquor and found it was ale. Two of the men were stripped and fighting, and the other two were partially stripped and preparing to fight. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant for the first offence to pay a fine of £5 and costs, and in the other case to pay a fine of 50s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for two months in each case.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/6/1870

“*Joseph Smith*, landlord of the UNION INN, Ryecroft, was ordered to pay a fine of 50s and costs, for having, on Sunday, the 29th ult, had his house open at one o'clock in the morning.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1876

“The undermentioned persons were summoned for the offences named, Mr. Glover appearing for the prosecution in each case, and Mr. Ebsworth for the defence.....

Benjamin Brittain, of the UNION INN, Ryecroft was charged with allowing gaming in his house on the same night [29th ult.] and the charge was proved by the same officers [Police-constables Wright and Blakeman in plain clothes] as in the previous case. While the officers were at the house three parties were playing with three packs of cards for ale and money. For the defence an attempt was made to show that one of the officers incited the men to gamble, but the allegation was stoutly denied. A fine of £2 10s and costs (including attorney's fee of 10s 6d) was imposed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session..... The licenses of the undermentioned were renewed with cautions, viz:

Benjamin Brittain, beerhouse keeper, Ryecroft In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Ryecroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

1881 Census

55, James Street

[1] *Benjamin Brittain* (34), victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Phebey Brittain* (31), wife, born Walsall;

- [3] Minnie Brittain (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] David Brittain (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Maud Elizabeth Brittain (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Laura Ann Brittain (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Eliza Yates (13), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/9/1884

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, Isaac Bailey (53), miner, James Street, Ryecroft, was charged with causing the death of his wife, Mary Ann, Bailey, on the preceding Friday afternoon. The magistrates on the Bench were Messrs. J. H. Smith (Mayor), B. Beebee (ex-Mayor), W. H. Brookes, and E. T. Holden. Mr. Gillespie (Wilkinson, Gillespie, and Wilkinson) appeared to prosecute, and the prisoner was defended by Mr. E. T. Evans.

In opening the case, Mr. Gillespie referred to the law of murder, and asked the magistrates to commit the accused on that charge. The first witness called was Phoebe *Brittain*, wife of *Benjamin Brittain*, landlord of the UNION INN, James Street, Ryecroft. She deposed that about ten minutes past four on Friday afternoon deceased came to the house in a drunken condition and proceeded to the backyard. Shortly after prisoner came in and stood in the bar passage. When his wife came into the passage the prisoner called her a drunken cat, and deceased then used foul language to him and refused to go home when he told her. Prisoner then stepped forward and struck her a blow on the left side of the head, heedless of the witness's request that he would not strike his wife. Deceased fell down heavily on her back and never stirred again. Witness called her husband, and he, with the assistance of a woman named Clara Saney, lifted deceased to a chair, but she was dead. Bailey did not attempt to strike his wife more than one blow, and when he was told his wife was dead he remarked ‘Oh, it's only a drunken fit.’ Prisoner had always borne a good character and was quite sober.

Clara Saney, wife of Thomas Saney, bridle cutter, said she saw the deceased about half-past two on Friday afternoon. Deceased then said she had been to the LORD RAGLAN to fetch her husband and the landlord had turned her out. She also said she was going back to begin on the landlord. A few minutes after witness was fetched and induced deceased to go home. While at the shop deceased gave witness the key of the place and went away. About an hour after witness went to the UNION INN to take the key, and saw deceased, who was very drunk, there. Prisoner came in and asked his wife if she was not ashamed of herself. Deceased used bad language, and the prisoner then rushed forward, but witness did not see the blow, as she left the house at that moment. In a few minutes she returned and assisted to pick deceased up. Prisoner was very excited.

Benjamin Brittain, landlord of the UNION INN, said he picked deceased up, and remarked to prisoner, ‘Oh, Mr. Bailey, I believe she's dead.’ Prisoner replied, ‘Her'll come round directly. I have seen her like that before.’ Witness then sent for the police. William Gough, landlord of the LORD RAGLAN INN, deposed to deceased quarrelling with her husband at his house, and said he ejected the deceased twice, in consequence of her drunken misconduct. Deceased wanted to fight witness and her husband, and the latter advised her to go home, as she had had too much beer. When deceased tried to strike her husband, the latter said, ‘Keep away, or I'll strike you.’

Joseph Alfred Merritt, baker, 14, Bank Street, who was in the RAGLAN INN when deceased came in, said she was very quarrelsome, and when turned out took hold of the landlord's collar to pull him into the street. She was so drunk that while in the street she could not stand, and reeled over the kerbstone, falling heavily upon her head.

Dr. Maclachan said he had made a post mortem examination of the body on Saturday. The body was that of a stout woman, about 5ft 4in in height. There were no external marks of violence, but internally he found two marks, each about the size of a shilling, one on each side of the head. At the back of the head slightly to the left, there was mark about the size of a half-crown, and an immense effusion of blood between the membrane and the brain substance. The liver and kidneys were extensively diseased, and there was also fatty degeneration and valvular disease of the heart. The cause of death was the effusion of blood on the brain, the diseases of the organs being chronic and not likely to cause sudden death. The injury to the brain was the cause, and in his opinion this would be caused by a fall, and not by a blow. He could not say what time had elapsed between the blow and the effusion of blood, but after the effusion she could not live an instant.

Mr. Evans, for the defence, argued that the gravamen of a charge of murder was malice aforethought, which in this case was entirely absent. The prisoner tried to get into his house, and finding the door locked, followed her to get the key. She abused him, and in a passion he struck her. She being drunk, fell, and a fall caused the injury resulting in her death. The evidence did not show whether death resulted from that fall or the one previously, near the RAGLAN. If the prisoner had wished to injure his wife, he would have done so when she attempted to strike him at the RAGLAN.

The Bench, after a short deliberation in private, committed the prisoner to the next Staffordshire Assizes on the charge of wilful murder.

The inquest on the body of the deceased was held yesterday afternoon, at the MINERS ARMS INN, Ryecroft, before Mr. T. Howard Stanley (borough coroner). Mr. Gillespie and Chief-superintendent Cater appeared on behalf of the police, and Mr. T. Harrison-Evans appeared for the prisoner, who was present in the custody of Acting-sergeant Cliff.

The evidence taken at the magisterial enquiry was repeated, and Dr. Mclachlan, after detailing the result of the post mortem, added that the deceased suffered from a peculiar disease of the heart, which rendered her blood vessels weaker, and consequently more liable to rupture. In reply to a juryman, witness stated that the death might have been caused either by a blow or a fall. If a blow, it would have to be a very strong one. He was more inclined to think death was caused by injuries received from falling as in that case there would be greater tendency of blood to the head.

In the course of the hearing a juryman stated that he knew deceased had been fond of a ‘running fuddle,’ and prisoner volunteered the statement that he had often had to remonstrate with her for that.

In summing up the Coroner recapitulated the evidence, and said that there was no doubt the deceased was overcome by drink, and irritated her husband, who was sober, by using bad language. There could be no doubt that the fall in the passage produced death,

and the blow given by the prisoner produced the fall. He then defined the difference between murder and manslaughter, and submitted the facts tended strongly to negate the preservice of malice, expressed or implied.

After a short deliberation the jury returned a verdict on Manslaughter, and added a rider recommending prisoner to mercy on account of the great provocation he suffered.”

Lichfield Mercury 14/11/1884

“Staffordshire Assizes.

Isaac Bailey (53), miner, was charged with the manslaughter of his wife, Mary Ann Bailey, at Walsall, on September 19. Mr. Plowden and Mr. Gwynne James prosecuted; Mr. Darling and Mr. Whitehouse defended the prisoner.

The deceased, who was a woman of drunken habits went in to the RAGLAN public-house, Ryecroft Walsall, on the afternoon of the day named, and was very violent towards the prisoner. Being ejected, she fell, and knocked her head against some stones outside. Subsequently she and the prisoner quarrelled in the UNION INN about the key, which she refused to give him. He struck her, and she fell on the floor and died from effusion of blood on the brain.

The jury convicted the prisoner, with a recommendation to mercy.

The Judge, saying few could have resisted the provocation to which the prisoner was subjected, passed a sentence of two days’ imprisonment. The prisoner was immediately released. The sentence was applauded.”

Benjamin Brittain was fined £5 and costs, on 5th April 1889, for selling after 10pm on Sunday.

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1889

“The adjourned licensing day, which was held at the Guildhall, on Monday [23/9], had been looked forward to with considerable interest on account of the large number of objections to the renewal of licenses made by the Chief Constable. All the houses objected to, something like 162, had been visited by the Magistrates, and in the vast majority of cases the structural alterations required by the Chief Constable had been made, hence the objections were withdrawn. Others persisted in, however, with the result that the bench refused to renew the licenses of five houses, these being, the SHAKESPEARE, Peel Street; the UNION, Ryecroft; the BARLEY MOW, Church Hill; the PEOPLE’S MUSIC HALL, High Street; and the CROSS KEYS, Blue Lane. There is a very angry feeling on the part of the publicans at this result, and notice of appeal has been given in each case. As the matter will be brought for decision before the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, I will refrain from commenting on it.”

The license renewal was refused by the Justices on 23rd September 1889.

It was confirmed on appeal at the Stafford Quarter Sessions.

UNION

Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 8/12/1860 - Advert

“To Publicans And Others.

Unserved Sale at the UNION INN, Rushall Street, Walsall, Staffordshire.

To Be Sold By Auction, by James Lowe, on the Premises as above on Wednesday Next, December 12th, under a Bill of Sale – the whole of the Public-House Effects, including Furniture, Stock-in-Trade, and other Effects.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock in the forenoon.

Auctioneer’s Office, 14, Cannon Street, Birmingham.”

VARSIITY

Lord Hill House, Darwall Street / Leicester Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Barracuda Bars
Amber Taverns [2015], [2023]

LICENSEES

[Samantha Mole](#) [2023]

NOTES

[1998]
[2012]

It closed.
It reopened in 2013 as the TAP AND TANNER.

[Express & Star 14/2/2023](#)

“Staff at a pub in the Black Country have ‘big plans’ for the future after a mammoth £250,000 refurbishment. The TAP AND TANNER in Walsall has been open for more than 10 years, however it shut its doors for nearly two weeks in January for a complete revamp. The refurbishment saw the Darwall Street pub ‘completely gutted’ and it now features new carpet, new seating and a DJ booth which was unveiled to locals on its re-opening night last week. *Samantha Mole*, who has been the manager for a year, said, ‘It just needed the work doing, the locals all love it and they couldn’t believe how much it had changed. Opening night was really busy, there was so much entertainment – it was a really great night.’

The renovations were funded by the Amber Taverns group, who are the overseeing organisation for the TAP AND TANNER. George Davies, who lives in Walsall and is cellar manager at the pub, added, ‘This is a town centre pub but, to me, it is my first home because I’m just always here. We appeal to everyone – in the morning we have locals come in and play dominoes and then the weekends are for the youngsters. Everyone knows everyone, and we all look after each other – that is the magic of the TAP AND TANNER. The pub was outdated but now they’ve brought it back up, we’ve got big plans, especially in the summer with the Rugby World Cup, we can push things forward.’”

[2023]

VAULTS

38, (37), High Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Miss Ash, Kempsey, Worcestershire
Atkinsons Ltd.

LICENSEES

[Marshall](#) [1845]

Thomas Oakes [1845] – 1847)
Henry Marshall [1864] – [1865]
Daniel Woodfield [1868] – [1870]
Robert Guest [1871] – [1872]
James Turnock [1881];
Hannah Tomkinson [];
George Maund [1888] – 1895);
Sarah Ann Maund (1895 – 1898);
John Henry Tully (1898 – 1899);
John Owen (1899 – 1905);
Francis Hughes (1905 – 1908);
James Cox (1908 – 1909);
Daniel Dalton (1909 – 1910):

NOTES

37, High Street [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872]

38, High Street [1871], [1908]

It was originally an unnamed alehouse.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/10/1845 - Notice

“South Staffordshire Junction Railway.....

We, the undersigned Landowners, Merchants, Coal and Iron Masters, Manufacturers, Traders, Agriculturists, and other inhabitants do hereby express our opinion that the projected South Staffordshire Junction Railway is the line best calculated to serve the important Mining, Manufacturing, Trading, and Agricultural Interests of the districts and we promise to it our strenuous support.....

Thomas Oakes, wine vaults, Walsall.”

Birmingham Journal 18/10/1845 - Advert

“Grand Railway Trip To Liverpool And Back In One Day.....

Tickets, There and Back – First Class 18s; Second Class 16s; Third Class 7s which will be available on Tuesday and may be had from the following parties..... Mr. Marshall, WINE VAULTS, High Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1847 - Advert

“Wine And Spirit Vaults, High Street, Walsall.

To Be Disposed Of by Private Contract, the Lease, Licenses, and immediate possession of the Excellent Liquor Shop and Market House, situated in the best part of High Street and corner of the Pig-market, in the occupation of Mr. *Oakes*, a bankrupt.

The premises comprise a very handsome fitted-up Liquor Shop to the front, parlour, tap-room, kitchen, and brewhouse, good cellars, club-room, and 5 bed rooms.

The fixtures, stock-in-trade, &c, will be required to be taken at a fair valuation.

The above is a most excellent opportunity to a person desirous of entering the above business, as the rent and payments are very low.

For particulars, apply to H. Farrington, Auctioneer and Appraiser, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

London Gazette 12/10/1847

“Estate of *Thomas Oakes* of Walsall in the county of Stafford, Wine and Spirit Dealer.

The creditors who have proved their debts under the above Fiat in Bankruptcy may receive their warrants for the First Dividend of 2s 10d in the pound, any Thursday, between the hours of eleven and three, on application at my office, No.7, Waterloo-street, Birmingham. No warrant can be delivered without the production of the securities exhibited at the time of proof. Executors and administrators of deceased creditors will be required to produce the probate of will or letters of administration.

October 7, 1847.

James Christie, Official Assignee.”

Henry Marshall spirit vaults, 37, High Street. [1864], [1865]

Daniel Woodfield, spirit vaults, 37, High Street. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

38, High Street

[1] *Robert Guest* (35), publican, born Wigan;

[2] *Harriet Guest* (24), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *William Guest* (3), son, born Wednesbury;

[4] *Margaret H. Guest* (2), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Hannah Osbourn* (20), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Robert Guest, spirit vaults, 37, High Street. [1872]

1881 Census

High Street

[1] *James Turnock* (32), licensed victualler, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Maria Turnock* (35), wife, born Gloucester;

[3] *Emily Turner* (20), barmaid, born Tamebridge, Staffordshire;

[4] *William John Bolton* (41), brewer's assistant, born Bethnal Green, Middlesex;

[5] *Sophy Guest* (20), general servant, born West Bromwich;

[6] *Walter B. Turnock* (4), son, scholar, born Ross, Herefordshire;

[7] *Harrold B. Turnock* (1), son, born Ross, Herefordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 29/11/1884 - Advert

“In Bankruptcy. Re *James Turnock*.

Auction Rooms, The Bridge, Walsall.

Messrs. Watkins & Powell have received instructions from E. Pritchard, Esq, Official Receiver, to Sell by Auction, on Monday Next, December 1st, 1884 (without the slightest reserve), a quantity of very superior Household Furniture, Removed from 37, High Street, Walsall, for convenience of sale.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock precisely.

Catalogues may be had from the Auctioneer's Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1888

“*George Maund*, licensed victualler, High Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and was ordered to pay costs.”

1891 Census

38, High Street

[1] *George Maund* (45), licensed victualler, born Bromsgrove;

[2] *Sarah A. Maund* (39), wife, born Rushall;

[3] Elizabeth A. Maund (16), daughter, born Cannock;

[4] Florence Maund (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Annie Maund (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Sarah Maund (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] Lucy Maund (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] Eleanor Maund (2), daughter, born Walsall;

[9] Harriet Renton (18), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/89/1892

“To Be Sold pursuant to an order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division), made in an action ‘Ash v. Elwell,’ 1871, A. No.43, with the approbation of Mr. Justice North, in one Lot.

By Henry Charles Powell, at the Property Saleroom, 28, Bridge Street, Walsall, Staffordshire, on Tuesday, the 23rd day of August, 1892, at 7 o'clock pm precisely.

Valuable Freehold Old Full-Licensed Public-House, being No.38, High Street, Walsall, in the occupation of Mr. *George Maund*, as an annual tenant on Lady-day tenancy, containing Vaults, Parlour, Smoke-room, Tap-room, Club-room, Sitting-room, 2 Bed-rooms, 3 Attics, Kitchen, Pantry, Brewhouse, Malt-room, 2 Cellars, Stable, and large enclosed Yard. And the Shop and Messuage adjoining, in the occupation of Mrs. Featherstone, Fancy Draper, containing Front Shop, Sitting-room, Kitchen, 2 Bed-rooms, 2 Attics, and Cellar.

The whole premises produce an annual rental of £65.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be obtained as follows, viz: Mr. William Booth Hulme, Solicitor, 7, Pierpoint Street, Worcester; of Messrs. Norris, Allens, and Chapman, Solicitors, 20, Bedford Row, London, W.C.; of Messrs. Maples, Tusdale, and Co., 1a, Frederick Place, Old Jewry, London, E.C.; and of the Auctioneer; and at the place of Sale.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/9/1893

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *George Maund*, the SPIRIT VAULTS, High Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 22/9/1894

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Sep 13 at the house of Mr. *George Maund*, the VAULTS, High Street.....”

George Maund, spirit vaults, 38, High Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 10/8/1895

“We have to record with regret the decease of a well-known tradesman of High Street, Mr. *George Maund*. Mr. *Maund*, who was born at Bromsgrove on the 25th October 1845, came to reside in Walsall some 21 years ago, and for the first 11 years was with Mr. T. Disturnal (miller) of this town, and for the last 10 years and up to the time of his death he had represented Messrs. Barlow and Sons, millers, of Bilston, while concurrently with his going to Messrs. Barlow and Sons he embarked in the licensed trade at the SPIRIT VAULTS, High Street, Walsall, which he occupied to the time of his death. The funeral took place on Wednesday at the New Cemetery.....”

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

“The forty-third annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street.....

We have to report with regret the decease of the following members during the past year, viz.: Mrs. Elizabeth Plant, FREE MASON'S ARMS INN, Park Street, Walsall; Mr. Thomas Plant, STAND TAVERN, Newport Street; Mr. *George Maund*, The VAULTS, High Street, Walsall, whose funerals your committee attended, and to whose relatives we have tendered our respectful

sympathy. The last named (Mr. *George Maund*) was re-elected president of the society at our last annual meeting, but owing to failing health he asked to be relieved of his duties, and we reluctantly acceded to his wishes. To mark our high appreciation of the valuable services he from time to time rendered in the various offices which he filled we presented him last November with an illuminated address.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/1/1898 - Advert

“To Licensed Victuallers And Others.

Unreserved Sale Of Two Good Brewing Plants Situate At The VAULTS, High Street, and The GREYHOUND, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.

Messrs. Watkins, Powell & Wood are instructed by Messrs. Atkinsons Ltd., to Sell by Auction, absolutely without reserve, on Wednesday, February 2nd, 1898, Two Capital Brewing Plants, one of which is situated at the VAULTS, 37, High Street, Walsall, and comprises 160-gallon Copper Boiler with underwork, 60-gallon Iron Boiler, 18-bushel Oval Mash-tub, several good Coolers, Moreton’s patent Refrigerator, Vats, Wort Spouts, Sieves, Tubs, Hop Press, Lead Piping, Fermenting Vessels, 120 and 100-gallon and other Casks, &c, &c.

The Sale of the above will commence at 11 o’clock, and at its conclusion the plant situate at the GREYHOUND, Upper Rushall Street, will be sold. This plant comprises large Copper Boiler, nearly-new Steel Boiler, large Mash-tub, Fermenting Vats, Copper Refrigerator, Cooling Vats, Lead-piping, Casks, and other useful trade effects.

Auctioneer’s Offices, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Mr. Pearman-smith also applied on behalf of Atkinson’s Brewery Company, Limited, for the magistrates’ approval to plans for alterations at the VAULTS, in High Street. The alterations were simply to remove a staircase, put in a new window, and erect certain out-houses.

Application adjourned until the adjourned day.”

1901 Census

38, High Street

[1] *John Owen* (62), licensed victualler, born Dawley, Shropshire;

[2] *Eliza A. Owen* (59), wife, machinist (leather), born West Bromwich;

[3] *Lavinia J. Owen* (20), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] *Lily Owen* (16), daughter, typist, born Willenhall:

Francis Hughes was fined 10s and costs, on 11th November 1907, for permitting drunkenness.

Walsall Advertiser 6/3/1909

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday week.....

The first application was that made by Mr. Pearman-Smith asking for the removal of the ale-house license of the VAULTS, High Street, to the beerhouse, CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street.

Mr. Pearman-Smith contended that the district was a most respectable one, and there was a need for a spirit license.

Mr. *James Cox*, the present licensee of the VAULTS, stated that he was on annual tenancy, and that if the license was transferred, and the house closed, he was quite willing, as he had arranged to be satisfactorily compensated.

Mr. Pearman-Smith, stated it would mean the closing of one house, and in addition his clients were prepared to surrender in addition an off-beer license, with which was a grocer’s wine and spirit license. Mr. Newman opposing on behalf of Messrs. Showell’s Brewery, stated that if the application was granted, it would create a precedent for granting spirit licenses every 160 yards. He remembered that when an off-license was granted in this locality, 12 months ago, three licenses were given up. Surely if one off-license was worth three, a spirit license should be worth a dozen. Mr. F. E. Bill (Bill and Clark, Birmingham), also appeared in opposition, and said that there were four public houses in close proximity.

The application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/7/1909

“The following licenses were transferred.....

When the license of the VAULTS INN was transferred, Mr. C. A. Loxton (clerk) asked Mr. *Cox* (the out-going tenant) whether it was in consequence of certain evidence he had given in Court, that he was leaving the house.

Mr. *Cox* replied that it was because he could not find time to keep the house as well as to follow his ordinary employment.

Mr. Loxton: Then it is not because of the evidence you gave at this Court? – Mr. *Cox*: Oh, no, I am leaving on my own accord.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

Mr. Pearman-Smith appeared in respect of the license of the VAULTS, High Street, and said that the tenant *Daniel Dalton*, was doing about £12 per week.

Licensed refused.”

AND

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

CROWN AND ANCHOR, Caldmore. An application was made by Mr. Pearman-Smith for the transfer of a spirit license from the VAULTS, High Street, to the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street.

The Rev. A. H. Lees, and Mr. S. A. Grundy Newman and Mr. H. H. Jackson on behalf of the houses in the district opposed.

Mr. Smith said that the owners were prepared to surrender a full license if the application was granted, and the name of the house was handed to the Bench. He submitted that the need of the district necessitated a spirit license at that house.

The application was refused.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority in 1910.

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1910, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

VAULTS, High Street. Alehouse. Licensee *Daniel Dalton*.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/6/1910

“A meeting of the Licensing Justices was held on Tuesday morning.....

The renewal of the license of the VAULTS, High Street, was applied for by Mr. Pearman Smith for the owners, Atkinson's Brewery Co. Mr. Smith stated that the premises were rebuilt five years ago at a cost of £4,500. The rent of the premises was £75 a year, inclusive of rates and licenses. The rateable value was £65 gross, and £52 net. The contribution to the Compensation Fund was £15. It was absolutely the only licensed house the Atkinson Brewery Co. owned in the borough. They owned the BULLS HEAD, Rushall Street, and since the license had been taken away those premises had never been occupied. His clients considered it would be a great hardship if they were wiped out of the town altogether by being made to surrender this license. It was largely used by market people, and it was of importance that market people should not have to go a long way from their stalls for refreshment.

Daniel Dalton, the licensee, said he entered the house last July, and the takings averaged £12 per week. Saturdays and Tuesdays were the busiest days of the week. There were the vaults, two smoke rooms, and the premises were self contained. Included in the £75 rent which he paid was the rent for a shop next door, for which he received 6s 6d per week.

The renewal was refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1910

“A supplementary meeting of the Licensing Justices to consider claims for compensation was held on Wednesday morning at the Guildhall. Mr. W. Bayliss presided, and there were present Messrs. W. E. Blyth, T. A. Smith, J. Clare, W. Halford, A. D. Cozens, J. J. Lynch, A. Jagger, and R. Thomas. The following houses came up for consideration.....

The VAULTS, High Street; owners, Atkinson Brewery Company, Wolverhampton; tenant, *Daniel Dalton*. Mr. Pearman-Smith represented the owners, and the tenant appeared in person. The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. C. A. Loxton) informed the tenant that his application was late, but on consulting the Magistrates said they would overlook the matter. The clerk asked the tenant if he had not better confer with Mr. Pearman-Smith, and the solicitor replied that the position was that Mr. *Dalton* agreed to accept a certain sum, and signed an agreement to that effect, but he was very surprised to hear that morning that he had sent in an application.

The Magistrates' Clerk: You admit he has a right to claim? – Mr. Pearman-Smith: Certainly. I don't think, however, the Magistrates will award so much as there is on the agreement. It is only a question of the amount.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1912

“A meeting of the Walsall Compensation Authority was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday, the Mayor (Councillor J. Venables) presiding. Four licensed houses came up for consideration, with the question of compensation to be paid for closing them. The houses were the SADDLERS HOME and the STAR AND GARTER public houses in Station Street, and the VAULTS, in High Street, and the ROVERS REST at Leamore. It was decided that the four houses should be closed on or before March 25th, and the amounts to be paid as compensation were agreed upon between the justices and the parties concerned.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1912

“The annual licensing sessions for the borough were held yesterday (Friday) at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Frank Cooper applied on behalf of William Sanders, landlord of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street, for an ale-house license, the inn at present being only a beer-house. Mr. S. A. Newman opposed the application on behalf of the WHITE LION, and the OLD KINGS ARMS, which are neighbouring public-houses, and the Rev. A. H. Lees opposed as a ratepayer and minister working in the district. This was the sixth occasion on which the application had been made.

Mr. Cooper pointed out that since the last application there had been considerable alterations in that locality, and it was a part of the borough that had grown rapidly. He had a memorial signed by no less than 350 inhabitants asking for the full-license. He was prepared to offer £650 as a monopoly value for the privilege to supply liquor.

Mr. Loxton pointed out that this was £400 less than was offered four years ago. In return for a full license an offer made to surrender the license of the VAULTS and another house. Compensation to the extent of £1,033 had been awarded for the VAULTS alone, and now the full offer was only £650.

After the Justices had retired that Chairman announced that they were not prepared to receive any offer of any kind.”

VICTORIA

23, Lower Rushall Street / Intown Row, WALSALL

OWNERS

Benjamin Williams, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall
Joseph and Francis Zeller [1910]
William Busst, Rushall Street, Walsall
George Whitehouse, 12, Mellish Road, Walsall [1901]
William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1918]
Lichfield Brewery Co. [1925]
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased from 23rd January 1935)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)

LICENSEES

Richard Arrowsmith [1840] – [1845]
William Adkins [1849] – [1850]
John Beckett [1858] – **1861**);
John Ricketts (**1861** – [1863]
Silas Nock [1864] – [1873];
Mrs. Elizabeth Nock [1875];
James Williams [];
John Bolt [1878];
Edward Clarke [1881] – **1888**);
Mrs. Caroline Hickman (**1888** – **1892**);
Thomas Wright (**1892** – **1893**);
Edmund Hunter (**1893** – **1894**);
Emily Hunter (**1894** – **1897**);
Clement Seabright (**1897** – **1898**);
William Wright (**1898** – **1904**);
George Whitehouse [1904] ?
Horace Brown (**1904** – **1905**);
Victor Hawley (**1905** – **1906**);
William Holt (**1906** – **1907**);
Richard Alfred Yardley (**1907** – **1908**);
Claude Ernest Pringle (**1908** – **1909**);
William Wright (**1909** – **1910**);
Elizabeth Wright (**1910**); manager
Mrs. Catherine ‘Kate’ Slater (**1910** – **1912**);
Henry Insley (**1912** – **1913**);
James Henry Roberts (**1913** – **1918**);
John Frederick Foster (**1918** – **1919**);
Lennox Busfield (**1919** – **1921**);
Ernest Godsall (**1921** – **1922**);
Ernest Hawkswood (**1922** – **1924**);
William Turley (**1924** – **1925**);
Robert William Hatfield (**1925** – **1928**);
Edward Evans (**1928** – **1930**);
John Joseph Poxon (**1930** – **1950**);
Charles Tarbuck (**1950** – **1952**);
Wilfred George Little (**1952** – **1956**);
Allan Macallum Sanders (**1956** – **1965**);
Joyce Dorian Thornton (**1965** – [1966]
Stephen A Farley [1993] – **1998**); 14 years
Robert Billingham (**1998** – [2007]

NOTES

It was originally QUEEN VICTORIA [1845], [1849], [1850], [1871]
VICTORIA [1841], [1858], [1861], [1881], [1912], [1940]
QUEEN [1864], [1865]

It was known locally as “Cats”.

1851 Census

Lower Rushall Street

- [1] James Adkins (35), builder, born Aldridge, Staffordshire;
- [2] Sarah Adkins (41), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Frederic Haden (14), son in law, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] James Adkins (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Mary Adkins (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *William Adkins* (78), father, widower, late house servant, born Yorkshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/6/1853

“On Thursday last, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the VICTORIA, Lower Rushall Street, on the body of Mary Gribbon, aged about thirteen, servant to Mrs. Ann Jackson, of Oldsill Lane, Walsall. Deceased slept at her home in Rushall Street, and was in the habit of going to her mistress’s at six in the morning. On Wednesday morning, having lighted a fire, she sat before it in a low chair, and fell asleep. Whilst there her clothes took fire, and she was very much burnt before help arrived, her first cries for assistance not having roused Mrs. Jackson from sleep. The poor girl was taken home and soon expired. The coroner told the deceased’s mother that it had been communicated to him that the girl was illtreated by her parents, and that on Tuesday she was expelled from her home at ten at night. Mr. Fletcher admonished the woman; who, however, denied that this was so, her husband only submitting herself, and the whole of the family to such indignities, when sometimes he returned home intoxicated. On all such occasions, however, they were soon admitted again to the house. It was said that after lighting her mistress’s fire, deceased frequently slept before it, and a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1861 Census

23, Lower Rushall Street – VICTORIA INN

- [1] *John Beckett* (42), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Anne Beckett (52), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Adkins (16), stepson, silver plater, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah Anne Adkins (11), stepdaughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Anne Barney (17), general servant, born Ireland;
- [6] Peter Jones (23), lodger, iron founder, born Radnor, Wales:

Walsall Free Press 14/9/1861 - Advert

“To Be Disposed Of, at a fair Valuation, and may be entered upon immediately, that well accustomed House, known as the VICTORIA INN, Lower Rushall Street.
Apply on premises.”

Walsall Free Press 16/11/1861

“Application was made for the transfer of the VICTORIA, Lower Rushall Street, from *John Beckett* to *John Ricketts*.
.....The police gave all applicants good characters, and the transfers were permitted.”

Walsall Free Press 2/5/1863

“Bridget Burns, was charged with having on Saturday last uttered a counterfeit half-crown. From the evidence, it appeared the prisoner went to the liquor shop of Mrs. *Ricketts*, the VICTORIA public-house, Lower Rushall Street, and there tendered a half-crown, which Mrs. *Ricketts* refused to take. Prisoner said she had got the half-crown from Mrs. *Ricketts* at half-past nine that evening. Mrs. *Ricketts* denied giving the prisoner the money, and was about to nail it to the counter. Prisoner pleaded so hard, however, to have it returned that Mrs. *Ricketts* let her have it again. She then attempted to pass it again at Mrs. Griffiths’s spirit vaults, but the character of the coin having been discovered by Mrs. Giffiths, prisoner did not succeed. She also made an ineffectual attempt to pass it at the shop of Mr. Hirst, fish dealer, Upper Rushall Street; after which she went to the shop of Mr. Eveson, Upper Rushall Street, where she passed it in payment for some potatoes and eggs. On Mrs. Eveson’s daughter taking it to her mother, the latter discovered the coin a was a counterfeit, and gave information to Acting-sergeant Shaw, who took prisoner into custody. After hearing the evidence the Bench adjourned the case till Tuesday, in order to admit of the Mint authorities being communicated with.”

London Gazette 8/5/1863

“*John Ricketts*, of the VICTORIA INN Public-house, in Lower Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualer and Dealer in Tobacco, previously thereto of Park Brook, in the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, and carrying on busi-

ness there as a Beerhouse Keeper and Dealer in Tobacco, and previously thereto of the COCK INN Public-house, at Swan Bank, Bilston, in the county of Stafford, and carrying on business there as a Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 21st day of May instant, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. John Ebsworth, of Wednesbury, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy."

AND

Walsall Free Press 4/7/1863 - Advert

"In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

In the matter of *John Ricketts*, of the VICTORIA INN Public House, in Lower Rushall-street, Walsall, in the County of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, previously thereto of Park Brook, in the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, and carrying on business there as a Beerhouse Keeper and Dealer in Tobacco, and previously thereto of the COCK INN Public House, at Swan Bank, Bilston, in the Sounty of Stafford, and carrying on business there as a Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, a bankrupt.

Whereas, at a Public Sitting of the Court, held this day, the court granted an Order of Discharge to the said bankrupt. Notice is hereby given, that an Order of Discharge will be drawn up and delivered to the bankrupt after the expiration of thirty days from this date, unless, in the meantime, an appeal be duly entered against the Judgment of the said Court.

Dated this 20th day of June, 1863."

AND

London Gazette 14/9/1866

"*John Ricketts*, of the VICTORIA INN Public House, in Lower Rushall-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, previously thereto of Park Brook, in the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, and carrying on business there as a Beerhouse Keeper and Dealer in Tobacco, and previously thereto, of the COCK INN Public House, at Swan Bank, Bilston, in the county of Stafford, and carrying on business there as a Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, adjudicated bankrupt on the 6th day of May, 1863. A Dividend Meeting will be held on the 25th day of September instant, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely."

Silas Nock was also a hamemaker. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Post 30/6/1864

"Benjamin Wilkes, *Silas Nock*, Thomas Jones, and William Jones, on Monday last appeared at the Guildhall before Messrs. Samuel Cox (mayor), John Shannon, and Henry Highway, charged with having assaulted William Collins, a man who described himself as a jockey. The complainant's statement was to the effect that late on Tuesday night last, as he was passing along Intown Row, he met Thomas Jones, who took his cap away from him and blacked his face. He followed Jones to *Nock's* house, the VICTORIA INN, in Rushall Street, and asked for his cap, and William Jones then blacked his face again. Subsequently the two other men assisted Jones in tearing his clothes from his person, and eventually he was turned out into the street, half-naked. He then went to the Chief Superintendent, and made a complaint against the defendants.

Mr. Cater spoke to the complainant calling him up on the night named, and to Collins being sober and his clothes much torn. The defence was that complainant lost his cap before he met Jones, and that when he went to *Nock's* he asked for ale, but *Nock* refused to supply him with any because he was drunk, and subsequently turned him out of the house because he refused to leave. Eventually the Bench fined Thomas Jones £3 and costs, and *Nock* (who ought, they held to have been careful to prevent such conduct in his house) £2 and costs, or in default two months' imprisonment each. The other two men were fined £1 each, or in default one months' imprisonment with hard labour."

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

"Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

Silas Nock, VICTORIA, Lower Rushall Street licenses suspended."

Walsall Free Press 9/9/1865

"The Adjourned Licensing day. Before T. Hazledine (Mayor), H. Highway, J. Shannon, W. Ward, S. Stokes, P. Potter, and J. B. Anderson, Esqs.....

The following persons, whose license had been suspended, were cautioned and had their licenses renewed....

Silas Nock, VICTORIA, Lower Rushall Street."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/11/1970

"Ann Johnson, a married woman, was charged with having stolen a coat, value 5s, the property of *Silas Nock*, publican, Rushall Street, which coat she afterwards pledged at the shop of Mr. Munroe. She was sentenced to one months' imprisonment. The pawnbroker's expenses were disallowed, his assistant not being present when the case was called on."

1871 Census

23, Lower Rushall Street – QUEEN VICTORIA

[1] *Silas Nock* (37), licensed victualler and hamemaker, born Rowley, Staffordshire;

[2] Elizabeth Nock (35), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Joseph Nock (15), son, gas fitter, born Walsall;

- [4] Charlotte Nock (12), daughter, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;
- [5] Betsy Nock (10), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [6] Mira Nock (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Clara Nock (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Jane (?) Nock (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Benjamin Nock (2), son, born Walsall;
- [10] James Morris (34), boarder, brass dresser;
- [11] George Hemson (32), inmate, bricklayer, born Tipton;
- [12] Charles Swinburne (60), inmate, bricklayer's labourer, born Warwickshire;
- [13] Richard Perry (54), lodger, painter, born Walsall:

The licensee was fined 20s and costs, on 14th February 1875, for Sunday trading.

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1875

“Walsall Annual Licensing Business.....

The cases of *Elizabeth Nock*, the VICTORIA, Rushall Street were adjourned.”

John Bolt was fined 40s and costs, on 17th April 1878, for permitting drunkenness.

London Gazette 1/11/1878

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John Bolt*, of the VICTORIA INN, Lower Rushall, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Brown Saddler.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on the 13th day of November, 1878, at half-past ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 29th day of October, 1878.

Fredrick Bill, 5, Bridge-street, Walsall, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

1881 Census

23, Lower Rushall Street – VICTORIA INN

- [1] *Edward Clarke* (61), licensed victualler, born Shropshire;
- [2] *Caroline Clarke* (60), wife, born Shropshire;
- [3] *William Clarke* (31), son, born Bilston;
- [4] *Caroline Clarke* (24), daughter, born Bilston;
- [5] *Edward Clarke* (20), son, civil engineer, born Bilston;
- [6] *Ann Whitehouse* (17), general servant, born Deepfields:

1891 Census

23, Lower Rushall Street – VICTORIA INN

- [1] *Caroline Hickman* (34), licensed victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] *Edward Clarke* (72), father, retired victualler, born Bridgnorth;
- [3] *Caroline Clarke* (70), wife, born Bridgnorth;
- [4] *Ellen M. Donogh* (17), domestic servant, born Walsall Wood:

Walsall Advertiser 23/9/1893

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held at the Guildhall, on Tuesday.....

Mr. Cotterell appeared in regard to the transfer of the VICTORIA INN, Rushall Street, from *Thomas Wright* to *Edmund Hunter*.

The latter, a bailiff in the employ of the County Court, had given up the employment to take the house. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/1/1895

“*Henry Wilkins*, living with Mr. *Hunter*, landlord of the VICTORIA INN, Lower Rushall Street, shortly before four o'clock yesterday jumped from a bedroom window three storey high and fractured his skull. He was carried into the house in a very dangerous condition. The man, in falling, caught his arm against Police-constable *Reddick's* shoulder, knocking down the officer, much to his bewilderment.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

“For having been drunk, violent, quarrelsome and disorderly, upon, and refused to quit the premises of the VICTORIA INN, Lower Rushall Street, on August 10th, *Mary Ryan*, back of the BLUE PIG, New Street, was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days' hard labour. *Edmund Hunter*, landlord, gave evidence.”

1901 Census

Lower Rushall Street – The VICTORIA INN

- [1] *William Wright* (36), harness maker and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Wright (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William I. Wright (15), son, saddler's ironmonger, born Walsall;
- [4] Arthur Wright (13), son, carpenter, born Walsall;
- [5] Frank Wright (10), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Isaac Beebee (19), cousin, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [7] Annie Harding (21), domestic servant, born Lancashire:

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1901

“The Streets Committee..... The following plans have, during the past month, been approved, subject to the usual conditions..... J. Whitehouse, rebuilding the VICTORIA INN, and two shops, Lower Rushall Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1901

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Mr. Plumtree, instructed by Mr. Jackson, appeared on behalf of Mr. *Wright*, the tenant, and George Whitehouse, the owner of the VICTORIA, Rushall Street, who sought the approval of plans for the rebuilding of this house. The house at present had a frontage to Rushall Street of 22ft, and to Intown Row of 50ft. The frontage to Rushall Street would be reduced from 22ft to 21ft 6in, to straighten the building line, in accordance with a suggestion of the Borough Surveyor. The frontage would be slightly increased, but it would not increase the drinking facilities – there would not be one extra inch more than at present. They wanted extra accommodation for a yard and for out offices. By the proposed arrangements the new building would be compact, and the living accommodation would be good, without customers having to go through the kitchen to get to the backyard. There would be proper facilities for the trade, the rooms would be well arranged and ventilated, and the whole of the premises would be shut off by a wall nine feet high. There would not be a single drinking place except on the present licensed area. In all there would be a decrease of 33yards in the licensed area, and a decrease of 2_ yards in the drinking area, whilst the counter would be reduced from 20ft to 16ft.

The Chief Constable submitted that the frontage would be extended, and the place made more attractive.

Mr. A. Stanley [**Walsall temperance party**] said this was an application for a new house, and they had heard that this was not a fit and proper place for a new house. All through the country they were told that magistrates had set their faces against new houses.

The Mayor remarked that they were diminishing the facilities for drinking, and that the counter would be less.

Mr. Stanley said the house would be more attractive, and he had no doubt that, if the application was granted, when the owner went out of that place that day he would be able to get thousands of pounds more for the house. They would perhaps make it a fashionable place of resort, and have electric lights, &c.

Mr. Plumtree: There is no electric light here (laughter).

Mr. Stanley said the Bench could rely upon it that every improvement that could be obtained would be obtained. He hoped the Bench would not entertain the application.

The Bench refused the application.”

AND

“The annual brewster sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Mr. Plumtree, instructed by Mr. Jackson, also applied for the renewal of the VICTORIA, Lower Rushall Street, to which the Chief Constable objected on the ground that it was not required and was not structurally adapted.

Police-sergeant Haycock said there were nine licensed houses in Lower Rushall Street. The premises were in a dilapidated condition, and the back of the premises was common to a shop that was empty. Also customers passing into the backyard had to go through the kitchen in which people lived. The out-offices were generally in a state of disorder.

Mr. Plumtree: Do you know what was given for these premises five years ago? – I don't know.

Have the premises become bad suddenly or are they different from last year? – They have been getting worse.

Is it an advantage to the police to have the shop untenanted? – Yes.

During the whole time Mr. Taylor was Chief Constable there was no objection to the shop? – I believe there was.

The Bench announced that the Bench did not require Mr. Plumtree to go further, license renewed.”

It was largely rebuilt in 1901.

A tower brewery was built at the rear at this time.

Walsall Advertiser 4/7/1903

“Emma Boyce, 68, Lower Rushall Street, was summoned for being found drunk on the licensed premises of the VICTORIA INN, Lower Rushall Street, on June 20th. Defendant pleaded not guilty.

Police-sergeant Dicken said about 9.20 on the day in question he visited the house, and saw defendant sitting at a table drunk. He called the landlady's attention to her, and she said she did not think she was that bad. She then went to the woman and said, ‘Here, you get out, you've had enough.’ The landlady then made the statement to him (witness) that the woman had had nothing in the house.

Police-constable Sandoz gave corroborating evidence.

Defendant denied having had anything whatever in the house. She sat with her mother-in-law, who had some ale, but she had none of it.

Eliza Boyce, mother-in-law of the defendant, stated that she went into the VICTORIA INN with her daughter-in-law. Her son

paid for something for her, but owing to a few words they had before they went in she did not ask defendant to have any of it. Defendant was not drunk, and she always staggered owing to bad legs. Fined 5s and costs, or in default seven days' imprisonment."

AND

"*William Wright*, as the landlord of the VICTORIA INN, Lower Rushall Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises and June 20th. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

Police-sergeant Dicken gave similar evidence to that in the last case, and said it would be impossible for anyone to go in at that door without being seen by a person behind the bar. At the time of his entrance the landlord, the landlady, and a barmaid were stationed behind the bar.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jackson, he said it would not be possible for anyone who was sitting by the door to be seen from the bar when the doors opened, they opened inwards. The woman had no intoxicant before her. When asked for her name and address, she would not give it at first, but eventually did so.

Police-constable Sandoz gave similar evidence, but, examined by the Chief Constable, he stated that when he and Sergeant Dicken went in the woman Boyce could not be seen from the bar, as she was just behind the door, and her husband, a man of over six feet, was sitting in front of her.

Questioned by Mr. Jackson: The landlady did make the statement that the woman had had no drink there, and this was corroborated by the woman herself at the time.

Mr. Jackson, for the defence, contended that to permit drunkenness was to be in collusion with the person who was drunk and to keep them there for the purpose of making profit. Mr. *Wright* had been at the house for a period of six years, during which time there had been no complaint whatever against him. The second officer had very candidly admitted that the woman could not be seen from the bar, as she sat behind the door. Both constables had also admitted that the woman had no drink before her, and there was no reason to believe she had any there. He ventured to think that under the circumstances it would be impossible for the magistrates to register a conviction against the landlord.

William Wright said his attention was called to the woman, but he had not seen her till then. She had certainly had some drink, but she was not inebriated, and was quite able to walk. When the police entered he was the only one behind the bar.

Elizabeth Wright, landlady, said she was not in the bar when the police entered, but afterwards went in. Her attention was called to the woman, but she did not say, 'I didn't think she was that bad.' However, she told the mother-in-law and the husband to drink up and go, and this they did.

After retiring to consider the case, the Bench were unanimous in thinking it was a proper case to be brought before the court. At the same time they did not consider there was sufficient evidence to make a conviction, and they wished to draw the attention of all license-holders to section 4 of the new Licensing Act, which the deputy clerk (Mr. E. Loxton) read out."

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/2/1907](#)

"*William Holt*, of the VICTORIA INN, Rushall Street, Walsall, was yesterday fined 20s and costs for having permitted drunkenness, and *John Bates*, of Paddock Lane, 10s and costs for having been drunk on the premises."

Mrs. Hannah Power, daughter of a publican who kept the VICTORIA INN, Rushall, Walsall, known as 'Mrs. Buccholtz' to people living in Staines, was murdered by William Buccholtz, in April 1908.

[Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909](#)

"Applications for transfer of license were heard in the Guildhall on Tuesday.....

Mr. Jackson appeared in the application of *William Wright* for a transfer of the VICTORIA license, Lower Rushall Street, from *Claude Ernest Pringle*, and said that they had been rather unfortunate in that house, but they thought they had got the right man this time. Mr. *Wright* was going from one house to another.

The Chairman: I hope it will pay him well.

Mr. Jackson: He is glad to get it back.

The Chairman asked Mr. *Wright* why he left the house on the previous occasion.

Mr. *Wright*: We were not doing well enough in it, I suppose. The house has changed hands since.

The Chairman: You did not like the old owner? – Mr. *Wright* was wide awake and made no reply, a fact that caused some laughter in court.

The application was granted."

[Walsall Advertiser 7/8/1909](#)

"*Elizabeth Bradbury*, a woman living in Lower Rushall Street, was fined 10s and costs for being drunk on the licensed premises of the VICTORIA INN and refusing to quit when requested to do so. The case was before the magistrates last week. Mr. C. Davis (probation officer) stated that the woman had refused to go into a home or give up the way she was living."

[Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910](#)

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

William Wright and *Elizabeth Wright*, VICTORIA, Lower Rushall Street.....

Mr. Jackson appeared for Mr. George Whitehouse, the owner, Mr. Zeller, the tenant, and Mrs. *Wright*, the manager. He stated that the house was rebuilt about eight years' ago at a cost of between two and three thousand pounds. Since Mr. Zeller had taken the tenancy, eight months ago, he had been selling nine and a half barrels of beer per week, five gallons of spirits, and five dozen of

bottled beer per week. The weekly takings averaged £22 7s 11d per week for the last eight months, the indoor taking being £13 18s and the out-door £8 9s 10d. The gross takings from April 1909 to January 22nd, 1910, amounted to £880 7s 11d.

Answering Mr. Jackson, Inspector Ballance said that was the only house he knew that had a bathroom.

Mrs. *Wright* who said she managed the house as her husband had gone to New Zealand, said strict measure was given indoor, but the measure and a half outdoor.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

The Magistrates decided to renew the licenses of the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, and the QUEENS HOTEL, Station Street, and the VICTORIA, Lower Rushall Street.”

1911 Census

23, Rushall Street – VICTORIA INN

[1] *Catherine Slater* (48), manageress, public house, born Hallow, Worcestershire;

[2] *Annie Pearson* (24), barmaid, born Brierley Hill;

[3] *Beatrice Mills* (22), servant, born Sutton Coldfield:

Walsall Advertiser 2/8/1913

“The Walsall Transfer Sessions were held on Tuesday at the Guildhall.....

Sir E. T. Holden pointed out that there had been eight transfers at the VICTORIA INN, Lower Rushall Street, since 1900.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

VICTORIA INN, Lower Rushall Street. £0 11s 6½d.”

Walsall Observer 12/10/1918 - Advert

“Wednesday, 23rd October, 1918.

Under instructions from Messrs. W. Butler & Co. Ltd. Springfield Brewery, Wolverhampton, Leonard C. Philpot will Sell by Auction the Brewery Plant, Utensils and Effects, at the following Licensed Houses, viz:

VICTORIA INN, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.....

Further particulars in Next Week’s *Observer*, from the Auctioneer’s Offices, Midland Bank Chambers, The Bridge, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/1/1926

“Benjamin Watts, 51, labourer, of no fixed home, was charged with burglariously breaking and entering the VICTORIA INN, Lower Rushall Street, and stealing a razor and 10s in money, the property of the landlord, *Robert Wm. Hatfield*, and a lady’s gold locket and necklace, the property of the landlord’s mother, *Emma Hatfield*; and he was further charged with being a convict on license and failing to notify also change of address. Sergt. Lavender spoke to arresting the prisoner, and said the entrance to the premises had been effected through the lavatory window. In one of the prisoner’s pockets was a skeleton key and a glove for the right hand. Prisoner was discharged on license from Parkhurst Prison last August. Prisoner was committed for trial at the Quarter Session on both charges.”

1939 Register

23, Lower Rushall Street

[1] *John J. Poxon*, date of birth 27/4/1891, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Molly Poxon*, dob 6/3/1899, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Evening Despatch 21/5/1940

“A Walsall master locksmith and safe opener, described as ‘a man of exceptional ability with a wide reputation as a safe opener,’ was awarded £500 damages and costs at Walsall County Court in respect of personal injuries received as the result of a light shaft cover outside the VICTORIA HOTEL, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.

Plaintiff was William John Heap of Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, and respondents were Ind Coope and Allsop Ltd., brewers, Burton-on-Trent, owners of the VICTORIA HOTEL.

Judge A. C. Caporn granted a stay of execution pending an appeal.

The case was remitted for High Court and it was stated for plaintiff that the accident happened on 4 April, 1938.

As he was about to enter the VICTORIA HOTEL, an iron plate-glass cover, outside the hotel, collapsed as he stepped on it and he fell down the shaft. It was alleged that as a result of the accident he was a ‘nervous wreck.’

The defence was a denial of liability.”

Birmingham Gazette 5/7/1940

“Messrs. Ind Coope and Allsopp, Ltd., brewers, appealed to the Court of Appeal yesterday from the decision of the Walsall County Court Judge, awarding £500 damages to William John Heap, of Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, in respect of injuries which Mr. Heap received by falling down a cellar light shaft in the pavement outside the VICTORIA HOTEL, Walsall.

The accident was due, it was alleged, to the defective condition of the light shaft cover which collapsed when Mr. Heap walked over it.

The brewery company contended that they were not liable because the VICTORIA HOTEL was let by them to Mr. *John Joseph Poxon*, and they were under no responsibility whatever to the tenant to keep the premises in repair. Lord Justice Mackinnon in giving judgement said it was contended that Mr. Heap had sued the wrong people, and he should have sued Mr. *Poxon*. Inasmuch as it was common sense that Mr. Heap should be able to recover from someone he ought to be able to recover from Ind. Coope and Co., if the law allowed him. On the authorities he (the Lord Justice) thought Mr. Heap was entitled to recover against them, and the County Court judge was right. The appeal would be dismissed. Lord Justice Luxmoore and Mr. Justice Tucker concurred.”

It closed on 10th November 1983.
It reopened in 1984 as KATZ.

Stephen A. Farley was married to Patricia.

Robert Billingham was married to Glenda.
See also FOUNTAIN, Lower Forster Street.

[1998]

It was renamed VICTORIA. [2000]

[2017]

VICTORIA STORES

120, High Street, (20, Walsall Road), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Thomas Forster, Bloxwich
Mr. Ingram, High Street, Bloxwich
J. & J. Yardley and Co. Ltd. [1907]
Old Wolverhampton Breweries Co. Ltd.
Frank Myatt Ltd.
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Ingram [1871] – [1872];
Hiram Cruckshall [];
William Bradley [];
Edwin Brayford [1888] – **1911**);
Martha Wilkes (**1911 – 1912**);
Frederick Henry Gough Ordridge (**1912 – 1913**);
William Henry Chamberlain (**1913 – 1917**);
Joseph Wall (**1917 – 1923**);
George Wood (**1923**);
Alfred John Hough (**1923 – 1925**);
Samuel Norton (**1925** – [1928])

NOTES

20, Walsall Road [1871]
120, High Street [1891], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1911]

VICTORIA VAULTS [1888]

It had a six-day beerhouse license.

1871 Census

20, Walsall Road – The STORES

- [1] *Edwin Ingram* (35), wholesale spirit merchant and beer retailer, born Brewood, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Hannah Ingram* (32), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Hannah Ingram* (11), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;
- [4] *Elizabeth A. Ingram* (10), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;
- [5] *Frances L. Ingram* (8), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Edith M. Ingram* (4), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Edwin A. Ingram* (2 months), son, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Elizabeth Guest* (41), wife's sister, milliner and assistant, born Bilston:

Walsall Advertiser 17/7/1882 - Advert

“*E. Ingram*, VICTORIA Brewery, Bloxwich.
First-Class Strong, Mild, & Bitter Beers, Stouts, &c.
Import of Foreign Wines & Spirits.
Send For List of Prices.”

Lichfield Mercury 10/8/1888

“It has been rumoured that the Bloxwich wakes, which have for two years been so popular, will soon be a thing of the past, and that the old traditional wake ground – i.e. The Green – will be laid out as recreational grounds and park. In order to give a Roland for an Oliver, it is the intention of several gentlemen from Bloxwich to revive the race meeting which in olden times was very popular among the Walsall and Bloxwich people. The last race meeting ever held in Bloxwich took place on August 20 and 21, 1886. Circulars accordingly issued announcing a meeting to be held at Mr. A. Cozens', the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold Bank [?], Bloxwich, on Thursday week, but owing to a severe storm which burst over the town at night, the meeting was not so well attended as was anticipated. Among those present were Mr. T. Lester, Treasurer; Mr. *E. Brayford*, hon. secretary, VICTORIA VAULTS, High Street, Bloxwich; Mr. A. Collins, Mr. A. Harper, Mr. E. Twoe, Mr. E. Pike, Mr. A. Cozens, &c., the latter occupying the chair.

The Hon. Secretary read the subscriptions list over, which was very promising, and suggestions were made, but owing to the non-arrival of several gentlemen nothing definite was done in the shape of arranging the amount of money to be given or the names of the various races.

The Chairman proposed, and it was seconded by Mr. Harper, that the meeting be adjourned until Monday night next, and be held at Mr. *E. Brayford's*, the VICTORIA VAULTS, which was carried nem con.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/10/1888 - Advert

“VICTORIA BREWERY, Bloxwich.
W. Ingram & Co., Brewers And Wine Merchants, are now prepared to Deliver in Walsall and District their First-Class, Strong, Mild, & Bitter Ales, and Stouts, and also Wines and Spirits of the Best Quality, on the Very Best Terms.
Application for Particulars and Price Lists will be Esteemed.”

1891 Census

120, High Street – VICTORIA STORES

- [1] *Edwin Brayford* (35), colliery clerk, born Walsall;
- [2] *Fanny Brayford* (33), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Edwin Brayford* (11), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [4] *Kate Brayford* (9), daughter, scholar, born Harden;
- [5] *Hannah Louisa Brayford* (6), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Fanny Brayford* (4), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Sidney Brayford* (2), son, born Bloxwich;
- [8] *Constance Rachel Brayford* (9 months), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [9] *Rachel Croxall* (31), sister in law, dressmaker, born Pelsall;
- [10] *Ellen Aston* (26), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Edwin Brayford, beer retailer, 120, High Street. [1896], [1904]

1901 Census

120, High Street

- [1] *Edwin Brayford* (45), widower, beer seller and haulier, born Walsall;
- [2] *Edwin Brayford* (21), son, assistant teacher, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Hannah L. Brayford* (16), daughter, dressmaker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Fanny Brayford* (14), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Sidney Brayford* (12), son, born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Constance R. Brayford* (10), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Ellen Aston* (36), housekeeper, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1902

“A large number of brethren and friends of Mr. B. Mellor met at the VICTORIA STORES, Bloxwich, on Tuesday evening, to do honour to him, in recognition of his election to the Investigation Committee of the Ancient Order of Foresters, and in his long service in the cause of Forestry in Bloxwich and the district. Bro. *E. Brayford*, the host, had provided a very ample and enjoyable dinner, which was capitally served; and after dinner the time was pleasantly passed with speeches and songs. Bro. P. W. Rowbottom presided.....”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....
Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....
Edwin Brayford, VICTORIA STORES.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....
In the case of the VICTORIA STORES, Bloxwich, Mr. Jackson proposed to do away with three dummy windows and also put in a new front for the better accommodation of the licensee and his family. He agreed not to increase the value of the place. Refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....
Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman applied on behalf of Messrs. J. and J. Yardley, Ltd., for sanction to plans for altering the VICTORIA STORES, High Street, Bloxwich. It was not proposed to make any alteration in the licensed area, but to alter the front of the house so far as the windows were concerned, and enlarge the bedroom accommodation. There was a large family, and the tenant Mr. *Brayford*, had been there for 24 years without a conviction.
The Chief Constable said they practically proposed adding a new storey, and it was a question whether the old building would stand it; they wanted a new house.
The application was adjourned for the committee to inspect.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....
Mr. Loxton intimated that in regard to the adjourned plans for alterations to the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, and the VICTORIA STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, the Bench had decided to refuse both applications.
Mr. Grundy-Newman said he sent in modified plans for the VICTORIA STORES.
Mr. Loxton: The magistrates refused to look at them. They were only sent in yesterday.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1907

“Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman submitted plans for alteration to the VICTORIA STORES, Bloxwich, for which plans had been submitted.
Mr. Holden said he noticed that the outside walls were only 9 inch walls, and rotten ones too.
The Mayor added that the magistrates who visited the house were unanimously of the opinion that the walls would not be safe with any extra weight on them.
Mr. H. E. Farmer (architect) said the only thing required was to utilise the space under the roof, and there would be no extra weight.
Mr. Holden remarked that a family put under the roof would surely increase the weight.
Mr. Grundy-Newman said the architects were willing to take any responsibility on their shoulders.
Mr. Loxton: Have not objections been taken to this house on the ground that it is structurally bad and not required, and was it not said at the last licensing sessions that it would be put on the list next year?
Mr. Farmer said he did not remember it, and went on to say that the magistrates had even refused the owners permission to paint the house.
Alderman Clare: Who refused you permission to paint? – Mr. Farmer: Well you kept grumbling as the amount of the estimate.
Alderman Clare: Was the whole sum of £440 for painting? – No answer.
The Bench refused the application.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1908

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough took place at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....
Mr. R. C. E. Plumtre (instructed by Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman) applied on behalf of *Edwin Brayford* of the VICTORIA STORES, High Street, for the transfer of the license of the present premises to new ones proposed to be erected on the present site; and the Court also heard at the same time an objection made on behalf of the justices against the renewal of the license on the ground it was not necessary.
At the outset the question of the objection was taken. Chief Inspector Ballance said that the population between the VICTORIA STORES and the nearest license was 75 persons over 16 and 25 under. There were four other licenses within 220 yards. It was a very old house – the ceilings were low, the doorways low, and the staircase very inconvenient.
Cross-examined by Mr. Plumtre, witness said he had known the house for 20 years, and it had been well conducted – there were

no complaints that he was aware of. If the plans before the court were sanctioned and carried out the house would be very much improved.

Mr. Plumptre said the applicant had been 25 years in the house, and there had not been a single complainant against him. The objection to the renewal of the license seemed to him that there were several other houses in the locality. What harm could it do to anybody to rebuild the house? On the other hand it would enable the authorities to carry out a street improvement, by setting back the frontage – an improvement which could not be effected unless these plans were passed. It would also be a great convenience to the tenant, so as to give him much needed extra bedroom accommodation.

Mr. J. Taylor, Borough Surveyor, gave evidence to the proposed street improvements which would be effected if the plans were carried out; Mr. H. E. Farmer (Hickton and Farmer) produced plans and explained them; Mr. Tomlins, surveyor, Wolverhampton, also gave evidence as to the improvement that would be effected, and the applicant also gave evidence supporting counsel's statement.

After the Bench had retired, Mr. Bayliss said the justices expressed no opinion on the requirement of the house – the question of the licenses of the district would be considered at another meeting. The license was therefore renewed, and the plans sanctioned."

Walsall Advertiser 4/2/1911

"The annual general licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall was held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Transfer Applications.....

The decision was reserved in the case of the VICTORIA STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, from *Edwin Brayford* to *Martha Wilkes*. This was a case in which a woman was the tenant of the house in which the husband also resided and assisted her to carry on the business."

1911 Census

99a, High Street

- [1] *Edwin Brayford* (55), widower, late beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Kate Brayford* (29), daughter, dressmaker, born Harden, Bloxwich;
- [3] *Hannah L. Brayford* (26), daughter, dressmaker, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Fanny Cooper* (24), daughter, married 1 year, milliner, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Sidney Brayford* (22), son, furnaceman (spelter), born Bloxwich;
- [6] *Arthur Edwin Cooper* (1), grandson, born Bloxwich;
- [7] *Ellen Aston* (46), domestic servant, born Rough Hills, Wolverhampton:
[No longer at the pub, but included because he was there.]

AND

120, High Street

- [1] *Thomas Wilkes* (53), lockmaker, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Martha Wilkes* (49), wife, married 27 years, servant, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Fanny Yates* (14), servant, born Bloxwich:
[This was the pub!]

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

"The usual Licensing Transfer Sessions were held at the Guildhall on Friday.....

Mr. Jackson appeared for the licensees of the VICTORIA STORES, Bloxwich, the proposed alteration in which, he said, consisted of the removal of the counter from one room to another, and the removal of the serving hatch from one door to another.

After retiring and examining the plans the Chairman said the Magistrates would grant the application, but it was to be clearly understood that they would hear no application there for further domestic accommodation by reason of the increase in the licensed area."

Lichfield Mercury 9/3/1928

"Walsall Licensing Sessions.....

The following five houses, all of Bloxwich, were referred for compensation:

CARRIERS ARMS, Field Road; STATION HOTEL, Station Street; VICTORIA STORES, High Street; BLUE PIG, Elmore Row; and the VINE INN, The Green."

Compensation of £2,000 was paid in December 1928.

It closed in December 1928.

Check STORES.

VICTORY

Bloxwich Lane, Bentley Common, (Birchhills Old Field), (Reedswood), Old Birchhills, WALSALL

OWNERS

Philip Williams, Bridgnorth
P. Williams Brothers, Wednesbury Oak, Tipton
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired 26th January 1900.)

LICENSEES

John Dulson [1872] – **189_**); [1891]
John Maddocks (**189_**) – []; [1896]
Joseph Harry Taylor [1900] – **1902**);
William Deans (**1902 – 1905**);
Joseph Yates (**1905 – 1908**);
William Deans (**1908 – 1910**);
George Stanley (**1910 – 1913**);
Charles Hall Leadbetter (**1913 – 1915**);
Edward Thomas Taylor (**1915 – 1917**);
Ellen Taylor (**1917 – 1919**);
Issacher Pearsall (**1919 – 1951**);

NOTES

OLD VICTOR [1891]
OLD VICTORY [1901], [1911], [1914], [1915]
VICTORY CAVE [1911], [1939], [1943], [1944]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

The licensee was fined 20s and costs, on 12th November 1884, for Sunday trading.

[Walsall Observer 24/9/1887](#)

“Walsall Licensing Sessions

The adjourned annual licensing meeting was held yesterday, at the Sessions Court.....

Applications which had been adjourned owing to the tenants having been convicted during the past year.

The following were granted.....

VICTORY, Reeds Wood.”

1891 Census

Old Birchills – OLD VICTOR

[1] *John Dulson* (65), beer retailer, born Walsall;

[2] Eleanor Dulson (60), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Alfred Dulson (30), son, coal miner, born Walsall;

[4] Benjamin J. W. Dulson (18), son, coal labourer, born Walsall;

[5] Eleanor Webster (15), niece, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] John A. Dulson (4), grandchild, scholar, born Tamworth:

Lichfield Mercury 11/12/1896 - Advert

“Wanted, single man, 25 to 30 years of age; used to cows and farm work.

Apply or address, VICTORY INN, Bentley, Near Walsall.”

Lichfield Mercury 11/3/1898 - Advert

“Wanted, a Youth, aged 17, for public house, used to garden work.

Apply, VICTORY INN, Bentley, near Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 19/5/1900

“Richard Handley, 17, St. Patrick’s Square, and Richard Lloyd, 20, Forge Street, Birchills, were charged with being disorderly in the VICTORY INN, and with refusing to quit when ordered to by the landlord.

Harry Taylor, landlord of the VICTORY INN, said that on April 30th at about 4pm the two men asked permission to play cards.

This was refused, and the defendants became quarrelsome and abusive, and on being told to go they refused. Neither of them was drunk.

The defendants pleaded guilty, and the Magistrates imposed a fine of 5s and costs, or seven days.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1901

“A youth aged 17, named James Lycett, 180, Upper Green Lane, was charged with stealing six packets of tobacco from the VICTORY INN, on Sunday evening, the property of *Harry Taylor*. From what someone said to the landlord he went into the bar and found prisoner and another young man there. He asked them what they had taken. The other replied ‘nothing,’ and the prisoner said, ‘I don’t know what you mean.’ Complainant’s informant pointed to the prisoner as the man who had been over the counter. Prisoner tried to get away, but the landlord caught him, and he produced six packets of tobacco from his pockets. The other youth got away. The landlord gave him into custody of Police-constable Sandoz.

William Wilkinson, a young miner, of Stine Row, had been in the house and was passing the bar window outside when he saw prisoner laid over the counter reaching for something on the other side. Witness then informed the landlord.

Prisoner, who pleaded guilty, was remanded for a week, in order that he might bring his father and evidence of character.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1901

“James Lycett (17), of 180, Upper Hall Lane, was charged with stealing from the OLD VICTORY, six packets of tobacco, value 9s, belonging to *Harry Taylor*.

The case was adjourned from last week for the appearance of defendant’s father. It was defendant’s first offence, and his father was bound over in the sum of £5 for his good behaviour.”

1901 Census

Birchills Old Field – VICTORY INN

- [1] *Joseph Harry Taylor* (35), beerhouse keeper, born Dudley;
- [2] Maria Mary Taylor (34), wife, domestic, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Horace Taylor (2), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Clara Bayley (62), mother, widow, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [5] Harriett Dutton (48), aunt, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [6] Ruth Norton (28), domestic servant, born Shifnal, Shropshire;
- [7] Frank George Taylor (15), brother, domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1901

“The winners of the six prizes offered by Mr. *H. Taylor*, of the VICTORY INN, Reeds Wood, in the annual angling contest, at Bentley, on Saturday last were: 1 Edwards, 2 Kingston, 3 Taylor, 4 Edwards, 5 Betteridge, 6 Appleby. A good number of fisherman, attended the contest.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/10/1901

“At a meeting held on Wednesday evening at the OLD VICTORY INN, Reeds Wood, to consider the formation of a new Angling Society, called ‘The VICTORY Social Angling Society,’ a fair number of anglers and friends were present. It was decided to hold a second meeting to-day (Saturday), to which all anglers and friends in the district are cordially invited.”

Joseph Harry Taylor also operated a boatyard, the Victoria Boat Dock, Birchills.

Walsall Advertiser 18/7/1903

“George Teece (21), ironworker, 60, Upper Green Lane; Nathaniel Mincher (19), miner, 11, Alma Street; John Cooksey (22), ironworker, 59, Upper Green Lane; and Frank Dummelow (19), ironworker, Reeds Wood were each charged with committing a criminal assault on Annie Green (16), Tiger yard, Short Acre Street, on July 11th.

Complainant stated that she went to the VICTORY INN, Reeds Wood, on the 12th, and remained there with a friend named Blewitt until about 10.30. When she left she was followed by Mincher, who, with some other young fellows, she had seen inside. He wanted her to accompany him, but as she refused he dragged her away, being followed by the other three defendants. Mincher took her to the park and there threw her to the ground, and after filling her mouth with grass to prevent her shouting they committed the offence complained of.

Elizabeth Blewitt said she saw complainant dragged away by Mincher, and afterwards heard her screams for help, but she was afraid to go to her assistance lest, they treat her the same.

David Walker deposed to hearing screams, and on going in the direction from whence they proceeded, in company with his son, saw the girl Green on the ground with three of the prisoners kneeling round. In the case of Teece he saw the offence committed. He dragged him away, and he with the other defendants moved off, his son assisting the girl to rise, she being in a fainting condition.

James Walker, son of the former witness, gave similar evidence.

D. Scott Wilson said he examined the girl, and found that an assault had been committed.

Prisoners were sent for trial to the next assizes.”

[Mincher was sentenced to five years’ penal servitude. Teece, Cooksey, and Dummelow each to four years’ penal servitude.]

Walsall Advertiser 3/6/1905

“John Wain, 5, Alma Square, Green Lane, was charged with stealing a watch and chain, value £1, the property of Francis Canser, 177, Green Lane. Complainant said that at 12.45 on the 28th ult. he met Wain near a bridge at Reeds Wood, and they went to the VICTORY INN. They came out with some more companions, and some distance from the public-house sat down for a time. He

got up to go home, but further up the road he lay down and went to sleep. He was awakened by someone kicking him in the ribs. He next saw prisoner with his watch, and said, 'Jack, you have got my watch?' Prisoner said, 'Yes; I will give it you back.' He had not seen the watch since.

Prisoner said he had lodged with complainant some time, and took his watch for safety; but when he was asked for it back he gave it to him.

Thomas Swindler gave evidence in support of prisoner.

Prisoner was discharged."

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1910

"Burglars have been particularly busy in Walsall during the past week the VICTORY INN, Bentley, has also been entered, the thieves having removed a penny-in-the slot machine."

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1911

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *George Stanley*, OLD VICTORY INN, was unanimously elected a member of the society."

1911 Census

Bentley – VICTORY CAVE

[1] *George Stanley* (39), licensed victualler, born Pelsall;

[2] *Kate Stanley* (38), wife, married 18 years, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Ethel Stanley* (18), daughter, bookkeeper, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *George Stanley* (15), son, leather satchel maker, born Walsall;

[5] *Thomas E. Stanley* (13), son, school, born Walsall;

[6] *Albert Stanley* (10), son, school, born Walsall;

[7] *Lucy A. Stanley* (8), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] *Daniel M. Stanley* (5), son, born Walsall;

[9] *Ronald Stanley* (1), son, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/2/1914

"*Thomas Ball*, 29, banksman, of Stonehouse Row, Bentley, was charged with stealing a horse and float, a set of harness, rug, and whip, total value £46 3s, the property of *Joseph Hancox*, haulier, of Keeper's Cottage, Green Lane, on the 12th inst. *Mr. F. Cooper* defended. The prosecutor deposed to leaving the horse and vehicle outside the OLD VICTORY INN, Bentley. While he was in the house the accused left and the horse and float disappeared. Two hours later he found the man lying in the roadway, and the horse and vehicle were found later, but the rug and lamp were missing and the float itself had been overturned and damaged.

Mr. Cooper said it was apparent that *Ball* had no intention of stealing the horse and float. He was drinking at the public house for some hours, and foolishly drove off to within a hundred yards of the prosecutor's house. *Ball* undertook to pay for the rug and the damage to the vehicle, and he was discharged."

Walsall Observer 19/6/1915

"*Leonard Carter*, Birchills Street, was summoned for stealing two glasses, value 7d, the property of *Charles Leadbetter*, OLD VICTORY INN, between May 14 and June 4. It was stated that the man was seen to take the glass from outside the public house by the landlord, who followed him, and eventually informed the police. At the defendant's house another glass belonging to prosecutor was found.

The defendant, who said he took the glasses from some waste land, was fined 10s."

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/8/1915

"*Mr. H. H. Jackson* applied on behalf of Messrs. *W. Butler and Co.*, for the transfer of the license of the VICTORY INN, Reeds Wood, from *Charles H. Leadbetter* to *Edward Thos. Taylor*. In reply to the Bench, *Leadbetter* said he was leaving because he had lost money. He would agree to the application on conditions. He had lost money and was being turned out in the middle of the season; little was done in winter. He had been in the house two years. After further discussion, *Leadbetter* said he would agree to the application if he were allowed £5. The offer was not accepted, and the magistrates intimated that as the application did not come from the present tenant it could not be granted."

Walsall Observer 25/9/1915

"Applications were made for the transfer of several licenses.....

In the case of the VICTORY INN, Birchills, which was transferred from *Charles Hall Leadbetter* to *Edward Thomas Taylor*, the former did not appear, and the ingoing tenant stated that he was in possession, and that no one appeared to know where *Leadbetter* was.

The Chief Constable said that when this case came before the magistrates previously, the outgoing tenant objected to go out unless he was paid a certain sum of money. The matter was eventually settled, however, and he went out."

Ellen Taylor was fined £10 and costs, on 30th May 1919, for selling beer exceeding the price.

It was structurally damaged by nearby railway sidings.

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
VICTORY INN, Reedswood. £0 11s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 12/8/1939 - Marriages

“On Aug. 5, 1939, at St. Andrew’s Church, Birchills, Edwin Baker, of Cecil Street, to *Mary Pearsall*, of VICTORY CAVE INN, Bentley.”

1939 Register

Bentley – VICTORY INN

[1] *Issachar Pearsall*, date of birth 13/2/1881, licensee, beerhouse, married;

[2] *Annie Pearsall*, dob 4/2/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Robert T. Pearsall*, dob 7/11/1921, bricklayer, improver, single:

AND

[1] *Frank Hill*, dob 24/8/1917, journeyman bricklayer, heavy work, single;

[2] *Ann Hill*, dob 16/7/1873, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Mary (Hill) Sillitoe*, dob 31/5/1900, ladies housekeeper, single;

[4] *Lucy (Hill) Evans*, dob 6/11/1913, shop assistant, single:

AND (2 of 3)

[1] *Regonald W. Knowles*, dob 5/10/1900, machine tool fitter, heavy work, married, AFS;

[2] *Martha (Knowles) Jackson*, dob 11/1/1905, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

VICTORY INN, Bentley, £0 12s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 10/7/1943 - Notice

“War Charities Act, 1940.

Notice is Hereby Given that we have applied to the Walsall Town Clerk for Registration under the above Act, of the VICTORY CAVE INN, Bentley, Walsall. The object is to provide gifts in money or kind to old customers serving with H. M. Forces.

Any Objection to be sent to the Town Clerk’s Office within 14 days of this notice.

J. Parkes, Chairman.

H. Glover, Secretary.

July 10th, 1943.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

VICTORY CAVE INN, Bentley. £1 16s 5d.”

Letter from H. Bert Wood to Geoff Taylor March/April 1979

“.....I used to go a few walks through Reedswood Park to the VICTORY pub on Sunday night in the summer. It was an old-fashioned pub set in a nice country atmosphere. There was a very large lawn you could sit on and have a nice quiet drink; there used to be a lot of people go there for their drink. I sometimes went along the old canal.....”

[Bert Wood was 73 when he wrote this letter, responding to an appeal for information.

Geoff Taylor was the grand-son of *Joseph Harry Taylor* and the son of *Joseph Horace Taylor*.]

Letter from Mrs. Mary Baker to Geoff Taylor 11/3/1979

“.....My parents, Mr. and Mrs. *Pearsall* took over in July 1919 from a family named *Taylor* I lived there until 1939 but the family stayed until it was demolished in 1951. It closed in 1950.....”

[Mary Baker was responding to an appeal for information.

Geoff Taylor was the grand-son of *Joseph Harry Taylor* and the son of *Joseph Horace Taylor*.]

It was closed by Order of the Licensing Justices on 9th April 1951.

Demolished

VILLAGE

Tempu, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[2013]

[2017]

VILLAGE

11, (12), (11+12), Windmill Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Woodward, Caldmore Cottage, Walsall
William Roper
John Astbury, Windmill, Walsall
John Boyce
Arthur Marshall
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1939)
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Birch [1861] – [1862]
James Roper [1865] – [1873];
Charles Fletcher [];
Thomas Harrison [];
Job Toon [1881] – **1886**);
John Boyce (**1886 – 1907**);
Jennie Boyce (**1907 – 1916**);
Miss Ethel Marley (**1916 – 1921**);
Arthur Marshall (**1921 – [1934]**
George Armishaw Thornton [] – **1939**);
William Thomas Walton (**1939 – [1942]**
Mrs. Annie Walton [1942]
Mrs. E Bracken [1945]

NOTES

11+12, Windmill Street [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911], [1939], [1940]
11, Windmill Street

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

1861 Census

Windmill Street

[1] *John Birch* (44), brass dresser and beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] Charlotte Birch (43), wife, born Bristol;

[3] Hannah Purnell (14), house servant, born Bristol:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 9/6/1861

“J. Birch of Walsall will match his black cock pigeon to fly either of the following from Oxford to Walsall, distance from 75 to 80 miles, namely, J. Fleming of Hill Street or T. Broadhurst of Birmingham Street, for £5 or £10 a side, according to their challenge. Should this not suit either, any other fancier can be accommodated in Walsall, the same distance, each to fly their own road. Money ready any time next week at *J. Birch's*, the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, Walsall.”

John Birch, retailer of beer, Windmill Street. [1862]

Walsall Free Press 14/10/1865 - Advert

“Walsall Coach Harness Furniture Protection Society.

The Members of the above Society are requested to attend a General Meeting at the VILLAGE INN (Mr. *James Roper's*) Windmill Street, on Monday, the 16th inst, at Eight, pm.”

James Roper, beer retailer, Windmill Street. [1868]

Walsall Free Press 7/3/1868 - Notice

“A Newly Enrolled Friendly Benefit Society, held at *James Roper's*, VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, is Open to Receive Members from 18 to 40 years of age.

All information can be obtained from the Landlord.

J. Burton, jun, Esq, Surgeon to the Society.”

James Roper, beer retailer, 12, Windmill Street. [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

11+12, Windmill Street – VILLAGE INN

- [1] *James Roper* (51), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Roper (34), wife, born Sutton Coldfield;
- [3] Harry Roper (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah A. Roper (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Charles W. Roper (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Alfred Roper (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Nicholas Roper (3), son, imbecile, born Walsall;
- [8] Amy Roper (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/9/1873

“The committee of the Walsall Cottage Hospital beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following contributions that have been received up to yesterday from the Licensed Victuallers and beersellers.....

Mr. *James Roper*, VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, 10s.”

1881 Census

11+12, Windmill Street

- [1] *Job Toon* (60), publican and hame maker, born Alvechurch;
- [2] Elizabeth Toon (59), wife, born Alvechurch;
- [3] James Toon (30), son, jockey – unemployed, born Walsall;
- [4] Joseph Toon (22), son, bridle cutter – unemployed, born Walsall;
- [5] Ellen Toon (19), daughter, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 31/7/1886 - Advert

“General Servant (good) Wanted, age about 20; one used to public house; must have good character.

Apply, Mrs. *Toon*, VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/10/1886

“Re *James Toon*, Mount Street, Walsall, horse dealer, and formerly of the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, Walsall, licensed victualler. This debtor appeared for his public examination at the Walsall bankruptcy Court – before Mr. Registrar Clarke – Mr. T. H. Evans attending on his behalf. The statement showed – liabilities £125 15s 1d; assets, £16 14s 4d; deficiency, £107 0s 9d. The bankrupt formerly a jockey. From October, 1879, to August 1886, he was a licensed victualler at the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, Walsall, being also a horsebreaker. Since then he had carried on the business of a horsebreaker only. He had capital of £123 when he began business. He was examined by the Official Receiver as to his estate, and particularly as to the sale of his public-house to one of his creditors, who had been paid £27, being the balance of the valuation after deducting the amount due to the creditor. The debtor admitted that he knew he had been insolvent for over twelve months. The examination was adjourned till Thursday.”

1891 Census

11+12, Windmill Street – VILLAGE INN

- [1] *John Boyce* (32), house painter, born Bermondsey, London;
- [2] *Emma Boyce* (34), wife, born Coleshill, Warwickshire;
- [3] *Horace Boyce* (2), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Harriett Stringer* (29), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 5/8/1893 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Watkins, Powell, at their Property salerooms, 29, Bridge Street, Walsall, on Monday, the 21st of August, at Six o'clock in the evening precisely.....

Lot 3. Four valuable Freehold Dwelling Houses, Nos.11, 12, 13, and 13½, Windmill Street, two of which are occupied by *John Boyce* as a beer-house, known as the VILLAGE INN, together with the Bowling Alley at the rear, at an annual rent of £24. The other two houses are in the respective occupations of J. Holmes and D. Walker, at a rental producing £25 2s 8d per annum; together with a range of Two-storey Shopping at the rear, and also the large Yard, casting Shops, Stable, Coach-house, Loft and Cartshed, now in the occupation of Mr. Astbury. This lot contains an area of 911 square yards or thereabouts.

The whole of the above properties are substantially built, well-tenanted, and in a populous and thriving neighbourhood.....”

John Boyce, beer retailer, 11-12, Windmill Street. [1896], [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Beerhouses.....

John Boyce, VILLAGE INN, served 11 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

John Boyce was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

1901 Census

11+12, Windmill Street – The VILLAGE INN

- [1] *John Boyce* (41), licensed victualler, born Bermondsey, London;
- [2] *Emma Boyce* (42), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Horace Boyce* (12), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Martha Thurstan* (26), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 11/10/1902

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of the vice-president, Mr. *John Boyce*, VILLAGE INN Windmill Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last, at the house of the President, VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, Walsall, when there were present Mr. *John Boyce* (president) in the chair.....”

Walsall Advertiser 18/5/1907

“There passed away on Sunday evening, after a brief illness, Mr. *John Boyce*, landlord of the VILLAGE INN, Caldmore, at the age of 48. Mr. *Boyce* had been a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society for nearly twenty years, most of which time he had been an active worker on the Executive Committee of the association. He leaves a widow and one son. The funeral took place on Thursday noon at the Old Cemetery, and was well attended.....”

Walsall Advertiser 5/3/1910

“Walsall Quarter Sessions.

John Osbourne (24), a polisher, and *George Meeson* (19), labourer, both of no fixed abode, pleaded guilty to breaking and entering the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, between the 16th and 17th December, 1909, and stealing £3 belonging to *Jennie Boyce*. *Osbourne* said he simply went to sleep in an outhouse not knowing that a robbery was going to be committed, and it was *Meeson* who put him up to it.

The Recorder pointed out to *Osbourne* that he had been living a criminal life since 1902, and *Osbourne* said that had been on account of them starving at home. His brother, however, denied this and said it was prisoner's fault they had got into trouble on several occasions.

Prisoner: He's telling lies – his mother has put him up to it.

The Recorder: Every time you open your mouth you are getting at least another month.

Evidence was given by the police showing both men were idlers, and when they were taken in hand by the Police Court Mission-

ary they rewarded him by robbing the mission.

The Recorder said that he had been hesitating whether to send both prisoners into penal servitude, but he would give them another chance.

At this juncture Osbourne asked to be sent to penal servitude; it would be the making of him, he said. Osbourne was then sentenced to three years' penal servitude and Meeson to 10 months' hard labour."

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910 - In Memoriam

"In loving memory of *John Boyce*, of the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, who died May 12th, 1907.
Thy will be done."

1911 Census

11+12, Windmill Street

- [1] *Jennie Boyce* (45), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Horace Boyce (22), stepson, pianist at picture palace, born Walsall;
- [3] William Morris (19), son, brewer at home, born Walsall;
- [4] Arthur Morris (15), son, tool maker in buckle works, born Walsall;
- [5] Ethel Marley (22), niece, general help at home, born Cirencester:

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

"The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, Walsall, 8s 2d."

Walsall Observer 26/2/1916 - Deaths

"In loving memory of our dear mother, *Jennie Boyce*, who passed away on February 18th, at VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street. Interred at Willenhall Cemetery, February 23rd.

From her ever-loving sons, Will and Arthur.

Mr. Will Morris and Mr. Arthur Morris wish to thank neighbours and all kind friends for sympathy and floral tributes in their sad bereavement. No cards."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street. £1 6s 5d."

Walsall Observer 1/6/1918 - In Memoriam

"*Boyce*. In loving memory of my dear cousin, Horace, late of the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, who was killed in action on May 2, 1918.

I pictured you safely returning,

And longed to clasp your hand;

But god has postponed the meeting.

Twill be in a better land.

Always remembered by his loving cousin, Ethel.

Miss R. *Marley*, of the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, wishes to thank all friends for kindness and sympathy shown to her in her bereavement."

Walsall Observer 8/6/1918- Roll of Honour - Killed in Action

"Private Horace *Boyce*, whose home was at the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, is officially reported to have been killed in action while serving with the South Staffords on May 2. He enlisted in November, 1915, and went out to France on February 11, 1916. He was very well-known in Walsall and district musical circles, and was 29 years of age and single. As a boy he attended the Bridge and Technical Schools."

Walsall Observer 3/8/1918 - Advert

"Home For Soldiers' Children, 32, Birmingham Road, Walsall.

Registered under the War Charities Act, 1916.

The Hon Secretary most gratefully acknowledges the following:

Miss *Marley*, VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, £2 4s 3d; Recruiting Office Fund, £10. Mrs. Cotterell, flowers; Mrs. Porter, lettuce and radishes; Mrs. Cotterell, cucumber; A Friend, broad beans; Miss Sharp (Q.M.S.), a doll; Mrs. H. H. Hawkins, vegetables, rice and treacle."

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

"Asking for the renewal of the licenses of the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street; and the WHITE LION, Portland Street, Mr. Frank Cooper stated that both houses were owned by Ansell's or one of their subsidiary companies and if the licenses were renewed he would give an undertaking that within the current licensing year a scheme would be submitted for dealing with the licenses by way of removal of one and the surrender of the other. If that undertaking were fulfilled, the justices would be able to merge two

licenses into one, but if the undertaking were not carried out, no opposition would be raised to both licenses being on the 'object-ed' list next year.

The two licenses were renewed on this undertaking, as were the licenses of the PHEASANT, Windmill Street; and the FOUNTAIN, Bott Lane; subject to somewhat similar undertakings.

Mr. Cooper, for the owners attached considerable importance to the PHEASANT and if the VILLAGE went there could be no question about the PHEASANT being necessary. If the justices preferred it, however, the brewery company would deal with the PHEASANT and the FOUNTAIN in the same way as the VILLAGE and the WHITE LION, all being in the same ownership."

Evening Despatch 4/5/1939

"Granting an application for discharge from bankruptcy by *Arthur Marshall*, formerly carrying on business at the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, Walsall, subject to suspension for two months, the Judge at Walsall County Court today said he did not regard it as a bad case, but rather as one of hardship.

It was stated that *Marshall*, who was 66, was adjudicated bankrupt in 1934, and a first and final dividend of 6s 3d in the £ had been paid on proofs for £130.

From 1905 until 1918, when he was called up for the Army, debtor held the license of the Swan Hotel, Brewood. When he was called up he sold the house at a loss of £500, but owing to the Armistice being signed he never served in the Army and was unemployed for some time.

In 1921 he purchased the VILLAGE INN for £3,350, but trade eventually declined owing to the closing of several factories."

Birmingham Daily Post 3/6/1939

"*Arthur Marshall*, residing and carrying on business at the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, Walsall; beerhouse keeper. Bankrupt's discharge suspended for two months. Discharged as from July 4."

George Armishaw Thornton – see also ROYAL OAK.

1939 Register

11+12, Windmill Street (2 of 3)

[1] *William T. Walton*, date of birth 3/6/1906, publican, manager, married;

[2] *Annie Walton*, dob 25/11/1907, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, £1 0s 0d."

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mrs. *Walton*, VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street. £0 12s 2d."

Walsall Observer 19/9/1942

"A lively scuffle in a public-house was described in a case at Walsall Police Court on Wednesday, in which Frank Norton (37), moulder, 7, Newhall Street, was summoned for maliciously wounding Edwin Rogers, 73, Caldmore Road, and Austin Coleman, 16, Bagnall Street. Mr. V. L. Hodgkinson defended.

Superintendent Raybould said evidence would be called to show that a knife was used in the assault, and although it was not suggested that the injuries inflicted were very serious, the police felt that in all such cases the facts should be placed before the magistrates.

Rogers gave evidence that on Sunday, August 16, he went to the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, about 9.15pm in company with Coleman. There were other people in the smokeroom, but he had no conversation with any of them. When they were leaving the house about 10.15pm, there was a scramble in a passage during which he was stabbed in the hand and wrist, and also received some 'terrible clouts' about the face, but from whom he could not say. He received his injuries when he put his hand up to protect himself against a 'shining piece of steel' which a man had in his hand. He afterwards had his injuries dressed at the hospital. Cross-examined, Rogers said he did not know Norton and had never seen him before. He had three or four half-pints in the public-house and he was not the worse for drink.

Coleman's story was that he recognized Norton as amongst the company in the public-house. There was no incident until they were about to leave, when Norton said to Rogers: 'Come on Ted; I want you.' When they were in the passage he saw that Norton had a table knife in his hand. Witness went to ward off the blow but Rogers was struck on the right hand. Witness also had to receive hospital treatment for a cut on his right hand, but it was not a very severe wound. There were other men who took part in the bother and one of them kicked him (Coleman) so severely that he had to have hospital treatment also for the bruising which was caused.

Cross-examined, Coleman admitted that they had been in another public-house before they went to the VILLAGE INN. He agreed there was a general scrimmage in the passage and that some of the people were trying to part Norton and Rogers.

George Edward Ayres, 3, Sandwell Street, a part-time waiter at the VILLAGE INN, said he was in the bar cleaning up when he heard a commotion in the passage and saw four men engaged in a general melee and exchanging blows. Whilst he was trying to

restore order he heard someone exclaim: 'He's got a knife,' and saw Norton, who was one of the four men, had a knife in his hand which he was holding about waist high. Witness made a grab for the knife and managed to take it off him.

Cross-examined, Ayres said all the four men were bleeding from what appeared to be scratches and bruises.

William Thomas Walton, the licensee, who went to the assistance of Ayres, said he saw Norton strike Rogers about the face.

Detective-constable Badcock said he received the table knife (produced) from *Walton*. When he visited the home of Norton, defendant told him 'I admit being in the disturbance but I know nothing at all about the knife.'

Norton's story was that when he was leaving the public-house he asked Rogers to 'leave him alone,' as he alleged Rogers had assaulted him on a previous occasion. Immediately on this there was a general scramble and he heard someone exclaim, 'He's got a knife.' He immediately closed with Rogers and then saw the knife on the floor and 'grabbed' it for his own safety. He had not had it in his hand many seconds when someone snatched it off him. He denied the knife was his property, and said he had never seen it before.

Fred. Henry Manlove, 108, Walker Road, who was in Norton's company declared that although there was a good deal of 'pushing' going on, no blow was struck at all.

When the magistrates (Mrs. Hutchins, Mr. Fred Evans and Mrs. Brockhurst) decided to convict, Superintendent Raybould stated that only last year Norton was fined for being drunk on licensed premises and for assaulting the police.

Mr. Hodgkinson mentioned that Norton had been in the Army for twelve months but had to withdraw to do work of national importance.

Mrs. Hutchins said the Bench regarded it as a very serious case, particularly as a knife was used, and defendant would have to pay a fine of £5 with £2 13s 6d costs."

Walsall Observer 26/9/1942

"We are informed that the address of a witness in a case arising out of a scene at the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street, heard at the Walsall Police Court last week was incorrectly given as 3, Sandwell Street."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street. £3 7s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street. £0 0s 9d."

Walsall Observer 17/2/1945

"At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.....

The following were elected members of the society..... Mrs. *E. Bracken*, VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street."

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/10/1946

"When the 'phone rang at No.12 Hope Street, Walsall, a little after 6pm on Saturday, it was no ordinary call for 18-years-old Sheila *Bracken*, of the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street – it was the signal from the commencement of the marriage service which would unite her with 24-years-old ex-soldier fiancé, Lloyd Condra, at his home Fort Worth, Texas. In the house in Hope Street with Sheila, were her mother and relatives, and as the service proceeded her uncle Mr. William *Bracken*, placed the wedding ring on her finger for the absent bridegroom. Thus Miss *Bracken*, now Mrs. Condra became Walsall's first cross-atlantic telephone bride. Miss *Bracken* first met her fiancé whilst a guest at the Walsall Y.M.C.A. in 1944. He was repatriated to the United States about 18 months ago, and since demobilisation has been engaged with a firm of paper manufacturers. Following the telephone ceremony Mrs. Condra with her friends returned to the VILLAGE INN, where a three-tier wedding cake was cut and some 50 relatives and friends celebrated the occasion."

Compensation of £3,500 was paid in December 1961.

It closed in December 1961.

VINE

6, The Park, (6+7, (72), The Green), Sandbank, Short Heath, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Enoch Wootton, awl blade maker, Bloxwich
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Devonport [1854]
James Chidlow [1857] – [1872]
Thomas Chidlow [1872] – [1876];
Enoch Wootton [1877] – 1891);
William Daniel (1891 – 1894);
William Fereday (1894 – 1895);
William Hully (1895 – 1896);
Robert Marston (1896);
Henry Croxall (1896 – 1898);
Enoch Wootton (1898 – 1904);
William Charles Athersmith (1904 – 1907);
Charles Ernest Perry (1907 – 1912);
Ernest Banks (1912 – 1925);
Agnes Banks (1925 – 1928):

NOTES

72, The Green [1871]
6, The Park [1901]
6+7, The Green [1891], [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/1/1854

“James Hadley (The Staffordshire Antelope) wishes again to have a spin, and will run John Rhodes of Wolverhampton, or J. Winn or Leach of the same place, or Edward Thomas or Samuel Peaton of Shrewsbury, or John Atkins of Birmingham one mile; or will take ten yards start in the like distance of William Jones of the Lye Waste; or will run Joseph White one mile level, or Thomas Perry can be accommodated from one to five miles, on a turnpike road. Either match for £5 or £10 a side. The money ready at Mr. *Devonport's*, the VINE INN, Bloxwich.”

James Chidlow = James Chislow

Walsall Free Press 23/5/1857

“Guildhall Police Court Sergeant Simpson preferred complaints against the following publicans residing at Bloxwich *James Chidlow*, beerhouse, fined one shilling and costs all for keeping their houses open during prohibited hours on Sunday last.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/2/1859

“Edward Lees of Bloxwich will run Henry James 120 yards, for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready any night next week at Mr. *Chidlow's*, VINE INN, Bloxwich.”

1861 Census

Short Heath

- [1] *James Chidlow* (71), publican, born Portobello;
- [2] Isabella Chidlow (70), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] James Chidlow (22), grandson, stirrup maker, born Bloxwich:

James Chidlow, retailer of beer, Bloxwich. [1862]

Walsall Free Press 17/10/1863

“*James Chidlow* was charged with having assaulted Eli Sommerfield. It appeared the complainant, defendant, and four others were playing at cards in defendant’s grandfather’s beerhouse – the VINE – for a penny each, when they quarrelled, and defendant struck complainant. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced defendant to pay 1s and costs, or, in default, to be imprisoned for seven days.”

James Chidlow, beer retailer, The Green. [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

72, The Green – VINE INN

- [1] *James Chidlow* (80), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;

[2] Isabella Chidlow (77), wife, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 19/7/1873

“*Thomas Chidlow*, landlord of the VINE beerhouse, Bloxwich, was charged with keeping open during prohibited hours on Saturday night. Police-sergeant Martin proved the charge, but owing to the defendant’s previous good character, he was dismissed on paying costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session. The licenses of the undermentioned were renewed with cautions, viz:

Thomas Chidlow, beerhouse keeper, the Green, Bloxwich. In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Ryecroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/11/1877

“*Enoch Wootton*, landlord of the VINE beerhouse, Bloxwich, was summoned for permitting gambling in his house on the 8th inst. Mr. Chidley (from Messrs. Duignan and Co) appeared for the defence.

Police-sergeant Martin deposed that he looked through the window of defendant’s kitchen, and saw men playing at cards. He heard them say at the conclusion of one game, ‘That is a quart apiece.’

This evidence was corroborated by Police-constable Newbould, and after an able defence by Mr. Chidley, who was spoken of in very complimentary terms by the Bench in regard of it, the defendant was fined 20s and costs. His license was not endorsed.”

William Daniel = William Daniels

1891 Census

6+7 The Green – VINE Public House

[1] *William Daniel* (29), publican, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Martha Daniel* (28), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *William F. Daniel* (5), son, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Elizabeth Buckley* (13), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Sporting Life 23/7/1892

“The proposed match between Charles Athersmith, of Bloxwich, the well-known right wing of the Aston Villa Football Club, and Harry Smith, of Willenhall, who were to have run 120 yards, Athersmith with one yard and a half start, for £50 a-side, open for £100 a-side is off. The backers of the men met at Mr. *W. Daniels*, the VINE INN, Bloxwich, on Tuesday night last, but the backers of Athersmith failed to go with the match, which, after so much bombast on the part of the latter, caused no little surprise amongst the many who attended. However, Smith is still open to run Athersmith from 120 yards to 200 yards for £50, £100, or £500 a-side. A deposit to the *Sporting Life*, and articles to Mr. T. Robinson, PLOUGH INN, Bilston, will receive attention. *Sporting Life* to be stakeholder and appoint officials.”

William Daniel – see also NAGS HEAD (BEACON WAY), Bloxwich, and BLUE PIG, Bloxwich.

Birmingham Daily Post 27/7/1891

“Stafford Summer Assizes. Yardley v. *Wootton*

In this action the plaintiff was Job Yardley, Autherley, near Wolverhampton, brewer, and the defendant was the owner of the VINE INN, Bloxwich. The plaintiff claimed £500 damages for breach of agreement. Mr. Jelf and Mr. Plumtre were for the plaintiff, and Mr. Alfred Young, and Mr. Disturnal for the defendant.

The plaintiff stated that he agreed to take defendant’s house upon a lease for ten years at a rent of £20 per annum. An agreement was drawn up and signed, but when defendant came to complete his purchase the plaintiff had let the house to someone else for more money.

The defendant was under cross-examination when the Court adjourned until this morning at 10.30.”

[Verdict for the plaintiff for £75 and costs.]

Enoch Wootton was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

6, The Park (late Green)

[1] *Enoch Wootton* (71), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Elizabeth Wootton* (65), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Laura Wright* (9), granddaughter, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Mary Faulkner* (86), mother in law, widow, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1904

“An application was made to the Walsall magistrates yesterday, by Mr. Enoch Evans, for a temporary transfer of authority with

respect to the VINE INN, Bloxwich, from the late Mr. *Enoch Wootton* to his executors, *William Charles Arrowsmith* and *William Beard*. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/7/1904

“Tuesday. The magistrates granted the following applications for transfers of licences.....

VINE, Bloxwich, *William Charles Athersmith* (executor of *Enoch Wootton*) to *William Charles Athersmith*.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904

“On Tuesday evening at his Property Mart, The Bridge, Walsall, Mr. Walter Hughes held a successful sale of several properties belonging to the estate of the late *Enoch Wootton*, of Bloxwich. Lot 1, the VINE INN, Bloxwich, had been sold privately before the auction.....

making a total of sales by Mr Hughes of over £4,500.”

William Charles Athersmith was fined 10s and costs, on 8th May 1905, for selling liquor to a child in an uncorked vessel.

Walsall Advertiser 30/9/1905

“Edward Roberts, 117, Miner Street, yeast traveller, was fined 5s and costs for leaving his horse and trap unattended opposite the VINE INN, Bloxwich Green for 55 minutes on September 18th.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) said the defendant was watched on account of a communication from his employer.

Defendant said he had held his situation 16 years, and he usually had his dinner at the VINE.

Police-constable Collins admitted that the horse was feeding at the time.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

“There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

The Black List From Bloxwich. The Chief Constable reported that three license holders had been fined, viz, *W. C. Athersmith*, VINE INN, Bloxwich, under the Child Messenger Act, and Sarah Waterfield, VICTORIA STORES, Bloxwich, and David Lawrence, NELSON INN, Bloxwich, for permitting drunkenness.

These licenses were renewed, with a caution.”

1911 Census

6+7, The Green – VINE INN

[1] *Charles Ernest Perry* (33), beer retailer, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Mary Perry* (39), wife, married 4 years, born Hednesford;

[3] *Mabel Louise Perry* (4), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[4] *Charles Ernest Perry* (9 months), son, born Bloxwich;

[5] *Elsie Maude Booker* (12), niece, born Wimblebury, Staffordshire:

Charles E. Perry, beer retailer, The Green. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 23/3/1912

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Members..... *Ernest Banks*, VINE INN, The Green, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

VINE INN, Bloxwich. £0 17s 9d.”

Lichfield Mercury 9/3/1928

“Walsall Licensing Sessions.....

The following five houses, all of Bloxwich, were referred for compensation:

CARRIERS ARMS, Field Road; STATION HOTEL, Station Street; VICTORIA STORES, High Street; BLUE PIG, Elmore Row; and the VINE INN, The Green.”

Compensation of £2,550 was paid in 1928.

It closed on 27th September 1928.

It became a private dwelling.

Demolished.

VINE

98, Blue Lane West, (98, Blue Lane), WALSALL

OWNERS

Ann Beddows, widow, Birchills, Walsall
John Heath, builder, Ablewell Street, Walsall
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

W Randle [1858]
John Matthews [1861] – [1862]
J Pacey [1862]
Richmond James [1864] – [1865]
Hyla Holden [1866]
William Jennings [1868] – [1872];
John Bradbury Dexter [];
Mrs. Fanny Dexter [1881]
H Smallwood [1883]
Gregory Harrison [1883] – **1887**);
Job Sutton (**1887 – 1891**);
Harry Smallwood (**1891 – 1893**);
Charles Rathbone (**1893 – 1898**);
Harry Smallwood (**1898 – 1899**);
Martin Sweeney (**1899 – 1916**);
Catherine Sweeney (**1916 – 1924**);
Bernard Joseph Hardron (**1924 – []**)
Edward Egan [] – **1934**): manager

NOTES

98, Blue Lane [1858], [1861], [1871]
Blue Lane West [1861], [1911]
98, Blue Lane West [1862], [1864], [1868], [1870], [1872], [1896], [1912]

VINE HOTEL [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.

W. Randle, beerhouse, 98, Blue Lane. [1858]

John Matthews, beer retailer, Blue Lane West. [1861]

1861 Census

98, Blue Lane

- [1] *John Matthews* (61), publican, born Princes End;
- [2] Sarah Matthews (57), wife, born Princes End;
- [3] Harriett Matthews (18), daughter, born Brockmore [Brockmoor]:

Walsall Free Press 6/7/1861

“Anne Tilson v. William Cooper and Hugh Bissell (or Brummell). Mr. Mathews for the defence wished all the witnesses out of court. Complainant stated that late on Saturday night she was returning from the market and went into the VINE, in Blue Lane, to see her husband. While waiting there a quarrel commenced, in which her husband became involved. She interfered and was attacked by some of the persons present, among whom were the defendants. They beat her severely and gave her the black eyes she exhibited. Cross-examined by Mathews – did not attack Brummell at first; did not roll up her sleeves and challenge any man to fight her; did not taunt Brummell with his wife being unfaithful to him; did not take hold of Cooper in a manner to inflict great injuries upon him. Sarah Plant was called. On the occasion in question Brummell’s wife attacked witness. This was the beginning of the row, after which it became general, and assumed the characteristics, or, as witness described it, ‘it was an Irish

row.' Complainant's husband was down on the floor, and the two defendants on top of him. Complainant went to pick up her husband, and was struck by the defendant. Cross-examined – saw no attack made by the complainant. Mr. Mathews made an able speech for the defence, in the course of which he held up for execration the provoking and outrageous charges and language made use of by complainant, for the purpose of provoking the assault. He called Thomas Storer, who was sworn. He said, 'the men were drunk, and the women were drunker,' and deposed that the row was general, although complainant and her husband were the principal originators of it. Mr. Brummell gave evidence as to the violent and abusive conduct of the complainant. Her (complainant's) husband had struck her (complainant) several times. Mrs. Brummell gave further evidence as to the language and actions of the complainant during the row, but her depositions are quite unfit for publication. The Bench fined each defendant 1s, complainant to pay her own costs."

John Matthews, retailer of beer, 98, Blue Lane West. [1862]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/7/1862

"W. Springthorpe of Wall will run any of the following men: C. Richards (alias Polay) 120 yards level, or take one yard in the like distance of C. Fowler; or two yards in 120 of Tottey, either match £10 a side. Money ready any night next week at *J. Pacey's*, VINE INN, Blue Lane, Walsall."

Richmond James, beer retailer, 98, Blue Lane West. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1864

"The Forthcoming Borough Licensing Day. The following is a list of persons who intend to apply for spirit licenses at the Special Sessions for that purpose, to be held on the 28th inst.....

Richmond James, VINE INN, Blue Lane." [Refused]

London Gazette 31/10/1865

"*Richmond James*, of No.98, Blue-lane West, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper, Licensed to sell Tobacco, and Axle Pulley Manufacturer, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 24th day of October, 1865, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 18th day of November next, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely, at the Courthouse, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. John Glover, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy."

Walsall Free Press 30/6/1866

"*Hyla Holden*, landlord of the VINE beer-house, Blue Lane, was fined 2s 6d and costs for having his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours, on Sunday, the 24th inst.

Police-constable Smallman, who had visited the house and found six men with two jugs of porter proved the charge."

William Jennings, beer retailer, 98, Blue Lane West. [1868], [1870], [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/7/1868

"*William Jennings*, beerhouse keeper, Blue Lane, was (this being his second offence) fined 10s and costs for keeping his house open during prohibited hours."

1871 Census

98, Blue Lane

- [1] *William Jennings* (43), blacksmith, born Walsall;
- [2] *Sarah Jennings* (46), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Elizabeth Jennings* (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *William Jennings* (17), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Thomas Jennings* (15), son, collar maker, born Walsall;
- [6] *Charles Jennings* (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Sarah Ann Jennings* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *David Jennings* (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Matilda Jennings* (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [10] *Charlotte Jennings* (4), daughter, born Walsall;

Walsall Free Press 10/6/1871

"Retail Brewers' and Wine Trade Association. On Wednesday evening a meeting of the above association was held at the VINE INN, Blue Lane. Mr. Charles Humphries presided. Mr. Nevill, secretary pro tem, intimated that the society, although it had only been in existence a few weeks, numbered 30 ordinary members. After some conversation, the chairman intimated that the first business was to elect officers for the ensuing year. Mr. Charles Humphries was elected chairman, Mr. James Gnosall vice-chairman, Mr. James Cleobury treasurer, and Mr. Nevill secretary. A committee of seven in addition to the office-bearers was chosen. The committee was instructed to prepare a set of rules for approval at the next meeting."

1881 Census

98, Blue Lane West – VINE INN

- [1] Edgar Dexter (22), publican and ironmonger's clerk, born Princes End;
- [2] *Fanny Dexter* (28), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Ada Dexter (4), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Agnes M. Dexter (1 month), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Lizzie Dexter (20), sister, barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/3/1883

“Walsall Licensed Victualler Association.....

It was unanimously decided that the Society should be represented at the Demonstration, to be held on Tuesday next, 14th instant, at 2.30pm, at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, to protest against the Liquor Traffic (Local Control) Bill, and Mr. E. Smith (BELL AND CUCKOO INN, Stafford Street), Mr. W. O. Letts (BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street), and Mr. *H. Smallwood* (VINE INN, Blue Lane) each of whom promised to oppose the measure, were chosen as the delegates.”

Gregory Harrison was fined 40s and costs, on 13th July 1883, for Sunday trading.

1891 Census

Blue Lane West – VINE

- [1] *Job Sutton* (50), coal merchant and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Sutton (49), wife, born Lane Head;
- [3] Job Sutton (13), son, coal merchant's assistant, born Walsall;
- [4] Hannah Edgar (16), general servant, born Chester:

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1893

“Walsall Junior Football League.

The annual dinner and business meeting in connection with the league took place on Tuesday night at the VINE INN, Blue Lane; Mr. *H. Smallwood* presiding over a full attendance of clubs' representatives and others. After an excellent repast had been partaken of, the annual report and financial statement were presented, the former congratulating the members in the great success of the first season of the League, the whole of the affiliated clubs having benefitted materially through the increased gates. There was a balance in hand, after meeting all expenditure of 6s 2d. Ten applications were received for membership of the League.....”

Walsall Advertiser 24/6/1893 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale Of Capital Household Furniture And Effects.

The VINE INN, Blue Lane West (Corner of Wolverhampton Street), Walsall.

Messrs Fox and Harrison are instructed by Mr. *H. Smallwood* (who is leaving Walsall), to Sell by Auction, without reserve, at the above address (by permission of Mr. *Charles Rathbone*), on Tuesday, June 27th, his surplus Superior Household Furniture, and Effects; comprising Sets French Brass-rail and Half-tester Bedsteads, with Furniture; Paillasses, Mahogany Loo Table, on Pedestal; Treadle Sewing Machine, by Singer; Mahogany Chests of Drawers, Walnut Work Table, Gipsy Table, Cane-seated, Windsor, and Folding Chairs, Massive Brass-rail Fender, and Sets of Fire Brasses, Iron Fenders, Vienna Regulator Clock, Gilt and Walnut Framed Chimney Glasses, Gilt Framed Oil Paintings, Walnut What-not, large mahogany Oval Swing Toilet Tables, Towel Rails, Linoleum, enamelled Coal Vase and Scoop, sets of Steps, Foot Bath, Copper and Iron Kettles, Buckets, Clothes-horse, and numerous other effects.

On view morning of the Sale.

Sale to commence punctually at 2.15pm.

Auctioneer's Offices, 73, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/8/1893

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, Thomas Rathbone, *Charles Rathbone*, and Harry Chambers were summoned, the first-named for selling liquors without a license, and the other two for aiding and abetting on the commission of the offence.

The Chief Constable said that on the 16th June, *Charles Rathbone* was the holder of a license for a public-house [out-door] in Regent Street, the Pleck, and at the same time he obtained a temporary authority to sell at the VINE INN, Blue Lane, the authority being granted on the supposition that he was resident owner and occupier. Having obtained the license, he did not remove his goods to the VINE, but remained in possession of the house at the Pleck, sending Thomas Rathbone and Chambers to the VINE, where they sold.

Witnesses having been called, Mr. H. H. Jackson for the defence, admitted that a technical offence had been committed, but not wilfully. The defendant had erred in ignorance of the law, and he had done his best to make amends. Really there had been a hitch in the transfer of the house at the Pleck, the owner having been away.

The defendant *Charles Rathbone* was fined 40s and costs, the others 10s and costs.”

Charles Rathbone, beer retailer, 98, Blue Lane West. [1896]

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/10/1896

“*Charles Rathbone*, the VINE INN, Blue Lane, was charged with keeping a bagatelle-table without a license. Detective Harper

deposed to finding several men playing at the table. The defendant pleaded that he did not know a license was required, and added that the table had been in the house 24 years without anyone having told him that he was liable to a penalty for not having a license. The magistrates gave weight to the plea of ignorance and imposed a fine of 10s and costs, without endorsement of license.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/11/1897

“The statement of affairs in the matter of the failure of Mr. *Charles Rathbone*, of the VINE INN, Blue Lane West, Walsall, beer-house keeper, had been issued.

The deficiency is put down at £76 7s 5d. According to the Official Receiver’s observations, the bankrupt commenced business in March, 1892, as a grocer and beerseller. He took a small grocer’s shop with a beer license attached, in Chapel Street, Walsall. Prior to that date he had worked as a shingler and had saved £240. He continued holding his situation. He paid £17 10s for fixtures, and license £20. He then took to the VINE INN, which is a home-brewing house with a beer license. This house he took for the unexpired term of a seven years’ lease, terminating in September last year, paying £250 to the lessor to take possession, for the stock, fixtures, license, and goodwill. In October, 1893, he gave up his situation as a shingler, and since then he carried on business at the VINE INN. The bankrupt states he has been behind in his payments for two years, and in June last had a writ served upon him for £29. Judgement was obtained, and an execution was levied, but withdrawn. In October he was again sued for £81 15, and judgement was obtained, and a second execution levied. He consulted his solicitors, upon whose advice he filed his petition, and the execution was withdrawn upon the receiving order being made. The bankrupt states the causes of his insolvency to be ‘bad trade, bad debts, and illness’.”

AND

Register of Sales

“Wednesday, Nov. 10. By Messrs. Watkins, Powell, and Wood; Household Furniture, at the VINE INN, Blue Lane West, at 11.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/7/1898 - Advert

“Tuesday, 19th July, 1898, at 12 o’clock.

Absolutely Unreserved Sale By Auction Of the Whole Of the Brewing Plant & Utensils, consisting of 120 gallon Iron Boiler, 60 gallon Iron Boiler, 2 Fermenting Vats, 5ft 5in by 3ft 2in; large Wood Vat, smaller Vat, Mash Tub, Betwell, Refrigerator, Mash Rule, circular copper bottom Sieve, four 56 gallon casks, two 36 gallon casks, 30 gallon Brandy cask, six Working casks, three Tubs, and Miscellaneous Effects.

Walter Hughes is instructed by Messrs. Butler and Co. Limited, of Wolverhampton, to Sell by Auction upon the premises as above.

On View prior to sale.

Further particulars may be had from the place of Sale or from the Auction Offices, The Bridge, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/8/1898

“Michael (otherwise Patrick) McCue (32), puddler, of 2-court, Blue Lane, was charged with stealing 9s 6d from the till at the VINE INN, Blue Lane.

Ada *Smallwood*, daughter of the landlord, deposed that the man was an occasional customer at the house. On Monday she was in charge, and on looking through the outdoor window, saw that the prisoner had gone over to the counter and was at the till. She ran and caught the prisoner, who gave up 2s 6d. She said she must have more than that, and he gave her another 2s 6d. She again told him she must have more, and then he gave her the other half-crown and a florin.

Police-constable Fearn, who received the man into custody, said the prisoner said, ‘I did take it, but what’s that to you?’

Prisoner here said he had had a drink or he should not have done what he had. He gave the money up again.

It was stated that the prisoner had been previously convicted of attempting to steal money from the Salvation Army.

The Bench sentenced prisoner to 21 days’ hard labour.”

Walsall Observer 12/5/1900

“Bridget Durkin, of Hollyhedge Lane, and Mary Gough, of Green Lane, were charged with being disorderly and refusing to quit (1) the HORSE AND JOCKEY, kept by William Gough, and (2) the VINE INN, kept by *Martin Sweeney*.

Mr. Wright (Messrs. Fowler, Langley, and Wright, Wolverhampton) appeared to prosecute, and the facts of the case were that on May 5th the women went into the VINE INN, Blue Lane, where they had 3 half pints of ale and 3 bottles of ginger beer. They were in for some time, and began to quarrel with another woman, and commenced setting about her. When the landlord interfered they refused to leave, and Durkin was scooping jugs and glasses off the tables and throwing them into the fireplace. Eventually they were ejected by Police-constable Reddick (45) [His station number?], who agreed that the women were not drunk.

The women then went to the HORSE AND JOCKEY, where they again made a disturbance.

Evidence having been given, they were each fined 5s and costs, or 10 days.”

1901 Census

98, Blue Lane West

[1] *Martin Sweeney* (46), publican, born Walsall;

[2] Catherine Sweeney (41), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Richard Sweeney (20), son, brass dresser, born Walsall;

[4] Nellie Sweeney (17), daughter, harness stitcher, born Walsall;

[5] Kate Sweeney (15), daughter, harness stitcher, born Walsall;

[6] Martin Sweeney (10), son, born Walsall;

[7] James Sweeney (8), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 1/3/1902

“*Martin Sweeney*, the landlord of the VINE, Blue Lane, was summoned for assaulting a woman named Sarah Ann Morris, back of 50, Adams Street, on February 24th.
Mr. H. H. Jackson defended. Case dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/7/1903

“Two brothers, named James Gavin, Adams Street, and Michael Gavin, 15, Algernon Street, were summoned by *Martin Sweeney*, of the VINE INN, Blue Lane, for assault, on the 4th of July. There was also a charge brought by the same complainant, against Michael Naven, 103, Blue Lane, of being quarrelsome and disorderly on his licensed premises, the VINE INN, and refusing to quit when requested to do so, on July 4th. Michael and James Gavin pleaded not guilty, but Michael Naven pleaded guilty. Complainant said that about 6.30 on Saturday evening the Gavins came into his house. They were drunk, and one of them put some money on the counter and asked for drink. He refused to serve him, and he said he had had enough. They then became very violent, and one of them said they had not come for drink but ‘for his body.’ James Gavin struck him on the eye, whilst Michael and Naven barred the doorway to prevent anyone coming in or going out of the house. Complainant’s son afterwards got them out of the house, and he sent for the police.

Edward Pugh said he was in the house when defendants came in, and he saw the disturbance. Mr. *Sweeney*’s face was bleeding from a blow struck by James Gavin.

John *Sweeney*, son of the complainant, corroborated his father’s evidence.

Called on behalf of James Gavin, Naven stated the former never struck the complainant.

Michael Gavin said that when he went into the house he called for a drink, and complainant shook his head, but said nothing.

Police-constable Vaughan said that when he got to the VINE INN he saw a large crowd, and the landlord, whose face was covered in blood, complained that he had been struck all over his body. When asked the Gavins for their names they refused to give them, and were very insolent.

Naven was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days, and the Gavins were ordered to pay 20s and costs, or go to prison for one month.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/8/1903

“William Smith (24), labourer, of no fixed abode, was brought up on a charge of stealing 42 cigars, the property of Elizabeth Lets, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street, on August 11th.

Complainant identified the cigars produced as her property and said that she last saw them behind the bar of her house on the previous day, but she did not miss them until Police-sergeant Shipley brought them to her. Prisoner had previously been in her house drinking.

Martin Sweeney, landlord of the VINE INN, Blue Lane West, said that yesterday afternoon defendant brought a box of cigars and offered to sell them to him for a penny each, but he refused to buy them.

Police-sergeant Shipley stated that from information received about a man offering cigars for sale, he visited the VINE INN, where he saw defendant picking up the cigars from the floor where he had dropped them. When asked where he obtained them he admitted having stolen them, and when they passed the WHITE HORSE INN on the way to the Police Station prisoner said that was the place where he took them from.

Sentenced to one months’ hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/10/1903

“Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest on Wednesday afternoon at the ENGINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, relative to the death of James McPue, aged 64 years, who had been living with his niece at Blue Lane West. It transpired that the deceased had been suffering from rheumatism, and his appetite had lately failed him. On Monday he went out without anything to eat, and on returning his niece asked him to have something to eat. He said he would have half-a-pint first, and proceeded to the VINE INN, Blue Lane, where Mr. *Sweeney*, the landlord, served him, but before he drank any of the beer the landlord saw him fall on to a table. He went and raised his head, when he found his face was of a bluish colour, and that he appeared to be dead. Two police officers removed the body to the mortuary.

Dr. Harry Shore gave evidence showing that the cause of death was due to syncope cause by heart disease, which was probably accelerated by the rheumatism which the man was suffering from.

The jury returned a verdict of Natural Causes.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/2/1904

“A labourer, named Hayden Eaton (32), 169, Parkhill, was put in the dock to answer a charge of wilfully breaking a plate glass window at the VINE INN, Blue Lane, and doing damage to the amount of £2 10s on February 9th.

Complainant stated that after some trouble he got the prisoner from his house. Immediately the latter got outside he took a bottle from his pocket and hurled it through the window. After a struggle and a free exchange of blows he managed to detain prisoner until the arrival of a constable.

Prosecutor further stated that prisoner’s wife had been to see him that morning, and if he would come to some arrangement with regard to payment for the window he would forgive him.

An order was made for payment of damages and costs within three months.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/4/1907

“When under the influence of drink William Poutney, a man somewhat deaf, past middle age, of Pleck Road, was seen to walk into the VINE INN, Blue Lane, on the evening of the 17th, by Inspector Williams, who followed him, and found that he had been refused by the landlord and ordered to go. Defendant denied being drunk but was fined 10s and costs.”

“Butler’s famous ales in finest condition. Choice cigars.” [1911]

1911 Census

98, Blue Lane West

[1] *Martin Sweeney* (56), publican, born Walsall;

[2] Catherine Sweeney (54), wife, married 27 years, born Walsall;

[3] Catherine Sweeney (26), daughter, assisting in the business, born Walsall;

[4] Martin Sweeney (22), son, warehouse man, born Walsall;

[5] James Sweeney (18), son, assisting in the business, born Walsall:

Martin Sweeney, beer retailer, 98, Blue Lane West. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1915

“Recently the Rev. Father McDonnell solemnized the marriage at St. Patrick’s Church, of Miss. S. Walker, daughter of Mrs. Walker, of Portland Street, Walsall, to Mr. *Martin Sweeney*, of the VINE INN, Blue Lane. On Monday evening the members of Walsall Tradesman’s Social Club, of which Mr. *Sweeney* is a popular member, presented him with a marble clock suitably inscribed, as a memento of the important step which he has taken. Mr. C. J. Thornton, President of the Club, was in the chair, and made the presentation, expressing the good wishes for Mr. and Mrs. *Sweeney*’s future happiness. During the evening a capital musical programme was gone through. Mr. *Sweeney* sang in fine style ‘The Last Watch’ and ‘In a Garden of Roses,’ and Lance-corporal Peace was very successful with ‘Sunshine of your Smile’ and ‘Sweetheart Days.’ Mr. Ernie Garner, the talented comedian appearing this week at the Grand Theatre, attended and delighted the members with his clever wit. Mr. J. H. Cockayne received much applause for his singing of ‘I’ve only Come Down For a day,’ ‘Far, Far Away,’ and the ‘The Blue Hungarian Band.’ Mr. Boyce and others contributed towards securing a capital evening, and excellent arrangements were made by Mr. M. White.”

Walsall Observer 1/7/1916

“At the Guildhall yesterday the following persons were summoned for offences under the Lighting Order.....

Catherine Sweeney, the VINE INN, Blue Lane.....

Catherine Sweeney, when asked to plead, said she knew nothing about it. Special Constable Field stated that at 12.30am on June 14, a bright light was shining from a side window at the defendant’s public house. There was no blind up at all. Fined 20s.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

VINE INN, Blue Lane East. £1 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 19/10/1918 - Roll of Honour

“Private *Richard Sweeney*, of the Army Service Corps, died in hospital at Basra on October 5, and the official news has been received by his wife, living at the VINE INN, Blue Lane West. He was 37 years of age, and joining the Army in May, 1917, went out to Mesopotamia, the following July. He was formerly a tram driver, and was driving the car in which a Midland Mayoress was travelling when struck by Zeppelin bomb splinters, receiving injuries to which she afterwards succumbed. Private *Sweeney* attended St. Patrick’s Roman Catholic Schools as a boy.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1922

“Annual Licensing Sessions.....

There were also objections, to the renewal of the licenses chiefly on the ground of redundancy of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich; ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street; FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street; VINE, Blue Lane; WOODMAN, Blue Lane; and VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street; and it was announced that the applications in respect of these houses would be considered at the adjourned sessions on March 2nd.”

Walsall Observer 4/10/1924

“In celebration of his recent marriage, Mr. J. P. Mellor, manager of the James Bridge Copper Works, entertained close upon 100 of his employees to a dinner in the VINE INN, Blue Lane, Walsall, on Saturday evening. After a well-served repast the guests spent an enjoyable time, a capital concert programme being gone through. Mr. W. Clark presiding.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/8/1934

“The Licensing Justices, sitting as the Compensation Authority, confirmed the decision of the Licensing Committee, and scheduled the licenses of the PARKFIELD TAVERN, Pleck Road, and the VINE INN, Blue Lane West, for compensation. The renewals of the licenses were opposed by the police on the grounds of redundancy.”

Compensation of £1,550 was paid on 24th December 1934.

It closed on 31st December 1934.

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/2/1935

“The funeral took place on Saturday of Mrs. *Catherine Sweeney*, of the VINE INN, Blue Lane West, one of the oldest licensees in the borough, who died at the age of 78. The service at St. Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church was conducted by the Rev. H. McDonnell, after which the interment took place at Ryecroft Cemetery. One of the deceased’s sons, Richard, was the driver of a tram which was struck during a Zeppelin raid on Walsall, which resulted in the death of the Mayoress, Mrs. S. M. Slater, who was a passenger. Richard died in Mesopotamia before the Armistice. Another of her sons, Mr. William *Sweeney* is a well known local singer and boxing M.C. He was one of the bearers at the funeral.”

VINE

33, (35), Lower Hall Lane (Hawe Lane) / Upper Hall Lane (Caldmore Road), WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Weaver, Park Street, Walsall
William Taylor
Harry Taylor
Mrs. Fanny (Taylor) Meikle
William Roberts Brewery, Brownhills [1925]
Eleys Stafford Brewery Ltd. (acquired in 1925)
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1928)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 1st October 1966)

LICENSEES

William Green [1783] – [1822]
Christopher Trees [1828] – [1845]
William Kendrick [1849] – [1851]
William Arch [1858] – [1870]
Mary Arch [1869]
John Litherland [1871] – [1872];
Benjamin Neville Weaver [];
Mrs. Fanny Weaver [];
William Taylor [1880];
Mrs. Fanny (Taylor) Meikle [1880] – **189_**]; [1892]
John Thomas Meikle (**189_** – **1901**); [1896]
Frederick James Westwood (**1901** – **1907**);
Thomas Powell (**1907** – **1923**);
Daniel Smith (**1923** – **1928**);
Edward Frederick Butler (**1928** – **1930**);
Joseph Thickett (**1930** – **1932**);
Benjamin Thickett (**1932** – **1934**);
Frank Wilson (**1934** – **1938**);
Edwin George White (**1938** – **1944**);
Thomas Harold Cooper (**1944** – **1963**);
Percy Freeman (**1963** – **1965**);
Anthony Hill (**1965** – **1966**);
William Thomas Joseph Lane (**1966** – **1967**);
Albert William Lloyd (**1967** – []

NOTES

Hall Lane [1822], [1841], [1851]
33, Lower Hall Lane [1860], [1861], [1862], [1891], [1901], [1908], [1911], [1932], [1939], [1940]
35, Lower Hall Lane [1881]

GRAPES [1850]

A friendly society met here in 1783.

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Additional Friendly Societies, known by the name of Gift Societies.....

A Gift, or permanent fund, held at VINE, Hall Lane.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 17/4/1837 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property in Walsall.

To be Sold by Auction, by order of the Executors of the late Mr. Green, at the house of Mr. J. Roper, the sign of the BLUCHER, Stafford Street, Walsall, on Thursday next the 20th day of April, at five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced, and in the following or such other lots as may be agreed on at the time of sale.

All that old established Public House, known by the sign of the VINE, pleasantly situated in Hall Lane, near to the Race-course, and opposite Monteith Street, Walsall, and now in the occupation of Mr. C. Trees, comprising capital tap-room, front and back parlours, good lodging-rooms, brewhouse, and a capital cellar, with an entire yard, and plenty of water, and an excellent Workshop adjoining, together with a small Tenement adjoining, in the occupation of Mr. Brant.

Also two Tenements or Dwelling Houses fronting the road leading to the Race-course, in the occupation of Ann Genders and B. Genders.

For further information apply to Mr. W. Thomas, Solicitor, or to the Auctioneer, Walsall.”

1841 Census

Hall Lane

- [1] *Christopher Trees* (45), bridle cutter and victualler;
- [2] *Mary Trees* (45), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Enoch Trees* (20), saddlers' ironmonger, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *George Trees* (15), born Staffordshire:

Christopher Trees was also a bridle cutter.

1851 Census

Hall Lane

- [1] *William Kendrick* (46), gardener and publican, born Sharehill, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Letitia Kendrick* (47), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Anne Kendrick* (21), daughter, servant at home, born Walsall;
- [4] *James Kendrick* (14), son, born Walsall;

1861 Census

33, Lower Hall Lane – VINE INN

- [1] *William Arch* (46), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Arch* (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Robert Arch* (20), son, horse collar maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Martha Barton* (19), cousin, born Walsall;
- [5] *Ann Stringer* (19), house servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 9/11/1861

“On Thursday morning about ten o'clock, a man named William Willis, aged twenty-two years, was at his usual work as a saddler in Mr Brace's factory, Bridge Street, when he fell suddenly from his board in a state of insensibility. He was taken up and conveyed to his residence at Vicarage Place where he remained in a speechless condition and died at three o'clock the same afternoon. Mr. Edwards, surgeon of Bridge Street, attended deceased, but his services were unavailing. An inquest was held on the body at the VINE INN, Hall Lane, on Friday evening, when a verdict of Died from Natural Causes was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/9/1863

“Walsall Petty Sessions. Before Messrs. S. Cox (Mayor), and J. B. Anderson.

William James was charged with having, on Friday last, assaulted Mrs. *Mary Arch*, landlady of the VINE public-house, Hall Lane. It appeared from the evidence, that about three weeks ago the defendant went into the complainant's house and conducted himself in a very indecent and unbecoming manner. On the day in question he returned and Mrs. *Arch* expressed her surprise at his returning after the conduct he had been guilty of. On being made acquainted with what he had done upon the former occasion, his wife upbraided him, and on her doing so he struck her. Mrs. *Arch* then reproved him for striking his wife, whereupon he struck her a blow which split her lip. He aimed a second blow at Mrs. *Arch*, but her niece stepping between them received it on her head. The defendant, who failed to appear, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment. The defendant was further charged with having assaulted Eliza Maria Harrison. Defendant, who is a beerhouse keeper at Wolverhampton, had a booth on the race-course, and about seven o'clock on Thursday evening, as the complainant and another female named Mary Maxwell, were passing the defendant's booth in search of her master, the defendant rushed out of his booth, seized complainant by the throat, and charged her with having been in his booth, and gone off without paying for some drink she had had, and it was with some difficulty the girl

was released from the defendant's grasp. The Bench in this case ordered the defendant to pay £5, or in default to be imprisoned for two months. The term of imprisonment to commence at the expiration of the other."

Walsall Free Press 3/2/1866 - Notice

"Mr. Robert Arch, Deceased.

All Persons who stand indebted to the Estate of the late Mr. Robert Arch, late of the OLD OAK INN, Upper Hall Lane, Innkeeper, deceased, are requested to Pay the same forthwith to *William Arch*, VINE INN, Lower Hall Lane; and any persons who have any claims against the said Estate are requested to send the same with the particulars thereof to the said *William Arch*, on or before the 1st day of March next, in order that the same may be examined and paid.

By order of the Executors.

Dated this 1st day of February, 1866."

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1869

"*Mary Arch*, landlady of the VINE INN, Hall Lane, was charged with having had her house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours; but as it appeared the men seen in the house had been assisting in pumping water out of the cellar, which, in consequence of the heavy rains, had become flooded, had received the drink as refreshment, the case was dismissed."

Walsall Free Press 25/9/1869

"On Wednesday last, Mrs. *Arch*, of the VINE public-house, Hall Lane, died suddenly. Deceased had been ailing for some time, but on the day previous to her death, she was able to drive to Lichfield, and, therefore, her death, though not deemed improbable, was somewhat unexpected."

1871 Census

33, Lower Hall Lane – VINE INN

- [1] *John Litherland* (46), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Jane Litherland* (59), wife, born Scotland;
- [3] *John Tisdell* (58), lodger, harness maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Margaret Johnstone* (21), visitor, born Scotland:

Walsall Advertiser 1/4/1879 - Advert

"Wanted, a good General Servant, about 20, VINE INN, Hall Lane."

Walsall Advertiser 17/1/1880 - Advert

"If the Step Ladders left at Mr. *William Taylor's*, VINE INN, Hall Lane, by Mr. William Oerton, Currier, Newport Street, is not fetched away in Three days from this Notice, it will be Sold to pay Expenses."

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1880 - Advert

"This Is To Give Notice, that I will not be Responsible for any Debt or Debts that my wife, *Fanny Taylor*, may contract after this date.

(Signed) *William Taylor*.

Hall Lane, Walsall. June 9th, 1880."

Walsall Advertiser 19/6/1880 - Advert

"Replying to *William Taylor's* Advertisement of last week, I beg to state that he never did pay any debts of mine; but I have had, and still have debts of his contracting (amounting to £269 8s) to pay. It is therefore not likely that either the public or myself will expect him to do so, now that he has nothing whatever to do with my business.

(Signed) *Fanny Taylor*.

VINE, Hall Lane."

Walsall Advertiser 4/12/1880 - Advert

"Wanted, a good General Servant, with good character. Apply, Mrs. *F. Taylor's*, VINE INN, Hall Lane."

1881 Census

35, Lower Hall Lane – VINE INN

- [1] *Fanny Taylor* (20), married, innkeeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *James Robatham* (?) (59), father, born Walsall;
- [3] *Harriet Robatham* (?) (56), mother, born Walsall;
- [4] *George Robatham* (?) (23), brother, religious student at Merton College, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Benjamin Weaver* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Ralph Weaver* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *George Weaver* (2), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *Mary Ann Mee* (21), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/6/1881

“On Monday afternoon Mr. George Watkins (70), formerly a chemist and druggist, High Street, but for some years past a resident of Digbeth, was taken ill at the house of his sister, Mrs. Cowley, Monthrath Street and died in a few minutes. An inquest was held yesterday at the VINE INN, Hall Lane, before the borough coroner (Mr. A. A. Fletcher), and a verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1889 - Deaths

“On the 12th inst, at the VINE, Hall Lane, James Robathan, aged 66 years; deeply lamented.”

1891 Census

33, Lower Hall Lane – VINE INN

- [1] *Fanny Taylor* (38), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Benjamin Weaver (20), son, gentleman, born Walsall;
- [3] Ralph Taylor (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] George Taylor (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Eliza Bradbury (20), servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer

“*Fanny Taylor* of the VINE, Hall Lane, was charged with having her house open during prohibited hours.

Police-sergeant Mercer stated that on the night of the 18th inst, he with Police-constable M’Carthy was on duty in Cross Street; he met a woman coming from the defendant’s with some brandy and beer under her shawl. On taking her back to the house, the landlady said the brandy was for a man who was very ill, and the landlady’s mother said she gave the beer to the woman because she looked so faint. Mrs. *Taylor* added that it was the first time, and served her right.

Police-constable M’Carthy gave corroborative evidence, adding that the woman first looked through the shutters, and went to the house door.

Mr. Loxton, who appeared for the defence, urged that it was not a case upon which the Justices would convict, as the brandy was really for a man who was very ill, and Mrs. *Taylor* had no intention of keeping her house open, as was proved by what the woman did before she could get into the house.

The Bench dismissed the case upon the costs being paid.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/9/1896

“William Hill (58), miner, 19, Stafford Road, Bloxwich, was charged with having stolen a mackintosh and grey rug, valued at £1 5s, the property of *John Thomas Meikle*, VINE INN, Lower Hall Lane.

Prosecutor said that on Monday evening the articles were drying on a line in the kitchen, but at ten o’clock he noticed they were gone. Prisoner had been in his house between eight and nine.

Police-sergeant 2 (Marshall) said that on Monday night he saw prisoner in an entry in Green Lane sheltering from the rain. He asked him what he had under his arm, and he replied that it was an overcoat. He asked him if it were usual to stand in an entry in the rain when he had an overcoat. On examining it he found it was a mackintosh, which prisoner said he had bought from a tall man in the Wake ground. Witness took him to the police-station on suspicion of having stolen it.

Prisoner admitted the offence, and said it was his first appearance in a police court, adding that it was the drink which had now brought him there.

Fined 10s and costs, or 21 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1898

“Lord Randolph Churchill Lodge. The above lodge will re-open on Tuesday next, at 8pm, at the new headquarters, viz, the VINE HOTEL, Lower Hall Lane. All brethren of the Conservative League are earnestly invited.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1899

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday evening.

Mr. *J. T. Meikle*, of the VINE INN, Lower Hall Lane, was elected a member.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1900

“The Lord Randolph Churchill Lodge has changed its meeting night from Wednesday to Tuesday, at the VINE HOTEL, Hall Lane. The next meeting will take place of Tuesday next, at 8.30pm.”

1901 Census

33, Lower Hall Lane

- [1] *John T. Meikle* (41), licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] *Fanny Meikle* (48), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Benjamin S. H. Weaver (30), stepson, living on own means, born Walsall;
- [4] George Taylor (23), stepson, machinist, born Walsall;
- [5] Eugenie Stawley (21), barmaid, born Walsall;

[6] Rachael Whitehouse (21), domestic servant, born Cheslyn Hay, Staffordshire;

[7] Tillie Bevington (22), domestic servant, born Norton Canes, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 5/10/1901

“Lord Randolph Churchill Lodge. The above Lodge will re-assemble on Tuesday night at the VINE INN, Hall Lane, at 8.30pm. All members are earnestly requested to attend, and brethren from other lodges are earnestly invited.”

AND

“There was a considerable gathering on Wednesday evening, in the club-room of the VINE HOTEL, for the purpose of taking leave of Mr. and Mrs. *Meikle*, who, having sold the noted house, which had been in the family somewhere about 100 years, have taken up their residence at Rushwick Villa, near Worcester. A smoking concert took place, and in the course of the evening Mr. W. Swindell, who presided, asked for the acceptance by Mr. and Mrs. *Meikle*, on behalf of a number of personal friends and customers, of a handsome box of fish carvers and knives and forks, in silver with ivory handles, and a beautiful and valuable silver salver. The chairman and other speakers expressed regret at the loss of such a genial host and hostess, spoke of the high esteem in which they were held, and expressed the wishes of their friends for their future health and happiness in their new home. The recipients suitably acknowledged the presents and the kind things said to them; and a most convivial evening was spent.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1902

“Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of the above society was held on Thursday.....

New Members. Mr. *Frederick James Westwood*, VINE INN, Lower Hall Lane.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1904

“Walsall & District Air-Gun League. Hospital Cup & Medals.

The concluding draw, to be shot on Tuesday next, the 21st inst, at the VINE HOTEL, Lower Hall Lane, is as under:

1. VOLUNTEER or KING WILLIAM v GOLDEN EAGLE.

2. NEWPORT No.1 or CRITERION v CROWN or Leamore.

Final. Winner of No.2 v Winner of No.1.

The first team to have choice of shooting. The first match to commence at 8pm sharp, the second at 8.45, final at 9.45. Individuals to immediately follow.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/8/1904

“Cycling Notes & News. I am requested by the secretary of the Phoenix Cycling Club to state that they have changed their headquarters, and that for the future they will be accommodated at the VINE HOTEL, Hall Lane.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1905

“A young boy named Frederick Edward Baker Bennett (15), 80, Bescot Street, was summoned for stealing a plough line, value 1s 6d, the property of Mary Ann Vaughan, on the 15th inst.

Richard Gaskin, carter in the employ of the prosecutrix, deposed to bringing a load of potatoes into Cross Street, and leaving the stolen property on the floor near that cart. He took a sack of potatoes up an entry, and on returning missed the line (produced). He then reported the matter to the police.

Edith Wood, an assistant at the VINE INN, Lower Hall Street, said that she saw the boy pick up the rope and walk quickly up Cross Street.

Detective Lloyd deposed to arresting prisoner at his home, who said, ‘I didn’t steal the rope; a lad gave it to me, but I don’t know his name.’

The mother of the prisoner was bound over in £5 for six months.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905

“At St. George’s Church, Worcester, the wedding of Mr. Joseph Taylor, of Rushwick (son of Mrs. J. T. *Taylor*, formerly of the VINE HOTEL, Hall Lane, Walsall), and Miss Kate Davies was solemnized.....”

Walsall Advertiser 2/2/1907

“To Let, the Full-Licensed House, the VINE INN, Hall Lane, Walsall. Preference given to tenant who understands brewing. Apply, the Station Brewery, Brownhills.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/5/1907

“On Thursday last an interesting presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. *Fred. Westwood* by their numerous friends, including members of the Walsall Phoenix Cycling and Football Clubs, whose headquarters have for some years been held at the VINE HOTEL, Lower Hall Lane. Mr. *Westwood* has been manager of the house under Messrs W. Roberts Ltd. for some six years and the presentation was made on the occasion of his giving up the position, as a mark of the esteem and respect the patrons of the house feel towards him. The presentation consisted of an illuminated address and an oak timepiece. Upwards of 60 subscribers were present, and general testimony was given as to the kindness and courtesy always exhibited by Mr. and Mrs. *Westwood* in the conduct of the business, and regret that circumstances over which they had no control caused their leaving the house so ably managed by them.”

1911 Census

33, Lower Hall Lane

- [1] *Thomas Powell* (48), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Ann Powell (47), wife, married 28, years, born Walsall;
- [3] Thomas Powell Jnr. (27), son, painter, born Walsall;
- [4] Jane Powell (25), daughter, French polisher, born Walsall;
- [5] May Powell (17), daughter, at home, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Powell (15), daughter, tailoress, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 17/6/1911

“Phoenix Football Club.

The chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks be accorded Mr. Wooldridge, of the KINGS HEAD, Blakenall for the use of the ground last season. He was sure they would all agree with him that it was one of the best grounds they had ever had, and it was kept in a first-rate condition, while they were always treated with the utmost hospitality by Mr. Wooldridge, whose kindness they much appreciated. He would also like to thank Mr. And Mrs. *Powell*, the host and hostess of the VINE, for their kindness.....”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

VINE, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall, 6s 5d.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

VINE INN, Lower Hall Street. £2 1 6d.”

Walsall Observer 17/8/1918

“The first proceedings taken in Walsall under the Beer, Prices and Descriptions, Order, 1918, were taken at the Guildhall on Tuesday, at the instance of the Food Control Committee, but failed through insufficient evidence.

Before Messrs. E. C. Windle and W. M. Brookes, *Thomas Powell*, VINE INN, Lower Hall Street, appeared on three summonses charging him with selling beer of short measure, and Mr. Victor Crooke (prosecuting for the Committee) said that on Monday evening, July 22, a woman was served by Miss *Powell*, defendant’s daughter, with a quart of beer, for which she paid 10d, and which was taken away in a jug of considerably more than a quart capacity. Inspector Whitworth was near by and he measured the beer, and found it was less than a quart. On the following night the woman was served with two quarts at the VINE, and these were handed to Mr. Whitworth, who again discovered deficiencies in quantities. A quart of beer should contain 40oz, but that bought on Monday was found by inspector Whitworth to contain only 36oz, and the other two were deficient by four and five ounces respectively. The cases, said Mr. Crooke, were the first in the borough under the Order, and people were greatly interested in them. Upon the investigation of the first charge, Mrs. Sarah Binion, 4, Upper Hall Lane, gave evidence of being served with a quart of beer on July 22, and cross-examined by Mr. H. H. Jackson (defending), she said some of the beer might have been spilled, although she did not notice it happen.

Inspector Whitworth spoke to receiving and measuring the beer, and under cross-examination, indicated on Mrs. Binion’s glass jug how far a quart of liquid would rise. The froth on the beer with which Mrs. Binion was supplied rose to the quart line.

‘It’s a frothy question, then,’ remarked Mr. Jackson, who, proceeding to address the court said defendant had kept the VINE INN for eleven years, and his reputation should be remembered in considering the cases.

Mrs. May *Powell* said she was confident she gave Mrs. Binion full measures. She blew off the top of the measure as much froth as possible before supplying her. On previous occasions she had seen Mrs. Binion drink from her jug and then ask for another half-pint, but she did not see her do so on the night in question.

The Bench decided that there was not sufficient evidence to convict and dismissed the summonses, but, replying to Mr. Crooke, they agreed it was a proper case for investigation.

Mr. Jackson suggested that Mr. Crooke only wanted a warning to go forth to the trade, and that this case would have the desired effect.

Remarking that he could not hope to produce stronger evidence on the other summonses, Mr. Crooke withdrew them, and the Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton) observed that publicans convicted of giving short measure were liable to heavy penalties.”

Walsall Observer 9/2/1924

“In connection with the Walsall Fur and Feather Society, a smoking concert was held at the VINE HOTEL on Monday evening.....”

Walsall Observer 3/5/1924

“There was a capital show of rabbits at the VINE HOTEL, the headquarters of the Walsall Fur and Feather Society, on Monday, there being nearly 100 rabbits.....”

Walsall Observer 14/6/1924

“There was keen competition at a show held at the VINE HOTEL, Cross Street, on Wednesday, under the auspices of the Walsall Fur and Feather Society, and the entries numbered over seventy.....”

Walsall Observer 18/10/1924

“....Further re-arrangement in respect of the suggested alterations at the VINE, Hall Lane, was needed, and sanction to these plans was also refused.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/2/1936

“Walsall Licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall on Tuesday.....

Formal objection was taken to the renewal of the following licenses: CROWN (beerhouse), Lower Hall Lane; VINE (alehouse), Lower Hall Lane; and the CROWN AND CUSHION (beerhouse), Bridgman Street. All other licenses were renewed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/8/1937

“At the Walsall Licensing Transfer Sessions on Tuesday.....

With reference to the VINE, Lower Hall Lane, which was referred for compensation on the grounds of redundancy, Mr. F. Cooper, for the owners, applied for the renewal of the license. He said the present premises were not satisfactory of the Justices, but the owners were prepared to give an undertaking to rebuild. The house was now doing nearly three times the trade it was in 1933 owing to the cutting through of Caldmore Road. The license was renewed.”

A Provisional Grant for the license removal to premises erected partly on land within the curtilage of the present premises and partly on land forming a portion of the site of adjoining cottages and warehouses was granted on 8th February 1938.

Birmingham Mail 23/5/1939 - Advert

“£12. – Austin 12-6 Saloon, sound engine, good tyres, a snip.
VINE INN, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.”

1939 Register

33, Lower Hall Lane

[1] *Edwin G. White*, date of birth 11/3/1906, manager, licensed house, married, AFS driver;

[2] *Lily L. White*, dob 21/11/1904, manageress, licensed house, married:

Evening Despatch 7/3/1940

“An 18th century Walsall public house, the VINE, Lower Hall Lane, has disappeared, and the owners, Messrs. Eley’s (Stafford) Brewery Company, have erected on the site a modern house, the final order for the removal of the license being granted today at Walsall adjourned licensing sessions.

In granting the application the chairman Ald. H. Hucker, said the new house would be a big improvement to the district.”

Walsall Observer 27/3/1943

“Having spent about four years at Caldmore Church School, chiefly in learning something of the ‘three Rs,’ little *Tommy Powell* was considered to have had sufficient education to equip him for the life of an ordinary working man. So at the age of eight years he began to earn something towards his maintenance. It was half-a-crown a week for what he was able to do for a Walsall chain-front maker named Archer. Four years later he began working in the casting trade. That was to be the chief occupation of his life; but though he worked hard and for long hours for many years Mr. *Powell* has been lucky enough to enjoy good health, and to-day at the age of nearly 81, he is still fairly fit apart from foot trouble.

On Wednesday he and his wife celebrated their diamond wedding at their home at 22, Lysways Street, for they were married at the Mount Church on March 24, 1883, when they were but twenty and nineteen respectively. Mrs. *Powell* is, if anything, in better trim than her husband, for she is still able to do all her own housework and has sight good enough to enable her to thread a needle, without the aid of glasses.

Mr. *Powell*’s longest spell with one employer was at the works of Broadhurst & Co., Hatherton Street, where he remained for twenty years until about 1901. That marked the end of his industrial life; but he afterwards engaged in the licensed trade, first as licensee of the TANNERS ARMS, Hatherton Street, and then some sixteen years before his retirement at the VINE INN, Hall Lane.

Mr. and Mrs. *Powell* have had two sons and three daughters and there are four grandchildren, two serving in the Army, and one grandson.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

W. Butler and Co. Ltd., Springfield Brewery, were summoned in respect of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road; KING GEORGE V, Wallows Lane, DILKE ARMS, Aldridge; The HARDEN, Harden Road; and VINE INN, Lower Hall Street; and the managers, Thomas Henry Atkins, Kenneth Dawes, Harry Harvey, Leonard Charles Lampitt, and *Edwin George White*, for aiding and abetting. Mr. Cooper said this brewery company also had given specific instructions to their managers, and Mr. Hodgkinson emphasised that the managers’ offences were purely of a technical character and that if they had applied for permits for extra supplies they would have got them.

Dawes and Hawkes were fined £2 each, the other managers £1 each, and the brewery 10s in each case.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

VINE INN, Lower Hall Street. £0 1s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 16/9/1944

“There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society held on Thursday at the NEW INN, Willenhall. Mr. C. W. Garfield (president) occupied the chair.....

Mr. T. H. Cooper, VINE INN, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall, was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

“Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....

VINE, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.”

Closed [1980s]

It became a restaurant and ‘youth pub’. [1995]

VOLUNTEER

19, Bridgeman Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mary Sheldon, Walsall Road, Wednesbury

Mrs. Eliza Perry [1880]

John Darby

J. Sheldon Esq, solicitor, Wednesbury

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1904]

LICENSEES

William Moore [1868] – [1870]

Thomas Shaw [1871] – [1872];

Richard Perry [];

Mrs. Eliza Perry [1880] – [1881]

John Darby [1883];

Charles Heeley [];

Mary Ann Heeley [1885];

Frederick Paddock [1891] – **1904**;

Mrs. Hannah (Simmonds) Green (**1904 – 1935**):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Walsall Free Press 14/9/1867 - Advert

“To Be Let, with immediate possession, the VOLUNTEER Beer Shop, Bridgeman Street, Walsall, with American Bowling Alley, and good Shopping.

For particulars apply on the premises.”

William Moore, beer retailer, 19, Bridgeman Street. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

19, Bridgeman Street

[1] *Thomas Shaw* (43), saddler, born Walsall;

[2] *Amelia Shaw* (42), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Alice E. Shaw* (16), daughter, no calling, born Walsall;

[4] Rosanna Shaw (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Thomas Shaw, beer retailer, 19, Bridgeman Street. [1872]

1881 Census

19, Bridgeman Street – The VOLUNTEER

[1] *Eliza Perry* (43), widow, keeps a beershop, born Walsall;

[2] Susan Perry (15), niece, stamper, born Walsall;

[3] Sarah Macque (20), domestic servant, born Walsall:

John Darby was fined 10s and costs, on 23rd May 1883, for Sunday trading.

Charles Heeley was fined 10s and costs for allowing drink to be sold before 6am.

Walsall Observer 28/2/1885

“*Mary Ann Heeley*, Bridgeman Street, was summoned for refusing to admit the police into her licensed premises, the VOLUNTEER INN, on the 16th inst.

Mr. E. Evans appeared for the defence.

Acting-sergeant Mercer deposed that about half past eleven at night he saw two men leave the house in a stealthy sort of way, and he at once ran down to the back of the house. The back door was open, and he shouted to a woman who had run down the entry not to close the door, as he was a police officer. The door was, however, closed in his face and bolted. He could hear people inside the house, but when he was admitted six or seven minutes later he could not find anyone in the lower rooms, but he did not go upstairs.

In cross-examination by Mr. Evans, witness said that he called out to the woman that it was the police and that she must have known who it was.

Police-constable Marshall (No.51) corroborated this evidence, and also said that he stayed in the front of the house and heard talking inside.

Mr. Evans said that the facts of the case were very simple. The defendant’s servant was in the yard talking to two men when the policeman ran towards her and up the entry. She did not know who it was and ran into the house and shut the door, her mistress being out.

Emily Shelley was called, and corroborated the statement of the advocate, except that she said she was not talking to the men, but was just crossing the yard when the police ran down the entry.

The case was dismissed.”

1891 Census

19, Bridgeman Street

[1] *Fred Paddock* (32), beer retailer, born Walsall;

[2] Elizabeth Paddock (33), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Hannah Paddock (11), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] James Henry Paddock (8), son, born Walsall;

[5] Alfred H. Paddock (3), son, born Walsall;

[6] Clara E. Paddock (4 months), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/3/1893

“*Frank Andrews* alias Gilliman, brass caster, who described himself of no fixed abode, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Bridgeman Street on Monday night; also with assaulting Police-constable Reynolds, and damaging the latter’s lamp. Reynolds stated the prisoner and other men left the VOLUNTEER INN, and two of them commenced to fight. Witness went to check the disturbance, and the accused on being told that the police were coming turned round on witness and threw him to the ground. Witness was struggling with the prisoner for about ten minutes, during which time he was beaten and kicked, prisoner behaving more like a madman than a sane person. Witness tried to detain the man, but prisoner was dragged away by his friends, and witness had to get the assistance of Police-constable Breeze before he could re-arrest him. The damage to the lamp was done in the course of the struggle.

Prisoner pleaded guilty, and said he was in drink.

He was sentenced to six weeks’ imprisonment for the assault, and ordered to pay 5s and costs on the other charges, or go to gaol for a further seven days.”

Frederick Paddock, beer retailer and buckle maker, 19, Bridgeman Street. [1896], [1904]

See also FOUR HORSE SHOES.

Hannah Paddock married Henry Simms on 30th April 1900.

Walsall Advertiser 30/3/1901

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.....

New Members..... *Frederick Paddock*, VOLUNTEER INN, Bridgeman Street.”

1901 Census

19, Bridgeman Street – The VOLUNTEER

- [1] Henry Simms (25), metal engraver, born Walsall;
- [2] Hannah Simms (21), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] James Paddock (18), boarder, brass caster, born Walsall;
- [4] Alfred Paddock (14), visitor, born Walsall;
- [5] Steven Green (29), boarder, iron worker, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 7/12/1901

“James *Paddock*, of the VOLUNTEER INN, Bridgeman Street, was summoned for improperly using the cord of communication on a London and North-Western train, on November 2nd. Mr. F. Lambert, of Birmingham, prosecuted on behalf of the Railway Company, and stated that the defendant and two companions travelled by the 10.50pm train from Wolverhampton to Walsall, and stopped the train without any cause whatever, by pulling down the cord of communication inside the carriage. The cord was connected with a vacuum brake, and the effect of pulling down the cord was to put on the brake. It was a serious thing to make improper use of the cord, but he could only imagine that the defendant had pulled it out of curiosity. However, he thought it would be a sufficient caution to the defendant if he was ordered to pay costs if the Bench would express the opinion that the case was a proper one to have been brought.

Alderman Holden said he thought it was a case in which they should impose the full penalty of £5, as there was a great danger if the cord was improperly used.

Defendant pleaded guilty, and he was ordered to pay costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1903 - Advert

“Air-Gun Shooting.

It having been decided to form a Walsall & District Air-Gun League, all interested are requested to send a representative to the VOLUNTEER INN Bridgeman Street, on Tuesday Evening Next, Sept 1st, at 8.30pm.”

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Objections to the renewals to James Archibald Goodall, ROEBUCK, Upper Rushall Street, and *Frederick Paddock*, VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street were postponed to the adjourned meeting, to be held on March 1st.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

The VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street. The police were the objectors in this case – that the license holder (*Frederick Paddock*) was not the real resident; and that the house was used by bookmakers for betting. Mr. Plumptree (instructed by Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) was for the defence.

The allegations were that the landlord resided at Aldridge, and went home by the last train each night; also that betting men used the house and copied the names of horses from betting slips. Deferred.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1904 - Advert

“A meeting will be held in connection with the VOLUNTEER INN, Bridgeman Street, Fishing Club, to elect officers, on Monday, May 16th, 1904. Anyone wishing to become a member is invited. Good water in view.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1904

“Walsall & District Air-Gun League. Hospital Cup & Medals.

The concluding draw, to be shot on Tuesday next, the 21st inst, at the VINE HOTEL, Lower Hall Lane, is as under:

1. VOLUNTEER or KING WILLIAM v GOLDEN EAGLE.
2. NEWPORT No.1 or CRITERION v CROWN or Leamore.

Final. Winner of No.2 v Winner of No.1.

The first team to have choice of shooting. The first match to commence at 8pm sharp, the second at 8.45, final at 9.45. Individuals to immediately follow.”

Hannah Simmonds married a Mr. *Green*.

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905

“Walsall And District Air-Gun League. Under the auspices of the above League a meeting was held in the VOLUNTEER INN, Bridgeman Street on Monday evening for the purpose of electing officers and clubs for the ensuing season. Captain J. S. Robin-

son was re-elected president; Sir A. D. Hayter and Mr. A. D. Rudge, vice-presidents; Mr. Paddock, treasurer; Mr. Sadler, secretary; and the following were elected to form a committee: Messrs. Gradwell, Partridge, Clarke, Laker, Williams, D. Smith, Allport, Hitch, Vaughan, and Chappell.

The secretary announced that a gentleman had offered a gold medal to the member who proved himself to be the best shot in the League during the next season. The following sixteen clubs were elected to form the League: NEWPORT ARMS, VOLUNTEER, ROSE AND CROWN, CROWN AND CUSHION, ORANGE TREE, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, FOUNTAIN (Bott Lane), FOUNTAIN (Forster Street), SADDLERS HOME, NORTH WESTERN, FITTERS ARMS, BLACK HORSE (Walsall), CROWN (Leamore), FORGE INN, WALSALL ARMS (Bank Street), and the QUEENS HOTEL."

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

"The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

The VOLUNTEER. Mr. W. J. Pearman Smith applied on behalf of the Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery Co. as to plans to alter this house, in Bridgeman Street. He mentioned that this application was made before the Licensing Committee in November last, and refused, but with power to apply again at the annual meeting. There would be no internal alteration, and the drinking area was not to be interfered with; the plans simply meant a new entry and a new window.

The Chief Constable made an objection, and the plans were sanctioned conditionally to their showing an 8ft wall to be erected at the back."

Mrs. *Hannah Green*, beer retailer, Bridgeman Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1913

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New members..... Mrs. *Hannah Green*, VOLUNTEER INN, Bridgeman Street."

Walsall Advertiser 11/1/1913

"Shortly before three o'clock on Saturday afternoon, the Walsall Fire Brigade were called to an outbreak of fire at the VOLUNTEER INN, Bridgeman Street. When the Brigade arrived, under Chief-Inspector Ballance, they found the smokeroom well alight, but they were able to extinguish the fire with little difficulty."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

VOLUNTEER INN, Bridgeman Street. £1 3s 11d."

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1922

"Annual Licensing Sessions.....

There were also objections, to the renewal of the licenses chiefly on the ground of redundancy of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich; ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street; FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street; VINE, Blue Lane; WOODMAN, Blue Lane; and VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street; and it was announced that the applications in respect of these houses would be considered at the adjourned sessions on March 2nd."

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

"In 1935 the remarried *Hannah Green* was tenant, when the house had a Brewery, Bar 14' x 17' x 8'6", Taproom, Clubroom, and Outdoor, and a malt room, an old property in poor repair."

The license renewal was refused on the grounds of redundancy.

It closed on 31st December 1935.

Compensation of £2,800 was paid.

WALSALL ARMS

17, Bank Street, (Limepit Bank), WALSALL

OWNERS

Henry Wainwright, butcher, Ablewell Street, Walsall

James Heath

George and William Whitehouse [1891]

Joseph Whitehouse

George Whitehouse [1907]

Messrs. Yardley [1905]

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Marstons Ltd. (acquired in 1992)

LICENSEES

Samuel Mee [1834]
Charles Atkins [1835]
Painter [1837]
John Westley [1841] – [1851]
Simeon Heath [1848] – [1865]
George Smith [1866] – [1871]
Simeon Heath [1871]
Thomas Pendock Collinton [1872];
Mrs. Sarah Collinton [1873];
Robert James Adams [];
James Heath [];
William Robatham [1880] – [1881]
William James Grant [1885];
William Ross [1891] – **1895**;
Elizabeth Ross (**1895 – 1899**);
Hawley [1895] ?
Edward Challinor (**1899 – 1916**);
Edward William Pynor [1902] – [1904] ?
George Whitehouse [1916] ? owner ?
Edward William Pynor (**1916 – 1918**);
James Edward Granger (**1918 – 1919**);
Richard Granger (**1919 – 1922**);
George William England (**1922 – 1923**);
Robert Whitaker Brown (**1923 – 1936**);
Bernard Joseph Hordern (**1936 – 1937**);
Thomas Kent (**1937 – 1951**);
Ernest Jones (**1951 – 1963**);
William Reginald Jukes (**1963** – [1966])
G Trickett [1993]
Anthony Inns (**2001** – [])
Jimmy Chambers [2014] – [2015]

NOTES

OLD WALSALL ARMS [1891]

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/3/1837 - Advert

“Sale At The WALSALL ARMS Bank Street Walsall.

By Farrington and Son, (Under a Deed of Assignment for the benefit of Creditors).

To Be Sold By Auction, on the Premises, on Monday, the 6th day of March next; All the Household Furniture, valuable Brewing Utensils, Stock of Ale, and other Effects belonging to Mr. *Painter*; also the Licenses, Goodwill, and immediate Possession of the above premises.

Particulars in catalogues, which may be had at the Office of the Auctioneer, Walsall.”

1841 Census

Bank Street

[1] *John Westley* (25), plater, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Jane Westley* (25), born Staffordshire;

[3] *William Westley* (3), born Staffordshire;

[4] *Frances Westley* (1), born Staffordshire;

[5] *Mary Joseph* (13), fs, born Staffordshire:

John Westley was also a saddle nail maker. [1845]

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1848

“At the sitting of the magistrates, the following persons applied for spirit licenses for their respective houses.....
Simeon Heath, Limepit Bank. Refused.”

Simeon Heath, beer retailer, Bank Street. [1849], [1850]

Birmingham Journal 6/1/1855

“*Simeon Heath*, WALSALL ARMS, Limepit Bank, was charged with keeping his house open on Sunday the 24th ult, during prohibited hours. The defence was that a small quantity of ale was sold for a Mrs. Meeson, who was ill. Mrs. Meeson was produced, and after hearing her testimony, the Bench discharged the summons.”

Walsall Free Press 20/2/1857

“About twelve o’clock on Saturday week, as Samuel Butler, miner, was at work in the Deepmore Pit, Bentley, a portion of the roof gave way, and a quantity of debris falling on his back, so severely injured his spine that he died from the effects the Wednesday following. After the accident the deceased was removed to his home in Pool Street, where he was attended up to the time of his death by Mr. Harthill, surgeon, Willenhall. On Saturday last the Coroner, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, held an inquest at the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, upon the body, and a verdict of Accidental Death was recorded; the evidence showing clearly that the melancholy occurrence was purely the result of accident, and that no blame attached to any one.”

1861 Census

17, Bank Street – WALSALL ARMS

- [1] *Simeon Heath* (53), innkeeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Harriett Heath (43), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary E. Heath (16), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah H. Heath (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Frederick W. Heath (1), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Richard Hinks (26), boarder, plater, born Walsall;
- [7] Henry Bullock (39), lodger, brick maker, born Willenhall:

Walsall Free Press 12/10/1861

“A man named Samuel Cox, lock maker, of Bott Lane, died suddenly at half-past three o’clock yesterday morning. He went to bed apparently in his usual health about ten o’clock on the previous night, and about the hour in the morning mentioned he spoke to his wife, turned over in bed, and died. An inquest is to be held on the body at half-past nine this morning at the WALSALL ARMS, Limepit Bank.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1836, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o’clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *W. [sic] Heath*, WALSALL ARMS.”

Walsall Free Press 13/1/1866 - Advert

“Walsall Foreign.

Valuable Copyhold Properties In Bank Street & Bott Street.

To Be Sold By Auction, by H. Farrington, (by order of the Executors of the late Mr. *Simeon Heath*), at the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall, on Monday, January 29th, 1866, at Six o’clock in the Evening, (subject to conditions).

In Bank Street. Lot 1. All that Old-licensed and well-accustomed Public House, known as the WALSALL ARMS, for many years carried on by the late proprietor, Mr. *Simeon Heath*, deceased. The Public-house contains Bar, Kitchen, Bagatelle-room, Tap-room, four Chambers, Brewery, Club-room, Malt-room, Yard, and Pump of capital Water; also the House adjoining, being No.16, fronting to Bank Street occupied by Cockayne, and Back House, occupied by Gall; also the well-built detached House, fronting to the yard at the back, being No.1, occupied by Mr. Thomas; and also the Two other newly-erected Houses in said yard, occupied by Kirton and Nash, with an entrance in Bott Street.

N.B. The purchaser of this lot will be required to take to the Brewing Plant and Trade, Fixtures, &c, at a fair valuation, to be produced at the time of sale.....”

Walsall Free Press 22/9/1866

“A Female Friendly Society established upwards of 25 years ago, with an increasing capital, is desirous of further augmenting its Funds, by joining another Small Club with a little capital. The objects of the society are to afford relief to Sick Members, and provide Decent Burials.

Apply to Mr. *Geo. Smith*, the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, Walsall.

Amy Smith, Mary Spinks, Stewardesses.”

Simeon Heath, beer retailer, Bank Street. [1871]

1871 Census

17, Bank Street – WALSALL ARMS

[1] *George Smith* (37), victualler, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Jane Smith* (43), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *John Henry Eccles* (20), son in law, unmarried (?), brown saddler, born Walsall;

[4] *William Allen Eccles* (18), son in law, unmarried (?), stone mason, born Walsall:

[Were 3 and 4 actually stepsons?]

Walsall Free Press 16/12/1871

“On Thursday afternoon an inquest was held at the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, by A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, upon the body of Charlotte Evenson, wife of Francis Evenson, shoe-maker. From the evidence of Mrs. Roper, a neighbour, it appeared deceased was taken in labour about ten o’clock on Monday morning, and Mrs. Happle, the midwife, whom deceased had employed, was sent for, and about 11.40 deceased was delivered a child. It appeared from subsequent appearances that medical aid was requisite, and fruitless attempts were made to procure medical assistance. About 11.40 on Tuesday morning deceased gave birth to a still-born child. On the representation of the midwife, Mr. Sharpe, surgeon, was sent for, but before he arrived deceased expired. At this stage of the proceedings the Coroner adjourned the inquest, and directed a post mortem examination to be made. At the adjourned inquest held yesterday, Mrs. Roper, who was recalled, stated that between six and seven o’clock on Tuesday morning the husband went out to fetch a doctor, but he did not return, and she heard he was found in a public house. She also stated that when he went out for a doctor on Tuesday night he was not sober. Mrs. Happle, the midwife, stated that she was 60 years of age and could neither read nor write, and had never attended a confinement in which there were twins before. She did not think deceased was dying until after the birth of the second child. Dr. Maclachan, who made the post mortem examination of the body of the deceased, gave it as his opinion that deceased had died from exhaustion, and that had any experienced surgeon been there the woman’s life might have been saved. The jury, after censuring the conduct of the husband, returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes. In reply to one of the jury, the Coroner, expressed his regret that he had not power to deal with the husband, whom – had he the power – he would not spare.”

1881 Census

17, Bank Street – WALSALL ARMS

[1] *William Robatham* (53), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Matilda Robatham* (52), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Alfred Robatham* (24), son, brass caster, born Walsall;

[4] *Edgar Robatham* (22), son, currier, born Walsall;

[5] *Arthur Robatham* (19), son, born Walsall;

[6] *Ernest Robatham* (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] *Sidney Robatham* (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[8] *Kate Robatham* (22), daughter, born Walsall;

[9] *Matilda Robatham* (17), daughter, born Walsall;

[10] *Alice Robatham* (15), daughter, born Walsall;

[11] *Eliza Richardson* (16), domestic servant, born Oakengates, Shropshire:

Lichfield Mercury 2/3/1883

“On Saturday, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the WALSALL ARMS, on the body of Michael Grainey (73), Bank Street, who had eked out a living by begging and selling matches, and allowance of 2s and a loaf of bread, which he received from the parish being gone by Monday in each week, according to the testimony of the deceased’s son. The evidence showed that the deceased and his surroundings had been so filthy that the inspector of nuisances had had his things burnt, and the coroner had deferred the inquest, and had the house in which the deceased lived disinfected before taking the jury to see the body. Further, the coroner and the jury condemned ‘the place as being unfit for habitation of human beings.’ A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/6/1884 - Advert

“Bank Street, Walsall. To Let, Old-Licensed House, known as the WALSALL ARMS, with modern Brewing Plant in working order, and other Fixtures to be taken to with Four Houses attached, well-tenanted; 4 years’ lease; can be had at once owing to death of proprietor.

Apply, for particulars, to Mr. I. Stanley, Bernard Street, Sutton Road, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 28/2/1885

“*William Grant*, keeper of the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, was charged with selling intoxicating liquors, on Sunday morning, before 12.30.

Detective Smith deposed that on the morning in question he visited the house in question, where he found three men drinking.

He asked the landlord how he accounted for the men being upon his premises, and he said they were his friends. When it was

discovered that he (the detective) was in the house, an attempt was made to prevent him from getting the names of the men upon

the premises.

Mr. Loxton contended that the men were in the yard, which was a public one, and not upon the licensed premises.

Sergeant Drury said the yard belonged to the public house, and when the house was closed the yard door was shut.

Defendant said the yard belonged to other houses besides his, the water supply for them being obtained from one tap, and the property belonged to one person. At the time in question no beer was sold or supplied to anyone.

After Detective Smith had cross-examined the defendant, the bench retired to consider their decision in private. On their return, Mr. Bayliss said there was a doubt in the case, and it would be dismissed, although the magistrates had their own opinion upon the matter.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“There were 31 applications for dancing, singing and music licenses under the provisions of the new Corporation Act. The Bench heard all the applications and then retired to consider their decisions, which turned out to be in accordance with the principle which was laid down at a former Court, viz, that licenses should not be granted to vaults or public rooms, but should be confined to regular and existing clubs and class meetings in club rooms. Licenses were granted to.....

The OLD WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/2/1891

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, John Webb (14) and Herbert Hodson (12), were charged with stealing a gallon of whisky, value £1 1s 8d, the property of George and William Whitehouse.

It seemed that the prosecutor’s cart was standing outside the WALSALL ARMS INN, Bank Street, on Tuesday, the 3rd inst, when Webb climbed into the cart, and handed down a stone bottle, which he thought contained ale. He, Hodson, and other boy then went away with it, and afterwards Webb told a companion that they had concealed the bottle in Eldon Street, and that they found it contained whisky, which they had been drinking out of their hands.

The prosecutors did not press the case and the boys having previously borne a good character, their parents were bound over on their behalf for six months.”

1891 Census

17, Bank Street – OLD WALSALL ARMS

- [1] *William Ross* (41), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Ross (38), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Lily Ross (14), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] Maude Ross (12), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [5] Marion Ross (10), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [6] Ada Ross (9), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [7] Tom G. Ross (5), son, school, born Walsall;
- [8] Alfred Ross (3), son, born Walsall;
- [9] H _____y Ross (1), son, born Walsall;
- [10] Baby girl (5 days), daughter, born Walsall;
- [11] Mary A. Wilkinson (16), general servant, born Bentley:

Walsall Advertiser 14/9/1895

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The monthly meeting of this society was held on Thursday last.....

A vote of condolence was unanimously passed with the members of the family of the late Mr. *William Ross*, WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, who joined the society in 1886.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/12/1895

“On Wednesday last a few friends and relatives sat down to an excellent supper at the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street (Brother *Hawley*’s), provided by Mr. James Lord, to commemorate his coming-of-age, as he said in the course of a neat speech which he afterwards made. Complimentary remarks by some of those present were followed by appropriate songs well rendered, and a most pleasant evening was spent.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1896

“The forty-fourth annual meeting of the members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

We have to report the decease of two of our members, viz, Mr. *William Ross*, WALSALL ARMS INN, Bank Street, Walsall, and Mr. Thomas Sanders, The STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, to the bereaved relatives of whom on your behalf we have tendered our sincere sympathy.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/1/1899

“*Elizabeth Ross*, WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, was charged with keeping her premises open during prohibited hours on December 29. The evidence of Police-constable Burrell was that on the night of the 29th ult, at ten minutes after 11, he saw the door of the WALSALL ARMS wide open. He noticed that about half a dozen men came out of the house, one carrying a can. On going to the back of the premises he saw a woman the worse for beer come out with a bottle. The latter contained something, which she threw away. Mr. H. H. Jackson, who appeared for Mrs. *Ross*, pointed out that there had been a club supper that night at the

house. At half-past 10 beer was sent up in two gallon cans. At closing time, the men having drunk it all, took the can with them. There being a large number of persons present, it was 10 minutes after closing time when the house was cleared. The woman who came from the back had been to Mrs. Ross for a Christmas-box, and in order to get rid of her the landlady gave her some 'swillings.' The case was dismissed on payment of costs."

Edward Challinor was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society in June 1900.

1901 Census

17, Bank Street – Tavern – The WALSALL ARMS

[1] *Edward Challinor* (27), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;

[2] Alice M. Challinor (23), wife, born Wednesbury;

[3] Edward W. Pym (26), relative, assistant to landlord, born Wednesbury;

[4] Constance H. Challinor (1), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Susan Brown (13), relative, nurse to landlord's child, born Wednesbury;

[6] Dora Higgitt (19), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Edward William Poyner = Edward William Pyner

Walsall Advertiser 9/8/1902

"Harry Braid and Sarah Braid, of Chuckery Lane, were summoned for assaulting *Edward William Pynor*, the landlord of the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, on July 31st. Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Morgan (from Mr. Armstrong's office) defended. The two defendants had black eyes, and the complainant had his head bound with a bandage. Mr. Jackson, for the complainant, said that on Tuesday afternoon, July 31st, his client was in charge of the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, and the two defendants, who were in the parlour, commenced a family row. Complainant ordered them out, but they refused to go, and he then ejected them. They became very violent, and when in the yard commenced to 'whack' some stout bottles at him, and the male defendant picked up a bottle and hit him on the head with it. The result was that he received a bad wound on the head which had been stitched up by Dr. Layton.

The complainant gave evidence in support of this statement.

Cross-examined by Mr. Morgan, he admitted that he had ordered a man named Demster out of the house because of a complaint made by a barmaid but it was not because of that that he also told the defendants to go. He did not kick the man Braid because he would not leave his house, nor did he strike him and black his eye.

Police-constable Williams (41) deposed to finding the landlord with his head cut, and Mrs. Peach (a neighbour) said she saw the defendant Braid strike the landlord with the bottle.

Mr. Morgan, addressing the magistrates for the defendants, said the whole bother arose owing to a man named Demster interfering with a barmaid, and the landlord wrongly accused Braid of it. Braid said to the landlord that it was not the proper way to treat a friend to wrongly accuse him of what another man had done. The landlord, however, said 'Out you go,' and knocked the defendant down and kicked him. The defendant had a black eye to show for the violence.

Braid then gave evidence, stating that the landlord kicked him, knocked him down, and also pummelled his head on the floor.

Witness's wife came up and pulled him off, remarking 'You are not going to do that to my husband.' The complainant then went into the house again, saying, 'I will make you pay for this; I can't help your quarrels,' and tried in this way to make it out that the quarrel was one between him (defendant) and his wife. Witness did have a bottle in his hand, but whatever he did with the bottle was done in self-defence.

In cross-examination by Mr. Jackson, he denied that he was excited and wild, and did not know what he was doing.

The magistrates said they considered that an assault had been committed, but under great provocation, or the fine would have been very heavy. The male defendant would be fined 2s 6d and costs, and the case against the female defendant would be dismissed."

Walsall Advertiser 1/11/1902

"A cart gear maker, named John Wells, 32, of Bloxwich Street, created not a little disturbance in Bank Street on Saturday. He went to the WALSALL ARMS, and because of his condition the landlord refused to serve him. No sooner had he gone out than he threw a bottle through the window, and Police-constable Bettley locked him up for being drunk and disorderly.

He now expressed regret, and was ordered to pay 5s fine and costs, and 3s the damage of the window; 16s in all, or 14 days."

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

"The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Edward Challinor, WALSALL ARMS."

Walsall Advertiser 1/10/1904

"A Walsall Wood man named William Thorpe was charged with assaulting *Edward William Pyner*, WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, on September 19th.

Complainant said that on the previous Monday at 11.15pm he was waiting for a tram on The Bridge, when he saw the defendant in

company with two other men. He got into conversation with them, and defendant argued with him for some time about what the fare would be to Walsall Wood by cab. They went across the road and Thorpe assaulted complainant, who said he was struck on the side of the face, and had since been attended by a doctor.

Police-constable Baker (No.31) said that when he saw defendant he gave him a false name and address. He (witness) saw complainant's head was bleeding.

Edward Walters and George Wood gave evidence for the defendant.

The magistrates agreed there was a doubt about the case, which was dismissed."

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1905]

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

WALSALL ARMS. In this case, Mr. Wilcock appeared on behalf of the tenant, *Edward Challinor*, and Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs Stanley and Jackson) for the owners, Messrs. Yardley.

Mr. Wilcock said that it was a very old house, and perhaps the oldest in the town. Through its lack of attractiveness he thought it would tend to further the interests of sobriety, and that it would be committing a great injustice to take away the license simply because it was old-fashioned.

Inspector Ballance gave formal evidence as to the structural suitability of the house."

AND

"Plans were also submitted in the case of the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street. Mr. Jackson appeared on behalf of the owner, Mr. Whitehouse, and also for the tenant, Mr. *Edward Challinor*. They proposed to put the place in a proper state and more substantial position. The drinking area would be decreased by 31ft 6in.

Mr. Loxton said that they were really going to rebuild the whole place, and there was a doubt if it could be defined as an alteration. Mr. Farmer, the architect, was called, and handed Mr. Loxton a circular from the Borough Surveyor, which stated that it was an alteration, and had been passed by the town council as such. Refused."

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1905

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough, adjourned from the previous Wednesday, were resumed on Tuesday.....

Mr. Loxton read out the following decisions the magistrates had come to.....

Alterations to the following houses were refused: WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street."

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1906

"There was not nearly the intense public interest in the annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall on Thursday, at the Guildhall, as was the case during the past two or three years, for instead of the court room being densely crowded and a vast throng clamouring for admission in the entrance corridor and on the footpath outside, chiefly holders of licenses and others intimately connected with the trade, the court, though well filled, was evidently large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend.....

Mr. Jackson next applied on behalf of Mr. Geo. Armstrong, for approval of alterations at the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street. There was no proposed alteration of the drinking area or licensed area, but it was intended to close one of the entrances in Bott Street and make a private entrance from Bott Lane, and build a new living room.

Mr. Farmer put in plans.....

Mr. Loxton said the magistrates had adjourned all the plans, and proposed to visit the houses next Wednesday. They would be glad if the architects would accompany them."

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1906

"Yesterday the adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall.....

Several applications for the approval of plans for alterations, had been deferred from the annual licensing meeting for the magistrates to visit the premises. The Bench decided as under.....

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, disapproved."

Birmingham Mail 10/3/1906

"Air-Gun Shooting. The League Tables.

It is not every air-gunner who takes an interest in figures (except perhaps his own particular league table), but to those who do, probably a summary of the 33 league tables which appeared in last week's issue will provide congenial reading, as showing the ups and downs which most clubs experience during a league season. Eight clubs have successfully resisted all attacks so far this season, and hold an unbeaten record, viz.....

Sixteen clubs have weathered through every match successfully (except on one occasion), viz.....

WALSALL ARMS (Walsall and District), 22 matches."

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

"The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street. Mr. Jackson said this was one of the best trading houses in Walsall, and belonged to Mr. George Whitehouse. It was proposed by a boundary wall to shut off some cottages at the back, and to take down an old cottage and make a new living room for the tenant.

Mr. Farmer produced the plans and explained the alterations.

The Chief Constable said that in this case it meant an extension of the premises, and the club room upstairs would be extended over the lower room of the old cottage. The cost of the alterations would be about £500. The best feature of the application was that they were putting up a wall to protect themselves from an open yard.

Mr. Farmer: The Chief Constable has not mentioned that we are giving up a corresponding club room over the brewhouse, and it does not increase the licensed area.

The Chief Constable: But the old club room still remains.

Mr. Jackson: We are not going to use the old club room; it will be part of the Brewery.

The Bench adjourned the application in order to inspect the premises.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Loxton intimated that in regard to the adjourned plans for alterations to the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, and the VICTORIA STORES, High Street, Bloxwich, the Bench had decided to refuse both applications.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/8/1908

“Walsall And District Air-Rifle League (Affiliated to the S.M.R.C.).

The above meeting took place on Tuesday last at headquarters (NEWPORT ARMS), Mr. J. Laker presiding. The Secretary (Mr. T. Sadler) gave his report, which stated that the season had been a most successful one and that the WALSALL ARMS had again won the League Championship, having shot 22 matches, won 18, lost 3, drawn 1, with an average of 271 (H.P. 300) per match.....”

Walsall Advertiser 26/6/1909

“There was a large attendance of those interested in air-gun shooting at the CRITERION HOTEL, Stafford Street, on Monday evening, when the final shoot for the ‘Hospital’ and ‘R. A. Cooper’ Cups took place. With the formation of the Walsall Air-Gun League it was felt that through it some benefit could be conferred upon the Walsall Hospital, and eventually a handsome cup was offered for competition, and the proceeds derived from the meetings of the respective clubs given to the Hospital. So far £29 had been handed over to the treasurer of the institution by the Air-Gun Executive, which should be largely augmented this year. The final was between those old rivals, NEWPORT ARMS and WALSALL ARMS, and, as expected, the shooting was of a high-class order. In the end the cup went to the WALSALL ARMS team for the second time. It will be remembered that the WALSALL ARMS won the Cup outright but returned it to the Executive of the League, and it now forms the basis of an annual competition for the benefit of the Hospital.

Mr. F. J. Cotterell, chairman of the Hospital was in the chair, and supporting him were Mr. E. Hall (president), Mr. T. A. Sadler (honorary secretary), Mr. R. E. Ledbury, &c.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared on behalf of the owners of the WALSALL ARMS to apply for sanction to alterations to the premises. Mr. Jackson explained that it was proposed to set the house back and rebuild it. The owners also offered to take down the cottages adjoining the house and fronting Bank Street, as the result of which 1,722 square feet would be given to the Corporation. The total cost of the works was estimated at £700.

The Chairman: Are the FOUNTAIN and the new house both required? – Mr. Jackson: I think so. They are two of the best houses in Walsall, and are let to bona-fide tenants who have been in them for years.

The Chairman: Don’t you think one good house would be sufficient? Wouldn’t it be possible to amalgamate the two houses? –

Mr. Jackson: I don’t think so.

The Chairman: Wouldn’t it be better than getting neither? – Mr. Jackson: That is an awkward way of putting it. If you will adjourn it I will speak to Mr. Whitehouse.

The Chairman: I think your suggestion is worthy of consideration.

It was decided to defer the application until the adjourned sessions.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.....

With respect to the application for permission to make alterations to the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, Mr. H. H. Jackson said that in reference to the Bench’s suggestion concerning the FOUNTAIN, it was found to be a leasehold property, with a forty-three year lease to run, and was an ante-69 beerhouse, whereas the WALSALL ARMS was a fully licensed house. If the alterations were granted, they would give up another fully licensed house in the town.

Mr. H. E. Farmer, architect, said that the building line would be thrown back twelve yards, and altogether they would be giving up 1,722 square feet of freehold land to the town. Cross-examined by the Chief Constable, witness said that they were taking three cottages into the licensed area. The number of rooms would be increased by one and they would be larger.

The Chief Constable said that the street was a bad one and gave the police much trouble through bookmakers congregating there.

Mr. Jackson said that the street would be widened and improved and a better class of inhabitants live there.

Edward Challinor stated that he was tenant for eleven years, he brewed over 700 barrels a year, and the takings averaged £32 per week. He had no complaint as to the manner in which the house was conducted. Asked whether he gave the long pull witness replied ‘no.’ Mr. Loxton ‘I suppose you do not give the longest pull. (Laughter.) But just half a pint over.’

Mr. Loxton stated that the matter would be considered.”

Lichfield Mercury 18/3/1910

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Walsall were continued on Friday.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson renewed an application for sanction for re-building of the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street. He stated that the owner, Mr. Whitehouse, was now prepared not only to give up 1,600 feet of land for street improvement purposes, but surrender the license of the MANDAMUS INN, Stafford Street, in respect of which it was expected about £1,000 would be payable as compensation.

The Bench held that the case having been already disposed of, it could not be reopened except at another sessions.”

Edward Challinor brewed his own beer. [1911]

Walsall Advertiser 16/9/1911

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *Edward Challinor*, WALSALL ARMS INN, Bank Street.....”

Walsall Observer 14/10/1916

“At the Guildhall, before Messrs. S. B. Wheway, J. Clare, and W. Halford, Albert Jones (43), scrap dealer, 7, Charlotte Street, and Frank Bullivant, gas fitter, of 32, Scarborough Road, were charged with stealing seven brass taps, value 15s 9d, the property of Walsall Corporation; otherwise receiving the same knowing them to have been stolen, on October 6. Mr. F. Cooper defended Jones, and Mr. Jackson appeared for Bullivant.

Detective Bell stated that at 9.30pm on the previous Friday he was in Charlotte Street, when he saw Jones carrying a bag. He asked him what it contained, and his reply was that a man had just given it to him, and he did not know what was in it, but supposed it was metal. He added, ‘You are bringing some one else in besides me.’ Witness found that the bag contained some brass taps. At the police station Jones made a further statement, and the next morning witness saw Bullivant, who was employed at the gas works. He asked him if he knew Jones. He said he did, and that he sold him some brass taps which he had by him for some time. He had them from different places where he had worked. The brass taps were afterwards identified as the property of the Corporation. When prisoners were jointly charged Jones replied, ‘I am innocent.’ Bullivant made no reply.

Cross-Examination Disclosures.

Mr. Cooper: Did Jones deny having any knowledge of Bullivant? – What he told me was where he had them from.

You know he had them from the landlord of the WALSALL ARMS? – Yes.

Have you been in the WALSALL ARMS during the last few weeks? – Yes.

Had you been in there last week? – Once.

What day? – I don’t know; it might have been in the early part of the week.

Do you know the landlord there? – Yes.

Is he giving evidence for the police? – No.

Jones said these were given to him by the landlord of the WALSALL ARMS? – Yes.

Do you know that the landlord of the WALSALL ARMS has been having some repairs carried out at his premises? – I could not say.

Have you been to see the landlord of the WALSALL ARMS? – Yes. I asked him if it was correct that the parcel was left for Jones.

Did you hear anything about this parcel before Friday night? – No.

The Clerk: Did you know at the time you saw this man that the landlord had the parcel? – Yes.

Mr. Cooper: Did you know Jones was going there? – I had an idea he was going.

Mr. Cooper: I am going to put it to the Bench that this was a plant on Jones.

Mr. Wheway: If you knew, or did not know, say so. – Witness: I did not know.

Mr. Cooper: Jones has resolutely denied that he knew anything of Bullivant, that he has never seen him in his life before? – I could not say.

By the Chief Constable: Jones made a statement, and mentioned Bullivant; and it was on that statement that he was detained.

William Henry Shelley, Pargeter Street, of the Gas Department, said Bullivant was a fitter in the employ of the department. The brass taps belonged to the corporation and were used by fitters. They were given out by the storekeeper, and those not required should be returned to the stores. He should imagine those were taken from void houses. They were old taps which should have been returned.

William Edge, storekeeper at the Gas Works, also gave evidence, and in reply to Mr. Jackson, said no note was made of the taps that were returned to the stores or of those which should be returned.

Edward William Pynor, licensee of the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, stated that on the previous Friday night Bullivant came to his house and handed him a parcel, which he asked him to give to Jones if he came in. Witness asked what he was to do if Jones did not come in, and Bullivant replied, ‘See that he has it.’ He afterwards went to Jones’s house and told him that Bullivant had left a parcel for him. Later Jones came and took the parcel away.

Mr. Cooper: You thought everything was open and above board? – No, I did not.

Jones has been a customer of yours? – Casually.

Were you endeavouring to trap Jones? – No.

Where did you meet Bell? – Paddock Lane.

Was it an accidental meeting? – That was, yes.

Had he been to see you the same day? – No, he was there the night before, but I was at Birmingham.

When you went to see Jones you knew these goods had been stolen? – I did know.

The Clerk: What he said was that he did not think it was above board.

Further questioned, he said Bell had spoken to him concerning some brass which had been stolen, and he told him he knew nothing about it.

Why did you take the parcel from Jones? – Because I met Bell and he told me what to do.

You met Bell on your way. Why did you not take the parcel with you? – I did not wish to be a carrier of anybody's.

You and Bell were out to trap Jones? – No.

Why did you not communicate with the police instead of going to tell Jones to fetch the parcel? – That was communicating with the police, when I saw Bell.

I put it to you, you told Jones you were having some repairs done to the brewing plant, and that you would give him some scrap? – I never said any such thing.

Why did you not come to court this morning? Had you been asked to come? – No.

How many times has Bell seen you since Friday night? – Twice; Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

On behalf of Bullivant, Mr. Jackson pleaded guilty.

Jones pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Jackson said Bullivant admitted that the taps were some he should have returned to the stores. He had been employed at the Gas Works for a period of twenty-seven years, and his character was beyond reproach. It was one of those cases one could not understand. He knew he had done wrong, and was exceedingly sorry. His punishment was already severe. He had lost thirty-years' character, and he had lost his job. It was something to his credit that he had instructed him to take full responsibility for what he had done. Unfortunately, the punishment also fell upon his wife and children. It was one slip in a life of 41 years, and he asked the Bench to deal leniently with him, and so give him a chance to retrieve his character.

Mr. Cooper, on behalf of Jones, said the publican mentioned a few weeks ago that he was having certain repairs carried out, and he would give him some scrap metal. He (Jones) did not know there was such a person as Bullivant until he met him in Court that morning. It was a strange thing that the one witness who could prove the case against the prisoner was never called until he was sent for by the Bench. Even a metal dealer was entitled to some English Justice, and the methods adopted were not those that should be employed to catch any criminal.

Jones, on oath, bore out Mr. Cooper's statement. The publican had told him he was having some repairs done, and that he would give him some metal. To his knowledge he had never seen Bullivant until he came into court. If he had known what the stuff was he should not have had it, even as a gift.

Bullivant also gave evidence, and said he had never had any dealings with Jones, and so far as he knew he had never seen him before. He added he had never heard of him. He did not know what to do with the parcel, as he knew if he took it back to the stores he would get into a row.

Both men were fined 40s, and it transpired that Jones had previously been convicted for purchasing lead in less quantity than the law allowed.

Mr. Wheway said if there were not men like Jones open to receive these things there would be no encouragement for theft."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street £1 1s 0d."

Walsall Observer 3/8/1918

"*James Edward Granger*, to whom the Licensing Justices on Tuesday transferred the license of the WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, from *Edward Wm. Pynor*, was stated to have completed 25 years service in the Army."

Walsall Observer 19/10/1918 - Advert

"Wednesday and Thursday Next, 23rd and 24th, October, 1918.

Under instruction from Messrs. W. Butler & Co., Ltd., Springfield Brewery, Wolverhampton, Leonard C. Philpot will Sell by Auction the Brewing Plants and Utensils at the following Licensed House, viz.:

EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.

FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, Walsall.

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, Walsall.

WISEMORE TAVERN, Wisemore, Walsall.

PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, Walsall.

Comprising 11 Steel and Iron Boilers, various sizes from 100 to 250 gallons, 7 large Oak Mash Tuns, 6 Mash Rules, Malt, Shovels, Copper, Lead and Iron Piping, Brass and other taps, Wooden Platforms, 6 large Cooling Vats, 6 Copper Refrigerators (by Potterton and Keyte), 6 Troughs, 2 Copper Sparges, 2 Copper Attemperators, 6 Hop Backs, 50 casks (various sizes from 36 to 120 gallons), 8 Barm Tubs, 6 Large Fermenting Vats, 2 Underbacks, Rotary Pump and Piping, 2 Avery's Weighing Machines (4cwt and 3cwt), Pulley Rope, and Sundry Utensils.

Order Of Sale

Wednesday, October 23rd

EAGLE INN, 10.30 prompt.

FOUNTAIN INN, 12 prompt.

WALSALL ARMS, 1.30 prompt.

Thursday, October 24th

WISEMORE TAVERN, 10.30 prompt.

PHEASANT INN, 12 prompt.

On View, 9 o'clock, Morning of Sale. No catalogues.

Further particulars from the Auction and Valuation Offices, Midland Bank Chambers, The Bridge, Walsall."

1939 Register

17, Bank Street – WALSALL ARMS (3 of 5)

[1] *Thomas Kent*, date of birth 4/1/1900, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Elizabeth M. Kent, dob 16/6/1901, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Elsie M. (Kent) Ball, dob 13/2/1924, leather preparer, single;

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, £0 15s 0d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street. £1 0s 0d."

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street. £0 10s 3d."

Walsall Observer 24/8/1962 - Advert

"Attention! all Mild drinkers.

Highgate Mild is now available in the following Butlers and Atkinsons houses.....

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, Walsall."

Anthony Inns was married to Joy.

See also WHITE LION, Sandwell Street.

Jimmy Chambers was married to Gay.

[2017]

WALSALL ARMS

13, Dudley Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Gameson, tinner, Caldmore, Walsall

Arthur Toon

Henry Hateley, brassfounder, Adams Row, Walsall

John Ganston

William Cousins

Showells Brewery Co. Ltd. [1908]

LICENSEES

Samuel Butler [1841] – **1845**);

Mrs. Phoebe Butler [1845] – [1846]

William Bonser [1847] – **1858**);

Mrs. Eliza (Bonser) Jones (**1858** – []

Richard William Jones [1860] – [1865]

Thomas Hall [1865]

Robert Clenton [1868] – [1870]
Edward Darby [1871] – 1873);
Henry Darby [1872] ?
Richard Parry (1873 – [1877];
Jabez Cousins [];
Thomas Gilliver [];
Peter Cooper [1880] – 188_); [1881]
Arthur Toon (188_ – 1896);
Charles Taylor (1896 – 1897);
Francis Joseph Ross (1897 – 1898);
Caesar Augustus Llewelyn Jenkyns (1898);
Henry Ellingham (1898 – 1899);
Thomas Dixon (1899 – 1903);
William Lane (1903 – 1904);
George Henry Rooke (1904 – 1906);
Henry Anslow (1906);
Joseph William Smith (1906 – 1907);
Henry ‘Harry’ Howell (1907);
Edward Tisdale (1907 – 1908):

NOTES

1841 Census

Dudley Street

- [1] *Samuel Butler* (29), iron founder, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Phoebe Butler* (32), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Hellen Butler (8), born Staffordshire;
- [4] John Parr (20), apprentice, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Benjamin Fletcher (10), ms, born Staffordshire;
- [6] Mary Peal (18), fs, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/1/1845 - Died

“On the 5th instant, aged 35, Mr. *Samuel Butler*, of the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, Walsall.”

Mrs. Phoebe Butler was also a malleable caster. [1845]

Birmingham Journal 4/4/1846 - Advert

“WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, Walsall.

To be Disposed of by Private Contract, the Licenses and Possession of that Old-established Public House, known by the sign of the WALSALL ARMS, in the occupation of Mrs. *Butler*; now doing a good out and in-door trade, brewing regularly 12 bushels of Malt weekly.

There is an excellent Malleable Casting Trade attached to the premises, which will be disposed of to the party taking to the public business.

The Rent and Payments very low.

The Furniture, Fixtures, Stock of Ale, &c, and also the Stock-in-Trade in the Malleable Casting Trade, to be taken in the usual way.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. H. Farrington, Auctioneer, Appraiser, &c, Lichfield Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Journal 19/6/1847

“William Hemmensley and Henry Selway were each fined £1 and costs, and Thomas Egligton fined 10s and costs, for having assaulted *William Bonser*, the landlord of the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street. Another person named Hill was also held to bail for participating in the row. The case occupied the Bench a considerable time, Mr. Wilkinson appearing for the complainant, and Mr. Duignan for the defendants. A deal of contradictory evidence was adduced on both sides, which it is not our intention to inflict upon our readers.”

Birmingham Journal 6/11/1847

“*William Bonser*, landlord of the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, was again placed at the bar, on a charge of striking a young man named James Wood, on the head with a poker, at one o’clock in the morning of the 25th ultimo. Mr. Seaman again attended to conduct the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Samuel Wilkinson defended the prisoner; the particulars of this case have already appeared in the *Journal*. Mr. Whimper, surgeon, who attended the prosecutor, deposed to the dangerous nature of the wound, &c. The prosecutor was also in attendance, but he could not give any additional evidence, his back being towards the prisoner at the time he was struck. The evidence having been fully gone into and completed, the Bench decided on committing the prisoner for trial at the next assizes.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/3/1848

“Staffordshire Spring Assizes.

William Bonser, a man of respectable appearance, was charged with feloniously wounding James William Wood, at Walsall, with intent to do him some serious injury. The prisoner is the landlord of a public house at Walsall, and the attack on the prosecutor was made with a poker, in his (the prisoner's) own house.

The jury found the prisoner guilty of a common assault; and the learned Judge sentenced him to three months' imprisonment.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/2/1851

“*William Bonser*, the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, was fined 10s and costs, for having had his house open during prohibited hours on Saturday night.”

1851 Census

Dudley Street

[1] *William Bonser* (31), publican, born Seckington, Staffordshire;

[2] *Eliza Bonser* (26), wife, born Sibson, Leicestershire;

[3] John Bonser (6), son, scholar, born Seckington, Staffordshire;

[4] Charles Bonser (5), son, scholar, born Seckington, Staffordshire;

[5] Margaret Elbert (20), house servant, born Roscommon, Ireland:

Birmingham Journal 6/1/1855

“*William Bonser*, WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, was charged with an offence against his license on Sunday, the 24th inst. Sergeant Dackus proved the case, and defendant was fined 10s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 3/1/1857

“*William Bonser*, landlord of a public-house in Dudley Street, known as the WALSALL ARMS on the information of police-constable Childs, was fined 5s and expenses, for keeping his house open for the sale of beer, at two o'clock on Sunday morning.”

Walsall Free Press 9/1/1858

“*William Bonser*, of the WALSALL ARMS INN, Dudley Street, was charged with allowing disorderly conduct in his house on the morning of the 30th December. Police-constable Wain deposed that about half-past two o'clock on Wednesday morning he was on duty in Dudley Street, when he heard cries of 'Police' and 'Murder,' which he discovered proceeded from the WALSALL ARMS INN, kept by defendant. On his arrival there the door was opened by a woman, who begged him to separate two men who were fighting in the house. The landlord was also rendering all the assistance he could to one of the belligerents to enable him to thrash the other. He (witness) succeeded in parting them, and when peace was restored he left the house. In an hour afterwards he passed the house a second time and again heard cries of 'Murder.' On this occasion on his entrance he found a man named O'Connor lying on his back upon the ground and another man on top of him, and Mrs. *Bonser* constituted the upper stratum. All were engaged in a general melee. The case was proved by O'Connor, who stated that *Bonser* and his wife were quarrelling and he went to separate them, when, as a matter of course, he got what everyone gets in similar circumstances – a good thrashing. Fined 5s and costs.”

William Bonser died in the 2nd quarter of 1858.

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1858

“Mrs. *Bonser*, of the WALSALL ARMS public house, Dudley Street, was charged by Police-constable Moffatt with having kept her house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours. The officer said he visited the house about four o'clock on the afternoon of Sunday last and found four men sitting in the malt-house with a quart jug before them. Defendant, who failed to appear, was sentenced to pay 2s 6d and costs. Mrs. *Bonser's* niece, who appeared for her aunt, said the latter was prevented through sickness from attending the court.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/2/1859

“Thomas Reynolds, a working man, aged about twenty, was charged at the Guildhall, with having on Monday last, assaulted William Bullock, a soldier. The evidence went to show that the two men were on Monday last in the WALSALL ARMS public-house, Dudley Street, when some row ensued, and a fight arose; but it was urged that defendant did, without provocation, strike complainant. This was strongly denied by defendant; but a woman, whose emphatic manner and great volubility of utterance caused some sensation in court, said, 'Please yer Honour, Gentlemen, he knows he did; and when I should pay for it he said, 'Yo can do as yo'd a mind; but we shall swear you out on it if we swear the church steeple down'.' (Roars of laughter). After hearing a witness for the defence, the Magistrates dismissed the case.”

Eliza Bonser married *Richard William Jones* on 22nd January 1860.

Walsall Free Press 23/2/1861

“*Richard William Jones*, keeper of the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, was charged with having his house open and allowing drink to be consumed at an improper hour on Sunday last. Sergeant Childs deposed that he was passing the house in the regu-

lar course of his duty, when his suspicions were excited, and he entered the premises. Defendant's wife refused to let him pass upstairs, where he (the officer) heard a good deal of talking and noise going on. Witness accordingly went round the back of the premises, and there saw some men coming out smoking pipes, and looking very much if they had been drinking – some of them, in fact, being drunk. Defendant denied the charge, and said he knew nothing of the men being in his house. He called his servant, Catherine Connolly, who deposed that she had let seven men into the malthouse by the back of the house to get out of the way of the policeman who was coming. She did not know why they wished to avoid the police. They were not drunk, and had no drink on the premises. The Bench whilst admitting that there was much suspicion about the case, resolved to dismiss it, especially as Mr. Jones had not hitherto been complained of by the police.

Mrs. Jones, wife of the defendant in the foregoing case, was now charged by Sergeant Childs with resisting him in the discharge of his duty. The officer repeated his evidence as before, and said that he had the door shut in his face, and admittance to the upper part of the house refused him, by defendant, who placed her back to the door having shut it. Defendant admitted having declined to allow the officer to go upstairs, but said she was not used to forcible resistance, which the officer also admitted. Fined 5s and costs, the Bench remarking that it must protect the police in the execution of their duty."

1861 Census

13, Dudley Street

[1] *Richard Jones* (36), publican, born Shrewsbury;

[2] Eliza Jones (34), wife, born Sibson, Leicestershire;

[3] Walter Jones (8), son, born Walsall;

[4] Charles Bonser (15), son, born Seckington, Warwickshire;

[5] Fanny Bonser (4), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Alfred Bonser (2), son, born Walsall;

[7] Ann Wilcox (18), house servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/5/1862

"*Richard Jones*, shoemaker, and landlord of the WALSALL ARMS INN, Dudley Street, was charged with having kept his house open for the sale of liquor during prohibited hours on Sunday night last. He called several witnesses to negative the charge, but their evidence failed to make out his defence. The Bench therefore ordered a fine of 1s and costs."

Birmingham Gazette 14/7/1865

"Before Messrs. Thos. Hazledine and H. Highway. *Thomas Hall*, landlord of the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, for having had his house open on Sunday last during prohibited hours, was fined 6d and costs, and the offence had been committed in his absence by his daughter."

Richard Parry = Richard Perry

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

"*Richard Perry*, landlord of the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, was charged with filling drink to a drunken man on Sunday night last. The Bench dismissed the case upon defendant paying costs."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/1/1877

"At West Bromwich Police Court on Saturday, before Messrs. G. Heaton and J. A. Kenrick and Mayor Williams, *Richard Perry*, landlord of the WALSALL ARMS INN, Walsall, and a labourer, named Frank Davis, of Spon Lane, were charged on remand with burglariously breaking into and entering the houses of Mr. Joseph Evans, Hope Street, West Bromwich; Mr. George Reemes, Smethwick; and Mr. Eli Ray, Wattville Road, Handsworth, and stealing therefrom goods to the value of about £15. Mr. Travis appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Underhill (instructed by Mr. Sheldon) for the defence of *Perry*.

George Reemes, wagon maker, Great Western Road, Smethwick, said that on the morning of the 13th inst, he was sent for from his work, and found that his house had been broken into during the night, and a sewing machine, workbox, overcoat, and other articles stolen. He identified the sewing machine produced as his property.

Detective-sergeant Drury, of Walsall, said that he went to the prisoner *Perry's* house at Walsall, and there found the sewing machine, workbox, and three coats produced. He told the prisoner that they answered the description of property that had been stolen at Smethwick, but prisoner said he had bought them nine or ten days previously from a man who said that he was on the road from Coventry to Nottingham. On the following day Police-sergeant Astbury came to the house with Mr. Reemes and took prisoner into custody. On the 19th inst. witness arrested the prisoner Davis at the prisoner *Perry's* house, where he was being detained by another constable.

For the defence in this case, Mr. Underhill called William Batt, John Smith, and Thomas Wittcock, who proved that on the 13th inst. two men came into *Perry's* house, one of them carrying a bundle, and that *Perry* bought four coats, the sewing machine, and workbox from them for 30s. The Bench then dismissed the prisoner on the charge of entering Mr. Reemes's house, and also, after hearing, that on entering Mr. Reynolds house.

With regard to the charge of breaking into Mr. Evans's house, evidence was given showing that the house was entered on the night of the 4th last, and a sewing machine, sofa cushion, antimacassar, and an overcoat stolen. None of these articles had been traced except the antimacassar, which was found in *Perry's* house by Police-sergeants Wild and Drury on Tuesday last. Police-sergeants Wild and Drury had previously examined the footmarks around Mr. Evans's premises, and found them to correspond with those made by the boots which the prisoner Davis was wearing when arrested. On this charge the magistrates committed the prisoners

to take their trial at the forthcoming Spring Assizes.”

[In March 1877, the prisoners were found guilty, *Richard Perry* received twelve months' imprisonment, and *Frank Davis*, who had been previously convicted received eighteen months' imprisonment.]

1881 Census

Dudley Street – WALSALL ARMS

[1] *Peter Cooper* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Patience Cooper* (34), wife, born Avenbury, Herefordshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 3/2/1891

“Yesterday, at the Guildhall, *Alfred [sic] Toon*, WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises, on Sunday, the 25th inst. Mr. J. N. Cotterell defended.

The Chief Constable reminded the Bench that last week a young man named *Thomas Smith* (16) was found in a drunken condition in Dudley Street, and was fined. As he had just left defendant's house, and been to no other, the summons before the Bench had been taken out.

Smith himself, and other witnesses, were called, their evidence to the effect that four or five of them had two quarts of ale and two quarts of ale and ginger-beer. The magistrate did not agree, and the summons was dismissed.”

1891 Census

13, Dudley Street – WALSALL ARMS

[1] *Arthur Toon* (52), silver plater, born Walsall;

[2] *Mary Toon* (50), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Willie Toon* (18), son, bricklayer, born Walsall;

[4] *Minnie Toon* (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] *Joseph Toon* (11), son, saddler, born Walsall;

[6] *Jane Toon* (18), niece, tailoress, born Walsall;

[7] *Alice Frankham* (16), servant, dressmaker, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/5/1893

“At the Guildhall, *Arthur Toon*, WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, was summoned by the Chief Constable, for keeping open during prohibited hours and permitting drunkenness in the house. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) appeared for the defence.

The Chief Constable said he knew that after eleven o'clock a public house was practically a private house, and that a landlord could not be proceeded against for being drunk in the house after that time; but he had taken out these summonses in order to test whether the landlord was not liable for having drunken men in the house after hours.

The evidence of Police-constable *Glover* and Detective *Harper* was that on entering the house at ten minutes after twelve on the 14th inst, they found the landlord and his wife and daughter, and two men named *John Toon* and *Samuel Arrowsmith* in the house. The landlord and *Arrowsmith* were drunk.

The defence was that shortly before eleven o'clock, in the absence of the landlord and his wife, their daughter had asked *Toon* and *Arrowsmith* to assist for brewing on the following morning.

The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and on their return Mr. *Beebee* said they had come to the conclusion that whilst it was a proper case to bring into court, the evidence was not sufficient to warrant a conviction. The summons would therefore would be dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/7/1895

“*Harriet Killian*, Meeting Yard, was charged by *Margaret Toon*, WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, with having threatened her on Thursday week. Complainant said the defendant use the expression to her, ‘I'll pull you yellow —— heart out.’ It had been used in consequence of her wearing yellow colours.

Defendant said she had been severely assaulted by *Toon*.

Defendant was bound over to keep the peace for six months, herself in £5, together with one surety of £5; or in default seven days.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/1/1898

“*Caesar Augustus Jenkyns*, a half-back in the Walsall Football Club, had the license of the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, transferred to him.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/12/1900

“*Thomas Carter*, of *Guest's* lodging house, was charged with wilfully breaking two panes of glass belonging to *Thomas Dixon*, of the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, doing damage to the amount of 10s, on December 11th, and with assaulting *Sarah Dixon*, the landlady.

It appeared the defendant came to complainant's house on the afternoon of December 11th, and commenced to quarrel with another man. He was ordered by the landlord to leave the house but he would not go. The landlord, and his wife and daughter tried to get defendant out, and defendant picked up a jug and struck the landlady. He then smashed two panes of glass with his fist.

Fined 10s and costs, and ordered to pay damage of 10s, or in default 21 days.”

1901 Census

13, Dudley Street – WALSALL ARMS

[1] *Thomas Dixon* (62), managing licensed business, born Coalbrookdale, Shropshire;

[2] *Sarah Dixon* (62), wife, worker in business, born Ironbridge, Shropshire;

[3] *Laura Dixon* (20), daughter, worker in business, born Coalbrookdale, Shropshire:

Walsall Advertiser 1/3/1902

“George Baker, 112, Tantarra Street, was summoned for assaulting Thomas Blower, of 46, Eldon Street, on February 10th. The case was adjourned from a week ago for a witness named Finer, a barman at the WALSALL ARMS public-house, where the assault was alleged to have been committed. The barman, after having been sworn, refused to give evidence until his expenses had been paid, but it was pointed out to him by the Clerk that he should have raised his objection earlier. Finer then stated that he did not see the bother commence, but simply saw the men struggling on the floor. Case dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/5/1904

“Three boys, of 13, named John *Rooke*, living at the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street; Thomas Dunn, 37, Whitehall Road and Frederick Arrowsmith, 13, Sun Street, were put in the dock charged with stealing a pair of galoshes, value 2s 3d from Albert Share, 16, West Bromwich Street, on May 26th, otherwise with receiving them with the knowledge that they were stolen. Prosecutor identified the galoshes, and said the last he saw them safe at 2 o’clock the previous day. They were then in the window. About 7 o’clock his attention was called to *Rooke*, who was in custody of the police. He then missed the galoshes from his window.

William Bayley said that, from his shop, which was opposite Mr. Share’s, he saw *Rooke* and another lad go to prosecutors’ shop. The other boy, who he could not identify, lifted the galoshes from a rail in the window with a forked stick. He dropped them on the floor, and *Rooke* picked them up. He shouted to them, and they both bolted, but he called some men to stop them, and *Rooke* was caught.

Police-constable Flynn said that when arrested *Rooke* made a statement incriminating Dunn and Arrowsmith.

Rooke was sentenced to twelve strokes with the birch, Dunn and Arrowsmith being discharged with a caution.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

“Described as a hame-forged, of no fixed residence, Henry Jacob Jones (50), stood in the dock on a charge of inflicting grievous bodily harm upon *Joseph William Smith*, landlord of the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, by cutting his head with a stone on Monday.

Prosecutor stated that at about 9.45pm on the date named prisoner entered his house and asked for half-a-pint of fourpenny ale, and had a second half-pint after that. About 10.15pm he was interfering with a girl’s hair in the bar, who was a customer, and he told him he would not have that behaviour in the house. He then picked up a jug to throw at him, and he said he would ‘cut his —— eye out.’ He then went round the bar and ejected him from the house after a struggle. About ten minutes later prisoner followed two more men into the house, and he served them with ale. As he was serving the ale, prisoner threw something at him, which struck him on the head at the back of the ear, cutting his ear and head. He became dazed and fell, and was then taken to hospital and had his head dressed.

Arthur Cooke, Upper Rushall Street, stated that he went into the WALSALL ARMS, and had some ale, and sat under the window. He saw prisoner standing by the counter talking to a girl, and heard the landlord tell him he should not allow it, and when he did so prisoner took up the jug and threatened to throw it at the landlord. He came in again after being ejected, and threw something at the landlord, which struck him on the head.

John Fahy, Short Acre Street, gave evidence to seeing prisoner throw a large stone at the landlord, which struck the landlord on the head.

Police-constable Thomas (No.49) deposed to finding the landlord bleeding at the back of the ear on being called to the WALSALL ARMS. The landlord was taken to hospital, and then he attempted to arrest the prisoner, who stated, in answer to the charge, ‘I am not guilty.’ The stone (produced) was handed to him by a customer, who picked it up from behind the bar.

Dr. F. J. Luck (assistant house surgeon at the hospital) deposed to seeing the landlord shortly before eleven. He was bleeding, and on examining him found a cut on the scalp behind the left ear, extending down to the bone, about 1½ inches in length. There was also a small cut on the top of the ear. The cut was in a dangerous position, and the man was not yet free from danger.

Prisoner was committed to the Quarter Sessions, bail being allowed in two sureties of £10.”

[Henry Jacob Jones, who claimed it was all an accident, was sent to prison for two months.]

Walsall Advertiser 24/8/1907

“*Henry Howell*, WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness, and a young woman, aged 18 years, named Emily Hennessy, of 84, Stanisforth Street, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises. Mr. S. S. Grundy-Newman defended.

Police-sergeant Evans found two young women in a room at the rear of the smoke-room, and one of them (Hennessy) was very drunk. The landlord said, ‘She has come over with some friends to see me, and has had a drop too much.’

Similar evidence was given by Police-constable Reddick.

A witness named Patrick Hopkins (who gave evidence for the police) was cross-questioned by Mr. Newman to show that he had previously been a police witness at Lichfield, in a case against a Chasetown victualler, named Langley. He denied that he was a police spy. He admitted that he had been in prison for theft, but said he never boasted that he had had to leave Stafford or they

would have had him for perjury in a case there. He has not told the landlord that he would leave Walsall if the landlord would give him two shillings.

Mr. Newman said that Hopkins was a police agent, who when out of gaol went about getting a living by acting as spy for the police. The landlord never saw the woman at all till the police drew his attention to her, and then he said 'of course she is drunk and she must go.'

He also asserted that not only was a Chasetown victualler convicted on the evidence of this witness, Hopkins, for an offence against his license, but also for perjury, and that Hopkins was a dangerous and despicable spy for the police.

Henry Howell (landlord) said the witness, Hopkins, admitted to him he had had to leave Stafford where he had made the place too warm for him, and said he that for two shillings he would leave Walsall.

Chief-Inspector Ballance: And you say that his evidence about being in your house is all false? – Defendant: Yes, it is.

Mr. Loxton said it would not be safe to convict on Hopkins' evidence; the magistrates therefore wanted to find out whether the landlord had exercised sufficient care.

The case was dismissed against the both landlord and the girl.

Mr. Newman then applied for a warrant for perjury against the witness Hopkins.

Mr. Bayliss (magistrate): Is it worthwhile?

Mr. Newman: This man is a public danger. He has already got a landlord six months' imprisonment for perjury, and if I had not been here today you might probably have believed him in this case.

Mr. Loxton (clerk): You ought to have got a shorthand note; I won't swear to my notes you know.

Mr. Newman was told he could have a warrant against Hopkins on laying the usual information."

Walsall Advertiser 7/9/1907

"A well-known character named Michael Crosby, was fined 10s and costs for being drunk and disorderly on licensed premises – the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street. Police-constable Ashby (No.55), saw the man enter the house, and on following him he saw the landlord ejecting the prisoner."

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1908

"The annual licensing meeting for the borough took place at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The renewal of the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, had been formally objected to on behalf of the magistrates, on the ground that it was not necessary, that the nature and class of the business was not sufficient to justify the renewal of the license, &c.

Chief Inspector Ballance said there were five licenses in the immediate neighbourhood, and only 22 adults lived between this house and the nearest other license. The licensed portion comprised a bar and smoke room, both of which were somewhat dirty from want of papering, &c. The house was used by a disorderly and low class of people, and was difficult to manage. The street was inhabited by the worst prostitutes in the town, and any strange one coming into town usually took up residence there. It was also the most disorderly street in the town, and there had been 38 convictions in that street during the year.

Cross-examined by Mr. Plumptre (who was instructed by Mr. Grundy-Newman, on behalf of the owners, Messrs. Showell), Inspector Ballance said the house was conducted as well as possible considering the locality – a man who kept the house had his work cut out.

Mr. Loxton asked if there were not a number of houses adjoining which belonged to Messrs. Showell and were occupied by prostitutes.

Mr. Plumptre said they had no notice of any such objection.

Mr. Wood, architect, Birmingham, was called, and he spoke to the suitability of the premises, also expressing the opinion that the proposed alterations (to plans produced by Mr. H. E. Farmer) would be a considerable improvement, whilst not enlarging the drinking area.

Edward Tisdale, the license holder, examined, said the drunkenness which might occur in Dudley Street was in no way due to his house. He was exceedingly careful not to supply people who had had enough to drink, and on three occasions since he took over the house in October he had refused to supply persons who had come into the house drunk, and who were afterwards locked up. Mr. Plumptre said that in the last 20 years there had only been one conviction (and that under the Childs Messenger Act) in respect to the 20 licensed houses of Messrs. Showell in Walsall, which he claimed was proof of the care with which they were conducted. If women of bad character occupied houses belonging to Messrs Showell adjoining the WALSALL ARMS they would undertake to sell the property at once.

After consultation in private it was announced that the decision of the justices was reserved and the case adjourned to the adjourned licensing day, further objections now being taken in open court that it was not in the public interest that this license be renewed, the house adjoining, belonging to the same owners, being inhabited by prostitutes."

Walsall Advertiser 29/2/1908

"The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall.....

The Bench proceeded to hear notices of objection which had been taken by the licensing justices to the renewal of six licences.....

The WALSALL ARMS. The objection to this house in Dudley Street, owned by Messrs. Showell Ltd., had been adjourned for a further ground of objection to be made, that the adjoining houses were occupied by disorderly women and bad characters. Chief Inspector Ballance gave evidence of this.

Mr R. C. E. Plumptre (instructed by Mr. Newman) on behalf of Messrs. Showell explained that the ten houses adjoining belonging to them were let to two women whom Mr. Ballance admitted were respectable, and they had sub-let part of them, but Messrs. Showell had not the slightest knowledge until the last hearing that there was any suspicion as to the occupants; and had since given every one notice to quit.

The renewal of the license was refused on the ground (1) that the premises were not structurally and otherwise suitable; (2) that the nature and class of the business carried on on the premises was not such as to justify the renewal of the license; and (3) that the house and premises adjoining, owned by the same owners, are frequented by persons of bad character. The Bench also refused the plans of proposed alterations.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1908

“Samuel Golby, of Guest’s lodging-house, Dudley Street, was charged with being drunk in the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street, on February 29, and *Edward Tisdale*, the landlord, was charged with permitting drunkenness. The defence was that Golby was not drunk. *Tisdale* was fined 140s and costs and Golby 10s and costs.”

The license renewal was refused in 1908.

Walsall Advertiser 19/9/1908 - Advert

“Sale Of A Block Of Freehold Property. Comprising Premises formerly known as the WALSALL ARMS, Dudley Street and Eleven Adjacent Houses.

Mr. Arthur J. Llewellyn had received instructions from the Owners to Sell by Public Auction at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday Evening, the 29th September, 1908, at 7.30 o’clock prompt (subject to conditions incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society).

All that substantially-erected double fronted Dwelling-House and Premises, formerly known as the WALSALL ARMS, situate in Dudley Street, Walsall. The House contains five Bedrooms, Storeroom, and on the ground floor there is a very large room formerly used as a bar; also a room formerly used as a smoke room leading, thereout, and Kitchen. In addition there is a spacious yard at the rear, which is provided with some useful Outbuildings, including two w.c.’s and a very large Coal House. The Property is three storey, has an excellent frontage, being fitted with two plate glass windows, and might be readily and inexpensively converted into a retail shop or shops. The estimated annual income of this property is £26.

Also those Three adjoining Houses and Premises, Nos.14, 14½, and 15 (formerly 13, 14, and 15), Dudley Street, in the occupation of G. Arrowsmith and others. No.14 is let at a weekly rental of 2s 6s and 14½, and 15 are let a 4s 6d, the total being £18 4s per annum.

Also those Four adjoining Houses, situate and being Nos. 30, 31, 32, and 33, Meeting Yard, Dudley Street, Walsall, the whole when let producing the annual income of £26.

Also all those Four adjoining Houses, situate and being Nos.1, 2, 3, and 4, Walsall Arms Terrace, situate at the rear of the above described premises. These houses are at present void, but when let produce £20 16s per annum.

The total annual income of the whole of the before-mentioned Properties is £81.

The total area of the Property is 612 square yards or thereabouts.

For further particulars and plans apply to the Auctioneer, Mr. Arthur J. Llewellyn, Estate Offices, 45, Bridge Street, Walsall. (National Telephone 0208), or to S. A. Newman, Esq., Solicitor, 53, Bridge Street, Walsall (Telephone No.15).”

WALSALL HOUSE

39, Bank Street / Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Moses Salt, Bank Street, Walsall

Mrs. Smalley

Joseph Moses Salt Smalley, Birmingham Road, Walsall

F. J. and A. E. Bayley, Great Bridge

LICENSEES

Thomas Simpson [] – 1872);

Elizabeth Robinson Jones (1872 – 1892);

Thomas Vincent Hawley (1892 – 1899);

James Birch (1899 – 1904);

Arthur Rollason Yates (1904 – 1914);

Annie Elizabeth Yates (1914 – 1924);

NOTES

It was also known as the WALSALL ARMS.

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Simpson = Thomas Simson

Thomas Simson, beer retailer, Bank Street. [1872]

1881 Census

39, Bank Street – WALSALL HOUSE

[1] *Elizabeth R. Jones* (52), married, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] Sarah A. Simpson (17), general servant, born Walsall;

[3] Simeon Pedley (68), boarder, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

39, Bank Street – WALSALL HOUSE

[1] *Elizabeth R. Jones* (64), married, publican, born Walsall;

[2] Joseph R. Bland (36), lodger, bridle cutter, born Birmingham;

[3] Sarah A. Bland (26), granddaughter, barmaid, born Walsall;

[4] Edwin A. Simpson (11), grandson, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 14/1/1893

“Walsall Town Council.

The report of the Streets Committee stated that the following plans have been approved, subject to the usual conditions, viz. Permission has been given to Mr. *T. Hawley* to erect a lamp over the footway in front of the WALSALL HOUSE, Bank Street. The residents of Grove Terrace having asked that lamps should be placed in that terrace, your committee have replied that as it is not a public highway it cannot be lighted at the expense of the corporation.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/3/1893

“Mary Kelly, Freer’s yard, summoned for being drunk and disorderly in Bank Street on the previous Tuesday night, was put on her good behaviour for eight weeks. Police-constable Martin stated that he ejected defendant from the WALSALL HOUSE, and was subsequently called to the WALSALL ARMS from which he also had to remove her.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/12/1894

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held on Thursday.

New Members. Mr. *Thomas Vincent Hawley*, WALSALL HOUSE, Bank Street, was elected member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/1/1895

“John Taylor (40), 131 Tantarra Street, bricklayer, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly in Bank Street. Police-constable 52 (Harcourt) said that on Friday night, at 9.25, he was called from Upper Rushall Street to the WALSALL HOUSE, where he found prisoner drunk, brandishing a pint jug, and trying to induce another man to fight. He refused to go away, and on witness arresting him he became very obstinate, threw himself down on the ground and refused to budge. Fined 10s and costs or 14 days.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/5/1895

“*Thomas Hawley*, landlord of the WALSALL HOUSE INN, Bank Street, is evidently determined to keep his house free from disorderly customers. On Monday week a man named Joseph Michael Flynn, of 3, Gorton’s Yard, was quarrelsome in the taproom and assaulted another customer. He declined to leave, and Mr. *Hawley* thereupon ejected him. He returned with a demand to be allowed to drink off his beer, and on being refused permission he went outside and threw a stone through a pane of glass in the window. He was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days.

Walsall Advertiser 23/11/1895

“John Taylor (40), 131, Tantarra Street, bricklayer, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly in Bank Street. Police-constable 2 (Harcourt) said that on Friday night, at 9.25, he was called to the WALSALL HOUSE, Bank Street, where he found the prisoner drunk, brandishing a pint jug, and trying to induce another man to fight. He refused to go away, and on witness arresting him he became very obstinate, threw himself down on the ground and refused to budge. Fined 10s and costs, or 14 days. Mary Agnes Taylor, his wife, was charged with a similar offence.

Police-constable 37 (Bell) proved having found the woman drunk in High Street shortly after midnight on the same day.

She denied having been drunk, and said she was only excited and anxious to get to her husband, who was a ‘good, hard working man.’ In fact, she hadn’t tasted drink for 11 months.

The Clerk (Mr. Newman): Then you must have been making up for lost time.

A fine of 5s and costs, or seven days was imposed.

The woman asked for time.

The Mayor: You’ve been spending money drinking this morning, and you must pay the fine at once.

She said she couldn’t and then created a slight scene by her obstinately slow method of descending the steps, to accelerate which the attentions of several officers and the female searcher were scarcely availing until she voluntarily released her hold of the box

ledge.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1899

“On Thursday, Mr. *Thomas Hawley*, of the WALSALL HOUSE, Bank Street, entertained a number of friends to dinner. At eight o'clock the guests sat down to an excellent spread, which did great credit to the host and hostess. After the cloths were drawn, the harmony commenced. Mr. Taylor was elected to the chair (the duties of which he most ably performed), Mr. Beaumont being voted to the vice-chair. Songs were rendered by Messrs. Eglington, Bluet, Johnson, Taylor, Cozens, Brannon, Scott, &c. At an interval in the proceedings Mr. Beaumont proposed the health of the host and hostess, which was well received. The company dispersed at 11 o'clock after having had a most enjoyable evening.”

1901 Census

39, Bank Street – Tavern – WALSALL HOUSE

- [1] *James Birch* (44), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Birch* (42), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Hannah E. F. Birch* (20), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *John Birch* (15), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Howard Birch* (11), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Lillie Birch* (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Bertie Birch* (5), son, born Walsall;
- [8] *Ada Birch* (3), daughter, born Walsall:

Lichfield Mercury 31/10/1902

“*James Birch*, a publican, of 39, Bank Street, Walsall, was summoned for furious driving at Shelfield, on Sunday, October 18th. Mr. J. N. Cotterell (J. N. and E. A. Cotterell), Walsall, defended.

PS Heath stated that on the Sunday in question at 8-15pm, he received a complaint from a man whose cart had been run into by the defendant, and in consequence the witness went with the man and another constable on the Lichfield Road at Shelfield. There they saw defendant driving furiously. Witness called upon him to stop, but instead of pulling up he simply shook the reins and the horse went faster. Witness estimated the rate at which the pony was going at fifteen miles an hour. At witness's request PC Challinor went after defendant on his bicycle, and Challinor overtook the man just before he got to Walsall.

For the defence, Mr. Cotterell urged that for the defendant to have been overtaken by a cyclist within a quarter of a mile showed that he could not have been driving at the rate suggested by the police.

Defendant said his pony could not go more than eight miles an hour, and on this occasion there were three people in the trap besides himself.

Henry Walters, a gasfitter, of Walsall, was called for the defence, and he gave it as his opinion that the defendant did not drive more than seven miles an hour.

James Ricketts, a tailor, who was also in the defendant's company, gave corroborative evidence.

Fined 10s and 12s 6d costs.”

James Birch, beer retailer, 39, Bank Street. [1904]

1911 Census

39, Bank Street

- [1] *Arthur Rollason Yates* (39), publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Annie Elizabeth Yates* (40), wife, married 10 years, assisting in business, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Valentine Webster* (71), father in law, widower, old age pensioner, retired gardener, born Hyllington, Worcestershire;
- [4] *William Rollason Yates* (20), nephew, woolen merchant's assistant, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Edward Stringer* (37), assisting in the brewing business, born Walsall:

Arthur R. Yates, beer retailer, 39, Bank Street. [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 7/11/1914

“Licensing Court, Tuesday. The following license transfers were granted.....

WALSALL HOUSE, Bank Street, from *Arthur Rollason Yates* (deceased) to *Annie Elizabeth Yates*.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

WALSALL HOUSE, Bank Street, Walsall, 7½d.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1915

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday) at the Guildhall.....

With regard to the WALSALL HOUSE beerhouse in Bank Street, which it is proposed to practically re-build at a cost of about £1,000, Mr. S. E. Loxton (clerk) said the magistrates had paid a visit to the premises and would give their decision later on.

The magistrates refused the billiard license, and also refused to sanction the plans for altering the WALSALL HOUSE.”

Walsall Observer 5/2/1916

“The general annual licensing sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday morning.....

Mr. Gordon Hawley, referring to the plans which had been deposited for the reconstruction of the licensed premises of the WALSALL HOUSE, Bank Street, said that the present was not a convenient time for extensive alterations, and he asked the magistrates to grant an adjournment for twelve months. He took that opportunity of mentioning that his clients must have the place re-roofed at once, and do certain other work.

The Clerk: But nothing structural.

Mr. Hawley replied in the negative, and added that his present suggestion was only made in order that it might not be thought the application had been withdrawn.

The magistrates agreed to an adjournment for twelve months.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WALSALL HOUSE, Bank Street. £0 5s 0d.”

It was referred to the Compensation Authority.

Compensation was paid on 11th July 1924.

It closed on 23rd July 1924.

Walsall Observer 2/9/1944

“Under the onslaughts of house-breakers another old Walsall inn has disappeared this week. It was the WALSALL HOUSE INN, which stood at the corner of Ablewell Street and Bank Street and adjoined the ROYAL OAK. So far as we know it had no claims to antiquity and no pretensions to historical associations; but it may have had a place in the affections of Walsall citizens of older generations who frequented it. Its license was taken away some years ago and for a long time it has not been inhabited. The fact that after the place had been delicensed the announcement that it was to let was boldly but neatly painted by a sign-writer on one of its walls suggested a somewhat pessimistic view on the part of the owner as to the prospects of finding a tenant.”

WARWICK ARMS

23, Warwick Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

George Duke, Birmingham Street, Walsall

Mrs. Bowler

William Utting

LICENSEES

William Utting [1868]

Ann Shutt [1871]

William Utting [] – [1876];

Benjamin Jefferson [1881] – **1887**);

John Rowley (**1887 – 1889**);

Moses Holt (**1889 – 1890**);

Mark Field (**1890 – 1891**);

William Simmons Morgan (**1891**);

NOTES

Sometimes known as The STORES.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/1/1869

“*William Utting*, beerhouse keeper, Warwick Street, Walsall, was charged with having on the 23rd December last, had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours. Police-constable Bridgewood visited the house about twelve o'clock at night, and found eight men, and on the table three quart jugs, four pint jugs, and six half-pint glasses containing beer. The Bench after hearing the evidence, sentenced defendant to pay a fine of 5s and costs, as it was his first offence.”

Walsall Free Press 4/9/1869

“On Tuesday a special sessions was held in the Court House, Rushall.....

William Utting, Warwick Street, Walsall, fined 5s and costs, 23rd December, 1868, for having his house open during prohibited hours.....

where the parties had been convicted the applications were adjourned.”

1871 Census

23, Warwick Street

[1] *Ann Shutt* (51), married, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;

[2] Elizabeth Utting (20), visitor, dress maker, born Norfolk;

[3] William Waters (36), boarder, harness maker, born Hednesford:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1876

“The undermentioned persons were summoned for the offences named, Mr. Glover appearing for the prosecution in each case, and Mr. Ebsworth for the defence.....

On the evidence of the constables [*Wright and Blakeman in plain clothes*], *William Utting*, beerhouse keeper, was fined £2 10s and costs, including 10s 6d attorney’s fee, for permitting drunkenness in his house, the Bench also ordering the license to be endorsed.

John Wright, the man who was drunk in the house was fined 5s and costs, including attorney’s fee.”

1881 Census

23, Warwick Street

[1] *Benjamin Jefferson* (34), currier, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Elizabeth Jefferson (35), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Joseph Jefferson (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Fanny Jefferson (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Ada Jefferson (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Annie Jefferson (3), daughter, born Walsall;

[7] William Jefferson (17), brother, currier, born Walsall;

[8] Mary Jefferson (22), sister, servant, born Coseley:

Birmingham Street 8/1/1887

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, Mr. Gillespie applied, on behalf of William N. King, brewer, 90, Littleton Street, for an ejectment against *Benjamin Jefferson*, the occupier of a public house in Warwick Street, called the ALE AND PORTER STORES. The principal point in dispute was whether *Jefferson* was a weekly or quarterly tenant, the applicant contending that the tenancy had been a weekly one all along, and *Jefferson* contending that it had always been a quarterly one, but that for some time he had made weekly payments to suit his circumstances. After examining the rent book the Bench came to the conclusion that the tenancy was a weekly one and made the order asked for.”

Benjamin Jefferson – see also FOUNTAIN.

John Rowley was fined £50 and costs and his license was endorsed, on 14th January 1889, for Sunday trading.

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1890

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions. The business from the annual licensing session last week took place at the Guildhall yesterday.... Mr. Jesses Herbert (instructed by Mr. Gillespie) applied for the removal of the LITTLE SWAN INN, North Street, to other premises at the corner of North Street and Butts Road, or otherwise for a conditional license. The Chief Constable opposed, as did Mr. Cotterell, for the owners and occupiers of licensed premises in the locality, and for Mr. J. W. Harrington, the owner of a large works in the neighbourhood. Mr. Herbert said that plans drawn by Mr. S. Loxton showed that so far from being a gin palace the building would be more of the character of a respectable private house. The Chief Constable took the ground that the value of the license would be materially enhanced if it were allowed to be removed to the new premises, and asked Mr. S. Loxton if he did not think that in the event of the compensation clauses becoming law, and the license not being required, considerably more would be asked to do away with it than to do away with the old one. Mr. Loxton said he really could not give an opinion. Mr. Herbert subsequently said that the client Mr. *Utting*, would resign the license of the WARWICK ARMS, a neighbouring house if the Bench would grant this application. The Chief Constable said that under those circumstances he would withdraw his opposition. The Bench after a long deliberation in private.....

Sanctioned the plans for the removal of LITTLE SWAN, subject to some minor alterations and to the licenses of the present licensed house and of the WARWICK ARMS being given up.”

1891 Census

23, Warwick Street

[1] *William Simmons Morgan* (26), polisher, born Walsall;

[2] Charlotte S. Morgan (24), wife, born Walsall;

[3] William S. Morgan (1 month), son, born Walsall;

- [4] Charlotte Morgan (54), mother, widow, born Walsall;
- [5] Harriett Morgan (30), sister, born Walsall;
- [6] Samuel S. Morgan (24), brother, caster, born Walsall;
- [7] Charlotte S. Morgan (11), sister, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] John D. Morgan (29), cousin, general labourer, born Walsall:

The license was not renewed in 1891, by an undertaking to the landlord on the grant of a license to the DUSTY MILLER, corner of North Street and Butts Road on 30th September 1891.

WATERFRONT

Wolverhampton Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Greene King Ltd (Hungry Horse)

LICENSEES

NOTES

[2016]

[2017]

WATERING TROUGH

90, Ablewell Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Hickman, Seaton Lodge, near Shrewsbury

Henry Hobson, druggist, Walsall

Stephen Dawson, 22, Birmingham Street, Walsall

Norman Stephen Dawson

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in May 1960)

Punch Taverns (acquired in 1999)

Highgate Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Wright [1808] – **1856**)

John Westley [1858] – [1866]

John Charles Green [1868] ?

William Green [1868] – **1896**);

Jane Green (**1896 – 1900**);

Mrs. Martha Mills (**1900 – 1911**);

Thomas Cox (**1911 – 1920**);

Norman Stephen Dawson (**1920 – 1951**);

Gordon Norman Dawson (**1951 – 1960**);

John Samuel Woodall Gibbons (**1960** – [1966])

Kathleen Baker []

Reginald William 'Reg' Turner []

Mark Copson [2010]

NOTES

It was originally the WATERING TROUGH.
HORSE TROUGH [1827]
TROUGH [1872]
YE OLDE WATERING TROUGH

It was known locally as the 'Trough'.

Joseph Wright was also a maltster. [1818]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/11/1826 - Advert

"On Monday the 4th of December, 1826, a Grand Procession, to consist of the following united Lodges of Walsall, will take place to St. Matthew's Church, in aid of the Fund for re-building and enlarging the Blue Coat and National School, viz. The Odd Fellows from the BULLS HEAD; Odd Fellows from the ROYAL OAK; Loyal Britons from the TURKS HEAD; the Grand Lodges of Queerfellows from the WATERING TROUGH; Loyal and Benevolent Fellows from the WATERLOO TAVERN; and Loyal Union Friendly Fellows from the SPREAD EAGLE; when the company of any visiting Brother belonging to any of the above Lodges, with their Friends will be esteemed. The Sermon by the Rev. Luke Booker, LL.D. and FRSL, Vicar of Dudley. In the course of the service, several pieces of Select Music from the works of Handel and Kent, will be performed by the Walsall Choir, with Assistants from Lichfield Cathedral. The Organ by Mr. Eyland. Divine Service will commence at eleven o'clock. By direction of the Delegates of the above Orders. Addison Richards, Secretary. Walsall, Nov 22, 1826."

Birmingham Journal 10/10/1827 - Marriages

"On the 7th inst, at Aston, (by the Rev. Mr. Peake) Mr. *Joseph Wright*, of the HORSE TROUGH INN, Walsall, to Elizabeth, second daughter of Mr. Daniel Alblaster, of Rushall."

Birmingham Journal 17/10/1829 - Deaths

"On Wednesday week, Mary Ann, infant daughter of Mr. *Joseph Wright*, jun., victualler, of Ablewell Street, Walsall."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1831

"The Coronation. The bells commenced ringing at a very early hour, and in the more advanced part of the day the members of the different lodges assembled in their respective rooms preparatory to joining in procession, in honour of the occasion. . . . The following is a list of the Lodges which formed the procession, and the house at which they are held. They had seven banners waving, and were accompanied by an excellent band.
Senior Lodge of Odd Fellows – BULLS HEAD.
Grand Lodge of Modern Druids – BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD.
Odd Fellows – ROYAL OAK.
Queer Fellows – WATERING TROUGH.
Two Lodges from the WATERLOO TAVERN.
Loyal Union Fellows – SPREAD EAGLE.
Fellows of Support – TURKS HEAD.
Social Fellows – TALBOT INN.
True Hearted Fellows – MALT SHOVEL.
The procession extended in length to about a quarter of a mile. The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the attendance being more numerous."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/7/1834

"The members of the Grand Lodge of Queer Fellows celebrated their anniversary on Monday last, at Mr. *Wright's*, the sign of the WATERING TROUGH; and the Grand Lodge of Friendly and Benevolent Fellows, at Mr. Thornhill's, the WATERLOO TAVERN, Walsall. The day was spent, at both houses, in conviviality, and much satisfaction was expressed at the arrangements made for their accommodation; the viands, &c, were of the first quality."

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/8/1836 - Died

"On the 28th ult, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. *Joseph Wright*, of Ablewell Street, Walsall, aged 32, after a long and severe illness, which she endured with the greatest fortitude and resignation."

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/12/1836 - Advert

"A Friendly Ball will be held at the WATERING TROUGH INN, Walsall, on Friday the 6th of January, 1837. Stewards to be appointed.
Ladies' Tickets 3s 6s – Gentlemen's 5s.
Dancing to commence at eight o'clock. Tickets to be had at the Inn."

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/7/1837

“The Friendly Ball, at the WATERING TROUGH INN, took place on Friday, the 6th instant, when a very social party, consisting of about 100, assembled. The room was tastefully and neatly decorated on the occasion, and every face seemed to wear a cheerful expression. The vibrating tone of the harp, mingled with the strains of the other instruments, seemed to inspire the minds of all; and the dancing was kept up till a late hour, when the company dispersed, highly gratified with their amusement.”

1841 Census

Ablewell Street

- [1] *Joseph Wright* (63), malster, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Sarah Wright (63), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Joseph Wright (38), farmer, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Mary Ann Wright (24), born Staffordshire;
- [5] George Wright (20), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Sarah Wright (18), born Staffordshire:

Joseph Wright Jnr. was also a maltster. [1845], [1849]

An omnibus to Wolverhampton left from here three times daily, and twice on Sunday. [1849]

Charles Taylor, a carrier to Aldridge, Stonnall and Mill Green, left from here every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 5 in the afternoon. [1849]

Biddlestone, a carrier to West Bromwich, left from here every Friday at 5. [1849]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/7/1849 - Died

“July 6, at the house of his father, the TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall, Mr. *Joseph Wright*, jun, aged 46 years.”

1851 Census

Ablewell Street

- [1] *Joseph Wright* (73), victualler, maltster, born Woodhouses, Staffordshire;
 - [2] Sarah Wright (72), wife, born Burntwood, Staffordshire;
 - [3] George Wright (30), son, omnibus proprietor, born Walsall;
 - [4] Helen Wright (24), daughter in law, born Rushall;
 - [5] Helen Wright (19), granddaughter, born Walsall;
 - [6] Helen Wright (7), granddaughter, born Walsall;
 - [7] Helen Wright (2), granddaughter, born Walsall;
 - [8] Joseph Wright (7), grandson, born Walsall;
 - [9] George T. Wright (8 months), grandson, born Walsall;
 - [10] Charles Wright (10), grandson, born Walsall;
 - [11] Marianne Wright (11), granddaughter, born Walsall;
 - [12] Thomas Collins (23), servant, ostler, born Walsall:
- [The census really does say there are three granddaughters called Helen.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/4/1852 - Died

“On Sunday last, aged 35, Mary Ann, wife of Mr. James Dyos, jun., of Walsall, and daughter of Mr. *Wright*, of the WATERING TROUGH INN, in the same borough.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/4/1853

“A. A. Fletcher, Esq. On Monday last an inquest was held at the WATERING TROUGH, Walsall, on the body of a child of about four years, who died after drinking a quantity of turpentine, it was supposed from the effects of the draught; but a post mortem examination having disclosed that death had resulted from Natural Causes, the verdict was in accordance.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/9/1856 - Died

“On Friday, the 28th ult, at Milton, Mr. *Joseph Wright*, in the 79th year of his age, for forty-eight years landlord of the WATERING TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall. His unassuming, benevolent and kind disposition greatly endeared him to his family and neighbours.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/8/1857 - Marriages

“On the 21st ultimo, at Wolverhampton, Mr. Frederick R. Ryles, photographic artist, Burslem, and son of the late Mr. George Ryles, of that place, overseer, to Ellen, daughter of the late Mr. *Joseph Wright*, of the WATERING TROUGH INN, Walsall.”

John Westley = John Wesley

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/8/1858

“Walsall Permanent Benefit Building and Investment Society. The annual meeting of this society, which had been established for the purpose of establishing or building freehold and leasehold property, and investing small capital, was held at the WATERING

TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, on Wednesday. There was a numerous attendance of members.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/2/1860 - Deaths

“On the 21st ultimo, at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. John Ryley, St. John’s Square, in the 82nd year of her age, Sarah, widow of the late Mr. *Joseph Wright* of the WATERING TROUGH, Ablewell Street, Walsall.”

1861 Census

90, Ablewell Street – WATERING TROUGH

- [1] *John Westley* (45), plater, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Ann Westley* (42), wife, born Yoxall, Staffordshire;
- [3] *William G. Westley* (24), son, plater, born Walsall;
- [4] *Richard Westley* (18), son, saddler, born Walsall;
- [5] *Jane Westley* (15), daughter, spinster, born Walsall;
- [6] *James Westley* (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Elizabeth Westley* (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *John Westley* (1), son, infant, born Walsall;
- [9] *Henry Kettleown* (16), servant, plater, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 19/7/1862

“Queer Fellows Anniversary Dinner. On Monday last the members of this society, which was established in 1828, celebrated their 34th anniversary at the house of Mr. *John Wesley*, landlord of the WATERING TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, on which occasion the members and their friends sat down to an excellent dinner, which was served up in style highly creditable to Mr. *Wesley*’s establishment. Ample justice having been done to the repast, the secretary, Mr. W. Walker, read a statement of accounts, and the annual report of the office bearers, and from which it appeared that the accumulated funds of the society at present amount to £322 4s 5d, of which sum £105 14s 8d is in the savings bank, £205 in the building fund, and £11 9s 9d in the hands of the treasurer. The present number of members on the books is 65. That the society number no more is rather surprising, as the advantages it holds out are very considerable, while the contributions required are comparatively small. In the case of sickness the relief being 10s 6d per week, while in case of death the funeral money is for members of one years standing £7, two years £8, three years £9, and for four years and upwards £10. The society has also secured a number of hospital tickets for the benefit of members, or their families in case the former not requiring them. The company after spending a very agreeable evening, separated highly pleased both with the proceedings and the satisfactory state of the society’s funds.”

Walsall Free Press 30/8/1862 - Advert

“Queer Fellows Benefit Society, Established 1824.

This Society holds its monthly meetings on the last Monday of every month, at Mr. *John Westley*’s, the WATERING TROUGH, Ablewell Street.

Members can be enrolled on application to Mr. *Westley*, or to Mr. W. Walker, Secretary, 31, Lower Forster Street, either of whom will furnish all particulars as to the benefits to be derived from the Old Established Club.

Entrance fee 2s 6d.”

John Westley was also a plater. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 15/10/1864

“Charles Williams, joiner, was charged with having, on Monday last, stolen a quart measure, value 2s, the property of *John Westley* landlord of the WATERING TROUGH. The prisoner who pleaded guilty and elected to be tried by the bench, was sentenced to be imprisoned for fourteen days with hard labour.”

Walsall Free Press 29/4/1865 - Advert

“To Be Let, that old-established Public-House, the WATERING TROUGH, Ablewell Street, the present Proprietor leaving on account of ill-health.

For further particulars apply to Mr. John Osbourn, or on the premises.”

Walsall Free Press 10/2/1866 - Advert

“The Queer Fellows Society, held at the WATERING TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall.

The above Society numbering 60 members with upwards of £300 Fund, are desirous of receiving into membership, a few respectable Young Men between the age of 18 to 35, the usual Admission Fee being suspended for three months from the present time; each candidate will be required to produce a Medical Certificate from the Society’s Surgeon previous to his being admitted a member.

Further information may be obtained on application to the Secretary, W. Walker, 31, Forster Street.”

Walsall Free Press 7/7/1866 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, (in consequence of the severe affliction of the Proprietor), that Old Licensed Inn, the WATERING TROUGH, situate in Ablewell Street, Walsall, the Sock and Fixtures to be taken at a Valuation. Will not exceed £200.

For particulars apply to Mr. John Osbourn, Auctioneer, 52, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 25/8/1866 - Advert

“Copyhold Old-Licensed Inn, Situated in the very best part of Ablewell Street.

To Be Sold By Auction By H. Farrington, on the premises, on Tuesday, 11th September, 1866, at Six for Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions then to be produced; all that Old-Established Old-Licensed Inn, known as the WATERING TROUGH, situated in Ablewell Street, Walsall, in the occupation of Mr. *John Westley*.

The house contains Bar, Bar Parlour, Parlour, large Dining-room, 5 Chambers, 3 Ale Cellars, Liquor Cellar, Brewery, Cooking Kitchen, capital Lodge-room, 59ft by 15ft 6in, extending in the Yard, with stabling underneath for 30 Horses, large Yard, and other conveniences, with side entrance from Ablewell Street, and extensive Shopping at the back. From recent improvements in this thoroughfare of the town, and others in progress, the above sale presents a desirable investment.

For further particulars apply to John Porter, Esq, Solicitor; or to the Auctioneers, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 25/5/1867 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the old-licensed Inn, the WATERING TROUGH, situate in Ablewell Street.

Stock and fixtures to be taken at a valuation.

For particulars apply to Mr. John Osbourn, Auctioneer, 52, Lower Hall Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 15/2/1868

“Robert Hawley was charged with having, on Wednesday last, stolen 8s 6d from the person of Samuel Mason.

The parties had been drinking together at the WATERING TROUGH, Ablewell street, with three others, and while the prosecutor was asleep on the screen, it was alleged that the money was taken. When the prosecutor went to sleep, the prisoner was sitting on one side of him, and a person named Dutton on the other.

Dutton, on being called said that he saw the prisoner with his hand in the prosecutor’s pocket, and that he took out some money.

The landlady accused Dutton of robbing the prosecutor, and thereupon Dutton went for policeman, who, on searching the prisoner found 1s 8d upon him. As it appeared the prosecutor had but about 6s 6d upon him when he went into the house, and that he had given the prisoner some money, the case was dismissed.”

Walsall Free Press 29/2/1868

“*John Charles Green*, landlord of the WATERING TROUGH public-house, Ablewell Street, pleaded guilty to having, on the 23rd January last, put to mash a quantity of malt without making an entry of the same in the brewing papers.

Mr. John Wilkinson, supervisor for the district, said in order to enable the Bench to form the correct opinion upon the subject, he would state the facts under which the offence was committed. On 22nd January last, Mr. Joseph Byrne, one of the Excise officers, visited the defendant’s house, and found no entry in the malting papers of any intention to brew. On the following day he (Mr. Wilkinson) – not from any suspicion, but in the ordinary course of business – called at defendant’s house, and found brewing in full operation. He asked the defendant to account for his not having made the required entry in the brewing paper, and called his attention to the first paragraph in the paper, as he wished to ascertain whether the defendant was acting in ignorance of the law. Defendant replied he was aware of the paragraph referred to, and then talked about his good character and matters quite irrelevant to the question. He might state that as the brewers’ licence depends upon the quality of the malt he brews, the Revenue looks for its income from this source upon these returns being correctly kept and entries duly made. As defendant had pleaded guilty, he had no wish to exaggerate the case, and would therefore, refrain from further observation.

The bench, after a short consultation, sentenced the defendant to a pay a mitigated fine of £50, with a recommendation that the penalty be further reduced by the Board of Inland Revenue.

Mr. Wilkinson said he would have much pleasure in forwarding the recommendation to the proper quarter.”

Walsall Free Press 25/3/1871

“On Saturday, the 4th inst, Hugh Broomhall, aged 60, pump maker, Ablewell Street, was forcibly ejected from the WATERING TROUGH public-house, to which he had gone in a state of intoxication and created a disturbance, and as he was being turned out his arm, by some means or another, struck the window, the glass of which cut his hand, and from the effects of the injury he died on Wednesday last. An inquest was held upon the body yesterday, at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, at which the jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death. The Coroner in summing up said Mr. *Green*, the landlord, was rather to be commended than condemned for having ejected a man in a state of intoxication, instead of supplying him with drink.”

1871 Census

90, Ablewell Street

[1] *William Green* (45), innkeeper & painter employing 1 man 1 boy, born Walsall;

[2] *Ann Green* (45), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *William Green* (26), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Harry Green* (7), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

“Municipal Election. The Bridge Ward.....

In this ward the contest appears not to have excited so much interest as in the other two. On Friday evening a meeting of Mr. Abel Grove’s supporters was held at the WATERING TROUGH Ablewell Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/9/1878

“John Burke, a cripple, and a notorious disorderly, was charged with having broken a pane of glass at the house of Mr. *Green*, the WATERING TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, and also with having violently assaulted the Police-constable Mercer, who had been called in to take the accused away. Nothing was done in respect of the wilful damage, but for the assault on the officer the prisoner was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

1881 Census

90, Ablewell Street – WATERING TROUGH

- [1] *William Green* (56), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Annie Green (55), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] William Green (36), son, painter, born Walsall;
- [4] Harry Green (17), son, painter, born Walsall;
- [5] Mary J. Poxon (18), niece, barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 23/5/1885

“Walsall Conservative Association. A well attended meeting of the Paddock Division of the Bridge ward, was held in the large room of the WATERING TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, on Wednesday night, under the presidency of Mr. Amos Parsons. A lengthy address was delivered by Mr. J. G. Pentland, of Birmingham. The title of the address was ‘What have they done, and what are they going to do?’ The speaker was listened to with great attention and was frequently applauded. At the close, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him on the proposition of Mr. R. Edwards, seconded by Mr. H. H. Cannell, Central Secretary. A similar compliment was paid to the chairman of the proposition of Mr. Job Wheway.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/3/1887 - Advert

“Walsall Conservative Association. Bridge ward.

A Smoking Concert will be held at Mr. *Green*’s, the WATERING TROUGH, Ablewell Street, on Thursday Next, at 8pm. Chair to be taken by Mr. J. Tyrer. T. F. Ferrier, Secretary.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/5/1888 - Local Notes

“There had just been removed one of those old landmarks, relics of the customs and uses of a former age, of which we have none too many remaining in Walsall. The old Watering Trough in Ablewell Street served no very useful purpose in these present days of steam trams and express trains; nor could it by any stretch of imagination be termed a thing of beauty; and as in this utilitarian age sentiment is not allowed to count, why it had to be ‘improved’ out of existence. While not daring to call into question the wisdom of our authorities in removing all obstructions and eyesores from our streets, yet one can be excused for a lingering regret that the exigencies of modern refinement should call for the removal of those links which serve so vividly to remind us of the doings and ways of our great-grandparents. Mr. Councillor Russell on Monday announced to the Council that there had been a difficulty for some years in removing the old Watering Trough, but this had now been overcome, and that day the structure had been cleared away.”

1891 Census

Ablewell Street – WATERING TROUGH

- [1] *William Green* (66), widower, victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Harry Green (25), son, painter, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary Green (28), niece, housekeeper, born Walsall;
- [4] Anne Cross (23), barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/9/1896

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

On the proposition of the President, it was unanimously agreed that messages of condolence should be forwarded to the families of.....

the late Mr. *William Green*, WATERING TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, in their recent bereavements.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/9/1896

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The following transfers were granted.....

WATERING TROUGH, Ablewell Street, from *William Green* (deceased), to *Jane Green*.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/6/1897

“A meeting of the brassworkers of Walsall was held at the WATERING TROUGH INN, Walsall, on Wednesday evening, when Mr. Cashmore (deputation from Birmingham) attended to explain the advantages of a union, to which but few of the Walsall men belong. He also pointed out that in the present state of the trade it was hopeless for the Walsall men to think to save themselves from reduction of wages which threatened them. The facts as to wages appeared to be that out of 800 men not a 100 belonged to

the society, and the result was that the prices paid were different in every shop. It had become evident that, unless the majority of men combined, ruin to the fair masters and starvation of men must ensue.

At the conclusion of the meeting it was unanimously resolved: 'That this meeting pledges itself to use all the means in its power to induce brassworkers to join the society'."

Walsall Observer 5/5/1900

"The annual meeting of the National Society of Amalgamated Brass Workers was held at the WATERING TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, on Tuesday night. The President (Mr. W. C. McStoker) was in the chair....."

1901 Census

90, Ablewell Street

- [1] *Martha Mills* (71), widow, beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] John Moss (50), nephew, iron moulder, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary J. Moss (45), niece, born Walsall;
- [4] Harry Moss (13), grandnephew, born Walsall;
- [5] Sarah J. Tolley (29), domestic servant, born Brownhills:

1911 Census

90, Ablewell Street – WATERING TROUGH

- [1] *Martha Mills* (81), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Mary Jane Cox (55), niece, married, licensed victualler (?), born Walsall;
- [3] *Thomas Cox* (60), married, bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [4] Harry Moss (23), lodger, son of former husband, barman, born Walsall:

Martha Mills – see also KING EDWARD.

Walsall Advertiser 18/11/1911

"The fifty-ninth annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New members. Mr. *Thomas Cox*, WATERING TROUGH, Ablewell Street."

Walsall Observer 25/12/1915 - Advert

"By Direction of the Owner (and Licensee who is retiring).

Important Sale Of A Freehold Full-Licensed Public House.

Fox and Harrison, FAI, are favoured with instructions from the Owner (and Licensee) who is retiring, to offer for Sale by Public Auction, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, On Tuesday, 11th January, 1916, at Seven o'clock in the evening (subject to conditions incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society). The Valuable, Well-Known, Old-established, Free, Full-Licensed, Freehold Home-Brewing Public House, known as the WATERING TROUGH INN, 90, Ablewell Street, Walsall. The accommodation comprises Bar, Tap Room, Snug, Smoke Room, Pantry, Five Bedrooms, Club Room upstairs, Cellars, Brewhouse, Scullery, Stabling for 12 Horses, with very large Club Room over, 2 Pigstyes, large Paved Yard, and up-to-date Sanitary Conveniences.

This well-known Inn is one of the best known in the Borough of Walsall. It had been in the hands of members of the family of the present owner for many years. It is situated in one of main thoroughfares in the midst of a hive of industry, consequently the Inn has always done, and is doing a very extensive remunerative and good class trade.

The Inn will be offered entirely free from any trading tie whatever, and possession will be given on completion.

The Valuable Goodwill of the old-established Business as a going concern is included in the Sale.

For further particulars and cards to view, apply at the offices of the auctioneers (where a plan may be inspected), 51, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall; or to Mr. T. Harrison Evans, Solicitor, 45, Bridge Street, Walsall."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WATERING TROUGH, Ablewell Street. £1 1s 0d."

Walsall Observer 21/12/1918 - Deaths

"On the 18th inst, at the WATERING TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, Mary Jane, the beloved wife of *Thomas Cox*. Deeply mourned by her sorrowing husband."

Thomas Cox was fined 10s, on 30th December 1919, for selling intoxicating liquor to a child in an unsealed container.

Norman S. Dawson brewed his own beer.

1939 Register

90, Ablewell Street –WATERING TROUGH

- [1] *Norman S. Dawson*, date of birth 4/11/1897, brewer, licensed victualler, married, ARP duties;

[2] Jane E. Dawson, dob 4/3/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married;
[4] *Gordon N. Dawson*, dob 10/4/1925, at school, single;
[5] Gwendoline H. Lee, dob 2/12/1917, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.
First List of Subscriptions.....
WATERING TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street, £5 3s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
WATERING TROUGH, Ablewell Street. £7 18s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
WATERING TROUGH INN, Ablewell Street. £3 16s 10d.”

1951 Probate

“*Norman Stephen Dawson*, of The Rockery, Skip Lane, Walsall, Staffordshire, died 30 November 1950. Probate London 17 May to Jane Elizabeth Dawson, widow, Peter Stephen Shevyn Dawson, research chemist, and *Gordon Norman Dawson*, licensed victualler. Effects £30,267 16s 7d.”

Kathleen Baker – see also DOG AND PARTRIDGE.

[1980]

Its name was changed to RISING SUN in 1999.

Reg Turner was born c.1948.
He was president of the Kavern Motor Cycle Club.

Mark Copson was married to Tammy.
Tammy was the daughter of *Reg Turner*.

Its name was changed back to the WATERING TROUGH in 2010.

Express & Star 15/4/2023

“A Walsall pub is giving visitors the chance to get their monster munch on with 90 minutes of bottomless crisps. Taking place every Saturday between 2pm and 7pm, the WATERING TROUGH will put on an unlimited feast of crisps for guests to gorge on for an hour and a half. Enjoying the bottomless crisps will cost £10 and the pub will also provide bread, butter, and sauces so people can build their own butties. A representative of the pub on Ablewell Street said, ‘Are you ready for the best 90 minutes of your life? Every Saturday between 2pm and 7pm, get yourselves over to the WATERING TROUGH. Let us guide you through the most awesome deal for you savoury crisp connoisseurs. From Walkers Cheese & Onion to Roast Beef Monster Munch, we have an array of crisps to munch on. We have bread, sauces and butter to build your own butties! All this for £10! Fill your boots because when we say unlimited, we mean unlimited for the whole 90 mins! Ideal for hen parties, stag dos, birthday parties etc. See you Saturday!’”

[2023]

WATERLOO

24, Marsh Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Whitehouse, wine merchant, Stafford Street, Walsall

LICENSEES

Henry Thornhill [1834] – [1842]
James Whitehouse [1846] – [1851]
John Whitehouse [1851]
Robert Barton [pre 1857]
William Smith [1854] – [1862]
Sarah (Smith) Horton [1864] – [1865]
Richard Horton [1868] – **1872**;
John Perry (**1872** – [1877]):

NOTES

WATERLOO TAVERN [1826], [1831], [1834], [1846], [1858], [1868]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/11/1826 - Advert

“On Monday the 4th of December, 1826, a Grand Procession, to consist of the following united Lodges of Walsall, will take place to St. Matthew's Church, in aid of the Fund for re-building and enlarging the Blue Coat and National School, viz. The Odd Fellows from the BULLS HEAD; Odd Fellows from the ROYAL OAK; Loyal Britons from the TURKS HEAD; the Grand Lodges of Queerfellows from the WATERING TROUGH; Loyal and Benevolent Fellows from the WATERLOO TAVERN; and Loyal Union Friendly Fellows from the SPREAD EAGLE; when the company of any visiting Brother belonging to any of the above Lodges, with their Friends will be esteemed. The Sermon by the Rev. Luke Booker, LLD and FRSL, Vicar of Dudley. In the course of the service, several pieces of Select Music from the works of Handel and Kent, will be performed by the Walsall Choir, with Assistants from Lichfield Cathedral. The Organ by Mr. Eyland. Divine Service will commence at eleven o'clock. By direction of the Delegates of the above Orders. Addison Richards, Secretary. Walsall, Nov 22, 1826.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1831

“The Coronation. The bells commenced ringing at a very early hour, and in the more advanced part of the day the members of the different lodges assembled in their respective rooms preparatory to joining in procession, in honour of the occasion. The following is a list of the Lodges which formed the procession, and the house at which they are held. They had seven banners waving, and were accompanied by an excellent band.
Senior Lodge of Odd Fellows – BULLS HEAD.
Grand Lodge of Modern Druids – BLACK BOY AND DRUIDS HEAD.
Odd Fellows – ROYAL OAK.
Queer Fellows – WATERING TROUGH.
Two Lodges from the WATERLOO TAVERN.
Loyal Union Fellows – SPREAD EAGLE.
Fellows of Support – TURKS HEAD.
Social Fellows – TALBOT INN.
True Hearted Fellows – MALT SHOVEL.
The procession extended in length to about a quarter of a mile. The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the attendance being more numerous.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/3/1834 - Died

“On Saturday last George, eldest son of Mr. *Henry Thornhill*, of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/7/1834

“The members of the Grand Lodge of Queer Fellows celebrated their anniversary on Monday last, at Mr. Wright's, the sign of the WATERING TROUGH; and the Grand Lodge of Friendly and Benevolent Fellows, at Mr. *Thornhill's*, the WATERLOO TAVERN, Walsall. The day was spent, at both houses, in conviviality, and much satisfaction was expressed at the arrangements made for their accommodation; the viands, &c, were of the first quality.”

1841 Census

Marsh Lane

- [1] *Henry Thornhill* (45), innkeeper, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Thornhill (45), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Elizabeth Thornhill (15), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Mary Thornhill (14), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Martha Thornhill (12), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Louisa Thornhill (25), born Staffordshire;
- [7] James Pickering (25), born Staffordshire;
- [8] Ann Bates (15), born Staffordshire;

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/9/1842 - Died

“Early on Thursday morning, aged 48, Mr. *Henry Thornhill*, of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Walsall. The deceased retired to rest on Wednesday night in his usual health.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/4/1846

“George Holden of Walsall has retired from the Ring, and has taken the CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL, New Street, Walsall, where he intends to accommodate all friends that wish to give him a call. He takes a benefit tomorrow, at Mr. *Whitehouse*’s, WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, when he will be assisted by John Lane, Tom Lane, Simmonds, Cotterill, and many more of the Birmingham and Walsall Fancy.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/1/1852 - Advert

“H. Farrington respectfully announces that he has received instructions from the executors of the late Mr. *James Whitehouse* to Offer by Public Auction, the second week in February, the following very valuable Estates in Walsall..... Marsh Lane. All that old-established Public House, called the WATERLOO TAVERN, late in the occupation of Mr. *James Whitehouse*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/8/1854

“*William Smith*, landlord of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, was on Wednesday summoned to the Guildhall by the police, for wilfully permitting gaming to be carried on at his house; Serjeant Dackus proved the charge, and that the defendant himself was engaged in playing at cards for drink, and the Bench adjudged him to pay a penalty of 40s and costs. Mr. W. H. Duignan, on behalf of the defendant, gave notice of appeal.”

Birmingham Journal 7/2/1857

“About six o’clock on Saturday evening a fatal accident occurred to a butty collier named Isaac Thornton, aged fifty years, an inhabitant of Bloxwich, near the HORSE AND JOCKEY public house. Deceased’s wife had been to the office of his employer, Mr. Harrison, of Brownhills, to obtain money wherewith to pay his workmen their wages, and met her husband at the WATERLOO TAVERN, in Marsh Lane. They afterwards visited other public houses, and were proceeding homewards when they went into the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Bloxwich Road. Deceased called for something to drink, but did not partake, and soon after he and his wife quitted the house. They had proceeded only a few yards when deceased’s foot accidentally slipped, and he fell from the causeway into the road. A butcher, named William Goodwin, was driving a heavily laden cart towards Bloxwich, and being unable, in consequence of the extreme darkness, to see far before him, he drove over deceased, injuring him very severely. In perceiving what had happened he stopped his cart, and conveyed Thornton back to the HORSE AND JOCKEY. He then went for a surgeon, but before such assistance could be obtained life was extinct. An inquest was subsequently held on the body before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Coroner, when a verdict was returned of Accidental Death.”

London Gazette 1/9/1857

“*Robert Barton*, formerly of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh-lane, Walsall, Staffordshire, Innkeeper, then of Marsh-lane aforesaid, out of business, then of Lichfield-street, in the parish of Rushall, Staffordshire, Dealer in Tobacco and Fruiterer, then of Little London, Walsall aforesaid. Draper’s Assistant, then of Westbromwich, Staffordshire, Draper’s Assistant, then of Stafford-street, Walsall aforesaid, Grocer and Provision Dealer, then of the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, Grocer, Provision Dealer, and Omnibus Proprietor, then of the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, out of business, then of the Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, Grocer and Provision Dealer, Hay and Straw Dealer, Cow-keeper and Milk Seller, then of Stafford-street, Walsall aforesaid, Grocer, Provision Dealer, Corn Factor, Hay and Straw Dealer, Cow Keeper, and Milk Seller, then of the SPREAD EAGLE, Wolverhampton-road, Walsall aforesaid, Innkeeper and Marine Store Dealer, and late in lodgings at No.113, in Blue-lane Walsall aforesaid, out of business.”

William Smith was also a wholesale ale and porter brewer. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 1/1/1859

“About half-past seven o’clock on Saturday morning, Mrs. Russell, wife of John Russell, chainmaker, Marsh Lane, found her infant, who had been quite well and sucking about an hour previously quite dead. On the Monday following, A. A. Fletcher, Coroner, held an inquest upon the body at the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane; but being compelled by unavoidable business to leave home, he adjourned the inquest till Tuesday at four o’clock, when after hearing the evidence of the mother of the deceased and Mrs. Elizabeth Steel, a neighbour, the jury returned a verdict of Found Dead.”

William Smith was described as being also a brewer. [1861]

1861 Census

24, Marsh Lane – WATERLOO TAVERN

[1] *William Smith* (40), victualler, born Sutton Coldfield;

[2] *Sarah Smith* (35), wife, born Sutton Coldfield;

[3] *William Smith* (8), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[4] *George Smith* (3 months), son, born Bloxwich;

- [5] Mary Ann Kent (17), general servant, born Sutton Coldfield;
[6] William Gunn (18), lodger, farm labourer, born Horley, Oxfordshire;
[7] Thomas Clarke (21), lodger, miner, born America;
[8] William Crichton (24), lodger, tailor, born Lesley, Scotland;
[9] Walter Macnew (21), lodger, tailor, born Scotland;
[10] Elizabeth M. Smith (5), niece, born Sedgley:

Walsall Free Press 3/8/1861

“A child named Lydia Horton, aged one year and ten months, residing with her parents at the wharf Marsh Lane, met with her death on Sunday morning last, under the following extraordinary circumstances: the mother of the deceased went to the upper part of the house to perform some domestic duties, leaving deceased below stairs with another child aged four years. When Mrs. Horton returned from her work she missed deceased, and on searching for her in the brewhouse, discovered her there, with her face and upper portion of her body immersed in a tub containing about four inches of water. The child was quite dead. It is supposed that deceased was playing about in the brewhouse, when she fell into the water, and being unable to extricate herself, was drowned. An inquest was held on the body, at the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, on Monday last, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, and verdict of Accidentally Drowned was returned.”

Walsall Free Press 15/2/1862

“County Court.....

This action was brought by Mr. *William Smith*, of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, to recover the value of a horse which had been seized in execution in November last, as part of the estate of William Lowbridge, snaffle-bit maker, Birchills. Mr. Duignan appeared for the claimant, and Mr. Glover for the execution creditor. In his opening statement Mr. Duignan said his client had been for years known as a respectable tradesman in the town, and had in the course of his business kept a horse. In July last his horse became lame, and he purchased one from Lowbridge, for which with a cart and harness he paid £12. In about two months afterwards his client's horse got well, and he had not then got much use for the one he had bought, so he frequently lent it to Lowbridge. In November Lowbridge got into difficulties, and at the time an execution was issued against him at the instance of a Mr. Letts, the animal in question was in his possession, and it was seized. The present action was therefore brought to recover the value of the horse. Mr. *William Smith*, sworn, stated that for nine years he had kept the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane. In July last Lowbridge came to him about a horse and cart he wanted to sell. Witness agreed to purchase the horse, cart and harness for £12. At the time he had occasion to go to Birmingham frequently, because a relative of his was dying there. In consequence of his repeated absences, he left his ready money with a Mr. Capner. When he bought the horse he sent for Mr. Capner in order to get the money, and the £12 was paid in his presence on the 1st July last. The horse remained in his possession about two months. His own horse, which during that time had been out lame, got well, and then he had less need of the one he had purchased from Lowbridge. He lent it to Lowbridge for its keep several times. Lowbridge kept it at times from three or four days a week. In November last the horse was seized by bailiffs of the county court at the suit of one Letts, a creditor of Lowbridge. In cross-examination witness said he did not know much about the law; he only knew that he had bought the horse and paid for it, and he wanted it back or the value of it. Mr. Capner, sworn, stated that in July last claimant had left money in his hands. Remembered the purchase of the horse, cart, and harness. He took the money to claimant, and saw the money paid. That was on the 1st of July last. (The receipt was here put in). Esther Lowbridge proved that the receipt produced was in her handwriting. Her father could not write. Mr. Glover, for the defence, said first that there was no sale; and secondly, that if there was a sale, it was a fraudulent transaction. With respect to the first point, he said claimant had in July last, after the alleged purchase, told the execution creditor that the horse did not belong to him but that it was the property of Lowbridge. Upon the second point he urged that as at the time of the alleged sale Lowbridge was in difficulties, and could not keep up his payments to a judgement, the sale was a fraud on the execution creditor. Mr. Letts was called. In the course of his evidence he stated that about the 14th of July last, he saw Mr. *Smith* and asked him about the horse and cart. *Smith's* name was on the cart, and that led him to ask about the horse. *Smith* said the horse was still Lowbridge's. In November last he saw *Smith* again, and reminded him of what he had said about the horse. *Smith* then said 'If I did tell you it was his, I was not obliged to tell you the whole truth.' He had an execution against Lowbridge on the 22nd of June last, but would not seize because he did not want to be hard on him. The horse was first seized by Mr. Hall, but was afterwards given up. Mr. Duignan replied, contending that the evidence all went to support his client's claim. His Honour in summing up said the question for the jury to decide was whether the sale of the horse was a bona fide transaction, or whether it was the transfer of property by a sinking man to evade its seizure by creditors. The jury, after a brief deliberation, gave the verdict for the claimant, for the full amount.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/8/1862

“Mr. *Smith*, landlord of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, was charged at the Guildhall yesterday before Messrs. H. Brace (Mayor), J. Shannon, and H. Highway, with having attempted to defraud the revenue by having twelve bushels of malt without accounting for it to excise officers. The defendant admitted the charge which was preferred by Mr. W. Gore Reed, supervisor; but stated in extenuation that the omission was the result of neglect caused by his having at the time been suffering from a severe accident, and not from any wish to defraud the revenue. The Bench sentenced the defendant to pay a mitigated penalty of £25, and intimated their intention to memorialize the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to reduce to the sum of £5. Mr. Reed, who had no wish to press the charge unduly, said he should be happy to forward the memorial to the proper quarter.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/8/1863

“John O'Hara, Thomas Narey, sen., Thomas Narey, jun., and James Gordon, were yesterday charged at the Guildhall before

Messrs. F. B. Oerton, H. Brace, and H. Highway, with having on the night of Saturday last, assaulted Patrick Durkin. It appeared from the evidence of the complainant and his brothers Michael and John, went to the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, where complainant left his brothers; but after being absent a short time from the house, he returned, and found his brother John on the ground, a number of men assaulting him. He requested them to desist, and on his doing so they attacked him, knocked him down, and kicked him till he was insensible. In the course of the assault complainant had five of his teeth knocked out. Witnesses were called for the defence, who proved the complainants were the aggressors, and that young Narey did not interfere till the row was over.

After hearing the evidence, the Bench dismissed the case.”

Walsall Free Press 23/7/1864

“Michael Henry was charged with having wilfully and maliciously broken a pane of glass, valued 10d, the property of Mrs. *Smith*, landlady of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane. A witness, named Ann Mannifold, said that, on Wednesday evening, she saw the prisoner, who was tipsy, come up to the window and put his fist through it. The prisoner, who stated that he was so drunk that he could not recollect what he had done, was sentenced to pay 1s for the glass, and a fine of 5s and costs; or, in default, to be imprisoned for fourteen days.”

Sarah Smith married *Richard Horton* in the 3rd quarter of 1864.

Walsall Free Press 30/12/1865

“The landlord of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, applied to keep open during prohibited hours, on Tuesday night, because he expected some friends to visit him. Application refused.”

Walsall Free Press 17/7/1866

“Peel’s Loyal Order of Odd Fellows held their annual dinner, on Monday last, at the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane. The spread was an ample and good one, and reflected great credit upon the worthy host and hostess. Loyal sentiments and songs were the order of the day after the removal of the cloth.”

1871 Census

24, Marsh Lane

- [1] *Richard Horton* (35), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Sarah Horton* (40), wife, born Sutton, Staffordshire;
- [3] *William Smith* (16), stepson, printer’s apprentice, born Walsall;
- [4] *George Smith* (10), stepson, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Mercy E. Smith* (15), niece, barmaid, born Deepfields, Sedgley;
- [6] *Harriet Kitch* (18), niece, domestic servant, born Darlaston;
- [7] *Henry Dillworth* (24), boarder, basket maker, born Kenilworth;
- [8] *William Bayliss* (46), boarder, blacksmith, born Sutton, Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/10/1872

“*Richard Horton*, of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, was charged with selling intoxicating liquors after ten o’clock at night on Sunday night last. The defendant pleaded guilty, stating, in extenuation, that the jug of ale he was charged with selling in consequence of the improprieties of a neighbour, who had got a friend from a distance to supper with him. The defendant who received an excellent character from the Chief Superintendent of Police, was fined the minimum penalty of 20s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/1/1876

“On Tuesday, Mr. Fletcher, held an inquest at the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, on the body of *Jane Dermant*, 38. The evidence showed that the woman had lived in a court at the back of the tavern with a man named *Smith*. On Christmas Eve she was carousing until long after midnight, when she went to bed with *Smith* and her sister, and at one o’clock on the following day was found dead by the side of her companions. She had been unwell for a month before. Verdict, Natural Causes.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/1/1876

“At the Guildhall, yesterday, *Richard Horton*, of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, was fined 20s and costs (his license not to be endorsed, in consequence of his previous good character) for having allowed drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house on Tuesday.

Jane Durkin and *Michael Henry*, two of the drunken persons, who did not appear, were sentenced to one months’ imprisonment each; and *Mary Moffatt*, a third party, was fined 5s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Session.....

The applications of *Richard Horton*, of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, were further adjourned till the 9th of October. In the course of the proceeding the Mayor said the newly-added district of Ryecroft had occasioned the Bench a great deal of trouble, chiefly through the drinking propensities of the inhabitants of that locality, and the magistrates had therefore received special instructions as to looking up the licensed houses in the district.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/10/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Meeting. The suspended licenses of William Allen, the RODNEY, Park Street; *Samuel Horton*, the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane; and Henry Lynex, the HARE AND HOUNDS, Upper Rushall Street, were renewed.”

John Perry was fined £5 and costs, on 15th December 1876, for permitting drunkenness.
He was fined 10s and costs, on 4th June 1877, for permitting drunkenness.

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/12/1876

“*Richard Horton*, of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Lane, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in his house on the 5th inst. Mr. Glover defended.

Police-constable Mercer proved the case, and deposed to finding a man of violent character drunk in the house. When he asked for the landlord he was told he had had ‘a sup’ and gone to bed. The defence was that the man was in the house against the permission of the defendant, and that the latter on the day in question was suffering from a bilious headache, and not the effects of drink. A fine of £5 and costs was imposed, the Mayor remarking that the Bench had hesitated as to whether they ought to endorse the license as well.”

Birmingham Gazette 20/3/1877

“The Artisan’s Dwelling Act In Walsall. An inquiry directed by the Local Government Board was re-opened yesterday morning, by Lieut.-Col. Ponsonby Cox, at the Guildhall.....

[This inquiry was to investigate the compulsory purchase of an area of existing buildings, between Stafford Street and Wolverhampton Street, demolish them and to erect new dwellings.]

There were 100 houses, full-licensed house 5, beerhouses 2, privies and ashpits 50 – of these 17 are under dwelling houses, workshops, or passages leading to them. The other buildings are 6 houses and shops combined, 16 workshops, 1 office, 1 pawnshop, 3 stores, 10 void houses, 1 bakehouse, 5 sheds, 5 stables, 1 butcher’s shop, 1 confectioner’s shop, 1 school, 2 pigsties. The streets in the area were narrow and irregular; the houses had no back doors situate in and out of courts; courts open at one end only, and some of them being only three feet across, hence the impossibility of providing proper privy accommodation.....

Mr. Joseph Whitehouse, owner of the WATERLOO TAVERN, examined by Mr. Williams, said that he recently spent £80 or £90 on that house. In reply to Mr. Glover, witness said the privy went under the back parts of someone’s property. He did not know that there were bed rooms that were over privies. There were pigsties under the house.”

Closed

It was demolished in the 1870s.

Walsall Advertiser 18/12/1880 - Advert

“Borough Of Walsall. Artisan’s Dwelling Scheme. Building Materials.

To Be Sold By Private Contract, all the Bricks, Timber, Stone, Ironwork, and other materials forming and belonging to the WATERLOO TAVERN, and a number of other Houses situate in and near Marsh Lane, Green Lane, and Town’s-end Bank. The Building Materials will be sold in Lots to suit the convenience of purchasers.

For further particulars and terms apply to Mr. W. J. Boys, Borough Surveyor.

Samuel Wilkinson, Town Clerk, Walsall, 17th December, 1880.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/4/1881

“At the Guildhall, on Monday, John Connolly, John Quinn, Miles Loyden, and John Durkin, youths of about 17, who had been found smashing the gates of the WATERLOO TAVERN, Marsh Green, one of the properties bought by the Corporation for the purposes of the Artisans’ Dwelling Act scheme – were convicted under the Vagrancy Act, and sentenced, Loyden, who had been ‘in trouble’ several times before to two months’ imprisonment, with hard labour, and the others to fourteen days’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1882

“Walsall Town Council.

Report of the General Purposes Committee.....

On the motion of Alderman Brewer, seconded by Councillor Kirkpatrick, it was further resolved, on the recommendation of the same committee, ‘That the Council allow the licenses of the five alehouses, viz, the ODD FELLOWS ARMS, the ROYAL GEORGE, the SPREAD EAGLE, the GEORGE AND DRAGON, and the WATERLOO TAVERN, and the beerhouse, the BOAT INN, purchased for the purposes of the Artisans’ Dwelling Scheme, to lapse, it being considered that there is in the neighbourhood an ample number of licensed houses to meet the requirements of the district.’ This was unanimously agreed to.”

WELCOME STRANGER

Hawbush Road (Lane), Forest Estate, Leamore, WALSALL

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Cyril Dennis Morris (1960 – 1962);
John Hogg (1962);
James Platt (1962 – 1963);
Frank Harold Newell (1963 – 1964);
George Edward Steed (1964 – 1966);
William Edward Giles (1966 – 1967);
George Malpass (1967 – [1968])
David John Jones [1990s]

NOTES

It opened on 14th December 1960.
The license was originally granted from the RED LION, Blue Lane.

Walsall Observer 16/2/1968

“The dominoes teams at the WELCOME STRANGER public house, Hawbush Road, Leamore, exchanged dominoes for fancy dress on Saturday evening when they held a St. Valentine’s fancy dress competition. 50 turned out in fancy dress and the first prize, a canteen of cutlery, went to Mr. P. Greatrix, of the Forest Estate, who was dressed as a clown. The competition was arranged by the licensee, Mr. *George Malpass* and his wife, to ‘brighten up the evening,’ and proceeds from contests went to the dominoes teams funds.”

London Gazette 17/11/1994

“*Jones, David John*, trading as WELCOME STRANGER, occupation unknown, of Hawbush Road, Forest Lane, Leamore, near Walsall.
Court – Walsall.
Date of Filing Petition – 4th August 1994.
Date of Bankruptcy Order – 30th September 1994.
Whether Debtor’s or Creditor’s Petition or Petition after Criminal Bankruptcy Order – Creditor’s.”

Closed

It was demolished in 2004.
Housing was built on the site.

WHARF 10

Town Wharf, 10, Wolverhampton Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Highgate Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Michael Cryan [2002]
Colin Joesbury []

NOTES

[1998]

It was designed by London based architects Sergison Bates as part of the refurbishment of the area around the Town Wharf, which

also included the new Art Gallery.

It won CAMRA's Pub Design Award (New Build) in 1998.

[2017]

WHEATSHEAF

599, (597), (319+321), Bloxwich Road, Broadstone, Leamore, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Ann Beddows, widow, Birchills Street, Walsall
Eli Beddows, Cecil Street, Walsall
Bloxwich Brewery Co. Ltd.
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

Thomas Burton [1872];
Edward Beech [1877] – [1881];
Andrew Cozens [1888]
Mary Beech [1891] – **1901**;
Henry Welsh (**1901**);
Enoch Bunney (**1901 – 1906**);
William Wootton (**1906** – [1917]
Mrs. Annie Wootton [1933]
Edward Egan [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

319+321, Bloxwich Road [1881]
321, Bloxwich Road [1891]
597, Bloxwich Road [1901]
599, Bloxwich Road [1939], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 31/5/1877

“*Edward Beech* of the WHEAT SHEAF, Broadstone, beerhouse keeper, was summoned for having permitted drunkenness on his premises on the 21st May. Mr. Chidley (from Messrs. Duignan and Co.) appeared for the defence.

Sergeant Martin and Police-constable Bull deposed that they visited the house, and met one drunken man leaving and found another inside. The one onside had a pint cup with porter in it, and the officers stated that the landlady said it had been supplied to him by her little nephew. The two men who were fined at this Court on Monday were also called by the police, and one of them denied he had been drinking, while the other swore that he was only in the house a few minutes, and neither asked nor had any drink supplied to him. He had one drink, but that was out of a cup belonging to a lodger in the house.

Mr. Chidley having addressed the Bench for the defence, called the defendant's wife, who swore that the first man was turned out because he was quarrelsome, and that until the arrival of the police she had not known of the second being there, as she and others about the house were busy with a club supper. He certainly was not supplied with drink.

The Bench thought the case proved, and fined defendant 20s and costs, the license not to be endorsed.”

1881 Census

319 and 321, Bloxwich Road – WHEAT SHEAF

- [1] *Edward Beech* (58), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary Beech* (54), wife, born Potteries, Staffordshire;
- [3] John Beech (33), son, coal miner, born Ryecroft, Staffordshire;
- [4] Thomas Edwin Beech (7), grandson, scholar, born Walsall:

Lichfield Mercury 2/9/1881

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough took place at the Guildhall, on Friday.....

Mr. Loxton (instructed by the Licensed Victuallers’ Association) opposed every one of the subsequent applications.....
Edward Beech, the WHEAT SHEAF, Leamore, to sell wine on the premises (supported by Mr. Brookes). Refused.”

Lichfield Mercury 10/8/1888

“It has been rumoured that the Bloxwich wakes, which have for two years been so popular, will soon be a thing of the past, and that the old traditional wake ground – i.e. The Green – will be laid out as recreational grounds and park. In order to give a Roland for an Oliver, it is the intention of several gentlemen from Bloxwich to revive the race meeting which in olden times was very popular among the Walsall and Bloxwich people. The last race meeting ever held in Bloxwich took place on August 20 and 21, 1886. Circulars accordingly issued announcing a meeting to be held at Mr. *A. Cozens*’, the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold Bank [?], Bloxwich, on Thursday week, but owing to a severe storm which burst over the town at night, the meeting was not so well attended as was anticipated. Among those present were Mr. T. Lester, Treasurer; Mr. E. Brayford, hon. secretary, VICTORIA VAULTS, High Street, Bloxwich; Mr. A. Collins, Mr. A. Harper, Mr. E. Twoe, Mr. E. Pike, Mr. *A. Cozens*, &c., the latter occupying the chair.

The Hon. Secretary read the subscriptions list over, which was very promising, and suggestions were made, but owing to the non-arrival of several gentlemen nothing definite was done in the shape of arranging the amount of money to be given or the names of the various races.

The Chairman proposed, and it was seconded by Mr. Harper, that the meeting be adjourned until Monday night next, and be held at Mr. E. Brayford’s, the VICTORIA VAULTS, which was carried nem con.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1888

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, *Andrew Cozens*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, was summoned for being drunk on his own licensed premises on the 17th and 18th November, and with permitting drunkenness there on the 28th of the same month. Mr. Gillespie, who appeared for the defence, pleaded guilty; but by the desire of the Chief Constable, Police-sergeant Mercer was called. He deposed that on the last-named day he went into the house, and found a drunken man asleep there, and the landlord was drunk in another part of the house.

Mr. Gillespie said the defendant had had domestic trouble, which had called him to resort to the bottle, but he had decided to give up the house. He formerly kept another house in the borough for seventeen years without complaint.

The Bench ordered defendant to pay costs in the first case, and a fine of 5s and costs in the second, and a fine of 20s and costs in the third, making £2 13s altogether.”

1891 Census

321, Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Mary Beech* (63), publican, born Potteries;
- [2] John Beech (53), son, collier, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Thomas Beech (17), grandson, bridle bit filer, born Bloxwich;
- [4] John Beech (13), grandson, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Eliza Beech (9), granddaughter, scholar, born Bloxwich:

Mary Beech, beer retailer, Leamore. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 11/7/1896

“*Mary Beech*, WHEAT SHEAF INN, Broadstone, Bloxwich, was charged with having opened her licensed premises during prohibited hours on Sunday night. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

Police-sergeant Marshall said he saw a girl go to the defendant’s house at 10.45 and return with beer.

Mr. Jackson admitted the facts, but thought that an explanation would show no offence had taken place. The defendant’s married daughter lived only a short distance away, and Mrs. *Beech* had been in the habit of sending beer at different intervals. The beer in question was given to the girl.

Several witnesses were called to support the statement, and eventually the case was dismissed.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against. Beer Retailers.....

Mary Beech, WHEAT SHEAF, Leamore, July 10th, 1895, opening her licensed premises during prohibited hours, dismissed.”

1901 Census

597, Bloxwich Road – WHEATSHEAF INN

- [1] *Henry Welsh* (34), licensed victualler (beerhouse), born Aldridge;
- [2] Agness Welsh (31), wife, born Walsall:

Enoch Bunney, beer retailer, Leamore. [1904]

William Wootton = William Wootten

William Wootton married Annie Rogers in the 3rd quarter of 1900.

Lichfield Mercury 24/6/1910

“A remarkable case of alleged attempted murder and suicide took place at Bloxwich on Sunday night. A carter named William Sperrings (27), of Bloxwich Road, Leamore, went out for a walk with a young woman to whom he was engaged, named Miriam Ison, of Cope Street, Leamore. They were accompanied by a young woman, a friend of Ison’s, named Martha Simmons, of Green Lane. When in Bloxwich Road, Leamore, Sperrings put his arm around his sweetheart’s neck under the pretence of caressing her; but it was alleged that, unobserved by the women, he had taken a razor out of his pocket, and then drew it across Miss Ison’s throat. Her companion, on seeing what had happened, screamed, and tried to push Sperrings away, and in doing so her right thumb was slightly cut. There were very few people about at the time, but fortunately a local publican named *William Wootton*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Leamore, had just passed by. He knew Sperrings, and the latter, who accosted him, then appeared on good terms with his sweetheart, and there was nothing in his demeanour to attract notice. Just afterwards, however, *Wootton* heard screams, and, turning round, saw the woman Simmons struggling with Sperrings. He at once ran to her help, and seeing Sperrings and Ison were bleeding, and that the former had an open razor, he at once closed with Sperrings, who offered a desperate resistance, and it was only by throwing him to the ground that *Wootton* was able to dispossess him of the weapon. A tramcar came up at the time, and the men in charge helped *Wootton* to detain Sperrings, who was afterwards handed over to the police. He was at once taken to the surgery of Dr. Berry, who found the wound in his throat to be serious, and it was necessary to put in five stitches. The injured man was then removed on an ambulance to Walsall Hospital, where he lies in a rather dangerous condition. Miss Ison was also attended by Dr. Berry, who stitched her throat up and bandaged cuts on her fingers. She was then allowed to go home; and in her case no danger is apprehended. It is believed that the alleged attack was due to some differences that had arisen between Sperrings and his sweetheart.”

[William Sperrings appeared at the Stafford Assizes in November, 1910, was found guilty of grievous bodily harm, and pleaded guilty to attempted suicide, and was sentenced to nine months’ imprisonment.]

1911 Census

599, Bloxwich Road, WHEATSHEAF INN

- [1] *William Wootton* (36), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Annie Wootton (34), wife, married 11 years, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Doris Mary Wootton (9), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Annie Taylor (16), servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 31/5/1913

“Joseph McMuginess (29), labourer, of 56, Dudley Street, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Bloxwich Road, Leamore, on May 24th, and with wilfully damaging a pane of glass valued at 6/- at the WHEAT SHEAF, Leamore. Prisoner said he ‘did not remember.’

Police-sergeant Cattermole gave evidence of prisoner’s drunkenness, and arrest, and said he had to get a hand barrow to convey him to the station.

Mr. *William Wootton*, licensee of the WHEAT SHEAF said he told the prisoner, who was drunk, to get out of the house. Prisoner refused, so witness had to put him out. Prisoner then put his cap over his fist and pushed it through the window. Witness then sent for the police.

Fined 5/- and costs and ordered to pay damages.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

WHEAT SHEAF, Leamore, 9s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1917

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *Wm. Wootton*, WHEAT SHEAF INN, Leamore, was unanimously elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WHEATSHEAF INN, Bloxwich Road. £1 9s 4d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/1/1933

“A verdict of Death from Bronchial Pneumonia, accelerated due to a fall, was returned at an inquest, on Wednesday, on Wm. Rogers (84), formerly a collier, who lived with his daughter, who is the licensee of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Leamore, Bloxwich. It was stated that the deceased had a fall on New Year’s Day, and his daughter found him in his bedroom bleeding from a wound in his head. He told her not to worry, as he would soon be all right, and Dr. McCall said deceased joked with him when he was stitching the wound behind the ear. Death occurred on Sunday.”

1939 Register

599, Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Edward Egan*, date of birth ?/10/1879, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Ellen Egan*, dob 18/10/1883, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Edmund Egan*, dob 31/3/1912, constructional engineer, sheeting section, heavy work, single;
- [4] *Kathleen (Egan) Cole*, dob 5/6/1915, secretary, shorthand typist, single;
- [5] *Bernard Egan*, dob 20/10/1917, constructional engineer, sheeting section, heavy work, single;
- [6] *Eileen M. Cocken*, dob 22/6/1910, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [7] *Maureen Cocken*, dob 5/12/1936, under school age, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

WHEAT SHEAF INN, Leamore, £0 11s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WHEATSHEAF INN, Leamore. 31 16s 6d.”

Laura Poole married a Mr. Ratcliffe c.1949.

WHEATSHEAF

35, The Pinfold, (Pinfold Bank), (Field Road), BLOXWICH

OWNERS

George Bird, butcher, Bloxwich (later at Red House Farm, Great Barr)
Bloxwich Brewery Ltd. [1901]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1997]
Marstons Ltd.

LICENSEES

W Pinches [1858]

William Purchase [1834] – [1870]

Mrs. Elizabeth Purchase [] – **1869**)

William Warner [1870] – [1872];

George Bird [1881] – **1887**);

Isaiah Millington (**1887 – 1890**);

Charles Gustav Tofte (**1890 – 1891**);

James McLean (**1891**);

Herbert Williams (**1891 – 1893**);

Robert Butler (**1893 – 1894**);

George Walter Fox (**1894 – 1895**);

Alfred Pearce (**1895 – 1896**);

Edgar John Palmer (**1896**);

Alfred James Cox (**1896 – 1898**);

John Leverton (**1898 – 1899**);

Edwin Corbett Walker (**1899 – 1901**); manager

William James Fryer (**1901 – 1905**);

Howard Jayes (**1905 – 1909**);

Charles Henry Caffyn (**1909 – 1915**);

Levi Wilkes (**1915 – 1920**);

Frederick Francis Dando (**1920 – 1924**);

Thomas Fern (**1924 – 1928**);

William Henry Poole (**1928 – 1943**);

Laura (Poole) Ratcliffe (1943 – 1957);
Arthur Lane (1957 – 1965);
Raymond Cooksey Boucher (1965 – [1966])

NOTES

Pinfold Bank [1849], [1851], [1861]
35, Pinfold [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911], [1932], [1939], [1940]
Field Street [1895]

It dated from the Tudor period.

The present building dates from the 19th century.

1841 Census

Pinfold

[1] *William Purchase* (45), publican, born Staffordshire;
[2] *Elizabeth Purchase* (35), born Staffordshire:

1851 Census

Pinfold Bank – WHEAT SHEAF

[1] *William Purchase* (56), victualler, born Brewood, Staffordshire;
[2] *Elizabeth Purchase* (47), wife, born Brinsford, Staffordshire;
[3] George Fowler (33), lodger, born Bloxwich, dumb:

1861 Census

Pinfold Bank – WHEAT SHEAF

[1] *William Purchase* (66), publican, born Brewood, Staffordshire;
[2] *Elizabeth Purchase* (56), wife, born Featherstone, Staffordshire:

Elizabeth Purchase, widow, died on 9th July 1869.
Executors of her will were Thomas Hobdey and Joseph Hobdey.

Walsall Free Press 24/7/1869 - Advert

“Sale at the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold, Little Bloxwich Road.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Farrington & Son (on the Premises as above, by order of the Executors of the late Mrs. *Purchase*), on Monday Next, July 26th, 1869, all the useful Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, Stock-in-Trade, and Effects, comprising 4-post and Tent Bedsteads, Mattresses, Spring Mattresses, Fine Feather Beds, Mahogany Chest of Drawers, Mahogany Tables, pair of Mahogany Card Tables, German make; Tables, Chairs, Carpets, quantity of Spirits, and a variety of other useful Effects.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock. Conditions as usual.”

Walsall Free Press 18/9/1869

“This being the adjourned licensing day, those parties whose licenses had been either suspended or refused, again put in applications....

Mr. Glover applied on behalf of Messrs. T. and J. Holliday, trustees under the will of Mrs. *Purchase*, for a transfer of the license of the WHEAT SHEAF public house, Bloxwich. Application granted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/2/1870

“Thomas Bryan, lockmaker, Bloxwich, was fined 20s and costs, with the option of 14 days’ imprisonment, for having been disorderly on the Previous Monday night at the house of Mr. *Warner*, the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich.”

1871 Census

WHEATSHEAF Public House

[1] *William Warner* (38), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
[2] Mary Warner (34), wife, born Walsall;
[3] William Warner (11), son, born Walsall;
[4] Ann Warner (6), daughter, born Leeds, Yorkshire;
[5] Mary Warner (5), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[6] John Warner (6 months), son, born Bloxwich;
[7] Hannah Warner (15), boarder, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/11/1875 - Advert

“To Be Sold, that well-known Old-established Public-House, the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich, with good yard, cow-house, and three-stall stable, and loft over the same, with an excellent pump of water on the premises, doing a good business and changed hands only once the last 30 years. Also a cottage adjoining the same.

For further particulars and to treat for the same, apply to Mr. George Bird, Butcher, Bloxwich, near Walsall.”

1881 Census

35, Pinfold – WHEAT SHEAF

- [1] *George Bird* (45), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Susan Bird (42), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] George T. Bird (17), son, in leather trade, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Lizzie Bird (16), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [5] Albert E. Bird (10), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Flora Bird (8), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [7] Nellie G. Bird (4), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [8] Sarah A. Blosson (?) (18), general servant, born Bloxwich:

Lichfield Mercury 6/7/1883

“The thunderstorm of Friday afternoon was followed early on Saturday morning by another of greater violence.....

In the neighbourhood of Walsall the storm raged with exceptional severity. The peals of thunder succeeded each other rapidly, one of a terrific character soon after half-past one, being immediately followed by a remarkable lowering of temperature, the lightning was exceptionally vivid, and during the greater part of an hour there was a perfect deluge.

At the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich, a chimney fell upon the roof, and broke through into the club room, the debris fortunately missing the bed rooms, in which members of the family were sleeping.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/2/1884 - Advert

“Bloxwich. To Be Sold, by Private Contract, a nice Corner Piece of Freehold land (cheap), situate near Leamore Mission Room. Apply, Mr. *G. Bird*, WHEATSHEAF INN, Bloxwich.”

1891 Census

35, Pinfold

- [1] *James McLean* (40), innkeeper, born Scotland;
- [2] Emma McLean (41), wife, born Northampton;
- [3] William P. Pugh (16), visitor, checker, born Northampton;
- [4] John G. Pugh (15), visitor, checker, born Northampton;
- [5] William True (54), visitor, traveller, born Northampton:

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1894

“The following temporary authorities were granted.....

George Walter Fox, WHEAT SHEAF, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/5/1895

“Mary Ann Cooper (41), 9, Barracks Lane, Blakenall, was charged with having done wilful damage to the amount of £14 to windows, the property of *Alfred Pearce*, landlord of the WHEAT SHEAF INN Bloxwich.

On Monday evening the prisoner went into the house and sat down without ordering anything. She began to behave in a disorderly manner and was put outside. She at once commenced to throw stones at the windows, and on the landlord going out she threw two others and broke both the large panes. Mr. Cutler, Park Street, valued the damage at £14. The panes were 7 inches by 20, of ¼ inch plate, worth 2s a foot, while the embossing was worth another 1s 6d a foot. The broken glass was of no value at all. Prisoner said she did not throw the stones at the windows, but at the man who had thrown her down the steps. She also said that the holes were only small ones. The amount of damage being over £5, the Bench had no power to deal with the case, and the prisoner was committed to the Sessions for trial.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/6/1895

“Walsall Quarter Sessions.

Mary Ann Cooper (41), married woman, 9, Barracks Lane, was indicted for having maliciously committed damage to the amount of £15 upon two windows, the property of *Alfred Pearce*, landlord of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich. She pleaded that she ‘threw stones at the man, and not at the windows.’

Mr. Edwards prosecuted, and in opening, said that as the woman threw stones recklessly and wilfully she was guilty of the offence charged. His case was, however, stronger – that she threw stones at the windows deliberately.

Alfred Pearce said that on the 20th May the prisoner came to the WHEAT SHEAF and commenced a disturbance. She was ejected, and immediately picked up a stone, and threw it at the window, which she broke. She then picked up another stone and threw it at the other window, which she also broke. He asked what she was doing, and she replied she would ‘smash the —— lot.’ The damage was estimated by Mr. Cyrus Cutler at £14.

The Recorder said that the jury must decide whether her plea was consistent with her avowed declaration, expressed by her in language ‘visible and audible,’ to demolish the whole of the windows.

The jury, without hesitation, found her guilty, and the Recorder said he regarded the case as a very serious one. Prisoner had been continually convicted of drunkenness, and three times of assault, and though he was loth to pass what might seem a very heavy penalty he felt he was bound to do so considering the very bad record against her, dating with great regularity from 1891 downwards. He hoped the time she was in prison would enable her to lose her taste for drink. He sentenced her to six months' imprisonment with hard labour, and warned her that if she came up again before him she would be very much more severely dealt with."

Walsall Advertiser 19/10/1895

"*Alfred Pearce*, WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich, was charged with permitting gaming on his licensed premises last Saturday evening. The evidence confirmed the statement of the Chief Constable in opening the case, that the landlord had held the stake of a bet on a game of cards between two of his customers, and that in consequence of his refusing to hand over to one of the players the latter informed the police.

Defendant denied the charge, and said he never held any money nor knew that any money had passed, but eventually a fine of 10s and costs was imposed."

Walsall Advertiser 16/11/1895

"Football. Bloxwich Excelsior Cup, for teams aged 17. Entrance fee 2s per team, two teams 3s 6d. Those wishing to enter should send at once to G. Hill, 5, Elmore Row, Bloxwich. Draw takes place on November 23rd, at WHEAT SHEAF INN, Field Street."

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

"The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

The return spoken of showed that the following had been proceeded against. Licensed Victuallers.....

Alfred Pearce, WHEAT SHEAF, Bloxwich, October 18th, 1895, suffering gaming on his licensed premises, fined 10s and costs."

Walsall Advertiser 26/9/1896

"The adjourned licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday, before the Mayor (Councillor J. Noake), and Messrs. B. Beebee, S. Russell, and E. J. Shaw.....

Mr. Jackson said that he had received a notice of objection to the renewal of the license of the WHEAT SHEAF, Bloxwich, in the ground (1) that the tenant had been convicted during the past year and (2) that the requirements of the district did not need the house. He explained that the convicted tenant had now been removed, and the present tenant, *Alfred James Cox*, had since conducted the house with every satisfaction. He regarded the second as a 'stock' objection, for the WHEAT SHEAF was one of the best houses in Bloxwich. The renewal was granted."

London Gazette 16/6/1899

"Receiving Orders. *Walker, Edwin Corbett*. WHEAT SHEAF INN, Field-street, Bloxwich, Staffordshire, lately residing at Green Lane, formerly at Forge-street, theretofore at the ACORN INN, Lower Rushall-street, formerly at Day-street and theretofore at the TIGER INN, Short Acre, all in Walsall, Staffordshire. Public-house Manager."

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1899

"*Edwin Corbett Walker*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Field Street, Bloxwich, public house manager. The debtor came up for public examination. The Official Receiver (Mr. S. W. Page) was present, and Mr. Evans was for the debtor. The statement of accounts showed liabilities £83 16s 11d, and the only assets were £10 he had paid to the solicitor on account of the proceedings. The debtor examined by the Official Receiver, stated that he worked as a miner until September, 1892, since that time he had been the tenant of the TIGER INN, Walsall, the ACORN INN, Walsall, and now he was the manager of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich, for his brother, Mr. C. C. Walker. At one time he had a small colliery at Pelsall. He attributed his failure to 'illness of himself and family, losses upon the colliery business, and bad trade.'

The examination was adjourned until August 2nd to close."

1901 Census

35, Pinfold – WHEAT SHEAF INN

[1] *Edwin C. Walker* (46), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Maria Walker (44), wife, born Walsall;

[3] George Walker (21), son, buckle maker, born Walsall;

[4] James Holt (18), stepson, buckle maker, born Manchester;

[5] Annie Daniels (21), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1901

"On Tuesday evening a smoking concert was held at the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich, in honour of Mr. T. J. Wykes, the manager of the Fishley Colliery. Mr. Wykes has secured an appointment similar to that he has held at Fishley Colliery for about nine years, and when it became known to the employés at the colliery that he intended to leave Bloxwich, they desired to show their appreciation in which they held him. A concert was arranged, and in the course of the evening Mr. Joseph Smith, on behalf of himself and fellow workers, asked Mr. Wykes' acceptance of a present of twenty-five guineas, and expressed the best wishes of them all for his success, health, and happiness in his new sphere of labour. Mr. Wykes, in thanking them for the handsome present said he was more pleased with the kind feeling which had prompted the gift.

During the evening songs, etc, were rendered by Messrs. E. Walker, T. Boot, T. Sleigh, Hy. Walton, and W. Harriss, and a very enjoyable time was spent.”

Edwin C. Walker – see also ACORN, TIGER.

Walsall Advertiser 15/2/1902

“*William J. Fryer*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich, applied for an occasional license to sell alcoholic drinks in the Music Hall, Bloxwich, on the 17th inst, from 7.30pm to 10pm. The occasion was that of a concert in aid of a memorial to her late Majesty Queen Victoria. The magistrates retired to consider the application, which they finally refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/4/1903

“At Walsall Police Court, on Tuesday morning, Henry Goodall, of The Flats, Bloxwich, was brought up on three charges, first of being drunk and disorderly on the premises of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold, and refusing to quit, and the other two of using obscene language in the Pinfold and Field Street, all on March 21st.

William Fryer, landlord of the WHEAT SHEAF, said defendant came into his house on the Saturday night in question. He was drunk, but asked for beer. Witness refused to serve him, and asked him to go out. Defendant used very bad language, and refused to leave the premises. The police eventually ejected him.

Police-constable Collins said that he was called to the WHEAT SHEAF to eject defendant, and having done so heard the man shout some very bad language in Field Street, in the hearing of the passer-by.

The third charge against defendant was on a private summons, and as complainant did not appear the case was struck out. Fined 10s and costs, or 14 days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1905

“Mr. *George Bird*, of Hilary Street, died very suddenly last night week, in his 70th year. He had been conversing with a friend on the footway near the HOPE AND ANCHOR HOTEL at about 8.30, when he was seen to suddenly fall to the ground, and on examination it was found that he had expired. For some time he had suffered from heart disease and syncope was certified as the cause of death. Mr. *Bird* was the owner and for many years the occupier of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich, up to the time he retired from business, and in addition, for a considerable time he carried on business as a butcher and cattle dealer. He leaves a widow and three daughters and two sons. The interment took place at Bloxwich Cemetery on Tuesday.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/5/1906

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *Howard Jayes*, WHEAT SHEAF INN Bloxwich was elected a member.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... *Charles H. Caffyn*, WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/1/1910

“David Hall, and Charles Fox, two youths of 18 years of age, both living at Field Street, Bloxwich, were summoned for wilfully damaging certain glasses and electrical cells to the amount of 10s on December 25th, the property of *Charles Henry Caffyn*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich.

Complainant stated that the two youths went into the house on Christmas night and ordered a pint of beer. Soon after he heard the smashing of glass, and on going into the smoke room where the defendants were, saw broken glass lying about the floor, whilst the electric battery had been broken, and one of the bell pushes wrenched off.

Police-constable Baker spoke to seeing the damage which had been caused.

Both defendants said the breaking of the glass was an accident, and denied doing any damage to the electric battery.

The Bench fined Hall 10s and costs and 5s damage, and Fox 5s and costs, and 5s damage.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/2/1910

“Wm. Aston, 41, The Flats, Bloxwich, was summoned by his wife Clara Aston, 43, The Flats, for persistent cruelty. Aston was also summoned by the Chief Constable for being found drunk on the licensed premises, the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold. In the first case, Mrs. Aston said she was married to defendant nineteen years ago, at the registry office at Stourbridge, and there were eight children, five of them under sixteen. Her husband was a miner, and his wages were 7s a day. On the morning of the 5th inst. defendant returned home very drunk and turned her and her children out, and that had frequently happened in the past four years. About a month ago he turned her out from her dying daughter, who died the following day, and he also turned away the woman who came to poultice her. He threatened to murder her and the children, and three weeks ago he threw a bottle at her and only just missed her. She had a separation from him about three and a half years ago, but he went crying to her and she took him back.

Annie Goodwin, a neighbour, stated that on the 5th inst. defendant ran his wife out and threw a chair at her.

Defendant denied that he had ever struck his wife or ill-treated her in any way. He admitted that he had beer, and that he got excited.

The Bench granted complainant a separation order, defendant to pay her 10s a week.

Aston, the defendant on the previous case, was also summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, the WHEAT SHEAF, Pinfold.

Police-constable Baker stated that on the 5th inst. he saw the defendant, who was very drunk, enter the WHEAT SHEAF. The landlord refused to supply him, and the defendant created a disturbance.

Defendant pleaded guilty, and he was fined 2s 6d and costs.

Inspector Ballance stated that Aston appeared to have gone worse during the last twelve months.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

“A Whist Drive was held at the WHEAT SHEAF HOTEL, Pinfold, Bloxwich, on Thursday week, in aid of funds for a dinner which is given to the old folks of Bloxwich on Easter Tuesday. The drive proved a great success, £2 18s being the amount cleared. Prizes were given, and won by the following gentlemen: 1st prize, meerschaum pipe, (given by Mr. C. Caffyn), won by Mr. F. Alden; 2nd, shaving outfit (given by Mr. A. Sargeant), won by Mr. H. France; 3rd, silk muffler (given by Mr. W. Hartill), won by Mr. C. Russell; mystic prize (given by Mr. F. Fryer), silver mounted walking stick, won by Mr. H. Stokes. A prize given by Mr. Joseph Stokes came in too late, and has been laid on one side for some further occasion. A meeting was held on Tuesday by the workers, and it was proposed to start a subscription list, which it is hoped will prove a success. Already nineteen shillings has been subscribed, making the total in hand, £3 17s. Subscription cards will be sent by post, and all subscriptions will be thankfully acknowledged through the press after the dinner. All subscriptions to be sent to Mr. A. Sargeant, hairdresser, Pinfold, Bloxwich (secretary), or to Mr. F. Caffyn, WHEAT SHEAF HOTEL, Pinfold, Bloxwich (treasurer), not later than March 19th.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1910

“Thanks to the efforts of a number of gentlemen, a dinner was given to the old folks of Bloxwich, on Tuesday, at the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold. Some 137 men and women sat down to a hot repast served up by Host and Hostess Caffyn. The necessary money for the spread was obtained by subscriptions and the proceeds from a whist drive.....

At the conclusion of the dinner a concert of a free and easy nature was held, all the items being supplied by guests, whilst prizes were given to the best singers among the old folk. During an interval, the whole of the gathering were photographed, and at the conclusion of the proceedings the old women were given a supply of fancy cakes.

A vote of thanks was passed to the subscribers, officers, and all who had helped in any way to make the affair a success.

Although this is the first dinner of its kind to be given at Bloxwich, it is hoped, in view of the success which attended the effort, to make it an annual event.”

1911 Census

35, Pinfold – WHEATSHEAF

[1] Charles Henry Caffyn (37), licensed victualler, born Brighton;

[2] Annie Elizabeth Caffyn (38), wife, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 3/2/1912

“The employees in the Borough Surveyor’s Department decided to have a social gathering, and they selected the WHEAT SHEAF, Pinfold. They could not have been better suited, for the manner in which the Host and Hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Caffyn, catered for the company, was worthy of all praise, and the whole of the guests expressed the wish that this occasion would not be the last. After the cloths had been removed, a free and easy entertainment began, songs being rendered by Messrs. G. Horne, J. Beard, junr., W. Davis and others. Owing to pressure of other engagements Mr. John Taylor, Borough Surveyor, had not been able to arrive before 9pm. On his entering the room he was accorded a very hearty reception, all rose and the band leading they sang ‘For he’s a jolly good fellow.’

Mr. Taylor, for he was only able to stay only a short time, addressed a few happy remarks to those present.

Mr. Joseph Round, one of the guests of the evening, made a neat little speech, expressing the pleasure it gave him to be present, and to see the goodwill which existed between the different heads of the department, hoping this would long continue.

The little party after a thoroughly enjoyable evening broke up at about 11pm, to the singing of the National Anthem.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/10/1913

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday, at the house of Mr. Charles Henry Caffyn, WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich.....”

Walsall Observer 26/9/1914 - Deaths

“On the 19th inst, at the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Bloxwich, Annie, the dearly beloved wife of Charles Caffyn, in her 41st year. Interred at Bloxwich Cemetery. Peace after pain.”

Walsall Observer 20/3/1915 - Advert

“Monday Next, March 22nd, 1915.

WHEAT SHEAF INN, Pinfold, Bloxwich.

Chas. A. B. Keysell will Sell by Auction, by order of Mr. C. H. Caffyn, who is giving up the business, the Excellent Household Furniture, Including Walnut-framed Dining Room Suite, Walnut Sideboard, Oak and other Tables, Oak Hall Stand, Valuable Collection of Indian Flies, Moths and Beetles, &c., in oak cases; Stuffed Birds, Windsor Chairs, Bedsteads, Dressing Tables, Chests of Drawers, Night Chair, Prints, Ornaments, Linoleum, &c, 4-wheeled Wagonette, Lorry, and numerous other Effects.

Sale to Commence at 12 o'clock.

Catalogues of the Auctioneer, 59, Queen Street, Wolverhampton. Telephone No.325."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
WHEATSHEAF, Bloxwich. £0 7s 10d."

1939 Register

35, Pinfold

[1] *William H. Poole*, date of birth 17/1/1890, publican, married;

[2] *Laura (Poole) Ratcliffe*, dob 17/12/1891, unpaid domestic duties, bar assistant, married:

Walsall Observer 26/10/1940

"At the annual prize distribution of the Bloxwich and District Bowling league at headquarters, the WHEATSHEAF, Bloxwich, on Tuesday next at 7.30, Alderman E. H. Ingram will receive a cheque from the proceeds of the Wilkes Hospital Cup. An invitation is extended to all bowlers connected with the League."

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

WHEAT SHEAF INN, Field Road, Bloxwich, £1 5s 0d."

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

"County Borough of Walsall. Mayor's War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Poole*, the WHEATSHEAF INN, Field Road. £1 3s 10d."

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WHEAT SHEAF, Bloxwich. £2 11s 0d."

Walsall Observer 14/8/1943

"At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society held on Thursday at the RED LION, Blue Lane East, Walsall, Mr. C. W. Garfield (president) occupied the chair. The President referred to the loss the society had sustained by the death of Mr. *William Henry Poole*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Field Road, Bloxwich. He had been a member of the society for eighteen years.

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund.

List of Subscriptions.....

WHEATSHEAF INN, Field Road, Bloxwich. £0 2s 6d."

Laura Poole married *Samuel Ratcliffe* in the 1st quarter of 1949.

Walsall Observer 8/8/1986

"Charity dart throwers were really on target when they raised more than £200 for a good cause. Nine players from the Bloxwich Friends of the Mentally Handicapped gathered at the WHEATSHEAF pub in Field Road for the 24-hour sponsored match, for cash towards a new centre for the mentally handicapped."

Express and Star 24/11/1997 - Advert

"Recently refurbished one room ale house. Good food potential."

[2017]

WHEATSHEAF

4, (2+4), (2), (98), (15), Birmingham Road (Birmingham Street) / Grove Terrace, (98, (15), King Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

J. Bagnall
William Downing, maltster, Smethwick
Showells Brewery Ltd [1904]
Ind Coope and Allsopp (leased from 9th April 1935)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)

LICENSEES

John Westley [1801]
Joseph Cooper [1813]
John Hopkins [1834]
John Edkins [1835]
Samuel Whistance [1841] – [1845]
Richard Evans [1849] – [1851]
Thomas Nicholls [] – **1858**;
William Reynolds (**1858** – [1871]
Moses Dolman [1873] – [1883];
John Griffiths [1891] – [1896];
Rosannah Griffiths (**189** – **1899**);
Thomas Hadley (**1899** – **1900**);
Arthur Griffin (**1900**);
Egbert Charles Hackett (**1900** – **1901**);
William Slater (**1901** – **1904**);
William Griffiths [1904] ?
Mrs. Mary Winkle (**1904** – **1916**); manager
Fred Akenhead (**1916** – **1922**);
Henry Hall (**1922** – **1926**);
Thomas Pedley (**1926** – **1927**);
Samuel Davies (**1927** – **1929**);
Arthur Robert Boyce (**1929** – **1936**);
Arthur Light (**1936** – **1940**);
James Edwin Woodfin (**1940** – **1941**);
Alice Mary Woodfin (**1941** – **1950**);
Norman Archibald Bent (**1950** – **1965**);
Jean Alison Mary Bent (**1965** – **1966**);
Margaret Castrey (**1966** – []
Jean James and Carrie Cooke [2009] – **2010**);
Joe Longmore (**2010** – [2012])

NOTES

Birmingham Street [1813], [1850], [1851]
King Street [1849], [1860], [1861], [1862]
15, Birmingham Road [1861]
15, King Street [1868]
98, Birmingham Road [1871], [1891], [1892], [1896], [1904], [1908]
98, King Street [1881], [1896]
2, Birmingham Road [1916], [1921], [1932], [1940], [1994]
2+4, Birmingham Road [1939]
4, Birmingham Road [2009]

Joseph Cooper, victualler, WHEAT SHEAF, Birmingham Street. [1813]

'The History and Directory of Walsall' by Thomas Pearce 1813

“At the WHEAT SHEAF INN, there is a Bowling Green, in the occupancy of *Joseph Cooper*, situate in Birmingham Street, commanding a view of Barr Beacon, and the country towards Birmingham.”

AND

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Clubs.....

Friendly Society, female, held at WHEAT SHEAF, supposed number 107, instituted 1781, surgeon Mr. Weaver, secretary James Gee.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/10/1827 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction (pursuant to a Decree and subsequent Order of the High Court of Chancery made in the cause of Woolley and others versus Gordon Perk and others, with the approbation of William Wingfield, Esq, one of the Masters of the said Court), at the house of Richard Moore Fletcher, the GEORGE INN, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on Wednesday next, the 3rd day of October, at twelve o’clock noon. Freehold and Leasehold Tenements and Building land, Commercial Inn, extensive Manufactory, and Premises, situate in the town of Walsall; also upwards of 110 Acres of Accommodation Land, with the Mines and Minerals thereunder, and the Houses and Farm Buildings thereon, near Walsall aforesaid, and in Rushall and Bloxwich; also Houses and Garden Ground at Bescot, and Houses and Building land at Wednesbury, all in the county of Stafford, late the property of Charles Perks, deceased....

Lot 1. Four Freehold tenements, occupying a considerable frontage to Birmingham Street, near the WHEAT SHEAF, together with Building Land at the back thereof, and therewith held by Elizabeth Holden James Selby, John Chalinor, and Richard Marsh. The above subject to an annual land-tax of 3s....”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/4/1831

“George Clarkson of Darlaston, requests us to inform William Baker, of Wolverhampton, that he is willing to fight him for £25 or £50 a side. His money will be ready Tuesday the 3rd day of May, at two o’clock, at the WHEAT SHEAF, Birmingham Street, Walsall.”

Samuel Whistance was also a brass and plated harness furniture manufacturer. [1845]

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/1/1848 - Advert

“To be Let, with immediate possession, that old-established, well-known house, the sign of the WHEAT SHEAF, Birmingham Street, Walsall. Coming-in can be made easy, as the present proprietor can take the stock and part of the fixtures if required. Any party going into business will find this a most favourable opportunity. Early application is required as this advertisement will not be repeated. For further particulars, apply on premises.”

1851 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *Richard Evans* (56), licensed victualler, born Shrewsbury;
- [2] *Eleanor Evans* (43), wife, born Walsall:

William Reynolds = William Reynold

Walsall Free Press 12/1/1861

“On Friday, the 4th day of January, 1861, the workpeople employed by the firm of Messrs. John Glover and Sons, Birmingham Street, in this town, numbering forty-three, were regaled with good old English fare, to which ample justice was done, at Host *Reynold’s*, the WHEAT SHEAF INN, King Street, whose good catering gave every satisfaction, and the evening’s entertainment was greatly enjoyed by all present. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the founders of the feast. Which was followed with a jovial good cheer of three time three, which bought the enjoyment to a close.”

1861 Census

15, Birmingham Road – WHEAT SHEAF INN

- [1] *William Reynolds* (36), licensed victualler, born Aldridge;
- [2] *Mira Reynolds* (40), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Mira Jane Reynolds* (12), daughter, scholar, born Edgbaston;
- [4] *Lydia P. Reynolds* (9), daughter, scholar, born Edgbaston;
- [5] *Elizabeth Reynolds* (2), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 19/10/1861 - Advert

“To Be Sold, a strong and useful Spring Cart.
Apply at the WHEATSHEAF INN, King Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 11/10/1862 - Advert

“WHEAT SHEAF INN, Walsall.

To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the above Old Established and respectable road side Inn, situate in King Street, which has been successfully carried on by the present Proprietor for the last five years, who is leaving in consequence of other engagements. Stock and Fixtures to be taken at a fair valuation.

For particulars apply on the premises, or to John Osbourn, Auctioneer, &c, 52, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 12/4/1863 - Advert

“A Good Ley For Horses And Cows, near the Town, well supplied with water, 5s per week for twenty weeks, and 6s for fourteen. Enquire of *W. Reynolds*, WHEAT SHEAF INN King Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1836, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o’clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from and of the Secretary *William Reynolds*, WHEAT SHEAF INN, King Street.”

Walsall Free Press 30/9/1865 - Advert

“The Annual Dinner of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society will be held at the house of Mr Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, High Street, on Thursday, 5th October, 1865.

Thomas Hazledine, Esq, Mayor has kindly consented to preside. Mr. Councillor Henry Hale, Vice president.

Tickets 3s each, may be had at the DRAGON INN, High Street, or at the WHEAT SHEAF INN, King Street, By order of the Committee.

Dinner on the table at Four o’clock precisely.

W. Reynold, Secretary.”

Walsall Free Press 28/1/1865 - Deaths

“On the 26th inst, aged thirteen years, Lydia Palmer, second daughter of Mr. *William Reynolds*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN King Street, Walsall; deeply lamented.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/4/1868

“Walsall Borough Quarter Sessions.

James Ashwell (35), saddle-tree maker, and William Gundry (29), puddler, were indicted for having stolen eight hog-skins, of the value of £8, the property of Messrs. W. and J. Franklin, curriers, Walsall. Mr. Underhill (instructed by Mr. Dale from the office of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis, and Lewis) prosecuted, and Mr. Young was instructed for Ashwell. At the outset of the case, Mr. Underhill asked for a verdict of acquittal to be taken as against Ashwell, whom, he said, the prosecution believed to have been the mere tool of Gundry, and his request was complied with. On Saturday, the 15th February last, the prosecutor’s servants made up a parcel of hog-skins, and entrusted it to a carrier named Strutt, to convey to Messrs. Short and Short, Birmingham. The carrier stopped for a few minutes at the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Birmingham Street, and while his cart stood there the parcel was stolen. On the following Monday evening Sergeants Wood, Drury, and Mason concealed themselves in Hall Lane, and detected the prisoners in the act of dealing with a parcel, which on examination was found to contain the stolen property. Ashwell was put in the witness-box, and his evidence bore out Mr. Underhill’s opening statement. On the other hand, Gundry maintained that he was the dupe of Ashwell. The prisoner was found guilty, and he having pleaded guilty to previous convictions, and to having undergone a term of penal servitude, was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment, the Recorder intimating that but for the intercession of Magistrates sitting with him, he should have imposed a sentence of seven years’ penal servitude. The sentence was received with applause from those in Court, which was promptly checked.”

Walsall Free Press 17/4/1869 - Advert

“To Be Let, the OLD WHEAT SHEAF INN, Birmingham Street, the GREAT BRITAIN INN, Regent Street, Burrowes Street. Apply to Farrington and Son, Auctioneers &c, Walsall.”

1871 Census

98, Birmingham Road

[1] *William Reynolds* (46), victualler and farmer of about 40 acres, born Aldridge;

[2] Mira Reynolds (50), wife, born Stourbridge;

[3] Mira J. Reynolds (22), daughter, dressmaker, born Edgbaston;

[4] Elizabeth A. Reynolds (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

1881 Census

98, King Street

[1] *Moses Dolman* (53), innkeeper, born Fradley, Staffordshire;

[2] Elizabeth Dolman (37), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Auther H. Dolman (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Alice M. Dolman (3), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Lizzie Dolman (1), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Louisa Hubbard (26), visitor, milliner, born Birmingham;

[7] George Ward (64), stable servant, born Barton under Needwood, Staffordshire;

[8] Alice Brown (21), general servant, born Aldridge:

Walsall Observer 14/4/1883

“A meeting of the creditors of *Moses Dolman*, of the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Birmingham Road, Walsall, licensed victualler and brewer, and egg and butter dealer, was held at the offices of Messrs. Marlow, Potter, and Marten, on Wednesday. Mr. S. P. Eagleton, holding a proxy for Mr. Wakeman, the largest creditor, presided.

The statement of affairs showed unsecured creditors, £309 8s 3d; creditors for rents, rates, and taxes, £41 12s 5d; and estimated assets, £172 1s 10d. Liquidation was resolved upon, Mr. H. C. Powell, of Bridge Street, Walsall, auctioneer, being appointed trustee, with a committee of inspection. It was stated on behalf of the debtor that his present position had been brought about by trade losses, and also by the depression of trade, and that about two years ago his liabilities were nearly double their present amount. Sympathy was expressed for the debtor, and he was granted his discharge at once.”

Walsall Observer 14/4/1883 - Advert

“In Liquidation. Re *Moses Dolman*.

To be Let, with Immediate Possession, the Old-Licensed Public House, known as the WHEAT SHEAF INN, Birmingham Street, Walsall.

Apply to Watkins and Powell, Auctioneers, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 7/2/1885

“On Tuesday Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) held an inquest at the WHEATSHEAF INN, on the body of Thomas Featherstone (77), of 6, Grove Terrace. It appears that on Sunday night, deceased, who was not well, fell downstairs when going up to bed, and received such injuries that he died immediately. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1891 Census

98, Birmingham Road – WHEAT SHEAF

[1] *John Griffiths* (40), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Rosannah Griffiths* (50), wife, born Stirchley, Shropshire;

[3] Lottey Merricks (19), general servant, born Weanesfield [Wednesfield?], Staffordshire:

John Griffiths – see also MALT SHOVEL.

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Rosannah Griffiths, WHEATSHEAF, served 37 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

Walsall Observer 13/10/1900

“The Caledonian Corks. On Monday Lodge 504 held a supper at the WHEAT SHEAF, Birmingham Road, when about forty sat down to a good spread. Subsequently a smoking concert was held, when Mr. W. G. Young presided.....”

1901 Census

Birmingham Road – WHEAT SHEAF TAVERN

[1] *William Slater* (35), licensed victualler, born New Invention;

[2] Catherine Slater (35), wife, born Hallow, Worcestershire;

[3] Annie Bertuck (18), domestic servant, born Chadsmore, Staffordshire;

[4] Thomas Sewter (13), visitor, errand boy (grocer’s), born Walsall:

1911 Census

2, Birmingham Road

[1] *Mary Winkle* (59), widow, public house manager, born Walsall;

[2] Sydney George Winkle (26), son, manufacturer’s clerk, born Walsall;

[3] Daisy Edwards (24), servant, barmaid, born Stourbridge:

Mary Winkle – see also NEW STATION.

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

WHEAT SHEAF, Birmingham Road, Walsall, 3s.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WHEATSHEAF INN, Birmingham Road. £0 4s 11d.”

It was the headquarters of Walsall rugby club from 1922.

1939 Register

2+4, Birmingham Road – WHEATSHEAF INN

- [1] *Arthur Light*, date of birth 23/7/1893, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] Florence Light, dob 11/7/1896, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] John A. Light, dob 4/11/1933, at school, single;
- [4] Reginald A. Wood, dob 5/1/1888, civil servant, labour exchange, married:

James Woodfin = James Woodfun

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society. Third List Of Subscriptions.....
WHEAT SHEAF INN, Birmingham Road. £0 8s 7d.”

Alterations were made in the late 1960s.

It was renamed the FLOCK AND FIRKIN. [1999]

[2005]

It was renamed WHEATSHEAF. [2007]

It was Walsall CAMRA Pub of the Year in 2008.

It was the headquarters of The WHEATSHEAF Runners (running club) [2009]

Express & Star 19/7/2021

“Fans of Shakespeare can enjoy the Bard and a pint with a fun new activity at a Walsall pub. The WHEATSHEAF on Birmingham Road is hosting monthly table readings of Shakespeare’s plays and anyone is welcome to come along and join in. ‘Your Bard’ sees roles drawn out of a hat with participants reading them throughout, a pint in one hand, a copy of the play in the other. The first event on Wednesday, June 30 was a full read-through of ‘Much Ado About Nothing’ and was attended by half-a-dozen enthusiastic readers. The table read, where the lines are spoken, not acted, began at 7pm and finished shortly after 10pm, with each reader taking on several parts to cover all the roles.

‘It was immense fun,’ said organiser Andrew Clayton, 41, from Aldridge. ‘It was easy, there’s no pressure. It’s somewhere between the loudest book club in the world, and that first ever time a theatre company works through the script. We know there are plenty of people who like a bit of comedy and want to read Shakespeare with others, but find actual theatre a bit intimidating. By sitting around with a pint and a book and enjoying the story together, we learn and listen and entertain one another. We also do a small collection for Ablewell Advice, a foodbank that the pub supports.’

Andrew heard about the activity at a wedding and thought it would be great so he approached the landlord at the WHEATSHEAF pub who agreed to host it. ‘The WHEATSHEAF has a reputation for the arts and the community, and for doing something different,’ added Andrew.

The first reading included a GCSE student anxiously awaiting his results and a retired English teacher. Once coronavirus restrictions are lifted it is hoped the pub’s main room will be filled with readers and listeners once a month. The WHEATSHEAF has already booked two more dates, with *The Tempest* being read on Wednesday, July 28.”

[2021]

WHEEL

Lindon Road, (Catshill Road), Walsall Wood, WALSALL

OWNERS

Maria Rodway [1892]

LICENSEES

Thomas Beresford [1881] – [1882]

William Rodway [1891] – **1892**);
Maria Rodway (**1892** – []
Joseph Marklew [1893]
Thomas Roe [] – **1901**);
John Dorsett (**1901** – [1912]
Eliza Dorsett [1924]
Frederick Adam Watkiss [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Beresford = Thomas Berresford

1881 Census

The WHEEL

- [1] *Thomas Berresford* (44), carpenter and beerhousekeeper, born Burntwood;
- [2] Mary Berresford (45), wife, born Sutton;
- [3] John Berresford (22), son, carpenter, born Burntwood;
- [4] George Berresford (15), son, carpenter, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] James Berresford (10), son, scholar, born Walsall Wood:

London Gazette 17/2/1882

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County-Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Thomas Beresford*, of the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper and Carpenter.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. George Cotterell, Solicitor, situate in Bridge-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, on the 2nd day of March, 1882, at three o’clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 15th day of February, 1882.

G. Cotterell, Bridge-street, Walsall, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/3/1882 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction.

At the Station Inn, Brownhills, on Monday, the 20th day of March, 1882, at Seven o’clock in the evening precisely.

The Public House known as the WHEEL, at Walsall Wood, now in the occupation of *Thomas Beresford*, and the two Dwelling Houses adjoining, in the occupation of George Mincher and John Monk respectively.

The property is freehold subject to a reservation of mines and common rights to the Lord of the Manor.

Immediate possession can be had of the Public House without any payment for goodwill. The House is in the neighbourhood of Collieries, Brickfields, and other Works, and a flourishing and growing business may be carried on there.

Arrangements may be made for a portion of the purchase money to remain on mortgage.

Further particulars may be obtained from Messrs. Duignan, Lewis, Williams & Elliot, Solicitors Walsall.”

Evening Star 20/3/1882

“At a second general meeting of the creditors of *Thomas Beresford*, of the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, beerhouse keeper and carpenter, which was held at the offices of Mr. George Cotterill, solicitor, Walsall, on the 15th inst, the resolution passed at the former general meeting of creditors, accepting composition of 1s in the pound, in satisfaction of the debts due for the debtor, and payable in two months, were unanimously confirmed.”

Lichfield Mercury 5/9/1890

“The magistrates at the licensing sessions on Monday were Messrs. E. T. Holden and J. Nayler, Dr. Cooke.....

Mr. Elliott applied for a spirit license for the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood. Refused.”

1891 Census

Near Walsall Wood Colliery – WHEEL INN

- [1] *William Rodway* (56), licensed victualler, born Gloucester;
- [2] *Maria Rodway* (54), wife, born Gloucester;
- [3] Beatrice M. Rodway (9), granddaughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Amy Lea (16), domestic servant, born Brownhills:

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1891

“The Rushall adjourned licensing session too place yesterday, before Mr. F. James and Dr. Cooke.

Mr. C. A. Loxton applied for a full license for the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, kept by *William Rodway*, and adduced the good character of the applicant, the large population in the neighbourhood, and the proximity of the Walsall Wood Colliery, where 600 men were employed, and spirits might at any moment be required in case of an accident, as reasons in favour of the granting of the application. Mr. James said that, in view of recent attempts at licensing legislation, the Bench were not disposed to grant further licenses unless a paramount necessity was shown. That had not been done in this case, and the license would be refused.”

William Rodway died in the 1st quarter of 1892.

Burials in the Parish of Walsall Wood (Church of England Cemetery) 1892

“*William Rodway*, WHEEL INN, 22nd January, 55 years.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1893

“At the County Court on Wednesday, before the Judge (Mr. W. D. Griffith), an action was heard in which Edwin Albert Hawkins, auctioneer, Tamworth, sued *Maria Rodway*, at present of Hockley, Tamworth, but formerly of the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, for £33 in respect of the disposal of the public-house named. Mr. Neville (Tamworth) appeared in support of the claim, and Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. Corbett, Walsall), defended. It appeared that in the end of 1891, the plaintiff received instructions to sell the defendant’s licensed house already named and two cottages adjoining, she required £2,500, and undertaking to pay defendant £50 for his services in case of sale. Several people to whom he introduced the property refused to purchase on the ground that the price was too high, but subsequently Mr. Roberts agreed to become the purchaser for the sum of £2,200. The defendant agreed to sell at that price, and the plaintiff drew up a contract of authority setting forth that the defendant allowed him to sell for £2,200, and that she would give him £35 for his services. The sale was not carried out, Mr. Roberts wishing to have the abstract or title delivered in five days, and the defendant being unable to supply it under seven days, the plaintiff tore up the authority and burnt it.

In cross-examination plaintiff stated that his reason for tearing up the document in question was that he had a fit of temper. The Judge said that by doing this he destroyed the only evidence which could prove his case. He was not in position to recover, and a verdict would be entered for the defendant with costs.”

Lichfield Mercury 28/10/1893

“At the Rushall Police Court on Monday, before F. James, Esq. (chairman), and J. Naylor and W. H. Brookes, George Crowther, of Clayhanger, was summoned for refusing to quit the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, on the 14th inst. Defendant pleaded guilty.

Joseph Marklew, landlord of the WHEEL INN, said the defendant was at his house on the 14th October. He raised an argument with another man about the strike, and eventually a disturbance arose, defendant being disorderly. Witness then requested him to leave the house but he refused.

The magistrates imposed a fine of 1s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/9/1896

“The business at the Rushall Licensing Sessions on Monday was not of a heavy character.

The only increased drinking facility granted was the exchange of the licence of the WHEEL INN (beerhouse), Walsall Wood, for a full licence.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/8/1898

“On Saturday Mr. H. A. Pearson, district coroner, held an inquiry at the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, on the body of Alfred Trafford (16), of Paul’s Coppice, Coppice Road, Walsall Wood, who was fatally injured whilst employed at the Coppice Colliery, on Wednesday. Mr. W. H. Duignan (Walsall) appeared on behalf of the Walsall Wood Colliery Company, and Mr. W. B. Scott, her majesty’s inspector of mines, was also present.

Frank Charles Eveson, miner’s labourer, gave evidence that on Wednesday afternoon deceased, who was a horse-driver, took the brake off a loaded truck and set it in motion. He then ran in front of it and moved four scotches which were on the line, also shouting a warning that the truck was coming. The truck passed under a tramway bridge, and before deceased could clear himself he was caught against one of the wooden supports of the bridge and crushed very severely. Witness and a fellow-workman named Collins released deceased, and he was conveyed home on a stretcher. It was not part of deceased’s work to move the truck, and witness had not asked him to move it.

Dr. Maddever, who was called to see deceased, stated that the latter had both collar bones and all rib bones broken, and the lungs were penetrated, and possibly the heart as well. Death was the result of suffocation from internal bleeding. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and exonerated the colliery company from blame.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/3/1899

“Mr. H. A. Pearson held an inquest on Monday, at the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, on the body of John Blundell (36), miner, of Catshill Road, who was killed on the previous Thursday, whilst employed at the Walsall Wood Colliery. Among those present were Messrs. W. B. Scott (inspector of mines), W. H. Pickering (assistant inspector), H. C. Peake (general colliery manager), and Mr. H. H. Jackson, who represented the deceased’s relatives and Pelsall District Miners’ Association; Councillor Southall appearing on behalf of the latter body.

Evidence was given that deceased and a man named John Carlin were at work in No.70 road in the yard coal seam removing rock. Deceased had a bar, with which he prised off a piece of rock on the opposite side to which he was standing. He then dropped his bar, stooped and took hold of a pick with which to try the roof, and was rising again, when a mass of rock, estimated to weigh

about three tons, came down upon him. Assistance was quickly forthcoming, and deceased was rescued in about ten minutes, but death appeared to have been instantaneous, deceased's injuries being of a terrible nature. It was stated that the fall was due to a slip having occurred which was not previously detected.

Mr. Pickering stated that he had examined the mine, and there was no breach of the Act. With such a mass of rock falling, deceased would stand no chance whatever.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and Mr. Peake expressed regret that so unfortunate an accident should have occurred, remarking the deceased was the son of an old and trusted official, and always an exceedingly careful workman."

1901 Census

Catshill Road – The WHEEL INN Public House

- [1] *Thomas Roe* (41), public house manager, born Stonall, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary A. Roe* (42), wife, born Brownhills;
- [3] *Alice Roe* (21), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [4] *John T. Roe* (17), son, colliery engineer, born Walsall Wood;
- [5] *George H. Roe* (15), son, colliery driver below ground, born Walsall Wood;
- [6] *Edith Roe* (11), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] *Clara Roe* (9), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [8] *Emma Roe* (6), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [9] *Tom Roe* (4), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [10] *Nelly Roe* (1), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [11] *Bella Wall* (19), general servant, born Brownhills;

Lichfield Mercury 15/11/1901

"Mr. H. H. Jackson applied for the temporary transfer of the license of the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, from *Thomas Roe* to *John Dorsett*. The application was granted."

Lichfield Mercury 24/1/1902

"Leonard Heath (30), Shire Oak, Brownhills, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood. Mr. H. H. Jackson (Walsall) appeared to prosecute.

Evidence was given that the defendant went into the house on the night of the 11th inst, and becoming disorderly was requested to leave. After a time he did so, but returned about 10-20 and asked to be supplied, but was refused. He was sober and ordered to leave because of his conduct.

The defendant (to *John Dorsett*, the prosecutor): Do you say I was sober after drinking whiskey and beer for over seven hours?

The defendant added that he was drunk, but this *Dorsett* denied.

A fine of 7s 6d and 11s 6d costs was imposed."

Walsall Advertiser 17/5/1902

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *John Dorsett*, jun., WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, was elected a member of the society."

Lichfield Mercury 5/9/1902

"At the Rushall Police Court on Monday, Edward Dewick (66), Vigo, Walsall Wood, was charged with having obstructed the highway.

PC Lockley said that at 11-50am on August 22 he saw the defendant's horse and trap standing outside the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood. At 12-10, as the vehicle was still there, he entered the inn and saw the defendant with half a pint of porter before him.

The defendant pleaded that he was not in the inn many minutes. Ordered to pay costs, 6s."

Walsall Advertiser 27/8/1904

"On Saturday afternoon the inhabitants of the Walsall Wood district were thrown into a state of excitement when it became known that a terrible accident had occurred at the Walsall Wood Colliery. It transpired that when it occurred William Bailey of Clayhanger Road, Walsall Wood, and Leonard Heath, of Shire Oak, along with a number of other miners, were at work in one of the main shafts. They had been doing repairs and timbering and all appeared quite safe when a slip occurred. There was a great fall of rock, which buried the two men. Several other men who were near had narrow escapes. The fall took place about 12.55 mid-day, and the workmen set to very energetically to clear away the debris, but it was about 4.50pm before the bodies were recovered. Dr. Maddever and other gentlemen were at the scene of the accident, but death, of course, had then taken place. Police-constable Allcock removed the bodies to the homes of the men.

At the inquest held at the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, on Tuesday afternoon by the County Coroner (Mr. H. A. Pearson) the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

Amongst those also present at the inquiry were Mr. Atkins (H.M. Inspector of Mines), Mr. Peake (the general manager), and Mr. Neville (the manager), of the Walsall Wood Colliery; and Mr. H. H. Jackson (Walsall), who appeared on behalf of the Miners' Association."

Walsall Advertiser 15/6/1907

“At the Rushall Petty Sessions, Wm. Pratt (26), Lyndon Road, Walsall Wood, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises.

Police-constable Grindley deposed to being in company with Sergeant Needham in Lyndon Road, when he saw defendant who was drunk, go into the WHEEL INN. Witness called the landlord’s attention to his condition and he was not served. Defendant, who said he went into the house to get a bottle of soda water, was fined 2s 6d and costs, or seven days.”

Lichfield Mercury 8/4/1910

“At the Rushall Police Court on Monday morning, before Messrs. W. H. Brookes, W. F. Clarke, and J. A. Lloyd, Frank Heath (21), miner, of High Street, Brownhills, was summoned for assaulting John Bailey, fireman, of Walsall Wood, on Monday.

Mr. W. C. Checkley prosecuted on behalf of the Walsall Wood Colliery Company, and explained that in 1906 defendant was employed at the colliery, and was fined for committing a breach of the colliery regulations. Complainant gave evidence in that case. Defendant was not dismissed his employment, but eventually enlisted, and was away some time, but had returned and worked at the colliery. The conviction seemed to have rankled in his mind, and he made threats as to what he would do to complainant. On Monday last complainant went up to the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, and defendant went up to him, and remarking, ‘You are the man who caused me to pay 18s 6d,’ struck him in the mouth, making his nose and mouth bleed heavily.

Complainant and several witnesses gave evidence in corroboration.

Defendant contended that while he was in the WHEEL INN he had some words with complainant who struck him, and he retaliated.

The Bench imposed a fine of 20s and costs, and ordered defendant to be bound over for three months in £10.

Mr. W. L. Lewis (Clerk): Are you content to be bound over? – Defendant: No, sir.

The Bench sentenced defendant to two months’ imprisonment in default.”

1911 Census

Linden Road, Brownhills

[1] *John Dorsett* (35), bricklayer, at colliery, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire;

[2] *Elsie Dorsett* (33), wife, married 9 years, born Walsall Wood;

[3] *John Dorsett* (8), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Thomas Dorsett* (2), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 9/3/1912

“The Coal War. Great Struggle Still Proceeding.....

Notices were issued stating that strike pay would be paid as follows (on the production of contribution card): Thursday, March 14th, Sheffield, SPRING COTTAGE INN, at 11am; Walsall Wood, WHEEL INN, at 2pm; Brownhill, Crown Inn, at 5pm; Friday, March 15th, Pelsall, STATION INN, at 11am; Bloxwich, QUEENS HEAD INN, at 2pm; Lane Head, BRITISH OAK INN, at 5pm; Saturday, March 16th, Newton, Malt Shovel Inn at 11am.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/3/1912

“Strikers in the Walsall Wood, Rushall and Sheffield neighbourhood looked forward to their first strike pay with evident concern. There is no doubt the men are beginning to feel the pinch of wageless weeks and although they picked up a good haul the Saturday before last the coffers this week have begun to run low.

The first distribution of strike pay by the Pelsall and District Association took place on Thursday at Ted Clark’s SPRING COTTAGE INN, Sheffield. The time fixed was eleven o’clock, but before that hour a large crowd of miners has assembled. A few minutes after eleven, when the officials drove up, there could not have been less than 1,500 or 2,000 men waiting for their pay. Some of them had to wait a good time too, for it was close on half-past three in the afternoon before the last striker received his allowance. Fortunately the weather was fine – indeed, it was a bright spring day. The young strikers – the pit boys – with some of their seniors, whiled away the time at marbles, but generally the men were content to smoke pipes (with need it to be said, and occasional slaking of the thirst), and quietly chat together. The peculiar part about it all – at least that which impresses the stranger, is that the men discuss practically every other topic imaginable with the one exception of the unrest!

The paying out was conducted in a smooth and business-like manner, the men entering the room where it was carried out in the order of their respective lodges. They were commendably orderly and the crowd gradually diminished, the strikers making a move off as soon as they had received their money. Each man received 15/- and the few boys who had to be paid 7/6. The officials present included Messrs. H. Smith (president), Mr. Smith (vice-president), T. Riley (secretary), and R. Burgess (treasurer). Mr. F. J. Dean (miners’ agent) was in London.

One of the officials explained that the ordinary strike pay is 10/- a week, but it was thought that it would be to the interests of the men if they were paid 15/-, as they have been at play since last Saturday week. The strikers came from all parts of the area covered by the association, although most of them belonged to Rushall, Sheffield and Walsall Wood.

From what could be gathered the men are not in such ‘high feather’ as they were this time last week. There are signs of a weakening in their determination, which goes a long long way to show that they would welcome a settlement. It was stated by one of the miners that in the early part of the week 20 or 30 non-unionists approached the manager of the Aldridge Colliery, and asked to be set at work, but were refused. In spite of the fact that the association has 4,000 members, there are non-unionists here and there and they must undoubtedly be reduced to an impecunious position. One of the miners expressed the opinion that after ‘this yer job’ is over the unionists will refuse to be reconciled to so many of the men remaining outside their union. The unionists evidenced that they appreciated their strike pay, small though it is compared to with an ordinary week’s money, but, in spite of reserve, many of them showed that they were a little anxious as to their prospects should the struggle be prolonged. Some of the

men turned up at the venues in their Sunday best and one or two even wore collars and ties.

Later in the day there were 'payments out' at the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, and at Brownhills. Yesterday (Friday) miners received pay at the STATION INN, Pelsall; the QUEENS HEAD, Bloxwich; and the BRITISH OAK, Lane Head. Today (Saturday) money will be paid put at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Newton.

It is stated that if a settlement is effected and the miners start work at once they will receive pay from the strike funds for the odd days they have been out."

Walsall Advertiser 23/11/1912

"The inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of the murdered woman, Elizabeth Birch, was opened on Wednesday morning, at the WHEEL INN, opposite the house where she and her brother and parents lived.

The accused was not present, but was represented by Mr. Lester, and Mr. J. F. Addison (Walsall) held a watching brief from the Chief Constable of Staffordshire.

The Coroner (Mr. Gerald C. Lewis), addressing the jury, said they had seen for themselves that it was practically a certain case of murder, and they also probably knew that a person had been arrested on suspicion. That being so, he thought it was desirable that the case should be investigated as fully and thoroughly as possible. He therefore proposed that day to simply take evidence of identification of the body so as to allow the poor woman to be buried, and then adjourn the inquest for a week, so that the authorities could make every enquiry they possibly could. Next week, if it was possible, the case might be thoroughly gone into, and they could arrive at a conclusion one way or the other.

Harry Birch brother of deceased, then gave formal evidence of identification. He said he was a constable in the Police Force of the county borough of Newport, Mon., and that the deceased was his sister. She lived with her father William Birch, a miner, and was a spinster of no occupation. She was thirty-four years of age.

The Coroner: That is as far as I propose to go to-day.

Upon the Coroner asking if Wednesday of next week would be convenient for the jury, one of the jurymen suggested Thursday.

The Coroner: There is a reason why that is inconvenient which I cannot tell you.

The Witness Birch: The sooner it is over the better it will be for the family.

The Coroner adjourned the inquiry until Wednesday next, at 10.30am, at the same place."

AND

"The accused man, Jacob Birch, was again brought before the Magistrates at a Special Court at Rushall on Thursday morning. Police-sergeant Lewis stated that the inquest was opened on Wednesday and had been adjourned for a week. He applied for a remand until next Thursday.

The Clerk (Mr. W. L. Lewis) stated that the Coroner would not require prisoner at the inquest, and there was no need for him to attend unless he himself wished to be present.

Mr. Lester (who represented the prisoner) offered no objection to the remand, and it was accordingly granted.

Subsequently the accused was removed to Stafford Gaol."

[At the adjourned inquest, which occupied nearly twelve hours, a verdict of Wilful Murder was returned by the Jury against Jacob Birch. At the Stafford Assizes, in February 1913, the jury found Jacob Birch to be of Unsound Mind and unable to plead, he was detained 'during His Majesty's pleasure'.]

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1915

"The South Wales coal strike was referred to by Mr. Fred J. Dean, Pelsall miners' agent, at a meeting held at the WHEEL INN, on Monday evening, Mr. W. Smith presiding.

Mr. Dean said he wished to touch upon the position of the industry having regard to the great upheaval and the national crisis. It was all very well to talk about wages and about miners having got a 15½ per cent advance, but miners were making a sacrifice to-day, as the cost of living had gone up considerably more than that. But they had got to look further ahead and try to see what their position would be when the war was over....."

Walsall Observer 22/7/1916

"An open-air meeting of miners, for the purpose of hearing addresses upon the present situation in the trade union world, was held near the WHEEL INN at Walsall Wood on Wednesday night, and the weather being fine there was a large attendance....."

Lichfield Mercury 12/9/1924

"At the Rushall Police Court on Monday, before Messrs. R. H. Holden, E. J. Shaw and F. Dean, Thos. *Dorsett*, of Coppice Road, Walsall Wood, was summoned for assaulting *Eliza Dorsett*, licensee of the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, for complainant, said defendant was her brother-in-law. On the night of the 31st ult. her son was rude to her and began gesticulating. Defendant then dashed into the house, and said he was boss there, and would show them what he could do. He pulled off his coat and struck Mrs. *Dorsett* in the chest, afterwards pushing her out the house.

Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson, for the defendant, said the son was entitled to a share of his father's estate, which his mother was withholding from him. Before he went out he referred to the matter, and his mother threatened there would be someone 'to do him in' when he came back, or words to that effect. As a result defendant went home with him to see that everything was all right. Mrs. *Dorsett* threatened him with a stick, and defendant simply pushed her away.

Defendant was fined £4, the Chairman remarking that the Bench considered it a very serious case. It almost amounted to an outrage."

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/6/1925

“An inquest was held at the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, by the County Coroner (Mr. W. Checkley) on Tuesday afternoon relative to the death of Alfred Brown, aged 8, of Woodbine Terrace, Commonsides, Shire Oak, Brownhills, whose body was recovered from the Birmingham Canal on Saturday evening. The evidence showed that the little boy had been to the pictures at Brownhills on Saturday afternoon, and returning home got on to the canal side near Catshill junction, and it is supposed in attempting to walk along the coping stone near Pier Bridge fell into the water. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Lichfield Mercury 19/10/1934

“Air-Gun Shooting.

The following is the result of a friendly match shot at the WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, on Friday evening, the result shows an excellent beginning for the Muckley Corner club.

Walsall Wood: W. Riley 22, J. Taylor 21, J. Willetts 21, T. Smith 18, G. Riley, 21, J. Dorsett 21, T. C. Smith 21, T. Percival 18, G. Borden 20, T. Harris 19, W. Ashford 19, J. Curly, 17; total 240.

Muckley Corner: R. Ashley 20, W. Harris 20, C. Carter 16, G. Cooper 21, B. Norgrove 19, W. Shorthouse 23, W. Parsons 21, J. Mule 21, J. Harrington 22, B. Walker 22, A. Walker 21, E. Simpson 22; total 248.”

Walsall Observer 12/8/1939

“Walsall Wood Darts’ League.

Lichfield Road Club have withdrawn from the Walsall Wood and District Darts League, their place being taken by Daw End Liberal Club. The season will commence on Monday, September 4, and the next League meeting is to be held at the WHEEL INN, when all forms bearing players’ signatures are to be handed to the League secretary. Mr. H. Wood has given a cup to the League to raise funds for charitable purposes, and it has been suggested that the proceeds shall be given to the Walsall General Hospital.”

1939 Register

Lindon Road – WHEEL INN

[1] *Frederick Adam Watkiss*, date of birth 21/2/1896, licensee, married, ARP head warden;

[2] *Lydia Watkiss*, dob 17/4/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Harriet Winter*, dob 23/11/1918, hawker, single;

[4] *Rose Turnhill*, dob 10/3/1918, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

WHEEL INN, Walsall Wood, £1 11s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 30/6/1945 - Notice

“War Charities Act.

Notice Is Hereby Given that it is proposed to apply to the Brownhills Urban District Council for Registration under the above mentioned Act, of the Lindon Road Ward Victory Fund. The objects, briefly, are to provide Entertainment for the Old People and Children when we have achieved the Final Victory. The Headquarters of the Fund are situate at The Assembly Rooms, WHEEL INN, Lindon Road, Brownhill.

Any Objection to the proposed Registration should be sent in writing to the above named Council within 14 days from the date of this notice.

Dated June 30th, 1945.

(Signed) H. Broadway, Chairman. W. Cunnington, Treasurer. W. Corfield, Secretary. F. Watkins, Financial Secretary.”

Closed [2011], [2017]

WHITE HART

30, (25), Caldmore Road, (30, (56), Caldmore), (2, Corporation Street), , Caldmore Green, WALSALL

OWNERS

Miss Elizabeth Partridge, farmer, Birmingham Street, Walsall

Leary’s Brewery

Manchester Brewery Co. Ltd. [1906]

Samuel Allsopp and Sons Ltd.

Showells Brewery Ltd.

Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd.

Ind Coope and Allsopp
Ansell's Ltd.

LICENSEES

Henry Carter [1801] – [1818]
Thomas Price [1834] – **1842**;
Mrs. Sarah Price (**1842** – [1851])
John Sadler [1853] – [1865]
Joseph Sadler [1868] – **1875**;
John Sadler (**1875** – []);
Mrs. Sarah Sadler [1881]
Edward Leary [] – **1890**;
Standley Wildridge (**1890** – **1892**);
Mrs. Margaret Ann “Annie” Wildridge (**1892** – **1896**);
Margaret Bladen (**1896** – **1903**);
Thompson W Taylor [1896] – [1901] manager
Mrs. Margarette Theodora (Taylor) Day (**1903** – **1904**);
Frederick Harold ‘Fred’ Davey (**1904** – **1908**);
William Slater (**1908** – **1909**);
John Hanman (**1909**) temporary transfer
John Thomas Hawkins (**1909** – **1911**);
George Frederick Hands (**1911** – **1913**);
Edward Arthur Poulton (**1913** – **1915**);
Joseph Loynes (**1915** – **1922**);
William Farley (**1922** – **1923**);
Charles Cashmore (**1923** – **1925**);
Thomas Burdett [1925] ?
Walter Loynes (**1925** – **1930**);
Charles Cashmore (**1930** – **1932**);
Albert Banks Caunt (**1932** – **1933**);
William Edward Oakley (**1933**);
Francis Joseph Ellis (**1933** – **1935**);
Charles Henry Hadley (**1935** – **1940**);
George Humphries (**1940** – **1943**);
Samuel Swinglehurst (**1943** – **1944**);
John Cockbill (**1944** – **1946**);
Edwin Jones (**1946** – **1951**);
John Thomas ‘Jack’ Moran (**1951** – **1955**); manager
James Platt (**1955** – **1962**);
Derrick Neil Renton (**1962** – **1963**);
Abraham Tapper (**1963** – **1965**);
Arthur John Fleet (**1965** – **1966**);
Sydney Gill Smith (**1966**);
Robert John Spencer Davies (**1966**);
John Thomas Austin (**1966** – [])

NOTES

25, Caldmore [1864], [1865]
56, Caldmore [1881]
30, Caldmore Road [1891]
30, Caldmore [1896], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1932], [1940]

OLD WHITE HART [1893], [1894], [1895], [1896]
YE OLDE WHITE HART [1903], [1904]
YE OLDE WHITE HARTE [1908]
OLD WHITE HART HOTEL [1911]

Grade II listed

The original house was reputed to be haunted.

The 'Hand of Glory', a mummified child's hand, was found in an attic chimney.

'Black Country Pubs' by Robin Pearson and Jean Wade

".....originally built as a residence for the Hawe family on the site of an earlier half timbered house. It was only in 1801 that it became a licensed premises."

'Oak House, West Bromwich' – Souvenir Booklet

"John Turton of the Oak married, in 1624, Elizabeth Hawe, one of the Hawes of Walsall, who resided at what is now the WHITE HART INN at Caldmore, where Queen Henrietta Maria, wife of King Charles the First, stayed one night....."

'Staffordshire Stories' by Frederick William Hackwood.

"There is no foundation for the tradition that Henrietta Maria stayed at the residence of George Hawes, at Caldmore, which has since been converted into the WHITE HART INN....."

Henry Carter = Henry Cater

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/7/1829 - Died

"On Wednesday morning, the 1st inst. at his house at Caldmore, near Walsall, Mr. *Henry Cater*, aged 63, formerly landlord of the WHITE HART, in Caldmore."

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/12/1834

"On Tuesday morning a woman named Mary Shale, of Walsall, aged 71, was discovered dead in a field near to Bescot Hall, in the Foreign of Walsall. She was almost in a state of nudity, and is supposed to have wandered to the spot where she was found, in a deranged state, and to have torn the clothes from her own person, as her bonnet and other articles of dress were found in an adjoining field. The unfortunate woman was subject to fits. An inquest was held at the WHITE HART, Caldmore, on Wednesday, before H. Smith, Esq, coroner, when the jury (there appearing no marks of violence on the body of the deceased) returned their verdict – Died by Visitation of God."

Staffordshire Gazette 28/1/1841

"Walsall Elections....."

We may mention one of the most disgraceful attempts at intimidation that it was ever our lot as journalists to record. On Monday evening a party of Mr. Gladstone's friends met at the WHITE HART, Caldmore, and were attentively listening to a speech of calm reasoning against the repeal of the corn laws by Mr. Bassett Smith. About nine o'clock this peaceful assembly was disturbed by a noise outside, and on enquiring it was found that it was caused by Acland at the head of a large body of bullies. The Conservatives determined not in any way to be parties to a breach of the peace, which was certain to take place if they had remained in the room, as Acland entered the room, and had displaced the chairman, and stopped Mr. Smith from proceeding. The Conservative party therefore left the room to the dastardly miscreants. Another fine specimen of freedom of election!"

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/1/1842 - Died

"Jan 1st, aged 45, Mr. *Thomas Price*, WHITE HART, Caldmore, near Walsall, much respected by all who knew him."

John Sadler = John Saddler

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/3/1853

"The match between Edwin Roper's dog Toss and Mr. Tully's Mike, to worry 30 rats each, for £5 a side, comes off to-morrow (Easter Sunday), at Mr. *Sadler's* WHITE HART INN, Walsall."

Walsall Free Press 3/4/1858

"*John Sadler*, landlord of the WHITE HART public house, Caldmore, was charged with having, on the morning of Sunday last, kept his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours. Police-constable Hawtin, while on duty on the morning in question, saw a man go into defendant's house, where he was supplied with both ale and beer. Mr. Walker, solicitor for the defence, said, on the day in question Mr. *Sadler's* servant had occasion to go out and had left the door open. During the time the door was open, the man seen by the officer entered and called for some beer, which, she having only been a few weeks in Mr. *Sadler's* service, and being unacquainted with the law, filled for him. At the time she did so neither her master nor mistress were present; but while the man was in the bar, the mistress came in and refused to let the man have the liquor. The girl having been called and proved the statement made by Mr. Walker, the case was dismissed."

Walsall Free Press 8/5/1858

"Meeting of the Improvement Commissioners.

A memorial from the inhabitants of Caldmore was presented, praying the commissioners to rescind the resolution come to at their last meeting, for the throwing open and levelling a certain enclosure in front of the WHITE HART public-house, Caldmore. As the memorialists agreed to the keep the fence of the enclosure in repair, the prayer of the petition was granted, and the meeting separated."

1861 Census

Caldmore

- [1] *John Saddler* (60), widower, victualler, born Wednesfield;
- [2] *Mary Saddler* (28), daughter, housekeeper, born Bushbury;
- [3] *Joseph Saddler* (20), son, currier, born Bushbury;
- [4] *Sarah Leeke* (30), daughter, born Bushbury;
- [5] *Henry Ledbury* (21), boarder, currier, born Rowley;
- [6] *Jane Bishops* (17), house servant, born Upper Hasely:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/9/1863

“On Saturday, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the WHITE HART public-house, Caldmore, upon the body of Frederick Bond, son of James Bond, Caldmore, who died under the following circumstances. For some months past the child had been suffering from hydrocephalus. On Monday the symptoms became more aggravated, and the child continued gradually to sink; but no medicine was administered, nor any medical aid procured till ten o'clock on Wednesday evening, when a note was obtained from the relieving officer. With this note the father waited upon the medical officer for the district, Dr. Wyllie, who prescribed for the child, but the father neither carried out the doctor's instructions, nor returned to inform him of the child's condition, and about two o'clock on Thursday morning the child died. On Friday the father reported Dr. Wyllie to the Board of Guardians for having refused to attend his child, and the Guardians instructed their clerk to request Dr. Wyllie to attend next Board day and explain.

The jury after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes, and exonerated Dr. Wyllie from all blame. The Coroner censured the father for his culpable negligence, and refused to allow him anything for his attendance at the inquest.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/3/1866

“T. Busst of Walsall will run J. Cox of Wolverhampton 120 yards and will give him two yards start. A match can be made any night next week at Mr. *J. Sadler's*, WHITE HART INN, Caldmore.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/7/1866

“On Thursday, Mr. Fletcher, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the WHITE HART, Caldmore, upon the body of a blind man named John Cummings, who was drowned under circumstances detailed. The only witness called was Joseph Cummings, aged 23, the brother of the deceased, and from the evidence it appeared that he and deceased, who was 18 years of age, in compliance with the wish of the latter, went to a pool at Palfrey to bathe. Deceased undressed, and went into the water. He started to swim across the pool; but witness called to him to come back when he had gone about five yards, but he swam half-way across the pool before he turned to come back. As he appeared at this time to be struggling, witness called, ‘Are you drowning?’ Deceased made no reply, but shouted. ‘Joe.’ Witness called to deceased, ‘Swim to this side,’ but the latter replied, ‘I can't.’ One of his arms appeared to be cramped. When deceased first called to witness the latter sent a boy for a rope, who in about half a minute returned with it. Witness went into the water with the rope, and threw the end of it to deceased, but it fell short, and while witness was drawing it back deceased sank. A search was made for the body, but it was not found until the following morning. The Jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and accompanied their verdict with a recommendation that the pool should be enclosed.”

Joseph Sadler = Joseph Saddler

Walsall Free Press 18/7/1868

“On Monday last, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the district, held an inquest at the WHITE HART Public-house, Caldmore, upon the body of Edward Stringer, brass-dresser, who was drowned in an old clay pit at Palfrey. The deceased and some others had been drinking on Sunday evening, at the house where the inquest was held, and about six o'clock he and John Cummings and Edward Connelly went to the clay pit, which had been for some time full of water, to bathe. After they had come out deceased said he would show them something none of them could do, and thereupon he leapt into the water, and commenced to swim across the pool on his back, and his hands out of the water.

Joseph Cummings, the only witness examined at the inquest – and whose brother, a blind boy, was drowned in the same pool some time ago – said he was at the WHITE HART when deceased and the other two men agreed to go to bathe in the pool at Palfrey. Witness followed them; but when he got to the pool, the two men were dressing themselves, and deceased was swimming across the pool in the manner described. When within a yard of the opposite side, deceased appeared to be sinking, and witness observing this called out to the two men who immediately undressed and swam to deceased's assistance; but just when they were about a yard from him he sank, and although they dived several times, and remained in the water about a quarter of an hour searching for the body, they could not recover it. Information was given to the police, and Acting-sergeant Orme, and Police-constables Bailey and Blewer arrived with the police drags, and about 9-30 succeeded in recovering the body.

The jury after hearing the evidence returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned when bathing. The jury also recommended that the pool should be filled up. The coroner gave it as his opinion, that those who made such excavations should be compelled to fill them up. In Blue Lane several parties – two being children of the same family – had been drowned. The deceased Stringer has left a wife – near her confinement – and several children to lament his untimely end.”

It was altered in 1870.

1871 Census

Caldmore

- [1] *Joseph Saddler* (30), victualler WHITE HART INN, born Bushbury;
- [2] Elizabeth Saddler (26), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Saddler (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] George Saddler (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Emily Saddler (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Ann Holman (54), aunt, widow, born Wednesbury;
- [7] Ellen Foxwell (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/10/1872

“*Joseph Sadler*, of the WHITE HART INN, Caldmore, was charged with selling intoxicating liquors after ten o’clock on the night of the 18th inst.

Police-constable Bradbury stated that at a quarter to eleven o’clock on the night in question he found three men in the brewhouse of the defendant’s house, and two glasses of rum and one of whisky on the table. The defendant told him that one of the men (Wilcox) had not had anything, and another (Hewitt) had just come by train from Dudley, and that he himself had been in the habit of giving a glass to the third (Brisst) every night after closing time, and would continue to do so. Hewitt, who lived close by, put down half a sovereign in his presence and for the landlady to take for the liquors.

Mr. Glover, who appeared for the defendant, called Mr. Hewitt (who stated that at the time the officer entered he had just returned from Dudley); and the defendant, who said that Brisst had been waiting on customers for him, and that both Brisst and himself had been treated by Hewitt. Defendant did not know this was wrong, Hewitt being a traveller.

The Bench believed the defendant had acted under a misapprehension, and imposed the minimum penalty, 20s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/9/1874

“Yesterday afternoon, Mr. A. A. Fletcher held an enquiry at the WHITE HART INN, Caldmore, Walsall, into the circumstances attending the death of Elizabeth *Sadler*, aged thirty-three, wife of *Joseph Sadler*, the keeper of the house.

Mary Ladbury, Stubber’s Green, Aldridge, sister-in-law to the deceased, deposed that on Tuesday evening she call to see her brother and his wife. Seeing that the latter did not look so well as usual, she said to her, ‘What’s the matter Bessy?’ The deceased replied, ‘Oh, trouble, trouble,’ but did not add any explanation, being called away, and witness did not again see her alive. Had never noticed any signs of insanity in deceased, but she was general very reserved. Had heard that her mother had destroyed herself. About ten minutes after deceased was called away, witness enquired where she was, and Mr. *Sadler*, sen., said, ‘Perhaps she has gone upstairs.’ Deceased’s husband was then told she was missing, and he left the brewhouse, where he was brewing at the time and ran upstairs, but came back saying the door was locked. Witness got him to go back upstairs with her. A man who was in the house followed them. She called out, ‘Open the door,’ but no one answered. Did not notice whether the key was inside, but there was no key outside the door. Deceased’s husband broke open the door, and his wife was found lying on the floor, in a great quantity of blood, a yard or two from the dressing-table as if she had fallen backwards. A large carving-knife lay on the table before the glass, in a pool of blood. (The knife was produced and the Coroner and the jury remarked that great force must have been used to inflict the wound on deceased’s throat, it being an extensive one, and the knife being anything but sharp.) Deceased’s husband appeared very distressed at the sight, and cried out, ‘Oh. She’s dead; I am too late.’ For anything that witness knew to the contrary, deceased and her husband had lived happily together. Had never heard her threaten to take her life; but had heard that on Thursday morning she made such a threat, and that in consequence her husband put his razors out of her way, and watched her himself during the day, in addition to setting a man to watch her.

Joseph Sadler, husband of the deceased, said he had never had reason to suppose that his wife would commit suicide; but from Saturday morning last she was very low-spirited and restless, but did her work as usual. They had lived happily together, especially during the last three or four months. On Tuesday morning she appeared very low, and he asked her what was the matter. She replied, ‘Trouble, trouble, trouble,’ and pointing to a basketful of dirty linen twice over, said that was her ruin. His belief was that she had at that time secreted in the basket the knife with which she destroyed herself. He pressed her to tell him what was the trouble was, but she said she had wronged him and his family, and brought him and his children to ruin, afterwards stating that she had run him into debt, there was £50 or £60 owing which he thought he had paid, and that she had lent and given away money, but she would not tell him to whom. There was no quarrel over the matter, nor was he angry with her. They had not a word for weeks, and on this occasion he spoke consolingly to her, trying to get her to calm herself and come to breakfast. He asked her if he had done anything which she had got on her mind, and she said, ‘No.’ She did not threaten suicide, but he watched her all day more carefully than usual, and finding that his razor had been taken out of the case, he took it away and hid it. During Tuesday she got into a room by herself frequently, and four times in the course of the day he fetched her from upstairs.

By a Juror: About three months ago, or more, she ran out of the house, and came into contact with a vehicle, and was hurt.

He had not on that occasion used violence to her, but she was in the habit of getting out of his way when he had had drink; and she did so then, because he spoke to her about taking drink herself.

Examination resumed: When he ran upstairs on Tuesday night the door was fastened on the inside.

The Coroner and jurors said he must be mistaken, as he would find, if he examined the door carefully.

He replied that he tried it both ways, and so did his sister, but neither of them could open it. His wife was drinking last week.

The Coroner said there were two other witnesses, but they would only confirm the evidence already given; and from the facts that had come out, it was clear that it was a case of suicide while suffering delirium tremens, the position of the body and the wound showing that the latter was self-inflicted.

Some of the jurors said it was notorious that the couple had not lived happily together, and wished evidence to the point; but, after a short consultation, a verdict of Suicide while in a state of Temporary Insanity was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1874

“The burial of Mrs. *Sadler*, who last week committed suicide under the circumstances already reported, took place on Saturday, and was made the occasion of an extraordinary popular demonstration of feeling, mainly directed against the husband of the deceased. Some hundreds of persons – men, women, and children – gathered round his house, the WHITE HART, Caldmore, most of them dwellers in the neighbourhood, and excitedly discussed the incidents of the married life of the hapless woman, the circumstances of the suicide, and the conduct of the inquest, in no friendly spirit towards any of those concerned, excepting the deceased herself. As to the enquiry, it was declared to have been incomplete, or worse, and the jury to have failed in their duty, inasmuch as they had not insisted on an adjournment for the production of further evidence. The coroner and the officers concerned in getting up the evidence came in for a good share of the vituperations so freely dispensed, and the cries and threats of violence towards the bereaved husband were of such a character that, acting upon advice, he judiciously refrained from following his wife’s remains to their last resting place. Finding that he did not take his place with the other mourners, the crowd rushed off to the cemetery by a short cut, not a few evidently expecting to find Mr. *Sadler* had proceeded there by another route than that taken by the funeral cortege; but on ascertaining that such was not the case, many of the men left at once, some openly and audibly regretting that. After all, there was to be ‘no fun.’ The women remained in crowds, and into every willing ear vindicated her character from reproach. The burial service was read by the Rev. W. Allen, vicar, who afterwards addressed a few words of advice to the assembled throng. He referred to that account of the deceased’s death as unmistakably showing the deceitfulness of sin, and the danger of people being led into great sins if they gave way to little things. If, therefore, any of them were given to drink, he begged them to abandon it at once. The reference to drink being evidently regarded as a reflection upon the deceased, it elicited a murmur of remonstrance from many of the women. Two of the deceased’s female relatives walked behind the hearse containing the coffin, and after them came the mourning coach containing her husband’s father, and some of her children. A wreath of flowers lay on the coffin.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/4/1875

“The license of the WHITE HART INN, Caldmore, was transferred from *James [sic] Sadler*, deceased, to his father, *John Sadler*.”

1881 Census

56, Caldmore – WHITE HART

- [1] *Sarah Sadler* (62), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Joseph Sadler (16), grandson, bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [3] George Sadler (14), grandson, bit filer, born Walsall;
- [4] Emily Sadler (12), granddaughter, born Walsall:

Evening Express 14/6/1881

“Walsall Town Council It was resolved to purchase a strip of land to widen the road at Caldmore in front of the WHITE HART at a price lately offered for the whole strip. The Mayor stated that to carry out this street improvement the cost would not amount to more than £190.....”

The interior was altered in 1884.

Stanley Wildridge = Standley Wildridge = Stanly Wildridge

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses.....

Mr. Cotterell applied on behalf of *Stanley Wildridge*, the WHITE HART, Caldmore.... Granted on Tuesday evenings and every alternate Monday evening.”

1891 Census

30, Caldmore Road – WHITE HART

- [1] *Stanly Wildridge* (40), manager WHITE HART, born Workington;
- [2] Margaret Ann Wildridge (36), wife, manageress, born Manchester;
- [3] Stanley Wildridge (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Florence Wildridge (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Thomas Tolebar (26), barman, born Darlaston;
- [6] Frederick Williams (21), barman, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] Lucy Gregory (20), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 5/11/1892

“A.C.F Court ‘Earl of Warwick’, No.5922.

A smoking concert was held at the Club House, WHITE HART INN, Caldmore, on Monday last, in connection with the above Court, in aid of the Benevolent Fund, and to assist several distressed members of the Court. Upwards of 70 members and friends

attended. Mr. C. Braid D.C.R., was voted to the chair; and Mr. Griffiths to the vice-chair. The chairman in the course of his remarks dwelt on the financial state of the Club, and urged those present who were not already in the club to join this one, and to induce others to do so, so that they might be prepared for the rainy day, which must inevitably come sooner or later. Songs were rendered by Messrs. Timmins, Poole, Kendrick, Mason, Walters, O'Neil, and Bentley; and recitation from Mr. Frakes. The healths of the Chairman, Vice-chairman, and the host and hostess being drunk with musical honours, brought a most enjoyable evening to a close."

Walsall Advertiser 21/1/1893

"At a meeting of the Queen Elizabeth Lodge of the R.A.O.B. at the OLD WHITE HART, Caldmore, last evening, Primo C. Taylor, S.P., presiding, Mr. Frank James and other gentlemen were initiated as members of the Order, and delivered addresses in acknowledgement. Several members of the Order enlivened the evening with songs, glees, etc, and a most enjoyable evening was spent."

Walsall Advertiser 26/5/1894 - In Memoriam

"In affectionate remembrance of *Stanley*, the beloved husband of Mrs. Annie *Wildridge*, OLD WHITE HART, Caldmore, Walsall, who fell asleep May 29th, 1893.

Oh for the touch of a vanished hand, the sound of a voice that is still."

Walsall Advertiser 15/9/1894

"On Wednesday a most enjoyable evening was spent at the WHITE HART, Caldmore, by members of the Caldmore Liberal Unionist Committee, who met for the purpose of electing officers for the ward for the ensuing year....."

Walsall Advertiser 2/2/1895

"In support of the charge of permitting drunkenness on licensed premises brought against Mrs. *Wildridge*, of the WHITE HART, Caldmore, Sergeant Ballance swore that on Sunday evening at 10.30 he saw Wilkins, the barman, put out a man named Meeson in a drunken state; while in defence the barman was equally certain that he did no such thing, but that Meeson went out about ten o'clock and, because of a fainting fit – to shew that he suffered from which complainant evidence was given – sat down on a bench in the porch of the public-house until 10.30, when Wilkins, happening to come outside carried him to the door, and put him on his road home. The Bench accepted this explanation and dismissed the case."

Walsall Advertiser 31/8/1895

"The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held yesterday at the Guildhall.....

The following is a return of licensees who have been proceeded against during the year ending August 30th, 1895.....

Margaret Wildridge, WHITE HART INN, Caldmore, for having permitted drunkenness on February 1st, dismissed."

Walsall Advertiser 26/10/1895

"An inquest was held by Mr. T. H. Stanley (coroner for the borough), on Monday afternoon at the OLD WHITE HART, Caldmore, respecting the death of Philip Davies, 33, Bescot Street, a painter in the employ of the London and North Western Railway Company, which took place very suddenly on Friday midnight.

Louisa Davis (wife of deceased), who identified the body, appeared very dejected. Amid sobs, she stated that her husband had not suffered from any complaint except colds. On Friday evening he came home from work just before six, and stayed indoors until a quarter to eleven, when he went out for some beer. They retired to bed at twenty minutes to twelve, and before being in bed five minutes he was suddenly taken ill, and appeared to be choking, his throat rattling very badly. She unfastened his shirt and rubbed him and then he went downstairs, and she gave him some whisky. She sent for a neighbour named Mrs. Adshead, but before she had been in the house many seconds he had expired, only having twice muttered that he was dying. He was not insured.

Agnes Adshead, out-door beerhouse, 24, Bescot Street, said the deceased came to her shop late on Friday night for half-a-pint of 'fours' and a cabbage. He told her that he never felt his chest so bad as it was that night. Mrs. Adshead corroborated the remarks of the former witness as to her being fetched, and the suddenness with which deceased died.

Dr. Shore deposed to having attended the deceased on and off for the last three years, during which time he suffered from colds and coughs. Once he had a very bad turn of colic. A fortnight on Saturday he came to his surgery suffering from a severe cold. He complained that his breathing was short, and that the cold foggy mornings affected his chest. Witness was called in at 10.30 on Saturday morning, and on making an external examination of the body he could find no marks of violence. The face was pale, and froth was round the mouth. The pose of the face was perfectly natural. The condition of the body signified that death had been very quick, there apparently having been an absence of pain. He considered that death was due to failure of the heart's action or syncope, most probably owing to the change of weather, and the deceased being compelled to turn out early in the morning. He had not the slightest doubt that death was due to Natural Causes, and a verdict to that effect was accordingly returned by the jury."

Walsall Advertiser 6/6/1896

"Rudolph Whitehouse, barman at the WHITE HART INN, Caldmore, was summoned for having drawn a horse and cart over the footpath near the WHITE HART, public-house. Police-constable 48 (Keay) proved the case, which was however dismissed with a caution."

Walsall Advertiser 25/7/1896

"R.A.O.B. 'Queen Elizabeth Lodge'.

The eleventh anniversary dinner in connection with the above lodge took place at the OLD WHITE HART HOTEL, Caldmore, yesterday week, when between 50 and 60 members and friends sat down to a substantial meal, ably provided by Host Mr. *W. Taylor* (late of West Bromwich). On the removal of the cloths Grand Primo James Osbourne presided, and the Deputy Grand Primo occupied the vice-chair.....”

Walsall Advertiser 15/4/1899

“On Tuesday afternoon an inquest was held at the WHITE HART INN, Caldmore, before Mr. T. H. Stanley (Borough Coroner) touching the death of Robert Shenton, 98 years of age, who lived at the Henry Boys Almshouses, Wednesbury Road. Deceased, who had followed the occupation of a harness maker, was left in the house on Saturday, March 11th, when he had a fall, and was afterwards confined to his bed. It was supposed that deceased fell backwards whilst washing himself. He was attended by Dr. McKinstry until his death on April 8th. The medical evidence showed that deceased suffered from a bruised back and shock. The Coroner stated that it was very rare that an inquest was held on an old man of 98, but as the death was reported to him as having been caused by an accident, he had no other alternative than to order an inquest to be held. He was required to do this by law. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Margaret Bladen, WHITE HART, served 60 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views..... On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

1901 Census

Caldmore – WHITE HART INN

- [1] *Thompson W. Taylor* (56), manager of public house, born Hull;
- [2] *Marguerita T. Taylor* (42), wife, manageress of public house, born Marchwiel, Denbighshire;
- [3] *Elsie M. Taylor* (13), daughter, born Manchester;
- [4] *Olive M. Taylor* (11), daughter, born Manchester;
- [5] *Margaret Bladen* (77), mother in law, retired innkeeper, born Grantham, Lincolnshire;
- [6] *Sarah A. Minchin* (15), visitor, born Manchester;
- [7] *Rachel Dodsworth* (45), widow, domestic servant, born Wednesbury;
- [8] *Alfred Cooke* (24), barman, born Farewell, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 10/1/1903

“Today was the adjourned transfer day. Transfers of full licenses were granted in the case of.....

WHITE HART, Caldmore, *Margaretta Theodora Taylor* (representative of *Margaret Blaydon*) to *Margaretta Theodora Taylor*.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/3/1903

“Walsall Imperial Cycling Club.

The first day of spring is welcomed by many, and it was especially so this year by the members of the above club, as they had chosen last Saturday for the opening of their first season. This club, which is an entirely new one, has upwards of forty members enrolled, and of these a good number participated in the opening run from the headquarters, YE OLDE WHITE HART, Caldmore. A slow ride has been decided upon, and the place selected was that favourite country village, Little Hay. About 3 o'clock the members assembled at headquarters, and when shortly afterwards Captain James gave the signal to mount machines, 26 obeyed the call, among whom were five motor cyclists, which clearly shows that this type of machine is gaining favour with wheelmen. As my readers are aware, the day was an ideal one for the cyclist, and to make the ride more enjoyable we found the roads in splendid condition. The country is always very bare at this time of year, but it not so dead as some suppose, for the hawthorns are in full leaf in many places, while the furze bushes with their golden bloom looked quite summer-like. We went by the direct route, and our destination was reached just after four o'clock, but not before two of our number had been unfortunate to get their tyres punctured and a third thrown into a hedge, without any serious injury. Machines having been stabled at the Holly Bush, we allowed ourselves to be photographed by one of the members. This function being over, the football fraternity adjourned to a neighbouring field to play a match which had been arranged with the Walsall Social Cycling Club. The game, which ended in a draw of two goals each, was spoilt by the wind, and although being devoid of science, caused plenty of amusement for the spectators. After a short rest we went indoors and sat down to a capital tea which Mrs. Gladman, the hostess, had provided. Then the members strolled about the place until 7 o'clock, when our captain gave the order for re-mounting. The homewards journey lay through Shenstone Park and Lichfield Road, headquarters being reached about 9.30. Some members experienced great difficulty with their lamps owing to the wind being so strong, but everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and considered they had had a good day. We shall be out again this afternoon, weather permitting, and our doings will be dealt with next week by the Imperialist.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/11/1904

“Walsall Harriers..... To-days fixture is a slow run from YE OLDE WHITE HART, Caldmore Green, at 3.30pm.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/9/1905

“Imperial Cycling Club. A novel and enjoyable trip of the season was that arranged by Mr. J. W. Lazenby, L&NW agent, Park Street, for the above club, a few days ago. The party, some 30 strong, left their headquarters, the WHITE HART HOTEL, Caldmore, Walsall, at 9.15am in a large and well-appointed motor, travelled by way of Wolverhampton, Stourbridge, Kidderminster, and Ombersly, to the Holt Fleet Hotel, where a substantial dinner was in readiness. Dinner over, the party left for home via Worcester and Droitwich, making a short stay at the latter place for tea. The homeward journey was via Bromsgrove, Smethwick, and West Bromwich, arriving back at their club home at 8.30pm, after an excellent, pleasant, and most enjoyable outing. The scenery en route was much enjoyed, the clusters of apples, damsons, &c, as seen from the roadside being much admired, and altogether the facilities for such an extensive run, and the favourable weather, were much appreciated.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/6/1906

“The quarterly meeting of the Walsall and District Friendly Societies’ Council was held at the DOLPHIN HOTEL, George Street on Thursday evening.....

It was decided to adjourn the discussion as to what steps to take to improve the attendance at the court and lodge meetings to a special meeting to be held at the WHITE HART, Caldmore, on August 22nd, Bro. Bridgewater who should have opened the discussion, stating his inability to place his views before them in the short time at his disposal.

The MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, was the place selected for the next quarterly meeting.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/7/1906

“Town CouncilThe Street Committee The following plans have been approved: Manchester Brewery Co., additions to the premises, the WHITE HART, Caldmore.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/3/1907

“The quarterly meeting of the Walsall and District Friendly Societies Council was held at the OLD WHITE HART, Caldmore, on Thursday.....

Mr. Bridgewater moved that a clause in the minutes referring to the change of headquarters from the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street be rescinded. The clause proposed under a misapprehension that there was no lodge meeting at the house subscribing to their society. He represented the Bescot Bridge District Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows, which met there and they did subscribe to their society.

Mr. Warner seconded.

Mr. Sankey said that Mr. Bridgewater was present when the resolution was proposed and he should like to know why he did not object at that time.

The President said Mr. Bridgewater was perfectly in order bringing the matter forward.

The resolution was eventually carried.

The DOLPHIN HOTEL was appointed as the headquarters of the society for the ensuing twelve months.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/9/1907

“At Rushall Church, a ceremony of much local interest took place on Wednesday, when Mr. John Wright, of Bombay, was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Florence Bates, daughter of Mr. Geo. Thompson of Walsall. The bride was given away by her father, and Mr. *Fred Davey* acted as best man. The wedding breakfast took place at the WHITE HART, Caldmore, and subsequently a reception was held. The catering was admirably conducted by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Fred Davey*). The presents were numerous. The happy couple shortly leave for India.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/9/1908

“There was a very crowded assembly in the club room of the OLD KINGS ARMS, Caldmore, on Tuesday evening, when a smoking concert took place, and presentations were made to Mr. and Mrs. F. *Davey*, recently host and hostess of the OLD WHITE HART, Caldmore, on their removal to take over an important position at Lancaster. Councillor E. Shelley occupied the chair, and was supported by Councillor J. N. Cotterell, Dr. Riordan, &c. An excellent musical programme was rendered during the evening, and practical expressions of appreciation were tendered by Mr. and Mrs. *Davey*. Dr. Riordan presented them a beautifully illuminated address, the work of Mr. W. A. Dunham, the text of which was as under.

To Mr. and Mrs. *Davey*.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. *Davey*. On behalf of your numerous friends and well-wishers, we beg your acceptance of this address of our affection and esteem. We have felt that we could not let you depart Walsall without expressing in some tangible form the high respect we feel for you, and our sincere appreciation of your geniality and hospitality as host and hostess while at YE OLDE WHITE HARTE. You may rest confidently assured that you take with you our united wishes for your future health and prosperity. Signed on behalf of the subscribers, James Neville (chairman), William Dukes, Wm. Boulter, John Neville, Samuel E. Hodgkins, Geo. Hilton, W. J. Rattenbury, W. Henry Swift (secretary).

Dr. Riordan also presented Mrs *Davey* a gold brooch, and also on behalf of Mrs. Dukes, a bouquet. Councillor, on behalf of the Imperial Cycling Club, presented to Mr. *Davey*, a finely framed photograph of the members, and another presentation was made by Mr. Rattenbury on behalf of the Caledonian Corks.

Mr. *Davey* suitably acknowledged the kind things said of his wife and himself.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/10/1908 - Advert

“YE OLDE WHITE HARTE, Caldmore.

William Slater (for some years of the NEW STATION HOTEL, Park Street), has taken over the above Ancient Rendezvous. Everything of the best.

Allsopp's Stout, Allsopp's Lager.

All the Noted Brands of Wines, Brandies and Whiskies.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1909

“An application was made for the temporary transfer of the license of the OLD WHITE HART, Caldmore Green, from *Wm. Slater* to *John Hanman*, of Birmingham. Mr. H. H. Jackson stated that it would be only be temporary until they got someone else, as Mr. *Slater* was going to America.”

1911 Census

2, Corporation Street – OLD WHITE HART

[1] *John Thomas Hawkins* (46), hotel manager, born Wednesbury;

[2] *Harriet Emma Hawkins* (45), wife, married 23 years, assisting in the business, born Walsall;

[3] *Rose Hawkins* (20), daughter, dressmaker, born Ocker Hill;

[4] *Gerty Harriet Hawkins* (17), daughter, assisting in the business, born Walsall;

[5] *Richard Elias Hawkins* (13), son, born Walsall;

[6] *Samuel Barnes* (28), barman, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 16/9/1911

“Walsall Harriers. The above club will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, September 20th, at 8 o'clock, at the OLD WHITE HARTE, Caldmore. The business of the meeting is to select officials for the coming cross-country season.....”

Walsall Advertiser 23/9/1911

“At the general meeting of the Harriers Club it was unanimously agreed that the headquarters of the club should be removed from the WHITE HART, Caldmore, to the LITTLETON ARMS, Hatherton Street, of which Mr. George James is the host. Mr. James has been connected with several branches of sport a good many years. He is vice-president of the Walsall Football Club, and takes a big interest in cycling and shooting, and it is thought from all points of view that the club have done the right at last in coming back to the district where it made its name. The only thing wanting to make the club what it had been in past years is a little support from the sporting public of the town. The following officials were elected for the coming season: Captain, H. Blower; vice-captain, H. Lawton; treasurer, S. Dyde; hon. secretary, G. L. Lamb. The opening run will take place on September 30th and all novices will be heartily welcomed.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/11/1911

“The fifty-ninth annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last.....

New members..... Mr. *George F. Hands*, WHITE HART HOTEL, Caldmore.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1913

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the borough were held at the Guildhall on Monday.....

The Chairman asked how it was that there had been six transfers of the license of the WHITE HART, Caldmore, within a short period.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, who appeared in the case, said he could not give all the reasons, but he could tell them that the present manager was receiving £5 a week. He thought one reason was that the ownership of the house had changed hands, but if he had had notice he would have secured the information for the Justices.

Alderman Sir E. T. Holden: We have asked for it before. – Mr. Jackson: In future I will endeavour to get that information.”

Walsall Observer 31/1/1914

“National Union Of Railwaymen.

The following resolution was carried at the Walsall Branch meeting, held at the WHITE HART HOTEL, Caldmore. The number of members being present was 31, and the voting was: Fifteen for, four against, rest neutral. Resolution: ‘That this meeting calls upon the Prime Minister immediately to redeem his pledges by introducing a comprehensive Franchise Reform Bill; it further demands the inclusion of women in this measure, and calls upon the Parliamentary Labour party and all other true democrats in the House of Commons to vote against the Bill if women are excluded’.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/2/1914

“The Walsall and District Cage Bird Society held their third annual show at the WHITE HART HOTEL, Caldmore, on Saturday afternoon. There was a gratifying attendance of visitors, and the show was the best the society has had. Nearly all the classes were well filled, and many class winners were staged. Mr. Tonks of Wednesbury, a new member of the society took six first prizes with his well-known team of British birds. Another new member, Mr. G. C. Burton, staged some very nice exhibits that will make a name for themselves next show season, and the mealy red pole, owned by Mr. Hampton, was acknowledged by many to be the

best field-moulted specimen seen for some time. Mr. Weaver of Wolverhampton, was the judge, and his awards were received with satisfaction.....”

Walsall Observer 18/7/1914

“From East to West, by Cycle in Quest of Trade by J. H. Sleigh, in Saddlery & Harness.....

Legend has it that Queen Elizabeth ‘rested’ in the town at the OLD WHITE HART, Caldmore, at that time a mansion of no mean account in the possession of the Hawe family.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/9/1914

“Harry Longmore, of Port Street, was summoned for having been drunk on licensed premises of the WHITE HARTE, Caldmore, on Sept, 12th. Mr. H. H. Jackson watched the case on behalf of the licensee.

Police-constable Fisher said that at 9-10pm on Sep. 12th he was on duty at Caldmore Green when he saw defendant ejected from the WHITE HART by the landlord. He went round to the front entrance and attempted to enter the vaults. Witness informed the landlord, who again ejected defendant. The landlord said he was drunk when he came in, and he refused to serve him. Defendant was fined 5s and costs.

Mr. Jackson said that on behalf of the licensee he wished to thank the police for giving him warning. On busy nights it might be easy for an intoxicated man to enter licensed premises and not be discovered until something happened. The officer had acted very properly.”

Walsall Observer 7/11/1914 - Advert

“Bird Show, WHITE HARTE HOTEL, Caldmore, Saturday, November 14th. Admission 3d.”

Walsall Observer 23/1/1915

“Caldmore by W.P.

I stood on the Green at Caldmore, and I wondered how many years had passed since Tully’s garden was there. I turned round and gazed at the WHITE HART, the glory of Caldmore. It had been altered somewhat since the days of my childhood, but the old pear tree still flourishes on its southern front. Years ago my taste of its fruit was good, though I can’t remember that I ever had any of it given to me.

There seems to be no reliable evidence attached to the WHITE HART. Originally it may have been a mansion of the Tudor Period. In my time, its stables and outbuildings reached a long way down Corporation Street. People scoff at the idea it once sheltered Queen Elizabeth, but at the side of it is ‘Queen Elizabeth’s Passage.’ If the habits of the ladies at that time were as they are now, the side entrance of a hostelry would be a natural way for a lady to enter.

In my childhood, they often frightened me to sleep with a ghost story about the WHITE HART. Once every year, in the upper parts of the building, might be seen a phosphorescent ghostly head; in various other places would appear a ghostly leg, and arm, or a trunk of a body. It appears the heir to the property was murdered, the corpse dismembered, and hidden piecemeal among the rafters. Thus every year these different parts went wandering about to discover the other parts, so as to join themselves together to make a whole and united ghost. To stop these annual pranks, a search was made among the rafters, when a withered skull and arm were found. They were buried in consecrated ground, and the different ghostly parts were never seen flitting about in their vain search afterwards. After the skull was buried, there was no brain in the other parts to guide them in their quest.

The land in Caldmore is freehold; thus probably, no family of note lived at the WHITE HART.....”

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1915 - Advert

“Wanted Youth, as Bar-Potman.

Apply, WHITE HART, Caldmore.”

Walsall Observer 11/9/1915 - Local Soldiers

“Two local soldiers known to have been aboard the Royal Edward troopship when she was torpedoed by a German submarine in the Aegean Sea are Sergeant William *Loynes*, whose parents are licensees of the WHITE HART INN, Caldmore, and Private John Turner, formerly of Coalpool. Both had miraculous escapes, and were in the water some hours before being picked up.

Sergeant *Loynes* is only eighteen years old, and the son of Mr. *J. Loynes*, a member of the Committee of the Walsall Football Club, who is also licensee of the WHITE HART INN, Caldmore Green. As a boy he attended Wisemore School, but was more particularly associated with the Pleck District, where his parents held the license at the ROYAL OAK, Oxford Street. When war broke out he was engaged as a barman in London, and shortly after enlisted in the Hampshire Regiment. It was not long before he had proved his capability, and by Christmas time had attained the rank of Sergeant and was acting as a gymnastic instructor with Kitchener’s Army at Aldershot. He is now in a rest camp at Alexandria in Egypt.

‘It was a sight I never wish to see again,’ he says in a letter home, referring to the Royal Edward disaster. ‘I happened to be very lucky, and was picked up by a hospital ship after being in the water from 9.20am till 2 o’clock.’ Several of his pals, he says, lost their lives, while he also mentions that among the crew of the hospital ship was a man he knew. The latter has since written to Mr. and Mrs. *Loynes* assuring them that their son looked none the worse for his trying experience.

Private John Turner is twenty years of age, and attended Butts Scholl as a boy. The family formerly had charge of the Coalpool pleasure grounds, but afterwards removed to St. Helen’s, where Private Turner was working as a miner when he joined the West Lancashire Field Ambulance shortly after the outbreak of war. Knowing that he was aboard the Royal Edward, relatives spent a very anxious time waiting for news, and were overjoyed when they learned that he had been saved.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/11/1915

“Walsall and District Hospital.

On behalf of the Committee, the secretary of the Hospital acknowledges, with many thanks, the receipt of the following gifts for the wounded soldiers at present in the Hospital: Donations for ‘extra comforts’.....

£10. Mrs. *Loynes*, proceeds of jumble sale and concert at the WHITE HART, Caldmore.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid C – see also committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WHITE HARTE HOTEL, Caldmore. £2 10s 4½d.”

Walsall Observer 21/9/1918 - Roll of Honour

“Lance-corporal Albert *Loynes*, whose home was with his parents at the WHITE HART, Caldmore, is in a base hospital in France having been shot through the foot while in action with the King’s Liverpool Regiment. His progress is regarded as satisfactory. A single man, 19 years of age, he had been in France nine months, having joined the Colours 15 months ago. Two brothers are serving; one, who had been wounded, is in London, and the other is in Palestine.”

Joseph Loynes – see also ROYAL OAK.

Walsall Observer 19/1/1924

“When *Charles Cashmore*, licensee of the WHITE HART HOTEL, Caldmore, applied at the Walsall Police Court, on Tuesday, for a license for a smoking concert to be held there that night, the Chief Constable (Mr. G. H. Ballance) raised an objection on the ground that the customary 24 hours notice had not been given to the Magistrates’ Clerk and himself.

Cashmore explained that he was organising the concert himself on behalf of the Hospital and estimated that the institution would benefit by about 37s 6d.

Asked by the presiding magistrate (Mr. T. A. Smith) what he himself would get out of it, the landlord replied, ‘Nothing’; and added that no drinks would be served in the concert room.

The magistrates, after some hesitation, granted the application on condition that no drink would be served in the room, and intimated that in future no such application would be granted unless the necessary notice was given.”

Lichfield Mercury 17/4/1925

“Royal Visits To Staffordshire.

In 1643 King Charles was at Tutbury, and in the same year, according to Grew, in his History of Walsall, Queen Henrietta Maria honoured that town with a visit, and it is said to have stayed at a house now and for many years known as the WHITE HART, Caldmore.....”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 28/11/1925

“Members of the Wednesbury and District Provincial Lodge of the R.A.O.B. (G.L.E.) performed the consecration and opening ceremony of a new Lodge – Queen Elizabeth – at the WHITE HARTE HOTEL, Caldmore, Walsall, on Tuesday evening. Bro. D. Freeman, G.P., presided, and the ceremony was performed by Bros. Williams, K.O.M., E. Smith C.P., and *Loynes*. Bro. B. Purcell was elected C.P., and the duties of secretary were undertaken by Bro. E. Smith, C.P.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/9/1930

“The Free Library and Art Gallery Committee have sent a letter of thanks to Mr. W. B. Shaw for his gift of the original old oak door of the WHITE HART, Caldmore, which was removed on the reconstruction of the house some 20 years ago.”

Walsall Observer 21/10/1939

“‘Surely the job of A.R.P. wardens is to see that lights are obscured and not to get convictions,’ urged Dr. G. G. Layton (magistrate), during the hearing of several cases of alleged breaches of the lighting restrictions heard at Walsall Police Court on Wednesday. The defendant was *C. H. Hadley*, licensee of the WHITE HART, Caldmore Green.

‘We are not concerned as a Bench,’ declared Dr. Layton, ‘solely with registering convictions and fining people. It is the business of any citizen, if he sees an unobscured light, to take what steps he can to have the light put out. The primary job of the wardens is to see that there are no lights about.’

Mr. *Hadley* was fined 10s, with 19s 6d costs.”

1939 Register

Caldmore – WHITE HARTE Public House

[1] *Charles H. Hadley*, date of birth 29/12/1894, licensee, married;

[2] *Ida Hadley*, dob 5/1/1895, licensee, married;

[3] *Harry Hadley*, dob 6/10/1916, butcher, single;

[5] *William Arthur Hadley*, dob 5/4/1930, at school, single;

[6] *Ester Fish*, dob 17/8/1915, bar general, single:

Charles Henry Hadley – see also GREEN DRAGON.

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

WHITE HART, Caldmore Green, £5 8s 4d.”

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Personal

“The engagement is announced between Eric F. Heath, son of Mr. and Mrs. Heath, Seeds Lane, Brownhills, and Queenie Eileen, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *G. Humphries*, WHITE HART INN, Caldmore, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Humphries*, the WHITE HART, Caldmore. £2 17s 3d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WHITE HART HOTEL, Caldmore. £2 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 7/8/1943 - Births

“On Aug. 4, 1943, at the WHITE HART, Caldmore, Walsall, to Kathleen (nee *Humphries*), wife of Ernest Hancox, a son (Colin Peter).”

George Humphries – see also ROYAL OAK.

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WHITE HART, Caldmore. £1 6s 6d.”

Birmingham Mail 28/7/1944 - Advert

“Piano John Broadwood for quick sale take £50 a real bargain.

WHITE HART, Caldmore, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 11/11/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society held a meeting on Thursday last at the WHITE HART, Caldmore.....”

Edwin Jones – see also BRADFORD ARMS.

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/12/1946

“WHITE HART, Caldmore, Walsall. Formerly used as a manor house, it was probably built by George Hawe, a member of the Solihull family. In Plot’s History of Staffordshire we read of a pear tree here which blossomed despite frost and snow. Queen Henrietta visited the house in 1643, which did not become an inn until more recent times.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/12/1952

“Staffordshire’s youngest ghost is rather a pathetic one – a little boy whose mummified hand was found in a chimney when alterations were being made some fifty years ago in the historic WHITE HART INN at Caldmore, Walsall.

George Hawe, who was granted the manor of Walsall by King Henry VIII, founded the OLD WHITE HART in 1543, and two royal visitors have stayed there, Queen Elizabeth and in 1643, Queen Henrietta Maria.

An underground passage, now bricked up, used to give a way of escape from the inn to nearby St. Matthew, and the top floor of the inn, where the ghost usually manifests itself, remains exactly the same as it was when first built. It consists of one enormous room running the whole length of the building, and is crossed at waist level by heavy oak beams festooned with cobwebs.

The present manager of the inn, Mr. *J. T. Moran* has lived on the premises for only a little over a year, but he has often heard strange, unaccountable bangs and scream, while his dog sometimes howls like a damned soul. The wife of a former manager also heard footsteps, and once she went down – appropriately enough – to the spirit cellar – she thought she felt a disembodied hand touch her shoulder. She was so affected that her health broke down and she had to leave the inn. Some years ago two mediums came to investigate, and claim to have spoken to the spirit. While they were addressing it the former manager saw a grey, opalescent shape floating across the room and out through the window.

The little ghost of the WHITE HART does not confine itself entirely to the inn. Sometimes, it is said, he walks at midnight on Caldmore Green and when he is seen there the people living nearby know that they will see many.”

Jack Moran married Hilda Blakeway.

She committed suicide by drowning in the canal in 1955.

James Platt – see also WELCOME STRANGER, STATION.

Derrick Neil Renton was fined £5 and £10 10s 0d advocates fee for suffering gaming, and £3 on each of four cases of selling intoxicating liquor to persons under 18, on 26th July 1963.

Walsall Observer 2/8/1963

“When two police officers visited a Walsall public house on a routine check they found seven youths, four under the age of 18, drinking beer and playing pontoon, it was stated at Walsall Magistrates Court on Friday. *Derek Renton* (42), licensee of the WHITE HART public house, Caldmore Green, who pleaded not guilty to allowing gaming to be carried on at his premises and to four charges of serving intoxicating drinks to persons under the age of 18, was fined a total of £17 and ordered to pay an advocate’s fee of 10gns.

Mr. W. F. Stretton, prosecuting, said that when the officers asked *Renton* about the card game he said that he had given the youths cards and a cribbage board, but did not know they were playing pontoon. Mr. Stretton said, ‘A licensee is expected to control what goes on in his house.’

Police Sergeant W. Davies said it was quite obvious to him that the youths were playing pontoon. When he saw *Renton* on May 17 and asked him about the game the youths were playing, he was told, ‘To tell you the truth I never really bothered about what they were playing.’ *Renton* also told him that the youths were regular customers of his house and he thought they were all over 18.

Inspector C. Dickens, questioned by Mr. J. R. R. Benton, defending, said he thought that the youths looked under age. Mr. Benton said *Renton* was in sole charge of four bars and the outdoor department. ‘What he failed to do was to keep an eye on a game in a corner of a room during a quarter of an hour,’ he said. If he wanted to he could have warned the youths as the officers moved from one bar to another.

Three of the youths pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting *Renton* to allow gaming on his premises. Fined £1 with 10s costs they were, Melvin Clarke (18), of 156 Dale Street, Walsall; Raymond Carless (19), of 164 Milton Street, Walsall; and Robin Stevenson (18), of 15 Thelma Street, Walsall.

The others pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting gaming and buying intoxicants while under the age of 18. They were, James Wakeman (17), of 18 Spout Lane, Walsall; John Giles (17), of 20 Westbury Road, Wednesbury; and David Lunn (17), of the SPRING HEAD TAVERN, Walsall Road, Darlaston. They were fined a total of £3 and 10s costs each.”

Abraham Tapper – see also COALPORT TAVERN.

www.blackcountryhistory.org

“The Hand of Glory

The WHITE HART in Caldmore is one of Walsall’s most historic public houses. Originally a private residence, the building dates from the second half of the 17th century and was probably built by George Hawe, who is known to have made improvements to his family estate in Caldmore. The site was previously occupied by a timber-framed house and, apparently, these timbers were re-used in the new building. The inn was renovated in the 1870s, and workmen discovered a human child’s arm hidden in an attic chimney. They thought it was a ‘Hand of Glory’, that is, a hand cut from a hanged felon and dried in a prescribed manner. Either by lighting the fingers themselves, or using the hand as a candle holder, the Hand was supposed to stupefy any person seeing it, thus enabling a burglar to ransack a house without being caught. It was generally believed that the flames could not be blown out by any ordinary person and that milk was the only liquid able to extinguish the candle. Tests show that the arm is a medical specimen. In 1965 a pathologist’s report was obtained from Birmingham University Medical School, which states that it is the arm of an infant which has been skilfully dissected by a surgeon and injected with formalin to preserve it. It certainly does not date from when the house was first built.”

[© Wolverhampton Arts and Museums Service, www.blackcountryhistory.org]

‘The Folklore of the Black Country’ by Roy Palmer (2007)

“....The rumour circulated that the arm came from a young girl who killed herself in the mid-nineteenth century in the WHITE HART, then haunted the place. In 1950 the landlord found the print of a tiny hand in the dust on a table in a locked attic of which only he had the key. From the same room he heard the sound of disembodied footsteps. Since 1965 the arm has been in Walsall Museum, and it seems that the strange happenings at the WHITE HART have come to an end.”

It was damaged by fire in 1986, causing its closure.

Black Country Bugle 22/6/2000

‘The White Hart Inn and its Grisly Past’ by A. F. Cooper

“The WHITE HART INN served as a public house to the local community from 1818, until seriously damaged by fire in 1986. For a number of years, the inn stood empty and derelict In 1991, a group of local residents decided to get together, and endeavour to do something to preserve the building for future posterity An agreement was finally reached and work began on the refurbishment of the inn; being finally completed in 1995 at a cost of £425,000.....”

[It was renovated, but is no longer a pub.]

Halesowen News 10/11/2022

“A former Walsall pub, now converted into flats, will go under the hammer at auction. The Grade II listed WHITE HART, in

Caldmore Green, is being offered with a guide price of more than £385,000 in Bond Wolfe's auction on December 14. It was converted into eight flats in the mid-1990s and it is currently empty and considered suitable for redevelopment. Gurpreet Bassi, chief executive of Bond Wolfe, said, 'This is a building steeped in local folklore; an attractive and historic structure originally built as a home in the late 17th Century, later converted into a pub and then redeveloped as apartments in the 1990s. It is now in need of refurbishment, with development potential once the necessary planning permissions are secured. It is sure to attract competitive bidding from developers and property investors from across the UK and overseas in our December sale.' The property was originally the site of a timber-framed house owned in the 17th Century by the family of George Hawe, who had moved from Solihull to Walsall and became mayor in 1588. The currently building was built in the second half of the 17th Century, with timbers from the original house used in the new roof. By 1818 the former family home was now a pub, the WHITE HART, with one *Henry Carter* as licensee. It underwent major renovation in 1884, becoming the building that stands on the site today. It was converted to homes in 1994. It occupies a triangular-shaped plot of land on the corner of Caldmore Green and Corporation Street. The WHITE HART is among scores of properties due to appear in the auction which is due to start at 9am. It will be livestreamed via Bond Wolfe's website with remote bidding by proxy, telephone or internet."

WHITE HART

23, (13), (Lower) Walhouse Road (Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Nicholas Roper, 16, Lichfield Street, Walsall
Samuel Robertson, MOILLIETT ARMS, Smethwick
William Charles Arthur
Polly Arthur
Polly Stokes
Showells Brewery [1904]
A. W. Greatrex
Eliza Lowe
Arthur Beebee [1910]

LICENSEES

Samuel Falconbridge [1851] – [1858]
William Charles Arthur [1860] – [1885];
George Smith [1872]?
Mrs. Polly (Arthur) Stokes [1887] – **1893**;
Francis Stokes (**1893**);
George Mann (**1893**);
Edward John Wilkins (**1893 – 1899**);
Mrs. Sarah Wilkins (**1899 – 1903**);
Charles William Mitchell (**1903 – 1904**);
Joseph Hughes (**1904**) temporary transfer
Henry Smallwood (**1904 – 1905**);
John Lawton (**1905 – 1906**);
Frederick Ernest Marlow (**1906 – 1907**);
Frederick Burden (**1907 – 1908**);
James Howard Biddulph (**1908 – 1909**);
Charles Mills (**1909 – 1910**);
William Lenton (**1910 – 1911**);
Sidney Joseph Lancaster (**1911 – 1914**);
Mrs. Alice (Lancaster) Boot (**1914 – 1920**);
Eliza Lowe (**1920**);
Thomas Burdett 'Tommy' Lowe (**1920 – 1940**);
Mrs. Eliza Lowe (**1940 – 1957**);

NOTES

13, Walhouse Street [1861], [1862], [1871], [1881]
13, Lower Walhouse Street [1891], [1901]

23, Walhouse Road [1932], [1939], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

1851 Census

Walhouse Street

- [1] *S. Falconbridge* (30), brewer, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Maria Falconbridge* (38), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Sarah Cash* (14), servant, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Selina Nicholls* (12), visitor, born Walsall Wood:

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/9/1853

“At the adjourned annual licensing meeting on Wednesday last, eight of the sixteen persons who applied for victuallers’ licenses on the Wednesday previously renewed their applications, and with success.....
Samuel Falconbridge, Walhouse Street.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/11/1855

“On Friday an inquest was held by A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, at the house of Mr. *Samuel Falconbridge*, the WHITE HART INN, Wallhouse Street, on the body of a young girl, aged sixteen, named Elizabeth Jones. The deceased lived as servant with Mr. James, of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Ablewell Street. On Thursday she stole a shawl from a traveller staying in the house, and pawned it at Miss Scholefield’s, in Lichfield Street. She was charged with the theft, and denied it. A man named Bullock, about three o’clock, was working in a rope walk near Hatherton Lake, and heard a woman cry out that some one was in the water; he ran to the spot, and saw a ripple as though a stone had been thrown in. The drags were procured, and in five minutes the body, which had been in the water about half an hour, was recovered. Life of course was extinct. The jury returned a verdict of Felo de se. The party robbed of the shawl had offered to forgive the deceased, if she confessed the theft, but she persisted in denying it.”

Walsall Free Press 1/1/1859

“On Wednesday evening last, Mr. Adkins, builder, in accordance with a good old custom, entertained his workmen, about thirty in number, to the tenth annual supper, at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street. Ample justice was done to the repast, which was served up in a style reflecting much credit upon the host and hostess of the establishment. The cloths having been withdrawn, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given by the chairman, Mr. Wright, and responded to by the company. Several other toasts were also given and acknowledged, and the hilarity which was kept up till a late hour in the evening, was much enhanced by a number of excellent songs which were given by some of the work-men present.”

1861 Census

13, Walhouse Street – WHITE HART

- [1] *William Arthur* (34), licensed victualler, born Hednesford;
- [2] *Matilda Arthur* (29), wife, born Chesterfield;
- [3] *William Arthur* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ann Manlove* (18), domestic servant, born Darlaston:

Walsall Free Press 6/2/1864

“Last night, a gentleman who had been thrown from his horse was found in Lichfield Street in a state of insensibility, and was conveyed to the WHITE HART public house, Walhouse Street, where he was attended by Mr. Kelty. As the unfortunate gentleman had not been restored to consciousness up to the time of our going to press, we are unable to give his name or address.”

Walsall Free Press 5/3/1864 - Advert

“The Cottage Hospital.

The Committee have much pleasure in announcing the following additional Donations and Subscriptions:
Loyal Era Lodge, WHITE HART, Walhouse Street..... £1 0s 0d.”

Walsall Free Press 31/3/1866 - Advert

“Independent Order Of Odd Fellows (Manchester Unity). Bescot Bridge Division.

The members of the Bescot Bridge District of the above Order respectfully inform the Public that they intend holding their First Annual Tea Party, Concert, & Ball, in the Guildhall Assembly Room, Walsall, on Easter Monday, April 2nd, 1866.

The entire proceeds of which will be invested in Trust for the Benefit of the Cottage Hospital.

Tickets, 1s 6d each.

Early applications for tickets is requested, as the Committee have limited the number to 500, and no Money will be taken at the door.

Tickets may be obtained at the DRAGON INN, and the WHITE LION INN, High Street; the DOLPHIN INN, George Street; the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street; at 16 Bath Street, the ‘Walsall News’ Office, and of Mr. J. T. King, printer, Stafford Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/8/1868 - Advert

“Wanted a good General Servant, age from 25 to 30.
Apply at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 24/6/1869

“On Monday afternoon the members of the ‘Era’ Lodge (No.2244) of the Odd Fellows celebrated their anniversary by a dinner-party which was held at the WHITE HART public-house, Walhouse Street. The viands, which were choice were served up in a style which reflected the highest credit upon the host, Mr. *Arthur*. The chair was occupied by Mr. John Burton, jun., and the vice-chair by Mr. Sharp (assistant to Mr. Whympier, surgeon). In the course of the evening a number of toasts were given and responded to; and the company, with songs, sentiment, and toast, spent a very agreeable evening.”

1871 Census

13, Walhouse Street

- [1] *William C. Arthur* (44), licensed victualler, born Hednesford;
- [2] *Harriet A. Arthur* (46), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *William H. Arthur* (11), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Ann Hedge* (20), servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 1/2/1873

“William Wilson, for having refused to leave the WHITE HART, public house, Walhouse Street, was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/3/1873

“At the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, on Monday night, Mr. Sharp, surgeon, on behalf of the Pride of the Valley and Era Lodges of the Bescot District of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, M.U., presented Bro. T. Perrins with a handsome gold watch and chain, in recognition of his services as secretary to the two lodges, and corresponding secretary of the Bescot District for 25 years.”

1881 Census

13, Walhouse Street

- [1] *William C. Arthur* (55), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Polly Arthur* (30), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *William H. Arthur* (21), son, brown saddler, born Walsall;
- [4] *Albert Arthur* (23), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *George E. Arthur* (1), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Charles P. Arthur* (15), nephew, gig saddler, born Walsall;
- [7] *Agnes Horton* (20), general servant, born Shropshire:

Walsall Advertiser 1/1/1884 - Register of Events

“Saturday, January 12th. Annual Carter’s Dinner at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, at 6pm.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/1/1884 - Advert

“L&NW & Pickfords Fifth Annual Carters’ Dinner.

To Promote kindness to horses and attention to the public, &c.

Will Be Held At The WHITE HART HOTEL, Walhouse St., January 12th, 1884, At 6pm.

J. H. Smith, Esq, (Mayor), will take the chair.

Tickets 5s Each. No Money Taken except for Tickets.”

Walsall Observer 24/1/1885

“The sixth annual dinner of the carters in the employ of the London and North Western Railway Company and Pickford’s, was held at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, on Saturday night, and was more largely attended than ever. These gatherings have been promoted, and most successfully carried on for some years, by Mr. A. Perkins, whose object has been to encourage among the men civility to the public, kindness to the horses, and care of the vehicles and harness. All these objects have been gained to a very large extent, as many of the tradesmen and others in the town can bear witness. A capital dinner was set before their 110 guests by Mr. and Mrs. *Arthur*, whose efforts were thoroughly appreciated.....”

Walsall Advertiser 24/2/1885

“Walsall Conservative Association.

A Meeting of Conservatives will be held at the WHITE HART (Mr. *Arthur*’s), Walhouse Street, on Thursday, February 26th, at 8pm, to form a Branch of the Association for the Paddock Division of the Bridge Ward.

J. F. Crump, Esq, will preside. Mr. Lyons, of London, and others will address the meeting.

There will also be a meeting at the BUTTS INN (Mr. Bird’s), on Friday, February 27th, at 8pm, to form a Branch for the Butts Division.

Mr. J. T. Cottam, Esq, will preside. Mr. Lyons and others will address the meeting.

S. B. Wheway, A. Parsons, Hon Secs.”

Walsall Observer 28/2/1885

“On Tuesday evening the officers and a few members of the Era Lodge of Oddfellows, and a few friends from neighbouring lodges, were entertained to supper by the energetic and respected secretary (Mr. A. J. Gillis) and Host *Arthur* of the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street – the occasion being to celebrate the anniversary of Mr. Gillis taking the office of secretary of the lodge. A most pleasant evening was spent.....”

Polly Arthur, widow, married *Frank Stokes*, bachelor, horse dealer, on 16th March 1887.

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....
Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of *Polly Stokes*, of the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, for a license for music and singing on Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday evenings for the convenience of the Odd Fellows and harriers clubs and a minstrel troop....
The Bench retired for about half an hour, and on their return the Magistrates’ Clerk read the decisions....
Granted. The WHITE HART, for the club rooms, for Monday and Tuesdays.”

1891 Census

13, Lower Walhouse Street – WHITE HART INN
[1] *Frank Stokes* (37), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
[2] *Pollie Stokes* (38), wife, born Walsall;
[3] Albert E. Arthur (12), stepson, born Walsall;
[4] George S. Arthur (10), stepson, born Walsall;
[5] *Pollie Arthur* (9), stepdaughter, born Walsall;
[6] *Matilda Arthur* (7), stepdaughter, born Walsall;
[7] *Frank Stokes* (3), son, born Walsall;
[8] *James Stokes* (2), son, born Walsall;
[9] *Charles F. Stokes* (6 months), son, born Walsall;
[10] *Caroline Arthur* (24), niece, domestic servant, born Penkridge;
[11] *Emma Arthur* (20), niece, domestic servant, born Penkridge:

Walsall Advertiser 20/8/1892

“The thirteenth annual meeting of the Walsall Harriers’ Club was held at headquarters, the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, on Wednesday night, when Mr. H. G. Greatrex (the president), occupied the chair.....”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1892

“Walsall Harriers. Twelve members, good and true, pioneered by the faithful Sam Holmes (not Weller) had a very pleasant spin of about seven miles through some of our green birder-land of the ‘black country,’ and starting at the good pace up Snowden, down Calder, taking the open at Sutton Road, via the canal side, up Daisy Bank (devoid of daisies now), along Skip Lane, out by the THREE CROWNS, down to the ‘Smith,’ through ‘Cuckoo Nook,’ over the gate into Bosty Lane, at a very sharp bat into the Aldridge Road, down Mellish, and home to the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street. The following ran: Sam Holmes (captain), J. Mold, S. Williams, Lawton, Lloyd, C. Bourne, W. Satchwell, J. Newton, H. Kingdom, Brandrick, Bayley, and Davis. Today they run to the COTTAGE INN (vice-president), Mr. F. Liggers, at 3.30.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/2/1893

“London Gazette, February 21.
The Bankruptcy Acts 1883 and 1890. Receiving Orders.
Polly Stokes, WHITE HART INN, Lower Walhouse Street, Walsall, licensed victualler.”

Walsall Observer 3/6/1893 - Advert

“To Let, WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, Walsall; immediate possession.
Apply, Watkins, Powell & Wood, Auctioneers, 28, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/6/1893

“On Thursday at the Walsall County Court, Mr. J. W. Disturnal (instructed by Messrs. S. P. Smith and Son) applied to admit a proof of £300 on behalf of Mr. Walker, a grocer, High Street, against the estate of *Polly Stokes*, a bankrupt, late of the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street. Mr. C. A. Loxton, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the Official Receiver (Mr. E. Pritchard), by whom the proof had been rejected. Mr. Keyswell (Wilkinson, Son, and Mill) was present on behalf of the bankrupt. In opening the case Mr. Disturnal said the application he had to make was on behalf of Mr. Walker, grocer, High Street, for the Court to admit a proof for £300, against the estate of *Polly Stokes*, of the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, who had filed her petition. It appeared that his client had from time to time advanced Mrs. *Stokes* money through a Mrs. Seabright, on the security of four policies, but at the examination of the bankrupt the official receiver refused to admit the applicant’s proof. At the beginning of this year a policy on the life of Mr. *Stokes*, the husband of the bankrupt, for £100 was handed over to Mr. Walker as security. Money was being advanced from time to time in this extraordinary fashion until February 9th of the present year, and then Mrs. *Stokes* wrote out an I.O.U. in these terms: ‘I.O.U., R. S. Walker, through Mrs. Seabright for the money lent on loans, the

sum of £370 10s to be repaid by instalments of £6 per week, and interest to be 12s per week. Signed *Polly Stokes*. Mr. Walker felt satisfied and afterwards the lady got another loan from him. £5 the last advance was, on February 11th. It appeared that Mrs. Seabright had been accustomed for some reason or another to make it a part of her business to get loans for people in this way, charging commission upon them. She appeared to have been doing this sort of thing for the woman *Stokes* for a considerable period. The source however stopped, and Mrs. Seabright had to get someone else. She found his client who advanced sums in the fashion cited.

Richard Sherratt Walker, grocer, said that in April of last year he was in business at High Street and had a customer named Mrs. Seabright. She said she wanted to borrow money from him. He kept lending her money from time to time and just after Xmas he saw Mrs. *Stokes* with reference to the transaction. When asked whether she owed the money from Mrs. Seabright, Mrs. *Stokes* admitted that she had borrowed it from time to time and the one for £100 was the last. Mrs. Seabright gave them as security because he asked for it.

Aurelia Seabright, married-woman, living in Walhouse Street, said she had been in the habit of buying her groceries from the applicant. She had known Mrs. *Stokes* for eighteen or nineteen years, and had borrowed money on her behalf for over four years, but the persons who had lent the money and not been repaid in full. When she first went to Mr. Walker to borrow money, Mrs. *Stokes* asked her to tell the lender that it was for a lady, but not to disclose her name. She had been to several gentlemen prior to going to Mr. Walker, to ask for loans, but they declined to advance them without security. She did not tell Mrs. *Stokes* who she had secured the money from until after the first payment had been made. Witness had been asked by Mrs. *Stokes* if she knew anyone she could borrow money from, and witness replied that she thought her grocer would do. In reply to Mr. Disturnal, Mrs. Seabright said she had never heard of Mrs. *Stokes* owing money to clubs or friendly societies before she failed in her business. When she received the first loan she handed over the three policies Mrs. *Stokes* had given as security.

Cross-examined by Mr. Loxton: Witness said other people were lending money to Mrs. *Stokes* at the same time. She had never borrowed any money for herself from Mr. Walker. She received sixpence out of the half-crown which Mrs. *Stokes* paid on every £1 which she borrowed from Mr. Walker. Mrs. *Stokes* promised to see that the money was paid back in full if she could borrow the money. She told Mr. Walker that the money was for a neighbour but she did not give the name. The cheques were made out to witness as she had to cash them. Mr. Walker was not aware of the existence of the policies until she handed the first three to him; the fourth was sent to him by Mrs. *Stokes*. She was not aware that Mrs. *Stokes* was in difficulties when she was borrowing the money for her, and had no idea that she intended to file her petition, or she would never have borrowed the money on her behalf. Mr. Walker was again put in the box to explain certain entries in the book in which he had entered the loans, three sums of £10, £15, and £80 being put down for January 13th, which witness explained were the amounts owing less than the repayments, but his Honour admitted that he could not understand it.

Mr. Disturnal thought he had proved up to the hilt that certain sums represented by cheques which had been produced, were paid to Mrs. Seabright as agent for the bankrupt, and it did not matter to him whether it got into the bankrupt's hands or not.

Mr. Loxton interposing, said the applicant must clearly prove his proof.

Mr. Disturnal argued that if a person sent out a traveller to collect moneys, and that traveller put the money into his pocket it was payment.

Polly Stokes said she formerly carried on business as a licensed victualler in Walhouse Street. She had on various occasions borrowed money through Mrs. Seabright, who was a neighbour of hers. She did not always know the people from whom she borrowed the money. She heard lately that Mrs. Seabright had got the money from a Mrs. Harris. She repaid the money to Mrs. Seabright who entered the money in a book.

A slight argument here took place between Mr. Disturnal and Mr. Loxton, the former remarking that the witness was acting in a hostile manner, Mr. Loxton maintaining that she was not.

Examined by Mr. Disturnal, witness said she handed all the policies to Mrs. Seabright, and she thought she intended to hand them to her grocer, from whom Mrs. Seabright said she was getting the money. The book in which the various amounts she had received had been destroyed since, but she could give no reason for having done so. She might have received certain moneys in connection with the clubs which were held at her house. Her husband was the treasurer. Some of the money she had received from Mrs. Seabright might have been paid to those clubs. Mrs. Seabright had been in the habit of borrowing money for her for the last several years past. She had told Mrs. Seabright to borrow money for her so that she could hand it to those from whom she had borrowed money. She knew that Mrs. Seabright was getting money from her grocer, but she did not know his name. She told Mr. Gadsby, a clerk in the employ of Messrs Smith and Son, when he served her with a subpoena to attend there that day, she knew that Mr. Walker was advancing money, but she did not know whether it was after the first or second time.

Mr. Loxton said Mr. Pritchard was willing to admit the proof of £220 without costs if His Honour would sanction it. They had no wish to get a verdict against this man Walker, so that Mrs. Seabright might become a creditor in his place. Although Mr. Walker had broken down on the amount owing, it seemed clear that there had been advances made, and they were prepared to accept proof for £220, without costs. Although Mr. Walker had been a fool, and a rather conspicuous fool, he had a claim to the money as a creditor.

His Honour found for the plaintiff.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1893

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

The monthly meeting of the Executive Committee was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *Edward John Wilkins*, WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, Walsall, was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/10/1893

“The arrangements for the Half-yearly Conference of Oddfellows in the Central hall today are now complete. The Grand Master

and the delegates appointed to attend the conference will all arrive before two o'clock from the Crewe and Nantwich district, and the other districts in the four counties will be represented. Members of the Reception Committee will meet every train by which the delegates will arrive. About one hundred was sit down to tea at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street. The Grand Master will also stay to the tea, he having signified his intention to 'stay as long as it required.' All Oddfellows are cordially invited."

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1894

"The third annual dinner of the Walsall Blue Coat and National Schools (Old Boys' Re-union) was held at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, on Wednesday evening last. Mr. *Wilkins* (host) catered in excellent style, and gave satisfaction....."

AND

"Greatrex Lodge. A meeting of this lodge will take place at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, on Monday next. It will be a musical evening."

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1895

"Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society.

The monthly meeting of the Executive Committee was held on Thursday.....

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Mr. *E. J. Wilkins*, WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, on Thursday, 14th February, at seven o'clock."

Walsall Advertiser 16/2/1895

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *E. J. Wilkins*, WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street....."

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

"The forty-third annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street....."

Walsall Advertiser 8/8/1896

"The forty-fourth annual meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street....."

Walsall Advertiser 9/10/1897

"Manchester Unity I.O.O.F.

On Thursday week a most successful inaugural supper was held in connection with the Pat Grand Lodges, which has recently been opened at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, in connection with the Bescot Bridge District of the above order. About 50 sat down to the good things provided by Host *Wilkins*....."

Walsall Advertiser 20/11/1897

"The member of C Company (Captain Booth's) of the Walsall Detachment of the 2nd V.B. South Staffs. Regiment has this season come out as the best shooting company in the regiment, by which the sergeants of the company will be entitled to wear the cross guns and crown for a year. To mark the success the sergeants gave their comrades a smoking concert on Tuesday evening in the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, when a most convivial evening was spent. Captain Booth was in the chair, and he was supported by his two subalterns, Messrs. Campion and Smith, and Captain and Quartermaster Nicholls. Several toasts were honoured and there was felicitous congratulations at the success of the company and a general feeling of amity and esprit de corps which exists between the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the company. The following programme of music was well rendered: Pianoforte solo, Mr. *Wilkins*; song, 'Our side,' Sergt. A. Laban; song, 'The song that reached my heart,' Private J. Wood; song, 'The soldiers of the Queen,' Private Sergeant C. Laban; song, 'My sweetheart when a boy,' Private T. Cox; song, 'The idler,' Sergeant A. Laban; song, 'Far away,' Col-sergeant C. Mitchell; song, 'Sweetheart May,' Private W. Spiller; song, 'Pilgrim of Lover,' Private T. Cox; song, '7th Royal Fusiliers,' Sergeant A. Bates; song, 'Queen Victoria,' Sergeant C. Laban; song, 'That'll doodle doodle do,' Sergeant A. Laban; song, 'In happy moments,' Private J. Wood; song, 'Let me like a soldier fall,' Col-sergeant C. Mitchell; song, 'Concert at Albert Hall,' Private W. Spiller."

Walsall Advertiser 4/12/1897

"A social evening promoted by the members of the Walsall Amalgamated Friendly Societies Medical Aid Association was promoted on Thursday evening at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street when about 50 gentlemen sat down to a substantial dinner served up in a style in keeping with the high reputation so long held by this noted hostelry. Following the dinner an excellent programme of songs, toasts, &c, was gone through....."

Walsall Advertiser 4/2/1899

"Walsall Borough Brass Band.

On Saturday last the members of the above band, with their wives and friends, met at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, for their annual dinner. After justice had been done to the things provided by Host *Wilkins*, Mr. T. Gee was voted to the chair....."

Walsall Advertiser 13/5/1899

"Walsall & District Licensed Victuallers' Society. The monthly meeting was held on Thursday, at the WHITE HART INN, Wal-

house Street, Walsall, Mr. Edwin James (president) occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance.....”

Walsall Advertiser 1/7/1899

“The death occurred on Sunday of Mr. *Edward John Wilkins* of the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, at the age of 52. Deceased was a strong man, of fine physique, but he succumbed to an attack of pneumonia, of only ten days duration. He had been landlord of the WHITE HART for six years, and was a prominent man among friendly societies, his house being the meeting place of no less than five lodges – three of the A.O.O.M.U., one of the Druids, and one of the Royal Oak. The funeral took place on Wednesday at Ryecroft Cemetery, and was largely attended, those present including many representatives of friendly societies, from whom came also a number of beautiful floral tributes.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1899

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. John Bates, RED LION INN, Walsall Wood.....
It was unanimously agreed that a message of sympathy should be forwarded to Mrs. *Wilkins*, Walhouse Street, in her bereavement. A funeral donation of £4 was voted to Mrs. *Wilkins*, WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, on the death of her husband, Mr. *Edward John Wilkins*, who joined the society on the 13th July, 1893. The cost of wreath, &c, and the usual half-yearly disbursements were also passed.”

Walsall Observer 3/3/1900

“On Saturday night last the annual dinner of the Forest of Arden Lodge of the Sheffield Equalized Independent Order of Druids, was held at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, when about eighty members and visitors partook of a repast of the well-known excellent kind provided at the house of Mrs. *Wilkins*.....”

Walsall Observer 3/3/1900

“A meeting of gardeners, amateurs, and others interested in horticulture was held at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, on Tuesday last, when 15 were present.....”

Walsall Observer 17/11/1900

“A dinner to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of the Loyal Era Lodge of Oddfellows (MU) was held on Thursday night at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, when 103 brethren of the lodge, and officers of the surrounding district, sat down to a spread provided by Mrs. *Wilkins*.....”

1901 Census

13, Lower Walhouse Street

[1] *Sarah Wilkins* (53), widow, licensed victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] Edward J. Wilkins (23), son, barman, born Worcester;

[3] Sarah L. Wilkins (17), daughter, barmaid, born Staffordshire;

[4] Harriett Plater (19), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 20/7/1901

“Cycling. Walsall Excelsior C.C.

About twenty-two members turned up at headquarters, WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, on Saturday, the run being to Enville, a lovely country place and a favourite resort for picnic parties. The start was at 3.15, and going via Wolverhampton and Stourbridge, the roads being in good condition, Enville was reached at 5.30. Full justice was done to a refreshing tea. After tea the party split up, some going through the park, while others went walks down the lanes. The homeward journey was started at seven o’clock. Various punctures had to be attended to, and Wolverhampton was reached at 8.30, where a halt was made at the CLAR-ENDON HOTEL for a refresher. Walsall was reached at 10.30 after a most enjoyable afternoon.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/3/1902

“A series of debates, papers, and musical evenings arranged by the committee of the Pride of the Valley Lodge, held at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, ended with a concert on Monday night. A capital programme was submitted by Messrs. C. J. Dace, E. Wilkins, G. Siddons, F. H. Bridgewater, C. W. Mitchell, and Miss Wilkins. A quartette party from the band of the 2nd V.B. South Staffordshire Regiment, consisting of Bandsmen Edgar Barlow, Stockham, Ballinger, and A. Gee, rendered selections and choruses in fine style. This being a new departure, a large number of members and friends attended, and in a vote of thanks to those who had contributed to the evening’s entertainment, the bandsmen came in for hearty thanks.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/3/1903

“The Bench granted the temporary transfer of the licenses.....

The WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, from *Sarah Wilkins* to *Charles William Mitchell* (Q.M.S of the Walsall Volunteers).”

Walsall Advertiser 25/4/1903 - Notice

“I.O.O.F. M.U. Notice!

The Registered Office of the ‘Loyal Era’ Lodge No.2244 of the Bescot Bridge District has been Removed from the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, Walsall, to the MARKET TAVERN, Freer Street, Walsall, as from April 7th.

All Business of the Lodge will, therefore, be transacted at the above-mentioned house.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/9/1903

“Mr. Newman applied for permission to have certain alterations made at the WHITE HART, Lower Walhouse Street, which would necessitate a re-arrangement of the rooms, and also to have an outside staircase to the club room erected. Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/4/1904

“The annual smoking concert and distribution of prizes in connection with the Walsall Harriers Athletic Club was held on Tuesday night, at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street. Councillor Hawley presided in the absence of the President (Alderman Noake), and expressed the great interest he took in their sport, which he believed was the finest any young man could engage in. The chief prize, the Greatrex Challenge Shield, was awarded to G. Llewellyn and T. Caswell, each to hold it half the year, they having made a dead-heat with ten points each. The silver challenge cup was won by J. Davis, who has also secured it on two previous occasions. E. G. Burt, the first man home in the Junior Championship National Competition at Northampton, was presented with a silver match-box.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/7/1904

“On the application of Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman, the magistrates granted a temporary transfer of the license of the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, from *Charles William Mitchell* to *Joseph Hughes*.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/8/1904

“Walsall Air-Gun League.

The first annual meeting of the above was held at the CRITERION, Stafford Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smallwood presided, and there was also present Messrs. Hicken (EAGLE), G. Smith (OLD KINGS ARMS), Powell (TANNERS ARMS), E. James (PLUMBERS ARMS), McDonald (CRITERION), Cliffe (GOLDEN EAGLE), Hunt, E. Towe (treasurer), and Mason (secretary).....

The undermentioned clubs with power to add to their number, were elected to the League for the forthcoming season: The WHITE HART (Walhouse Street), TANNERS ARMS, OLD KINGS ARMS, EAGLE, PLUMBERS ARMS, CRITERION, GOLDEN EAGLE, LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, OAK, and DUKE OF YORK.

There was no other business of public interest.”

Henry Smallwood was married to Jane.

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Walford applied on behalf of the lessees of the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, to build a wall to enclose the licensed premises and to make an outside staircase to the clubroom. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/3/1907

“The quarterly meeting of the Walsall and District Friendly Societies Council was held at the OLD WHITE HART, Caldmore, on Thursday.....

Mr. Bridgewater moved that a clause in the minutes referring to the change of headquarters from the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street be rescinded. The clause was proposed under a misapprehension that there was no lodge meeting at the house subscribing to their society. He represented the Bescot Bridge District Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows, which met there and they did subscribe to their society.

Mr. Warner seconded.

Mr. Sankey said that Mr. Bridgewater was present when the resolution was proposed and he should like to know why he did not object at that time.

The President said Mr. Bridgewater was perfectly in order bringing the matter forward.

The resolution was eventually carried.

The DOLPHIN HOTEL was appointed as the headquarters of the society for the ensuing twelve months.”

Walsall Observer 14/11/1908

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of the President, MANOR ARMS INN, Daw End, Rushall. Mr. R. Anson, Daw End (president), occupied the chair.....

New Members..... *J. H. Biddulph*, WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street.”

James Howard Biddulph – see also PRETTY BRICKS, CHAINMAKERS ARMS.

Charles Mills – see also PRETTY BRICKS.

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home-Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.

Houses.....

WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, Walsall.”

1911 Census

13, Walhouse Street

- [1] *William Lenton* (36), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Hellen Lenton* (37), wife, married 10 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Rosie Lenton* (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Jack Lenton* (4), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *James Lenton* (2), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1912

“A rather unusual and at the same time sad case was that in which a smartly dressed girl of 18 years of age, named *Emma Slater*, described as a packer of 21, Addison Street, Wednesbury, was charged with being drunk and incapable. Police-constable *Thomas* gave evidence to the effect that at 11.15pm on Saturday he was passing along George Street, when he saw a crowd of people with the prisoner in the centre. She was unconscious and smelt very strongly of drink. He sent for a doctor, who said she was comatose, and would be all right in time. He took her to a coffee shop and she remained unconscious until 2.30 on Sunday morning. When she came round he took her to the police station, and she admitted that she had been out drinking the previous night. The Chief Constable stated that the parents of the girl were very respectable people. He would like her to tell the magistrates where she had obtained the beer from. The girl stated that she had it from the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street. She went in about 9 o’clock but did not remember coming out. She only had two glasses of stout. Answering Mr. S. E. Loxton (Deputy Magistrates’ Clerk) the girl stated that they met two young fellows in the public house. Did the young fellows leave the public house with you? – I don’t remember anything about it. The mother of the girl stated her daughter left home about 7 o’clock, saying that she was going to her sister’s, where she often stayed the night. She was a very delicate girl, and did not eat much, the stout doubtless overcame her. She had never been in trouble before. On promising not to go into a public house again, the girl was put on her good behaviour for three months, and ordered to pay the costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1913

“Walsall And District Poultry, Pigeon And Fur Society. A very interesting members’ chicken show was held on Saturday, in a large room at the rear of the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street. Among 41 birds exhibited, there were some splendid specimens of different breed. The competition in the heavy pullet class was very keen and as usual the beautiful white plumage of the Orpingtons and Wyndottes was the centre of attraction. Some of the visitors to the show could scarcely credit that the whole of the exhibits were hatched this year. It was a surprise to see what could be done by patience and attention in getting young birds fit and ready for shows.....”

Walsall Observer 25/7/1914 - Deaths

“On the 22nd inst, at the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Street, *Sydney Joseph*, the beloved husband of *Alice Lancaster*, aged 41 years. Interred in the family grave, Queen Street Cemetery, at eleven o’clock today. Mrs. *Lancaster* and family desire to thank all friends for kind enquiries, and also for floral tributes, in their sad bereavement.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... WHITE HART, Walhouse Street. £0 7s 7½d.”

Thomas Lowe was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in April 1924.

Walsall Observer 11/2/1939

“The Walsall Roads Cycling Club can never have had a better array of cups than was seen at their annual dinner at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Road, on Monday night, when the President (Mr. J. Aspinall) was in the chair. This was due mainly due to the brilliant riding last season of D. W. J. Morgan, and pride of place was given to the B.S.A. Gold Vase which represented what was, perhaps, his greatest victory of the year. Morgan took nineteen awards during the evening, but another feature was the number of riders who figured in the prize list. Twenty-three of them took prizes and even they are not the entire strength of the club’s racing section.....”

1939 Register

23, Walhouse Road

- [1] *Thomas B. Lowe*, date of birth 2/7/1886, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Eliza Lowe*, dob 21/1/1888, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 16/12/1939 - Deaths

“At his residence, the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street, Walsall, *Thomas Burdett*, the beloved husband of *Eliza Lowe*, suddenly, aged 53. Service at St. Giles’ Church, Willenhall at 1.30 today (Saturday). Interment at Bentley Cemetery at 2pm. *Peace, perfect peace.*”

AND

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society, held at the HAME MAKERS ARMS INN, Blue Lane West, on Thursday, Mr. C. W. Garfield (President) who presided made sympathetic reference to the losses the Society had suffered during the week by the deaths of Mr. *Thomas Burdett Lowe* A resolution of sympathy with the respective families was passed and the company stood for a silent tribute.....”

AND

“Readers interested in sport will learn with regret of the death of Mr. *Thomas Burdett Lowe*, better known as ‘Tommy’ *Lowe*, who passed away at his home, the WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Road, Walsall, on Tuesday, at the age of 53. He had lived in Walsall since the age of eight, and before keeping the WHITE HART he was licensee of the PHEASANT INN in Windmill Street for seven years, and then he came to Walhouse Road, and has been there for the last twenty years.

Mr. *Lowe* took a keen interest in practically in all forms of sport, particularly horse-racing. He is said to have been one of the best judges of racing form in the Midlands. With Mr. William Preston, who was his greatest friend, he visited many race meetings. He was a member of Walsall Cricket Club, attending regularly the first team matches; and an honorary member of the Walsall Rugby Football Club, whose headquarters were at his house. In addition the WHITE HART was the meeting place of the Izaak Walton Angling Club, the Walsall Roads, C.C., and the Harmonic Lodge of Buffaloes. Although he was not a member of the angling and the two cycling clubs, he was keenly interested in them, and followed all their activities. He was also an enthusiastic follower of the Walsall and Wolverhampton Football teams; Boxing was another of his sporting interests, and as a young man was himself no mean exponent of the ‘noble art.’ He was also a member of the Walsall Unionist Club.

His widow has received many letters of sympathy from all over the country, including Newmarket and Cambridge, and one letter from a boy at Eton College.

The funeral will take place today (Saturday) at St. Giles’ Church, Willenhall, and the interment will be at Bentley Cemetery.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1940

“At the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District licensed Victuallers’ Society at the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE INN, Wolverhampton Street on Thursday.....

New members..... Mrs. *Eliza Lowe*, WHITE HART INN, Walhouse Road.”

1940 Probate

“*Thomas Burdett Lowe*, of the WHITE HART, Walhouse Road, Walsall, Staffordshire, died 12 December 1939. Probate London 17 April to *Eliza Lowe*, widow. Effects £2,359 6s 8d.”

Walsall Observer 6/9/1941 - Advert

“Walsall Rugby Football Club.

The Annual Meeting of the Club will be held at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Road, at 8-00pm on Monday, the 15th September.”

Walsall Observer 15/11/1941

“One of the last and not least pleasant of Councillor J. Cliff Tibbitt’s engagements as Mayor was to join the members of the Cyclists’ Platoon of the Walsall Home Guard at an American supper at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Road, yesterday evening week. The function was arranged for the purpose of making a presentation to Lieut. C. Noon, who has recently relinquished command of the platoon owing to ill-health, and who was mainly responsible for the formation of the Cyclists’ Platoon, recruited largely from local club cyclists.

Tributes to his splendid work were paid by his successor in command, Sec.-Lieut. J. Aspinall, and Councillor Tibbits, both of whom referred to the enthusiasm that he put into his task in the face of many difficulties. The presentation took the form of a smoker’s cabinet, with a suitable inscription, and this was handed to Lieut. Noon by Councillor Tibbits, who expressed the hope that he would soon be restored to health and might still be able to give service to the Home Guard.

Lieut. Noon, thanking members of the platoon for their gift, expressed his appreciation of the support that he had received from them.”

Walsall Observer 14/3/1942

“Members of the Home Guard Detachment of the Walsall Corporation Electric Supply Department had an enjoyable time at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Road, yesterday evening week. After an excellent supper most of those present contributed to the programme, and special items were rendered by 2nd Lieut. R. Brevitt, with Mr. Bert Brevitt as pianist and entertainer. The proceedings were presided over by the O.C. Detachment, 2nd Lieut. Robert Brevitt.”

Walsall Observer 29/9/1945 - Advert

“Walsall Rugby Football Club.

The Annual General Meeting of the Club will be held at the WHITE HART, Walhouse Road, on Monday, the 1st of October, at 8pm.

The Rugger Club has not been able to carry on during the greater part of the War period as most of its players have been serving in the Forces.

The Club is starting up again this season and a satisfactory fixture list had been arranged, the first being the 27th October. The re-starting of the Club will be no easy task and we appeal to all old and new players, honorary members, and all those who have a keen interest in Rugby, to give us their maximum support during this difficult period. We shall be glad if those who wish to play or have friends who want a game, will write to the Honorary Secretary. H. B. Nicholson, 1, Belvedere Road, Walsall, and also make a big effort to attend the Annual Meeting.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 7th March 1957.
Compensation of £5,000 was paid on 16th November 1957.
It closed on 23rd November 1957.

WHITE HORSE

41, (18), Park Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Thomas
Nicholas Roper, Lichfield Street, Walsall
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1896) [1903]
Atkinsons Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Thomas [1834] – [1835]
William Oakley [1841] – [1842]
James Thomas [1845]
Henry Slater [1849] – [1851]
Nicholas Roper [1852] – **1866**;
Abel Roger Grove (**1866** – [1870])
Harley [1870]
Henry Sargeant [1871]
George Smith [1872] – [1881];
William Harris (**18__** – **1894**); [1888]
William Homer Reynolds (**1894** – **1896**);
John Michael Conniffe (**1896** – **189_**);
George Thomas (**189_** – **1904**);
Alfred ‘Alf’ Medlam (**1904** – **1912**);
George Ernest James (**1912** – **1914**);
Lennox Busfield (**1914** – **1918**);
Arthur George Saunders (**1918** – **1925**);
Charles William Garfield (**1925** – **1926**);
Beniah Timmins (**1926** – **1927**);
Harry Hill (**1927** – **1932**);
William Albert Hall (**1932** – **1938**);
Wilfred George Higgins (**1938** – **1939**);
Frederick ‘Fred’ Day (**1939** – **1949**);
Jack Bradford (**1949** – **1953**);
Hugh Dolan (**1953** – **1957**);
George Adams (**1957** – **1958**);

NOTES

18, Park Street [1858], [1860], [1861], [1868], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1881]
41, Park Street [1891], [1892], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932], [1939], [1940]

It was recorded as the WHITE HOUSE in an 1860 Directory.

It had a beerhouse license.

James Thomas, retailer of beer, Park Street. [1835]

1841 Census

Park Street

- [1] *William Oakley* (30), innkeeper, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Catherine Oakley (25), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Henry Oakley (5), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Ellen Oakley (3), born Staffordshire;
- [5] William Oakley (1), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Sarah Clamp (20), fs;
- [7] Matilda Clark (10), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [8] Simon Fraser (30), traveler, born Scotland;
- [9] John Aingsworth (25), miller, born Staffordshire:

James Thomas was also a provision dealer. [1845]

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/5/1847 - Notice

“Whereas a Petition of *William Oakley*, at present, and for twelve months now last past, residing in Stafford-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, and being a Journeyman Tailor, and for eighteen months previous thereto at the WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton-lane, Walsall aforesaid, carrying on the business of a Publican, and for twelve months previously thereto residing in Lodgings at the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, Walsall aforesaid, and then carrying on the business of a Tailor, and for three years previously thereto residing at the WHITE HORSE last aforesaid, and then carrying on the business of a Publican, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, and the interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *William Oakley*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *William Oakley* is hereby required to appear in Court before Edmund Robert Daniell, Esq, the Commissioner acting in the matter of the said Petition, on the 26th day of May instant, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon precisely, at the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, at Birmingham, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *William Oakley*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederick Whitmore, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, the Official Assignee, nominated in that behalf by the Commissioner acting in the matter of the said Petition.

John Smith, solicitor, Temple Street, Birmingham.”

1851 Census

Park Street

- [1] *Henry Slater* (29), victualler, born Waterford, Ireland;
- [2] Mary Slater (29), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] William Slater (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Harriet Withers (18), servant, born West Bromwich;
- [5] Samuel Slater (24), servant, born Ipswich, Essex;
- [6] Edward Jones (30), visitor, musician, born Birnny, Norwichshire;
- [7] Frederick Brandon (25), visitor, musician, born London;
- [8] Joseph Day (27), visitor, painter, born Clare, Ireland;
- [9] Caroline Barnard (59), visitor, widow, musician, born London:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/9/1852

“Freehold Land Society. A special meeting of the shareholders of this society was held on Tuesday evening, at the WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, to consider and decide upon the adoption of a plan presented by the surveyor, for the formation of and making streets, and other improvements upon the estate lately purchased; and also to consider the propriety of sewerage the same. After some discussion, the plan was formally adopted; and for the purpose of completing and generally improving the estate, resolutions were passed for sewerage the same.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/9/1852

“Ellen Jane Wilkinson, who stated that she came from Birmingham, was charged with stealing a half-crown from the person of Eunice Burcott, at the races, on Tuesday last. The prosecutrix caught the prisoners hand in her pocket, but some men coming up (evidently companions of the prisoner) she made her escape, but was subsequently taken into custody, at the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, by police officer Bicknell. She said she was guilty and asked prosecutrix for forgiveness. Committed for trial at the Borough Sessions.”

[At Walsall Borough Sessions, in November 1852, Ellen Jane Wilkinson, charged with robbing Eunice Burcott, was found guilty, and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment with hard labour.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/10/1852

“Municipal Election. At a meeting of the Ratepayers’ Protection Society, held on Wednesday evening, at Mr. *Roper*’s, the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, for the purpose of putting in nomination fit and proper candidates for supplying vacancies occasioned by

the retirement of Messrs. Ward, Shannon, Westwood, and Brewer, and two others, it was unanimously resolved that Mr. William Thomas, solicitor, and Mr. James Lowe, merchant, should represent the burgesses in our local parliament at the forthcoming election, and that four of the gentlemen who go out of office in the 1st day of November next by the effluxion of time, should be re-elected again. Mr. Thomas Keel, a hatter, resident in High Street, has put forward an address to the burgesses of St. George's ward, in which he declares his intention of becoming a candidate."

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/5/1853

"The journeymen carpenters and joiners of this town held a meeting on Tuesday evening last at the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, when it was resolved to solicit from their employers an advance of 2s per week upon their present wages, 'in consideration of the increased and still increasing price of provisions'."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/10/1855

"Commemoration Of The Fall Of Sebastopol. Between 70 and 80 of the most respected tradesmen of this borough assembled on Tuesday evening at Mr. Mills, the CROWN INN, Upper Rushall Street, when a dinner was served up in a style that reflects much credit on the catering and liberality of the host and hostess. Councillor B. Abnett presided, and Mr. *N. Roper*, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, occupied the vice-chair. An excellent glee party was in attendance, and the proceedings were conducted in the most enthusiastic and harmonious manner."

Walsall Free Press 30/5/1857

"John Whitley, a little old man, minus one of his optic organs, was charged with uttering on Saturday night two counterfeit shillings at the WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street. From the evidence of Mrs. *Roper* it appeared, that on Saturday afternoon the prisoner and another man were in the bar, when the latter asked for two sovereigns for silver of that amount. She obliged him the change, but discovered among the silver a bad shilling piece, and returned it to the man. Soon afterwards the prisoner called for a glass of brandy, and offered her a bad shilling piece, which she detected and returned to him, when he gave her a sixpence and went away. In the evening he returned with the proprietor of a mock auction-mart in the neighbourhood, and calling for two glasses of ale laid down another bad shilling piece. He was allowed to depart, but Mrs. *Roper* communicated with the police. Sergeant Dackus went in search of the prisoner, met him in High Street, and took him into custody. He was not very sober. The prisoner said that he had been engaged as doorkeeper at the auction-mart, but not liking the job he was about to leave that night, and the shilling was what had been paid to him for his services. He further stated that he had been an equestrian, a clown, and a tumbler, and having on one occasion had a tumble more than was intentional, requisite, or pleasant, his cranium had received a fracture which accounted for a small quantity of drink getting over him. His residence when at home was No.5 Buck Street, Birmingham, and if they would be kind enough to enquire of either his grocer, or the proprietor of his beerhouse, in that neighbourhood, they would get his character. He was remanded to Wednesday for these enquiries to be made."

1861 Census

18, Park Street

- [1] *Nicholas Roper* (37), victualler, employing 2 men, born Walsall;
- [2] Ann Roper (37), wife, born Droitwich, Worcestershire;
- [3] Ann Roper (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Sarah Bate (19), servant and barmaid, born Walsall;
- [5] Ann Hollis (22), general servant, born Dumington Wood, Shropshire:

Nicholas Roper was also a maltster. [1864], [1865]

He issued tokens from here.

See also LAMP.

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/8/1864 - Advert

"Very valuable and important Freehold Old-Licensed Inn, Front Shops, and Premises, in Park Street, Walsall, Staffordshire. To be Sold by Auction, by John Osbourn, by order of the Trustees of the will of Mr. *James Thomas*, deceased, on Monday, the 29th day of August, 1864, at the WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, Walsall, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced, all that valuable Freehold, well-accustomed, and old-licensed Inn known by the sign of the WHITE HORSE, fronting to and in the best part of Park Street, Walsall, containing spacious liquor shop, 45ft by 13ft; large parlour, billiard-room, 25ft by 20ft; excellent sitting-room, sleeping-rooms, good cellars, kitchen, brewhouse, good pump and well of water, private yard, and other appurtenances thereto belonging, now in the occupation of Mr. *Nicholas Roper*.

Also those two Front Shops, Dwelling-Houses, and Premises adjoining, being Nos.19 and 20, now in the respective occupations of Mr. Bayley, haberdasher, and Mr. Hodgkinson, eating-housekeeper; together with 13 Dwelling-Houses, two Shops, and other Buildings at the back of the above, with the valuable plot of Land adjoining, and in the centre of the property belonging to the South Staffordshire Railway Company.

The above property contains an area of 1,255 square yards of land or thereabouts, and produces an annual rental of £140 8s. For further particulars, apply to Mr. Thomas, Solicitor, or to the Auctioneer, both of Walsall."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/9/1866 - Advert

"*Abel Grove*, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, Walsall."

Birmingham Daily Post 8/10/1866 - Advert

“To be Sold, Eight-tap Spirit Rail Fountain, with Piping Taps, complete, nearly new; also a Bagatelle Table. Apply, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/9/1867

“On Monday Mr. A. A. Fletcher held an inquiry at the WHITE HORSE public-house, Park Street, into the circumstances attending the death of Ann Duval, aged 32, wife of an engineer, living in a court in Park Street. The deceased retired to rest on Sunday night in her usual health, and the next morning she was found dead in bed. She had been subject to fainting fits for some time. The jury, under the direction of the Coroner, found that Death resulted from Heart Disease.”

Walsall Free Press 23/1/1869 - Advert

“Wanted, a clean active Girl about 13 years of age, as Nurse Maid. Apply, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1870

“A woman who gave the named of Jane Maginnis, but refused to state where she lived, was charged with having on Tuesday evening, stolen a purse containing 12s 6d from the person of Mrs. H. Taylor, Shelfield. On Tuesday evening the prisoner left the WHITE HORSE public-house, Park Street, in company with two men, and at once made an unsuccessful attempt upon the pocket of a woman who was standing at a shop window close by. Then she followed Mrs. Taylor into the shop of Mrs. Morton, boot and shoe dealer, and sat down by her side, but one of the two men, who had posted themselves at the shop window, calling out, ‘Jane,’ she left the shop again almost immediately. Sergeant Drury, who had been watching the movements of the party, then entered the shop, and in consequence of what he said, Mrs. Taylor discovered that the purse had disappeared from her dress pocket. He went in pursuit of the prisoner, and apprehended her at the TURF TAVERN, but found her confederates got clear off. The stolen purse was not found. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to four months’ imprisonment with hard labour. The Bench ordered 8s which were found in her possession to be given to the prosecutrix.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1870

“Messrs. Farrington and Son let by auction, on Wednesday, the temporary grand stand and the ground for booths at the races. The stand was bought by Mr. *Harley*, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, for £30. The ground for the booths was knocked down at a low price. The permanent stand had been previously let to Mr. Sims, of Park Street.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 31/10/1870 - Advert

“The WHITE HORSE, Park Street, the principal thoroughfare of the town, is to be let, in consequence of Proprietor declining business. It is held on a Lease, and is entirely free. The anticipated change of stations from Station Street to Park Street will bring the Premises even more prominently than at present into business excellence. Apply at once, on the Premises, or to G. Bayley, Auctioneer, Walsall.”

1871 Census

18, Park Street

- [1] *Henry Sargeant* (48), licensed victualler, born West Grinstead, Surrey;
- [2] *Anne Sargeant* (49), wife, born Llamymynach, Shropshire;
- [3] *Susan Sargeant* (14), daughter, born Great Barr;
- [4] *Clara Sargeant* (13), daughter, born Great Barr;
- [5] *Alfred Sargeant* (7), son, born Great Barr;
- [6] *Thomas Davies* (44), visitor, farmer, born Llanymynach, Shropshire;
- [7] *Paul Vernon* (22), visitor, clerk, born Market Drayton;
- [8] *Henry Field* (27), visitor, groom:

Walsall Free Press 25/1/1873

“At a meeting of the operative bricklayers’ society, held at the WHITE HORSE public-house, Park Street, on Tuesday evening, it was decided to give notice this day (Saturday), for an advance of 1/2d per hour upon present prices. The new scale of charges to come into operation on the 1st of May next.”

Midland Examiner 24/10/1874

“Three young men named Herbert Worall, Job Wigan, and Thomas Hooper, of George Street, were summoned by Joseph Cooper, collier, Freer’s Yard, George Street, for an assault. Mr. Rhodes appeared for the complainant, and said that a few days ago two members of the ‘Black Gang’ were convicted of an assault. On Saturday night, complainant was in the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, when Worrall entered, ‘squared off’ at complainant, and said if he offered a word of evidence about Cotton (one of the ‘Black Gang’ who was convicted) he would ‘do for him.’ Complainant was followed out of the house, knocked down by Worrall, and kicked by the two others. Witnesses were called on behalf of the two parties, and Worrall was ordered to pay 10s and costs. The charge against the other two defendants was dismissed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

“Defensio, Non Provocatio. Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the Merchandize Marks Act, 1862, and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association. Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association.

Agents For Staffordshire.....

Walsall: S. Tonks, ROYAL OAK INN, 28, Ablewell Street; F. Weston, BRITISH OAK INN, Lichfield Street; G. Holden, ODD FELLOWS ARMS, 1, Stafford Street; *G. Smith*, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street; J. Whittall, THREE CUPS INN, Park Street; J. H. Newell, ROYAL OAK Brewery, Pleck."

1881 Census

18, Park Street

- [1] *George Smith* (47), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Jane Smith (55), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Jane Phillips (25), barmaid, born America;
- [4] Clara Shriling (21), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1890 - Advert

"Wanted, a good General Servant; one that can do plain cooking. Apply, WHITE HORSE, Park Street."

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1888

"*William Harris*, the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, summoned for supplying drink to a drunken person was discharged, the Chief Constable stating that the witness on whom he had chiefly relied to prove the case had given evidence totally opposed to a statement which she had made to him."

1891 Census

41, Park Street - WHITE HORSE

- [1] *William Harris* (62), licensed victualler, born Abergavenny, Monmouthshire;
- [2] William H. Reynolds (27), son in law, manager, born Aldridge;
- [3] Betsey C. Reynolds (27), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Harris Reynolds (1), grandson, born Walsall;
- [5] Martha J. Jones (22), barmaid, born Heath Town;
- [6] Mary A. Barber (32), domestic servant, born Aldridge;
- [7] Margaret Venables (12), domestic servant, born Aldridge:

Birmingham Daily Post 10/6/1891

"Concealment Of Birth. A young woman named Mary Barlow, a domestic servant at the WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, is accused of this offence. It seems that she was about her work as usual early on Monday morning, but at half-past ten a charwoman named Collier, who was engaged about the house, found her very unwell in her room, and got her a cup of tea. In the afternoon Dr. Willmore was fetched to her, and directed her removal to the workhouse, where she made a certain communication to the female nurse, and said: 'It is in my box at the WHITE HORSE.' The box was sent for, and in it was found that the body of a newly-born adult child. She had occupied the bedroom with two other young women engaged about the house, and no suspicion of her condition seems to have been entertained."

Walsall Advertiser 17/3/1894

"Yesterday (Friday) the funeral of Mr. *William Harris*, of the WHITE HORSE HOTEL, Park Street, took place at Walsall Cemetery. The deceased gentleman, who died on Monday night, was formerly president of the local Licensed Victuallers' Society, and was widely known and respected by all. He was one of the leading members of the licensing trade in Walsall. The funeral cortege started from the deceased's residence at 12.30, and was of an imposing character. There were no less than 23 coaches; and representatives were present, not only from the Licensed Victuallers' Association, but from kindred bodies throughout the district. The coffin, which was of polished oak, with brass furniture, was covered with magnificent wreaths....."

Walsall Advertiser 4/8/1894

"Walsall And District Licensed Victuallers' Society. The forty second annual meeting of the members of this society was held on Thursday We have to report with regret that by death we have lost five members Mr. *William Harris*, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, who for many years had rendered invaluable service to the society particularly whilst acting as its president."

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1895

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

The monthly meeting of the Executive Committee was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *W. H. Reynolds*, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/8/1896 - Advert

“Sale Wednesday Afternoon Next, at Three o’clock.

WHITE HORSE HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall, To Publicans, Retail Brewers, and Others.

Unreserved Sale of Brewing plant, Comprising of two Copper Boilers, 170 and 150 galls and fittings; mash Tubs, Vats, Receiving Tubs, 20 Ale Casks, to hold 100 gallons, 60 and lesser quantities; six Half-Tubs, copper Refrigerator, two Attemporators, Piping and Taps, Hop Press, Malt Sieve, Malt Hopper, nearly-new Weighing Machine (by Avery), &c, &c.

Walter Hughes is instructed by Messrs. W. Butler and Co., Ltd., Brewers, of Wolverhampton (who have taken this house on lease), to Sell by Auction upon the premises, Park Street, Walsall, on Wednesday, 26th August, 1896, at Three o’clock prompt.

May be viewed morning of Sale.

Further particulars in catalogues may be had from place of sale, or of the Auctioneer, The Bridge, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 22/7/1899

“It is with regret that we have to record the death of an old and esteemed Walsall townsman in the person of Alderman *Nicholas Roper*, which took place at his residence, Morningside, Lichfield Road, on Monday afternoon, at the age of 75. The deceased gentleman had enjoyed tolerably good health all his life, but a short time ago the weight of years began to tell heavily upon him, and he expired practically from old age after having been confined to his house for over a fortnight. Alderman *Roper* was practically a self-made man, and with his death there passes away one who has witnessed the growth and progress of the ancient borough from a time when things were very different from those existing today. When a lad Mr. *Roper* was apprenticed as a saddler to a Mr. Huddleston, in Pool Street. He was trice married, his first wife being Mrs. Archer, who then kept the LAMP TAVERN in Stafford Street. By her he had his only child, Annie, who died some years ago. Mr. *Roper* subsequently removed to the WHITE HORSE in Park Street, where he resided many years, during which time he developed a considerable business as a maltster, his malting premises being in Hatherton Street, in a block of buildings now used as a saddlery works. After the death of his first wife Mr. *Roper* married Miss Day, of Barr Beacon, who also preceded him, and some five years ago he married Mrs. Beebee, the widow of the former proprietor of the STORK HOTEL, who had taken up her residence in Scarboro’, she survives him. Alderman *Roper* was an ardent Liberal, and years ago took an active part in political matters. He was first elected a member of the Town Council as far back as 1866, and he was created alderman in 1890, being the returning officer for Pleck Ward. He has given very close attention to the works of the Corporation for a great many years, especially in connection with the Streets Committee; although as far as public meetings were concerned he was always of a retiring disposition, and displayed no special ambition for prominence. He had been retired from business for several years, and was generally respected in the town by people of all sections and parties. The funeral took place at Rushall Churchyard.....”

1901 Census

41, Park Street

[1] *George Thomas* (45), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Mary Thomas* (43), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Cissie Thomas* (17), daughter, milliner, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *John Thomas* (16), son, barman, born Wolverhampton;

[5] *George Thomas* (11), son;

[6] *Robert Thomas* (8), son;

[7] *Herbert Thomas* (2), son;

[8] *William Morgan* (28), barman, born Wales;

[9] *Mary Onions* (9), general servant, born Walsall:

G. Thomas was a committee member of Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1910

“*Frederick Johnson* (26), a bobber, of 83, Long Street, was placed in the dock on a charge of having indecently assaulted *Mary Hughes* (19), who lodges in Queen Street.

Evidence was given by the prosecutor to the effect that after prisoner had ‘treated’ her to a glass of ale in the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, he followed her into Queen Street, and when she had passed her house prisoner pulled her into an entry and attempted to assault her. She shouted and policeman came.

Police-sergeant Nunn said that he heard shouts and arrested prisoner.

Johnson pleaded guilty and asked for another chance – it was his first offence.

The Bench reduced the charge to one of common assault and sentenced prisoner to 14 days’ hard labour, and Mr. Jupp told the woman that they thought she had acted very imprudently in going into the public-house and accepting drink from the prisoner, and also in passing her house when she knew the man was following her. They hoped it would be a lesson to her.

At the conclusion of the Court prisoner’s aunt, who was in tears, asked the Magistrates to alter their decision to a fine as prisoner’s mother was very ill.

After a consultation the Magistrates decided to do that, the fine being 20s and costs (5s 6d), which was shortly afterwards paid.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/7/1910

“James Taylor (34), hawker, no fixed abode, and Thomas Smith (40), labourer of no fixed abode, were charged with being on enclosed premises of the Meadow Dairy Company, 43, Park Street, for an unlawful purpose on July 14th. Arthur Alcock said that on the day in question he was assisting at the WHITE HORSE, in Park Street, and just before 11 o’clock the two men went down the entry. They did not return so the police were informed. Police-constable Wilkes said he went down the WHITE HORSE entry, and into the yard of the Meadow Dairy Company, where he found the two prisoners in an out-house. They had had to climb a wall 4ft 6 inches high. On Taylor were found some tramp tickets, and on Smith a knife and a razor. Both prisoners said they had walked thirty miles, and had gone there for a sleep. Remanded for a week for enquiries to be made.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/3/1911

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *Alfred Medlam*, WHITE HORSE HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall.....”

1911 Census

41, Park Street – WHITE HORSE

- [1] *Alfred Medlam* (44), manager licensed house, born Birmingham;
- [2] Mary Anne Blanter Medlam (39), wife, married 16 years, born Cheshire;
- [3] Alfred John Blanter Medlam (14), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Phyllis Louisa Medlam (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Ada Medlam (33), sister, born Birmingham;
- [6] Louisa Francis Johnson (12), niece;
- [7] Mable Goode (20), domestic servant;
- [8] Emily Stubbs (36), charwoman, born Staffordshire (British subject to parentage):

Walsall Advertiser 9/3/1912

“Stealing a pair of football boots, value 10s 6d, the property of Walsall Football Club, was the charge preferred against John Hickinbottom (29), labourer, Green Lane.

Evidence was given by Benjamin Chance, professional footballer, who plays left-back for Walsall, to the effect that the boots (produced) were the pair he wore to play in. He saw them last safe at 8.30 on Saturday night when they were in his bag, which he placed under the seat in the bar at the WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street. He left them for about fifteen minutes, and on returning found that the boots had been taken out of his bag. He saw prisoner whom he knew well by sight, in the house at the time. He reported the matter to the police, and on Tuesday afternoon was shown the boots by a detective.

Detective-constable Ayres stated that he recovered the boots on Monday, and arrested prisoner on the same night in Goodall Street. In answer to the charge he said, ‘I own I took the boots out of the bag, but I was under the influence of drink’ and added, ‘I did not know anything about them until Sunday morning when my wife asked me where I had had them from, and I told her I did not know.’

It was prisoner’s first appearance, and a fine of 10s and costs, or seven days was imposed.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/9/1912

“Mr. and Mrs. *Alf Medlam*, who are leaving the WHITE HORSE HOTEL, Park Street, to take over the SPRING COTTAGE HOTEL, Paddock, have been the recipients of an interesting presentations from the customers and friends. The presentation to Mr. *Medlam* was a handsome cabinet, and also a cigarette and cigar case, the latter having his initials inscribed on it. The present to Mrs. *Medlam* was a very pretty biscuit barrel, and Miss Saney, the barmaid, was also presented with a silver brush. The presentations were made by Mr. Charles Lord on behalf of the customers.”

Alfred Medlam – see also DOLPHIN, George Street, LITTLETON ARMS, SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock.

Walsall Observer 7/3/1914 - Advert

“Re *George James*, Deceased. Re *Mary James*, Deceased.

All Persons having any Debts or Claims against the estates of the above named, are requested to send in Particulars thereof to me, the undersigned, administrator of the said estates, on or before the 21st day of March, 1914.

George Ernest James, the WHITE HORSE HOTEL, Park Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 21/3/1914 - Deaths

“On the 17th inst, suddenly at Birmingham, *George Ernest*, the beloved husband of *Florence James*, WHITE HORSE, Park Street, aged 38. *In the midst of life we are in death.*”

Walsall Observer 21/3/1914

“Mr. *George James*, the landlord of the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, expired suddenly in Birmingham, on Tuesday afternoon. Deceased, who was but 38 years of age, went into Birmingham on Tuesday afternoon, to see Mr. Alf Medlam of the SPRING COTTAGE, Paddock, play in the Licensed Victuallers’ Billiards Handicap. About 2.15, deceased and Mr. Middlebrook were just

entering corporation Street from Stephenson Place, when the former turned to his companion and complained of feeling dazed. Almost immediately he staggered forward, but was prevented from falling by Mr. Middlebrook. Assistance was rendered, and on arrival at the Birmingham General Hospital, where he was taken, death was found to have taken place. Deceased leaves a wife and four children. The inquest was held on Wednesday, when a verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned. Mr. James had recently been attended by Dr. Baker for nervous trouble.”

[Mr. Alf Medlam was beaten in the final of the Birmingham and District Licensed Victuallers’ Annual Billiard Handicap (800 points up), by Mr. J. Adams, landlord of the CROSS GUNS HOTEL, West Bromwich, by 800 to 621 points.]

Walsall Observer 30/5/1914 - Advert

“The new light racing Cycle which belonged to the late Mr. *George James*, of the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, is for sale. Apply, 145, Bloxwich Road.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/7/1914

“A combined ‘smoker’ and rally in connection with No.1 Division of the London and Manchester Industrial Assurance Company Limited took place at the WHITE HORSE, Park Street, on Friday evening week. Mr. J. Pritchard presided over a company numbering upwards of sixty.....”

George Ernest James – see also LITTLETON ARMS.

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

WHITE HORSE, Park Street, Walsall, 2s 6d.”

Arthur George Saunders – see also MALT SHOVEL.

Harry Hill – see also NEW STATION.

Walsall Observer 14/5/1938

“At a meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers Society at the ROYAL OAK, Blakenall, on Thursday..... Mr. *W. G. Higgins*, WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, Walsall, was elected a member.”

1939 Register

41, Park Street

[1] *Fred Day*, date of birth 21/2/1901, manager licensed house, married;

[2] *Ethel M. Day*, dob 11/8/1899, assistant manager licensed house, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Fred Day*, dob 6/2/1923, draughtsman, improver, single:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1940

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

WHITE HORSE INN, Park Street, £1 14s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WHITE HORSE, Park Street. £1 4s 8d.”

It closed on 30th August 1958.

WHITE HORSE

9, Upper Green Lane, (8, (9), (35), (169), (Upper) Green Lane), Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Simkins, Pleck, Walsall

Richard Foxall

Mrs. Elizabeth Foxall, Vicarage Street, Walsall

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1899)
City Brewery Co (Lichfield) Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Simkiss [1841] – [1842]
Joseph Simkiss [1845] – [1851]
John Gregory [1858] – [1862]
Thomas James [1863] – [1870]
Mrs. Mary James [1869] – [1873];
Richard Foxall [];
Mrs. Elizabeth Foxall [1880];
Edward Cooper [1881] – **1897**);
Miss Phyllis Cooper (**1897 – 1903**);
David Cooper (**1903 – 1915**);
Alfred Deans (**1915 – 1917**);
Emily Elsie Deans (**1917 – 1919**);
Alfred Deans (**1919 – 1921**);
David Walker (**1921 – 1922**);
Cornelius Williams (**1922 – 1954**);
Mrs. Mary Williams (**1954 – 1963**);
James Ball (**1963 – 1965**);
Harry Ball (**1965 – [1966]**)

NOTES

Birchills [1850], [1851], [1864]
Green Lane [1841], [1842], [1868], [1870], [1904]
Birchills Green Lane [1851]
35, Green Lane [1861]
169, Green Lane [1871]
9, Green Lane [1891], [1901]
9, Upper Green Lane [1911], [1912], [1932], [1940], [1954]

It was situated opposite to Alma Street.

It had a brewery and malthouse attached.

London Gazette 12/12/1848 - Notice

“Whereas a Petition of Meshach *Simkiss*, at present, and for nine months and upwards last past, residing at Lodgings at the WHITE HORSE Public-house, at the Birchills, in the foreign of Walsall, and county of Stafford and for nine months and upwards previous thereto residing in Lodgings at Lambeth’s-end, in the parish of West Bromwich, and county aforesaid, and during that time occasionally residing in Lodgings at the WHITE HORSE aforesaid, and for twelve months and upwards previous thereto residing at Netherton, in the parish of Dudley, and county of Worcester, and during the whole of the periods aforesaid carrying on the business of a Miner, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said Meshach *Simkiss*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said Meshach *Simkiss* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 27th day of December instant, at one in the afternoon, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes, and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said Meshach *Simkiss*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. William Cotterill, the Clerk of the said Court, at his offices, in Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

1851 Census

Birchills Green Lane

- [1] *Joseph Simkiss* (45), ironstone miner and victualler, born Netherton;
- [2] Mary Ann Simkiss (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mick Simkiss (30), lodger, ironstone miner, born Netherton;
- [4] Keturah Fletcher (19), visitor, born Netherton;
- [5] Hannah Baggott (15), general servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Free Press 17/10/1857 - Advert

“To be Sold, a Strong Four-years-old Half-bred Bay Mare; warranted Sound and Steady in Harness.

To be seen at the WHITE HORSE, Birchills.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/9/1859 - Advert

“Wanted, a steady Young Man, to reside in the House, as Brewer and to make himself generally useful. Apply at the WHITE HORSE, Birchills, Walsall.”

Birmingham Journal 15/10/1859

“On Tuesday afternoon a discovery of a most singular nature was made at the works of Messrs. Highway, Birchill Furnaces. It appears that there was formerly a culvert, into which surplus steam was let when the works were in full occupation. This culvert was accessible from the road close by, and some children, having in their curiosity and fun crept up, where somewhat alarmed by the offensive smell which proceeded therefrom. They, however, went up until they discovered some bones, and then they informed a man near the spot, who gave information to the police. A search was then made, and the skeleton of a boy, about fifteen years of age, was discovered. There were some remains of wearing apparel, and a pair of boot-clogs upon the feet; but the flesh was completely off the bones, a portion of the intestines only remaining. The bones were removed to the WHITE HORSE INN, and enquiries were made, but no clue has as yet been ascertained as to who the unfortunate boy was, or how he came by his death. The presumption is, that he got into the culvert, which was warm, for the purpose of sleeping, and that during the time he lay there a quantity of hot steam must have been blown into it, by which scalding and suffocation would be produced. The police are making enquiries, with the view of discovering who the deceased was. An inquest was held on the body on Wednesday, and a verdict of Found Dead was recorded.”

Walsall Free Press 29/9/1860 - Advert

“For Sale, a Sow and Seven Pigs.
May be seen at the WHITE HORSE INN, Birchills.”

Walsall Free Press 8/10/1860

“Thomas Russel, aged between six and seven years, who resided at Collier’s Row, Birchills, died suddenly at two o’clock on Sunday morning last. Deceased had complained of being unwell the previous evening. At the inquest which was held at the WHITE HORSE, Birchills, on Wednesday last, a verdict of Death from Natural Causes, was returned.”

Walsall Free Press 9/2/1861 - Advert

“Ale! Ale!! Ale!!!
If you wish to taste a glass of good Ale, call at *John Gregory’s*, the WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, Birchills.
Prime Ale always on tap at 4d per Quart.”

Walsall Free Press 23/3/1861 - Advert

“To Be Disposed Of, a first class light Skeleton Gig, with leather Dash &c, complete.
To be seen at Mr. *Gregory’s*, WHITE HORSE INN, Birchills.”

1861 Census

35, Green Lane – WHITE HORSE

- [1] *John Gregory* (54), victualler and boiler maker, employing 2 men 1 boy, born London;
- [2] *Mary Gregory* (57), born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Ann Clamp* (23), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 19/7/1862 - Advert

“To Be Sold Cheap, a Pony (well known in Walsall). Harness and Dog Trap complete.
For further particulars apply to Mr. *Gregory*, the WHITE HORSE INN, Birchills.”

Walsall Free Press 27/9/1862

“About half-past eight on Thursday morning, *John Gregory*, landlord of the WHITE HORSE INN, Birchills, attempted to commit suicide by cutting his throat. Fortunately, however, he only succeeded in inflicting a slight wound. The unfortunate man, who is advanced in years, had been for some time despondent in mind.”

Birmingham Journal 1/11/1862 - Advert

“WHITE HORSE, Birchills, Walsall.
To be Let, with immediate possession, in consequence of the death of the late Proprietor, the above Old-established House. A capital trade has been carried on in it for some years, which may be considerably improved. Coming-in from £200 to £300.
Apply to Mr. Geo. Bayley, Auctioneer, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 3/10/1863

“*Thomas James*, landlord of the WHITE HORSE public house, Birchills, was charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours on Sunday last. Defendant admitted the charge, but stated that, on the morning in question, a person called and said one of the workmen at Mr. Jones’s works had been taken ill and required a little brandy. Defendant, who was washing himself at the time, told the girl to supply the party with brandy, and, while she was doing so, two men came in and

requested her to fill them some ale, and she did so. Defendant, on coming into the bar, reproved the girl for what she had done. The Bench considered the servant was the guilty party, but inasmuch as he was responsible for his servant's act they would fine him 1s and costs; but, in dealing with his application for a renewal of license, would not permit it to militate against him."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/11/1866

"*Thomas James*, landlord of the WHITE HORSE public-house, Birchills, was fined 5s and costs for having had his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours on the morning of Sunday last."

Walsall Free Press 8/12/1868

"Walsall Improvement Commission.....

Mr. Williams called attention to a nuisance at the Birchills, which, he said, if not remedied, would kill all the people in the neighbourhood. Mr. Roper said there was a nuisance at the WHITE HORSE, Birchills. The Clerk said, in reply, as the attention of the owners of the premises on which both middens were had been called, if the nuisances were not removed the owners could be summoned."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/7/1869

"Yesterday, Mr. A. A. Fletcher, Coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the WHITE HORSE public-house, Green Lane, kept by Mrs. *James*, upon the body of James Grey, aged nine years. It appears that about ten o'clock in Sunday forenoon, deceased and two other boys went to bathe in the canal at Birchills, and when they had been in the water about twenty minutes the deceased suddenly sank, and never rose again. An alarm was given by the other boys, and the canal was dragged, but the body was not recovered till 8.15pm, when a man named Thomas Kendrick dived in and brought it out.

The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Walsall Free Press 4/6/1870

"*Mary James*, landlady of the WHITE HORSE public-house, Birchills, was charged with having had her house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours, namely, at 9.30am on Sunday last. Police-constable Bryford, who proved the case, said at the time in question he was passing the defendant's house and saw a man receive two cans containing malt liquor; and on seeing this he asked the man and also the attendant in the house how they accounted for beer being supplied at that hour, and they both said it was 'pit beer,' supplied to the man for the purpose of being taken to the men at the works. Mr. Dale, who appeared for the defendant, contended that the house was not open within the meaning of the Act, because the doors were shut. The Bench considered the case was not of such a character as to merit punishment, and, therefore dismissed the case. Mr. Cater, said now the case had been disposed of, he wished to inform the Bench that both the employers of labour and the residents at the Birchills complained that on Sundays numbers of drunken men were continually rolling about the roads in that locality, he had directed the officers to be more vigilant.

Mr. Shannon said the officer had done quite rightly in reporting the case. Then addressing Mr. Cater said: You did not taste the beer. – No, I did not. Mr. Shannon: Because if you had you would have found the men could not get rolling drunk with it. (Laughter)."

1871 Census

169, Green Lane – WHITE HORSE

- [1] *Mary James* (72), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Jane James (32), widow, domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [3] Mary A. Nock (22), domestic servant, born Bilston:

Birmingham Daily Post 15/8/1871

"At the Police Court, yesterday, before Messrs. E. T. Holden and F. B. Oerton, *Mary James*, landlady of the WHITE HORSE public-house, Birchills, was charged with having permitted drunkenness in her house. Mr. Dale (from the offices of Messrs. Duignan, Lewis and Lewis) appeared on behalf of the defendant.

Police-constable Pardon stated that on Tuesday, the 8th inst, he visited the house of the defendant about six o'clock in the evening, and found forty or fifty men assembled in the back premises, some men fighting in a front room, fourteen or fifteen drunk in the same room. At twenty minutes to eight, there were thirty or forty men drunk then, several of whom had been supplied with liquor, although he advised the young woman in charge of the house, the defendant being ill in bed at the time, not to fill any more liquor. Twenty minutes later, also, he still found drunkenness and disorder in the house.

Acting-sergeant Wake corroborated the statement that there were drunken men in the house.

Mr. Dale pleaded that there had been a great influx of visitors into defendant's house, owing to a large number of navvies employed upon an adjoining railway being in the habit of frequenting the house, and Mrs. *James* had been unable to turn them out when they created disorder. This would not occur again, he said, as Mrs. *James* was going to have a manger in the house. Mr. Dale pleaded defendant's previous character, stating that she had been a publican for forty-five years, and had only been once convicted.

The Mayor said the Bench had some difficulty in deciding the case leniently, but they had taken into consideration that Mrs. *James* was ill in bed at the time the disorder took place in her house, and they should therefore inflict a fine of 40s and costs; had it not been that she was ill, the fine would have been much heavier."

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1871

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions. This session took place at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

Mr. Glover then applied for the renewal of the licenses of the undermentioned, whose licenses were suspended on licensing day.....

Mary James, WHITE HORSE, near Birchills. Granted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/3/1872

“At a meeting of engine-tenders, held at the WHITE HORSE, the Birchills, on Saturday night, it was resolved not to allow any but competent engine-tenders to enter engine-houses of the members of the branch; and it was further resolved to prosecute all employers allowing unqualified men to work their engines. Some notices for the advance had, it was stated, been served, and those were to stand, but the consideration of the time and mode of a general notice was deferred for a week.”

Evening Express 1/4/1881

“Thomas Higgins, Lower Rushall Street, and Thomas Evans, High Street, were charged with having assaulted Police-constable Atkins.

It appeared the officer was called to the men, who had been quarrelsome in the WHITE HORSE public house, Birchills, and on coming out the prisoners laid hold of him and Higgins struck him. The officer then blew his whistle, and Sergeant Williams and Acting-sergeant Mincer came to his assistance.

Sergeant Williams gave corroborative evidence.

The prisoners, who had not been previously convicted, were each sentenced to pay a fine of 20s and costs, or, in default, to be imprisoned for one month.”

1881 Census

WHITE HORSE

- [1] *Edward Cooper* (47), collier and publican, born Lancashire;
- [2] *Ann Cooper* (46), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Phyllis Cooper* (21), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Cooper* (14), daughter, servant to father, born Walsall;
- [5] *William E. Cooper* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Eliza Raybould* (18), general servant, born Ruston, Worcestershire:

Evening Express 20/5/1881

“On Thursday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coroner, held an inquest at the WHITE HORSE public house, Green Lane, Walsall, touching the death of Florence Parings, aged four weeks, whose parents reside in Alma Street.

From the evidence of the deceased’s father, it appeared that the child enjoyed good health from birth until seven days prior to her death, when she became ill. Mr. Palmer, who attended the mother in her confinement, saw the child eight days after birth, and discovered that it was suffering from ‘frocks’, and ordered borax and honey to be applied in the mouth of the child, which was accordingly done. Mr. Palmer saw the child four times after birth, and when told by the mother that she had carried out his instructions he said he could do no better. Mr. Sharp (the partner of Mr. Palmer) saw the deceased’s mother once after her confinement, but though both of them were subsequently sent and called for several times to attend to the child, who died on the 15th inst, neither of the surgeons came after Monday, the 25th of April.

The Coroner: When they did not come you should have sent for someone else.

Witness said he was out of work and had no money, and he supposed the reason why the surgeons had not come was because he had not paid them for the confinement.

The Coroner: Did you not think it was your duty to procure medical assistance for your child when you found they would not come.

The witness here answered in such a very incoherent and contradictory manner that the Coroner asked him if he had been drinking, and, getting no satisfactory reply, committed him for contempt of Court. The foreman and several of the jury also made some very strong remarks in reference to the conduct of the witness.

Jane Pitt, a neighbour, deposed that the fourth day after the child was born she called Mr. Palmer’s attention to the child’s mouth, but he did not order any medicine, neither did he direct anything to be applied to the child’s mouth. About a week before the deceased died, Mr. Palmer was sent for six or seven times, but he did not come.

Sarah Parings, mother of the deceased, corroborated the evidence already given, and stated that she should have sent for the parish doctor had she known she could have had his assistance for the deceased.

The Coroner said the evidence showed that the deceased died from ‘frocks’, which required careful medical attention. There had been neglect, but he did not see that they could fix it upon anyone. No doubt Mr. Sharp and Mr. Palmer were not bound to attend deceased; but he thought they were to blame in not telling the parents that they would not attend. After a short consultation the foreman said the jury were of opinion that the deceased died from Natural Causes; but they thought Mr. Sharp, who was the head of the firm, was to blame in not giving a direct refusal to the parents. It was evident the parents were under the impression that, having attended the mother in her confinement, the surgeons were bound to attend the child for one month after its birth. Had the parents been told that Mr. Sharp or Mr. Palmer would not attend they might have got other medical assistance. The jury did not think there was culpable neglect, and could therefore return a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

Evening Express 12/12/1881

“An inquest was held at the WHITE HORSE INN, Birchills, this (Monday) afternoon, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, borough coro-

ner, touching the death of Bridget Birgon, aged 40 years, who was found drowned in the canal on Saturday afternoon last. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased left her home between six and seven o'clock on Friday, with a dense fog prevailing at the time, to purchase some provisions, and for this purpose she would require to go along the canal path for a short distance. The deceased did not return, and for several days a search was made in the canal for the body, but without success, until Saturday afternoon, when the body was found floating in the canal opposite Bunch's ironworks. The deceased was not subject to fits, and was on good terms with her husband when she left the house. A verdict of Found Drowned was returned."

Edward Cooper was fined 10s and costs, on 30th December 1885, for opening before 12.30.

Walsall Observer 1/3/1890

"The following inquests have been held during the week by Mr. T. H. Stanley, the borough coroner.....

At the WHITE HORSE, Birchills, on Tuesday, on the body of Thomas Henry Barber, aged seven weeks, whose parents reside at Alma Street. Evidence was given that the child was all right apparently on Saturday, but that early on Sunday morning it became convulsed and died.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned."

1891 Census

9, Green Lane – WHITE HORSE

[1] *Edward Cooper* (57), widower, licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Phyllis Cooper* (31), daughter, born Walsall;

[3] Mary Cooper (24), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] William Cooper (21), son, brush maker, born Walsall;

[5] Ann Pritchard (23), general servant, born Walsall;

[6] Elijah Cooper (63), visitor, miner, born Walsall;

[7] William Lane (15), adopted son, bridle cutter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1893

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. The usual monthly meeting of the management committee was held on Thursday last (having been postponed from the previous Thursday, the day on which the Parliamentary election took place, at Mr. William Brown's, BLUE PIG INN, New Street.....

New members..... Mr. *Edward Cooper*, WHITE HORSE INN, Green Lane."

Walsall Advertiser 17/4/1897

"Wednesday was a special transfer day at Walsall and the following licenses were transferred.....

WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, executors of *Edward Cooper* (deceased), to *Phyllis Cooper*."

London Gazette 14/5/1897

"Re *Edward Cooper* Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands upon or against the estate of *Edward Cooper* late of the WHITE HORSE INN Birchills Walsall in the county of Stafford Licensed Victualler deceased (who died on the 6th day of February 1897 and whose will was proved in the District Registry at Lichfield of the Probate Division of Her Majesty's High Court of Justice on the 7th day of May 1897 by William Lane of Bloxwich-road Walsall aforesaid Mining Engineer and Enoch Evans of Birchills Walsall aforesaid Architect and Surveyor, the executors therein named) are hereby required to send in particulars in writing of their claims or demands to me the undersigned Solicitor to the said executors on or before the first day of July 1897 after which date the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice and the said executors will not be liable or accountable for the assets or any part thereof so distributed to any person of whose debt or claim they shall not then have had notice.

Dated the 10th day of May 1897."

Walsall Observer 27/10/1900

"An inquest was held by Mr. T. H. Stanley (borough coroner) on Thursday afternoon, at the WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, on the body of Harriet Poole, living at 4, Alma Street, off Green Lane, who died suddenly on Tuesday.

Phoebe Corfield, the wife of Samuel Corfield, a miner, living at 4, Alma Street, stated that the deceased was her mother, whose body had been viewed at witness's house. She was the wife of William Poole, and lived at Hanley. She came on a visit to witness in January last, and had stayed with her since, following the occupation of midwife. At about four o'clock on Tuesday afternoon deceased had tea with witness, and then went out. Shortly afterwards witness was called by a neighbor to her mother, who was in the closet in a state of insensibility. With the assistance of her husband, she carried deceased into the house on a chair. Witness believed she as then dead. Dr. O'Meara was called in, and saw her. About two months ago deceased had a slight stroke. Elizabeth Baldwin, the wife of James Baldwin, of 6, Alma Street, spoke to finding deceased in an unconscious state. Witness spoke to her, but she could not answer.

Dr. O'Meara stated that he was called in to see Mrs. Poole at about a quarter to five. She was lying on a couch. He made an outward examination, and found she was dead. There was no marks of violence, but there were slight traces of dropsy. He conclud-

ed, from the extreme suddenness of the death and the presence of dropsy, that she died from heart disease. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

1901 Census

9, Green Lane – WHITE HORSE INN

- [1] *Phyllis Cooper* (42), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Cooper* (35), sister, assistant in house, born Walsall;
- [3] *Phyllis Mold* (14), niece, born Walsall;
- [4] *Edward Kirkham* (14), nephew, born Walsall;
- [5] *Mary Brotherton* (18), niece, born Walsall;
- [6] *Jane Osborne* (24), servant, born Walsall;
- [7] *Joseph Kirkham* (38), brewer, born Coseley;

Walsall Advertiser 31/10/1903

“Mr. S. A. Grundy-Newman made an application for the extension of a smoke room at the WHITE HORSE, Green Lane. The additional space would be about 7ft by 9ft. The owner also desired to make alteration to a window which was then in a very dilapidated condition. The alterations would afford better facilities and better accommodation to the customers of the house. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904 - Advert

“For Sale or to Let, Poplar House and Premises, Bloxwich Road, Leamore. Good position for any business that requires plenty of room.

Apply, *D. Cooper*, WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, Birchills.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/11/1905

“A miner named *Thomas Faulkner* (39), 66, Upper Green Lane, was charged with stealing a gold ring, value £10, the property of *David Cooper*, WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, on the 27th ult.

Prosecutor stated that at 8.30 on the date named, prisoner went into his house, and called for a drink. Witness at the time was showing some of his customers a diamond ring, and prisoner asked to let him have a look at it. Witness put the ring into his hand and then prisoner put it on his finger, and after having another drink, went out the house by the front door. Witness thought he had only gone into the yard, but from another customer told him after he had been waiting almost three quarters of an hour witness sent a man after him. Prisoner, however, refused to return the ring, and witness himself went to the prisoner’s house, but he still refused to give it up, so he informed the police.

Police-constable *Williams* (41) stated that at 10.10 on the date in question he was called to the WHITE HORSE, where the landlord complained that prisoner had stolen a ring from him. He went to the BOAT INN, where he found prisoner with the ring on his finger, and in answer to a question as to what he was doing with it he said, ‘Yes, it’s my ring, and I will have my hand cut off before I will give it up.’ He then brought the prisoner to the station and the ring was taken off his finger.

Prisoner said he had had a lot of drink, and did not know what he was doing at the time.

The Bench said prisoner had been guilty of a very silly trick, but they considered the landlord was somewhat to blame for flashing the ring about in the house in the manner he had. Prisoner would go to prison for two months’ hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/4/1907

“At the Rushall Police Court on Monday, before Messrs. W. H. Brookes (presiding) and J. F. Crump, *Hyla Whitehead* (21), and *Thomas Edgerton* (19), both of Brownhills, were charged with stealing a pigeon basket on the 2nd inst. Mr. R. J. Marriott (Beale and Co.) prosecuted on behalf of the Midland Railway Company.

David Cooper, WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, Walsall, deposed to despatching a basket of pigeons from North Walsall to Bromsgrove, where the pigeons were to be liberated and the basket returned.

Cabel Penn, porter at Aldridge Station, stated that prisoners got out of a train just after midnight, and after the train had left for Walsall, he saw the prisoners walk up the platform. While doing so *Edgerton* picked up the basket, which was on the platform and they went out of the station. He informed another porter and they went and met the prisoners on the railway bridge, and taxed them with having stolen the basket, and then gave them into custody. The label which was attached to the basket had been torn off.

Albert Sage, signalman at Aldridge, and *John Whitmore*, booking clerk, gave corroborative evidence.

Police-constable *Ansell*, who took the prisoners into custody, said he handed them over to Police-constable *Collins*, and when charged by that officer *Edgerton* said ‘No fear,’ and *Whitehead* replied ‘We knew that before.’

Sergeant *Needham* said he found they were very respectable young men and had nothing against them previously.

The charges were not pressed against them and each was ordered to pay the costs (17s).”

1911 Census

9, Upper Green Lane – WHITE HORSE INN

- [1] *David Cooper* (43), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ellen Cooper*, wife, married 23 years, assisting in the business, born Harden, near Walsall;
- [3] *Annie Saunders* (23), cousin, barmaid, born Walsall;

Walsall Advertiser 23/12/1911

“An action was heard by Judge Howard Smith at the Walsall County Court on Tuesday afternoon, in which *David Cooper*, a publican, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Green Lane, sued Arthur Bate, of Persehouse Lane, for £7, damages to a horse, caused by a collision with defendant’s motorcycle. There was a counter-claim of £9 15s damage to the motorcycle. Mr. Frank Cooper appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Loxton defended.

The plaintiff’s case was that a driver named Frederick Appleby was at Rushall on October 13th with plaintiff’s horse and cart, when Bate, who was riding a motorcycle, came up. He was not looking where he was going, and ran his cycle into the horse, hurting it badly.

For the defence it was stated that plaintiff’s horse and cart came out of a lane, and was on the wrong side of the road.

The Judge gave a verdict for defendant on the counter-claim for £4 with costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/2/1914

“Thomas Russell (27), labourer, of 3, Red Lion Street, was charged with stealing a wheelbarrow and a quantity of coal. The Chief Constable asked the Bench to discharge the man after hearing the landlord of a public house at which Russell had been a customer. The landlord of the WHITE HORSE, Upper Green Lane (Mr. *Cooper*), told the Bench that during the Tube Strike he gave people permission to use his barrow and fetch coal out of the yard.

The Chief Constable: So that if people in future are found fetching coal from your yard, you can’t prefer a charge against them? –

Witness: Yes.

The Chief Constable: I want the magistrates to understand the extraordinary position this landlord takes with regard to thieving.

Mr. E. Blyth asked, now that the strike is over, whether the permission to fetch coal from this yard still held good.

Witness: Yes, I have got plenty of coal in.

The prisoner was discharged.”

Walsall Observer 28/3/1914 - Advert

“To Let or for Sale, House, Shopping, and Let-off Shops, corner of Green Lane and Bloxwich Road, Leamore; splendid frontage; good position for motor garage, etc.

Apply. *D. Cooper*, WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 20/6/1914 - Advert

“For Sale, Brake, Waggonette, Truck, rubber tyred Trap, Blast fan, complete with fly wheel, blacksmith’s Anvil, Bellows and Vice, cheap.

Apply, WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/8/1914

“An interesting right-of-way case occupied the attention of the magistrates at Walsall Police Court yesterday (Friday) when Lily Tonks, of Blakenall Heath, and Jeph Dodd, of Blakenall Heath, were summoned for having wilfully damaged a wall, the property of *David Cooper*, of Green Lane, to the extent of 30/-, between 25th and 26th July.

Mr. Cooper for the complainant, and said Mr. *Cooper* was the owner of some cottages at Blakenall Heath, and the defendants were the occupiers of some adjoining property. Mr. Evans for the defence would submit that there was a bona fide claim by the defendants, but he (Mr. Cooper) suggested that the man at any rate, overthrew the wall after having a considerable amount of drink, and in a spirit of bravado. The defendants were not the owners of the property where they resided, and, had there been a claim of right, it would have been that of the owner.

David Cooper, licensee of the WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, said defendant occupied cottages near his cottage property at Blakenall Heath. Witnesses cottages stood back from the roadway, and had gardens in front of them. Three weeks ago he caused to be built a wall dividing his gardens from the adjoining wall. The wall –every brick of it – was knocked down during the previous weekend.

Mr. Evans: Do you tell the magistrates seriously that this wall was built to separate the gardens? – Complainant: To make the garden. These were beautiful gardens a short time ago.

Do you mean to say that wall was not built where the Corporation carts are accustomed to go? – That is not so.

Pointing to a sketch, Mr. Evans asked Mr. *Cooper* whether a road across which he was said to have built the wall had been an open road for eighty years.

Mr. Cooper: Obviously he cannot answer that Mr. Evans.

Mr. Evans: How old are you? – Forty six.

Mr. Evans: Has it been open for forty-six years? (Laughter).

A Magistrate: Possibly he cannot remember that long.

Mr. Evans: Has it always been open? – Complainant: I cannot say.

Have you ever known it closed? – No.

Does the Corporation sewer run along this road? – The sewer to my property does.

The Magistrates Clerk: Who paid for the sewer? – Complainant: I cannot say.

James Vale, the owner of the three cottages at Blakenall Heath, who was called by Mr. Evans, said that of his own knowledge he had known the road as an open one for forty years. Mrs. Tonks, who was a tenant of his complained Mr. *Cooper* had stopped up the right of way. He told her to knock it down, and he would take full responsibility. He saw Mr. *Cooper*, and told him he would have to take down the wall, and he said, ‘Let it remain up for some little time, or I shall look such a fool.’ Witness said he could not consent to this. Witness was the joint owner of the property with Mr. John Horton, and accepted full responsibility for demolishing the wall.

The case was dismissed.”

Walsall Observer 6/2/1915 - Advert

“Fully-Licensed Home Brewing House to Let; Tied to good brewers, known as the WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, Birchills. For particulars, apply on the premises.”

Walsall Observer 24/4/1915 - Advert

“Gent’s Cycle, Sturmey-Archer three-speed, Palme Tyres, good as new; cash £3, worth double. WHITE HORSE, Green Lane, Birchills.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917..... WHITE HORSE, Green Lane. £1 1s 3d.”

It was described in 1925 as “old and in poor repair.”

1939 Register

Green Lane – WHITE HORSE Public House

- [1] *Cornelius Williams*, date of birth 17/12/1893, publican, beerhouse, married;
- [2] *Mary Williams*, dob 30/9/1892, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Hilda Eileen (Williams) Joyce, dob 25/3/1921, cashier, book, single;
- [4] Vera (Williams) Bates, dob 4/10/1923, leather machinist, single;
- [6] Iris (Williams) Wall, dob 19/2/1929, at school, single;
- [7] Mary Ryan, dob 25/3/1914, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [8] Terrance E. Ryan, dob 1/10/1933, at school, single;
- [10] Sheila P. (Ryan) Weatherley, dob 1/6/1938, under school age, single:

1954 Probate

“*Cornelius Williams*, of WHITE HORSE INN, 9 Upper Green Lane, Walsall, Staffordshire, died 9 June 1954 at the General Hospital, Birmingham 4. Administration Birmingham 12 July to *Mary Williams*, widow. Effects £592 7s 4d.”

[2012]

Closed [2016], [2017]

WHITE HORSE

92, Wolverhampton Street, (Wolverhampton Lane), WALSALL

OWNERS

Hannah Osborne, beer retailer, Long Acre Street, Walsall
Nicholas Roper
E. Mason, butcher, Bloxwich
Edgar Evans
Twist’s Brewery Ltd.
Evans Brewery Ltd., Perry Barr [1904]
Atkinsons Ltd. (acquired in 1950)

LICENSEES

William Oakley [1845]
Samuel Cartwright [1849] – [1851]
Samuel Cooper [1854] – [1858]
John Cozens [1860] – **1866**;
Frederick Hems (**1866** – [1871]
Mrs. Eliza Hems [1872] – [1873];
Samuel White [];
David Partridge [];
Joseph Hodgkins [1881] – [1882];

Charles Horton [1885];
Joseph Brough [1887] – 1888);
William Wilkes (1888);
Benjamin Walker (1888 – 1892);
Job Sutton (1892 – 1896);
William Henry Bulwell (1896 – 1901);
Frank Bullivant (1901);
Emily Ellen Bliss (1901 – 1902);
Mrs. Elizabeth Letts (1902 – 1904);
Ernest Vale (1904);
Charles Hill (1904 – 1905);
Frederick ‘Fred’ Bracher (1905 – 1908);
Ernest Thomas (1908 – 1911);
Edward Thomas Taylor (1911 – 1913);
Bernard Broadhurst Perry (1913 – 1920);
Joseph Benjamin Preston (1920 – 1928);
Harvey Salt (1928 – 1932);
Charles Pedley (1932 – 1934);
Sidney Silvester Wood (1934 – 1938);
Leslie Marshall Walker (1938 – 1939);
John Charles Bishop (1939 – 1954);
John James Green (1954 – 1957);
Albert Edward Pledger (1957 – [1966])

NOTES

[1834]

William Oakley was also a tailor. [1845]

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/5/1847 - Notice

“Whereas a Petition of *William Oakley*, at present, and for twelve months now last past, residing in Stafford-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, and being a Journeyman Tailor, and for eighteen months previous thereto at the WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton-lane, Walsall aforesaid, carrying on the business of a Publican, and for twelve months previously thereto residing in Lodgings at the WHITE HORSE, Park-street, Walsall aforesaid, and then carrying on the business of a Tailor, and for three years previously thereto residing at the WHITE HORSE last aforesaid, and then carrying on the business of a Publican, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, and the interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *William Oakley*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *William Oakley* is hereby required to appear in Court before Edmund Robert Daniell, Esq, the Commissioner acting in the matter of the said Petition, on the 26th day of May instant, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon precisely, at the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, at Birmingham, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *William Oakley*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederick Whitmore, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, the Official Assignee, nominated in that behalf by the Commissioner acting in the matter of the said Petition.

John Smith, solicitor, Temple Street, Birmingham.”

1851 Census

Wolverhampton Lane

- [1] *Samuel Cartwright* (32), publican, born Bilston;
- [2] *Martha Cartwright* (36), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Alice Cartwright* (6), daughter, born Ogle, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Kezia Cartwright* (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Samuel Cartwright* (1 month), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Catherine Craddock* (19), domestic servant, born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/11/1854

“On Wednesday Thomas Holman, landlord of the WHITE LION, Little London, was fined 30s and costs for keeping his house open on Sunday week during prohibited hours by the recent Act. It was the second offence, and the Bench warned him that its repetition would lead to the suspension of his license. Charles Welch and *Samuel Cooper*, were each fined 10s for a similar offence.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 13/9/1856

“Monday being the day for the renewal of old licenses and considering the application for new ones, there was a full attendance of magistrates.....

Samuel Cooper, the WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Lane all of whom had been convicted during the past year, were admonished, and informed that unless a reform in the management took place, their licenses would be inevitably withheld.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1836, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o’clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *Cozens*, WHITE HORSE INN.”

Walsall Free Press 12/11/1864

“On Monday afternoon, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Lane, upon the body of a pensioner named William Yates, aged 46, who dropped down dead between the WHITE HORSE and his daughter’s house, on the Friday evening previous.

The Jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Apoplexy.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 31/8/1868 - Advert

“Found, on Monday, the 24th of August, a Brown Mare, about 16 hands, with two white hind legs and a white mark on forehead.

The owner can have it by applying at the WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, and paying all reasonable expenses.”

1871 Census

Wolverhampton Street – WHITE HORSE INN

[1] *Frederick Hems* (33), licensed victualler, born Kings Norton;

[2] *Eliza Hems* (30), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Henry Hems (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Phoebe Hems (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[5] Edward Hems (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;

[6] Maria Hems (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[7] John Hems (1), son, born Walsall;

[8] Clara Brown (12), servant, born Walsall:

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 24/3/1877

“On Thursday an inquest was held by Mr. A. A. Fletcher, the Borough Coroner, at the WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street, on the body of Charles John Tompkins, aged five years whose parents reside in Wolverhampton Street. Deceased had been ill with scarlet fever, but was recovering, and on Monday morning he was left alone in bed. He got up and tried to get something to drink from the mantelpiece, and while doing so his shirt caught fire, and he was severely burnt before his mother, who heard his screams, could get to him. He died on Wednesday afternoon. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1881 Census

92, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Joseph Hodgkins* (58), carpenter, born Bloxwich;

[2] Jane Hodgkins (50), wife, born Rushall;

[3] Ann Hodgkins (30), daughter, buckle coverer, born Ryecroft;

[4] William Hodgkins (23), son, silver plater, born Walsall;

[5] Joseph Perry (9), grandson, scholar, born Walsall:

Lichfield Mercury 13/1/1882

“On Monday at the Guildhall, James Morris (17), was brought up on a warrant, charged with having assaulted Jane Perry, daughter of Mr. *Hodgkins*, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street.

The evidence was to the effect that on the night of the 27th ult. she went to assist in waiting upon the company at her father’s house. In the course of the evening the accused and others took fried fish from an old man who was hawking it, and, as they would not pay, a disturbance arose. An endeavour was made to get the thieves out of the house, and as the prisoner was passing the complainant, who was holding the door open, he struck her on the mouth, knocking out three of her teeth. Subsequently he called upon her with a companion, to ask her to withdraw from the prosecution; the companion telling her that if she did not do so she would be kicked to death.

The defendant was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment with hard labour; and the Bench expressed a hope that the companion who used the threats would be discovered and brought to justice.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 21/8/1885

“Today (Friday), at Bilston Court, *Charles Horton*, landlord of the WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, was charged with stealing four bottles of liquor and other articles from the CASTLE HOTEL, Darlaston. The evidence for the prosecution tended to show that a sale was recently held at the hotel, at which defendant attended and bought certain articles. After the sale the place was locked up, but on the manager going into the wine cellar some time afterwards he found the door had been forced, and a puncheon containing brandy removed from its place. Defendant was subsequently found in a house in Cock Street with two bottles of liquor in his possession, and when charged with the theft said he was under the influence of drink. The case was remanded for a week, and Mr. J. Sheldon, who defended, in applying for bail, said his client bore a good character, that he was a licensed victualler at Walsall, and was formerly a manufacturer at Bloxwich, and the liquor, he should contend, was obtained without felonious intent. Bail was allowed.”

AND

Wolverhampton Express and Star 8/9/1885

“*Charles Horton*, licensed victualler, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, was charged with stealing a quantity of brandy and cordial, value 50s, belonging to Henry Frank Chadwick, manager of the CASTLE HOTEL, Darlaston. Mr. Green, of Darlaston, prosecuted, and Mr. Sheldon, of Wednesbury, defended. The facts of the case have already received publicity. The Bench committed defendant to take his trial at the Stafford Sessions, and allowed bail. Mr. Sheldon reserved his defence.”

[*Charles Horton* did not appear at Staffordshire Quarter Sessions in October 1885. The recognizances of the prisoner and of his bail to be estreated.]

Joseph Brough was fined 20s and costs, on 15th July 1887, for Sunday trading.

Walsall Observer 24/9/1887

“Walsall Licensing Sessions

The adjourned annual licensing meeting was held yesterday, at the Sessions Court.....

Applications which had been adjourned owing to the tenants having been convicted during the past year.

The following were granted.....

WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/7/1888

“At the Rose Show held last Saturday at Mr. *Wilke*’s, WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street, a novelty was exhibited – not for competition – in the shape of a monster bouquet of wild flowers, made up by Mr. Carter, of Wharf Street, Pleck. It is about ten pounds in weight; diameter 2ft 2in; and 6ft 6in circumference. It is laid on a network of foliage of sprays of beech; the centre bloom being cornflower, blue, surrounded by a corona of golden rod, relieved by a circle of hard-head buds, this again being relieved with yellow vetches. From this to a star of white dog daises, filled in on the various angles on one side with blue cornflowers, and on the other with very young sprays from the oak, these forming a most delicate contrast. Now follows a ring of yellow dog daises, finally to be filled into the beech foliage with full-blown yarrow flowers. The whole is so closely woven together that it appears to be a solid mass of colour; and if to carry the idea still further, a halo is formed above it by the insertion of quaker grass. It has been sent as a gift to the Walsall Cottage Hospital. The rose blooms exhibited were very choice, both in quality and colour. We were shown a remarkable freak of nature in the vegetable kingdom, viz, a radish resembling in shape to a human hand, thumb, four fingers, knuckles prominent, palm and wrist. It is about three inches long, and about an inch and a half across.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of *Benjamin Walker*, WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Street. Refused.”

1891 Census

92, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Benjamin Walker* (61) engine driver, born Walsall;

[2] Jane Walker (63), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Benjamin Walker (27), son, engine driver, born Walsall;

[4] Jane Walker (24), daughter, tailoress, born Walsall;

[5] Florence Walker (21), daughter, tailoress, born Walsall;

[6] William Walker (18), son, engine driver, born Walsall;

[7] William Lydell (7), grandson, scholar, born Sidney, Australia:

Walsall Advertiser 25/2/1893

“Lorrymen And Carters’ Union. An open meeting in connection with the Walsall branch of his union, was held on Saturday last, at the WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street. Mr. W. Collins, secretary of the Trades Council, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of men engaged in the above callings. Mr. Astle addressed the meeting and strongly urged upon his hearers and their fellow workers to become members of the union, showing the advantage to be gained by being united. Mr. Walton (secretary of the Wolverhampton branch) also spoke referring to the progress of the Wolverhampton branch and its strength. Several members were afterwards enrolled, and a vote of thanks to the chairman and visitors brought a successful meeting to a close.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/2/1895

“Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

The monthly meeting of the Executive Committee was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *Job Sutton*, WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street, was elected a member of the society.”

Job Sutton was also a coal dealer. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 20/3/1897

“Mary Sutton, married, living in Blue Lane, was summoned for being quarrelsome, and refusing to quit the WHITE HORSE public-house, Wolverhampton Street, and damaging a window to the amount of 1s 8d. Mr. H. H. Jackson prosecuted.

When asked to leave she dashed a stone through the window. She was not served with anything to drink. She now pleaded that she went after her husband, who left her three weeks ago, and because she asked for her rights she was ordered away from the door.

The Bench condemned her to pay 1s 8d damage and 12s 6d costs, with the alternative of six days’ imprisonment.”

1901 Census

92, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *William Bulwell* (44), public house manager, born Nailsea, Somerset;

[2] *Ada Bulwell* (42), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *George Bulwell* (18), son, leather warehouse man, born Walsall;

[4] *Gertrude Bulwell* (17), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Laura Bulwell* (13), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] *Jessie Bulwell* (10), daughter, born Walsall;

[7] *Elsie Bulwell* (7), daughter, born Walsall:

Elizabeth Letts = Elizabeth Lets

Walsall Advertiser 15/8/1903

“*William Smith* (24), labourer, of no fixed abode, was brought up on a charge of stealing 42 cigars, the property of *Elizabeth Lets*, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street, on August 11th.

Complainant identified the cigars produce as her property and said that she last saw them behind the bar of her house on the previous day, but she did not miss them until Police-sergeant Shipley brought them to her. Prisoner had previously been in her house drinking.

Martin Sweeney, landlord of the VINE INN, Blue Lane West, said that yesterday afternoon defendant brought a box of cigars and offered to sell them to him for a penny each, but he refused to buy them.

Police-sergeant Shipley stated that from information received about a man offering cigars for sale, he visited the VINE INN, where he saw defendant picking up the cigars from the floor where he had dropped them. When asked where he obtained them he admitted having stolen them, and when they passed the WHITE HORSE INN on the way to the Police Station prisoner said that was the place where he took them from.

Sentenced to one months’ hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Elizabeth Letts, WHITE HORSE.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions were continued on Tuesday, for the fifth day.....

The application for the renewal of the WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Street, was made on behalf of the owners (Messrs. Evans) and the tenant (*E. Vale*) by Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/3/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New Members..... Mr. *E. Vale*, WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/4/1905 - Advert

“For Sale, Lady’s Cycle, almost new, £13; accept £6.

Apply, WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1905

“The 53rd annual general meeting of the members of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... *Fred Bracher*, WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/3/1906

“Samuel Perry, 23, Forrester Street, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, and *Frederick Bracher*, WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises, on the 17th inst. Mr. H. H. Jackson was for the defence.

Police-sergeant Atcherly stated that on the date named, just before 11pm, in company with Police-constable Mascoll, he visited the WHITE HORSE. In the tap room he saw Perry, with his head leaning on his chest, and to all appearances asleep. He saw the barmaid, who asked if it was turning-out time, and he replied ‘No, but it is time that man (meaning the defendant Perry) was going out.’ The landlord then came in, and Perry roused up. Witness then noticed that he was drunk. He walked up to the counter and asked for ‘two pen’orth o’ whisky.’ The landlord refused, saying he had had enough. The landlord then told Perry to go, and witness saw him stagger across the footpath and fall down. Some fifty yards down the street he noticed a man assist Perry. He then called the attention of the landlord to his condition, and he said he could not have been in but a few minutes.

Police-constable Mascoll corroborated.

Bracher said that on the night in question he left the bar seven or eight minutes to eleven; Perry was not in then. He was only away a few minutes and Perry must have come in in the meantime.

Richard Perkins stated the Perry had nothing to drink there.

Bracher was fined 40s and costs, and Perry 10s and costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

Black List..... *Frederick Bracher*, WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Street, who had been convicted during the year, was cautioned, and the renewal of the license postponed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/2/1909

“George Hooper, boatman, Wolverhampton Street, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street, and with breaking five panes of glass, doing damage to the extent of £1 14s, on Monday. Mr. F. Cooper prosecuted. The prisoner was sentenced to two months’ hard labour.”

1911 Census

92, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Ernest Thomas* (38), publican, born Worcester;

[2] Jane Thomas (39), wife, married 10 years, born Birmingham;

[3] Jennie Thomas (9), daughter, school, born Birmingham:

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Street. £0 19s 10d.”

Joseph B. Preston was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in April 1924.

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst..... the justices sanctioned alterations to the WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Street, subject to the work being commenced within six months.”

Harvey Salt = Harry Palt = Harry Salt

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/8/1929

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 15th inst. last.....

Mr. *Harry Salt*, WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street, was unanimously elected a member of the society.”

G. S. Twist set up his brewery here in 1933.

1939 Register

92, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *John C. Bishop*, date of birth 28/8/1896, manager public house, married;

[2] Elizabeth Bishop, dob 7/3/1892, manageress public house, married;

[3] Kathleen Dawkins, dob 18/12/1915, bar general, single:

Walsall Observer 12/4/1941 - Advert

“Malt for Strength & Energy. Hops for The Appetite. Yeast for The Blood.

Twists The Best Beer for You.

You can Drink and Enjoy Twists Ale at any the of the following Licensed Houses.....

WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Street.....

And All The Best Clubs.

Proprietary Whiskies, Foreign Wines and Spirits, High-Class British Sherries and Ports.

Head Office & Brewery, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 15/5/1943

“Thomas William Durkin (22), a private in the Pioneer Corps, 125, Wolverhampton Street, and Albert Edward Lawrence (17), miner, 22, Brace Street, who was wearing a Home Guard Uniform, pleaded guilty at Walsall Police Court on Monday, to breaking and entering the WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street, on the night of April 30, and stealing £3 10s and five and a half ounces of tobacco, the property of *Geo. Shelley Twist*.

Police-sergeant Goode stated that when Durkin was taken to police headquarters in connection with another matter he was found to be in possession of four half-ounce packets of tobacco similar to some that was missing from the WHITE HORSE.

Detective-constable Barry said when he asked Durkin if he would care to say where he had had it from, he replied that he bought it from a soldier whose name he did not know. Later he saw Lawrence, and told him that he had reason to believe that he had been with Durkin the previous day. He said they bought the tobacco at the Y.M.C.A. at Wolverhampton, but later both admitted having been concerned with breaking into the public-house.

The stolen money consisted entirely of threepenny-pieces, and the men told the officer they had spent some of it in Wolverhampton and changed the rest into silver at various shops.

Prisoners were committed for trial at the Quarter Session, Lawrence being offered bail.”

[At the Quarter Sessions in June, Thomas William Durkin, who had a bad record, was sentenced to three years' penal servitude. Albert Edward Lawrence, was bound over for two years.]

Walsall Observer 13/10/1943

“After sitting until 6pm on Wednesday, hearing 164 summonses arising out of excessive deliveries of coal last winter, the Walsall magistrates (Messrs. Fred Evans, and H. Shemmans, and Mrs. Brockhurst) reserved their decisions in what were regarded as the more serious cases until Thursday morning.....

George Shelley Twist, 54, Selwyn Road, Edgbaston, was fined £1 for acquiring excess coal for the WHITE HORSE INN, Wolverhampton Street, and *John Charles Bishop*, the licensee, 10s for aiding and abetting.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WHITE HORSE, Wolverhampton Street. £0 7s 6d.”

It closed in 1975.

WHITE HOUSE

Bosty Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

Sizzling Pub Co. [2012]

LICENSEES

NOTES

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

“Free Pint of Carling.

With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We've a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....

Where to get your Free pint.....

WHITE HOUSE, Bosty Lane, Aldridge, Walsall.”

[2005]

[2017]

WHITE LION

43, High Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Daniels
Joseph Daniels, Elms Farm, near Worcester
Reuben Brown Mantle
William Turner, farmer, High Ercall, Shropshire
Messrs. Rushton, Aston Road, Birmingham

LICENSEES

T Hutchinson [1822]
Elizabeth Nicholls [1828] – [1830]
John Daniels [1834] – [1858]
John Perry [1860] – [1871]
Mrs. Sarah Reece [1872];
Samuel Thornhill [];
Mary Maria Yeomans [];
Reuben Brown Mantle [1880] – [1884];
Edward Wright [];
Benjamin Beckett Cooper [1890];
Thomas ‘Tom’ Lawson [1891] – **1899**);
Ralph John Rogers (**1899 – 1904**);
William Jonathan Crane (**1904**);
Thomas Deakin (**1904 – 1907**);
Edward Cope Clarke (**1907 – 1908**);
Joseph Charles Cox (**1908**):

NOTES

It had a six-day license.

John Daniels = John Daniells

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/11/1838

“On Wednesday evening between seven and eight o’clock, a paper box was observed under the window of the WHITE LION, public-house, High Street, Walsall, which, on being examined was found to contain a male infant, apparently about a fortnight old. The little foundling was neatly dressed; and after it had been seen by several people whose curiosity drew them to the spot, was conveyed to the workhouse.”

1841 Census

George Street

- [1] *John Daniells* (45), victualler;
- [2] Susan Daniells (50), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Anne Taylor (20), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Thomas Hayes (15), ms;
- [5] William Bradley (15), ms:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/3/1841

“Mr. Henry Hill Cox, eldest and only surviving son of the late Hill Cox, Esq, of Walsall and Great Barr, attained his majority on Wednesday last, on which day an excellent dinner was provided at the TALBOT INN, Digbeth, Walsall, in celebration of the event. About twenty-six of the tenantry assembled by invitation, and did ample justice to the good things set before them. In the course of the afternoon Mr. Cox, attended by the Rev. W. M’Kean of Walsall, the Rec. Hugh Hutton, of Birmingham, and several other friends entered the room; and shortly after his health was proposed by the Rev. M’Kean, and responded to with three hearty

cheers; the compliment was acknowledged in suitable terms. After remaining some time, Mr. Cox and friends left the TALBOT to visit another company of tenantry, for whom a similar entertainment was provided at the WHITE LION, High Street. The respective parties spent the afternoon and evening in a most convivial manner.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 11/8/1845 - Died

“On Saturday se'n night, aged 59, Susan, wife of *John Daniels*, of the WHITE LION, High Street, Walsall.”

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *John Daniels* (51), publican, born Calbridge, Worcestershire;
- [2] Elizabeth Daniels (29), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Eliza Morris (16), niece, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] Ellen Morris (14), niece, assistant barmaid, born Walsall;
- [5] Mary Flinn (19), house servant, born Ireland;
- [6] William Nicholls (21), lodger, journeyman butcher, born Walsall;
- [7] Robert Bailiss (55), lodger, jobbing labourer, born Sutton, Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/10/1851 - Married

“October 15, at St. Mary's Catholic Chapel, Walsall, by the Rev. J. Macarte, Mr. John Birch, currier, of Walsall, to Miss Eliza Norris, niece of Mr. *John Daniels*, of the WHITE LION, High Street, in the same borough.”

Walsall Free Press 27/9/1859

“*John Perry*, beerhouse-keeper, pleaded guilty to having had his house open on the night of Saturday last during prohibited hours, but as it was his first offence he was fined 5s and costs.”

1861 Census

43, High Street

- [1] *John Perry* (33), publican, born Draycott, Staffordshire;
- [2] Eliza Perry (29), wife, born Ireland;
- [3] Mary Perry (4), daughter, born Helderston, Staffordshire;
- [4] John Perry (1), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Mary Madding (16), house servant, born Ireland;
- [6] Ann Church (14), house servant, born Stratford, Warwickshire:

Walsall Free Press 15/2/1862

“On Wednesday evening last the Sunday-school teachers, connected with the Catholic schools of St. Mary, entertained their very deeply venerated spiritual father, the Rev. W. Lovi, at a supper, provided at Mr. *Perry's*, the WHITE LION, High Street. Full of cheerful hilarity and most amusing anecdote, the rev. gentleman, in his own merry way, kept all during his stay in one incessant burst of laughter. In responding to the enthusiastic wishes and hopes of all present, that he might be blessed with health to remain many years among them, he thanked them in the most feeling terms for the kind and voluntary assistance they were giving to him by attending on the Sunday to his poor but very dear children, and affectionately assured them that in another and better world a far more valuable reward awaited them than any blessing which he or any human being could bestow. After his retirement which was necessarily early, the song the joke, and an earnest desire on the part of all to contribute to the comfort and enjoyment of each other, were the only characteristic incidents of the evening.”

Walsall Free Press 28/3/1863 - Advert

“A Tea and Card Party will be held at Mr. *J. Perry's*, the WHITE LION INN, High Street, on Wednesday, April 8th, 1863, when your company will be esteemed.

Tickets 1s 6d each. Tea on the Table at Six o'clock.

Dancing to commence at Seven o'clock.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/6/1863

“Yesterday at the Guildhall, *John Perry*, landlord of the WHITE LION INN, High Street, was, upon the information of the Superintendent of Police, charged with having his house open during prohibited hours on the morning of Sunday last. The defendant admitted the offence, and promised not to offend again. A previous conviction was proved, and the defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 14/11/1863

“Thomas McDonald, for having been drunk and disorderly in the WHITE LION, High Street, was sentenced to pay a fine of 5s and costs, or in default, to be imprisoned for fourteen days.”

Walsall Free Press 27/2/1864

“*J. Perry*, landlord of the WHITE LION, for having had his chimney on fire, was fined 6d and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 19/3/1864

“*John Perry*, landlord of the WHITE HORSE public house, High Street, was charged with having had his house open at twenty minutes past twelve on Saturday night; but, as there was some discrepancy in the evidence as to the exact time, the bench gave the defendant the benefit of the doubt, and dismissed the case.”

Birmingham Gazette 14/7/1865

“Before Messrs. Thos. Hazledine and H. Highway, *John Perry* landlord of the WHITE LION public house, High Street, was fined 1s and costs, for having had his house open during prohibited hours on Sunday last.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....
John Perry, WHITE LION, High Street, was cautioned.”

Walsall Free Press 9/9/1865

“The Adjourned Licensing day. Before T. Hazledine (Mayor), H. Highway, J. Shannon, W. Ward, S. Stokes, P. Potter, and J. B. Anderson, Esqs.....
The following persons, whose license had been suspended, were cautioned and had their licenses renewed....
Mr. *Perry*, WHITE LION, High Street.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/3/1866

“*John Perry*, landlord of the WHITE LION, High Street, was fined 20s and costs, or in default one months’ imprisonment for obstructing the police in the execution of their duty. It appeared that on the preceding Tuesday night the defendant’s house was open beyond the hours for closing (namely one o’clock); and on Acting-sergeant Child entering for the purpose of warning the landlord, the latter pushed him into the street.
James Cunningham, a man who had been drinking at the WHITE LION on the above occasion, was also sentenced to pay a fine of 10s and costs, or undergo fourteen days’ imprisonment, for a similar offence committed against Police-constable Acton.”

Walsall Free Press 31/3/1866 - Advert

“Independent Order Of Odd Fellows (Manchester Unity). Bescot Bridge Division.
The members of the Bescot Bridge District of the above Order respectfully inform the Public that they intend holding their First Annual Tea Party, Concert, & Ball, in the Guildhall Assembly Room, Walsall, on Easter Monday, April 2nd, 1866.
The entire proceeds of which will be invested in Trust for the Benefit of the Cottage Hospital.
Tickets, 1s 6d each.
Early applications for tickets is requested, as the Committee have limited the number to 500, and no Money will be taken at the door.
Tickets may be obtained at the DRAGON INN, and the WHITE LION INN, High Street; the DOLPHIN INN, George Street; the WHITE HART, Walhouse Street; at 16 Bath Street, the ‘Walsall News’ Office, and of Mr. J. T. King, printer, Stafford Street.”

Walsall Free Press 9/6/1866

“Isaac Walker was charged with having stolen a child’s dress, the property of Mr. *John Perry*, WHITE LION, High Street.
It appeared that at about a quarter-past one o’clock on Tuesday morning, the prisoner, who had concealed himself in an attic, came downstairs; and Mrs. *Perry*, observing that his pocket was rather large, ordered him to turn it out. He thereupon made use of most abusive language, and pulled out a child’s dress. He was then given in charge.
The Bench after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant to three months’ imprisonment.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/6/1868

“John Lane was charged with having, on Saturday last, assaulted a girl named Elizabeth Holden, servant with Mr. *Perry*, WHITE LION, High Street. As the prisoner expressed regret, and offered to compensate the girl for the injury done, the case was adjourned till Thursday, in order to give the parties an opportunity of coming to an arrangement.
It appeared that the prisoner was ejected from the WHITE LION public-house on the night in question, and again rushed in and seized the girl by the arm, bent it back, and broke it. The girl was then taken to Mr. Shore, surgeon, Digbeth, who found the arm was fractured.”

Walsall Free Press 4/6/1870

“Edward Quinn, was charged with having on the night of Saturday last, been drunk and riotous in High Street, and assaulting Police-sergeant Ogden. The officer was called into the WHITE LION, High Street, about half-past eleven to quell a disturbance, and found prisoner whom he ejected in consequence of his bad conduct. On getting into the street prisoner became very violent, in consequence of which it was necessary to take him into custody, and on being arrested, he kicked the officer. Fined 5s and costs, or in default to be imprisoned for six days.”

1871 Census

43, High Street

[1] *John Perry* (45), licensed victualler, born Totmonslow, Staffordshire;

[2] *Eliza Perry* (39), wife, born Ireland;

- [3] Mary Perry (15), daughter, barmaid, born Helderstone, Staffordshire;
- [4] John T. Perry (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Eliza J. Perry (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] George Perry (8), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Charles Perry (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Thomas Perry (6), son, scholar, born Walsall:

1881 Census

43, High Street

- [1] *Reuben B. Mantle* (57), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Eliza Mantle (48), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Ada Mantle (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Susan Mantle (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Eliza Lunt (22), general servant, born Wyrley:

Reuben Brown Mantle had a coal merchant's business in Wolverhampton Street, Walsall. He lived at 66, Holtshill Lane, Walsall.

Walsall Advertiser 27/9/1884 - Advert

"Notice. To Property Owners.

R. B. Mantle, of the WHITE LION INN, High Street, Walsall, has, at the request of numerous friends, commenced Rent And Debt Collecting.

His kind patrons will receive every attention and punctuality."

Walsall Observer 7/2/1885

"In Bankruptcy – re *Mantle*. WHITE LION, High Street, Walsall. To Licensed Victuallers and Others. Important Sale of Public House Fixtures, Fittings, &c.

Messrs Watkins and Powell have received instructions from E. Pritchard Esq, (Official Receiver), to Sell by Auction, on Tesday, February 17th, 1885, at the WHITE LION INN, High Street (entirely without reserve), the whole of the very superior Public House Fixtures & Fittings, including capital Vaults Counter, with mahogany top, paneled front, and drawers; Set of Mahogany Glass and Jug Shelves, with plate glass panels; 8-motion Spirit Fountain; 5-motion Ale Fountain, with machine taps; Ledge-back Seating; Clubroom Forms; Mahogany and other Drinking Tables and other Effects....."

Lichfield Mercury 10/10/1890

"*Benjamin Beckett Cooper*, landlord of the WHITE LION INN, High Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness of the 20th September. Mr. Cotterell appeared for the defence.

Police-constable Williams was fetched to the defendant's house at twenty minutes to five on the day named, and there found a man named Leonard, who was drunk and creating a disturbance. The man was afterwards sentenced to seven days imprisonment for being drunk and disorderly. His own account was that he went into the house about half-past nine in the morning and remained there drinking all day until the police were fetched.

The defence was that Leonard was not drunk, and the police were fetched because he was disorderly and using violent language. The Bench imposed a fine of 40s and costs."

1891 Census

43, High Street – WHITE LION INN

- [1] *Thomas Lawson* (29), publican, born Hereford;
- [2] Ellen Lawson (25), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Harry Lawson (5), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/10/1895

"A meeting of Walsall metal polishers was held at the WHITE LION, High Street, on Tuesday evening, relative to a dispute which had arisen at Messrs. Harvey and Co.'s Glebeland works. An arrangement had been come to, it appeared, by which means the men had returned to work, but the settlement, it was intimated, was of a temporary nature pending the return of one of the members of the firm. The meeting was accordingly adjourned for a week."

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1896

"The annual general licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Mr. *Lawson*, of the WHITE LION, High Street, appeared for the approval of the Bench to plans for a new smoke-room for his house Approved"

Walsall Advertiser 30/1/1897 - Births

"On the 18th inst, the wife of Mr. *Thomas Lawson*, WHITE LION HOTEL, High Street, Walsall, of a daughter."

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1899

“R.A.O.B. G. V. Brooke Lodge, WHITE LION, High Street.

The Annual Dinner (cold collation) was held on Thursday week at the lodge house, the worthy and respectable host ‘Sir’ *Tom Lawson*, putting on the table a magnificent and up-to-date spread, of which about 50 members and friends partook. Immediately after dinner a smoking concert was held under the chairmanship of Mr. G. G. Lamb, when after the usual toast of ‘the Queen and the Royal family’ had been heartily given, the concert proceeded merrily until the allotted time had almost expired. Thanks to the visiting brothers and the artistes, all of whom freely gave their services, terminated the meeting, everyone seeming thoroughly pleased with the evening’s entertainment. The following was the programme: pianoforte solo, M. J. Newey; song, ‘Medley,’ Mr. J. Newey; song, ‘I aint going to tell,’ Mr. W. Griffiths; song, ‘I happened to be there,’ (encore, ‘One thing brought up another’), Mr. Bert Hunt; banjo solo, Mr. George Griffiths; song, ‘Houses in between,’ Mr. Jacques; song, ‘Round goes the wheel,’ Mr. Wilcox; song, ‘Sons of the sea,’ Mr. W. Dilks; song, Mr. Bert Hunt; entertainment (humorous), Mr. W. Pearce.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/6/1900

“At a meeting of the stallholders and travellers of the market of the borough of Walsall held at the WHITE LION, High Street, Mr. J. Osbourne kindly consented to take the chair, and in doing so said they had met together to pay some small tribute towards Mr. John Pascoe. Words from him could not express kindly feeling towards him like those in the testimonial which he read as under: ‘To Mr. John Pascoe. Dear Sir, We, the stallholders of Walsall market and travellers generally, desire the acceptance of this testimonial as a token of respect and high esteem in which you have been held by us during the last eight years you have held the position of toll collector in the borough of Walsall, during which period we have always found you most generous, courteous, and attentive to duty. Wishing you every success in your new sphere, we remain on behalf of the subscribers, J. Cooke, E. Lawrence, J. Lee, J. Pountney, J. H. Barker, G. Brown, J. Burford. June 5th, 1900.’

The Chairman asked Mr. Pascoe to accept this from the committee in recognition of the many acts of kindness shown to them, and also a purse of gold and silver for Mrs. Pascoe, trusting that both might live many years to look upon that testimonial and that the purse might never be empty.....”

Ralph Rogers was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in August 1900.

1901 Census

43, High Street

- [1] *Ralph J. Rogers* (30), publican, born Shrewsbury;
- [2] Elizabeth Rogers (27), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Ralph H. Rogers (2), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] Alice W. Rogers (7 months), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 15/11/1902

“The Watch Committee.....

During the same month [October] there had been two calls of fire as under: 16th October, Mr. *Ralph John Rogers*; premises, the WHITE LION, High Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1904

“The annual licensing sessions for the Borough of Walsall were held on Thursday at the Guildhall, and aroused considerable interest. The court was crowded, and many license-holders were unable to obtain admission.....

Notice had been given to 76 license holders to show cause for the renewal of their licenses, evidently as a result of the visits of a sub-committee of magistrates to the licensed premises, the reasons why cause had to be shown being various....

Ralph John Rogers, WHITE LION.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/2/1904

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough of Walsall was continued on Tuesday, and occupied the whole day.....

WHITE LION, High Street. Mr. Plumtree (instructed by Messrs. Stanley and Jackson) was for the owners and occupier.

The objection was that the house was not required or adapted. Deferred.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/2/1906

“A labourer named Bernard Durkin (42), Freer’s Yard, was charged with inflicting grievous bodily harm upon *Thomas Deakin*, by kicking him and breaking his leg.

The Chief Constable (Mr. A. Thomson) stated that Mr. *Deakin* was landlord of the WHITE LION, High Street. Prisoner went into his house on Saturday under the influence of drink. He was refused, and the landlord put him outside. He, however, came back and kicked the landlord, causing a fracture of the leg. He asked for a remand for a week.

Alfred Ensor gave evidence to the effect that he was in the WHITE LION on Saturday, when he saw the landlord eject prisoner. Prisoner afterwards came back while Mr. *Deakin* was standing on the steps, and struck him in the face, and afterwards kicked him off his legs. He then assisted Mr. *Deakin* to get up.

Remanded for a week.”

[At Walsall Quarter Sessions, in May, 1906, Bernard Durkin, was found guilty of inflicting grievous bodily harm, and sentenced to nine months’ imprisonment, but it was afterwards reduced to six, because Durkin was unable to find bail and had been remanded in custody.]

Walsall Advertiser 21/12/1907

“With respect to the application for the transfer of the license of the WHITE LION, High Street, from *Thomas Deakin* to *Edward Cope Clarke*, the Chief Constable remarked that it was one of the houses in the town which was scheduled for consideration by the licensing magistrates.

A temporary transfer was granted until the annual licensing meeting.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1908

“The annual licensing meeting for the borough took place at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The temporary transfer of the WHITE LION, High Street, was renewed to *Edward C. Clarke* from *Thomas Deakin*, an objection by the Bench that the license is unnecessary being postponed.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/2/1908

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held yesterday (Friday), at the Guildhall.....

The Bench proceeded to hear notices of objection which had been taken by the licensing justices to the renewal of six licences. The first was that of the WHITE LION, High Street, owned by Messrs. Rushton, Brewers, occupied by *Edward Cope Clarke* (to whom a temporary transfer had been granted from *Thomas Deakin*). Mr. Ashmore, Birmingham, represented the owners and occupiers.

Chief Inspector Ballance gave evidence as to the population of the High Street and Digbeth, and said there were six other licensed houses and one off license in the street.

Cross-examined, Mr. Ballance said the house was well conducted.

Mr. *Clarke*, tenant, said his takings were about £17 a week. Witness was ‘tied’ except for stout, minerals, and bottled beer. He paid £45 rent, but Mr. Ashmore pointed out that the house was assessed at £60 gross and £50 net.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/6/1908

“A full bench of magistrates sat on Wednesday morning to hear applications for renewals and to fix compensation for closed houses.....

In the case of the WHITE LION, High Street, Mr. Ashford (Birmingham) appeared, and an adjournment was agreed to for the consideration of the terms which the claimants submitted should be awarded.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/6/1908 - Notice

“Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area having decided at their principal meeting on the 3rd day of June, 1908, and the 5th day of June, 1908, to refuse the renewal of the Licenses of premises specified below.....

The WHITE LION, High Street. Alehouse. Licensee *Edward Cope Clarke*. Registered Owner Rushton’s Brewery Co.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1909

“There was a large attendance at the annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough of Walsall, on Wednesday, at the Guildhall.....

Notices of objections under the compensation clause or otherwise.....

Mr. Ashford of Birmingham, referred to the case of the WHITE LION, High Street, which had been objected to under the compensation clause by the Bench, and had sent to the Inland Revenue Commissioners for compensation. The Inland Revenue Commissioners made an award, but the owners were not satisfied with it, and therefore the owners appealed to the High Court. The matter had been sent down by the High Court, but as it was not probable it could be dispensed with before the 25th of April, there was power for the licensing justices to grant a further provisional license for the owners to keep selling till the matter was decided.

No objection was raised, and the application was granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/5/1909

“In the King’s Bench Division, on Wednesday, Mr. Justice Channell made an order ‘by consent’ in a licensing appeal which appeared on the list as ‘Rushton’s Brewery’ and Mr. *E. C. Clarke* (re WHITE LION, Walsall).

Mr. Lowenthal said he had the consent of all the parties interested in the licensed premises in question to the making of the order. This was not a case in which the Court had to apportion the amount of compensation. That was fixed at a certain amount and the apportionment would be dealt with at the Quarter Sessions.

His Lordship: What is your application now? – Counsel: That your lordship make an order that the compensation be fixed at £850, and that agreed costs be paid to the Inland Revenue Commissioners.

His Lordship: Is that a settlement of an appeal to the Court from the decision of the Commissioners? – Counsel: Yes.

The order was accordingly made.”

It closed.

WHITE LION

143, (44), Portland Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

James Cleobury, beer retailer, Stafford Street, Walsall
Atkinsons Ltd. [1932]
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 13th April 1939)

LICENSEES

Isaac Lawrence [1845] – [1850]
Joseph Beebee [1858]
William Cooper [1860] – [1865]
Joseph Archer [1868] – [1870]
John Darby [1869] – 1872);
James Cleobury (1872 – 189_);
James Cleobury Jnr (189_ – 1918); [1891]
Elijah Ford (1918 – 1922);
Thomas Moran (1922 – 1923);
George Turpin (1923 – 1929);
John Clarence Summerton (1929 – 1931);
James Kenealy (1931 – 1936);
William Robbins (1936 – 1938);
James Groves (1938 – 1941);
George Edwin Morrell (1941):

NOTES

44, Portland Street [1860], [1862], [1864], [1868], [1870]
143, Portland Street [1872], [1881], [1891], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1932], [1939], [1940]

It had a bowling green.

It had a brewery attached.

William Cooper was also a bridle cutter. [1861]

1861 Census

Portland Street – WHITE LION

- [1] *William Cooper* (32), victualler and bridle cutter, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Cooper (34), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Cooper (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] George Cooper (10), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Edwin Cooper (4), son, born Walsall;
- [6] William Cooper (3), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 25/6/1864 - Advert

“Found, on Tuesday last, in Portland Street, a Donkey. If not owned by this day week, will be sold to defray expenses. Apply to *W. Cooper*, WHITE LION, Portland Street.”

Walsall Free Press 24/12/1864

“Samuel Mason was charged with having, on Tuesday last, stolen a canary bird, value 30s, the property of *William Cooper*, landlord of the WHITE LION public-house, Portland Street. From the evidence it appeared that the prisoner and some others came to prosecutor’s house on Tuesday morning, and after having something to drink, the prisoner went into the back premises, and returned a few minutes later and stated that there had been an accident at Mr. Brewer’s pit. Mr. *Cooper* and all the other parties in the house, with the exception of a little girl, ran out to see what had occurred. On returning, Mr. *Cooper* was met by the girl, who told him that the prisoner had stolen one of the best of the canaries. Mr. *Cooper* thereupon seized the prisoner, who was endeavouring to pass the girl, and took him back to the house, and on searching him found the bird in his right hand pocket. The bench after hearing the evidence sentenced prisoner to one months’ imprisonment.

The prisoner was further charged with having stolen two candlesticks, the property of Emma Noake, of the NEW INN, John Street. Mrs. Noake identified the candlesticks, after which Ann Robert, servant at the NEW INN, said that on Tuesday forenoon, between eleven and twelve o’clock, the prisoner called and had a pint of ale. The candlesticks were in the room when he was there, and were missed after he left.

Police-constable Smallwood said that about three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, he found the prisoner in Mr. *Cooper's* house, in Portland Street, with the candlesticks in his possession. Prisoner said he had made them about nine months' ago. Mr. *Cooper*, landlord of the WHITE LION, said the prisoner came to his house and offered the candlesticks for sale. Afterwards, when searching the prisoner for his (witness's) bird, he found the candlesticks in his pockets. The bench after hearing the evidence, sentenced the prisoner to two months' imprisonment."

London Gazette 1/3/1867

"Name and description of the Debtor, as in the Deed – *William Cooper*, of No.44, Portland-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, innkeeper and Bridle Cutter, first part.

The names and descriptions of the Trustees or other parties to the Deed, not including the Creditors – Joseph Whitehouse, of Stafford-street, Walsall aforesaid, Spirit Merchant (trustee), second part; and the creditors, third part.

A short statement of the nature of the Deed – Assignment by the debtor to the trustee of all his personal estate and effects for the equal benefit of the creditors; and a release by them to him.

When left for Registration – 28th February, 1867, at half-past three o'clock."

Walsall Free Press 30/3/1867 - Advert

"Sale At The WHITE LION, Portland Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold by Auction, by Mr. John Osbourn, upon the premises as above, on Wednesday next, April 3rd, 1867, (under a Deed of Assignment for the benefit of Creditors), unless previously disposed of by private contract: All the Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Ale Casks, 3 large Wrought and Cast Iron Boilers, 5-pull Beer Machine, Gas Fittings, Signs, Licenses, and Possession. Sale to commence at Ten o'clock, under the usual conditions."

Birmingham Daily Post 25/7/1867

"About midnight on Tuesday, a man named Charles Somerfield, a tackmaker, living at Bloxwich, and well known by the soubriquet of 'Master's Gun,' lost his life, at the hands of Henry Beaumont, a shoemaker living in a court in Garden Street.

An inquest on the body of the deceased was opened yesterday afternoon, at the WHITE LION INN, before Mr. A. Fletcher, Borough Coroner. The first witness called was Cornelius Beaumont, son of the prisoner. He deposed that when the row began down stairs his father got out of bed, and went down in his shirt. After witness had been down and had returned to bed, he heard his mother scream several times. About ten minutes after he had gone back to bed his father came up-stairs and put his trousers on. His father's shirt was covered in blood. His mother went out of the house, and returned crying, saying 'He is dying,' not naming anyone. Did not see a knife in his father's hand at all. 'Charley' used to come to his father's house often, and his father had ordered him away scores of times.

John Mallibone, a bit-filer, living in a house opposite Beaumont's, corroborated the previous witness as to the commencement of the fray, the condition of Beaumont when he went downstairs and when he returned, and the terrible scuffling and screaming that took place in the lower room of the house. He also added that after deceased left the house he followed him to the Police Station yard, and found him reclining on the arm of a man named John Schales. When apprehended and told of the nature of the charge, the male prisoner said, 'Well, I am here. I shall not run away.' Mrs. Beaumont, he said, was often out late at night after her husband was in bed, or while he was at work.

James Clibberley gave evidence corroborating the statement given above; and the Coroner then adjourned the enquiry until eleven o'clock this (Thursday) morning, and ordered a post mortem to be made. The affair has caused great excitement in the town, and a large crowd of persons assembled in the vicinity of the inn while the inquest was being held."

[At the adjourned inquest the jury returned a verdict of Justifiable Homicide. The magistrates committed Henry Beaumont and his wife Myra to trial at the Assizes.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/12/1867

"Staffordshire Winter Assizes.

In the case of Myra Beaman, who was committed along with her husband, Henry Beaman, for the manslaughter of Charles Somerfield, at Walsall, on the 23rd of July last, the Grand Jury ignored the bill." [Found not guilty.]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 10/4/1869

"E. Barnett of Walsall hearing that Young Wedge of Willenhall wishes to run him, E. Barnett will make a match if he will give him one yard start in 100, or two in 120 yards for £5 a side. Money ready any night next week at Mr. *John Darby's* WHITE LION, Portland Street."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1870

"*John Darby*, landlord of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, was charged with permitting gaming on his premises. Mr. Dale appeared for the defendant. Police-constable Mayo proved the case, stating that he found four men in the house on Saturday playing at 'brag.' The Bench thought that as the men were only playing for coppers, it was too trifling a character to warrant a conviction, and they therefore dismissed it."

1871 Census

143, Portland Road

[1] *John Darby* (45), bridle cutter, born Walsall;

[2] *Mary A. Darby* (43), wife, born Marpool, Derby;

- [3] Charlotte Darby (22), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Daniel Darby (18), son, chain maker, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Darby (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Mary A. Darby (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Arthur Darby (5), son, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/9/1872

“On Monday night a strong smell of gas was observed in the clubroom of the WHITE LION beerhouse, Portland Street, and the landlord Mr. *Cleobury*, and a servant girl, thoughtlessly entered the room with a lighted candle. The result was an explosion, by the force of which the window was blown out, and Mr. *Cleobury* and the girl seriously injured.”

1881 Census

143, Portland Street – WHITE LION

- [1] *James Cleobury* (45), publican and collar maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Sophia Cleobury (47), wife, born Aldridge;
- [3] Anne Cleobury (19), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] *James Cleobury* (18), son, collar maker, born Walsall;
- [5] Clara Cleobury (16), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [6] Thomas Cleobury (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] John Cleobury (9), son, scholar, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 2/5/1885

“Conservative Association. A ward meeting in connection with this association was held on Monday night, at the WHITE LION, Portland Street, to hear an address by Mr. J. Thompson (central secretary of the Wolverhampton Conservative Association). Mr. J. T. Cottam presided, and in introducing Mr. Thompson to the meeting, congratulated those present that they had mustered in so strong force, and were a thorough working men audience. He proceeded to criticise the policy of the Government at some length, and concluded by urging those present to make their influence felt at the next election. Mr. Thompson, who was most enthusiastically received, then proceeded in an able manner to expose the shortcomings of the Ministry, and in a lengthy address, that was frequently applauded, contrasted the promises with the performance of the present weak administration. Short addresses were also given by Messrs. Billington, Roland Smith, Edmonds, Bird, and H. H. Cannell, and the usual votes of thanks brought a very successful meeting to a close.”

James Cleobury – see also CROWN, Stafford Street.

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1891

“There were 31 applications for dancing, singing and music licenses under the provisions of the new Corporation Act. The Bench heard all the applications and then retired to consider their decisions, which turned out to be in accordance with the principle which was laid down at a former Court, viz, that licenses should not be granted to vaults or public rooms, but should be confined to regular and existing clubs and class meetings in club rooms. Licenses were granted to.....
The WHITE LION, Portland Street.”

1891 Census

143, Portland Street

- [1] *James Cleobury* (28), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Martha K. Cleobury (23), wife, born Harding [*Harden?*], Staffordshire;
- [3] James Cleobury (2), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary Jane Archer (18), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 9/7/1892

“Yesterday the Borough Coroner (Mr. Stanley) held an inquest at the WHITE LION, Portland Street, on the body of Sidney Lowbridge, (11), whose parents live in the same street. Deceased suffered from pains in his head for some months, but on Sunday was well enough to sing in the choir of the Ryecroft Mission Church. On Monday, however, he was taken ill and died before medical aid could be obtained. Verdict, Natural Causes.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/7/1895

“On Monday, George Ross, stirrup-filer, Birmingham Street was drowned at Great Haywood, whither he had gone with a pleasure party from the WHITE LION INN, Portland Street. The sad occurrence, which naturally caused much distress among the party, was due to Ross getting out of depth while bathing.”

Walsall Advertiser 10/6/1899

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *James Cleobury*, WHITE LION INN, Portland Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 19/1/1901

“On Monday afternoon the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest at the WHITE LION INN, Portland Street, concerning the death of Thomas Jones (55), who resided at 4, Railway Row.

Emma Boot, wife of Isaac Boot, 4, Railway Row, said the deceased had lodged at her house for the last two years. Deceased was a journeyman painter, but he had been unable to do any work for twelve months in consequence of suffering from bronchitis. On December 12th deceased went to Dr. Hawley, from whom he procured some medicine, but he failed to get any better. Deceased was shortly afterwards taken much worse; he was advised to have the parish doctor, but he refused. On Thursday, the 10th December, witness went out, leaving her husband, who was nearly totally blind, with deceased, and on returning just after five o’clock deceased was lying on the sofa in the kitchen dead. Witness went to Dr. Hawley for a certificate of deceased’s death, and he told her that he could not give her one that night; and that she was to go again next morning. She was unable to do so, but went at night, when he told her to report the matter to the police.

Isaac Boot, husband of the previous witness, gave corroborative evidence.

Police-sergeant Haycock said that he went to Dr. Hawley on Saturday morning, and asked him if the death of Jones had been reported to him. Dr. Hawley replied that it had, and that a woman came for a certificate of his death on Thursday night, but he told her it was too late that night, and that she was to go again the following morning. The woman did not come that morning but came at night, when he told her to report the matter to the police. Dr. Hawley told witness that the woman’s statement was correct that deceased had received medical treatment from him; there was an entry in his book on December 12th. Deceased was then suffering from a slight cold, and he prescribed for him accordingly. Witness asked Dr. Hawley if he was prepared to give a certificate of the man’s death, and he said he was not; a post mortem would be necessary.

The Coroner here intimated that he had called the last witness because he thought the matter he had spoken of ought to be enquired into, seeing that the doctor seemed to be willing to give a certificate to the witness Boot if she had gone on the Friday morning, and when she next saw the doctor he appeared to have changed his mind, for he told her to report the matter to the police. He thought the matter of sufficient importance to bring before the jury.

Dr. Hawley: Nothing any witness has stated has the slightest suggestion that I promised to give a certificate. (To the Coroner). As to changing my mind you made a statement that there is no justification for it.

A juror said he thought the doctor ought to have told the woman to report the matter to the police the same night.

The Coroner said he did not like it to be said that he made statements for which there was no justification, and as for bearing out what he had said he read portions of the evidence of the witness Boot and Sergeant Haycock. Boot stated the doctor told her it was too late to give her a certificate that night, and that she was to come in the morning. From that he (the Coroner) naturally inferred, and he thought everyone would do so, that the woman was to go next morning to be given a certificate.

Several jurors said they agreed with the Coroner.

Dr. Hawley explained that when the woman first came to his house it was late at night, and he was busy. He did not recollect anything about deceased, and, as he was too busy to refer to his book, it would be impossible to give a certificate. He, therefore, told her to come again next morning. In the meantime he looked up the case, and found that when he saw deceased he was only suffering from a cold. There was no danger at that time, and he could not say what the man died from. He might have been poisoned for all he knew. Under the circumstances he flatly refused to give a certificate.

In answer to Mr. Hawley (foreman of the jury), Dr. Hawley said that the real reason of his delay was to investigate the case, for at the time the woman called he did not recollect anything about the deceased.

The Coroner said he thought the woman ought to have had some medical man in to see deceased, because he did not die suddenly. She would have had plenty of time to have got the parish doctor there.

Mr. Hanbury said he thought the woman had shown a laxity in not going for the certificate again at the time appointed, and perhaps in the ordinary way she might have neglected the deceased.

The Coroner said he did not see how they could get on without an adjournment for a post-mortem.

The inquiry was adjourned for a week.”

[At the adjourned inquest, the jury returned a verdict of Death from Exhaustion.]

1901 Census

143, Portland Street

[1] *James Cleobury* (38), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Martha K. Cleobury* (33), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *James Cleobury* (12), son, born Walsall;

[4] *Elsie Cleobury* (8), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Maud Cleobury* (6), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] *Sydney Cleobury* (3), son, born Walsall;

[7] *Dora Cleobury* (5 months), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] *Bertha Ann Allen* (23), barmaid, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 14/2/1903

“Councillor Oswin was on Saturday evening, at the WHITE LION, Portland Street, elected an hon member of the Widow’s Protection Lodge of the Free Gardeners. Mr. Arthur Medlam was also elected an hon member.”

Walsall Advertiser 21/11/1908

“Bowls. The WHITE LION Club.

There was a crowded attendance at the annual smoking concert and prize distribution in connection with the above club, at the WHITE LION, Portland Street, on Thursday week, the President (Councillor J. F. Addison) being in the chair. After the toast of

'The King,' that of 'The Club' was given by Councillor Warner, who spoke of the great strides the club had made, and the encouragement Mr. *Cleobury* had given to it.

Mr. Davies (secretary) replied, and the toast 'The President' was honoured on the proposition of Mr. G. Noake, Councillor Addison replying.

Councillor Oswin proposed the toast of 'Donors of Prizes,' and referred to the long history associated with the game of bowls. To this toast Mr. G. Wightman, jun., responded, and complimented Mr. *Cleobury* on providing so excellent a green in a district where it was evidently so valuable.

Mr. R. A. Cooper, who attended to distribute the prizes said he was sensible of the honour the President had done him in asking him to present the prizes for bowling. He had played at bowls in a very amateurish fashion, but he was pleased to be there because he felt he was a true Britisher as far as sport was concerned. In these days of civilisation, when life became a nervous and trying ordeal, when we tried to do so much in a short time, it was necessary that we should work when we had work, and play when we had leisure hours, and that was perhaps why there was now so much earnestness in sport at the present time, especially in bowls.

After having distributed the prizes (the names of the winners have been given previously in these columns), Mr. Cooper remarked that he did not see one name twice, which he thought reflected great credit on the committee for the way competitions had been managed.

Votes of thanks at the close were passed to Mr. Cooper and Councillor Addison."

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1909

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of Mr. *James Cleobury*, WHITE LION INN, Portland Street."

Walsall Advertiser 3/7/1909

"Loyal Caledonian Corks. A large assembly of members of Lodge 421, met at the Lodge house, WHITE LION, Portland Street, on Monday evening, when the members of Lodge 51, ROSE AND THISTLE, The Pleck were paying a friendly regalia visit. The visitors turned up in good numbers, and the spacious club room was well filled. Two new members were initiated by Bro. A. Smith, Past Captain of the Lodge, and the host of the ROSE AND THISTLE. The usual business of the Lodge being over it was decided to make it an open night. Harmony was freely indulged in, Bros. Knight, Stokes, Hattersley, O'Donnel, Harber, and Paddock entertaining the company in excellent style to the efficient accompaniments of Bros. Osbourn and E. Harber. Bro. George Noakes (Lodge secretary), proposed a vote of thanks to the visitors, complimenting them on their excellent attendance also the ready way they had added to the night's entertainment, at the same time promising that Lodge 421, would return the visit in a short time. He hoped as good a number as the visitors had brought the evening. The singing of the National Anthem brought a most enjoyable evening to a close."

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

"The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends..... WHITE LION, Portland Street. Lodge No.421, of the Loyal Caledonian Corks. This lodge was formed in 1886, is in a flourishing condition, having 138 members, whilst eight new ones were made last week. The dividend for this year amounts to 4s 2d, and one night on card per member, while the reserve fund now stands at £72 18s."

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

"A successful whist drive took place on Wednesday evening, at the WHITE LION, Portland Street, for the purpose of establishing a benevolent fund in connection with the Gift Society which is held there. Eighty players sat down, the M.C. being Mr. M. Connelly and the prize winners and donors were as follows: Councillor Addison's prize, Mr. F. Noakes; Mr. W. B. Weightman's prize, Mr. B. Palmer; Mr. S. Davis' prize, Mr. B. James. The prizes were handed to the successful players by Mr. S. Davis."

Walsall Advertiser 9/4/1910

"An enjoyable smoking concert was held on Friday week at the WHITE LION, Portland Street, in connection with the Walsall District of the London and Manchester Assurance Co. Ltd. There was a large muster present, Mr. J. Pritchard, director of the company presiding."

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

"Bowling. The members of the WHITE LION Club, Portland Street, will be sorry to learn that it has been proposed not to open the green this season, as it is not fit to play on. The host (Mr. *J. Cleobury*) is naturally much disappointed at the result of the decision, as he has spent much time and money in trying to make the green perfect, having had it enlarged and relaid. The inclement weather, however, has been detrimental to the young grass, and it was easily seen that to play on it this season would perhaps mean completely ruining it. The decision, therefore, in the interests of the club, is a wise one."

1911 Census

145, Portland Street

[1] *James Cleobury* (48), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Martha Kate Cleobury (42), wife, married 24 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[3] James Cleobury (22), son, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[4] Elsie Cleobury (18), daughter, assisting in business, born Walsall;

- [5] Maud Cleobury (16), daughter, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [6] Sydney Cleobury (13), son, school, born Walsall;
- [7] Dora Cleobury (19), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [8] Bertha Cleobury (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] Charlotte Barratt (26), general servant, born Moxley:

Walsall Advertiser 6/5/1911

“Bowling. It is extremely regrettable that the green at the WHITE LION, Portland Street, is still in an unsatisfactory condition. Mr. *J. Cleobury*, the host, has spent a lot of time and money in an endeavour to improve the green, but despite the fact that it was allowed to be idle all last season, it is still far from perfect, and so very wisely, Mr. *Cleobury* has decided not to open it this season. The members who form the club are naturally disappointed, but quite see the wisdom of letting the green get thoroughly established before attempting to play on it.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....
WHITE LION, Portland Street, Walsall, £2 6s 4½d.”

James Cleobury was auditor to the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly Society. [1918]

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
WHITE LION, Portland Street. £2 2s 3½d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/2/1918

“The annual licensing sessions.....

A legitimate complaint had been made by working men and others about the publicans refusing to supply beer for out-door consumption. This was a practice which was very much to be deprecated, and the justices hoped it would be altered. In some instances publicans had refused to supply casual customers. That was wrong, as a license-holder was compelled, so long as he had facilities for doing so, to serve anybody with reasonable refreshment who applied for it, and he was not justified in declining to serve other than regular customers. Any cases of such refusal brought before the justices would be seriously regarded. The Bench renewed all the licenses except those of the WHITE LION, Portland Street it was stated that notices had been exhibited by the license holders that no outdoor customers would be served.”

Walsall Observer 11/3/1939

“Asking for the renewal of the licenses of the VILLAGE INN, Windmill Street; and the WHITE LION, Portland Street, Mr. Frank Cooper stated that both houses were owned by Ansell’s or one of their subsidiary companies and if the licenses were renewed he would give an undertaking that within the current licensing year a scheme would be submitted for dealing with the licenses by way of removal of one and the surrender of the other. If that undertaking were fulfilled, the justices would be able to merge two licenses into one, but if the undertaking were not carried out, no opposition would be raised to both licenses being on the ‘object-ed’ list next year.

The two licenses were renewed on this undertaking, as were the licenses of the PHEASANT, Windmill Street; and the FOUNTAIN, Bott Lane; subject to somewhat similar undertakings.

Mr. Cooper, for the owners attached considerable importance to the PHEASANT and if the VILLAGE went there could be no question about the PHEASANT being necessary. If the justices preferred it, however, the brewery company would deal with the PHEASANT and the FOUNTAIN in the same way as the VILLAGE and the WHITE LION, all being in the same ownership.”

1939 Register

143, Portland Street (4 of 6)

- [1] *James Groves*, date of birth 8/1/1903, manager of public house, married;
- [2] *Mabel Groves*, dob 10/1/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Donald S. Street*, dob 4/3/1923, toolmaker, single;
- [4] *Raymond J. Groves*, dob 11/2/1928, at school, single;

Walsall Observer 17/2/1940 - Notice

“Licensing Acts, 1910 to 1934.

To The Clerk of the Licensing Justices for the County Borough of Walsall.

To the Chief Constable for the said County Borough.

To the Clerk of the Rating Authority for the said County Borough.

To *James Groves*, the Licensee of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, in the said County Borough.

To Ansell’s Brewery Ltd, of Park Road, Aston, in the City of Birmingham, the Owners of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, in the said County Borough; and to whom it may concern.

I, Tom Bentley Golby, of 148, Broadway North, in the said Borough of Walsall, Supervisor, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the Adjourned Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Thursday, the 7th day of March,

1940, for the Provisional Grant to me of an Order sanctioning the Removal of the Justices' License now in force and held by the said *James Groves*, in pursuance of which the said *James Groves* holds an Excise License to sell by retail at the licensed premises situate in Portland Street, and known by the sign of the WHITE LION, any intoxicating liquor which may be sold under a Publican's License for consumption either on or off premises, from such premises to a certain House and premises proposed to be erected upon land which or part of which forms the premises known as the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS at the corner of Park Street and Station Street, in the said County Borough of Walsall, and of which License when removed I desire to be the holder. And I Hereby Give Notice that Ansell Brewery Company, Ltd, Park Road, Aston, in the city of Birmingham, are the owners of the said premises known at the WHITE LION, Portland Street, aforesaid, and that Grigg and Brettell Ltd, of Holt Street, in the City of Birmingham, are the owners of the said premises at the corner of Park Street and Station Street, Walsall aforesaid. Given under my hand this 13th day of February, 1940.
Tom Bentley Golby.”

Evening Despatch 7/3/1940

“The magistrates also granted an application for the removal of the license of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, to premises proposed to be erected by Ansell's Brewery on the site of the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS, Park Street, which was destroyed by fire last June.”

Walsall Observer 4/5/1940

“Walsall transfer sessions held at the Guildhall on Thursday.....

The justices gave their final sanction for the removal of the seven-days licence of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, to new premises to be built on the site of the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS where there was only a six-day licence.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/2/1941

“‘Apparently Hitler has not driven us to drink yet.’ This comment was made by Mr. T. M. Watson (chief constable) in presenting his report at the annual meeting of the Walsall Licensing Committee on Thursday.....

An application was granted for the renewal of a provisional order for the removal of the license of the WHITE LION, Portland Street, to premises being erected on the site of the GRAND THEATRE VAULTS, Park Street.”

It closed on 30th April 1941.

The license was removed to the OLD GRAND.

Walsall Observer 7/6/1941

“For many years well known in the licensed trade in Walsall, Mr. *James Cleobury* died at his house, ‘Mortimer’, in Lichfield Road, on Monday. He was in his seventy-ninth year and had been in failing health for about twelve months. Mr. *Cleobury* succeeded his father as licensee of the WHITE LION INN, Portland Street and as owner of a home brewery which provided supplies for several houses belonging to him. When he retired in 1918 his trade interests were sold off to Atkinsons Brewery Ltd. For a number of years he was President of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society. He was a keen follower of many forms of sport, but took an active part only in bowling (at the WHITE LION club at one time prominent in the league and competition play) and in cycling. He was one of the riders of the quaint ‘penny-farthing’ machine and took up the pastime again in his years of retirement. He was a member of many friendly societies' lodges which made his house their headquarters. He leaves a widow, two sons and three daughters. The eldest son is in Canada, and the younger, Flight-Lieutenant Sidney Cleobury, who before the war was in business as an auctioneer and estate agent at Torquay, is now again with the RAF, with which he served in the last war. The funeral took place yesterday at Rushall Parish Church, among those attending being representatives of the Licensed Victuallers' Society, from which was also a wreath.”

WHITE LION

150, (106), (107), Sandwell Street / (15), Little London, Caldmore, WALSALL

OWNERS

C. H. Adams, Fillongly Lodge, near Coventry
Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd. [1880]
Showells Brewery Co. Ltd. [1897], [1912]
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased from 29th June 1935)
Ansell Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960)
Punch Taverns [2005], [2011]

[Admiral Taverns](#)

LICENSEES

[William Porter \[1813\]](#)
 Elizabeth Porter [1818]
 William Porter [1831] – [1835]
 William Hampton [1841] – [1842]
 Charles Palmer [1845] – [1845]
 Mrs. Nancy Palmer [1849] – [1853]
 Thomas Holman [1854]
 Richard Henry Baldwin [1857] – [1858]
 William Ison [1860] – [1861]
 Charles Pinnegar [1862] – [1870]
 Henry Purchase [1871] – [1873];
 George Porter [1881] – **1887**;
 James Mills (**1887 – 1897**);
 Louis Ford (**1897 – 1902**);
 Thomas William Taylor (**1902 – 1904**);
 Alexander Mann (**1904 – 1905**);
 Arthur Sims (**1905 – 1906**);
 Job Flewitt Piper (**1906 – 1907**); manager
 Joseph Wilson (**1907 – 1913**); manager
 William Bramner (**1913 – 1921**);
 Arthur Standley (**1921 – 1932**);
 Herbert Williams (**1932 – 1937**);
 Harry Fabian Lister (**1937 – 1938**);
 George Sidwell (**1938 – 1940**);
 William John Taylor (**1940**);
 Marjorie Taylor (**1940 – 1941**);
 James Hanstock (**1941 – 1948**);
 Albert James (**1948 – 1950**);
 Joseph Sydney Edward Dugmore (**1950 – 1952**);
 Ronald Stanley Andrews (**1952 – 1953**);
 Alexander Lewis Watkins (**1953 – 1955**);
 Jack Lewis (**1955 – 1957**);
 Arthur John Hill (**1957 – 1972**)
 Bernard Derrick (**1985 – [1994]**)
 Anthony Inns [] – **2001**)
 Paul Lindley [2004]
 Paul Williams and Colin Joesbury (**2006 – [2007]**)
 Lee and Kath [2010]
 Jason and Hannah [2011]
 James Paddock [2013]
 Colin Joesbury (**2014 – [2015]**)

NOTES

Little London [1813], [1858], [1868]
 15, Little London [1861], [1864], [1865], [1871]
 107, Sandwell Street [1872]
 106, Sandwell Street [1891], [1896]
 150, Sandwell Street [1901], [1939], [2005]

LION [1813]

It was locally listed.

William Porter, victualler and spur-buckle maker, Tulbrook Road, or Little London. Horse and gig to hire. [1813]

[‘The History and Directory of Walsall’ by Thomas Pearce 1813](#)

“Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall Additional Friendly Societies, known by the name of Gift Societies.

A Gift, or permanent fund, held at LION, Little London.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/3/1831 - Married

“On Wednesday last, at Walsall, Mr. Samuel Glover, ironfounder, of that place, to Miss Elizabeth Porter, daughter of Mr. *William Porter*, of the WHITE LION, Little London.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/1/1833 - Died

“On Monday last, aged 46, Ann, wife of Mr. *William Porter*, of the WHITE LION INN, Little London, foreign of Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/3/1835 - Married

“On Wednesday last, at Walsall, by the Rev. J. Baron, vicar, Mr. *William Porter*, of the WHITE LION, Little London, to Miss Ann Foster, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/9/1841

“At the Guildhall, on Wednesday, *William Hampton*, of the WHITE LION, Little London, and Omer Stokes, of the LEATHER CUTTERS ARMS, Duncalf Street, were each convicted in the mitigated penalty of £50 with forfeiture of brewing vessels, for using grains of paradise in the preparation of their beer. It was intimated to the defendants that they were at liberty of memorialize the bora of excise in London to obtain a further mitigation of the fine.”

Charles Palmer was also a saddle nail maker. [1845]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/9/1845 - Died

“On the 1st instant, Mr. *Charles Palmer*, of the WHITE LION INN, Little London, near Walsall, aged 45.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/11/1848

“On Thursday, at the WHITE LION, Little London, near Walsall, Mr. Cotterell held an inquest upon the body of John Broadhurst, who was killed that morning by the explosion of a gun, which he dragged through a hedge while out shooting. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Nancy Palmer = Nanny Palmer

She was also a saddle nail plater. [1849], [1851]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 16/10/1853

“A rat match will take place on Monday, at Mrs. *Palmer*'s, WHITE LION, Little London, Walsall, when Mr. Joseph Bagnall's black and tan bitch Turpin is to have 20 rats against Mr. Thomas Brown's bitch Myrtle. Bagnall's bitch is limited to 13lb weight, and to have rats for pounds. The match is for £5 a side.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 23/4/1854

“John Birch, having received forfeit from Roper, is anxious to fly his blue cock Goldfinder against Roper's black cock Harry Broom, from Coventry Station, for £5 or £10 a side, or any other pigeon within three miles of Walsall, on Monday next; or Birch will accommodate Roper on his own terms, for six days together, for £1 each day, from the same place. Money always ready at *Thomas Holman*'s, WHITE LION, Little London.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/11/1854

“On Wednesday *Thomas Holman*, landlord of the WHITE LION, Little London, was fined 30s and costs for keeping his house open on Sunday week during prohibited hours by the recent Act. It was the second offence, and the Bench warned him that its repetition would lead to the suspension of his license.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 3/3/1856 - Advert

“Walsall. Capital Old-Established Road-Side Inn and Tea Gardens, The WHITE LION, Little London, half a mile from the centre of town.

Mr. W. H. Flanagan is instructed by the Proprietor to submit for unreserved sale by auction, in the premises, on Friday and Saturday next, March 7 and 8 – the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession; together with the Capital Household Furniture, Public House Fixtures and Fittings, Brewing Vessels, prime Ale Casks, wood Shed and Arbour, quantity of Beech and other Timber, useful Gig, Superior Set of Harness, quantity of choice Plants and Shrubs, Cucumber and Forcing Frames, and numerous other Effects, at the well-known place of resort.

This capital Licensed Victuallers' House is desirably situated on the main road from Walsall to West Bromwich, and is much frequented by pleasure parties, having extensive and very productive Pleasure and other Gardens attached, on which a considerable sum had been recently expended. There is also a Croft of one Acre and a half of excellent pasture Land adjoining. The rent and payments are moderate.

The Premises are commodious and very convenient, and an excellent and fast-improving business has been hitherto done, which may be further increased by an enterprising couple.

Sale to commence each day at eleven o'clock.

The Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession will be offered the first lot.

Further particulars, with catalogues may be had of the Auctioneer, at his Offices and General Seed Warehouse, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 29/3/1857 - Advert

“*Baldwin*’s Skittle Alley, WHITE LION INN, Little London, Walsall,

Mr. *Baldwin* respectfully announces that the Opening of the above well-known Skittle Alley – the largest and best in the Midland Counties – will be opened for the Season on Easter Monday.

A Dinner will be provided for the occasion. Arrangements have been made for several important matches.

Dinner on the table at Two o’clock. Tickets, 1s each.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 14/6/1857

“A match came off on Whit-Monday between John Penn’s dun cock Wonder of Wednesbury and John Birch’s blue cock Goldfinder of Walsall, for £5 a side, from Rugby, distance 40 miles, which was won easy by Goldfinder. Birch having heard of Smith’s challenge, will make a match against his bird for £10 or £15 aside, and give him one minute start from the same place; if this does not suit Smith, any other fancier in Walsall can be accommodated, from eight miles to 50, on the London Road, for the same sum, or John Charley of Wolverhampton from Weedon if he will either send his bird four miles beyond Weedon or allow four minutes for the distance to fly between West Bromwich and Walsall. Money ready any night at *Richard Baldwin*’s, WHITE LION, Little London, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 5/12/1857

“The attention of the court was occupied a considerable time to-day in investigating charges brought against publicans for allowing gaming in their houses, contrary to the tenor of their licenses, the information in each case was laid by Police-constable Batchellor.....

Mr. *R. H. Baldwin*, of the WHITE LION, Little London, was next charged with the same offence [allowing gaming for money] alleged to be committed on Tuesday, the 24th instant. The officer said he visited the defendant’s house on the night in question, and found four men playing at cards for a quart of ale, which was brought in by the boy. Mr. *Baldwin* was not at home at the time, neither did he see him while he remained. Mr. Duignan in this case contended that there was no proof of the landlord’s knowingly suffering gaming, and the police might get every victualler in the town fined by engaging two men to go to a house and play at cards to effect their purpose. This case was also dismissed.”

London Gazette 1/4/1859

“Whereas a Petition of *Thomas Holman*, formerly of the WHITE LION, Little London, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, Brewer, and Retailer of Beer, at the same time renting a house and premises, and carrying out business at Ablewell-street, Walsall aforesaid, as a Saddle Tree Maker, and during part of the time underletting portion of the last-named house, then and now of No.70, Ablewell-street, Walsall aforesaid, Saddle Tree Maker, and for about six months during the residence last aforesaid, occupying a sleeping apartment in Pool-street, Walsall aforesaid, his wife during the same time occupying partly furnished apartments at the Lozells, Handsworth, in the said county, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Thomas Holman*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Thomas Holman* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 21st of April instant, at ten o’clock in the forenoon precisely for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Thomas Holman*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Frederick Fuhrmann Clarke, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/5/1859 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, in consequence of the proprietor retiring from the business, that well-accustomed roadside Inn, called the WHITE LION, Little London, in the Foreign of Walsall, with tastefully laid out Tea and Pleasure gardens, fist-rate Skittle Alley, and every convenience for carrying on the public business. Stock, fixtures, &c, to be taken at a valuation.

For particulars, apply to John Osbourn, Auctioneer, &c, 52, Lower Hall Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/6/1859 - Advert

“WHITE LION, Little London, Walsall.

Sale of Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Stock of Ale and Spirits, excellent Bagatelle Board and Effects.

By John Osbourn, Tomorrow (Thursday), June 16th, 1859.”

1861 Census

15, Little London

[1] *William Ison* (62), victualler, born Arley, Warwickshire;

[2] *Ann Ison* (48), wife, born Oxfordshire:

Charles Pinnegar = *Chares Pennegar* = *Chares Pinniger* = *Chares Piniger* = *Charles Pumigar*

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/8/1863

“*Charles Pinniger*, victualler, was charged with having, on Sunday had his house open during prohibited hours. Police-constable Childs, said, he visited the WHITE LION public house, Little London, kept by the defendant, and found twenty men in the back

premises, one of whom had a pint cup with malt liquor in it. He went in the club room, and there found several men, and discovered a cup with liquor in it. Defendant, who admitted the charge, was fined 2s 6d and costs

Walsall Free Press 9/7/1864

“James Walters was charged with having, on Monday night last, assaulted Joseph Jeffries, from whose evidence it appeared that on the night in question, he was in the WHITE LION, Little London, when defendant, who was present, called complainant out. On getting outside, defendant said, ‘I have owed you a grudge for some time,’ and knocked complainant down, and kicked him. Mr. Cranch, who appeared for the defendant, cross-examined the complainant at some length, but nothing was elicited to shake his evidence in chief, which was corroborated by a young man named Kent.

The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant to a pay a fine of 6d and costs; or, in default, be imprisoned for seven days.”

Walsall Free Press 8/7/1865

“*Charles Piniger*, landlord of the WHITE LION, Little London, was charged with having, on Sunday morning last, had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours. From the evidence of Police-constable Herdsman it appeared that, about half-past eleven o’clock on the morning of the day in question, he saw a woman coming from the defendant’s yard with malt liquor. On cross-examination by Mr. Duignan, who appeared for the defendant, the officer said that the yard communicated with another house besides the defendant’s. Mr. Duignan contended that the woman who had been seen with the liquor should have been summoned, as it was as likely she had got the liquor from the other house as from the defendant’s. The Bench, under these circumstances, dismissed the case.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/5/1867 - Advert

“For Sale, handsome Gig, nearly new, suitable for 13 hand pony.
Apply at the WHITE LION, Little London, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/7/1868

“At the Police Court, on Monday, before S. Stephens, J. Brewer, jun., J. Shannon, G. B. Anderson, Esqs, *Charles Pumigar*, landlord of the WHITE LION INN, Little London, was summoned for having had his house open for the sale of liquors during prohibited hours. Mr. Glover appeared on behalf of the defendant.

Police-constable Pearson stated that on Sunday week he visited the defendant’s house, but could not get admittance. He went to the window and looked in, and then he saw defendant carrying some malt liquor from the machine and heard his wife say, ‘Be careful, the police are at the window.’ Three men were then let out of the side door of the house and the defendant put the liquor he was carrying under the machine and admitted the witness. The Magistrates imposed a fine of 10s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/10/1869

“On Monday Mr. A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, held an inquest at the WHITE LION INN, Caldmore, touching the death of Wm. Aldridge, aged 36, a bricklayer, who died at his residence in Bescot Street, on the preceding Friday, from the effect of injuries which he received on the Thursday before, owing to the brickwork of a puddling furnace, which he was repairing at the works of Messrs. Bissel and Keay, giving way, and bringing down on him a heavy iron plate. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Walsall Free Press 23/4/1870 - Advert

“To Be let, and may be entered upon immediately, the Old-licensed Road-side Inn, the WHITE LION, situate in Little London, in the Foreign of Walsall, and fronting the road leading from Walsall to Westbromwich; together with the tastefully laid-out Gardens at the back of the same. The Stock (which is low) and Fixtures to be taken at a Valuation; declining health is the cause for leaving. For particulars apply to John Osbourn, Auctioneer and Appraiser, 52, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall.”

Henry Purchase = Henry Pinchard

1871 Census

15, Little London – WHITE LION

[1] *Henry Purchase* (30), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] Mary A. Purchase (29), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Alice Purchase (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] Joseph Purchase (1), son, born Walsall;

[5] Joseph Purchase (79), father, widower, freehold householder, born Brewdwood [Brewood?]:

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1871

“Yesterday, at the Guildhall, *Henry Pinchard*, of the WHITE LION INN, Little London, was fined 20s and costs for permitting drunkenness in his house.”

Henry Purchase, beer retailer, 107, Sandwell Street. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 19/11/1874

“On Tuesday, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the WHITE LION, Little London, on the body of George Henry Timmins, clerk and cashier, of the same locality. On Saturday the deceased was seized with a violent fit of coughing while at the warehouse of his employers, Messrs. Hill, factors, Lichfield Street. Blood began to flow from his mouth freely, and before medical aid could be procured he had ceased to exist. The jury found that death had resulted from the bursting of a blood vessel.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/4/1877

“On Tuesday, Mr. Fletcher, coroner, held an inquest at the WHITE LION, Little London, on the body of William Palmer, aged 20, the son of Mrs. Mary Parkes, shopkeeper, in the same neighbourhood. On the 23rd of March the deceased was admitted into Burntwood Asylum, he having been certified of unsound mind by Mr. Hubbard, surgeon. On the 9th of April his mother received a letter from Dr. Davis, stating that deceased might return home on his mother getting permission of the committee and signing a guarantee that every care should be taken of him, and on the 16th she complied with these conditions, and the deceased returned with her. After that he appeared very strange in his manner, and after dinner on Sunday, taking advantage of his being left alone in the house, he procured a carving knife from the shop, and going into the cellar, inflicted a fearful wound in his throat, which must have caused death almost immediately. In December last he attempted to cut his throat while serving as a soldier. A verdict of Suicide whist of Unsound Mind was returned.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/6/1880 - Advert

“Cannock Brewery Co. Limited require Tenders for Woodwork on the outside WHITE LION INN, Little London.....
All the above are situate in the town of Walsall.
Particulars as to class of work may be obtained at, and Tenders received by Cannock Brewery Co. Limited, Cannock.”

1881 Census

Sandwell Street – WHITE LION

- [1] *George Porter* (58), licensed victualler and gardener, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Porter* (53), wife, born Corvedale, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Ellen Porter* (18), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [4] *George Barker* (6), grandson, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *William H. Tombs* (24), boarder, brown saddler, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sarah A. Tombs* (21), boarder, born Walsall;
- [7] *William H. Tombs* (1), boarder, born Walsall;
- [8] *George Tombs* (4 months), boarder, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 21/2/1882 - Advert

“Garden To Let, well stocked with Fruit Trees.
Apply to Mr. *Porter*, WHITE LION, Little London, Walsall.”

1891 Census

106, Sandwell Street

- [1] *James Mills* (58), bit maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Alice Mills* (45), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *James Mills* (20), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Charles Mills* (18), son, harness maker’s apprentice, born Walsall;
- [5] *Agnes Mills* (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Will Mills* (14), black saddler’s apprentice, born Walsall;
- [7] *Katherine Mills* (12), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Alice Mills* (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Harry Mills* (3), son, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/6/1893

“On Thursday Mr. T. H. Stanley, coroner, held an inquest at the WHITE LION INN, Little London, touching the deaths of Alice Hyslop (30), and her son William Norman Hyslop, six months, wife and child of Mr. William Hyslop, schoolmaster, Greenhill Villa, Highgate. The evidence was to the effect that Mrs. Hyslop, since her last confinement in November, had been subject to delusions and melancholia, but had lately been supposed to be better. On Tuesday, while her husband was at dinner, she sent her servant girl, Florence Stackhouse, for a bottle of Calvert’s carbolic acid, and when the girl returned gave her permission to go to her house at Pelsall. Meanwhile Mr. Hyslop left for his duties at Tantarra Street Board Schools, bidding his wife goodbye as was his custom, not noticing that there was anything unusual in her appearance and demeanour. At about three o’clock his little daughter fetched him from the school, saying her mother had taken something and was ill, and when he reached home he found the mother and child on the bed in an unconscious state. Dr. Phillips, who had been called for by him on the way home, said they did all they could for the relief of the sufferers, but from the first it was apparent the there was no hope of recovery, and the mother and child died in the course of the afternoon. In the room was a tea-cup which had contained carbolic acid and also a spoon containing a little sugar and acid, indicating that had been used to administer the poison to the infant. The little girl’s statement was that her mother wanted her to drink out of the cup, but that she would not do so, not liking the smell

and appearance of the mixture, and having taken some herself lay down on the bed. Soon afterwards she tried to get up but fell on the floor, and witness ran and fetched Mrs. Bates, a neighbour.

Mrs. Bates testified that Mr. Hyslop and his wife had lived very happily together.

The jury made some comments on the ease with which carbolic acid could be got, and returned verdicts that the mother took poison whilst of unsound mind, and that whilst of unsound mind she administered poison to the child also, this form being adopted to avoid the introduction of the words 'wilful murder'."

Walsall Advertiser 17/8/1895

"Athletic News And Notes.....

I welcome with relief some items of information to hand from the new secretary of Walsall Football Club, Mr. A. E. Pardoe..... Season Tickets, 4s 6d and 7s 6d are now ready, and can be obtained at the STORK HOTEL, Mr. Watkins's Restaurant, Mr. A. T. Taylor's (Digbeth), Mr. *James Mills's* (WHITE LION, Sandwell Street), Mr. Brown (BAKERS INN, Caldmore Green), Mr. Ricketts (West Bromwich Road), and Mr. Tandy's (Park Street), and from any of the members of the committee or the hon. secretary."

Walsall Advertiser 30/11/1895

"Homing Pigeon Flying. Mr. *James Mills*, of the WHITE LION INN, Little London, has now received the diplomas and prizes won by him in the races for old birds arranged by the Midlands Flying Club during the present year. They are as follows: Lymington, 127 miles, velocity, 1,140 yards per minute, number of birds competing, 340; Mr. *Mills* takes the 6th, 9th, 14th and 15th prizes. Cherbourg (France), 204 miles, velocity 837 yards per minute; number of birds competing, 300; 1st, 5th, 7th, 11th and 12th prizes. St. Malo (France), 274 miles, velocity 966 yards per minute; number of birds competing, 140; 17th, 18th and 19th prizes; Nantes (France), 374 miles, velocity, 1,437 yards per minute; number of birds competing, 73; 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th prizes. Mr. *Mills* also gains the first prize for the best average velocity, viz, 1,095 yards per minute, in the old birds races during the year 1895 – a feat he also accomplished during the year 1894, thus establishing a record which but rarely falls to a lot of any fancier in a club of the standing and membership of the Midland Flying Club, upon whose books may be found the names of the most known fanciers of the Midland Counties. In these races the competition is always of the keenest character, and the honour of the first prize is considered very great, it being in fact the 'Blue Riband' of the club. In addition to above distinctions, Mr. *Mills* has also gained the third prize in the Winchester race, the first prize from Lymington, and the first prize from Cherbourg in connection with the West Bromwich Homing Society's old bird races during the year 1895."

Walsall Advertiser 9/1/1897

"Application was made by Mr. Pearman-Smith for the approval of the Bench to certain plans for the rebuilding of the WHITE LION public-house, Sandwell Street, belonging to Messrs. Showell and Sons. A great public improvement would be made, and altogether some 500 square yards of land in the vicinity of the house were being given up. The building area of the house would not be increased for drinking purposes.

The magistrates ultimately said they were not opposed to the application, but on the contrary approved it. It was, however, such an important undertaking that it should be made at the Annual Licensing Sessions, and they did not wish their expression of opinion in any way to prejudice the matter."

Walsall Advertiser 24/9/1898

"Walsall Town Council. Street Committee.....

An application has been made by Showell's Brewery Co. Limited for your committee to lay flags opposite the WHITE LION HOTEL, Little London, instead of the blue bricks upon the company paying one-half the cost, but your committee are unable to assent thereto."

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

"The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Alehouses.....

Louis Ford, WHITE LION, served 30 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution."

Lichfield Mercury 10/10/1899 - Advert

"General wanted, aged 20, strong; no washing; one in family; Man kept.

Apply, WHITE LION, Sandwell Street, Walsall."

Birmingham Daily Post 27/1/1900

"Football.....

The Walsall players have been carefully trained, under the personal supervision of Mr. *Louis Ford*, whose experience in such matters is a point not to be lost sight of. They have made Mr. *Ford's* (the WHITE LION, Sandwell Street) their headquarters, and being on the outskirts of town, have been able to indulge in some good country walks whenever the weather has been favour-

able.....”

1901 Census

150, Sandwell Street – WHITE LION HOTEL

- [1] *Louis Ford* (38), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Ada S. Ford* (34), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Louis G. Ford* (8), son, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Clara A. Spinks* (40), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 14/9/1901

“*Harry Smith* (56), labourer, of 147, Whitehall Street, was charged with stealing a spirit glass, value 3d, from the WHITE LION VAULTS, Little London, the property of *Louis Ford*. *Robert Richardson*, barman, in the employ of the prosecutor, stated that whilst he was cleaning the windows at the WHITE LION on Friday afternoon he saw the prisoner take a glass from the counter and put it into his trouser pocket. Witness went into the house to tell Mr. *Ford*, and prisoner left. Witness went after him and brought him back to the house, and when asked how he accounted for the glass in his possession he said the glass slipped off the counter into his pocket. The man was perfectly sober.

Louis Ford stated that when he spoke to the man about the matter he said he had picked the glass up from the sawdust on the floor, and he thought it was of no use.

Prisoner pleaded guilty, and consideration of his having been in custody since Friday the Magistrates sentenced him to a days’ imprisonment.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/8/1907

“With tragic suddenness the death took place, shortly after 11 o’clock on Tuesday, of Mr. *Job Flewitt Piper*, the manager of the WHITE LION HOTEL, Little London, at the age of 52. Deceased occasionally suffered from heart trouble, but he seemed quite in his normal health. During Tuesday he had been to Birmingham on business, and was at work attending to his customers until shortly before closing time. Soon afterwards he suddenly fell down in his sitting room, and medical aid was immediately summoned, only, however, to find that life was extinct. Deceased, who hails from Wednesbury, was well known and respected in the licensing trade.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.

New Members..... *Joseph Wilson*, WHITE LION HOTEL, Sandwell Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 20/11/1909

“On Monday, a very pleasant evening was spent at the WHITE LION HOTEL, Little London, when a supper was held on behalf of the Sick and Dividend Society, which was presided over by Councillor P. Bull, JP, who was supported by Councillor Shelley. About sixty members and friends sat down to an excellent repast provided by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *J. Wilson*. The rest of the evening was occupied with a very enjoyable smoking concert, the artistes contributing to the programme being Mr. C. Richardson (tenor), Mr. J. Wilson (tenor), Mr. A. Spiller (baritone), Mr. Guest (humourist), and Master Poulton (violin). Mr. J. Toon ably accompanied.”

1911 Census

Sandwell Street – WHITE LION HOTEL

- [1] *Joseph Wilson* (47), currier and hotel manager, born Walsall;
- [2] *Alice Wilson* (46), wife, married 24 years, assisting in the business, born Warwick;
- [3] *Joseph Wilson* (23), son, assistant hotel manager, born Walsall;
- [4] *Arthur Norman Wilson* (3), son, born Walsall;
- [5] *Florrie E. Derricott* (22), general servant, born Brownhills:

Walsall Advertiser 5/8/1911

“There was a large attendance of delegates at the quarterly meeting of the Walsall District of the Grand Independent Order of Loyal Caledonian Corks.....

Permission has been granted for the removal of lodge 497 from the NEW INNS to the WHITE LION, Sandwell Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/3/1912

“Through the generosity of Mr. E. A. Roberts (manager of Showell’s Brewery Company) a most successful smoking concert was given to Lodge 497 of the Loyal Caledonian Corks at the WHITE LION, Sandwell Street, on Tuesday evening. The was a capital attendance, over which Mr. Roberts presided.....”

Walsall Advertiser 29/9/1912

“The opening concert in connection with the Caldmore Old Boys’ Musical Society was held at headquarters, the WHITE LION HOTEL, Sandwell Street, on Monday evening, Mr. A. Roberts presided.....”

Walsall Advertiser 30/8/1913

“The best wishes of all local cricket enthusiasts will be extended to *Brammer*, who is about to enter the bounds of matrimony for the second time. The wedding is to take place on Monday week, Sept 8th, at St. Matthew’s Church, I believe, and henceforth Mr. and Mrs. *Brammer* will be the host and hostess of the WHITE LION, Sandwell Street.”

William Brammer was a professional cricketer at Walsall Cricket Club.

Walsall Advertiser 27/9/1913

“On Monday evening about fifty patrons and friends assembled at the WHITE LION HOTEL, Sandwell Street, for the purpose of making a presentation to Mr. and Mrs. *J. Wilson*, who have managed the house for the last six years, and are now retiring into private life owing to the indifferent health of Mrs. *Wilson*. The presentation took the form of a handsome illuminated address, and to Mr. *Wilson*, a Peterson’s patent pipe and case from the members of the Sick and Dividend Society of which he had been their treasurer.

The Chairman (Mr. Bucknell) expressed his pleasure in performing that task and his high regard for Mr. and Mrs. *Wilson*. While regretting their leaving, he hoped that Mrs. *Wilson* would soon recruit her health and that he should see them in business again. In asking their acceptance of the gifts, he hoped they would be spared many years, and that it would bring the happiness to think of the many friends they had made. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. *Wilson*, who was given a rousing reception, said the gifts had taken them by surprise, and he assured the company that they would treasure them as long as they lived. He thanked them most sincerely on behalf of his wife and himself for the splendid recognition of their services during their six years amongst them.

The rest of the evening was spent in harmony, the following being the programme: Pianoforte solo, Mr. Toon; song, Mr. James; song, Mr. Meeson; step dance, Mr. Davis; comic song, Mr. James; song, Mr. Meeson; song, Mr. James. Mr. Toon ably officiated at the piano. The National Anthem closed an enjoyable evening.”

Walsall Observer 13/1/1917 - Advert

“Borough Of Walsall. Allotments.

Meetings will be held to further the Allotment Movement next week as follows:

Monday. West Bromwich Road Allotments. At WHITE LION HOTEL, Little London. Councillor Evans, Chairman.....

All Meetings at 8pm. If you want Allotments attend. Now is the time to see to it. Do not delay, as you want to get on the land at once.”

Walsall Observer 24/3/1917 - Advert

“National Service. To All Men between 18 and 61 years of age.

If You Believe. That this war is not being run for your personal advantage; or That your ease and comfort are not of more importance than the winning of the War; or That the cause of Freedom is worthy of some sacrifice on your part, as well as on the part of men on the field. Then Enrol To-Day.

Public Meetings Will be held as follows, at Eight o’clock.

Monday, March 26th – WHITE LION, Little London. Chairman – Councillor Enoch Evans.

Tuesday, March 27th – HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck Road. Chairman – Councillor Joseph Thickett.

Wednesday, March 28th – Tantarra Street Schools. Chairman – Dr. F. Sydenham.

Thursday, March 29th – Mass Meeting In Town Hall.

Speakers – Sir S. A. Cooper, Bart, MP (Assistant Director of Enrolment), Mr. Barnett Kenyon, MP, Chesterfield Division, Mr. F. T. Cozens (Sub Commissioner of National Service). Chairman – His Worship the Mayor.

Musical Programme arranged by Councillor E. H. Ingram, and Organ Recital by Mr. T. W. North.

Questions are invited at each meeting. Come and ask. Everyone should Enrol.

Make the Voluntary System a Success This Time.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WHITE LION, Sandwell Street. £1 11s 10d.”

Walsall Observer 10/6/1939 - Deaths

“In loving memory of Keziah, wife of *George Sidwell*, of the WHITE LION HOTEL, Sandwell Street, aged 61. *At rest*.

Mr. *G. Sidwell* and Daughter, of the WHITE LION HOTEL, Sandwell Street, wish to thank Customers and Friends for sympathy extended to them in their bereavement; they also wish to thank Captain Page of the Salvation Army, for prayers for Mrs. *Sidwell*; thanks are also extended to the WHITE LION Darts Club, Customers and others for beautiful flowers; also Doctors and Nurses of the Manor Hospital, for their kindness.”

1939 Register

150, Sandwell Street

[1] *George Sidwell*, date of birth 3/5/1864, manager, licensee, widowed:

Walsall Observer 14/10/1939 - Advert

“Bar General, over 21, to live in, good home.

WHITE LION, Sandwell Street, Walsall.”

[Walsall Observer 4/5/1940](#)

“Walsall transfer sessions held at the Guildhall on Thursday.....

WHITE LION, Little London, from the name of the late *William John Taylor* to his widow, *Marjorie Taylor*.”

[Walsall Observer 15/1/1944](#)

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WHITE LION INN, Sandwell Street. £0 6s 9d.”

Arthur Hill died in 1972.

Bernard Derrick was married to Judith.

[Sandwell Evening Mail 4/6/1994](#)

“Down Your Local. WHITE LION, Walsall.

Beware of having a pint at the WHITE LION in Sandwell Street – you could end up being converted to God! Landlord *Bernard Derrick* has struck an informal ‘deal’ with his local man of the cloth. Father Roger Miller agreed to send his flock at St. Michael’s and All Angels to *Bernard*’s pub – and *Bernard* returned the favour by encouraging his customers to frequent their local church. ‘You could say it’s a mutually agreeable arrangement,’ says *Bernard*. ‘Father Miller is one of my regulars and we even hosted his annual garden party in our beer garden last week. I am only too pleased to help boost attendances at his church and I get quite a few of his flock drinking here. You could say we’re both doing rather well out of our arrangement! I know for a fact there are quite a few of my ‘congregation’ who’d never set foot in a church who now attend St. Michael’s.’

It’s a wonderfully social and cosmopolitan pub where you are as likely to rub shoulders with a vicar or barrister as with a refuse collector – and all feel equally at home. That’s largely thanks to *Bernard* and his wife Judy who are among the most popular and successful licensees in the town. Among *Bernard*’s most recent achievements was being voted runner-up the last four years in the national Cellarman of the Year competition and coming runner-up in this year’s CAMRA Walsall Pub of the Year. As a master cellarman for brewers Ansells, he reports weekly to them on the quality of their beers and the brewing giant also send trainee landlords to *Bernard* for him to show them the ropes of the pub trade.

It’s been a case of role reversal since *Bernard* and Judy took over the WHITE LION, their first and only pub, nine years ago.

Bernard, who was born into a military family, used to do the accounts in the officer’s mess during his time in the Army, while his wife worked as a pub barmaid. Nowadays, *Bernard* looks after the ‘practical’ side of things, such as the stock, staff and the cellar, while Judy, whose mother Ester used to work at the WHITE LION, takes care of the pub’s accounts and paperwork.

There has, reputedly, been a pub on the site since the 1500s although the present building dates from about 1900 when it was built to cater for Walsall FC who owned land in this quaint and characterful area before moving to Fellows Park. *Bernard* explains, ‘The club planned to build a stadium on fields about 100 yards away but nothing came of it. It was built as a sort of social club for Walsall supporters which explains why it is so large.’

The pub has retained its sporting links – there are football and cricket teams, seven pool teams in addition to two quiz teams, all raising money for charity.....”

Anthony Inns was married to Joy.

See also WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street.

[2017]

[Express & Star 17/3/2022](#)

“Determined residents have launched a campaign to get a historic Walsall pub reopened and developed into a community hub.

The WHITE LION in Sandwell Street, Caldmore, which has proudly stood in the area for more than a century, has been closed for around three years and has now been put on the market by owners Admiral Taverns. But the newly formed ‘Friends of the WHITE LION’ group hopes to work with future investors and not only keep the venue as a pub and community hub. Over the years, the popular pub has hosted live music, open mic nights, a host of events as well as pool and darts matches and has been designated an asset of community value. Mark Webster, of the Caldmore and Highgate Heritage group said, ‘Part of what we do is try to support important pieces of heritage in the area and this fantastic pub is one of those. It’s been around for well over 100 years and loads of amazing people have drunk there and had amazing experiences. I’m one of them and I’ve been in the area for 30 years. It’s sad to see it closed. It has been shut for two or three years now. Our group is trying to hopefully work towards its successful reopening and maybe its re-imagining as a community hub. We’re really hoping to work with whoever is going to be investing in it or buying it. The owners are looking to sell it and we’d like to keep it as an active community venue.’

Walsall resident Nin Thandi has strong ties with the WHITE LION from picking up beer for his father to drink at home to working behind the bar and captaining the pub’s pool team. He said, ‘Dad was constantly here, every afternoon. On my lunch breaks I used to pop in and have a quick half and a sandwich with him. It’s sorry to even contemplate it closing down and I just hope somebody takes it on and keeps it as a pub and cherishes it. We really need a pub like this in this area and I hope our campaign is fruitful.’

And Walsall musician Keiran Bott added, ‘The WHITE LION has always been the centre of the community. As a musician myself, I’ve played countless times there. There have been various events here and demonstrated the values of the community around here. The WHITE LION is a very important asset and it would be great if we could save it and have somebody in who has the right mindset to do this.’

Ward councillor Aftab Nawaz believes developing the pub into a community hub would be a huge boost for the surrounding area. He said, ‘I’m supporting the campaign to reopen the WHITE LION, particularly as a community hub. It is really needed in the area. The area has suffered quite a lot and to have a hub here will make the community come together and also put on activities for the children. There is a community garden around the corner and this would make an ideal addition of what we are doing in the area, trying to get more people involved. If we can get someone who is community minded to come in and run the pub and give us the opportunity to have a hub here would be fantastic. I’m fully behind it and let’s hope it works and we ask everyone to get involved and make this happen.’

A spokesperson for Admiral Taverns said, ‘Our focus is always on helping our licensees to run sustainable pub businesses. However, after careful consideration we felt in this instance that the WHITE LION did not have a long-term sustainable future and therefore we’ve taken the decision to put the pub up for sale. Admiral Taverns placed the property on the market in October 2021 and it has since been listed as an Asset of Community Value where we have been working with and updating the groups involved.’”

Express & Star 8/8/2022

“Efforts to save a much-loved pub from being lost forever are being ramped up amidst increasing fears the Walsall venue will be sold for housing. Supporters of the WHITE LION in Sandwell Street are urging potential investors to get in touch with them and help retain the venue as a community pub business and a ‘social hub.’ The pub was designated an asset of community value (ACV) in 2018, because of its long history as a local facility for the area. This also meant that it couldn’t be sold without being offered to the community first. But the Caldmore and Highgate Heritage Group was unable to raise sufficient funds despite their best efforts and the six month moratorium has now expired, which means it can be sold on the open market. The Friends of The WHITE LION (Walsall) Association, set up to fight for its future, said there are concerns the building will be converted into housing and vowed to oppose any such development. Representatives added they would work closely with anyone looking to keep it and urged potential investors to get in touch. The WHITE LION has been closed for more than two years and was recently put up for sale by owners Admiral Taverns, which felt it did not have a long term future. The Friends group hopes that the ground floor at least will be retained and reopened as part of any future development.

Mark Webster said, ‘The WHITE LION has long been a much loved jewel in the area and it has been very much missed in the community since it closed more than two years ago. But the group remains determined and keen for it to reopen and be retained as the fantastic pub it has been for decades for many more years to come. We know it can be not just a thriving business but a social hub in the heart of the community just as it had always been prior to it being shut. The loss of the ACV status has increased concerns that the building will be sold on the open market and converted into something which doesn’t have the pub facility as part of its plans. We would strongly oppose this and lodge objections should planning applications be submitted in the future. But we would very much like to work with anyone who could come in to take it on as a pub and urge potential investors or those looking for promising fund-raising opportunities to get in touch. People in and beyond Caldmore want to see the WHITE LION back open and we are passionate and determined to see that happen.’”

WHITE LION

2, Upper Green Lane, (2, Green Lane) / Hospital Street, (Deadmans Lane), Birchills, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Brewer the Elder

John Williams, Birchills House [1904]

Cannock Brewery Co. Ltd. [1880]

George Thomas

Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 6th February 1950)

LICENSEES

John Norris [1835]

Miss Mary A Norris [1841] – [1862]

David Clewley [1864] – [1865]

George Evans [1868]

John Heath [1868]

Joseph Paddock [1869]

James Taylor [1872] – [1873];

Mrs. Sarah Taylor [];
George Thomas [];
William Brant [];
Eli Deeley [];
Stephen Griffin [1881];
Benjamin Barnstaple [1888];
William Alfred Metcalfe [];
George Thomas [1891] – **1904**);
George William Miner Thomas (**1904 – 1926**);
William Frederick Albert Thomas (**1926 – 1948**);
Eleanor Margaret Thomas (**1948 – 1950**);
Albert Harold Smith (**1950 – 1952**);
William Sydney Parker (**1952 – 1954**);
Frank Wilson (**1954 – 1955**);
Charles Laurence Fisher (**1955 – 1957**);
Harry Dobson (**1957 – 1959**);
Gerald William Green (**1959 – 1960**);
Ronald William Mitford (**1960 – 1963**);
Florence Ivy Peace (**1963**);
Ruby Webster (**1963 – 1964**);
Howard Whetton (**1964**);
Maurice Williamson (**1964 – 1965**);
William Joseph Wassall (**1965** – [1966])

NOTES

Birchills [1842], [1860]
Deadmans Lane [1845], [1849], [1850], [1861], [1864], [1865], [1868]
2, Green Lane [1891], [1901]
Green Lane, Birchills [1904]
2, Upper Green Lane [1908], [1912], [1939]

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a bowling green.

Miss M. Norris was also a provision dealer. [1845]

1851 Census

Green Lane

- [1] *Mary Norris* (49), unmarried, victualler and provision dealer, born Birchills;
- [2] Rebecca Norris (39), sister, assistant, born Birchills;
- [3] William Bakewell (31), lodger, coal miner, born Baseford [Basford], Nottinghamshire;
- [4] Sarah Bakewell (33), wife, born Birchills;
- [5] John Bakewell (2), son, born Birchills:

Mary Norris, beerhouse keeper, Deadmans Lane. [1858]

Walsall Free Press 26/11/1859

“On Wednesday, the 16th instant, during the absence of her mother, who had gone on business into town, Emma Micklewright, aged three and a half years, and whose parents reside in Forge Street, Birchills, went towards the fire, and her clothes, having come into contact with the flame, were ignited. Before the parties who were attracted by the child’s cries could get the flames extinguished, the little sufferer was so severely burned that, notwithstanding Mr. Smith, assistant to Mr. D. Moore, Lichfield Street, was called in, and all that medical aid could do done for her relief, she lingered in great agony till Saturday, when death terminated her suffering. On Tuesday, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, for the borough, held an inquest upon the body, at the WHITE LION public house, Birchills, and the jury after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1861 Census

Deadmans Lane – WHITE LION INN

- [1] *Mary Norris* (58), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Birchills;
- [2] Rebecca Norris (48), sister, born Birchills;
- [3] Sarah Bakewell (44), sister, farmer’s wife, born Birchills;
- [4] Rebecca Bakewell (8), niece, farmer’s daughter, born Birchills;

- [5] William Bakewell (6), nephew, farmer's son, born Birchills;
[6] Joseph Clawley (12), visitor, coal miner's son, born Birchills;
[7] Mary Clawley (10), visitor, coal miner's daughter, born Birchills:

David Clewley was also a shopkeeper. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 27/2/1864

“Joseph Guest and Richard Boot were charged by Police-constable Keats, with having been drunk and disorderly on the night of Monday, the 15th inst. It appeared that, on the night in question, the defendants came out of the WHITE LION, Birchills, and commenced making use of the language complained about in the evidence. The officer remonstrated with them, but, instead of desisting, they persisted in their conduct. Guest, who failed to appear, was fined 10s and costs, or, in default, to be imprisoned for 21 days; and Boot, who did appear, was sentenced to pay a fine of 5s and costs, or, in default, to be imprisoned for 14 days.”

Walsall Free Press 8/9/1866

“Levi Walker, shingler, was charged with having, on Tuesday last, assaulted William Steadman, puddler. According to the evidence of complainant, it appeared that the parties met in the WHITE LION, Birchills, when defendant, without any provocation, struck complainant. The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 15/2/1868

“*George Evans*, landlord of a beerhouse in Deadman's Lane was fined 20s and costs for having had his house open during prohibited hours on the forenoon, of Sunday last.

Police-constable Elms visited the house, and found one man coming out with drink, and seven men in the brewhouse, in the boiler-hole of which was jug of ale. A jug of ale was also found in the kitchen.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/7/1868

“*John Heath*, the WHITE LION public house, Birchills, was summoned for selling ale after hours on the 12th inst. There was a doubt as to whether the ale in question was sold or given away, and the Bench giving the defendant the benefit of the doubt, dismissed the case.”

Walsall Free Press 6/3/1869 - Advert

“WHITE LION, Birchills, Walsall.

W. Horobin will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday next, March 10th, 1869, the Licenses and Possession of the above Inn; also, all the Fixtures, Brewing Vessels, 4-Pull Beer Machine, Household Furniture, and other Effects.

Particulars in Catalogues to be had of the Auctioneer, 5, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/6/1869

“*Joseph Paddock*, landlord of the WHITE LION Public-house, Birchills, was fined 1s and costs, for having, on Sunday last, had his house open between the hours of eleven and twelve on that night.”

London Gazette 23/11/1869

“*John Heath*, of Deadman's-lane, Birchills. Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Puddler, previously thereto of No.2, Farington's-buildings, Stafford-street, Walsall aforesaid, a Puddler, previously thereto of the WHITE LION, Birchills aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, Provision Dealer, and Puddler, and previously thereto of the PUDDLERS ARMS, Little-street, Birchills aforesaid, Retail Brewer, Provision Dealer, and Puddler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 17th of November, 1869, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 10th day of December next, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall. is the Official Assignee, and Mr. John Glover, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/2/1872 - Correspondence

“WHITE LION, Birchills. Unless there is an agreement for a shorter term, the new landlord must give you six months' notice, ending at the date of entry.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/6/1880 - Advert

“Cannock Brewery Co. Limited require Tenders for Painting the Cement Work of the Frontage of WHITE LION INN, Green Lane..... Sign Writing, as per List, at WHITE LION, Green Lane.....

All the above are situate in the town of Walsall.

Particulars as to class of work may be obtained at, and Tenders received by Cannock Brewery Co. Limited, Cannock.”

1881 Census

WHITE LION

[1] *Stephen Griffen* (43), publican's manager, born Wheaton Aston;

- [2] Ann Griffin (44), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Edmund Griffin (21), son, labourer at tube works, born Walsall;
- [4] Stephen M. Griffin (19), son, labourer at tube works, born Walsall;
- [5] Rebecca Griffin (15), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [6] Laura Griffin (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Arthur J. Griffin (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Ada J. Griffin (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Albert Griffin (3), son, born Darlaston;
- [10] Edward Walker (39), boarder, brown sadler, birthplace unknown;
- [11] Sarah Griffin (17), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall:

Benjamin Barnstaple was fined 10s and costs, on 5th September 1888, for Sunday trading.

1891 Census

2, Green Lane – WHITE LION

- [1] *George Thomas* (54), widower, licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Letitia Thomas (26), daughter, born Walsall;
- [3] *George Thomas* (20), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *William Thomas* (16), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Emily Highway (36), visitor, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/5/1894

“Conservative League Jottings.

“Pratt Lodge. A meeting of this lodge was held at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, on Thursday night, Bro. Adkins, W.M., presiding. After routine business Mr. W. P. Banks delivered an interesting address on the ‘Policy of Government.’ The address was listened to with great attention, and a hearty vote of thanks accorded to Mr. Banks, on the motion of Bro. Millington. Bros. Brookes and Frankham (Sydney George Lodge) also made a few remarks. It is proposed that the next and future meetings be held at the WHITE LION, Birchills. Next meeting Monday, May 21st.”

Walsall Advertiser 6/7/1895

“*George Thomas*, landlord of the WHITE LION, Green Lane, Walsall, was charged on Monday, before Dr. Cooke, Mr. R. H. Holden, and Mr. J. Clare, at the Rushall Petty Sessions, with having been drunk while in charge of a horse and trap. Defendant failed to put in an appearance.

Police-constable Bayley said about five minutes past ten on June 27th he saw defendant in charge of a horse and trap in Aldridge. He was too drunk to drive, and witness had to drive him home.

The Bench imposed a fine of 5s and 9s 6d costs, remarking that it was a serious offence.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/2/1900

“In the Sheriff’s Court, yesterday, before the Under Sheriff (Mr. R. C. Heath) and a jury, a case of breach of promise of marriage, remitted from the High Court for assessing damages was heard. The plaintiff was Sarah Ann Collins, domestic servant, High Street, Droitwich (for whom Mr. C. H. Darby, West Bromwich, appeared), and the defendant *George Thomas*, jun., brewer, who lives with his father, at the WHITE LION, Green Lanes, Walsall. The latter represented by Mr. T. H. Evans, Walsall.

In 1896 plaintiff was, according to the statement of her solicitor, in domestic service in Birmingham, and whilst on a visit to Walsall she became introduced to defendant. That acquaintance ripened into courtship, and the parties became engaged to be married. The wedding was fixed to take place in January, 1897, but the promise had not been fulfilled. A number of letters had passed between the parties, but they were of a very prosaic character, and not calculated to even provoke a smile, in a letter dated March 28, 1897, defendant, who had been asked by plaintiff when the marriage was to be solemnised, stated that it was difficult for him to say, but it would be not for five or six months. He added that he would not be able to see her that day as he was brewing, and he was unable to say when he could meet her. Under a promise of marriage defendant seduced plaintiff, and in November, 1897, a child was born, to whose maintenance defendant had been ordered to contribute. Plaintiff was now thirty-two years of age, had thus suffered material damages, and her present prospects of settling down into married life were somewhat remote.

Plaintiff said the engagement was sealed by a kiss and a ring. The non-fulfilment of contract cost her £15.

Plaintiff’s mother also gave evidence as to the promise of marriage.

The defence was that *Thomas* was penniless. All he received from his father was his board and 10s weekly, half of which was sent to plaintiff. All he had when he became engaged was £4, and he had not even that amount now. His father still bought his clothes for him. (Laughter).

The Under Sheriff said that it was rather a bad case of breach of promise. After undertaking to marry plaintiff, defendant had left her to bear all the disgrace and shame attaching to his conduct.

The jury assessed the damage at £50.”

Walsall Advertiser 29/12/1900

“WHITE LION Sick and Dividend Society. The annual meeting of the above took place last week at Mr. *George Thomas*’s WHITE LION HOTEL, Green Lane, when there was a good attendance. Mr. *G. Thomas* presided, and congratulated the members on the success of the society. The Secretary (Mr. Garbett) presented his report for the year, which showed that after adding

a considerable amount to the reserve fund they were able to declare a dividend of 14s per member, which was considered excellent. Votes of thanks were then accorded to retiring officers. The election of officers then took place as follows: Treasurer Mr. *G. Thomas*; senior secretary Mr. W. G. Garbett; committee, Messrs. James Williams, F. Whitehouse, Job Williams, H. Mills, B. Roberts, and James Barr. Harmony was indulged in and some capital songs were rendered by Messrs. B. Edwards, E. Bott, C. Mills, H. Mills, &c.”

1901 Census

2, Green Lane

[1] *George Thomas* (64), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Letitia Thomas (36), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;

[3] *William F. Thomas* (26), son, brewer, born Walsall;

[4] Emily Highway (47), boarder, born Walsall;

[5] Emma Mills (15), general servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/12/1903

“Richard James Birch, 34, Green Lane, appeared to support an information for assault against George Tift, 26, Duncalfe Street. The evidence showed that a disturbance occurred in the WHITE LION INN, Green Lane, on November 30th. Complainant alleged that Tift struck him several times in the house, and followed him outside, when he knocked him down in the gutter.

Tift, however, alleged that Birch was drunk and ordered out of the house by the landlord, on which he approached defendant in a threatening manner; all defendant did was to push him on one side.

Case dismissed, cost divided.

Mr. Loxton (magistrates' clerk) said he was surprised the landlord had not been brought forward as a witness.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/1/1904 - Deaths

“On the 24th inst, at the WHITE LION HOTEL, Green Lane, Birchills, *George Thomas*, in his 67th year. Interred at Ryecroft Cemetery, January 28th.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1904

“Mr. *George Thomas*, of the WHITE LION INN, Green Lane, Walsall, licensed victualler, who died on January 24 last, left estate valued at £4,922, including personality of the net value of £645.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/3/1904 - Advert

“At The Auction Saleroom, The Bridge, Walsall.

Important Sale by Auction of a large quantity of Household Furniture, and Effects, removed from the WHITE LION INN, Green Lane, by order of the Executors of the late *George Thomas*, as also a few lots included by a well-known Cabinet maker, together with other lots by order of various owners.

Walter Hughes is instructed to Sell by Auction as above.

On View Monday, 21st, March, from 11am till 8pm.

Catalogues may be obtained from the Auction Offices, The Bridge, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/8/1907

“James Nicholls, 43, Westbourne Road, was summoned for assaulting *George Thomas*, landlord of the WHITE LION INN, Green Lane, and also for being drunk and disorderly on the 23rd ult. Mr. Cooper appeared for defendant, and Mr. H. H. Jackson for complainant.

Police-constable Johnson stated that he saw defendant in Butts Road. He was drunk, and shouting, and would not go home, or give his name and address. Defendant was in his shirt sleeves, and had no hat on.

Mr. Cooper said defendant was a respectable man, and he had had a little drink, and was excited by the quarrel with his relatives.

In the first case, Mr. H. H. Jackson explained that Nicholls and *Thomas* married two sisters, and on the date named Nicholl's wife visited the WHITE LION INN to see her sister. About closing time Mr. *Thomas* suggested that, as it was late he should escort his wife's sister home, and proceeded to do so, but on reaching the Butts he was attacked by a man, struck and kicked, and to escape the man's violence he rushed into the house of a woman named Carter. He subsequently learned that his assailant was Nicholls.

Mr. F. Cooper: I suggest it was a case of jealousy. – Mr. *Thomas*: There was no cause for jealousy at all.

Mr. Muncaster (assistant clerk): Mr. Cooper does not suggest that there was any cause, but that the defendant was jealous.

Mr. Cooper said Nicholls was excited because his wife was out so late with another man.

Inspector Williams said a letter had been received from Nicholls saying that he was unable to attend court, but *Thomas* said he had gone to the races for a week.

Nicholls was fined 10s and costs, to cover both charges.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/3/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. *George William Miner Thomas*, WHITE LION INN, Green Lane, Birchills, was elected to the seat of the Executive Committee rendered vacant by the resignation of Mr. S. Holmes.”

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....
A dividend of 10s 9d was paid out by the WHITE LION Club, Green Lane.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/5/1910

“Birchills Alexandra. To-day (Saturday) the Mayor of Walsall (Councillor J. Williams) will open a new bowling-green which has been laid down at the WHITE LION, Hospital Street. The club, so far, has a good membership, and the green is in splendid condition.”

1911 Census

Green Lane – WHITE LION INN

- [1] *George W. M. Thomas* (40), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary H. Thomas* (41), married 10 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;
- [3] *Sarah A. E. Thomas* (9), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary E. Thomas* (6), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [5] *Bertha Tyler* (16), domestic servant, born Pelsall:

Walsall Advertiser 10/1/1912

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held last Thursday at the house of *Mr. G. W. M. Thomas*, WHITE LION INN, Green Lane, Birchills. *Mr. R. Anson* (Daw End, president), presided over a large attendance.....”

Walsall Advertiser 6/7/1912

“Bowling. Birchills Alexandra v. Bloxwich HATHERTON.

The above clubs met on the WHITE LION INN green, Birchills, on Saturday, when a most interesting and enjoyable game was played. Some keen bowling was witnessed and the home team ran out winners by 11 points.....”

George William Miner Thomas was born in 1870.

He was the brother of *William Frederick Albert Thomas*.

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1913

“Sick and Dividend Societies. The 43 members of the Society held at the WHITE LION HOTEL, Green Lane, met on Friday last to declare their dividend. 36 members became entitled to 12/-, 3 to 11/-, and one each to 8/9, 8/-, and 7/9 respectively. The receipts for the year amounted to £35 18s 6d, and the balance in hand is £2 15s 4d.”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

WHITE LION, Green Lane, Walsall, £1 8s.”

Walsall Observer 14/2/1914

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last at the house of *Mr. G. W. M. Thomas*, WHITE LION HOTEL, Green Lane, Birchills, Walsall.....”

Walsall Advertiser 25/4/1915

“*Geo. Thomas* of the WHITE LION, Green Lane, was summoned by *Thomas Smith* (30), a brewer’s labourer, for assaulting him on April 13th. *Mr. H. Lenton Lester* appeared for the complainant, and *Mr. H. H. Jackson* for the defendant.

Mr. Lester said that the complainant had been an employee of the defendant for about eight years, on Easter Monday evening was serving a customer at the WHITE LION HOTEL, when a customer asked him to have a drink with him in the smokeroom. The young fellow accepted, and defendant, who came in at the time, said, ‘What the —— do I pay you for? You clear off.’ The complainant put on his coat and went out, but returned asking for his ‘poke’ (money) and his insurance card. Defendant without warning, got him by the scruff of the neck and pushed him out of the house, administering several blows. A brother of defendant’s named *William*, seized the complainant and put him into the road hurting his knee, so that it had to be dressed at the hospital. If the landlord found a drunken person on his premises he was bound to evict him, but he submitted that the complainant was not drunk, but even if he had been, the landlord used more than necessary violence to get him out of the house.

The complainant then gave evidence bearing out this statement, saying he had been employed by the defendant three times in eight years, the last time being for two years.

Corroborative evidence was given by *Charles Clements*, *Sophia Wootton*, and complainant’s wife, *Mary Smith*.

Mr. H. H. Jackson said it was a pretty safe course to summon a publican, because he was in a peculiar position, and a good many, sooner than appear in a court of law in any quarrel, would pay up. Complainant had had eight years’ experience of the defendant, and during all that time, apparently there had been no trouble or disturbance before. *Mr. Thomas*’s father had kept that house for twenty years, and *Mr. George Thomas* himself had kept the house for ten years and there had been no complaint of any sort against him. Why had complainant gone back to the house? Complainant’s wife suggested that he left a job at 23s a week to go to *Mr. Thomas*. It was admitted that complainant was drinking with a friend, and *Mr. Thomas* knew full well the danger there was

in that. A barman was no good if he drank with everybody who asked him to drink. Instead of complainant going out when told, however, he threatened to break the windows of the house, and then, using abusive language, asked for his 'poke' and his insurance card. The time was approaching 11 o'clock, and defendant was very busy, so he said he could not discuss it that night, but if complainant came in the morning it would be all ready. The complainant then struck at Mr. *Thomas*, and hit Mrs. Barrett. He refused to go, and the defendant was fully justified in evicting him. While he was doing so, Smith became very violent, and the assistance of the brother, *William Thomas*, was called to get him back into the street. The complainant came back and struck Mr. *William Thomas*, and they both rolled on the ground. Though the injury to complainant's knee was alleged to have been caused by Mr. *Thomas's* brother, the complainant summoned Mr. *Thomas* himself. If there was any assault at all, it was committed by Mr. *Thomas's* brother. Mr. *Thomas*, he submitted, used no more force than he was justified in using. The defendant then gave evidence, saying that when he was being put out the complainant kicked at him. Corroborative evidence was given by Mrs. Elizabeth Barrett, *William Thomas*, defendant's brother, John Thomas, of 43, Hospital Street, and C. J. Havard, of Victoria Road, West Smethwick. Alderman Clare said that the evidence was most extraordinarily conflicting and the case would be dismissed."

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

"Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
WHITE LION INN, Green Lane. £2 8s 11½d."

George William Miner Thomas was fined £10 and £4 4s 0d costs, on 17th March 1920, for selling rum above the maximum price.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 10/10/1925

"At Walsall, on Tuesday, *George W. M. Thomas*, licensee of the WHITE LION INN, Upper Green Lanes, was fined 10/- for being drunk on his own licensed premises. A police officer stated that he visited the house in consequence of a complaint by defendant's brother, who it transpired, is part-owner of the house."

Evening Despatch 12/4/1939

"Dog Show. Over a hundred entries were received for the annual amateur championship at the WHITE LION, Green Lane, Walsall. Twenty-one classes were run and all were filled. Mr. Campbell, of Bilston, judged all classes....."

1939 Register

2, Upper Green Lane – WHITE LION INN (4 of 5)

- [1] *William F. A. Thomas*, date of birth 14/1/1875, licensed victualler, on own account, married;
- [2] *Eleanor M. Thomas*, dob 10/4/1882, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *William Thomas*, dob 26/8/1904, electrical generating station shift charge engineer, single;
- [4] *Margaret A. E. Westbury*, dob 7/6/1908, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Evening Despatch 17/1/1940

"A telegram from the Admiralty has been received to-day by Mrs. E. G. Westbury, who resides with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. *W. F. A. Thomas*, of the WHITE LION, Green Lane, Walsall, stating that her husband, Able Seaman Westbury, who was serving on the Seahorse, is missing."

Walsall Observer 3/2/1940 - Roll of Honour

"In loving memory of my dear husband, Able-Seaman Eustace George Westbury, who lost his life on H.M. Submarine 'Seahorse.'
*Afar he sleeps – the ocean's roar
Disturbs his calm repose no more,
What though no voice if home was near,
To soothe with love his dying ear;
The cloud is passed from that clear brow,
It glows in heaven's own brightness now.*
Deeply mourned by wife Margaret and baby Pauline.
Mrs. Westbury, WHITE LION INN, Green Lane, wishes to thank all who have expressed sympathy with her in her great loss."

Walsall Observer 8/2/1941 - Advert

"Fire Bombs.
A Demonstration on the Extinguishing of the above will be given by Mr. Horton at the WHITE LION, Birchills, To-Morrow (Sunday), at 12-30pm (Approx)."

George William Miner Thomas died in 1946.

William Frederick Albert Thomas was born in 1874.
He died in 1948.

Alexandra Bowling Club was based here. [1940s]

Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.
Third List Of Subscriptions.....
WHITE LION, Green Lane, Birchills. £3 0s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 29/8/1942

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....
Mr. *Thomas*, WHITE LION, Green Lane. £3 17s 0d.”

Walsall Observer 24/12/1942

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
WHITE LION, Green Lane. £0 15s 6d.”

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.
Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....
WHITE LION INN, Green Lane. £ £3 8s 3d.”

Albert Harold Smith was fined £3 in each case plus £10 10s 0d costs, on 4th April 1952, for 12 offences of supplying intoxicating liquor during non permitted hours, and £1 in each case, for 12 offences of aiding and abetting the consumption of the same.

It closed on 9th April 1980.

WHITE LION

Wolverhampton Road, (Lichfield Road), (15, Brownhills Road), (High Bridge Road), Pelsall, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Lester
William Roberts, Station Brewery, Brownhills
Eley’s Stafford Brewery Company (acquired in 1925)
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1928)

LICENSEES

William Harrison [1818]
John Harrison [1843]
John Harrison [1849] – [1851]
Joseph Cooper [1858] – [1862]
Alfred Cooper [1868] – [1871]
James Stokes [1881]
John Lester [1890] – **1894**;
William Smith (**1894**);
Arthur Poxon (**1894** – []
William Smith [1896] – **1901**);
Mary Smith (**1901** – []
Mary Ann Vetch [] – **1902**);
Samuel Bateman (**1902** – [1903]
William Bateman [1904]
Samuel Bateman [] – **1904**);
Mary Ann Bateman (**1904**);
Charles Nicholls (**1904** – [1906]
James Yates [1908] – [1912]
Horace George Green [1924]
William Yates [1929]
Walter Yates [1932]
D Nicholls [1939]
Richard Nicholls [1939] – [1943]

NOTES

WHITE LION HOTEL [1891], [1894], [1896]

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/4/1843 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction by John Whitehouse, (By order of the Executors), on Monday the 17th of April, 1843.

All the Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Live and Dead Stock, Implements of Husbandry, &c, lately belonging to Mr. *John Harrison*, deceased, of the WHITE LION, Pelsall; consisting of a general assortment of household furniture, brewing vessels, kitchen and dairy requisites, home cured bacon, &c, &c; also an excellent cow and calf, one barren cow, two capital three-year old heifers in-calf, one three-year old new milch heifer, pair of stirks, two useful waggon mares, two two-year-old fillies, one yearling colt, twelve store sheep, gilt in-pig, two carts, with sideboards and gearing, plough, harrows, land roll, rick of wheat, part of rick of clover, quantity of potatoes and turnips, and other useful effects.

On account of the number of lots, the sale will commence punctually at ten o'clock.

Catalogues may be had at the Auctioneer's Office, Park Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/10/1847

“On Tuesday, an inquest was held by T. M. Phillips, Esq, at the WHITE LION, Pelsall, on the body of William Pargeter, a waggoner, aged 19 years of age, in the employ of Mr. A. Cooper, farmer. The deceased, it appeared from the evidence of a son of his master, was gathering damsons about nine o'clock on Sunday morning last – he (witness) being similarly engaged on another tree – when the bough on which he was standing, which overhung a pool, broke, and he was precipitated into the water. The witness immediately proceeded to his assistance and gave an alarm, but twenty minutes elapsed before he was got out, the spot where he fell being several yards deep. Verdict, Accidentally Drowned.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/3/1851

“Staffordshire Assizes.....

Edward Turner was arraigned on an indictment charging him with feloniously assaulting John Birch, on the 28th September, 1850, in the township of Pelsall, putting him in bodily fear, and stealing from his person 5 half crowns in silver coin, his property; Mr. Huddleston defended the prisoner.

The prosecutor stated that about nine o'clock on the evening of the 28th September he went to the WHITE LION, in Pelsall, and staid there until about half-past eleven. He left the house, perfectly sober, in company with the prisoner. They walked together some distance when they separated, their homewards paths lying in different directions. About ten minutes after their separation, the prisoner returned, collared him, threw him down, and rifled his pockets, abstracting five half-crowns, but rather strangely missing a sovereign. Mr. Huddleston subjected the witness to a long and ingenious cross-examination, and elicited several admissions that rendered his perfect sobriety on the night in question rather doubtful. No other witness being called for the prosecution.

Mr. Huddleston addressed the jury on behalf of the prisoner, and called a witness who had been in company with the prosecutor and prisoner at the WHITE LION, and fully justified the conclusion arrived at by the learned counsel for the defence in reference to the inebriety of the prosecutor at the time of the alleged robbery. The prisoner received an excellent character from a person who had known him from childhood, and the jury, after a few minutes deliberation, returned a verdict of not guilty, the learned Judge remarking that it was by far the safer course.”

1851 Census

Pelsall – WHITE LION

[1] *John Harrison* (43), farmer of 20 acres, born Penkridge, Staffordshire;

[2] Ann Harrison (42), wife, born Pelsall

[3] John Harrison (19), son, born Pelsall;

[4] Thomas Harrison (17), son, engineer, born Pelsall;

[5] Mary Harrison (15), daughter, born Pelsall;

[6] James Harrison (12), son, born Pelsall;

[7] Joseph Harrison (10), son, born Pelsall;

[8] William Harrison (6), son, scholar, born Pelsall;

[9] Ann Harrison (5), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;

[10] George Harrison (3), son, born Pelsall;

[11] Charles Harrison (2), son, born Pelsall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/7/1858

“Staffordshire Assizes.....

George Watkins was indicted for assaulting James Cavney, on the 15th of June at Pelsall, and stealing from his person a tobacco box, containing 8s in money. Mr. Wade conducted the prosecution; the prisoner was undefended.

It appeared that on the Saturday night in question the prosecutor was drinking at the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall. The prisoner and some other men were also there. A row took place, and prosecutor was struck; and on his leaving the house, between ten and eleven o'clock, he was followed by the prisoner and another man, the former of whom knocked him down, and took a tobacco box containing 8s from his pocket. The prisoner was apprehended under a warrant by police officer Price, and on being charged

said he knew all about it. Price heard the prisoner say to a man named Humphries that he must come and swear he was not out of the house at the time of the robbery. Prisoner subsequently asked the officer what would be done with him – could it be made up? On the following morning prosecutor identified the prisoner as one of the men who had assaulted and robbed him; it was Big Ned, Thomas Humphries, and George Pritchard. Two witnesses were called by the prisoner to prove he did not go out of the public house between the hours of six and eleven in the evening, but there was some discrepancy between this evidence and the prisoner's statement of the affair. The prisoner's employer was called to speak to Watkin's character. The Jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the prisoner was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment."

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1858

"Charges against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for using unjust measures.....

Joseph Cooper, licensed victualler, the WHITE LION, Pelsall, was fined 15s and costs, for having seven unjust measures.....

The costs in each case amounted to 11s. The Bench, in course of the trial of the several cases, administered severe rebukes to the offenders."

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859

"A Special Petty Sessions was held at Brownhills on Friday last, before C. Forster, Esq, MP, and the Rev. G. H. Fisher, when the following persons were fined for having in their possession unjust weights and measures, on the information laid by Mr. Inspector Tullett, Inspector for the South Staffordshire district.....

Joseph Cooper, WHITE LION, unjust measures, 2s and costs."

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/10/1860

"Matthew Alsop, of Walsall Wood, complained of having been wrongfully and illegally expelled from the friendly society holding its meetings at the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall. Mr. Barnett appeared to support complainant, which was preferred against Stephen Cooper, the secretary.

It was admitted that the ground of Alsop's expulsion was that he had refused with several others of the society to partake or to pay for the annual feast in June last. It transpired the usual charge for the dinner to each member was 1s 6d, but that in consequence of the high price of meat the landlord wished to charge 2s per head, to which complainant and others would not consent. A feast, nevertheless, took place, and those who refused to participate were expelled. The magistrates after a short discussion, considered that feast or no feast was quite foreign to the objects of the society, and that although no clause in the rules provided for an annual dinner, no portion of the funds of the society could be applied in payment of the expenses of it, which were to be liquidated by a contribution from each member for that express purpose. Complainant was therefore ordered to be restored."

1861 Census

Wolverhampton Road – WHITE LION

[1] *Joseph Cooper* (29), unmarried, victualler, born Pelsall;

[2] Sarah Cooper (16), general servant, born Bramblebury, Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/9/1862

"The Late Annual Licensing Day. Mr. *Joseph Cooper*, landlord of the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, informs us that his license was not suspended for a fortnight at the above meeting, as stated in the *Chronicle* last week. The paragraph in question was copied from a contemporary, and we regret to find that we were led into error."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/1/1866

"Edward Williams and John Williams, for having on the 25th December last assaulted Richard York, parish constable, Pelsall, were each ordered to pay a fine of 10s and costs, or in default be imprisoned for fourteen days. It appeared the constable had been requested by the landlord of the WHITE LION public house, Pelsall, to eject the defendants, and on his doing so they assaulted him."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/11/1866

"On Monday, Mr. W. H. Phillips, Deputy Coroner, held an adjourned inquiry at the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, on the bodies of Job Benton and William Ball, who lost their lives on the 24th ultimo, at the Brownhills Colliery, belonging to Mr. W. Harrison. Mr. J. P. Baker, Government Inspector of Mines, and Mr. Duigan (Duigan, Lewis, and Lewis) were in attendance, the latter on behalf of the owner of the colliery. On the day named, the deceased were engaged in repairing a barrel in the pumping shaft of the colliery, when the winding machine got out of gear, and they were precipitated to the bottom, the band chain immediately following them, killing them on the spot. On examination of the machinery by the Government Inspector and Mr. G. Wright, of Wolverhampton and Goscote, it was found that the slot holes of the fly-wheel carriage at the crank end of the fly-wheel shaft were unplugged, and it was also stated that the slot holes in the fly-wheel carriage at the other end of the shaft were in a like condition. They also found that the fly-wheel carriage next the drum shaft had been forced out of its position to the extent of five-eighths of an inch, but there were no indications that this change of position had occurred so recently as the day of the accident. After minutely describing the condition and appearance of the engine and winding apparatus, both Mr. Baker and Mr. Wright gave it as their opinion with regard to the accident, that something had either been placed between, or had got between the cog wheels, which had forced the drum shaft out of gear. They were further of opinion that the lock nut of the screw, which held the wheels in gear, had not been brought up to its proper place; and that, had the means provided for fastening the drum been properly applied, the winding machinery would not have got out of gear. A witness, named Tucker, deposed that before the accident he saw that

John Baugh, the engineer of the pit, had placed a piece of timber between the cog wheels, for the purpose of enabling him to avoid some of the work in winding the men slightly up and down the shaft, which otherwise he would have had to perform. Witness cautioned him against this practice, and after the accident expressed a hope that he had not adhered to it, when he appealed to him, 'for God's sake,' to say nothing about it. Baugh now denied that there was any timber between the wheels at the time of the accident, which he attributed to the engine, which was partly new, and which had never been used for winding purposes, having slipped, and he being unable to stop it, owing to there being no break in it. He also pleaded that the slot holes were unplugged. Mr. Wright admitted that had there been an adequate break to the engine, and it had instantly been applied, no doubt fatal results could have been prevented. Eventually, the Jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against John Baugh, the engineer, who was committed for trial on the Coroner's warrant, the Coroner consenting to accept bail."

[At the Staffordshire Lent Assizes, in March 1867, John Baugh was found not guilty.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/12/1867

"Enoch White and James Wright, for having on the 5th ult, been drunk and disorderly, and refusing to leave the WHITE LION public house, Pelsall, were each ordered to pay a fine of 2s 6d and costs, or in default be imprisoned for seven days."

1871 Census

15, Brownhills Road

- [1] *Alfred Cooper* (41), farmer and publican, born Pelsall;
- [2] Mary Cooper (45), wife, born Wrexham;
- [3] Charles Barber (26), domestic servant, born Hines [Hinks], Staffordshire;
- [4] Levi Stackhouse (15), domestic servant, born Pelsall;
- [5] Louisa Pinson (25), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Free Press 16/12/1871 - Notice

"Apology. Mr. *Alfred Cooper*, WHITE LION INN, Pelsall.

I, Thomas Holt, of Bridgeman Street, Walsall, Coal Merchant, having on the 16th ult, falsely accused you of Stealing from my person a Sum of Money which never left my possession, as I found after I had caused you to be searched for it, and having on the same occasion Slandered your character as an Innkeeper, hereby retract such accusations and slander as being wholly unfounded, and request you accept this public apology.

Thomas Holt. Dated 15th December, 1871.

Witness R. W. Gillespie, Solicitor, Walsall."

1881 Census

Brownhills Road, Pelsall – WHITE LION PH

- [1] *James Stokes* (53), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Sydonia Stokes (53), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Paulina Harrington (29), daughter, married, born Walsall;
- [4] Charles Stokes (19), son, apprentice saddler, born Walsall;
- [5] George E. Stokes (14), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] George Harrington (1), grandson, born Pelsall;
- [7] Sarah Tasker (15), domestic servant, born Pelsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/8/1882

"At the Rushall Police Court, yesterday, the annual licensing business was transacted, the magistrates present being Messrs. F. James and E. T. Holden. All the existing licenses were renewed, with the exception of that of *James Stokes*, the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, which was withheld until the adjourned licensing session on September 26, it being necessary for the holder (who was not present) to appear in person, he having been convicted in the last twelve months."

James Stokes – see also CROWN AND MALT SHOVEL.

Lichfield Mercury 3/10/1890

"The following publicans were granted one hour's extension on Monday, October 6th, on the occasion of Pelsall wakes *John Lester*."

1891 Census

High Bridge Road – WHITE LION

- [1] *John Lester* (49), licensed victualler, born Pelsall;
- [2] Clara Lester (47), wife, born Sheffield;
- [3] Ernest W. Lester (17), son, carpenter, born Sheffield;
- [4] Jane Lester (14), daughter, barmaid, born Sheffield;
- [5] Albert Lester (12), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [6] Clara Lester (11), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [7] Alfred Lester (8), son, scholar, born Pelsall;
- [8] Alice Lester (6), daughter, scholar, born Pelsall;

[9] John Lester (5), son, scholar, born Pelsall;

[10] Mary A. Swannack (16), domestic servant, born Sheffield:

Walsall Observer 18/4/1891 - Advert

“To Brewery Companies & Others.

To be Sold by Private Treaty (on account of illness of Wife), the valuable Full-Licensed Inn, called the WHITE LION HOTEL, situate at Pelsall, with Cottage adjoining; Outbuildings, consisting of Barn, Stabling for six horses; and about 3a 2r 26p of Land. The Hotel contains Bar, Bar Parlour, Taproom, Kitchen, 5 Chambers, and Cellars. There is also a large Club Room, 42ft 6in x 18ft 6in, and large Brewhouse. In connection there are several successful Clubs – Nottingham Order of Oddfellows, Female Sick and Funeral Society (about 200 members), Football and Cricket.

For further particulars, and to treat, apply to Mr. *John Lester*, on the Premises; or to Mr. J. U. Fellows, Bradford Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/7/1894 - Advert

“Pelsall. Important Sale by Auction of a Capital Full-Licensed Roadside Public House, known as the WHITE LION, and situate on the main road from Pelsall and Bloxwich to Brownhills, with Cottage and Garden and Field of Land used for Cricket, Football, and other sports; also Four Fields of Land.

Walter Hughes will offer for Sale by Auction, upon the Premises, the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, on Monday, 23rd July, 1894, at Six for Seven o’clock in the Evening (subject to conditions).

Lot 1. The Full-Licensed Roadside Public House, known as the WHITE LION, situate and having an extensive frontage to the main road from Pelsall and Bloxwich to Brownhills, and well situate near to the junction of roads leading from Wolverhampton and Walsall to Norton, Wyrley, and Cannock.

The House is now and has for many years past been in the occupation of Mr. *John Lester* who will give possession on completion. The Premises stand well back from the road, they are double-fronted and contain 4 Bedrooms, Bar, Taproom, Parlour, Living Room, Pantry, and excellent Cellars, also at rear Scullery and large detached brick-built Clubroom, together with Garden and enclosed Yard, containing Outbuildings; also the Cottage adjoining and fronting to main road with Outbuildings and Gardens thereto, as now occupied by Mr. Doram at a weekly rent of 3s 9d; together with the Valuable Field of Land at the rear used for Cricket, Football, and other sports, and which is a source of considerable trade to the House. The area of this Lot is 3 acres, 2 roods, and 27 perches.

The Public House is a much frequented one, it has always done a good trade, there are large and excellent clubs held at the House. To Brewers this Sale offers a good opportunity of acquiring a genuine Free House, whilst there is also every accommodation for Home-Brewing, and as a Home-Brewing House a large Trade can be done, and a purchaser accustomed to the business, might in a few years realise a competency.

Lot 2. Four Fields of Excellent Land all adjoining, one Field containing 1 acre, 0 roods, 23 perches, fronts to the main roads for over 100 yards, and forms excellent Building Land; another Field contains 2 acres, a third Field 1 rood and 30 perches, and the fourth Field 2 roods and 20 perches, containing in the whole a total area of 4 acres and 33 perches.

The above Properties are Copyhold.

To view, apply to Mr. *John Lester* upon the premises.

For plans and further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, 79, Park Street, Walsall; or Messrs. C. A. Loxton & Newman, Solicitors, Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 22/9/1894 - Advert

“Pelsall. WHITE LION HOTEL.

Unreserved Sale of Two Ricks of Hay, Cow, Fowls, Surplus Furniture, and Numerous Other Effects.

Walter Hughes is instructed by Mr. *John Lester* (who, having sold the above house, is leaving on 29th September) to Sell by Auction, upon the premises as above, on Thursday Next, 27th September, 1894, at Eleven o’clock punctually, the following effects.

Well got Rick of Hay (1894), about 4½ tons; Rick of Prime Seeds (1894), about 4 tons; Milch Cow, in full milk; 12 couples Fowl, a 17-round Ladder, Ell Rake, 3 Hay Forks, Turf Cutter, &c, &c; small quantity of Timber, comprising Oak, Pitch Pine, Sycamore; 500 Bricks (fire and red); also the Surplus Household Furniture, comprising two excellent 8-day Clocks, Sporting and other prints, a 2-pull Beer Machine, two Easy Chairs, set of six Chairs, two Chimney Glasses, nearly-new Carpet, two squares Linoleum, Washstand, Toilet Set, Wood Chest, Fireguard, six-gallon Iron Pot, a Port Wine Barrel (30 gallons), and a quantity of Sundries.

On view morning of sale from 9 o’clock.

Auction Offices, 79, Park Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/10/1894

“At Rushall on Monday the license of the WHITE LION, Brownhills Road, was temporarily transferred from *John Lester* to *William Smith*. In reply to a magistrate, *Smith* stated that he had kept a license before at Clayhanger.”

Walsall Observer 1/8/1896

“The Poor Man’s Friend Lodge of the Nottingham Order of Oddfellows met at the WHITE LION HOTEL, Pelsall, to the number of about 50, on Saturday night last, to partake of a good supper, supplied by the host and hostess, Mrs. and Mrs. *Smith*....

Bro. L. V. W. Lloyd proposed ‘the health of the host and hostess,’ thanking them for the way in which they had catered. He thought that was the feeling of all present, and they wished Mr. and Mrs. *Smith* every success. Mr. *Smith* suitably replied, thanking them for their vote. He said it gave him great pleasure to do all he could for the good of clubs held at his house and for the benefit of the customers.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/9/1897

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

There were several matters in connection with the report which had been brought to the attention of the police authorities by district or parish councils of several places, particularly in Brownhills and Walsall Wood, of the public house urinals being not only disagreeable to the public, but on sanitary grounds also very bad. The police had called attention particularly to the BLACK COCK INN and the HORSE AND JOCKEY and the HAWTHORNE beerhouse, Walsall Wood, and attention having been called to that matter they had gone round the district where similar objections could be made, and had given notice to the houses of the district asking that some alteration should be made so as to comply alike with the necessities of the public and also the sanitary conditions of the district. There were several houses named.....

WHITE LION, Pelsall.”

AND

“The annual licensing meeting for the petty sessional division of Rushall was held on Monday morning at the Courthouse, Rushall.....

WHITE LION, Pelsall. Consent was given to certain alterations, in regard to boundary wall, pigstyes, urinals, etc.”

Lichfield Mercury 15/7/1898

“Solomon Fox, miner, Brownhills Road, was summoned for assaulting Joy Dunbar, who described herself as a ‘professional’ lately engaged at the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, since residing at Brownhills.

Complainant gave evidence that on the 2nd inst, she was sitting in the public house, when defendant came up and took a seat beside her, and behaved in an improper manner. She resented the liberty, but he repeated it, and she at once threw a glass of lemonade in his face and then ran into the kitchen. He followed her and struck her three times, one blow being on the breast, and a second in the back. He afterwards pushed her on the sofa where he left her senseless.

She admitted that defendant had once been previously been in her company, but denied they had joked together. She had very little to do with the men in the public house, and usually sat in the kitchen. Defendant said she would rather sit on a man’s knee than in the kitchen.

Maud Collins, spoke to hearing the complainant scream, and to finding her lying on the sofa unconscious. Her face was discoloured, and she appeared to have been struck heavily. There was a cross-summons charging Miss Dunbar with assaulting Fox, who said that the young woman hit him in the ribs, knocking his hat off, and then threw a glass of lemonade over him. She gave herself a black eye by falling with her head against the corner of the table.

A witness named Birch supported Fox’s statement, and the bench eventually dismissed both cases, though Dr. Cook said that as far as he was concerned, he considered the case against Fox proved, but the other magistrates took a contrary view.”

1901 Census

Pelsall – WHITE LION INN

[1] *William Smith* (54), publican, born Pelsall;

[2] *Mary Ann Smith* (50), wife, born Dudley;

[3] *Theresa Bickley* (24), niece, born Brownhills;

[4] *William Lays* (9), nephew, born Clayhanger, Staffordshire;

[5] *Sarah Hartshorne* (18), domestic servant, born Norton Canes, Staffordshire;

[6] *William Bickley* (3), nephew, born Brownhills:

Lichfield Mercury 29/5/1903

“*Samuel Bateman* (36), landlord of the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, was charged with selling adulterated whisky on April 1. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended.

Mr. Harold Van Tromp, County Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, said that on the date named, assistant inspector Samuel Toy purchased three quarters of whisky from the defendant at the rate of 2s per pint, which was proved on analysis to be diluted 6.7 per cent beyond the statutory limit.

Inspector Toy gave evidence to purchasing the whisky, which was supplied in a jug out of a white enamelled jar marked whisky. For the defence, Mr. Jackson said the man came there on a wet day and asked for the liquor to be supplied in a jug. The landlord served that whisky himself and put some water in it, and told the inspector so. If that were true, no offence had been committed, as it was not sold to prejudice the purchaser.

The defendant gave evidence bearing out his advocate’s statement.

Wm. Whitehouse, a miner, called for the defence, said he was in the defendant’s house at the time and saw the whisky supplied. He heard the defendant tell the inspector he had put some water to it, and that he added more it would warm his cockles.

John Patrick Shean also gave evidence for the defence.

Inspector Toy denied that the defendant said anything about having added water to the whisky until after the purchase had been completed, and he had informed the defendant for what purpose it had been purchased.

The Bench said it was a serious offence, and they decided to fine the defendant £5 and 23s costs, which included the analyst’s fee. On the application of Mr. Jackson, the Bench fixed the recognisances in the case of appeal.”

Walsall Observer 16/1/1904

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was

held on Thursday last.....

A unanimous vote of sympathy was passed with Mrs. *Bateman* in her bereavement by the death of her husband, Mr. *Samuel Bateman*, WHITE LION INN, Pelsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/1/1904

“Application was made to the Rushall Magistrates, on Monday, by *Mary Ann Bateman*, for a temporary authority in respect of the WHITE LION, Pelsall, the licensee, *Samuel Bateman*, having died. Granted.”

Lichfield Mercury 21/10/1904

“*Mary Ann Bateman*, WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, was summoned for permitting drunkenness and for supplying a drunken person. A fine of £5 and cost was imposed.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/11/1904

“Temporary transfers were granted by the Rushall Bench, on Monday, with respect to..... WHITE LION, Pelsall, from *Mary Ann Bateman* to *Charles Nicholls*.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1905

“The annual licensing sessions were held at the Rushall Police Court on Monday.....

Since the last licensing meeting, six licensed victuallers had been proceeded against for offences against their licences.....

Mary Ann Bateman, WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, permitting drunkenness, fined £5 and costs.....

Since the convictions *Mary Ann Bateman* has transferred her license.”

AND

“The annual licensing sessions were held at the Rushall Police Court on Monday.....

Notice of opposition to the renewal has been served on the undermentioned license-holders.....

Charles Nicholls, WHITE LION INN, Pelsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/3/1906

“An hour’s extension was granted to *E. Nicholls*, landlord of the WHITE LION, Pelsall, on the occasion of the National United Order of Oddfellows’ supper, on the 17th inst.”

Walsall Advertiser 26/5/1906

“A man named Sedgwick was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises – the WHITE LION at Pelsall – and was fined 2s 6d and costs, and arising out of this, the landlord of the house *Charles Nicholls* (42), was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises, and also for selling to a drunken person. Mr. Enoch Evans prosecuted on behalf of the police, Mr. H. H. Jackson defended, and Mr. S. E. Loxton watched the case on behalf of the owners of the house.

In opening the case for the prosecution, Mr. Evans explained that on Saturday, April 28th, Sergeant Needham went to the house of the defendant, and there found an old man named Sedgwick, leaning against the counter, helplessly drunk. The landlord’s attention was called to the man’s condition and the landlord denied that he had supplied him. The man was taken outside and with the assistance of another constable the man was got to the railway station, and he was brought to Rushall police station.

William Sedgwick gave evidence to the effect that he was served by the landlord and his wife. He remembered the policeman calling at the house, and the landlord’s attention being called to his condition when he was leaning against the counter, but he could have walked home. After being taken out into the fresh air, he went ‘very funny in the head,’ and he remembered falling into a ditch on the way to the station. He believed the landlord had told him to go previous to the arrival of the police.

Sergeant Needham, Police-constables Milner and Smedley, and a man named James Gregory, said that the defendant was very drunk.

For the defence, Mr. Jackson urged that the man Sedgwick was not drunk when on defendant’s premises, as he had only been served with three half-pints in three hours.

Defendant gave evidence and denied serving Sedgwick and although he was not drunk he thought he had had enough and asked him to go.

Other witnesses were called to show that the man Sedgwick was not drunk.

After a short deliberation, Mr. Brookes said the Bench were unanimous and had not much doubt in their minds that the man Sedgwick was drunk, but at the same time they did not think that the landlord willingly permitted it and therefore the case would be dismissed.”

James Yates = James Yeates

Walsall Advertiser 19/3/1910

“Don’t send me to Stafford, I’ve had enough of it,’ was the plea of David Yates (25), of Harrison Street, who after having being remanded for eight days was placed in the dock at the Rushall Police Court, on Monday, on a charge of having stolen 2s 9d from a till at the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall. The magistrates were Sir E. T. Holden (presiding), W. H. Brookes, W. F. Clarke, E. Wilkes, J. A. Lloyd, W. Preecy, and J. Smith.

Evidence was given by Annie Heath, who said that she resided with her brother at the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall. At 3pm on the date mentioned, prisoner entered the tap-room and called for half a pint of ale and lemonade. He tendered half a crown in payment and she gave him a 2s piece and three pennies in change. She saw that the till was properly closed, and then went into

the yard, leaving the prisoner alone in the room. After five minutes later she heard a rattle of money, and on looking into the tap-room saw prisoner leaning over the bar, in the act of taking a handful of coppers out of the till. When she spoke to him prisoner gave her money which amounted to 2s 8½d, and she afterwards found a ½d in a jug near the till. After prisoner had left she gave information to the police.

Police-constable Rushton said he made enquiries into the theft and arrested prisoner in the SWAN INN, Wolverhampton Road, Pelsall, when he said, 'All right I'll come, I know what you want me for.' He took him to Rushall, and on being charged, replied that the biggest part of the money belonged to him. Asked if he had anything to say, the prisoner, with tears in his eyes, made the above remark, adding that he would not mind going only it had nearly broke his mother's heart already.

Sir Edward Holden: Well you should not get into scrapes.

After a consultation Sir Edward said the Bench thought that if he would promise to go straight in future they would take into consideration what he had said, and put him on his good behaviour for three months.

Prisoner readily gave the promise, and was told that if he behaved himself he would hear nothing more about it."

1911 Census

Pelsall – WHITE LION

[1] *James Yeates* (25), unmarried, boat builder, born Norton, Staffordshire;

[2] Benjamin Yeates (23) brother, coal miner, born Norton, Staffordshire;

[3] William Yeates (21), brother, coal miner, born Norton, Staffordshire;

[4] Samuel Yeates (19), brother, coal miner, born Norton, Staffordshire;

[5] Charles Yeates (17), brother, coal miner, born Norton, Staffordshire;

[6] Mrs. Heath (28), boarder, born Norton, Staffordshire:

Lichfield Mercury 14/3/ 1913

"The draw for the semi-final of the of the Pelsall Challenge Cup took place at the WHITE LION Hotel, Pelsall, and resulted as follows: Heath End Villa v. Brownhills Excelsior. Chasetown Swifts v. Boatman's Rest Mission. The date of the matches is left in the hands of the secretary."

Walsall Observer 14/2/1914

"On Saturday the members of the Poor Man's Friend Lodge, No.560, of the Nottingham, Order of Oddfellows, celebrated their 50th anniversary of the foundation of the lodge, at the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, when about 40 members and friends sat down to a repast provided by the host, Bro. *James Yates*, who is also treasurer of the lodge. When the cloths has been withdrawn, Bro. Job Poxon was voted to the chair, and Bro. Joseph Richardson to the vice-chair....."

Lichfield Mercury 25/6/1915

"The County Coroner (Mr. Gerald C. Lewis) held an inquest at the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, respecting the deaths of John Edward Hassall (4) and William Hassall (3), sons of a miner named John Hassall, of High Bridge Row, Pelsall, whose dead bodies were recovered from the Birmingham Canal on Wednesday week.

The evidence of the mother, Florence Mary Hassall, showed that the boys left home about 11 o'clock on Tuesday morning. Later she could not find them, and she notified the police. She had previously whipped them for playing near the canal.

Pc Rushton stated the children were reported as missing on Tuesday afternoon, and the bodies were recovered from the canal near High Bridge on Wednesday. Death appeared to have been caused by drowning. Witness thought the children had got through some iron railings on to the towing path and had fallen in whilst at play.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/2/1921

"The annual licensing sessions for the Rushall Division were held on Monday.....

All the licenses would be renewed with the exception of.....

WHITE LION, Pelsall.....

In these cases, alterations were necessary, and the Bench would defer consideration until they had visited the premises and inspected the plans."

Lichfield Mercury 11/8/1922

"On Monday last a pigeon flying sweepstake, promoted by the Royal George Homing Society, from the WHITE LION, Pelsall at the respective pens, a distance about 1½ miles. Twenty-three birds were liberated in rather unfavourable weather, with the following result: 1. T. Horobin (£3 10s), velocity 1,398 yards; 2. E. Breeze (£1 15s), velocity 1,305.80 yards; 3. G. Jones (£1), velocity 1,305.49 yards. Time keepers Messrs T. Dorsett and B. Mills."

Walsall Observer 20/12/1924

"Members of the Pelsall Ex-Servicemen's Bowling Club met at a most enjoyable supper at the WHITE LION INN, on Saturday evening last, when prizes were presented....."

Lichfield Mercury 13/3/1926

"At the Adjourned Licensing Meeting for the Rushall Division on Monday, objections to two houses were considered.....

The other house objected to, also on the ground of redundancy, was the WHITE LION, Wolverhampton Road, Pelsall, owned by

the Stafford Brewery Company.

Inspector Skeeratt said the trade was 4½ barrel a week. The property was old and the trade was bad. The population in the parish was 196. The ex-Servicemen had their club at the house, and there was also a bowling green and a cricket and football field. Mr. Jackson, for the owners and licensee, put in a petition for renewal, and looking at the signatures Mr. E. H. Barnett (a magistrate) said it would be a veritable god-send to the wives and children if some of the men were precluded from having drink. For the Walsall Temperance Society, Mr. A. V. Haden opposed the renewal of the licenses. The houses were referred to the compensation authority.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/8/1929

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 15th inst. last.....

Mr. *William Yates*, WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, was unanimously elected a member of the society.”

Lichfield Mercury 23/3/1934

“Clarion C.C. Run.....

An invitation to all cyclists is extended, and new members will be cordially welcomed, starting from the WHITE LION, Pelsall, at 10 o’clock.”

Lichfield Mercury 22/3/1935 - Auction Sales Summary

“Tuesday, March 26th. Poultry Sale at the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall, by South & Stubbs.”

Walsall Observer 29/4/1939

“At the back of the WHITE LION at Pelsall, the licensee, Mr. *D. Nicholls*, has a miniature zoo, the animals being accommodated in a disused club room. The collection includes various types of wild cats and monkeys among the latter being a baby mandrill and its mother, an Indian racoon, eagle owls, wallabies and a wombat. Mr. *Nicholls* had been taking lessons on the habits and correct feeding of the animals from Mr. H. Young, a keeper for Mr. J. Parry, who owns the animals. All the animals appear to be good tempered and harmless.”

Richard Nicholls = Richard Nichols

1939 Register

Lichfield Road, Pelsall – WHITE LION Public House

[1] *Richard Nichols*, date of birth 4/5/1883, publican, married;

[2] Winifred Nichols, dob 6/2/1903, domestic duties and assistant, married;

[3] Stanley A. Crane, dob 18/4/1896, wholesale clothing, despatch manager, single:

Walsall Observer 3/4/1943

“‘It was a sudden touch,’ said a ten year old boy, pleading guilty at Aldridge Junior Court yesterday (Friday) to a summons for stealing on February 17, the sum of £5 19s 6d from *Richard Nicholls*, the licensee of the WHITE LION INN, Pelsall.

The Clerk (Mr. Frank Cooper): You know what will happen to you if you have these sudden touches, don’t you? – The boy: Yes Sir, I shall be sent away.

The magistrates (Mrs. Sanbrook and Messrs I. D. Stokes and F. G. Peake) decided to give the boy a second chance and dismissed the case under the First Offenders Act. In answer to Mr. Stokes the lad said he would like to join the Scouts.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/1/1948

“Mrs. Ann Astbury, who died on Sunday, aged 60, at the Anglesey Hotel, Hednesford, where her son-in-law, Mr. L. Bridgart, is the licensee, was a representative of the second of three generations of licensees. She was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. *C. Nicholls*, who kept the WHITE LION, Pelsall, and the Swan Hotel, Cannock, and after her marriage she moved with her husband, Mr. G. Astbury, to the Swan Inn, Great Wyrley. She was a very good air-gun shot, and won many competitions in the district.”

WHITE ROSE

81, Lower Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Matthews

William Horton, Walhouse Street, Walsall

LICENSEES

Joseph Shutt [1858] – [1863]
Benjamin Cooper [1864] – [1870]
John Ricketts [1871] – [1872];
William Horton [1875] – **1891**);
Frank Swindells (**1891 – 1892**);
John Peale (**1892 – 1895**);
Isaac Swindells (**1895 – 1896**);
Edward Walker (**1896 – 1902**);
Jane Walker (**1902 – 1904**);
John Westley (**1904 – 1906**);
Hannah Lines (**1906 – 1907**);
William Rollins (**1907 – 1910**);

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

It was originally known as the ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE.

J. Shutt, beerhouse, 81, Lower Rushall Street. [1858]

Joseph Shutt, beer retailer, Lower Rushall Street. [1861]

1861 Census

81, Lower Rushall Street – WHITE ROSE INN

- [1] *Joseph Shutt* (40), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Anne Shutt (39), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Jane Shutt (19), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] William Shutt (16), son, currier's apprentice, born Walsall;
- [5] Emily Shutt (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Fanny Shutt (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Clara Shutt (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Alice Shutt (1), daughter, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 28/2/1863 - Advert

“The WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall St.

To Be Let, the above excellent House, now kept by Mr. *J. Shutt*, situate as above.

Apply on the premises.”

[This was repeated in March and April.]

Benjamin Cooper, beer retailer, 81, Lower Rushall Street. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

Walsall Free Press 8/7/1865

“*Benjamin Cooper*, beer-house keeper, Lower Rushall Street, pleaded guilty to having had his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours; but stated that the liquor was drawn in his absence by the servant. As this was the defendant's first offence, he was fined in the mitigated sum of 2s 6d and costs.”

1871 Census

81, Lower Rushall Street – retail beerhouse

- [1] *John Ricketts* (27), chainmaker and beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Betsy Ricketts (22), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Caroline Ricketts (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Samuel Ricketts (3), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Roger Burns (24), boarder, chainmaker's assistant, born Walsall;
- [6] John Roberts (20), boarder, chainmaker's assistant, born Walsall;
- [7] Cady Price (40), boarder, coal miner, born Walsall:

John Ricketts, beer retailer, 81, Lower Rushall Street. [1872]

John Ricketts – see also CROWN AND ANCHOR, West Bromwich Street.

Midland Counties Evening Express 21/5/1875

“*William Horton*, WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street, was fined 2s 6d and costs for having his house open illegally. The defen-

dant said he simply fetched some beer and gave it to a man without payment.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1876

“Frank Coleman, a young man, was charged with having, on Saturday night, been drunk and disorderly in the WHITE ROSE INN, Lower Rushall Street, and also with having, at the same time and place, assaulted William Malliber. He was fined 10s and costs for the first named offence and ordered to pay costs in the second.”

1881 Census

81, Lower Rushall Street

- [1] *William Horton* (37), harness maker and beer retailer, born Walsall;
- [2] Harriet Horton (39), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Eliza Horton (15), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Ada B. Horton (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] William J. Horton (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Harriet Ball (75), mother, widow, born Walsall;
- [7] Sarah Ann Lawson (16), servant, born Bridgetown:

Walsall Observer 7/12/1889

“William Hinks, 68, Lower Rushall Street, was charged with refusing to quit the WHITE ROSE public house, with being drunk and disorderly in Rushall Street, and with assaulting Police-constable Marsden on the 23rd inst [sic]. Mr. Cotterell appeared for *William Horton*, the landlord of the public house, who stated that defendant and his brother went to his house, and that a disturbance arose between them. He sent for a policeman to eject them. When they were outside defendant pulled off his belt, and ran towards witness, who got into the house and shut the door. Defendant then broke a pane of glass. Police-constable Marsden deposed that when he arrived prisoner and his brother attacked him, prisoner hitting him in the mouth with a jug, while the brother jumped on his back. A fine of 20s and costs, or a month’s imprisonment in default, was inflicted.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 9/12/1889

“*William Horton*, of the WHITE ROSE INN, Rushall Street, was charged with permitting drunkenness. Mr. J. N. Cotterell defended.

The case for the police was that Police-constable Marston was called on the evening of November 23rd to eject two brothers of the name of Hinks. These persons were both drunk, assaulted him, and one of them was locked up, the other managing to escape. They were each now summoned as witnesses, and stated that they were in the house all afternoon and were sober when they went in. David Hinks said he was at the house till five, and then left, but was so drunk that he could not tell when he returned. William Hinks said he was there all the time till he was put out, and was perfectly sober when he went in.

Mr. Cotterell said they admitted that the persons were in the house during the afternoon, but said they left and returned in a drunken condition, and simply because the landlord called in police assistance to eject them, the police charged him with permitting drunkenness.

Two of the Magistrates thought the case proved and two thought it was not, so the defendant had the benefit, and the case was dismissed.”

1891 Census

81, Lower Rushall Street – WHITE ROSE

- [1] *Frank Swindells* (40), publican and clerk, born Burslem, Staffordshire;
- [2] Sarah Swindells (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Herbert Swindells (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Maud Swindells (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Emma A. Swindells (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Frank Swindells (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Clara Swindells (2), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Florence T. Yale (14), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/5/1891

“*Frank Swindells* applied to have transferred to him the licence of the WHITE ROSE, Rushall Street. It transpired that he had had a temporary authority, but had not given the requisite notices for the transfer; and the Chief Constable drew the attention of the Bench to the case of the Queen v the Justices of Swansea, in which it was held that no person could have a second temporary authority. Under these circumstances the applicant was advised to consult a solicitor.”

Isaac Swindells, beer retailer, 81, Lower Rushall Street. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 5/1/1895

“Father And Son.

Re *John Peate*, formerly of the EAGLE INN, 54, Lower Rushall Street, now of the WHITE ROSE, 81, Lower Rushall Street, foreman harness maker and licensed victualler.

The assets were £144 17s 6d, and the liabilities, £409 15s 10d.

Mr. W. Pearman-Smith was for the bankrupt, and Mr. Craddock appeared for Mr. Oakley, a creditor.

Bankrupt in answer to the Official Receiver, said that up till 1864 he worked as a journeyman harness-furniture maker. He then commenced business without capital in Wolverhampton Street, where he traded for six years, when he was sold up under an execution. His assets were £2, and his liabilities £195 19s 3d. No dividend was paid. Subsequently he obtained his discharge, and in 1873 joined Mr. Charles Crook in partnership. Mr. Crook found all the capital, and they traded together till 1883, when the partnership was dissolved, he paying Crook £700 for his interest. The money he raised by selling stock and offering a large discount to those that owed him money. He traded alone till 1883, when he made arrangements with his creditors, and sold the business. His assets were then £10, and his liabilities £1,300. His creditors accepted a composition of 1s 6d in the pound, which he paid by instalments. In 1892 he sold his business and plant for £200 to Mr. E. Eglinton, and he had since managed the concern at a wage of £2 10s a week. Last month he received notice that his wage would be reduced to £1 10s a week. In 1893 he took a five years' lease on the EAGLE INN, paying £61 for fixtures, and giving £25 and bills for £75 for the lease. The license was now in the name of his son George, who entered into possession in June 1893. The transfer was made in consequence of his inability to hold two beerhouse licenses. He paid George 18s a week, and gave him his keep. In 1891 he and Mr. George Dant together assisted Mr. *Frank Swindles*, the tenant of the WHITE ROSE beershop, Lower Rushall Street, with small advances and became sureties for upwards of £200. *Swindles* being unable to pay, bankrupt and Dant took to the WHITE ROSE in the hope of reimbursing themselves. The bankrupt and his son George Henry having been jointly sued by a money lender for which the son was surety, and an execution been levied upon each of them, both filed their petitions. Mr. Dant was still carrying on the business of the WHITE ROSE partnership, which, however, was insolvent and showed a deficiency of £423 0s 7d. He attributed his bankruptcy to want of capital, borrowing money at heavy interest, and bad trade.

By Mr. Craddock: He had not applied to Mr. Oakley for a loan of £100 with which to take the BARLEY MOW."

1901 Census

81, Lower Rushall Street

[1] *Edward Walker* (57), beer retailer, born Birmingham;

[2] *Jane Walker* (58), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Henry Hadzed* (24), boarder, brushmaker, born Walsall;

[4] *Clara Jebber* (20), servant, born Willenhall:

John Westley, beer retailer, 197, Pleck Road. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 22/12/1906

"Transfers. Beer Retailers (on).....

WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street, from *John Arthur Westley* (administrator of the estate of *John Westley*, deceased), to *Hannah Lines*."

Walsall Advertiser 19/1/1907

"The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week.

Mr. *William Rollins*, WHITE ROSE INN, Lower Rushall Street, was unanimously elected member of the society."

Walsall Advertiser 2/3/1907

"The adjourned annual licensing meeting for the borough was held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.

The Bench also sanctioned the following other transfers.

WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street, from *Hannah Rollins* (formerly *Lines*) to her husband, *William Rollins*."

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

"The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.

Mr. Jackson appeared for the owner, *William Horton*, and the licensee, *William Rollins*, in the case of the WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street. It was explained that it was an ante-'69 beerhouse. The tenancy was £40 per year.

Chief Inspector Ballance said it was an old house, and rather difficult of supervision.

Mr. Jackson said that the average takings were £20 per week, and it was absolutely a 'free.' The trade was increasing.

The tenant gave evidence, and said that he did not give the 'long pull.' Three-quarters of the beer sold was consumed on the premises."

Walsall Advertiser 26/2/1910

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held on Friday, when Sir Edward Holden presided.

The ACORN, MALT SHOVEL, and WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street, MANDAMUS ARMS, Stafford Street, and the SHINGLERS ARMS, Birchills were referred for compensation."

The license was surrendered on 25th February 1910.

Walsall Advertiser 14/5/1910

“The Licensing Act, 1904.

Notice of Principal Meeting. County Borough of Walsall.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Guildhall, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 7th day of June, 1910, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.....

List Of Licensed Premises.....

WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street. Beerhouse. Licensee *William Rollins*.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/6/1910

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week, at the house of Mr. *William Rollins*, WHITE ROSE INN, Lower Rushall Street.....

A unanimous vote was carried expressing the regret the meeting felt that Mr. *W. Rollins* was leaving the house and their hope that he might speedily take another, and that his future might be even more happy and prosperous than his past.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/10/1915 - Deaths

“On the 13th inst, at ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street, *William Rollins*, aged 60 years.”

AND

“The death took place on Wednesday of Mr. *William Rollins*, licensee of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street. Mr. *Rollins*, who was aged 60, was very well-known in football circles throughout the Midland and in some other parts of the country. For some years he was a First League referee, in which capacity he officiated at a large number of important matches. He was also vice-president of the Walsall Football Association, his lengthy connection with which was commemorated by the possession of a long service medal. Before going to the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Mr. *Rollins* held the license of the WHITE ROSE, Lower Rushall Street, and the Grove Tavern, Great Barr, and for nearly nine years he had been a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society.”

WHITE SWAN

Chapel Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Lees [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Chapel Street – WHITE SWAN INN

[1] *Thomas Lees* (51), pointsman, London and North Western Railway, born Pleck;

[2] *Jane Lees* (48), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Thomas Lees* (21), son, engine tender, born Pleck;

[4] *Isaac Lees* (19), son, agricultural labourer, born Pleck;

[5] *Jane Lees* (17), daughter, born Pleck;

[6] *Emma Lees* (12), daughter, scholar, born Pleck;

[7] *Rosa Lees* (9), daughter, scholar, born Pleck;

[8] *Eli Lees* (6), son, scholar, born Pleck;

[9] *Matilda Lees* (2), daughter, born Pleck:

WHITE SWAN

52, (32), Dudley Street / Bath Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

William Careless, silver plater, Station Street, (later at Birmingham Road), Walsall

William Blencowe and Co. Ltd.
John Toon
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

Joseph Careless [1818] – [1822]
George Forster [1828] – [1830]
Joshua Roper [1834] – [1835]
Benjamin Bentley [1841] – [1842]
Mrs. Sarah Carless [1845]
John Osbourn [1849] – [1851]
James Osbourn [1858] – [1861]
James Ashbourn [1862]
Joshua Careless [1864] – [1865]
Samuel Harding Bonas [1868] – [1881]
Mary Bonas [] – 1890;
Jabez Hill (1890);
William Vann (1890 – 1892);
John Hanley (1892 – 1894);
Edward Smith (1894 – 1895);
Benjamin George Tuck (1895 – 1899);
John Toon (1899 – 1923);
Bernard Dagman (1923 – 1924);
Arthur James Breakwell (1924);
Harry Salt (1924 – 1927);
Thomas Ernest Blud (1927 – 1930);
John Henry Brotherton (1930 – 1931);
Sidney Ritchings (1931 – 1936);
David Davies (1936 – 1937);
Samuel Roberts (1937 – 1938);
George Humphries (1938);

NOTES

52, Dudley Street [1860], [1861], [1881], [1908], [1932]
32, Dudley Street [1871]

SWAN [1845], [1850]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 2/2/1829 - Died

“On the 24th inst, at Handsworth, Mr. *Joseph Careless*, late of the WHITE SWAN, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/7/1829

“The members of a respectable lodge of females, established at the WHITE SWAN INN, Dudley Street, Walsall, under the denomination of ‘Friendly and Benevolent Sisters,’ met at their club-house on Monday, the 13th instant, and at twelve o’clock went in procession for St. Paul’s Chapel, where an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Thomas Rogers, A.M., Minister. After the sermon they paraded through the principal streets back to the inn, where their annual feast was provided, and where they spent the afternoon in much harmony and good humour. The day being fine the dresses worn were shown to great advantage, and each female had a blue silk scarf over her habiliments.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/3/1831 - Advert

“WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street, Walsall.

To be disposed of by private Contract, the Goodwill, Licenses, and Possession of that old-established house, the WHITE SWAN, in Dudley Street. There are several Clubs attached, consisting of upwards of five hundred members. The premises are in good condition, very convenient and entire, the club room, 71 feet by 16 feet, excellent cellars and stabling.

The Stock will be kept low, and the coming-in will be moderate.

To treat apply (if by letter, post-paid), to E. Jukes, Land Surveyor and Auctioneer, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 30/5/1831 - Advert

“The WHITE SWAN Public House, in Dudley Street, Walsall.

By E. Jukes. To be Sold by Auction (without reserve), on the premises, on Friday the 10th of June next, at four o’clock in the af-

ternoon (unless in the mean time disposed of by private contract, of which due notice will be given), the Licenses, Good-will, and Possession of the very respectable and old established house, the WHITE SWAN, with Stabling, eligibly situated in Dudley Street. The stock is reduced purposely to suit a tenant. The usual effects to be taken at a fair valuation. To treat apply (if by letter, post-paid), to E. Jukes, Land Surveyor and Auctioneer, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 26/12/1831 - Advert

“To be Let, and may be entered upon the 28th of January next, that old-established and well known Public House, the WHITE SWAN, in Dudley Street, Walsall.

For Rent and particulars enquire of the Rev. William Cowley, Rushall, or Mr. Thomas Oerton, Dudley Street, Walsall.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 2/2/1835 - Advert

“To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that well-known and extensive Public House, the WHITE SWAN, in Dudley Street, Walsall.

To treat for the same apply to the Rev. Wm. Cowley Marshall, or to Mr. Thomas Oerton, Dudley Street, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/5/1842

“On Monday last, at the Guildhall, Walsall, William Phillips, a brush maker, residing in the Wisemore, was charged with felony and embezzlement of the money belonging to the ‘Pride of the Valley’ Lodge, Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows, held at the SWAN INN, Dudley Street. The prisoner was Secretary to the above lodge, and C.S. of the district, and was paid for his services; he had the collecting of all moneys; and it was his duty to enter in a cash book kept for the purpose, the amounts received by him, and pay the same over to the officers or host of the society, on their night of meeting. Mr. Stephen Jarrett, of Tipton stated that on the 8th December last, he paid William Phillips 7s 6d for contribution due from him to the above lodge – which sum the prisoner had not accounted for. The court was crowded with members of the various Lodges, who seemed anxious to watch the proceedings. The funds of the society are collected by small contributions from members, and are distributed among the sick, the distressed, the widows and orphans of deceased members. The prisoner who declined making any defence at the present stage of the proceedings, was committed for trial at the next borough Sessions.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/7/1842

“Walsall General Sessions.

Acquitted..... William Phillips who was charged with embezzling money entrusted to him as secretary of the Odd Fellows’ Lodge, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/9/1843 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that good and old-established Public House, known by the sign of the WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street, Walsall. The fixtures to be taken at a fair valuation.

A Lodge of the Manchester Order of Odd Fellows, consisting of upwards of 120 members, is held at the above house.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/12/1847

“The notice recently published of an intention to apply to Parliament for powers to make certain alterations or improvements in the borough of Walsall – among others, the removal of the market from High Street, and the erection of a market hall in Goodhall Street – has excited the attention of the rate-payers, a meeting of whom was held on Wednesday evening at Mr. John Marshall’s, High Street, when it was unanimously resolved to call a general meeting to ‘consider the notice given by the Town Council to their intention to apply for an Act of Parliament, involving very considerable alteration and expense on the borough.’ The meeting was to be held at the WHITE SWAN INN, Dudley Street, last evening. Other meetings will probably follow, and are likely to result in a petition against the removal of the market.”

John Osbourn = John Osborne

He was also collector of the poor rates and an auctioneer. [1849], [1850]

Birmingham Journal 17/2/1855

“Walsall Races For 1855. On Wednesday evening a meeting of the committee was held at the house of Mr. *J. Osbourne*, clerk of the course, the WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street. Mr. James Lynex, chairman of the committee, presided. The eminent success that attended the last race meeting appears to have had its effect in spurring on the committee to ‘more adventurous deeds.’ Two new handicaps will be announced, and the executive seemed determined to elevate the forthcoming meeting in the scale of provincial sporting reunions. A detailed programme will be advertised in due time.”

1861 Census

52, Dudley Street

[1] *James Osbourn* (37), currier and publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Jane Osbourn* (26), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Clara Osbourn* (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Frank Osbourn* (1), son, born Walsall;

[5] *Mary A. Lowbridge* (18), house servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 19/8/1865 - Advert

“Wanted, a General Servant, from 16 to 19 years of age.
Apply at the WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street.”

Walsall Free Press 13/7/1867 - Advert

“Wanted, a Maid of all work; one from the country preferred.
Apply, WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street.”

Walsall Free Press 5/11/1870 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable Servant Girl, about 16.
Apply, WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street.”

1871 Census

32, Dudley Street

- [1] *Samuel H. Bonas* (35), hair dresser and publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mary Bonas* (32), wife, born Luffenham, Rutland;
- [3] *Herbert L. Bonas* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] *Arthur L. Bonas* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Annie F. Bonas* (3), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sarah Bonas* (11 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Ellen Hawkins* (18), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1881 Census

52, Dudley Street

- [1] *Samuel H. Bonas* (45), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mary Bonas* (42), wife, born Nottingham;
- [3] *Herbert Bonas* (17), son, black saddler, born Walsall;
- [4] *Arthur Bonas* (14), son, silver plater, born Walsall;
- [5] *Annie Bonas* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Sarah Bonas* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Alice Bonas* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] *Harry Bonas* (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] *Elizabeth Croft* (24), general servant, born Bedworth:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1890

“At the Walsall Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, J. Thorpe, W. E. Blyther, and J. Lindop, and Captain Brooks, further applications for singing, and dancing licenses were heard....

William Vann, the WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street applied in person for a singing and music license for Tuesday and Friday evenings. Refused.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/1/1897

“*Benjamin George Tuck*, landlord of the WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street, was charged with selling intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours on Sunday morning.

Detective-inspector Cliffe was on watch when a man named Alfred Cowley, on seeing him, decamped. Cliffe gave chase and Cowley was caught, a bottle containing rum being found in his possession. It transpired that man named Bailey had been served with the rum for Cowley, who had the rum from Bailey.

Cowley, who now lives in Tantarra Street, now attended a subpoena, and deposed that Bailey got sixpennyworth of rum for him. In answer to Mr. Jackson, Cowley said nothing about his being ill.

Mr. Jackson, who defended admitted that the rum was supplied to Bailey, but urged that something was said about someone being ill. Defendant had kept the house for two years without complaint, and was now on his own notice to leave.

Defendant gave evidence in support of Mr. Jackson’s statement.

A fine of 40s and costs was imposed, the Chairman remarking that the license would not be endorsed this time.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1897

“Walsall Police Court, Monday. The following transfers were granted Temporary Authority.....

John Toon, WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 20/3/1897

“*Edward Smith* (47), 8a, Long Street, labourer, was charged with stealing a pair of child’s socks, from the shop of Fleming, Reid, and Co., on the 16th instant.

John Kelley, a boy, of Portland Street, in the employ of the prosecutors, was behind a curtain in the shop when prisoner asked for a child’s vest, and while he was being supplied Kelly saw him take the socks from a box. Accused by Lizzie Busst, the manageress, of taking the socks, he denied the charge, but eventually pulled them out of his pocket. A policeman was sent for, but when he arrived prisoner had departed. He was, however, followed, and was pointed to Police-constable 40 (Glover), who arrested and

charged him, when prisoner replied, 'I went to buy a vest for a child, and I put these in my pocket, but I meant to pay for them. It's the drink that's done it.'

Prisoner now pleaded 'not guilty,' and stoutly denied that he put the socks in his pocket. He maintained that he was to pay 8d for the vest, and 5d for the socks, and had a two-shilling piece with which to pay for them. This, however, was denied by witness. Prisoner, it transpired, kept the WHITE SWAN in Dudley Street about two years ago. He was now fined 5s and costs, or seven days."

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

"Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday.....

Since the 31st of August, 1896, seven licensees had been proceeded against, two of whom were convicted, viz.....

8th January, *George Tuck*, WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street, fined 40s and costs for selling during prohibited hours.

Objection to renewal.....

In the case of the WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street, the Chief Constable said there was a certain window which overlooked the premises, through which window liquors were supplied at the time of the offence.

Mr. H. H. Jackson, on behalf of the licensee, said the latter was willing to have a grating placed over the window. He (Mr. Jackson) was perfectly willing to give an undertaking for everything to be done to the satisfaction of the Chief Constable. Opposition withdrawn."

Walsall Advertiser 11/3/1903

"*John Toon*, SWAN INN, Dudley Street, was summoned for allowing his horse to stray in Belvidere Road, on March, 30th, and Alfred Allen, THREE CROWNS, Sutton Road, was charged with a similar offence.

Police-constable Maskell proved the cases, and defendants were ordered to pay the costs."

Walsall Advertiser 2/4/1904

"*John Toon*, of the WHITE SWAN INN, Dudley Street, was summoned (1) for permitting drunkenness; (2) for selling drink to a drunken person on March 21st; and Thomas Moffatt, of 13, Bath Street, a plasterer's labourer, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises at the same time and place.

Sergeant Evans said that he and Police-constable Lloyd found the man Moffatt sitting in the SWAN INN in a kind of a doze, and with his hands supporting his head. The man was under the influence of drink, and there was an empty jug in front of him. Witness had some difficulty in arousing him, and then told him to go, which he did. The landlord said, 'He's been working till seven o'clock, and has been here since; he has had a drop, I know. I am sorry it has happened, but I try to conduct my house like an Englishman.'

Cross-examined by Mr. H. H. Jackson (who defended) he said he was not aware that the eyesight of plasterer's labourers was affected by the lime they used. He was satisfied that the man was drunk.

Mr. Jackson: He was deep in thought and meditation (laughter).

Police-constable Lloyd also gave evidence, and said that the man Moffatt was drunk. Asked how he knew, Lloyd remarked, 'Well if anyone saw me dozing in a public house I should think I was drunk,' (laughter).

Dr. Lynch: I suppose, Lloyd, you have an intuitive knowledge and can tell when a man is drunk?

The officer said he thought he knew a drunken man when he saw one (laughter).

Mr. Jackson, addressing the magistrates, said that the publican had just erected a little brewery at a cost of £2,000, and that the property was his own. He was a man who had been employed by Messrs. Kirkpatrick for 20 years, and had put all his savings into this public-house. Was it likely he would risk his whole livelihood by selling a drunken man a pint of beer? The real state of things was that Moffatt had bad eyes owing to working as a plasterer, and that he was shading his eyes from the fire when the police came in. The man was perfectly sober, and had only had three half-pints. He was a very respectable man, who had fought at the Battle of Ulundi, and had gone through the Zulu and Egyptian campaigns.

The landlord and Moffatt gave evidence in support of this, but Moffatt admitted, in reply to the police, that in 1898 he was fined for drunkenness.

Mr. Jackson submitted that it was most unfair to bring up a charge of drunkenness eight years ago.

Mr. Thomson: But you are going back to the Battle of Ulundi.

The magistrates dismissed the case."

Walsall Advertiser 6/5/1905

"William George Lander, 27, and Albert Sadler, 26, two lost-looking young men described as labourers of no fixed abode, were charged with stealing a quantity of zinc and iron piping, value 1s, and also with doing damage to the property of *John Toon*, landlord of the WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street. Early on Saturday morning the prisoners passed Police-constable Thomas in George Street, and the officer followed them to a marine store dealer's. He examined a bag they had and found in it a quantity of zinc and iron piping, and charged them with stealing it. Lander at first said 'we got it in Victor Street,' but on the way to the police station said 'It's a fair cop; we pinched it.' *Toon* spoke to a portion of the stolen property having been taken from a brewhouse behind his premises.

Prisoners pleaded guilty, but said they found the property in the public house yard. Fourteen days' hard labour each."

Walsall Advertiser 2/10/1909

"At the Walsall Guildhall, on Thursday, Mr. H. H. Jackson, the Deputy Coroner, held an inquest concerning the death of *Maria Toon*, aged 69, of 23, Dudley Street, who died on Tuesday as the result of a fall downstairs on Saturday evening.

John Toon, licensee of the WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street, son of deceased, stated that he was informed on Saturday evening that his mother had fallen downstairs, and after closing his premises at 11pm he went to the house, where he found her lying on the sofa in an unconscious state. He carried her upstairs to bed, and did not think at the time there was anything seriously the matter with her, as she did not appear to have received any injury, and he had seen her in the same unconscious state previously. On Sunday morning, she was still unconscious, and he sent for Dr. McKinstry. She never regained consciousness, and death took place about 7.30pm on Tuesday.

In reply to the Coroner, witness said he did not think there was anything the matter with his mother on Saturday evening, or he would have sent for a doctor then. His mother was unconscious for about a week some six months ago in consequence of a stroke. The Coroner: I put it to you as a reasonable sensible man, that the very fact of your mother having fallen downstairs and being unconscious, would have struck you that it would be important that a doctor should be sent for without delay. – Witness: Well, I did not think it was serious.

The Coroner: What time was the doctor sent for? – Witness: About 10 o'clock on Sunday morning.

A Juror: I should have thought it as well to send for a doctor on Saturday night. – Witness: Well, it was after 11 o'clock, and as she had previously been unconscious I thought we would wait and send for a doctor in the morning.

The Coroner: The very fact of the woman being unconscious suggests to my mind that a doctor should have been sent for at once. It gives a chance of doing something, although I don't suppose anything could have been done in this case.

Annie Hammond stated the deceased had lived with her for about eighteen months, and had been very feeble, particularly since she had a stroke about six months ago. On Saturday evening, as Mrs. *Toon* was going to bed, she slipped when she mounted four of five stairs, and fell backward to the bottom, apparently striking her head against the wall.

Dr. McKinstry deposed that he was called to deceased on Sunday morning, and on his arrival he found her lying on the bed with her clothes on. Her mouth was covered with dried blood, and there was blood on the clothing, as if she had been vomiting. The face was discoloured under both eyes, and the right arm and the right side of the face were paralysed. In his opinion death was due to haemorrhage of the brain, probably due to a fractured skull. Mrs. *Toon* had a stroke about six months ago and he attended her.

In summing up, the Coroner said it seemed to him that it would certainly have been more thoughtful and wiser if Mr. *Toon* had sent for a doctor as soon as he arrived, as that would have taken the responsibility out of his hands. At the same time, however, he did not think that the doctor could have done anything, and no doubt Mr. *Toon* did what he thought best.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1911 Census

Dudley Street – WHITE SWAN

- [1] *John Toon* (43), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Toon (43), wife, married 24 years, born Walsall;
- [3] Edgar Toon (23), son, plumber, born Walsall;
- [4] Edith Toon (21), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [5] John Charles Toon (16), son, tailor, born Walsall;
- [6] Gladys Rosalind Toon (6), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Mary Ann Beebee (22), servant, born Wolverhampton;

In May, 1912, Sarah *Toon*, wife of *John Toon* (landlord of the WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street), sister-in-law of the deceased, was a witness at the inquest of Maud Millie Mills, where the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown. This case was a major sensation at the time.

Walsall Observer 26/2/1916

“The adjourned licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall, yesterday.....

WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street. The Chief Constable said the application in this case was to erect a scullery in the yard, and it was purely a matter of convenience. The case was adjourned for a month for plans to be deposited.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street. £1 1s 10d.”

John Toon was fined £5 and £3 3s 0d costs for selling gin above the maximum price, £5 for not exhibiting a Public Bar notice, and £5 for selling spirits from an unmarked receptacle, on 16th January 1920.

Benjamin Dagman = Benjamin Dagnan

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/8/1923

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 16th inst.....

Mr. *Benjamin Dagnan*, WHITE SWAN, Dudley Street, was unanimously elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 19/1/1924 - Advert

“To Brewers and Others. Notice of Sale at Auction of the Valuable Freehold licensed property known as the WHITE SWAN INN,

Walsall.

Occupying a Bold and Important Position in Dudley Street and Bath Street, having well arranged Trade and Living Accommodation, the entire Premises being in a capital state of Repair, and the position such that a large business must always be done.”

South Staffordshire Times 16/2/1924

“The sale of the freehold fully-licensed property, the SWAN INN, in Dudley Street and Bath Street, Walsall, was offered by auction on Tuesday by Alfred Dando and Co. and realised £1,950. Possession is given on completion of purchase.”

It closed on 5th May 1938.

The license was removed to new premises known as the GREEN ROCK TAVERN, Blakenall.

WHY NOT

8, (110), Western Street, Pleck, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Marlow, Western Street, Pleck, Walsall

LICENSEES

Isaiah Worley Snr. [1871] – **1883**):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/6/1867

“E. Ford (alias Black Ned) of the Pleck, Walsall, not being satisfied with his late defeat, will fight M. Gleeson again at catch weight, for £25 a side. Money ready at the WHY NOT INN, Pleck, Walsall.”

1871 Census

110, Western Street

- [1] *Isaiah Worley* (51), iron worker and beer seller, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Nancy Worley (51), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] William Worley (19), son, iron worker, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Isaiah Worley (16), son, iron worker, born West Bromwich;
- [5] Joseph Worley (14), son, iron worker, born West Bromwich;
- [6] Thomas Worley (12), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [7] Caroline Worley (12), daughter, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [8] Charles Worley (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [9] Emiley Harrold (14), general servant, born West Bromwich:

1881 Census

8, Western Street – WHY NOT INN

- [1] *Isaiah Worley* (60), beerhouse keeper, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Ann Worley (59), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Thomas Worley (21), son, striker, born Wednesbury;
- [4] Charles Worley (16), son, bucket maker, born Walsall;
- [5] Sidney Worley (2), grandson, born Walsall;
- [6] Annie Whitehouse (20), visitor, domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

No application was made for renewal of the license in 1883, the house had been demolished and works built on the site.

WINDMILL

43, (32), Bath Street / Orlando Street, (Prospect Row), (Prospect Place), (Windmill Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

John Abnett
John Holmes, Stafford Street, Walsall
Northampton Brewery Co. Ltd. [1890], [1900]
John Rogers [1904], [1915]
Frederick Smith Ltd. (acquired on 1st October 1937)
William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1958]

LICENSEES

Joseph Hickin [1834] – [1838]
Benjamin Abnett [1841] – 1869);
John Abnett (1869 – 1890);
Ann Abnett (1890);
James Limb-Hoskin (1890 – 1892);
Annie Elizabeth Hoskin (1892 – 1893);
John William Hayward (1893 – 1894);
Samuel Vale (1894 – 1899);
Thomas Goodall Fox (1899 – 1902);
Margaret Fox (1902);
William Jonathan Crane (1902 – 1904);
John Rogers (1904 – 1919);
Samuel Edwin Holmes (1919 – 1937);
Joseph Henry Mason (1937 – 1957);
James Fern (1957 – 1959);

NOTES

Windmill Street [1834], [1845]
Prospect Row [1851]
Prospect Place [1851]
32, Bath Street [1858], [1860], [1861], [1862], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872], [1873], [1881]
43, Bath Street [1891], [1896], [1903], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1932], [1939], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Hickin = Joseph Hicken

Joseph Hicken, retailer of beer, Windmill Street. [1835]

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/12/1838

“A numerous party (about 150) in the Reform Interest, assembled at Mr. *Hickin*’s, WINDMILL TAVERN, Walsall, on Monday last, where an excellent dinner and good wines were provided. T. F. Wood, Esq, presided; and Mr. J. Oakley was the Vice-president. Among the company were F. Finch, Esq, MP, the Mayor of Walsall, Mr. G. Wynn, of Wolverhampton, &c, &c. We understand that several speeches were delivered advocating the cause of reform; but wholly disapproving of the proposition recently put forth of resorting to physical force to obtain the contemplated objects. On it being observed that the establishment of a Mechanics Institute in the town would probably soon be submitted for consideration, Mr. Finch said he would subscribe £100 towards the accomplishment of such a measure.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 3/12/1843

“George Holden of Walsall, and Edward Martin, alias Whiteheaded Bob, of Darlaston, are matched to fight for £20, according to new rules, £4 a side were deposited on Tuesday last at Mr. *B. Abnett*’s, WINDMILL TAVERN, Walsall; a further deposit, of £3 a side, is to be put down on Tuesday next, at Mr. Thomas Butler’s, OLD CROWN, Darlaston; and the third and final deposit, of £3 a side, to be put down at Mr. *B. Abnett*’s, on Tuesday, the 12th inst. The fight to take place on the 19th inst, within 24 miles of Walsall. Holden not to exceed 8st 8lb, and Martin not to exceed 8st 7lb, on the morning of fighting.”

[The fight took place on 19th December, 1843, near the Tyburn Tree (Perry Barr), in Birmingham, in front of between three to four thousand people, it lasted 25 minutes (14 rounds) when George Holden knocked Whiteheaded Bob out.]

1851 Census

Prospect Place

- [1] *Benjamin Abnett* (41), victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Abnett (36), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *John Abnett* (16), son, apprentice, born Walsall;
- [4] Benjamin Abnett (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Jane Brodhurst (29), servant, born Walsall;
- [6] Thomas Grimby (39), lodger, commercial traveller in wines and spirits, born Banbury:

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/2/1852

“A ball took place at the house of Councillor *Abnett*, the WINDMILL TAVERN, on Thursday evening, the 20th ult, when upwards of 120 ‘friends of the dance’ met together to celebrate their annual meeting. Dancing commenced at about 8 o’clock, to some very resilient music of a Walsall quadrille band. The supper, which was a choice and abundant one, and the kind attention of Mr. and Mrs. *Abnett*, were deserving of all praise.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/6/1854

“George Stewart (under 13 years of age) will run Robinson (both of Walsall) five score yards, and give him two yards start for £5; or Taylor of the same place if he will give him four yards in the same distance and for the same sum; or Young Tonks of Welchfield on the same terms level. Either of the matches, or all, can be made by applying at Mr. *Abnett*’s, WINDMILL TAVERN, Walsall; first come first served.”

Walsall Free Press 17/1/1857

“An enquiry was held by the borough corner, on Wednesday last, at the house of Mr. *Abnett*, WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, on the body of a female infant, which had been found by the sexton, on the previous day, lying in the Chapel Burial-ground. Mr. D. S. Moore, surgeon, assisted by his brother, made a post-mortem examination of the body, when the latter gentleman identified it, by a protuberance on the back of the child, as the child of a married woman whom he had professionally attended on the previous Monday. He made some enquiries respecting it, and found his surmises were correct. The child had breathed, but died immediately after birth, and was given into the hands of a man lodging in the house to bury; but instead of doing this, he had dropped it over the wall of the burying ground. The mother of the child is named Elizabeth Harris, and resides at Price’s Lodging-house, Rushall Street. A verdict of Died by Natural Causes, was returned.”

1861 Census

32, Bath Street – WINDMILL TAVERN

- [1] *Benjamin Abnett* (51), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Sarah Abnett (47), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Benjamin Abnett (17), son, apprentice, born Walsall;
- [4] Eliza Upton (18), general servant, born Walsall:

Bell Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/9/1862

“Young George Holden takes a benefit on Monday, Sept 22, at Mr. *Abnett*’s, WINDMILL TAVERN, Walsall, when Bob Brettle had promised to attend, and show his belts and cups. Holden and Peter Morris will, as a finish, fight their battle again.”

Walsall Free Press 19/9/1863 - Notice

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers Friendly and Protection Society.

The Annual Dinner of the above Society will be held at Mr. Robert Leighton’s, the DRAGON INN, on Thursday, October 1st, 1836, when the Company of any Gentleman will be esteemed a favour.

Mr. Councillor Thomas Hazledine has kindly consented to take the Chair.

Mr. George Bayley, Vice Chairman.

Dinner on the Table at Four o’clock precisely.

Tickets 2s 6d each may be had from Mr. *Abnett*, WINDMILL TAVERN.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 30/1/1864

“W. Roundhead of Walsall will make a match with either W. Pool or his novice of the WINDMILL, near Walsall, for £15 or £25 a side. Articles can be signed any night next week at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/3/1869

At the Guildhall, Monday, the following transfers took place.....

WINDMILL TAVERN, Caldmore, from the executor of the late *Benjamin Abnett* to *John Abnett*.”

Walsall Free Press 22/5/1869

“Yesterday afternoon, A. A. Fletcher, Esq, Coroner for the Borough, held an inquest upon the body of George Garrington, aged 72, labourer. From the evidence, it appeared deceased – who has been in rather delicate health for some time – was at work at Field Gate turning a shaking machine about four o’clock on Thursday afternoon, when he dropped and exclaimed ‘The Lord have mercy upon me,’ and in a few minutes afterwards he expired. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

1871 Census

Bath Street – WINDMILL TAVERN

- [1] *John Abnett* (36), publican and carpenter, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ann Abnett* (37), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] Sarah Abnett (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Ann M. Abnett (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Samuel Abnett (3), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Emily Abnett (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] Emily Smith (19), general servant, born Potteries:

John Abnett was also a builder. [1872]

Walsall Free Press 26/4/1873 - Advert

“Numerous Lots Of Building Land, at Doveridge, Walsall.

Messrs. Farrington & Son, at Mr. *Abnett*'s Club Room, at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, on Tuesday, the 20th May, 1873, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/10/1873

“*John Abnett*, landlord of the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, was summoned for having infringed the Licensing Act. Mr. Glover, solicitor, to the Licensed Victuallers' Association defended.

On Wednesday night, at twelve o'clock, Sergeant Mason was passing the house, he heard some person laughing inside, and the landlord and Messrs. Joseph Beebee, Simms, Matthew Jennings, and James Whittall in the bar. Three glasses of brandy were on the table, and whilst he was there Mr. Penzer came in. The defendant told him that the persons in the house were friends of his, and that he had invited them to have a glass with him, and there had been a dispute about municipal matters.

Mr. Glover said he admitted the statement to be true, and therefore there would be no need to corroborate evidence. The facts of the case were that there had been a meeting of the Licensed Victuallers' Association in the house, and at eleven o'clock the house was closed. The gentlemen whose names had been given then waited upon defendant as a deputation from the association to request him to allow himself to be put forward as a candidate for St. George's Ward. He refused to do so however, and in return for their kindness asked them to take a glass at his expense.

The defendant and Mr. J. Beebee gave evidence bearing on the statement made by Mr. Glover, and the Bench dismissed the case, remarking that they thought the parties concerned were 'too old to be caught.' They were perfectly satisfied, however, Sergeant Mason had done quite right in bringing the matter before them, and in this Mr. Glover concurred.”

Walsall Free Press 6/12/1873

“Caldmore Association For The Prosecution Of Felons. On Thursday evening the anniversary of this association was held at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, where the members and their friends sat down to an excellent dinner, which was served in a style highly creditable to Mr. *Abnett* and his assistants. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. Bayliss, president of the association, who was supported on his right by Mr. R. W. Brownhill (Mayor), and on the left by Mr. Cotterell, solicitor of the association. The vice-chair was occupied by Mr. G. Wilkes, vice-president, who was supported by Mr. S. Mills, sen., treasurer, and Mr. Elkington, secretary of the association.....”

John Abnett was fined 20s and costs, on 18th March 1874, for Sunday trading.

Midland Counties Evening Express 1/2/1875

“*John Abnett*, landlord of the WINDMILL TAVERN, was fined £1 and costs, for permitting persons to be on his premises after 11 o'clock on the night of Thursday last.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/2/1877

“Walsall Liberal Association.

Last night a dinner, to inaugurate the St. George's Ward branch of the above named association, took place at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Walsall. Alderman E. T. Holden presided, Councillors E. Oerton and T. Evans occupying the vice-chairs.....”

Walsall Advertiser 20/12/1879 - Advert

“Ratepayer's Protection Society.

The Next Meeting of this Association, will be held at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, on Monday Next, at 8 o'clock. Ratepayers are earnestly requested to attend. The costs of membership is one shilling per annum.

By Order, H. M. Christie, Hon. Sec.”

Lichfield Mercury 26/11/1880

“Walsall Football Association.

A meeting of the above Association was held on Thursday the 18th inst, at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Walsall. The chief business of the meeting was to draw for the second ties in the Challenge Cup Competition, which have to be played off on or before the 1st of January, 1881. The draw resulted as follows: Walsall Alma v. Walsall Athletic; Fishley Rovers v. Walsall St. Paul's; Walsall

White Star v. Walsall Villa; Brownhills v. Walsall Swifts; Walsall St. Mary's v. Walsall Universal; Rushall Villa, a bye."

1881 Census

32, Bath Street

- [1] *John Abnett* (46), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Ann Abnett* (47), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] Sarah Abnett (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Ann Maria Abnett (16), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Nellie Abnett (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Lizzie Plant (22), general servant, born Darlaston:

Walsall Observer 9/5/1885

"A large and influential meeting of licensed victuallers and retail brewers was held on Thursday evening, at the WINDMILL TAVERN, to consider what steps the trade should take to enable them to meet the recent increases of duties on ales and spirits. Mr. *J. Abnett* presided.

A long and animated discussion ensued, during which the procedure of the Government was severely criticised. More especially was it remarked that when these increased burdens are laid upon the supposed luxuries of the working classes, the luxuries of the rich, in the shape of champagne and other wines, are let go free. It was eventually decided that, instead of either reducing the strength and quality of the spirits sold, they should be charged one halfpenny per glass extra, and also that no table beer should be sold at less than 2d per quart. This rise to take effect from Monday ensuing."

Walsall Advertiser 19/2/1889 - Advert

"Caldmore Cricket And Athletic Club require the services of a capable Man as Groundsman. Apply by letter before Wednesday next, Hon. Sec., WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street."

John Abnett was fined 40s and costs, on 13th September 1889, for keeping open on Sunday the 8th inst.

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1890

"Mr. *J. Abnett*, for many years president of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Association, died yesterday morning at his residence, the WINDMILL TAVERN, after a long and painful illness."

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1890

"Adjourned Licensing Sessions. The business from the annual licensing session last week took place at the Guildhall yesterday.... With regard to the WINDMILL TAVERN, which had been adjourned for information as to the proposed alterations. Mr. J. N. Cotterell produced plans, and offered Mr. Laurie, of the Northampton Brewery Company, and Mr. Wistance, builder, to show that the intention was not to increase the drinking accommodation but to make the house more convenient. The Chief Constable said there was not only an increase in the drinking accommodation, but a complete change in the character of the house. It had been one of the old-fashioned public-houses, but was being changed into nothing but a drinking vaults. Mr. Holden remarked that in other words it was being changed from an old-fashioned house, where a man could sit down and have a glass of beer, into what was known as a ginshop.

The Bench after a long deliberation in private....

Refused the application relating to the WINDMILL TAVERN."

Birmingham Daily Post 18/11/1890

"At the guildhall, yesterday – before Messrs. S. Russel (Mayor), J. Brewer, E. T. Holden, E. Bliss, and Captain Brookes – *James Morris*, of the NAGS HEAD INN, Upper Rushall Street, was summoned for having sold liquors during prohibited hours. Mr. Duignan (borough solicitor) appeared in support of the complaint, and Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. Cotterell) for the defence.

The evidence of Police-constables Curtis and Cattermole, and Police-sergeant Marshall, was to the effect that at twenty minutes past eleven on the night of the 28th October they saw a man named Thomas Aston standing outside the defendant's house, and saw the door open and some vessel handed out from which Aston drank. He handed it back, and on Marshall and Curtis looking in the doorway they saw two men named Jefferson and Hunt there, the former in the act of wiping his mouth with the back of his hand. Hunt gave them the name of Cleveland. The landlord told them that the men had been working for him in fighting for the removal of a club from the WINDMILL TAVERN, and that Jefferson had actually been fetched from a sick bed to vote on his behalf. They had called as they were taking Jefferson home, and he had given them a glass of whisky each.

Mr. Herbert said this was the literal truth, and after he had called witnesses the Bench dismissed the summons."

1891 Census

43, Bath Street – WINDMILL TAVERN

- [1] *James L. Hoskin* (32), public house manager, born Brampton, Derbyshire;
- [2] Annie E. Hoskin (27), wife, born Ironville, Derbyshire;
- [3] Flora Hoskin (1), daughter, born Normanton, Derbyshire;
- [4] Emma Brown (20), servant, born Ironville, Derbyshire:

Walsall Advertiser 13/1/1894

“On Tuesday afternoon last an inquest was held at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, on the body of William Henry Oldham (32), glass manufacturer, Mount Street.

Richard Sutton, schoolmaster, Pleck, said he knew the deceased, whose body they had just seen. He formerly lived in London, but for the last three months had lived with his mother in Wolverhampton Street and more lately in Mount Street. On Saturday evening he complained of his breath and died suddenly on Sunday morning in the presence of his mother, who was unable to be present at the inquest that afternoon. He died about four o'clock in the morning. His mother was under the impression that he had fainted, although she sent for the doctor.

Dr. Batcellor said he was called in on Sunday morning to attend deceased, and he went about five o'clock. He found him dead. Witness had made a post mortem examination of the body and found that the cause of death was syncope; the secondary cause was the compressed condition of the organs of the chest, and deformity.

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

AND

“An inquest was subsequently held at the WINDMILL TAVERN touching the death of Alfred Titley (40), of Newhall Street.

Kate Titley said that deceased was her husband, and they resided at the back of 22, Newhall Street. He suffered from a bad leg and difficulty in breathing. On Sunday night he appeared to be in his usual state of health, going to bed at 10.30. On Monday morning he got up about 6.30, but did not dress himself, and went to bandage his leg, and whilst doing so he fell. She went to him and found that he had ‘gone.’ He did not move at all or struggle. She afterwards sent for Dr. Riordan.

Dr. Riordan said that the last witness fetched him to see deceased on Monday morning about seven o'clock. He found him dead on the floor, lying on his back. His left hand rested on his heart, and he was stretched at full length. The glass of the lamp had been broken, and it lay by his side. He attributed death to syncope – failure of the heart's action.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Lichfield Mercury 21/8/1896

“Walsall Swifts Football and Athletic Club. A meeting of the committee of this newly-formed club was held under the chairmanship of Mr. B. Perry, jun., at the headquarters, the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street. It was decided to open the season on the West Bromwich Ground, on September 5th, with a match with Cannock Town. Fixtures were also arranged with Bloxwich Strollers, and negotiations are pending with other clubs. The colours decided on for the team were dark red shirt and blue knickers. Rules were drawn up, and other arrangements made for the inauguration of what is hoped will be a most successful season.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1898 - Advert

Caldmore Cricket & Athletic Club.

President: F. J. Zeller, Esq.

A General Meeting of the above will be held at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, on Wednesday Next, February 9th, at 8pm. All Vice-Presidents and others interested re requested to attend.

T. Poppleton. J. Jay, Hon. Secs.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/9/1898

“In the cases of Patrick Collins, showman, and *Samuel Vale*, of WINDMILL TAVERN, who were summoned for keeping certain places within the borough for the purpose of public music without a license, Mr. J. R. Cooper (town clerk) appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. J. N. Cotterell for the defence. An adjournment was taken to a date to be agreed upon.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/7/1899

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *Thomas George* [?] *Fox*, WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, Walsall, was elected a member of the society.”

Walsall Observer 30/6/1900

“A smoking concert for the benefit of Mr. Albert Hodson was held at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, on Monday last. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. S. McConville During the evening a donation to the benefit fund was given by the Northampton Brewery Company.....”

1901 Census

Bath Street – WINDMILL TAVERN

[1] *Thomas G. Fox* (39), licensed victualler, born Walsall;

[2] *Maggie Fox* (37), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Alice Martin* (24), domestic servant, born Manchester:

Walsall Advertiser 11/10/1902

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

Mr. *William Johnathon Crane*, WINDMILL INN, Bath Street, was elected aa member of the society.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/2/1905

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the Borough were held on Wednesday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. H. H. Jackson applied on behalf of Mr. *John Rogers*, owner and occupier of the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street. His client simply wanted to build a small brewery in his own yard, in order to carry on his trade in a better manner. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/12/1905

“At a meeting of the Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Association on Thursday night at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, Mr. J. Whitehead (president in the chair), it was unanimously agreed that it was desirable to ascertain the opinions and views of each of the parliamentary candidates, and the attitude they would adopt, in the event of their being elected to Parliament, on various important questions material to the licensed trade interests. A set of questions touching the subjects was agreed on and this it was decided should be sent to each of the candidates, respectfully requesting replies thereto as soon as convenient.....”

Walsall Advertiser 9/2/1907

“The general annual licensing sessions of the borough were held on Monday at the Guildhall.....

Mr. Jackson applied on behalf of Mr. *John Rogers*, owner and licensee, for approval of alterations to the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street. The alterations were small; simply to make a new bar to give the landlord better supervision of the three drinking rooms.

The Chief Constable said he had no objection. The alterations would be an improvement. Sanctioned.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/12/1907

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday week, at the house of Mr. *John Rogers*, WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street.....”

Walsall Advertiser 30/7/1910

“A successful benefit concert promoted by the Walsall branch of the National Federation of Hairdressers was held on Thursday evening at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, when Councillor Shelley occupied the chair. There was not a very large attendance, but the tickets have gone extremely well. The programme provided was an excellent one and much appreciated.....”

Walsall Advertiser 24/9/1910

“Bearing in mind the maxim that ‘every little helps,’ the members of the Loyal Caledonian Corks, decided to promote a concert in aid of the Friendly Societies stall at the forthcoming Hospital Bazaar. This was held on Monday night at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, when Bro. T. A. Wigley, lodge captain, was in the chair. Bros. H. Taylor (P.C.), J. D. Rattenberry (P.C.C.), and F. W. Wood (P.D.C.) were among those present. The first portion of the programme was given by Mr. Fred Guest, and Mr. Joe Toon, the former scoring a distinct success with his songs. He gave ‘On the Sands,’ ‘I do like to be beside the seaside,’ ‘Following on in father’s footsteps,’ and ‘A Soldier’s life.’ Mr. Toon ably accompanied and also rendered two excellent pianoforte solos, ‘Entry of the Gladiators,’ and ‘Marche Aux Fambreau.’ Messrs. Guest and Toon also gave a mandolin and pianoforte duet, ‘The Skipping Rope.’ The second portion of the programme was filled by Bro. H. Taylor, with a number of capital arrangements. Much credit is due to Bro. H. Taylor, who is the past captain and trustee of the lodge, for his work in connection with the affair, as he had the carrying out of all arrangements. Bro. Busst proposed and Bro. Wood seconded a vote of thanks to the chairman, whilst the artistes were thanked on the proposition of Bro. H. Taylor.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/11/1910

“The first whist drive of the season in connection with the Walsall Imperial Cycling Club was held on Tuesday evening, at the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street. There were 88 players and the duties of M.C. were ably carried out by Mr. W. J. Rattenberry, the evening proving a very enjoyable one. The prize-winners were: 1. marble clock, Mr. H. Lawton; 2. letter weight clock, Mr. T. Cox.”

1911 Census

Bath Street – WINDMILL TAVERN

- [1] *John Rogers* (45), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Florence Rogers (33), wife, married 5 years, born Walsall;
- [3] Ada Rogers (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Walsall;
- [4] Arthur Rogers (17), son, brewer, born Walsall;
- [5] James William Rogers (15), son, clerk, born Walsall;
- [6] John Rogers (13), son, school, born Walsall;
- [7] Edgar Rogers (10), son, school, born Walsall;
- [8] Edith Annie Rogers (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [9] Florence Rogers (2), daughter, born Walsall;
- [10] Eleanor Maund (22), sister in law, barmaid, born Walsall;
- [11] Gertrude Johnson (24), housemaid, born Brewood, Staffordshire:

Walsall Advertiser 6/4/1912

“We are requested to state that the Walsall Imperial Cycling Club have changed their headquarters from the WINDMILL TAVERN to the LITTLETON ARMS, Littleton Street. Their first run of the season is on Sunday next, when they will visit Lichfield, and if the weather is permitting an enjoyable time is expected. The Thursday team of the Imperial Cycling Club will pay a visit to

the Horns of Queslet on Thursday next.”

Walsall Advertiser 16/8/1913

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday at the house of Mr. *John Rogers*, WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street.....”

Walsall Observer 21/11/1914

“The following is a list of box collections to date made on behalf of the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund (Walsall Branch).....

WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, Walsall, 4s 4d.”

John Rogers also owned the GREEN MAN, George Street.

Birmingham Daily Post 12/6/1915 - Advert

“Sale Of Two Valuable Freehold Public-Houses.

Fox & Harrison, FAI, are favoured with instructions from Mr. *John Rogers* (who is retiring) to Offer for Sale by Public Auction, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, June 29, 1915, at Seven o’clock in the Evening.....

Lot 3. The Highly important, Old-established, and Well-known Home-Brewing Freehold Full-Licensed Public-House, known as the WINDMILL TAVERN, occupying a commanding position in Bath Street, Caldmore, and situate at the junction of Orlando Street, all busy thoroughfares in the main suburb of Walsall.

Together with the Substantially-erected Four-Storey Brewery.

This property was purchased about eleven years ago by Mr. *Rogers*, who has very materially improved and renovated the same, and added the substantially-built four-storey Brewery to deal with the increasing trade, and the whole of the Premises now are admirably adapted for the purpose.

The Bar, situate in the centre of all the licensed rooms, gives unusual facilities for quick service, at a minimum of labour, and in addition, affords easy supervision of the whole of the house.

This Inn is situated in one of the healthiest parts of the borough, and it is in close proximity to several large hardware and leather goods manufactories.

A very extensive, Lucrative high-class trade is carried on, and the House is noted throughout the district for the excellency of its fine Home-brewed ales.

The Premises are in perfect repair, both internally and externally.

It will be offered Entirely Free from any Trading Tie whatever, and Possession can be had on Completion of Purchase.

The Valuable Goodwill of the Old-Established Business as a Going Concern is Included in the Sale.”

[The other public-house in this auction is the ORIGINAL GREEN MAN, George Street.]

Walsall Observer 2/9/1916 - Advert

“Brewer, ineligible, Wanted.

Apply WIND MILL TAVERN, Bath Street. Walsall.”

Walsall Observer 8/9/1917 - Roll of Honour

“Private Arthur *Rogers* of the South Staffords, who returned to the firing line after ten days’ leave on August 6, is now reported by a chaplain to have been killed in action in France on August 25. Son of Mr. *John Rogers*, of the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, he was an Old Boy of Queen Mary’s School and prior to his enlistment in November 1915, he was employed by his father as manager of the Windmill Brewery. Single, and 23 years of age, he had been on active service in France since April, 1916. Two younger brothers are serving – James W. *Rogers*, of the M.T., A.S.C., has been in France since July 1915, and *John Rogers* is in the signal section of the Royal Engineers.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street. £0 16s 11d.”

Samuel E. Holmes, Windmill Brewery.

He was fined 20s and costs, on 16th January 1920, for selling gin above the maximum price.

It ceased brewing c.1937.

1939 Register

43, Bath Street (3 of 5)

[1] *Joseph H. Mason*, date of birth 27/4/1900, licensee, manager, married;

[2] *Elizabeth Mason*, dob 7/10/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Sheila (Mason) James*, dob 7/11/1926, at school, single;

Walsall Observer 21/9/1940

“At the WINDMILL TAVERN, in Orland Street, coins in aid of the war efforts have been donated to fill the mirror, as shown.”

[Walsall Observer 7/12/1940](#)

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society.

Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District branch of the British Red Cross Society.

First List of Subscriptions.....

WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, £7 7s 0d.”

[Walsall Observer 16/8/1941 - Notice](#)

“Motor Ambulance Effort on behalf of Walsall and District Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Third List Of Subscriptions.....

WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street (Second donation). £3 3s 0d.”

[Walsall Observer 29/8/1942](#)

“County Borough of Walsall. Mayor’s War Aid Fund. Nineteenth List of Subscriptions.....

Mr. *Mason*, WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street. £1 14s 2d.”

[Walsall Observer 24/12/1942](#)

“Walsall Licensed Victuallers’ Society. The Duke of Gloucester’s Red Cross Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street. £2 10s 0d.”

[Walsall Observer 11/12/1943](#)

“After Walsall magistrates (Judge A. C. Caporn, Mr. S. A. Eglington and Mrs. Walters) had sat for several hours hearing summonses resulting from police observation on the WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street, on a number of occasions and a raid on November 20, the case for the prosecution only was concluded, and as alternative to a late sitting, the proceedings were adjourned for a fortnight to enable the defence to be presented.

Sidney John Cassidy, (41), general dealer, 220, Sandwell Street, and Ellen Copeley (40), railway porter, were summoned for using the licensed premises for the purpose of betting with persons resorting thereto between October 28, and November 20, and James Morgan and Mary Morgan, 38, Newhall Street, for aiding and abetting Copeley. *Joseph Henry Mason*, the licensee, was summoned for suffering the premises to be used so, and for permitting card playing for money, and Morgan was further summoned for aiding and abetting on the commission of the alleged former offence, and Edward Tolley, 51, New Mills Street, James Mayo, 17, Newhall Street, Patrick Jennings, 41, Pattison Street, and William Davis, 78 Fullbrook Road, for aiding and abetting him in regard to the alleged card playing. Mr. Walter T. Isaac conducted the prosecution, and Mr. Frank Cooper appeared for *Mason* and Mr. C. L. Hodgkinson for the other defendant, all of whom together with the licensee pleaded not guilty.

Police-constable Barley spoke to visiting the bar of the public house in plain clothes shortly after mid-day on Saturdays October 16, 23, and 30 and November 6, 13, and 20, and seeing men playing solo for money, and betting slips, football coupons and money handed to *Mason*. Cassidy was on the premises on each occasion. On October 16, a man sitting by him showed him a slip on which was written ‘3.30pm Mad Carew 2s e.w. J.F.’, and a woman also at the same table filled in a slip ‘Smithereens 4d win. Colorama, 4d 1,2,3,4, D.’ On October 23, Copeley entered the bar and Morgan handed to her football coupons and money he had collected from men in the bar, who had filled in the coupons on the premises.

On October 30, one of three women who entered the bar and handed a small bundle of football coupons, together with money, to *Mason*, who took them towards the saloon bar. Later a man in the bar asked, ‘Is Cassidy still there?’, and receiving a reply in the affirmative asked for some coupons. He received four of them and handed two of them to a woman. Both filled in coupons and the man handed his coupon and some money to the woman, who went towards the saloon bar.....

[There is a lot more of similar testimony along these lines, and of card playing.].....

In the course of a lengthy cross-examination, Mr. Hodgkinson asked Police-constable Barley about his recognition of football coupons, and he replied, ‘I have seen so much of them that it is almost impossible not to identify them at a reasonable distance.’ Mr. Cooper in his cross-examination, remarked, ‘It was not until six weeks afterwards that the licensee was asked to cast his mind back to what happened on a particular day – he is in a most tragic position.’

In reply to a further question by Mr. Cooper, Police-constable Barley said he did not know that *Mason* was the treasurer of a club which was carried on at the premises and that men and women were in the habit of paying their contributions on a Saturday morning.

Police War Reserve Spark, who went into the saloon bar of the public house on November 6, said he saw a man start to fill in a football coupon and *Mason* appeared to be assisting him. Afterwards the man and Cassidy walked away and returned in a few minutes.

The raid on the premises on November 20, was described by Inspector Brumhill, who went there with Police-sergeant Morris, Police-constable Williams and Banks and Police-women Wheatley and Dolloway. He said he searched *Mason* but found nothing on him relating to gaming or betting. In the saloon bar, Cassidy handed to Police-constable Williams a sealed envelope and nine football coupons and said, ‘It is all right, I admit it. I have not taken them here.’ Copeley, who was in the public bar, was found to be in possession of football coupons and betting slips relating to dog racing at Wolverhampton and Perry Barr and horse racing at Leopardstown, and £4 19s 6d.

Nothing relating to gaming or betting was found on the licensed part of the premises, and *Mason*, on being informed that Cassidy and Copeley had been arrested with betting slips in their possession and that proceedings might be taken against him, replied, ‘I don’t allow anyone to take bets while I am about and I leave instructions for no betting to go on while I am out.’ With regard to the alleged gaming with cards, *Mason* said, ‘They don’t play for money. If a man played another man for half a pint you cannot stop him.’ On the following Tuesday he saw Morgan, who stated that he had never had a bet in the WINDMILL.

Police-constable Williams stated that Cassidy at first denied he was in possession of anything relating to betting. At the Police office there were found on him, £123 10s in notes, besides other money, two betting slips, and 45 blank football coupons. In the sealed envelope, which Cassidy opened, there were twelve football coupons filled in, three betting slips relating to greyhound racing at Wolverhampton, a 10s note, and a number of silver coins. On the following Tuesday he saw Mrs. Morgan, who said she took a coupon to the WINDMILL to give to Cassidy or Copeley.

Police-woman Dolloway said Mrs. Morgan, who was in the bar when the raid was made, had a coupon in her purse.

In Mrs. Copeley's right-hand overall pocket, Police-constable Wheatley stated she found a white linen bag containing slips and money.

The hearing was adjourned for a fortnight."

[At the adjourned hearing, the case against *Joseph Mason*, the licensee, was dismissed. James Cassidy, who had a previous conviction for gambling, was found guilty and fined £25 for using licensed premises for betting. Ellen Copeley was fined £5 for aiding abetting Cassidy. James Morgan was fined £5 for aiding and abetting Copeley. The case against Mary Morgan was struck out. The case against the card players was dismissed.]

Walsall Observer 15/1/1944

"Walsall Licensed Victuallers' Society.

Appeal on Behalf of the Merchant Navy Fund, The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund and the Aid to China Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

WINDMILL TAVERN, Bath Street. £2 5s 0d."

Walsall Observer 7/7/1945

"The Pleck and District Darts league is headed by the FORGE INN 'A' who have won all their seven matches. The next three positions are filled by the NEWPORT ARMS, HOPE AND ANCHOR 'A' and ROYAL OAK, Caldmore, with 12 points each, then come the DUKE OF WELLINGTON and ROYAL OAK, Pleck. Highest score and highest finish, 146, J. Bullock, HOPE AND ANCHOR 'B'; highest start, 140, S. Hogan, WINDMILL TAVERN."

It closed in April 1959.

The license was transferred to the EAGLE, Bloxwich.

WISEMORE TAVERN

87, Wisemore / Hateleys Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

Edward Newey [1871]

Joseph Newey

John Newey, buckle maker, Upper Walhouse Street, Walsall

E. Hartop

Thomas Stanley

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Newey [1841] – [1865]

William Newey [1865] – [1870]

Edward Newey [] – **1870**;

Thomas Wright (**1870** – [1873];

Joseph Newey [1876] – [1880];

Thomas Stanley [1881] – **1893**;

Edward John Spink (**1893** – **1898**);

William Challinor (**1898** – **1925**);

NOTES

Edward Newey married Fanny James.

1841 Census

Wisemore

- [1] *Edward Newey* (35), buckle maker and victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Fanny Newey* (35), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Mary Newey* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Joseph Newey* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Edward Newey* (13), born Staffordshire;
- [6] *William Newey* (11), born Staffordshire;
- [7] *Fanny Newey* (5), born Staffordshire;
- [8] *William Smith* (15);
- [9] *John Shaw* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [10] *Joseph Horton* (12), born Staffordshire:

Edward Newey was also a manufacturer of fine tinned roller and polished barred buckles. [1845]

Walsall Free Press 9/7/1859 - Advert

“Notice! The Public are respectfully informed that a Yearly Society will re-commence on Monday, July 18th, 1859, at Mr. *E. Newey*’s, the WISEMORE TAVERN.
The above Society is about 40 members strong, with a fund of £80. Young men wishing to become members may apply as above. Entrance and Dinner, 2s 6d. Dinner on the table at two o’clock.
N.B. Would not object to join another Society with about the same number of members and amount of money.”

Walsall Free Press 6/10/1860 - Advert

“Notice.
The Members of the Sick Club held at Mr. *Edward Newey*’s, WISEMORE TAVERN, Wisemore Lane, with a fund of £80, wish to admit a number of new members, from twenty to forty years of age. Admission Free.
N.B. Club night on Monday next, October 1st, 1860, at Eight o’clock.”

Walsall Free Press 13/10/1860 - Advert

“To Be Let, a House in New Street, lately occupied as a huckster’s shop, with a Small Shop at the back, suitable for any light trade, the rent can be taken out in work.
Apply to *E. Newey*, WISEMORE TAVERN, Wisemore.”

Edward Newey was described as being also a roller buckle manufacturer. [1861]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/4/1861

“On Friday last, and inquest was held at the WISEMORE TAVERN, before A. A. Fletcher, Esq, coroner, touching the death of *William Cartlidge*, a boy between two and three years of age, who was run over on Wednesday evening last, about seven o’clock, in the Wisemore, by a horse and cart driven by *Thomas Hickman*, a man in the employ of Mr. *Joseph Whitehouse*, wine merchant, and for whom Mr. *Elseworth* appeared. It was shown that the driver did not see the child before the accident happened, and that at the time he was sober and driving at a steady pace. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1861 Census

87, Wisemore

- [1] *Edward Newey* (57), buckle maker, born Walsall;
- [2] *Fanny Newey* (56), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Samuel Newey* (16), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Henry Evans* (16), apprentice buckle maker, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Joseph Tibbles* (17), apprentice buckle maker, born Hinckley, Leicestershire:

Walsall Free Press 11/1/1862

“On Monday last the British Oak Benefit Society held their anniversary at Mr. *Edward Newey*’s, the WISEMORE TAVERN. The secretary (Mr. *Kendrick*) read the report, which showed the society to be in a flourishing condition; and that, after a dividend to each eligible member of 16s 4d, there was left in the bank something over £100. The dinner was served up in true English style, and reflected much credit upon the host and hostess. After the cloth had been drawn the president (Mr. *G. Ray*) proposed the health of ‘The Queen’, which was drunk most enthusiastically. Mr. *Newey* gave ‘The Prince of Wales and the remaining branches of the Royal Family’, after which, ‘The Army and Navy’, ‘The Mayor and Corporation’, and other loyal and patriotic toasts followed, all of which were heartily responded to.”

Edward Newey was described as being also a buckle maker. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 4/11/1865

“*William Newey*, WISEMORE TAVERN, was charged with having, on Wednesday night, assaulted *Matthew Beebee*, for whom Mr. *Glover* appeared. The facts of the case seemed to be as follow. On the night in question, the complainant went to the defendant’s house, and was asked by some parties present to take a hand at cards. Both he and his son played. Complainant’s son lost, and asked his father for some money, which the latter refused to give, and, thereupon, the defendant struck complainant.

The Bench reprimanded the complainant for allowing his son to play cards at a public house, and sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 5s and costs.”

AND

“*William Newey*, landlord of the WISEMORE TAVERN, pleaded guilty to permitting card playing on his premises, and was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 23/12/1865 - Advert

“A Friendly Tea Party will take place at Mr. *W. Newey*’s, the WISEMORE TAVERN INN, Wisemore, Walsall, on Wednesday, December 27th, 1865.

Tickets 1s each. Music Included. Tea on the Table at Five o’clock.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/10/1866

“*William Newey*, landlord of the WISEMORE TAVERN, was fined 2s 6d and costs for having had his house open during prohibited hours, namely, at 1.40am on Wednesday last.”

Walsall Free Press 20/7/1867 - Advert

“That Old Established £5 Money Club which has for so many years been conducted to the entire satisfaction of the members, will re-commence on the 13th of August next.

Parties wishing to be Enrolled should apply immediately to Mr. *W. Newey*, WISEMORE TAVERN.”

Walsall Free Press 21/12/1867

“John Shenton was charged with having, on Saturday night last, assaulted *William Newey*, landlord of the WISEMORE TAVERN. From the complainant’s evidence it appeared that, on the night in question, he heard a noise in the street opposite his house, and, on going to the door, saw three men fighting. One of the men ran into complainant’s house for shelter, and was pursued by the other two – one of whom was the defendant. The pursuers rushed into the house, and exclaimed, ‘Where is he?’ and thereupon they attempted to rush into the parlour where the first man was. Complainant said to them, ‘You can’t go in there’, and, on his saying so, defendant struck complainant under the ear.

Mrs. *Newey* having corroborated her husband’s evidence, the defendant called a witness, named Lydia Smith, a married woman, who said as she was going through the Wisemore she was assaulted by a man, who ran into the complainant’s house, and her husband and the defendant went into the house to get the man’s name, in order to procure a summons for him; and when they got inside, the defendant was assaulted by the complainant and his brother.

The Bench, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of £1 and costs; or, in default, to be imprisoned for 21 days.

Thomas Smith was charged with having, at the same time and place, assaulted Edward *Newey*, father of the complainant in the previous case. It appeared that as the defendant was passing from the parlour to the kitchen, the defendant struck the complainant on the side of the head with a ‘knuckle-duster’.

Mrs. *Newey* corroborated her husband’s statement, and added that defendant’s father had been to make the case up.

Mrs. Bradley said she saw the defendant strike the complainant.

Defendant, who denied the charge, called a witness, named James Scott, who said that he stood with the defendant all the time, and never saw the defendant go near the door. As this statement was directly the opposite of what the defendant had stated, and which was to the effect that he went to the door to pull a man out who had assaulted his mother, the Bench sentenced the defendant to pay a fine of 20s and costs; or, in default, to be imprisoned for 21 days.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 15/2/1868 - Deaths

“On the 3rd inst, at the WISEMORE TAVERN, Walsall, aged 63 years, Fanny, the beloved wife of *Edward Newey*, and daughter of the late Mrs. W. James, of the TURF TAVERN.”

Edward Newey married his second wife, Sarah, in 1868.

He was the father of *William* and *Joseph*.

Walsall Free Press 6/3/1869 - Advert

“Wanted, a strong Servant Girl, from 18 to 20, one used to a Public House preferred.

Apply, Mr. *Newey*, WISEMORE TAVERN, Wisemore.”

London Gazette 10/12/1869

“*Joseph Newey*, lodging at No.11, Upper Littleton-street, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Buckle Maker, previously thereto of the WISEMORE TAVERN, Hateley’s-lane, Wisemore, Walsall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Buckle Maker, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall, on the 8th of December, 1869, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 24th day of December instant, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely, at the Court-house, Lichfield-street, Walsall. Mr. F. F. Clarke, of Walsall, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. John Glover, of Walsall, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Fanny *Newey* (daughter of *Joseph Newey*, buckle maker), 24, spinster, married *Thomas Stanley*, 23, bachelor, stock taker, on 29th

May 1871.

1871 Census

87, Wisemore – WISEMORE TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Wright* (42), key maker and publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] Jane Wright (37), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] John Wright (11), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Harriet Wright (9), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] Sarah Wright (7), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] John Wisdom (20), son in law, currier, born Birmingham;
- [7] Mary Ann Wisdom (18), daughter, born Walsall;
- [8] Thomas Wisdom (1), grandson, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 30/8/1873

“William Lawton was charged with having been drunk and refused to leave the WISEMORE TAVERN when requested to do so. PC Kiteley and Mr. *Wright*, the owner of the house, proved the charge. Defendant, who expressed regret for what had occurred, was sentenced to pay a fine of 1s and costs.”

Walsall Free Press 6/9/1873

“Yesterday afternoon A. A. Fletcher, coroner for the borough, held an inquest at the WISEMORE TAVERN upon the body of Daniel Watkins, aged 34, a maltster, who resided at 32, Duncalf Street. Deceased had been for some time an out-patient at the Cottage Hospital, and on Wednesday he was taken suddenly ill, and expired after about half-an-hour’s illness. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

Walsall Free Press 1/11/1873

“Municipal Election. The Bridge Ward.....

On Wednesday evening a meeting of Mr. Groves’ friends was held at the WISEMORE TAVERN.....”

Joseph Newey died on 18th January 1881.

1881 Census

87, Wisemore

- [1] *Thomas Stanley* (33), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Fanny Stanley (33), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph E. Stanley (9), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Thomas H. Stanley (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] William G. Stanley (3), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Sidney Stanley (1), son, born Walsall;
- [7] Mary A Newey (19), sister, born Walsall;
- [8] Rachel Savage (28), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Evening Express 28/12/1881

“An inquest was held at the WISEMORE TAVERN, Wisemore, on Tuesday forenoon, before A. A. Fletcher, borough coroner, touching the death of John Brown, lately residing at Albert Street, Walsall.

The deceased, though able to attend to business, had been unwell for some months past, and at ten o’clock last Saturday night, after he returned from Birmingham, he was seized with a fit, and expired before medical aid could be procured.

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

Walsall Advertiser 1/4/1890 - Advert

“Wanted, at once, a good General Servant.

Apply, Mrs. *Stanley*, WISEMORE TAVERN, Walsall.”

Thomas Stanley was fined 10s and costs, on 9th February 1891, for permitting drunkenness.

1891 Census

87, Wisemore – WISEMORE TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Stanley* (43), publican WISEMORE TAVERN, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Fanny Stanley (43), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Joseph Edward Stanley (19), son, plater, born Walsall;
- [4] Thomas Henry Stanley (17), son, book binder, born Walsall;
- [5] William George Stanley (13), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Sidney Stanley (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Alice Maud Stanley (9), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [8] Minnie Stanley (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;

- [9] Mary Ann Stanley (5), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[10] Fanny Stanley (2), daughter, born Walsall;
[11] Sarah Ann Birks (22), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 6/2/1892 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction by Messrs. Watkins & Powell, at the STORK HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, February 16th, 1892, at 7 o’clock in the evening precisely (subject to conditions incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society).

The Valuable Old Licensed Premises known as the WISEMORE TAVERN, situate at the corner of Wisemore and Hateley’s Lane, Walsall, occupied by Mr. *Thomas Stanley* at an estimated annual rental of £50.

The House contains Smoke Room, Tap Room, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Large Club Room, 2 Cellars and Brewhouse. There is an enclosed yard and a range of Two-Storey Shopping at the rear.

The land is Freehold and contains an area of 300 square yards or thereabouts.

There is a good supply of water.

The property which is a corner one is admirably situate, and possesses every facility for business. There is a good trade attached to the house.

A large portion of the purchase money may, if required, remain on mortgage.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneers, or to Messrs. Stanley & Jackson, Solicitors, all of Bridge Street, Walsall.”

It was again put up for sale by auction on 20th December 1892.

Birmingham Daily Post 13/1/1893

“Bankruptcy Proceedings. Re *Thomas Stanley*, WISEMORE TAVERN, Wisemore, Walsall.

The public examination of this debtor took place at the Walsall Bankruptcy Court yesterday, before Mr. Registrar Clarke; Mr. E. Evans appearing on the debtor’s behalf.

The financial statement showed a deficiency of £270 15s on liabilities amounting to £277 15s 10d. The bankrupt was originally an iron worker, but in 1881 he succeeded to the WISEMORE TAVERN, which had been carried on by his father-in-law, Mr. *Joseph Newey*. The bankrupt’s wife and her mortgagees sold the property in February last for £1,000, and a deposit of £100 was paid, but the sale had not been completed. In May, 1888, the bankrupt became surety for £100 for a Mr. Thomas Hall, who had not paid the money, and the bankrupt having been served with a writ for £122 for the debt and interest, he had filed his petition. He assigned this suretyship, with bad trade and the expenses of a large family, as the causes of his insolvency.

The examination was adjourned till the 30th inst.”

Walsall Advertiser 18/2/1893

“The Town Clerk has been instructed to negotiate for the purchase of about nine square yards of land, fronting WISEMORE TAVERN, for the purpose of widening the roadway in Wisemore.”

Walsall Advertiser 14/11/1896

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday last....

Mr. *Edward J. Spink*, WISEMORE TAVERN was elected a member as from 1st January, 1897.”

William Challinor = William Challoner

1901 Census

87, Wisemore – Public House

- [1] *William Challinor* (23), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
[2] Sarah Challinor (29), wife, born Darlaston;
[3] William Challinor (7), son, born Wednesbury;
[4] Miriam Challinor (6), daughter, born Wednesbury;
[5] Alice Griffiths (20), domestic servant, born Dudley Port:

A team from here took part in the Walsall and District Air-Gun League. [1903/4]

Walsall Advertiser 28/4/1906

“Michael Deegan, 90, Green Lane, a tailor above middle age, whose left eye bore traces of having met something hard, was summoned for assaulting John Henry Davies, a much younger man, of 73a, Wisemore, whose head was in bandages.

Complainant said that about 9 o’clock on the night of the 17th ult, he was standing in the WISEMORE TAVERN talking to a few friends, when he felt a severe blow on the side of the head, and fell. He did not see who did it, but was told it was Deegan. He had a large cut across the cheek bone, with seven or eight stitches in it.

Charles Henry Rutter spoke to seeing defendant deal the blow with a jug.

Defendant admitted the charge, but pleaded provocation. He said they had some drink in the afternoon, when Davies struck him a blow which closed his left eye, and marks of which he now had. He was very sorry, and had never lifted a weapon to anyone before.

Complainant, in answer to the Bench, said they did fight in the afternoon, but he could not say whether he 'blackened defendant's eye'.

Mr. Moseley told defendant that the quarrel in the afternoon was no justification for striking complainant with a jug. He would be fined £1 and costs, or 21 days."

Walsall Advertiser 18/7/1908

"Mary Bratt (32), married woman, 4 court, Wisemore, was charged with wilfully breaking a pane of glass at the WISEMORE TAVERN, on July 14th, doing damage to the extent of 3s.

Wm. Challinor (landlord) stated that prisoner went to the house about 3.30, when her husband was there and quite sober. He went out and returned later, and immediately afterwards he heard a smashing of glass. There was a large hole in the pane, and half a brick lying by. Prisoner, who was drunk, was just walking away when he went to the door. In answer to prisoner, witness admitted that he told prisoner her husband was not there, but he did not know that he was.

Detective Burrell, who arrested prisoner, said that she told him she broke the window because her husband had assaulted her. She was the worse for drink.

Prisoner promised to keep away from the drink, and was put on her good behaviour for three months."

1911 Census

87, Wisemore

[1] *William Challinor* (43), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;

[2] Sarah Ann Challinor (38), wife, married 18 years, born Darlaston;

[3] William Challinor (17), son, lathe worker fitting shop, born Wednesbury;

[4] Miriam Challinor (16), daughter, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Observer 15/8/1914

"Harry Tonks (45), carter, of 15 court, Lower Rushall Street, was charged with stealing a quantity of corks, value 27s, the property of Percy Claridge, coal merchant, of 60, Wednesbury Road, on July 27th.

Prosecutor stated that he employed accused for a day and a half to do whitewashing, and afterwards missed the corks, which were in a bag, from the stable. They were worth 7s 6d a gross.

In reply to accused, who said he was very sorry he took them, prosecutor admitted that all the corks had been recovered.

William Challoner, landlord of the WISEMORE TAVERN, deposed to giving Tonks 9d and a drink for some corks on July 30th.

Accused now said he had been out of work 22 weeks and wanted to get some bread for the children.

The Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton): No, no; drink you mean.

Detective Ayres stated that from information given by the prisoner he recovered a quantity of corks from an ashpit in Lower Rushall Street. When arrested and charged, Tonks replied, 'Them are all I had.'

Prisoner now said he took the corks on the impulse of the moment and that he had been trying to get any sort of work.

Prosecutor, recalled, however, said that he could have employed the man for a week, but he went off when he had his money for two days' work.

A fine of 10s (the costs being remitted) was imposed."

Walsall Observer 9/10/1915

"At the Guildhall on Monday morning, a filer named Samuel Taylor (39), of 6, back of 30, Wisemore, was charged with stealing a bag containing 30s, the property of Frederick Dale, of Pargeter Street, on Saturday.

Prosecutor stated that he was a mineral salesman, and he had the bag, containing then £2 6s 6d, in his trouser pocket at 3.30 when he delivered some mineral waters at the WISEMORE TAVERN. Half an hour later he missed it, and returned to the WISEMORE TAVERN to make enquiries.

Timothy Hawkins, Hateley's Lane, stated that he was serving in the bar at the WISEMORE TAVERN on Saturday afternoon when the prosecutor called. When he returned and complained that he had lost a bag containing money, witness told him that he had picked it up and that it had been claimed by accused. Witness said he had no time to see whether it contained money, as Taylor at once snatched it from him.

Police-constable Wright stated that the matter was reported to him at 4.55, and as a result of inquiries he arrested Taylor. At first he strongly denied that he knew anything about the bag of money, but at the charge office he admitted having 5s of the money. On searching him he found £1 11s 10½d in his possession, and accused then said he had 16s. When formally charged with stealing the bag and 30s, he replied, 'It can't be done'.

Accused now handed to the Bench a written statement, in which he asserted that he had been working hard throughout the week at Craddock's, Wisemore, and that he had no beer till Saturday. He then had too much, and it got over him. He saw the leather bag lying on the floor and picked it up, 'little thinking what was in it'. He had no intention of keeping the money, however, because he was getting good wages every week. Before he had time to return it, however, a policeman was fetched. He was willing to return the money, because he 'would rather give a man a shilling than take one off him. I have never been a thief,' the statement continued, 'and I hope I never shall be through a silly thing like this. I think I will leave the beer alone in future. It is the beer that makes a man do things he should not do.'

The Bench imposed a fine of 20s, with the alternative of 21 days' imprisonment, allowing Taylor time to pay the money. On the application of the Chief Constable, the magistrates also ordered that £1 11s 10½d found in the Taylor's possession should be handed over to the prosecutor."

Walsall Observer 19/10/1918 - Advert

“Wednesday and Thursday Next, 23rd and 24th, October, 1918.

Under instruction from Messrs. W. Butler & Co., Ltd., Springfield Brewery, Wolverhampton, Leonard C. Philpot will Sell by Auction the Brewing Plants and Utensils at the following Licensed House, viz.:

EAGLE INN, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall.

FOUNTAIN INN, Bott Lane, Walsall.

WALSALL ARMS, Bank Street, Walsall.

WISEMORE TAVERN, Wismore, Walsall.

PHEASANT INN, Windmill Street, Walsall.

Comprising 11 Steel and Iron Boilers, various sizes from 100 to 250 gallons, 7 large Oak Mash Tuns, 6 Mash Rules, Malt, Shovels, Copper, Lead and Iron Piping, Brass and other taps, Wooden Platforms, 6 large Cooling Vats, 6 Copper Refrigerators (by Potterton and Keyte), 6 Troughs, 2 Copper Sparges, 2 Copper Attemperators, 6 Hop Backs, 50 casks (various sizes from 36 to 120 gallons), 8 Barm Tubs, 6 Large Fermenting Vats, 2 Underbacks, Rotary Pump and Piping, 2 Avery's Weighing Machines (4cwt and 3cwt), Pulley Rope, and Sundry Utensils.

Order Of Sale

Wednesday, October 23rd

EAGLE INN, 10.30 prompt.

FOUNTAIN INN, 12 prompt.

WALSALL ARMS, 1.30 prompt.

Thursday, October 24th

WISEMORE TAVERN, 10.30 prompt.

PHEASANT INN, 12 prompt.

On View, 9 o'clock, Morning of Sale. No catalogues.

Further particulars from the Auction and Valuation Offices, Midland Bank Chambers, The Bridge, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst, the justices referred the following houses for compensation.....

WISEMORE TAVERN, Wismore.”

It closed on 31st October 1925.

Demolished

WOODMAN

109, Blue Lane West, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Ann Fairfield, Mount Street, Walsall

City Brewery Co.

Mr. Jones, Stafford

Philip Perry

Holdings Brewery Ltd [1912]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 30th September 1919)

LICENSEES

William Turner [1858]

J Perry [1860]

Thomas Pickering [1864] – [1865]

Mrs. Eliza Cook [1866]

James Oran [1872];

John Henry Whitworth [1874] ?

Benjamin Russell [];

Samuel Hutchinson [];

Albert Knight [];

James Aldritt Flynn []

Charles William Pearson [1881]

Mrs. Mary Cope [];

Hannah (Taylor) Edginson [];

Thomas Edginson [];
John Perry [1891] – 189_);
Edward Darby (189_ – 1892);
John Darby (1892 – 1894);
Richard Shelley (1894 – 1898);
William Ringwood [1897] temporary license
Joseph Michael Conniffe (1898 – 1900);
Philip Perry (1900 – 1912);
Bernard Broadhurst Perry (1912 – 1913);
George Place (1913 – 1916);
George Stanley (1916 – 1922):

NOTES

It was originally the BLACK SWAN. [1858], [1860], [1862], [1868], [1872], [1874], [1875], [1881], [1891]

WOODMAN. [1909], [1911], [1918]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

William Turner, beerhouse, 109, Blue Lane. [1858]

London Gazette 10/8/1858

“Whereas a Petition of *William Turner*, of the BLACK SWAN, Blue-lane, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Brewer and Retailer of Beer, and also employed as a Machine Man at the Hatherton Iron and Coal Works, near Bloxwich, in the said county of Stafford, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Walsall, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *William Turner*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *William Turner* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 26th day of August instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes, and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *William Turner*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same, but to Mr. Frederic Fuhrmann Clarke, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at Walsall, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/4/1860

“J. Tomkinson of Walsall will run E. Casey of Birmingham 100 yards, and give him a yard start, or Waylock of the same place the like distance level, or Cradock of Walsall 100 yards if he will give him two yards start, or P. Martin of Westbromwich 100 yards level. Either of these matches can be made for £5 or £10 a side, at Mr. *J. Perry’s*, the BLACK SWAN, Blue Lane, Walsall, at any time.”

Walsall Free Press 1/3/1862 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that well accustomed Beer House, known as the BLACK SWAN, Blue Lane. For further particulars apply on the premises.”

Thomas Pickering, beer retailer, 109, Blue Lane West. [1864], [1865]

Walsall Free Press 3/2/1866

“Mrs. *Eliza Cook*, BLACK SWAN, Blue Lane, was charged with a similar offence [permitting drinking in prohibited hours], committed on the 29th ult, and was fined 2s and costs, as it was her first offence.”

Walsall Free Press 22/2/1868 - Advert

“To Be Let or Sold.

To Be Let. The public-house known as the BLACK SWAN, Blue Lane, comprising bar, front and back tap-rooms, cellar, club-room, two chambers, large attic, brewhouse with large soft water cistern, entire yard, pump of hard water, and shopping for 4 or 5 hearths. No fixtures to take to; or the above to be Sold by Private contract, with Six Houses adjoining; also to be Sold, Two Cottages at the Pleck, with gardens, sufficiently large for Eight New Tenants. Apply 39, Bradford Street.”

Walsall Free Press 14/4/1870 - Advert

“Beerhouse To Let.

To Be Let and entered upon immediately, the BLACK SWAN, 109, Blue Lane, well fitted-up with Screens, Shelves, Counter, &c; contains Parlour, Tap Room, Kitchen, and a good Brewhouse, 4 Sleeping Rooms, good Shopping suitable for a Chain Maker, with plenty of hard and soft Water.

For rent and particulars apply, Mr. Fox, House Agent, 57, Upper Rushall Street, Walsall.”

James Oran = James Horan

James Horan, beer retailer, 109, Blue Lane West. [1872]

London Gazette 26/6/1874

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John Henry Whitworth*, formerly of the BOAT INN, Darlaston-green, Darlaston, in the county of Stafford, now of the BLACK SWAN, Blue-lane West, Walsall, in same county, Beerhouse Keeper.

Notice is hereby given, that a Second General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. John Farrington Crump, No.5, Bridge-street, Walsall aforesaid, on the 2nd day of July, 1874, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 24th day of June, 1874.

John F. Chump, Attorney for the said Debtor.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/10/1875

“Charles Moore, a labourer, was charged with unlawfully cutting and wounding James Manley and Mary Ann Manley, husband and wife, with intent to do them grievous bodily harm. The male complainant stated that on Saturday night he was at the BLACK SWAN, Blue lane, when the prisoner, who was also there, quarrelled with another man about a quart of beer. Complainant went home, and about three-quarters of an hour afterwards the prisoner came to his door and challenged him out. He went out, and the prisoner, using a disgusting epithet, raised his hand. A bystander called out ‘Mind the knife,’ and he threw his head aside, and almost at the same moment he was struck under the left ear and across the left cheek by the prisoner with some sharp instrument, which just marked the skin. His wife came running across the road, and he heard her cry ‘He’s stabbed me.’ At this stage Mr. Gillespie, who had been instructed for the defence, applied for a remand till Wednesday, which was granted, bail being refused.”
[At the Staffordshire Winter Assizes, Charles Moore was sentenced to nine months’ imprisonment.]

1881 Census

109, Blue Lane West – BLACK SWAN

- [1] *Charles W. Pearson* (31), beer retailer, born Stourbridge;
- [2] Fanny Pearson (30), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] Charles Pearson (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Janette Pearson (4), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Anne Pearson (8 months), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] Anne Webster (15), domestic servant, born Walsall;
- [7] James Garner (32), visitor, carpenter, born Madeley, Shropshire;
- [8] Anne Garner (30), visitor’s wife, born Manchester;
- [9] Edwin Garner (11), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [10] Rose Garner (8), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [11] James Garner (6), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [12] John Garner (4), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [13] Fanny Garner (1), daughter, born Walsall;
- [14] Ann Hall (17), domestic servant, born Brownhills:

London Gazette 1/10/1881

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Charles William Pearson*, of the BLACK SWAN INN, Blue-lane, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Retail Brewer, previously of the BARRELL INN, Stafford street, Walsall aforesaid, Beer Retailer.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Alfred Baldwin East, Solicitor, No.43, Temple-street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 27th day of October, 1881, at a quarter-past ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 12th day of October, 1881.

Alfred B. East, 43, Temple-street, Birmingham, Solicitor for the Debtor.”

Charles William Pearson – see also BARREL, Stafford Street.

The licensee was fined 10s and costs, on 17th July 1884, for selling before 12.30 on Sunday.

Hannah Taylor married *Thomas Edginson*.

1891 Census

109, Blue Lane West – BLACK SWAN

- [1] *John Perry* (29), bridle cutter, born Walsall;

- [2] Sarah A. Perry (30), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] John W. Perry (5), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Samuel H. Perry (3), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Charles F. Perry (1), son, born Walsall;
- [6] Fanny Jarvis (17), visitor, born Bloxwich:

Walsall Advertiser 20/10/1894

“At the Guildhall on Wednesday Temporary authorities were granted to *Richard Shelley*, WOODMAN, Blue Lane East.”

Richard Shelley, beer retailer, 109, Blue Lane West. [1896]

Walsall Advertiser 20/11/1897

“*Richard Shelley*, of 48, Queen Street, and *William Ringwood*, of the WOODMAN INN, Blue Lane, were summoned for permitting drunkenness on licensed premises, and also for selling drink to an intoxicated person. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended, and Mr. F. Bill watched the case in the interests of the owners.

Chief Constable Taylor, in placing the circumstances of the case before the magistrates, said he had summoned *Shelley* as the holder of the original license, and *Ringwood* as the holder of a temporary authority, so as to avoid any technical objection on the part of the defence.

Mr. Jackson said the Chief Constable’s action had raised the very difficulty he was desirous of avoiding. The Chief Constable found it more convenient to have a double-barrelled gun, but it was certain that two persons could not be guilty of the same offence, especially as one was not near, and had not been near the house for many days previous.

Eventually the Chief Constable withdrew the charge against *Shelley*, and proceeded against *Ringwood*.

From the evidence given by Detective Harper it transpired that that officer on the morning of November 9th saw three men drunk in Blue Lane, and another man named O’Brien lying on the footpath, drunk and vomiting. He made enquiries, and then visited the WOODMAN INN, in Blue Lane. The landlord, *Ringwood*, admitted that the men had been to his house, but said they had previously been drinking whiskey somewhere else.

Harry Solman was called, and he stated that the men had been drinking at the FORGE INN, on the Pleck Road, earlier in the morning. They left there in a sober condition.

Ellen Durkin, aged 16, stated that she saw O’Brien ejected from the WOODMAN INN. He walked across the road, sat on a door step, and went to sleep.

Edward O’Brien stated that on the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 9th, he left work at 6.30. He went with three others to the FORGE INN, and the four of them had between them seven quarts of beer. He then went towards home, and as he was passing the WOODMAN INN some of his mates called him in. When he got in, the landlord was drawing some beer in the cellar, and when he came up ordered O’Brien out. The latter had nothing to drink in the house. He did not tell Detective Harper that he had paid for any beer or that he had had any to drink.

Mr. Jackson’s defence was that in a case of this character there must be some carelessness or connivance, on the part of the landlord. In this instance the man O’Brien was put out immediately the landlord saw him. The magistrates after a short deliberation dismissed the case.

O’Brien, who lives at a lodging house in Lower Rushall Street, was afterwards fined 5s and costs or 7 days, on a charge of drunkenness.”

Walsall Advertiser 8/1/1898

“Yesterday at the Guildhall.....

Another application from Mr. F. Bill, on behalf of the owner and tenant of the WOODMAN INN, Blue Lane West, for certain alterations being made. Granted.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

The Chief Constable submitted the following list showing houses where children under the age of 13 had been served since Aug., 1898. Beerhouses.....

Joseph Conniffe, WOODMAN, served 10 children.....

He said he had a list of 118 other houses which he did not think worth while including in the report, where the number of children served had been under ten. The Mayor said he thought that the license holders should try and fall in with the magistrates views.....

On returning the magistrates announced their decisions as under....

In the cases where children under 13 years of age were reported to have been supplied, on the promise of the licensees to carry out the wishes of the magistrates in future the licenses would be renewed with a caution.”

1901 Census

109, Blue Lane West

- [1] *Philip Perry* (46), publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary P. Perry* (50), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Bernard B. Perry* (22), son, commercial clerk, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary B. Perry* (20), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *May E. Perry* (12), daughter, born Walsall;

[6] Catherine Perry (10), daughter, born Walsall:

Philip Perry, beer retailer, 109, Blue Lane West. [1904], [1912]

1911 Census

109, Blue Lane West

[1] *Philip Perry* (57), brewing, born Walsall;

[2] Mary Perry (61), wife, assisting in the business, born Walsall;

[3] Minnie Perry (22), daughter, barmaid, born Stafford;

[4] Catherine Perry (20), daughter, barmaid, born Stafford:

Walsall Advertiser 23/12/1911

“At the STORK HOTEL on Monday evening Mr. Matt. F. Harrison, FAI (Messrs Fox and Harrison) sold by auction two freehold beerhouses and freehold property.....

Lot 3 as the freehold (free) beerhouse known as the WOODMAN INN, situate on Blue Lane, together with modern up-to-date brewery. Biddings commenced at £700, rose by hundreds to £1,500, and then by twenty-fives pounds to £1,675, the lot being withdrawn at the figure. It has since been disposed of privately for £1,750.”

Philip Perry – see also GREEN DRAGON, Green Lane.

Walsall Advertiser 20/4/1912 - Advert

“WOODMAN INN, Blue Lane West, Walsall.

Fox & Harrison, having previously sold the freehold of this Property to Messrs. Holders Brewery Ltd, have received their directions to Sell by Public Auction, on Wednesday, 24th April, 1912, the excellent and up-to-date Brewing Plant and Effects.

On view two hours previous to sale. Sale at 10.30am.”

Walsall Advertiser 13/9/1913

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society was held on Thursday.....

New members..... Mr. *George Place*, WOODMAN INN, Blue Lane West.”

Walsall Observer 18/9/1915 - Advert

“Bar-General. Good references. No washing.

WOODMAN INN, Blue Lane.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

WOODMAN INN, Blue Lane West. £1 4s 6d.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 2nd March 1922.

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1922

“Annual Licensing Sessions.....

There were also objections, to the renewal of the licenses chiefly on the ground of redundancy of the ORIGINAL QUEENS HEAD, Hill Street; RAILWAY INN, Bloxwich; ROYAL OAK, Ablewell Street; FLITCH OF BACON, Wolverhampton Street; VINE, Blue Lane; WOODMAN, Blue Lane; and VOLUNTEER, Bridgeman Street; and it was announced that the applications in respect of these houses would be considered at the adjourned sessions on March 2nd.”

Compensation was paid on 29th September 1922.

It closed on 15th October 1922.

WOODMAN

Ryecroft Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Beddoes [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

WOODMAN

Upper Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Hannah Horton [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

WOODMAN

143, Wolverhampton Road, (143, Wolverhampton Street), (Wolverhampton Lane), (Park Street / Station Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

Charles Crooke [1868]

LICENSEES

Ann Holder [1834] – [1835]

William Cooper [1841] – [1850]

Mrs. Mary Cooper [1858] – [1865]

Charles Cooper [1868] – [1870]

Charles Moreton [1871] – [1872];

Charles Crooke [1874];

NOTES

143, Wolverhampton Street [1860], [1868]

143, Wolverhampton Road [1861], [1871]

Wolverhampton Lane [1862]

Ann Holder = Ann Holden

[I am unsure which spelling is correct]

William Cooper was also a cattle tube maker. [1845]

He was described as being also an elastic cattle tube maker. [1849], [1850]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/2/1850

“At the Town Hall, on Wednesday, two young men, named William Arch and John Fletcher, were brought up on a charge of cutting and wounding Edward Joseph *Cooper*, harness maker, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm. Mr. Duignan appeared for complainant, while Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. George Edmonds (of Birmingham) were engaged for the defence.

It appeared from the evidence adduced, that *Cooper* is the son of the landlord at the WOODMAN, in Wolverhampton Lane, from

which house he was returning up the road towards his own home, about one o'clock on the morning of Sunday, the 3rd of February, when he met the defendants, and accidentally struck with his foot a dog belonging to one of them. They accused him of having done this on purpose, and Arch challenged him to fight; but on his declining to do so he was struck at by the antagonist. Fletcher telling his companion to 'Give into him,' but taking no other part in the affray. *Cooper* managed to ward off the blows for some time, but at length Arch rushed upon him, and struck at him with what was no doubt a knife, as complainant felt something sharp enter his head, and he was immediately covered with his own blood. *Cooper* then went back to his father's, and the wound was dressed by Mr. Pitt, surgeon, who was sent for; but he was unable to leave the house that day. The prisoners were taken into custody soon afterwards. After hearing the defence of the defendants' solicitors, the Bench decided on committing Arch for trial at the Assizes, but discharged Fletcher. Arch was subsequently bailed."

[At the County Court, in March, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty and William Arch was immediately discharged.]

1861 Census

143, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Mary Cooper* (69), widow, victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Henry Cooper* (44), son, brush maker, born Walsall;
- [3] *Isaiah G. Cooper* (32), son, carriage lamp maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *Sarah Cooper* (28), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Henry J. Cooper* (14), grandson, born London:

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1865 - Advert

"Lost, on Tuesday last, between Walsall and the BLACK COCK, Sutton Road, a Parcel directed 'Mr. *Cooper*, WOODMAN.' Any Person bringing it to Mr. *Cooper*'s, WOODMAN INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, shall receive Two Shillings."

Walsall Free Press 4/4/1868 - Advert

"To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Farrington & Son, at the WOODMAN INN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, on Wednesday, the 8th day of April, 1868, at Six o'clock in the evening (subject to conditions).

Lot 1. All that valuable and well-accustomed Old Licensed Freehold Public House called the WOODMAN, fronting Wolverhampton Street, in Walsall, and containing bar, tap-room, large parlour, and 5 bed-rooms, with the brewhouse, malt-room, shopping, outbuildings, yard, and appurtenances thereto belonging, now in the occupation of Mr. *Charles Cooper*....."

Walsall Free Press 12/9/1868

"Mr. Wilkinson renewed his application on behalf of Mr. *Crooke*, proprietor of the ALEXANDRA MUSIC HALL, Park Street, for a transfer of a license from the WOODMAN public-house, Wolverhampton Lane, to his house at the corner of Station Street and Park Street.

Mr. *Crooke* having purchased the WOODMAN public-house, which he intends to close.

Mr. Wilkinson was proceeding to address the Bench when the Mayor said, as the Bench were fully aware of the whole of the facts of the case there would be not necessity for him stating the case at any great length.

Mr. Wilkinson said if their worships were satisfied, he would not occupy their time by a single remark.

The Mayor said the Bench had, by a majority, decided to grant the application.

Mr. Newman: Which is simply a transfer.

Mr. Wilkinson: I have already pointed out how the Bench can retain power in their own hands.

Mr. Wilkinson said he felt bound to make some explanation in consequence of a report having got abroad, that one of the magistrates present on Monday, had attended in consequence of a special request from him. He begged to state, most explicitly that the report was entirely without foundation."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/12/1868 - Advert

"Found, on Tuesday last, a liver-and-white Spaniel Bitch.

Apply at the WOODMAN, in Wolverhampton Street, Walsall. If not claimed within Three Days, will be sold to pay expenses."

Walsall Free Press 23/10/1869 - Advert

"Valuable Freehold Public-House and Premises, in Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Osbourn, at the DRAGON INN, High Street, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 26th day of October, 1869, at Six o'clock in the Evening (subject to conditions). All that old and well-accustomed Public House, known as the WOODMAN, fronting Wolverhampton Street, in Walsall, and containing Bar, Tap Room, large Parlour, and five Bed Rooms, with the Brewhouse, Malt Rooms, Shopping, Outbuildings, Yard, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Charles Cooper*.

The above property is situated in a densely populated neighbourhood.

Part of the Purchase Money may (if desired) remain on Mortgage.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, or to Messrs. Wilkinson & Gillespie, Solicitors, Walsall."

1871 Census

143, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Charles Moreton* (46), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Elizabeth Moreton* (44), wife, born Walsall;

- [3] Ellen Fearnley (15), servant, born Birmingham;
[4] Harriet Henny (?) (4), born Darlaston;
[5] Caroline Brookes (28), boarder, professional vocalist, born London:

Charles Moreton, beer retailer, 143, Wolverhampton Street. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 3/9/1873

“To Furniture Dealers, Publicans, and Others. Unreserved Clearout Sale, at the WOODMAN TAVERN, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.

By Joseph A. Duffield. This Day (Wednesday) – Genteel Household Furniture, Brewing Plant, Fixtures, &c, including Spanish mahogany half-tester and iron bedsteads, Toilet Tables, mahogany Chest of Drawers, Windsor Chairs, capital Couch and Easy Chairs, nearly new; 4-pull Beer Machine, Cups and Glassware, Benches, Seating, Partitioning; 100-gallon wrought-iron Boiler, Mash, Gathering, and Round Tubs; sound and sweet Ale Casks, pocket of Kent Hops (1872), and other Effects. Sale at 10.30am prompt. Catalogues at the Auctioneer’s Offices, 13, Cannon Street, Birmingham.”

This license was not taken out in 1875.

WOOLPACK

19, Digbeth / The Square, (High Street), WALSALL

OWNERS

John Lucas [1783]
William Lucas, Dudley Street
John Farrington [1827]
Robinsons Breweries, Burton on Trent [1902]
Arthur Beebee [1904], [1905], [1910]
Ind Coope and Allsopp (acquired on 25th September 1929)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired on 16th May 1960) [1963]

LICENSEES

John Newton [1756]
John Lucas [1781] – [1783]
James Lucas [1818] – [1825]
George Moorcroft [1827]
Mrs. Chillington [1828]
John Avery [1828] – [1830]
George Fox [1833] – [1837]
Hugh Barlow* [1841] – [1858]
H Barlow* [1861]
Thomas Wootton [1860] – **1861**);
George Pitt (**1861** – [1869]
Edward Belton [1871] – [1875];
Samuel Carnell [];
Mrs. Emily Eliza Ross [1881] – **1889**);
Alfred Stanton (**1889** – **1890**);
Richard Edward Ennis (**1890**);
Herbert Henry Hawley (**1890** – **1893**);
Henry Staley (**1893** – **1894**);
Alfred Medlam (**1894** – **1899**);
Elizabeth Charlotte Wilson (**1899** – **1900**);
Walter William C A Otter (**1900** – **1902**);
James Wilson (**1902**); manager
Alfred Henry Jones (**1902** – **1904**);
Thomas Pedley (**1904** – **1911**);
William Alfred Burton (**1911** – **1914**);
James Howard Biddulph (**1914** – **1916**);
Arthur Edward Strange (**1916** – **1932**);

Herbert William Mellor (1932 – 1935);
Henry Tomlinson (1935 – 1936);
George Porteous (1936 – 1937);
Ernest John Ward (1937 – 1947);
Eva Josephine Densham (1947 – 1959);
Jeffrey Whitmore Slater (1959 – 1961);
Henry George Edward Mason (1961 – 1964):

NOTES

High Street [1822], [1830], [1849], [1850], [1911]
19, Digbeth [1864], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1932], [1940]

OLD WOOLPACK [1875]
YE OLDE WOOLPACK [1904], [1910], [1911], [1963]

Tokens were issued from here.

It Ay 'ere Our Kid by Ann French

“.....The original one was one of the oldest pubs in the town where Col. John Lane of Bentley Hall mustered Royalists to fight for Charles II at Worcester.....”

Walsall Observer Special (June 1999)

“..... the WOOLPACK was one of the great cock fighting centres of Staffordshire.”

'Walsall Pubs: A History' by John Cockayne

“.....it was at 19, Digbeth on the corner of the street leading to The Square, the site is presently [1984] occupied by a shoe shop. There is a note of local Royalists mustering at the inn in September 1651 before joining King Charles at Worcester. The advertisement in *Aris's Gazette* on the 29th June 1756, said, ‘This is to give notice that, at the House of *John Newton*, at the WOOLPACK in Walsall, will be a match of Cocks to weigh 21 ounces each, for four guineas a battle, and ten guineas the main, and 10 each for Byes, for one guinea a battle, and to fight two pair of Shakebeds each day for ten guineas a battle’.....”

John Lucas, innkeeper, Digbeth. [1781]

Birmingham Chronicle 8/12/1825 - Deaths

“On Monday week, Mr. John *Lucas*, aged 51, eldest son of Mr. *James Lucas*, of the WOOLPACK, Walsall.”

George Moorcroft = George Morecroft

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/11/1827 - Advert

“Powerful Chestnut Stallion, the property of *George Morecroft*, of the WOOLPACK INN, Walsall.

To be sold to pay expenses and cash advanced.

By Mr. Beardsworth will be Sold by Auction, on Thursday next, the 15th of November, commencing at eleven o'clock, the above-mentioned intire Chestnut Horse; he is five years old, sixteen hands two inches high, by Alexander, his dam by True Blue, grand dam by Vermin.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 10/12/1827 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction (by order of the proprietor) by John Farrington, at the WOOLPACK INN, Tomorrow (Tuesday) the 11th of December, between the hours of five and seven in the evening, the License, Goodwill, and immediate Possession of that old established Market House, the WOOLPACK INN, Walsall, being replete with every convenience, and Stabling for thirty horses.

And on Wednesday and Thursday, the 12th and 13th, will be sold by Auction, on the premises, by John Farrington, all the Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, quantity of Pewter and other effects, belonging to Mr. *George Moorcroft*, as advertised in last week's paper, and postponed.”

Mrs. *Chellingsworth* = Mrs. Chillington

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/3/1828 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction at the house of Mrs. *Chillington*, known by the sign of the WOOLPACK INN, in Walsall.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 13/10/1828 - Advert

“To be Sold by private Contract, the Licences, Goodwill, and Possession of that old established and respectable House, known by the sign of the WOOLPACK, with stabling for forty horses, and suitable out-offices, most eligibly situated in the Market Place, Walsall, now in the occupation of Mrs. *Chellingsworth*, who wishes to retire from the public business.

For further particulars and to treat apply (if by letter, post paid) to E. Jukes, Auctioneer, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 16/7/1832 - Advert

“To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, all the long established and well accustomed, Public House, known by the name of the WOOLPACK INN, in one of the best situations in the town of Walsall, and carrying on an extensive business. The Stock, which is now low, and part of the Furniture to be taken to by valuation. Apply to Mr. T. Bowen, Appraiser &c, Digbeth, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/1/1833 - Advert

“WOOLPACK INN, Walsall. To be Let, and entered upon immediately. That old established Market House, situate in High Street, Walsall. The present proprietor, from other engagements, wishes to leave immediately, and in consequence of which he will make every arrangement with the coming-on Tenant that will answer the purpose of any one who wishes to embark in the public business. The Stock is low. The above House is situated close to the Market Place, and has Stabling for Forty Horses, with suitable premises for storing Pigs, &c. For further particulars apply to J. Farrington, Auctioneer, Walsall, if by Letter, post-paid.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/7/1833 - Died

“On the 12th inst, William, son of Mr. *George Fox*, of the WOOLPACK INN, Walsall, aged 4 years.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/2/1837 - Died

“On the 25th instant, aged 38, Louisa, wife of Mr. *George Fox*, of the WOOLPACK INN, Walsall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/1/1841

“Walsall Election. Supper parties of the friends of Mr. Gladstone were held on Thursday night, at the WOOLPACK INN, High Street, and at the DOLPHIN, George Street.”

1841 Census

Digbeth

- [1] *Hugh Barlow* (48), butcher;
- [2] Ann Barlow (48);
- [3] Mary Ann Barlow (15), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Hugh Barlow (14), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Elizabeth Barlow (10), born Staffordshire;
- [6] William Barlow (7), born Staffordshire;
- [7] Ann Sells (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

* possibly the same person

Staffordshire Gazette 22/7/1841

“Charles Barber was charged with assaulting *Hugh Barlow*, the landlord of the WOOLPACK INN, without any provocation. Fined 5s and costs, or one month to the house of correction.”

Hugh Barlow was also a butcher. [1845], [1849], [1850]

1851 Census

Digbeth

- [1] *Hugh Barlow* (58), butcher, born Worcestershire;
- [2] Ann Barlow (58), wife, born Alvely, Shropshire;
- [3] Mary Ann Barlow (28), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Hugh Barlow (22), son, butcher, born Walsall;
- [5] William Barlow (16), son, butcher, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Barlow (60), visitor, assistant butcher, born Oldswinford;
- [7] Margaret Taverner (19), house servant, born Cannock;
- [8] Albert Demars (24), visitor, butcher, born Walsall;
- [9] James Sevell (64), visitor, lath cleaver, born Buckinghamshire:

Walsall Free Press 14/4/1860 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, on Old Established Beerhouse, situated in one of the principal Streets of the Town, doing an excellent business. The Stock to be taken at a Valuation, can be reduced to what the coming in Tenant requires. The reason for the present Tenant giving up the House can be given by applying at the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, Walsall.”

George Pitt = George Pitts

1861 Census

19, Digbeth

- [1] *George Pitt* (37), victualler (not residing here);
- [2] Maria Pitt (35), publican's wife, born Knocking, Shropshire;
- [3] George Pitt (9), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] Enoch Pitt (7), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] Henry Pitt (4), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [6] Emma Pitt (1), son(?), scholar(?), born Birmingham;
- [7] Mary Murphy (14), general servant, born Ireland:

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/3/1862

“Staffordshire Lent Assizes. Crown Court.

Before A. M. Skinner, Esq, QC. Interpleader Case. *Pitt v. Keates and Others.*

Mr. A. S. Hill and Mr. Ryder were for the plaintiff, and Mr. Griffiths was for the defendants.

The case had been before the Court of Common Pleas, and had been sent down to this Court to try whether certain goods which had been taken in execution by the High Sheriff of Staffordshire were the property of the plaintiff or of the person in whose possession they were when seized.

Mr. Hill, in opening the case, said the defendants in this case traded under the name of the Uttoxeter Brewery Company. The plaintiff, *George Pitt*, was a working man, who lived in Birmingham, and who by frugality and industry had accumulated some little property. He had a brother-in-law named *Thomas Wootton*, who in the beginning of 1860 was desirous of taking a public house, the WOOLPACK, at Digbeth, in Walsall, but he had not sufficient money wherewith to buy the goodwill, furniture, &c, of the house. He therefore applied to his brother-in-law, *Pitt*, to lend him some money, which *Pitt* agreed to do on condition of receiving 5 per cent interest – double the rate paid by the banks at that time. He first lent *Wootton* £200, and subsequently on two different occasions £50 more, making £250 altogether. As security *Wootton* was to give a bill of sale on the goods and furniture, but this proposal was not immediately carried out, although, as a temporary security, he gave a bill of exchange as soon as he received the money. When the third instalment of the £250 was lent a bill of sale for the entire sum was drawn up by Messrs. James and Knight, of Birmingham, and was dated the 10th of January, 1861. *Wootton* did not succeed in the business, but got into debt, and there appearing to be no probability of his being able to pay the money lent him by the plaintiff, the latter decided to put the bill of sale into execution. He accordingly did so; the goods were valued at £150, and wishing to make the best of it, *Pitt* resolved to take the WOOLPACK and carry on the business on his own account. The licence was transferred on the next licensing day (in February) from *Wootton* to *Pitt*, and after the plaintiff had taken possession of the house, Messrs. Keates – the Uttoxeter Brewery Company – who had been supplying *Wootton* with beer, and to whom *Wootton* owed money, levied an execution on the goods, on a writ, on the 20th February, 1861.

The question for the jury to consider was whether the goods in question were the property of *Pitt* or *Wootton*. He (Mr. Hill) thought the jury could not have a shadow of doubt, after hearing the facts of the case that the goods were the bona fide property of the plaintiff. *George Pitt*, the claimant, Wm. Pitt, Sarah Webb, Mr. H. F. Barnett, solicitor, and Mr. W. H. Griffin, were examined in support of Mr. Hill's statement.

Mr. Griffiths, in addressing the jury for the defence, designated the plaintiff's claim to the property as an attempt to defraud the defendants of a just debt, and contended that the transaction spoken to as having taken place between the plaintiff and *Wootton* was not a bona fide transaction; and that there were circumstances about the case to warrant the conclusion that the claim was merely the result of a conspiracy got up by plaintiff and *Wootton* to defraud the defendants. Nothing was known of the bill of sale until the defendants put in the claim.

The learned Judge, in summing up, observed that the claimant was either a man of admirable industry and kindly feeling, or had perjured himself and was a partner in a conspiracy to deprive a creditor of his due.

The jury, after a brief consultation, returned a verdict for the claimant.”

Walsall Free Press 2/9/1865

“*George Pitt*, WOOLPACK, High Street, was charged with having, on the 25th of August, had his house open between the hours of one and two o'clock in the morning for the sale of ale and spirits.

Fined £1 and costs, or in default, to be imprisoned for fourteen days.”

AND

“Licensing Day. There were 174 applications for the renewal of licenses, and 19 new applications.....

George Pitt, WOOLPACK, High Street licenses suspended.”

Walsall Free Press 9/9/1865

“The Adjourned Licensing day. Before T. Hazledine (Mayor), H. Highway, J. Shannon, W. Ward, S. Stokes, P. Potter, and J. B. Anderson, Esqs.....

The following persons, whose license had been suspended, were cautioned and had their licenses renewed....

Mr. *Pitt*, WOOLPACK, Digbeth.”

Walsall Free Press 30/12/1865

Mr. *Pitt*, of the WOOLPACK, Digbeth, applied for leave to keep open during prohibited hours. Application refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/8/1866

“*George Pitt*, landlord of the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, was charged with having permitted drunkenness and disorderly conduct on his premises at three o’clock on the morning on the preceding Wednesday. The charge was proved by Sergeant Mason and Police-constable Nutt, from whose evidence it appeared that at the time stated the defendant was found by them in his back yard with four men, who were the worse for liquor. The defendant left them in the yard and returned into the house on finding he was being observed by the sergeant, and subsequently two of the men began to fight. An attempt was made to show that the men knocked up defendant to supply them with ale, and that he refused, and was shoeing them off the premises when the police put in an appearance. The Bench held the offence proved, and two previous convictions for similar offences being on record against the defendant he was fined 40s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/12/1866

“Action To Recover The Value Of Work Done. The plaintiff in this case was Mr. Robert Jones, builder of Walsall; and the defendants Mr. *George Pitt*, of the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, Walsall, and Mr. W. J. Griffiths of the Alhambra Inn, Birmingham. The action was to recover £15 for the putting up of a booth and stand at the racecourse at the last races, and the claim was resisted, the stand having fallen down on the first day of the races, and injured some of the spectators, who threatened the present defendants with actions for damages. After several witnesses had been called on each side, his honour found for the plaintiff for £5. Mr. Glover appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Dale (from the office of Messrs. Duigan, Lewis and Lewis) for the defendants.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 11/4/1868 - Advert

“Notice. *George Pitts*, of the WOOLPACK, Walsall. His Booth, at Lichfield Races, No.4, containing first-class Refreshments. Come and try.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/7/1868 - Advert

“Notice. *George Pitt*, WOOLPACK, Walsall, will have No.11 Booth, at Sutton Races, where his Friends will find first-class Refreshments. Call, Friends, and see him.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/5/1869

“William Merchant, who had been remanded from Thursday last upon a charge of uttering a counterfeit coin, was again brought up in custody. The depositions taken on Thursday having been read over, further evidence was adduced, from which it appeared that about an hour before passing the florin at the WOOLPACK, Digbeth, he passed one at the MALT SHOVEL on the Birmingham Road. The date of all the florins was 1858. The prisoner was remanded till Thursday. The Bench, on the application of Mr. Dale, who appeared for the prisoner, agreed to accept bail, himself in £50, and two sureties of £25 each.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/7/1869

“Walsall Quarter Sessions. Grand Jury.

William Merchant was charged with having on the 10th of May last uttered a counterfeit florin to Mrs. *Pitt*, of the WOOLPACK public house, Digbeth. The prisoner, on being placed at the bar, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to one month’s imprisonment with hard labour.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/10/1869

“*Collins v. Pitt*. In this case Mr. E. Collins, accountant, Cannock, sued *George Pitt*, landlord of the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, Walsall, for £1 8s 1d, value of a lost cheque, which the defendant had dealt with in the manner stated below. A short time ago the plaintiff, in the course of his business as collector of gas rents, received the cheque in question, which was made payable to bearer, but subsequently lost it. Two men named Goring and Farnell found it, and instead of taking measures to restore it to its lawful owner, they endeavoured to get it cashed at the branch of Lloyd’s Banking Company, Walsall, but failed, the cheque not being upon the bank and the men being unknown. They went to Mr. *Pitt*, who lives immediately opposite, and asked him to cash the cheque or get it cashed, stating they had received it in payment of an account. He took it to the bank, and, on endorsing it, got it cashed, and handed it to the men, who went away. On the present proceedings being taken against him he went to considerable trouble and expense to find out who the men were, and ascertained that one of them was in Stafford gaol, and that the other lived at Wyrley. Mr. Ebsworth, who appeared for the defendant, urged that his client was a mere innocent agent in the hands of the men, and that the bank should have been sued. His Honour concurred, and nonsuited the plaintiff, but without costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/12/1869

“*Geo. Pitt*, the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, was charged with having, on Sunday, the 21st Nov, had his house open during prohibited hours. Police-constables Lakin and Minor deposed to finding persons drinking on the premises at ten minutes past ten o’clock on the morning named, and the back door open. An attempt was made to show that the ale the persons were drinking was given to them; but the magistrates were not satisfied with the defence, and imposed a fine of 10s and costs, at the same time ordering the defendant’s license to be endorsed.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/12/1869

“At the Walsall Petty Sessions, yesterday, before Messrs. W. H. Duignan (Mayor), J. Brewer, J. Shannon, and H. Highway, *Maria Pitt*, landlady of the WOOLPACK public-house, Digbeth, was charged with having, on the 2nd of January, 1866, stolen a leather purse containing £12 or £14 from the person of John Salt Corvesor, commercial traveller. The facts of the case, which occupied the Court fully three hours and a half, were briefly stated by Mr. Barnett, who conducted the prosecution. After which the prose-

ctor was examined by Mr. Barnett, and from his evidence it appears that on the evening in question he went to the WOOLPACK, and there met Mr. Elias Froggatt, now deceased. Prosecutor and Froggatt tossed for wine; prosecutor won the first bottle and Mr. Froggatt the second. Not wishing to let the company see what money he had, he went out of the 'bar' into the 'tap', and there took out his purse and from it he took a sovereign, and gave it to the landlord, who gave him 15s, keeping 5s for the bottle of wine. Afterwards he returned to the bar, and went with some others, on the invitation of Mrs. Pitt, to the parlour, and he became suddenly overpowered with the drink, and recollected little more that happened that night, except that he remembered Mrs. Pitt attempting to get him under the 'kissing bush'. He was taken to the STORK HOTEL, and next morning he missed his purse, and inquired at the WOOLPACK if they had seen anything of it, but both Mr. and Mrs. Pitt replied that they had seen nothing of it. He then gave information to Detective-sergeant Wood, but heard no more of the affair until about a month ago when he received a letter from Charles Bicknell, asking if he was the man who had been robbed, and stating that if he was, and would come to Walsall, he (Bicknell) would take him to parties who had seen the robbery committed. In consequence of that communication he came to Walsall, and instituted the present proceedings.

The next witness was Thomas Westley, stirrup maker, who corroborated the evidence of the prosecutor up to the point where prosecutor was taken under the mistletoe by Mrs. Pitt, and added Mrs. Pitt was behind prosecutor, trying to get him under the bush, and while in that position she slipped her left hand into his left-hand trouser pocket, and at that instant they both fell. She drew a leather bag from the prosecutor's pocket, and clasped it to her breast, and commenced laughing. She then turned to a woman named Taylor, and said something which witness could not hear. Prosecutor, who was very drunk, rolled over on his back, and lay on the floor till witness left the room.

Mrs. Westley corroborated her husband's evidence.

Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor also gave corroborative evidence, and said when Mrs. Pitt took the prosecutor's bag, she turned to me and said, 'Follow Mr. Froggatt and get his.' She thought the prosecutor lodged at the WOOLPACK, and that Mrs. Pitt had taken the bag in order to take care of it for him.

Detective-Sergeant Wood said that on the 3rd of May, 1866, the prosecutor gave information of the robbery, and he went to the WOOLPACK and made some inquiry, and was informed that the prosecutor was brought to the house helplessly drunk, and lay for some time on the screen, and when he woke up, several hours after he was brought in, he made no mention of his loss.

This being the case for the prosecution, Mr. Motteram, of the Oxford Circuit, who appeared for the defendant, called two witnesses, but neither of them had been in the parlour when the robbery was said to have taken place.

The Bench, after a short consultation, decided to commit the prisoner to the Quarter Sessions for the borough, but remanded the case till Thursday, in order that the depositions might be preferred. Defendant was again admitted to bail."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/1/1870 - Notice

"Notice is hereby Given, that *George Pitt*, of the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, Walsall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Gasfitter, was on the 31st day of December, 1869, adjudicated a Bankrupt on a Petition filed in the Court of Bankruptcy for the Birmingham District, at Birmingham, and due notice will be given of the time to be appointed for the First Meeting of Creditors thereunder."

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1870

"At the Guildhall, yesterday, before Messrs. W. H. Duignan (Mayor), S. Stephens, and H. Highway, *George Pitt*, of the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, was brought up on a warrant, charged with having received from his wife, Maria, £10, knowing it to have been stolen; and Mrs. Pitt (who was committed for trial a short time ago on a charge of having stolen the money in question from Mr. Corvesor, commercial traveller, Stafford) was charged upon a warrant to surrender and be rebailed, her bail having withdrawn. Mr. J. F. Crump (for Mr. Barnett) appeared for the prosecutor, and said that since Mrs. Pitt was committed certain information had reached the prosecutor showing complicity on the part of the husband, but inasmuch as the warrant was only executed on the previous day, and both the prosecutor and Mr. Barnett, his solicitor, were unable to be present that morning, he asked for an adjournment of the case for a week. The Mayor said information had been received that Mr. and Mrs. Pitt were about to leave the country for America, and he asked Mr. Crump if he had any evidence to put before the Bench. Mr. Crump replied that he had not the slightest, but he would endeavour to have a witness present before the rising of the Court. This he was unable to do, and the prisoner was discharged, the Mayor remarking that he ought not to have been brought unless the prosecution was prepared to offer evidence against him.

Mr. Pitt said he was very anxious that the report as to his going to America should be inquired into. On his oath, there was not a word of truth in it. The Mayor said the Magistrates would hear any statement he wished to make, but they thought it unnecessary for him to say anything. The prisoner was then discharged, and fresh bail being found for his wife, she was set at liberty."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/1/1870

"Walsall Quarter Sessions. *Maria Pitt*, wife of *George Pitt*, formerly landlord of the WOOLPACK public house, was charged with having, on the 2nd of January, 1866, stolen from the person of John Salt Corvesor, a bag containing £10. Mr. Young (instructed by Mr. Barnett) prosecuted, and Mr. Motteram (instructed by Mr. Glover) defended. The jury returned a verdict of 'not guilty' and the prisoner was discharged. The announcement was received with applause."

Walsall Free Press 15/1/1870

"An application made for the transfer of the license of the WOOLPACK INN from *George Pitt* to Joseph William Pitt was adjourned for a week."

Birmingham Daily Post 22/3/1870 - Advert

“The OLD WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, Walsall, to be Let, with immediate possession.
Apply to Horrobin, Auctioneer, Green Lane, Walsall.”

Walsall Free Press 29/10/1870 - Advert

“Wanted by a respectable Young Man, a Situation as Groom.
Apply to the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth.”

1871 Census

19, Digbeth

- [1] *Edward Belton* (46), publican, born Warwickshire;
- [2] Jane H. Belton (38), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Charles Meades (30), domestic servant, born Brierley Hill;
- [4] Hester Hines (16), domestic servant, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Louisa Osborne (18), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Free Press 19/8/1871

“Martha Jackson, who had been entrusted with a pair of sheets and a blanket to wash by *Edward Belton*, landlord of the WOOLPACK INN, was charged with having illegally pawned those articles. Defendant pleaded guilty, and was ordered to pay a fine of 10s and costs, over and above the value of the articles pawned.”

Midland Examiner 17/4/1875 - Advert

“Wanted. A Strong General Servant, at a Public-house; one used to cooking, and to make herself generally useful.
Apply, Mrs. *Belton*, WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth.”

1881 Census

19, Digbeth

- [1] *Emily Ross* (42), widow, licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Emily Ross (21), daughter, barmaid, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Ada Maud Ross (20), daughter, barmaid, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Walter W. Ross (17), son, appraiser, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] Elizabeth Warner (28), sister, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [6] Arthur Warner (13), nephew, born Oswestry:

Walsall Observer 6/1/1884

“Conservative League.....

The ‘Churchill’ Lodge will hold its next meeting at the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, on Monday next. The Lodge, not having met for a month on account of the holidays, it had been decided to have a grand concert after the business of the evening has been got through. Several well-known artistes have promised to appear, thereby ensuring a most enjoyable night. Members from other lodges cordially invited.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/7/1887 - Advert

“Useful grey Horse, quiet to ride or drive. Cheap. Owner no further use.
Apply, WOOLPACK INN, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 28/9/1889 - Advert

“Monday next, September 30th, at Eleven o’clock.

Unreserved Clearance Sale of the whole of the Public House Fittings and Fixtures, at the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, Walsall; together with the surplus Furniture, by order of Mrs. *Ross*, whose tenancy has expired.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1890

“At the Guildhall, a special session – the first under the new local Act – was held for the purpose of hearing applications for music, singing, and dancing licenses *Herbert H. Hawley*, WOOLPACK, Digbeth, who had given notice of their intention to apply, did not appear.”

1891 Census

19, Digbeth – The WOOLPACK

- [1] Alfred Cassell (37), barman, born Birmingham:

The original building was demolished in 1892.

Walsall Advertiser 26/11/1892

“Borough Surveyor’s Annual Report ... year ending September 30th, 1892.....

During the year the old WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, has been pulled down, and an improvement in the building lines of the Square and Digbeth effected.....”

Walsall Advertiser 29/7/1893

“In the Nisi Prius Court at Stafford Assizes on Tuesday morning, before Baron Pollock and a special jury, an action was heard in which the Attorney General and Mrs. Mary Croydon (of Walsall) were the plaintiffs, and James Porter, trading as Robinson and Co, brewers, Burton-on-Trent, was the defendant. The action was for an injunction to restrain the defendant from continuing the erection of a building in the Square, Walsall, which caused an obstruction to the public and Mrs. Mary Croydon, and damages were claimed.

Mr. Alfred Young and Mr. Disturnal (instructed by Messrs. Marlow, Potter, and Marten) were for the plaintiffs, and Mr. F. A. Bosanquet, QC, and Mr. R. C. E. Plumptre (instructed by Messrs. Loxton and Newman) were for the defendant.

Mr. Alfred Young, in opening the case, explained that the action was brought in the name of the Attorney General as representing the public at large, and by Mrs. Mary Croydon in respect of her own rights, both in relation to the use of the public highway and also in respect of the use and enjoyment of her own property. She was an old lady about 78 years of age, and by dint of great industry and also great privations, she was enabled to get together sufficient money to purchase certain property in 1874, which fronted on the Square, at Walsall. At that time the width of the thoroughfare was 21 feet 6 inches, and that extended for a distance of 79 feet. In 1875 the OLD WOOLPACK INN, an old half-timbered building, which had two frontages, one in Digbeth, and the other fronting the Square, where Mrs. Croydon's property was situated, was sold. It was specified that the entrance from Digbeth to the Square, and opposite to the OLD WOOLPACK INN was to be widened. Subsequently the inn was conveyed to Mr. Porter, the defendant, and last year he pulled it down and built a new one, which encroached upon the highway to the detriment of the public rights, and also to the private rights of Mrs. Croydon, and further caused injury to her by the depreciation of her property. The encroachment consisted of the projection from the original site of the WOOLPACK on to the highway to the extent of 9ft in width and 46ft in length. The building interfered with the light, casting a shadow over the plaintiff's property, and tenants had left the property in consequence.

His Lordship remarked that so far the case pointed to what had been done as having been done for the benefit of the town. The pulling down of the old building tended to show that some better arrangement had been come to. The building had not been put up without consideration, but plans had been submitted to the authority. If the learned counsel could make some arrangement it would be better than going to a jury.

Mr. Bosanquet, QC, said that undoubtedly there had been a recess in this street. The Square was not what would be called a square in any modern enlightened city, but it was a very old street indeed, and at the commencement was so narrow that only one cart could pass. The Corporation were desirous that the street should be widened at this part, and the other portion made to run in line, and Mr. Porter had erected the building accordingly.

Mr. Young replied that the Judge, addressing him, said that if he succeeded in obtaining an injunction he might do irreparable injury to the defendant, and the question was whether he would gain himself.

Acting on the Judge's suggestion, learned counsel consulted together with a view to arranging the matter. Mr. Bosanquet then announced that an arrangement had been come to by which part of the awkward corner would be pulled down to a certain extent in a way which would benefit the public and restore to the plaintiff the full enjoyment of every private right she before possessed, and arrangement was also made by which she was to be sufficiently compensated.

On these terms the action was withdrawn.”

Walsall Advertiser 9/12/1893

“At a monthly and special meeting of the Council of the Borough of Walsall, to be held on Monday next, in the Council Chamber, at the Guildhall, in the borough, the business to be transacted is as follows.

To receive a report from the Streets Committee, and thereon to confirm the following recommendations.

That the owner of the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, be paid the sum of £100 in consideration of his reconveying to the Corporation as an addition to the Square the strip of land containing 20 square yards or thereabouts in front of his building in the Square adjoining the property of Mrs. Croydon, and which was conveyed to him by the Corporation about a year ago, in exchange for a piece of land of about equal area which was required for widening the Square and Digbeth.”

Walsall Advertiser 27/1/1894

“Lord Randolph Churchill Lodge. A well attended lodge was held on Monday last, at the WOOLPACK HOTEL, G.M. Bro. Frakes, G. Sec. Bro Sutton, and Bro. Bates (Beaconsfield Lodge) giving addresses. Arrangements had been made with some Burton gentlemen to attend, with the intention of forming Lodges there, but their visit was unavoidably postponed.”

Walsall Advertiser 31/3/1894

“Mr. Stanley [sic], WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, applied for a music and singing license on Mondays and Thursdays from 8 to 10.30pm – on Mondays for the ‘Churchill’ Lodge, and on Thursdays for the Hairdressers’ Association. The Chief Constable said he thought the application of re the Hairdressers’ Association ought to be made by the Secretary. The Bench agreed and only allowed for meetings of the Conservative League.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/3/1894

“Bankruptcy. Amongst the *Gazette* notices there appears the following.

Henry Staley, WOOLPACK HOTEL, High Street, Walsall, lately Wednesbury, hotel manager, late hotel proprietor.”

Walsall Advertiser 17/3/1894

“Re *Henry Staley*, late of the ANCHOR HOTEL, Wednesbury, hotel proprietor.

The public examination of this debtor took place on Thursday, at the Walsall Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Clarke. Mr. Plant appeared for debtor.

The statement showed liabilities £382 5s 4d, assets £20 18s 10d, deficiency £361 6s 6d.

The bankrupt was a wine merchant's traveller until August 1885 [sic], when he took to the ANCHOR INN, Holyhead Road, Wednesbury, for Messrs. Evershed and Co., brewers, agreeing to pay £300 for fixtures, stock, &c. He attributed his failure to bad trade and bad debts, and loss upon sale of stock and fixtures.

The examination was adjourned till the 22nd inst."

Alfred Medlam was also a jeweller of 21, Bridge Street.

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1894

"Walsall. The adjourned licensing sessions for this borough took place yesterday....

Mr. A. E. Cotterell applied on behalf of *Alfred Medlam*, of the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, for a license for singing and dancing in his house on certain meetings of workmen's societies. The Chief Constable opposed and said that since the magistrates had stopped the dancing in public-houses there had been a marked improvement in the conduct of such houses in the town....

The Bench deliberated in private for some time, and on their return into court announced that Mr. *Medlam*'s application for a dancing license for a class not yet formed was refused, his other applications being adjourned...."

Walsall Advertiser 8/12/1894

"Monday was a day specially appointed by the Bough Justices for the transfer of public-house licenses, &c. The Mayor (Councillor Noake) and Mr. G. Gill constituted the Bench....

Mr. J. N. Cotterell applied on behalf of Mr. *A. Medlam*, landlord of the WOOLPACK, Digbeth, for licenses for music and singing on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays, between the hours of 7 and 10.30. Monday's license was required for the Painter's Association, Tuesday's for the 'Lord Randolph' Lodge of the Conservative League, and Friday's for the London and North Western Railway Servants' Society.

The application was granted.

Mrs. Cotterell made a further application with respect of the Arion Glee Union. The members met every Wednesday at the WOOLPACK. They had no drink, and assembled purely for practice, and he wished to know, if under those circumstances, a license for music and singing were required.

The Chief Constable asked the Bench to express no opinion.

Mr. Cotterell thereupon applied for an occasional license and this was granted."

Walsall Advertiser 27/2/1897

"On Wednesday next the second of the series of smoking concerts, promoted by the Walsall Typographical Society in aid of their recently-formed Benevolent Fund, will take place at the OLD WOOLPACK, Digbeth, and promises to be quite as good as the previous one...."

Walsall Advertiser 28/8/1897

"Walsall Annual Licensing Sessions. These sessions were held at the Guildhall yesterday....

Objection to renewal....

In regard to the OLD WOOLPACK, Mr. Pearman-Smith intimated that the difficulty regarding the bedroom accommodation had been got over, and they proposed to proceed with the plans as originally deposited. Mr. Taylor (Chief Constable) expressed his satisfaction at this course. The objection to renewal was withdrawn conditionally."

Walsall Advertiser 15/10/1898

"John McDonald (37), tailor, no fixed address, was charged with acting as a pedlar without a licence on the 8th inst. Police-constable 52 (Nunn) saw the man hawking collar studs in the WOOLPACK HOTEL, Digbeth. Discharged on promising to leave the town."

Walsall Advertiser 31/12/1898

"Lords Limited has just been registered with a capital of £4,000, in £1 shares, to acquire, take over as a going concern, and carry on the business of an aerated water manufacturer and wholesale and retail bottler of ales, stout, cider, drinks, and other liquids, carried on by John Lord, at 96, Birmingham Road, Walsall, and at the rear of the ROYAL OAK INN, Ablewell Street, Walsall. The subscribers are....

Alfred Medlam, WOOLPACK HOTEL, Walsall, licensed victualler."

Walsall Advertiser 8/7/1899

"Leonard Harrison, Ablewell Street; John Mullins, 9, Blue Lane East; Harry *Wilson*, WOOLPACK, Digbeth; Charles Smith, 81, Old Butts, were summoned for playing football in Eldon Street, on June 21st. The defendants each pleaded guilty, but Smith offered as his excuse that it was 'in the breakfast half hour' and they only played 10 minutes. Each fined 2s 6d."

Walsall Advertiser 22/7/1899

"The Walsall No.1 and 2 Branches of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants took their annual picnic on Sunday. Leaving the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Pleck, they travelled in brakes via Church Bridge and Gailey to Brewood, and on arriving at their

destination made the Lion Hotel, kept by Mr. *A. Medlam*, formerly of YE OLDE WOOLPACK HOTEL, Walsall, their quarters. A splendid tea was served, and after the good things provided had been done ample justice to, a walk was taken round the village. Subsequently, at the hotel, a beautifully framed emblem was presented to the host on behalf of the branches, the gift being suitably acknowledged by Mr. *Medlam*. The journey home was made through Wolverhampton, and Walsall was reached about 10.30pm, the party having spent an enjoyable time.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing sessions for this borough were held at the Guildhall on Wednesday.....

Then the magistrates also want to know if you can report to them during the sitting of this meeting as to the accommodation provided by the GEORGE HOTEL, the STORK, the DRAGON, the PRIORY, NEW INNS, the WOOLPACK, and the QUEENS?the Chief Constable said he was then in possession of the information asked by the Magistrates with reference to the bedroom accommodation at the hotels. At the GEORGE HOTEL there were nineteen beds for commercials. The two large rooms at that hotel, formerly used for balls, &c, had been converted into eight bedrooms and a bathroom, and no plans had been submitted for the alterations. At the PRIORY there were six bedrooms for accommodation, five at the DRAGON, three at the QUEENS, but there was no bedroom accommodation at the STORK, NEW INNS, and the WOOLPACK Hotels.....

Mr. Loxton announced that the hotel licenses would be renewed with the exception of the GEORGE.”

Walsall Observer 17/3/1900

“A Smoking Concert was held in the club room of YE OLD WOOLPACK on Tuesday evening, for the benefit of Bro. H. Gwinnett, who met with an accident on April 13th, 1899, breaking his thigh, which rendered him unable to follow his employment for ten months. The concert was in connection with the Walsall branch of the Amalgamated Society of House Decorators and Painters. The chair was occupied by Mr. Wm. Emson, and about fifty friends were present.....”

Walsall Observer 21/4/1900

“An inquest was held on Wednesday by the Borough Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley), at the WOOLPACK HOTEL, on the body of Gladys Lillian Fox, aged five weeks.

Ethel Fox, mother of the dead child, 50, Queen Street, said that on Monday last she went out with her husband and mother, and, as they returned late, they decided to sleep in her mother’s house, 13, The Square. The deceased baby slept with witness and her mother, and about six o’clock on Tuesday morning witness awoke and fed the infant, which seemed all right at that time. An hour later witness’s mother awoke her and told her that the child was dead.

Jane Pope, mother of the last witness, 13, The Square, said that on Monday night she slept with her daughter and the infant at her own house. She awoke just before seven and got up and dressed, and then picked up the baby. The baby was quite dead when witness went to her.

Dr. Harry Shore said that he was called in to see the baby about half past seven on Tuesday morning. The child was quite dead when he examined her, and from her appearance he could see that death was the result of suffocation from overlying.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

W. Otter was elected as a member of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society in August 1900.

Walsall Observer 8/12/1900

“The Florists’ Society. The annual meeting of the members of this society was held at the WOOLPACK, Digbeth, on Wednesday night. Mr. G. Saddler presided.....”

1901 Census

Digbeth – WOOLPACK

[1] *Walter W. C. A. Otter* (45), hotel keeper, born Camberwell, London;

[2] *Annie Otter* (44), wife, born Whitchurch, Shropshire;

[3] *Rose Otter* (18), daughter, born Crewe;

[4] *May Otter* (13), daughter, born Crewe;

[5] *Violet Otter* (9), daughter, born Crewe;

[6] *William F. Otter* (3), son, born Crewe;

[7] *George Pritchett* (22), nephew, engineer’s fitter, born Crewe;

[8] *Rose Waldron* (26), domestic servant, born Birmingham:

James Wilson was fined £5 and costs, on 25th April 1902, for selling ale after hours.

Walsall Advertiser 7/3/1903

“On Tuesday the adjourned annual licensing sessions were held at the Guildhall, when the Court was crowded.....

Formal notice of objection had been given to the renewal of the following licenses.....

Alfred Henry Jones, OLD WOOLPACK, Digbeth.

All the licenses were renewed.”

Walsall Advertiser 4/6/1904

“Transfer Day.

In the application of Mr. W. J. Pearman-Smith for the transfer of the license of YE OLDE WOOLPACK, Digbeth from *Alfred Henry Jones* to Robert Wooley, the question arose as to whether it was necessary for the out-going tenant to appear.

Mr. Loxton (magistrates’ clerk) said the law clearly laid down that it was unless the lawyer appearing in the case could give satisfactory reasons for his absence.

Mr. H. H. Jackson: I think the best thing would be to chain him up your worships.

Mr. Bayliss: I don’t think this is the time for a display of wit on the part of solicitors.

Mr. Jackson: I only wished to point out, your worships, how difficult it sometimes is to get the out-going tenant to appear.

Mr. Bayliss: (sharply): There is no difficulty in obeying an Act of Parliament.

Granted.”

[Robert Wooley does not appear in the Licensing Register.]

Walsall Advertiser 25/5/1905 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell St., Walsall.

Houses.....

YE OLDE WOOL PACK, Digbeth, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 1/2/1908

“A labourer named Fredk. Simmonds (40), of no home, was charged with begging in the OLD WOOLPACK, Digbeth, also with assaulting the landlord, *Thos. Pedley*, on Monday.

Evidence was given that prisoner entered the house and commenced begging at midday on Monday, and when ordered out by the landlord refused to go. The landlord took hold of him to eject him, when prisoner struck him in the mouth.

Prisoner’s defence was that the landlord hit him first, and he retaliated. According to Police-constable Farnell (53), who arrested prisoner, he was bleeding slightly from the lip.

Prisoner was discharged on promising to leave the town.”

Walsall Advertiser 7/5/1910

“James Cumisky, tailor, 78, South Street, was summoned for being found drunk on licensed premises, the OLD WOOLPACK, Digbeth, on April 23rd; and *Thomas Pedley*, the landlord, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises.

Dealing with the summons against Cumisky, Sergeant Cook said at about 8.10pm on Saturday, April 23rd, he visited the OLD WOOLPACK in company with Police-constable Fisher, and in the snug he saw defendant drinking from a glass. He was drunk, and as soon as he saw the officers he put his glass down and walked out of the house. Witness followed and saw defendant go away, and then he (witness) returned to the house and saw the landlord. He asked *Pedley* if he had noticed Cumisky’s condition, and he said that he had had something to drink but was not drunk. Witness asked the landlord who had supplied defendant with drink, and he replied, ‘I do not know.’ Witness also asked the landlord if he knew who was responsible, and he answered, ‘I suppose I am; but I could not be everywhere.’ Witness pointed out that the potman who was in the snug should have noticed defendant’s condition.

Cross-examined by Mr. F. Wilson Smith, who defended, witness said he had heard that defendant had previously been taken to the police station for refusing to pay for beer at the MARKET TAVERN. If he had seen the defendant going into the house he would have cautioned the man behind the bar not to serve him. He did not arrest defendant, because he had requested him to go and he went.

Police-constable Fisher corroborated. In answer to the Chief Constable, he said the house was visited in the course of ordinary visitation.

Police-constable Lewis stated that he was called to the MARKET TAVERN on the night in question because the defendant was accused by the landlord of refusing to pay for beer that he had had. The defendant was under the influence of beer at the time.

Cumisky said he went out of the house with 1s 7d and he went to the WOOLPACK and had half-a-pint of beer, and then went to the MARKET TAVERN, where he called for two half-pints. He subsequently called for two more, and found that he had no money to pay because he had lost a shilling. The landlord became excited and called for the police, and he was taken to the police station. He might have been excited, but he strongly denied being drunk. He went to the WOOLPACK later to see if he had lost the shilling there, and he was asked to drink out of a jug.

The Bench decided that there was not enough evidence to convict, and the case would be dismissed.

The Chief Constable consequently withdrew the summons against *Pedley*.”

Walsall Advertiser 30/7/1910

“The many friends of Mr. *W. Pedley*, who sails for Australia today, met at the WOOLPACK HOTEL, Digbeth, on Thursday evening for the purpose of presenting him with a purse of gold, and wishing him every success in his new home.....”

Walsall Advertiser 10/9/1910 - Advert

“A. Beebee’s Noted Home-Brewed Ales.

Brewery – Sandwell Street, Walsall.

Houses.....

YE OLD WOOLPACK, Digbeth, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/11/1910

“Loyal Caledonian Corks.

The quarterly meeting of the Walsall district was held on Saturday, at the WOOLPACK, Hotel, Digbeth. There were fifty-eight delegates present, representing twenty-seven lodges.....”

“Home brewed ales, Wines and spirits. Billiards.” [1911]

1911 Census

19, Digbeth

[1] *Thomas Pedley* (38), public house manager, born Walsall;

[2] *Mary Jane Pedley* (36), wife, married 13 years, assisting in business, born Walsall;

[3] *Alice May Pedley* (12), daughter, born Walsall;

[4] *Ivy Lillian Pedley* (4), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] *Thomas Pedley* (6 weeks), son, born Walsall;

[6] *Alice Rodgers* (28), boarder, bridle stitcher, born Walsall;

[7] *Mable May King* (26), barmaid, born London;

[8] *Nellie Myring* (19), servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 3/6/1911

“On Thursday week, a large gathering, to the number of about 80, assembled at YE OLDE WOOLPACK, Digbeth, to enjoy an excellent concert During the evening a presentation consisting of a splendid 400-day time-piece, suitably engraved, was made to Mr. *T. Pedley*, who informed the company that it was through force of circumstances he had to sever his connection with them.....”

William Alfred Burton – see also ALMA.

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
OLDE WOOLPACK, Digbeth. £2 2s 11d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/10/1935

“Visiting the exhibition last week at Walsall Civic Week Municipal Centenary celebrations.....

An old painting which recalled recent differences of authorities about the authenticity of the Uttoxeter or Walsall penance of Samuel Johnson was ‘YE OLDE WOOLPACK, Walsall, pulled down in 1892. In the very shadow of this old house the great Samuel Johnson when a boy used to mind his father’s bookstall.’ That is the superscription on the painting. We need not re-open this discussion – at least not this year – but simply note that art has definitely associated the great Doctor with the Digbeth inn.”

Birmingham Mail 16/10/1939

“Two Birmingham sailors were among those who were lost when the Royal Oak was torpedoed. Several Midland men are among the survivors.....

Mrs. *Eva Ward*, wife of Mr. *E. J. Ward*, licensee of the WOOLPACK INN, Digbeth, Walsall, has received an official intimation that her son, *Eric Douglas Densham*, who was serving as an ordinary seaman on the Royal Oak, is alive and well. He is aged 18, and his mother told the *Mail* today that he comes of a seafaring family, members of which have been in the Royal Navy for a period of over 300 years. She has another son, *Albert James*, who is aged 19, serving on HMS *Rodney*.

Prior to joining the Navy, *Eric* worked first for a Birmingham firm and afterwards at *Rubery Owen and Co*, Darlaston. The Royal Oak was his first ship since he completed his training.”

1939 Register

Digbeth – WOOLPACK Public House

[1] *Ernest J. Ward*, date of birth 11/11/1891, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Eva J. (Ward) Densham*, dob 27/04/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Walsall Observer 2/3/1940

“The members of the Walsall & District Roller Canary Club held their 18th annual singing contest on Saturday, at headquarters, YE OLD WOOLPACK HOTEL, Digbeth. Financially and otherwise the show was a great success, and the winning birds came from all over England.....”

Walsall Observer 31/5/1941

“Making his 26th appearance before the court, *John Jones* (41), labourer, 20 Stag Hill Road, Harden, who was charged with being drunk and disorderly in the Square yesterday week, said, ‘It is very seldom I have any beer.’

It was stated that he used obscene expressions to the landlord of YE OLDE WOOLPACK, Digbeth, and a police officer had to be summoned to help in putting him outside, where he used some more bad language.

Jones admitted being drunk but denied that he would use such language as that which had been attributed to him.

Police-superintendent *Raybould* said that he had had several previous convictions for drunkenness, the last being in February this

year.

Jones, who said that he was a married man with six children, only two of whom were working, was told by Judge Caporn that he ought not to be wasting his money on drink and consequent fines. He was now fined 20s.”

Walsall Observer 26/6/1943 - Advert

“Notice!!! To Organisers, Secretaries, and all those Interested In Entertainment.
Ladies and Gentlemen. Presenting the Walsall & District Variety Artists’ Association,
At their Permanent Headquarters, the WOOLPACK, Digbeth.
Membership Open to All Artists and Enthusiasts.
Auditions Every Thursday Night, Commencing Thursday, July 1st, at 8pm prompt.
Can you Sing (or Bing!), Dance, Whistle, Play Instrument, Make ‘em Larf?
You can! Well, what are we waiting for? New Artists and All Budding Talent especially welcomed.
Stage! Atmosphere! Coriality!
Walsall hasn’t a Theatre (Shame!) but by gosh! Now, you’ve got the WOOLPACK!!!
Well-known Local Artists in Support Each Week.
Admission Free, Everybody Invited.
Overheard: What! You’re not a member of the W&DVAA? You are lonely, aren’t you!”

Birmingham Mail 13/10/1943 - Advert

“Bar-Help Wanted live out.
WOOLPACK, Digbeth, Walsall.”

It closed on 27th February 1964.

It was demolished on 10th August 1966.

YARD

Station Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Whitley [1869]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/2/1869

“At the Public Office yesterday, before Messrs. J. Hildick (Mayor), J. Brewer, and H. Highway, the following publicans and beerhouse keepers were each fined 2s 6d and cost for having had their houses open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours.....
James Whitley, landlord of the YARD beerhouse, Station Street, who, about two o’clock on Tuesday morning, had six men drinking in the house.”

YATES

23-29, Leicester Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Stonegate Pub Company [2012]

LICENSEES

NOTES

[2007]

Express & Star 11/7/2017

“Marie Wood suddenly started throwing punches at fellow customer Andrew O’Donnell in YATES’s on Leicester Street, Walsall for reasons that were not immediately apparent, a judge heard. Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting, told Wolverhampton Crown Court: ‘He was on the receiving end of aggressive behaviour from her. He may have found her attractive but, for whatever reason, she started punching him.’

There was pushing and shoving as others got involved in the disturbance which culminated in 36-year-old woman hurling a glass into the crowd. It did not break but caused a head injury to another of the customers, continued the prosecutor. Wood, who had been drinking heavily after parting from a partner, was ejected by security staff but the trouble continued outside on August 8 last year. She tried to get back into the premises on several occasions but was pulled back by 20-year-old Mitchell Leonard, whom she knew. Then she got in a fight with another woman who had just left the bar. Both were thrown to the ground in the struggle during which she kicked her rival in the ribs. The pair had to be literally pulled apart as they clung to each other on the ground. O’Donnell also became involved in the melee before being felled with a punch from another of Wood’s party, 30-year-old father of two Ben Edwards. Mr Searle explained: ‘Edwards took up a boxing stance as Mr O’Donnell walked towards him and then punched Mr O’Donnell, knocking him down before kicking him.’

The victim was then punched while lying unconscious on the ground by Leonard, concluded the prosecutor. Mr O’Donnell was badly bruised and needed eight stitches in his lip.

Wood from Pelsall Lane, Walsall, who had a previous conviction for excess alcohol, recalled little of what happened because she was drunk. Mr David Swinnerton, defending, said: ‘She had been on a bender following the break up of a relationship and is disgusted at her shameful behaviour.’

Roofer Edwards of Roebuck Road, Leamore, who was not involved in the violence until punching and kicking Mr O’Donnell, had previous convictions for affray, assault and violent disorder while Leonard from Stephenson Avenue, Beechdale, was of previous good character.

Recorder Jason MacAdam said: ‘This was a disgraceful, but sadly all too common, incident.’ He told the defendants who all admitted affray: ‘Wood started it and kept it going with violence both inside and outside the pub. Edwards had the good sense to walk away before the drink or instinct took over and he reverted to type while Leonard cowardly punched a man who was lying on the ground.’

Edwards, who also pleaded guilty to causing grievous bodily harm, was jailed for one year eight months while Wood, who pleaded guilty to two affrays – representing her behaviour both inside and outside YATES’s – was locked up for eight months. Leonard received four months detention suspended for 18 months with 180 hours unpaid work.”

[2017]

YEW TREE

3, (6), Ryecroft Street (3, (4), Ryecroft Park) / Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

John Brewer Esq., Wednesbury
George Holden
Joseph Bullows
City Brewery Co. (Lichfield) Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Holden [1871] – [1881];
William Young [] – 1889);
Frederic Mundy (1889 – 1891);
John William Beebee (1891 – 1893);
Charles Welch Done (1893 – 1920);
Frederick Lord (1920 – 1925);
Harry Haden (1925);

NOTES

4, Ryecroft Park [1871]
6, Ryecroft Street [1872]
3+4, Ryecroft Street [1881]
3, Ryecroft Street [1896]
3, Ryecroft Park [1901], [1904], [1912]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

It was a home brew house.

1871 Census

4, Ryecroft Park
[1] *George Holden* (37), saddler and beer seller, born Walsall;
[2] *Mary Holden* (37), wife, born Walsall;
[3] *Hannah E. Holden* (13), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[4] *Ellen Kate Holden* (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[5] *Ellen Holden* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
[6] *Harriet Russell* (16), domestic servant, born Walsall:

George Holden, beer retailer, Ryecroft Park. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 19/9/1873

“The committee of the Walsall Cottage Hospital beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following contributions that have been received up to yesterday from the Licensed Victuallers and beersellers.....
Mr. George Holden, YEW TREE, Ryecroft Street, 6s 6d.”

1881 Census

3+4, Ryecroft Street – YEW TREE INN
[1] *George Holden* (47), widower, retail brewer, born Walsall;
[2] *Ellen Holden* (20), daughter, domestic servant, born Walsall;
[3] *Ellen R. Holden* (22), daughter, barmaid, born Walsall;
[4] *Ada Cheadle* (21), domestic servant, born Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire;
[5] *Elizabeth Cooper* (19), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1891 Census

Ryecroft Park – YEW TREE INN
[1] *Frederic Mundy* (34), publican, born Twyford, Berkshire;
[2] *Sarah Ann Mundy* (40), wife, born Tickhill, Yorkshire;
[3] *Frederic Mundy Loikins* (2), son, born Walsall:

Walsall Observer 1/10/1892

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the borough of Walsall were held on Wednesday.....
Mr. Gillespie applied on behalf of *Joseph Knight*, of the BARLEY MOW beerhouse, Church Hill, to remove the license to two houses at the corner of Arundel Street and Willenhall Road. He stated that this applicant was also prepared to sacrifice a second license, that of the YEW TREE beerhouse Stafford Street. He pointed out that there was a large and growing population in this neighbourhood, and as both licenses were in the neighbourhood of churches, the removal was a most desirable one. *Mr. Gillespie* produced plans of the alterations proposed to be made, and said it was the intention of the applicant to make a feature of supplying dinner to working men.
Messrs. Jesse Herbert, *Bill Jackson*, and *Checkley* opposed on behalf of other license holders, and the temperance party Re-fused.”

Charles Welsh Done, beer retailer, 3, Ryecroft Park. [1896], [1904], [1912]

Walsall Advertiser 28/11/1896

“*Thomas Anslow* (14), and *William Broomhall* (14), of Hospital Street, and *Charles Bert Done* (13), of the YEW TREE INN, Ryecroft, were charged with playing football in Stafford Street.
Detective Haycock proved having found the boys kicking a ball of rags near St. Peter’s Church, charging each other, and making a great noise.
Fined 2s 6d each, without costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/4/1897

“Edward Carroll (30), Ball Street, was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and with assaulting Sergeants Ballance and Curtis and Police-constable William Glover.

Prisoner pleaded guilty, but said he did not remember what took place. He had not had any beer for five or six weeks until Monday.

Evidence was given by the officers, who said they were called to the YEW TREE INN, Rycroft Street, and found the prisoner drunk, and like a raving madman. The prisoner kicked the officers so badly that two of them – Sergeant Curtis and Police-constable Glover – were still on the sick list. The prisoner had to be brought a portion of the way to the police station on a tramcar. Ballance had his ankle badly injured, and Curtis had the skin broken in three places.

There were previous convictions against the prisoner, and Mr. Beebee remarked that assaulting the police seemed to be a favourite amusement of his when he was in drink.

The Bench committed him for three months’ imprisonment, with hard labour.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/7/1897 - Advert

“Wanted, a strong willing Girl, about 16, with character.

Apply, Mrs. *Done*, YEW TREE INN, Rycroft Park, Walsall.”

1901 Census

3, Rycroft Park

[1] *Charles W. Done* (43), brewer and public house keeper, born Aldridge;

[2] Alice Done (43), wife, born Coseley;

[3] Charles B. Done (18), son, carpenter’s assistant, born Walsall;

[4] Harry L. Done (14), son, born Walsall;

[5] Joseph H. Done (12), son, born Walsall;

[6] Alice L. Done (10), daughter, born Walsall;

[7] Gladys M. Done (3), daughter, born Walsall;

[8] Norman E. Done (4 months), son, born Walsall;

[9] Pamela Kendrick (20), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Advertiser 25/12/1909

“The various sick and dividend societies in the town have, during the last week, paid out the yearly dividends.....

YEW TREE INN, Rycroft Street. The society held at this house received in contributions during the year £49 11s 9d, and after all expenses had been paid, including £20 6s sick pay, funeral, &c, a balance of £20 9s 9d was left for sharing, which worked out at 9s, and two nights paid on card, per member.”

Walsall Advertiser 5/2/1910

“The annual Brewster Sessions for the borough of Walsall were opened at the Guildhall, on Wednesday.....

Notice of objection (compensation clause or otherwise) had been served in respect to the following houses.....

In the case of the YEW TREE, Rycroft Street, of which *Charles W. Done* was the tenant and the City Brewery Company the owners, Mr. H. H. Jackson appeared and said it was an ante -’69 beer-house.

Mr. Walter Hughes stated that the premises consisted of three bedrooms, bar parlour, living room, scullery, coal-house, brew-house, and he considered the value, with the license, was 6s 6d, a week, the tenant paying all rates.”

1911 Census

3, Rycroft Park

[1] *Charles Welch Done* (53), publican, born Aldridge, Staffordshire;

[2] Alice Done (53), wife, married 30 years, born Coseley;

[3] Joseph Horace Done (22), son, leather bridle maker, born Walsall;

[4] Alice Lilly Done (20), daughter, born Walsall;

[5] Gladis May Done (13), daughter, school, born Walsall;

[6] Norman Edgar Done (10), son, school, born Walsall;

[7] Maria James (23), servant, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1913

“*Charles Welch Done*, YEW TREE INN, Rycroft Street, was summoned for selling beer, not in a corked and sealed vessel and not less than a pint in quantity, to one William Wood, under the age of 14, on January 25. Mr. H. H. Jackson defended and pleaded guilty.

Police-constable Stopford stated that about 2.35pm on Saturday he saw a boy, obviously under 14, carrying two bottles of beer. They were sealed over with paper, but were not corked. The boy said he had been served at the YEW TREE INN, and witness then went to see defendant, who at once admitted that he had served the boy. In witness’s presence the bottles were corked and the boy was allowed to take them.

Mr. Jackson pleaded that this was a matter of omission rather than commission. Defendant was very busy on Saturday and had no corks handy, and sealed the bottle securely with paper. Defendant was ordered to pay the costs.”

Walsall Observer 26/6/1915 - Marriages

“On June 23rd, James, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Fox, Stafford Street, to Alice Lily, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Done, YEW TREE INN, Ryecroft Park.”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....
YEW TREE INN, Ryecroft Park. £1 6s 5½d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/2/1918

“The annual licensing sessions.....

A legitimate complaint had been made by working men and others about the publicans refusing to supply beer for out-door consumption. This was a practice which was very much to be deprecated, and the justices hoped it would be altered. In some instances publicans had refused to supply casual customers. That was wrong, as a license-holder was compelled, so long as he had facilities for doing so, to serve anybody with reasonable refreshment who applied for it, and he was not justified in declining to serve other than regular customers. Any cases of such refusal brought before the justices would be seriously regarded. The Bench renewed all the licenses except those of the YEW TREE, Ryecroft it was stated that notices had been exhibited by the license holders that no outdoor customers would be served.”

Charles Welsh Done died on 6th July 1920.

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1925

“At the adjourned licensing sessions, on the 5th inst, the justices referred the following houses for compensation.....
YEW TREE, Ryecroft Street.”

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority.
Compensation was paid on 24th October 1925.
It closed on 31st October 1925.

ALEHOUSES and BEERHOUSES

A number of alehouses and beerhouses were never given a name.
Only those that I am sure had ‘on’ licenses are included.

Alehouse - Unnamed

10, Bridge Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Frank Yates, farmer, Great Barr
Corporation of Walsall

LICENSEES

Joseph Whitehouse [1872];
George Whitehouse [] – 1909);
Francis Joseph ‘Joe’ Zeller (1909 – 1912);
David William McAlister (1912 – 1919);
Charles Frederick Godfrey (1919 – 1925):

NOTES

It had a six-day license.

Walsall Advertiser 17/9/1898 - Advert

“Wine Bottles Wanted.
J. Whitehouse & Son, Wine Merchants, 10, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Friendly and Protection Society, was held on Thursday last.....

New Members..... *Francis Joe Zeller*, 10, Bridge Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/8/1911 - Advert

“Telephone 398. No.10, Bridge Street, Walsall.

The Lichfield Brewery Company, Ltd., Wholesale and Retail Wine and Spirit Merchants, Ales and Porter Bottlers.

District Agents: F. Joe Zeller & Son.

Fine Ale in Cask & Bottle.

Speciality ‘No.10’ Special Scotch (10 years old; highly recommended).

Any Quantity Supplied. Please send Postcard or ‘Phone.

Retail Bar and Order Office: 10, Bridge Street.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/9/1911 - Notice

“In the Matter of a Deed of Assignment for the benefit of Creditors, executed on the 1st April, 1910, by *Francis Joseph Zeller*, residing at Ferndale, Oaken, near Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, and carrying on business as a Brewer, at the Bell Brewery, Bell Place, Wolverhampton, also as Licensed Victualler, at 10, Bridge Street, Walsall, Staffordshire, and as a Bottler and Seller of Ales, Beers, Porter, and Cider, and Wines and Spirits, at 10, High Street, Walsall....”

Walsall Observer 12/1/1918

“Walsall and District War Aid Committee. Collection By The Licensed Victuallers, December, 1917.....

No.10, Bridge Street. £1 13 2½d.”

The license was abandoned by Walsall Corporation.

It closed on 31st July 1925.

Alehouse - Unnamed

Upper Rushall Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Joseph Whitehouse, wine merchant, Stafford Street, Walsall

LICENSEES

Henry Sly [1872] – [1873];

Emma Worley [1875];

Michael Casey [];

Henry Sly [];

NOTES

Henry Sly was fined 20s and costs, on 9th July 1873, for Sunday trading.

Emma Worley was fined 20s and costs, on 31st October 1875, for permitting drunkenness.

Beerhouse - Unnamed

2, High Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

John Clifford, farrier and draper, Bloxwich

LICENSEES

Thomas Jones [1871] – [1872];
John Dixon []

NOTES

It had a six-day license.

1871 Census

2, High Street

- [1] *Thomas Jones* (43), pensioner, born Burnley, Lancashire;
- [2] *Martha Jones* (43), wife, dress maker, born Shrewsbury;
- [3] *Mary Ann Bullows* (7), niece, scholar, born Shrewsbury;
- [4] *Joseph Bullows* (6), nephew, scholar, born Shrewsbury;
- [5] *John Jones* (69), father, widower, pensioner, born London:

Beerhouse - Unnamed

Reeves Street, BLOXWICH

OWNERS

Edwin Goodwin

LICENSEES

Edwin Goodwin [1866]

NOTES

Walsall Free Press 1/9/1866

“General Licensing Day. Yesterday a special session was held in the Guildhall Assembly Room.....

Mr. Stanley applied on behalf of Mr. *Edwin Goodwin*, beerhouse keeper, Reeves Street, Bloxwich. Application refused.”

Beerhouse - Unnamed

6, Darlaston Road, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Hicklin [] – **1893**;
Mary Ann Hicklin (**1893** – [])

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1893

“The adjourned licensing session for Walsall borough took place yesterday.....

The following transfers were granted without opposition.....

A beerhouse, at 6, Darlaston Road, from the executors of the late *William Hicklin* to *Mary Ann Hicklin*.”

Check ROSE AND CROWN.

Beerhouse - Unnamed

35, Digbeth, WALSALL

OWNERS

Samuel Drew, Park Street, Walsall
Mrs. S. Drew, Bradford Street, Walsall
George Dance
Richard William Tivey, Westbourne Road, Walsall

LICENSEES

Alfred Albert Thomas Jester [1872] – **1887**);
Joshua Bloomer (**1887 – 1888**);
Charles Overton (**1888 – 1889**);
Mary Vernon Clarke (**1889 – 1891**);
George Dance (**1891 – 1900**);
Richard William Tivey (**1900 – 1919**);
Henry Edward Kemp (**1919 – []**)

NOTES

It was near to George Street.

It had a six-day beerhouse license.
It also had a refreshment license.

A wine license was granted.

1881 Census

35, Digbeth

- [1] *Alfred A. T. Jester* (35), refreshment house keeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Julia E. Jester* (35), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Clara Hollingsworth* (20), waitress (inn servant), born Bilston;
- [4] *Ann Powell* (18), general servant, born Bilston:

1891 Census

35, Digbeth

- [1] *William Clarke* (62), tripe dresser, born Newcastle under Lyme;
- [2] *Mary V. Clarke* (42), wife, keeper of dining rooms, born Shrewsbury;
- [3] *Vernon O. Clarke* (17), son, engineer's pattern maker, born Manchester;
- [4] *Ethel M. Clarke* (16), daughter, assistant to parents, born Kenilworth;
- [5] *William M. Clarke* (15), son, assistant to parents, born Kenilworth;
- [6] *Maurice W. Clarke* (13), son, general merchant's apprentice, born Kenilworth;
- [7] *Reginald H. Clarke* (12), son, scholar, born Kenilworth;
- [8] *Horace V. Clarke* (11), son, scholar, born Kenilworth;
- [9] *Muriel V. Clarke* (8), daughter, scholar, born Kenilworth;
- [10] *Dorothy M. Clarke* (4), daughter, born Kenilworth;
- [11] *Sarah E. Lukin* (18), waitress, born Bloxwich;
- [12] *Mary Parkin* (15), kitchen maid, born Bloxwich;
- [13] *Sarah A. Painter* (14), scullery maid, born Brownhills:

1901 Census

35, Digbeth

- [1] *Richard W Tivey* (39), coffee house, dealer and keeper, born Heather, Leicestershire;
- [2] *Eliza Tivey* (47), wife, born Melbourne, Derbyshire;

- [3] Elizabeth D. Davies (36), assistant, born Culvington, Shropshire;
[4] Eunice Luce (22), assistant, born Wolverhampton;
[5] Eunice Charles (18), assistant, born Old Hill:

An agreement was made that the license was only to be used in connection with meals on 2nd February 1910.

1911 Census

35, Digbeth

- [1] R. W. Tivey (47), restaurant keeper, born Heather, Leicestershire;
[2] L. E. Tivey (57) wife, married 26 years, born Melbourne, Derbyshire;
[3] Florence Mary Jessup (27), servant, waitress, born Rugeley;
[4] Gertrude E. Coggins (30), servant, waitress, born Great Bridge;
[5] Mable Cowley (23), servant, butcher's _____, born Walsall Wood:

Beerhouse - Unnamed

George Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Henry Whittaker [1857] – [1861]

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 2/9/1857

“Annual Licensing Day..... There were twenty-two applications for spirit licenses.....
Henry Whittaker, George Street. Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 3/9/1859

“The bench proceeded to entertain the applications for new licenses.....

Mr. Wilkinson's application on behalf of Mr. Henry Whittaker, beerhouse keeper, George Street, was opposed by Mr. Duignan on behalf of Mr. Thacker of the DOLPHIN, which is within a few doors of Mr. *Whittaker's* house, was refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Wednesday last, being the annual licensing day, twenty applications were made by beer-house keepers for victualling licenses.....
Henry Whittaker, George Street. Refused.”

Walsall Free Press 7/9/1861

“Adjourned Licensing Day.....

Mr. Matthews on behalf of Mr. *Henry Whittaker*, of George Street, applied that the bench should re-consider its decision of last week relative to his (Mr. *Whittaker's*) application for a license he again urged that Mr. *Whittaker's* spacious premises could accommodate the market carts which were at present placed in the public road, and were a nuisance and an inconvenience; and, therefore, his house ought to be licensed. Mr. Matthews dwelt for a considerable time upon this point, and then proceeded to show that although there were two or three other licensed houses in the locality, the exigencies of the market people required that Mr. *Whittaker's* house should be licensed.

Mr. Cater stated that the carts at the end of George Street were certainly a nuisance, and that Mr. Vickers' yard did not appear to be sufficiently commodious to hold the all.

The Bench did not see reason to alter its decision. If the cart people wanted a place of accommodation for their vehicles, they could go to Mr. *Whittaker's* house even at the present time. Application refused.”

Beerhouse - Unnamed

Green Lane, WALSALL

OWNERS

Thomas Foster, Bloxwich

LICENSEES

Joseph Elton [1872]

Beerhouse - Unnamed

7, High Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

Mrs. J. Collins, Green Lane, Birchfields

LICENSEES

James Henry Bourne [1871] – **1887**):

NOTES

It had a beer, cider and wine, and a refreshment house license.

1871 Census

7, High Street

- [1] *James Bourne* (48), restaurant keeper, born Dudley;
- [2] Ann E. Bourne (44), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] William Bourne (15), son, clerk, born Dudley;
- [4] Annie Bourne (12), daughter, scholar, born Dudley;
- [5] Charles W. Bourne (9), son, scholar, born Dudley;
- [6] Margaret A. Bourne (6), daughter, scholar, born Dudley;
- [7] Mary A. Bassett (22), domestic servant, born Gloucestershire;
- [8] Sarah Foster (18), domestic servant, born Tipton:

1881 Census

7, High Street

- [1] *James Henry Bourne* (58), widower, boarding house keeper, born Dudley;
- [2] William H. Bourne (25), son, commercial clerk, born Dudley;
- [3] Annie Bourne (22), daughter, assistant (beerhouse), born Dudley;
- [4] Margaret A. Bourne (16), daughter, assistant (beerhouse), born Dudley;
- [5] Charles W. Bourne (19), son, bridle cutter, born Dudley;
- [6] Mary A. Morris (38), general housekeeper, born Birmingham;
- [7] Jane Lunt (16), general servant, born Stone, Staffordshire:

At the Adjourned Annual Licensing Meeting, on 23rd September 1887, the magistrates refused to renew the license.

Beerhouse - Unnamed

Stafford Street, WALSALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Holland [pre 1867]
Mrs. Jane Holland [1867]

NOTES

Walsall Free Press 26/1/1867

“*John Holland*, who appeared in the dock with his head strapped up with plaster, and with a black eye, was charged with having wilfully damaged the property of his wife, *Jane Holland*.

It appeared that, on the 11th of October last, Mrs. *Holland* obtained a protection order, and that on Saturday last the prisoner went to her house – an ale and porter store, in Stafford Street – and took her portrait from the chimney-piece and broke it, and threw it on the fire. The wife then ran out of the house. Defendant then smashed bottles, jugs, and glasses to the amount of between £3 and £4, he then leapt through the window into the street, smashing the glass, and cutting his head.

These facts having been proved by the complainant and her mother, Mr. Glover, who appeared for the complainant, called and examined Mr. Edwin Coxon, ale and porter dealer [MANCHESTER ARMS], who said: I went to Mrs. *Holland*'s store and received an account.

By the Mayor: I was sent for to receive the money. I go regularly for the purpose at eleven o'clock on Saturday evening, but on the night in question I was sent for a little earlier. After receiving the money I went to the door to speak to a friend, and while there, I heard the prisoner say, 'I'll let you see who's landlord;' and on looking through the window, I saw defendant sweeping the bottles and glasses from the shelves. I then went for a policeman; and on my return found *Holland* sitting on the counter, and heard some people say that the prisoner got in through the window.

Mr. Coxon was cross-examined, but nothing was elicited to shake his evidence.

Defendant, who admitted the charge, was sentenced to pay a fine of 40s and costs; or in default, to be imprisoned for 21 days.”

Beerhouse - Unnamed

Town End Bank, WALSALL

OWNERS

Enoch Palmer

LICENSEES

Enoch Palmer [1868] – [1880]:

NOTES

The license was not taken out in 1880.

It was demolished.