

# HITCHMOUGH'S BLACK COUNTRY PUBS



Swan With Two Necks 1994

## LOMEY TOWN

(RAILWAY, ROYAL OAK, SALUTATION, SWAN WITH TWO NECKS, VINE & RAILWAY)

## RAILWAY

99, Lower High Street, (99, Lomey Town), Five Ways, CRADLEY HEATH

## OWNERS

Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.

## LICENSEES

Thomas Parsons [1868] – [1873]  
Jeremiah Westwood (**1878** – [ ]  
James Burn [1881]  
David Charles Price [1891] – [1892]  
Thomas White [1896]  
Thomas Scriven [1900] – **1902**)  
Charles Henry Mansell [1903]  
William Edmonds [1904]  
James Pegg [1908] – **1909**);  
Joseph Henry Cole (**1909** – [1911]  
Llewelyn Probyn\* [1912]  
Richard Llewelyn Province\* [1916]  
Harry Pegg [1919] – **1921**);  
Henry Horan (**1921** – **1924**);  
Harry Samuel Hancock (**1924** – **1934**);  
Alfred Powell (**1934** – **1935**);  
William Thomas Clay (**1935** – **1937**);  
Joseph Bennett (**1937** – **1950**);  
Beatrice Alice Bennett (**1950** – **1962**);  
Malcolm Leslie Corbett (**1962** – **1963**);  
William Smart (**1963** – [1965]

## NOTES

Lomey Town [1896]  
99, Lomey Town [1881], [1904], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1924]  
99, Lower High Street [1940]

It was situated just below Christ Church, next to Station Street.

RAILWAY HOTEL [1896], [1904], [1924]

## 1871 Census

Lomey Town – RAILWAY INN

- [1] Thomas Parsons (53), licensed victualler, born Netherton;
- [2] Mary A. Parsons (51), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Thomas Parsons (25), son, brewer, born Netherton;
- [4] Susannah Parsons (11), daughter, scholar, born Cradley, Worcestershire;
- [5] Martha Parsons (9), daughter, scholar, born Cradley, Worcestershire;
- [6] Elizabeth Grainger (12), general servant, born Quarry Bank:

### 1881 Census

99, Lomey Town – RAILWAY INN

- [1] *James Burn* (34), publican, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Elizabeth Burn* (30), wife, born Netherton;
- [3] *Suseannah Parsons* (21), boarder, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] *Martha Parsons* (19), boarder, born Cradley Heath:

*James Burn* issued tokens from here.

### Wednesbury Leader 26/8/1882

“A meeting of delegates representing the various trades in the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire district was held on Saturday afternoon at the RAILWAY ARMS INN, High Street, Cradley Heath, Rowley Regis, for the purpose of taking steps for the formation of a trades council. There was a good attendance of delegates.....”

### 1891 Census

Lomey Town – RAILWAY HOTEL

- [1] *David Price* (46), manager of hotel, born Evesham, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Ellen Price* (36), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Louisa Adams* (5), niece, born Evesham, Worcestershire;
- [4] *Maria Powell* (20), general servant, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Charles Murray* (52), boarder, lodger, widower, army pensioner, born Edinburgh:

*Thomas Scriven's* license (full) was renewed in August 1900, despite 'long pull' offences.

### County Express 25/8/1900

“The annual licensing sessions for the petty sessional division of Rowley Regis were held on Wednesday, at the Court House, Old Hill. The magistrates present were Messrs. W. Bassano (chairman), G. Green, and J. W. Tilley..... Mr. E. W. Cave (instructed by Mr. Jeffries) said he was instructed, on behalf of the Local Licensed Victuallers' Association and the Birmingham District Brewers' Association to oppose the renewal of the licenses of the RAILWAY INN and RED LION INN, Cradley Heath, kept by Mr. *Thomas Scriven* and Mr. *Thomas Price* respectively, the first being a fully-licensed house, and the latter a beerhouse. He thought the cases could be dealt with together. Mr. Waldron appeared to support the renewal of the licenses.

Mr. Cave said the objections were limited to four, the chief of which were that the license-holders were guilty of unfair trading by giving excessive over-measure, and that the premises were not required for the needs of the neighbourhood. The facts were that for a considerable time there had been a custom in the trade to give what was known as the long pull, which means that a man asking for a half-pint would get a pint, and asking for a pint would get a quart. Several attempts had been made to put an end to this, but the efforts had not been very successful until recently. Some time ago it was proposed there should be a combination on the part of license-holders to stop the practice, and it was only recently that it had come to a head, and it was desired now to prevent licensed-holders from indulging in the practice. The practice was one which he did not think they would dispute was detrimental to the interests of the public, and the trade were showing a genuine desire to bring about a reform and improvement in the cases in which drink was supplied to the public, and he considered they should be encouraged in that desire. That was the meaning of the objections, and as the trade had devoted itself to a system of internal reform, he thought the Bench should support it by refusing the licenses to these two houses until they conformed to the movement instituted by the trade in the interests of the public.

Edward Every, clerk, in the employ of Mr. Jeffries proved posting of notices of objection.

Mr. W. Green, jeweller, of Oldbury, gave evidence as to purchasing ale from the houses, and stated that for half a pint he got nearly a pint.

Cross-examined: He did not know whether these houses were 'free houses' or not.

Mr. Waldron said that anyone who knew anything about this question of fair trading practices amongst publicans could not be blind to the real object of those associations, they never were aware of any injury being done either to themselves or to the general public until the unfortunate extra shilling per barrel duty came into existence. The result was, as soon as it came into existence, then the very large brewers – he saw in the paper in the case of Allsopp's there was a loss of £30,000 to the shareholders – throughout the country began to hold meetings to see how that could be taken out of the public pocket, and put into the shareholder's in the shape of profit. That was the real

inception of the beginning of the so-called 'fair trade,' and what was known as ceasing to give long pulls. The Bench were not there to deal with private quarrels amongst the trade, but only to see the license-holders conformed with the regulations of the statute. It seemed to have been a regular thing to give greater measure than was asked for, but he ventured to suggest there was nothing unlawful or immoral in that, as long as the competition was fair and legitimate. The question that it led to drunkenness was nonsensical from its inception, because if there were drunkenness in the house it would mean not the white gloves they had heard of that day, but the Court would be inundated with prosecutions. He asked the Bench not to make themselves parties to a trade dispute, but to renew the licenses. There had not been a word suggested against the character of the two licensees that they were not fit and proper persons, neither that the houses were unsuitable, and he asked for the licenses to be renewed.

The Bench said they would renew the licenses. There were no special grounds for refusing, and it would be monstrously unfair to do so. Whatever the association might try to do for the public good and morality it would have the Bench's sympathy; but they were not altogether clear that there were any great benefits for public morality to be expected from this movement. It appeared that if a man went into a house and asked for a pint of beer, and he got a quart, it did no damage to his morality, for he was not obliged to drink it. It would be advantageous to a man and his family, inasmuch as he would get two pints for the price of one. If the trade was honest in its endeavor for the public good, let it go on and show itself in a better form than it had hitherto done. It did not come to the Court with the cleanest hands that day....."

### **County Express 22/12/1900**

"Amalgamated Forgemen, Blacksmiths, Fork-Drawers, Fork-makers, and Spade-Finishers Association.

The members of the above association held their first annual dinner at Mr. *T. Scriven's*, RAILWAY HOTEL, on Saturday week. Mr. Josiah Tilley (president) was in the chair, and Mr. Simeon in the vice-chair....."

### **1901 Census**

Lomey Town

- [1] *Thomas Scriven* (53), innkeeper, born Cradley, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Sophia Scriven* (51), wife, born Mushroom Green;
- [3] *William Scriven* (19), son, wood turner, born Mushroom Green;
- [4] *Florence Scriven* (17), daughter, barmaid, born Mushroom Green;
- [5] *Daisy Scriven* (16), daughter, barmaid, born Mushroom Green;
- [6] *Horace Scriven* (12), son, born Mushroom Green;
- [7] *Francis Scriven* (5), son, born Mushroom Green;
- [8] *Elizabeth Pearson* (18), domestic servant, born Quarry Bank:

### **County Express 28/9/1901**

"On Thursday evening, the first of a series of smoking concert under the auspices of the Cradley Heath Conservative and Unionist Association took place at the RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley Heath, and the attendance was such as augured well for the future of the association....."

### **Smethwick Weekly News 15/2/1902**

"*Thomas Scriven*, landlord of the RAILWAY INN, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, was summoned under the Food and Drugs Act for selling whisky which was not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded by the purchaser on the 1st of January. Mr. Van Tromp (Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act) explained that a sample of whisky was purchased from defendant's house, which upon being analysed, was found to be diluted 20 per cent beyond the statutory limit of 25 per cent, allowed by law. It was a bad case, and he asked the Bench to inflict a heavy penalty. The Bench fined defendant £10 and costs, amounting in all to £11 3s 6d."

*Tom Scriven* was fined £100 on the 18th April 1902, after a police raid on 5th April found that the pub was being used for taking bets.

### **Black Country Bugle 20/1/2005**

#### **John Martin's Log Book**

"A raid by police was made at the RAILWAY INN, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath on April 5th 1902. The proprietor, *Thomas Scriven*, was fined £100, James Tromans £100, and Thomas Insull £25, at a court appearance on April 18th."

### **Tipton Herald 10/7/1909**

“The members of the RAILWAY HOTEL Sick and Draw Club held their half-yearly dinner in the clubroom of that house on Monday evening. About 50 members sat down to a capital spread provided by the host and hostess, Mr. *J. H. Cole*, and his mother, Mrs. Farndon. After the meal the chair was taken by Mr. E. Willetts, the vice chair being occupied by Mr. S. Raybould.....”

### **1911 Census**

99, Lomey Town – RAILWAY HOTEL

[1] *Joseph Henry Cole* (23), unmarried, licensed victualler, manager, born Old Hill;

[2] *John Farndon* (38), stepfather, assisting in business, born Halesowen;

[3] *Amelia Farndon* (48), mother, married 12 years, assisting in business, born Wilnecote, Warwickshire;

[4] *Amy Maria Cole* (18), sister, assisting in business, born Old Hill;

[5] *Charles Robert Baden Farndon* (10), stepbrother, school, born Old Hill:

\* possibly the same person

*Richard Llewelyn Province* was also a brewer. [1916]

*Henry Horan* – see also OLD CROSS GUNS.

Mr. *Hancox* became the first secretary of the Cradley Heath Licensed Victuallers' Association in August 1925.

Closed [1970]

Demolished

## ROYAL OAK

48, Lower High Street, (43, Lomey Town), CRADLEY HEATH

### OWNERS

Joseph Harris  
George N. Bridgwater, Dudley Wood  
Lesters Ltd., Dudley  
Frederick Smith Ltd.  
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired on 12th October 1959)  
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

### LICENSEES

Moses Dunn [1870] – [1877]  
John Troman [1881] – [1891]  
Joseph Harris [ ] – **1901**  
Thomas Farmer [1904] – **1919**  
John Thomas Piper (**1919 – 1929**);  
Ernest Robinson (**1929 – 1931**);  
Herbert Williams (**1931 – 1932**);  
Frederick William Fell (**1932 – 1933**);  
Thomas George Buckley (**1933 – 1935**);  
George Thomas Brown (**1935** – [1965])  
George Stanley Williams [ ]

### NOTES

43, Lomey Town [1881], [1904], [1912], [1916], [1924]  
48, Lower High Street [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was popular with chain makers.

#### **Stourbridge Observer 16/7/1870**

“William Hill was charged with being drunk and refusing to leave a public house when requested to do so, on the 3rd instant. Mr. Addison defended.

Mary Attenborough, wife of Edward Attenborough, said she was sister of *Moses Dunn*, the landlord of the public house. On the above date she was at his house, helping to clean. Defendant went in, and called for a pint of cider. He was drunk. She refused to give him any, and he cursed and swore at her, and she requested him to leave and told him she should summons him if he did not. He afterwards went out.

Cross-examined: His brother gave evidence against my brother in a truck case. Do not speak to his family. It was ten minutes to twelve when he came in.

A witness named Dunn said when defendant came into the house he was not drunk. He refused to go out when requested to do so.

Ordered to pay the costs.”

### 1871 Census

Lomey Town – ROYAL OAK INN

- [1] *Moses Dunn* (45), unmarried, publican and greengrocer, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] *Ellen Summers* (35), sister, widow, house keeper, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] *Moses Summers* (9), nephew, scholar, born Rowley Regis;
- [4] *Thomas Summers* (7), nephew, scholar, born Rowley Regis;
- [5] *Mary Summers* (4), niece, born Rowley Regis;
- [6] *Alice Summers* (2), niece, born Rowley Regis:

### 1881 Census

43, Lomey Town – ROYAL OAK INN

- [1] *John Troman* (56), beer seller, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] *Jane Troman* (54), wife, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] *Edwin Troman* (18), son, bricklayer, born Rowley Regis;
- [4] *Joseph Troman* (16), son, spade maker, born Rowley Regis;
- [5] *Miriam Troman* (14), daughter, born Rowley Regis;
- [6] *Ruth Troman* (12), daughter, scholar, born Rowley Regis:

The beer was brewed here by Edwin Troman, the son of *John Troman*.

### 1891 Census

43, Lomey Town – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *John Troman* (66), beer seller, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] *Jane Troman* (65), wife, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] *Miriam Troman* (24), daughter, born Rowley Regis:

*Joseph Harris* was also a scrap dealer.

### 1901 Census

Lomey Town

- [1] *Joseph Harris* (59), inn keeper, born Old Hill;
- [2] *Emma M. Harris* (57), wife, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] *Frederick Harris* (29), son, scrap iron dealer, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] *Albert Harris* (22), son, chain examiner, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] *Thomas Harris* (17), son, born Old Hill;
- [6] *George Harris* (14), son, hydraulic foot fitter, born Old Hill:

### County Express 7/9/1901

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of Rowley Regis, in the County of Stafford; and to the Superintendent of Police of the District the house hereinafter is situate; and to all it may concern.

I, *Joseph Harris*, the Holder of a Six Day’s Beer and Wine License, now residing at Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, in the Parish of Rowley Regis, in the County of Stafford, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply at the Adjourned Annual General Licensing Meeting for the Division of Rowley Regis, to be holden at the Public Office at Old Hill, in the said County, on Wednesday, the 25th day of September, 1901, for the grant of a Seven Day’s License or Certificate authorising me to apply for and hold and Excise License for the Sale By Retail, at a House and Premises known as the ROYAL OAK INN, and situate at Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, in the Parish of Rowley Regis aforesaid, of Beer and Wine, to be consumed either on or off the Premises, in pursuance of the Act 11 George IV and William IV cap. 64. and 23 Viccap. 27, sections 7 and 8, and Acts amending the same, of which premises the said *Joseph Harris* is the owner, and the same of the annual value and are otherwise qualified as required by law, and are now in my occupation.

Given under my hand this 26th Day of August, 1901.

The Mark Of X *Joseph Harris*.”

### County Express 28/9/1901

“Adjourned Licensing Session. Halesowen. At the above sessions on Wednesday, Sir Benjamin Hingley and Messrs. J. Walker, G. Green, J. W. Tilley, and R. Hill were on the Bench.

*Joseph Harris*, of the ROYAL OAK, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, applied through Mr. G. Williams for the extension of his six days’ license to a seven days’ license.

Mr. Williams said Mr. *Harris* was the owner and licensee of the ROYAL OAK INN. Some time ago the question of extending the six days’ license to seven days’ came before the Bench, and the principle was laid down that if application were made for such an extension it should be granted so that the licensees should all be on the same footing. Several applications had been made and granted under the principle. He believed the house he now applied for was the last in the whole of the parish that had a six days’ license, and now Mr. *Harris* asked for the extension, and to be put on the same footing as the other licensed victuallers in the district.

Mr. *Harris* said he had been in the house ten years. In reply to Superintendent Spendlove, he admitted he was giving up possession in a months’ time.

The application was granted.”

### 1911 Census

Lomey Town – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Thomas Farmer* (42), galvanizer (holloware load), born Lye;
- [2] *Martha Farmer* (42), wife, married 21 years, born Lye;
- [3] *Howard Farmer* (18), son, railway porter, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] *Annie Farmer* (16), daughter, assisting housework, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] *Thomas Farmer* (14), son, galvanizer’s assistant (bucket factory), born Cradley Heath;
- [6] *Louisa Farmer* (12), daughter, school, born Cradley Heath;
- [7] *Cyril Farmer* (10), son, school, born Cradley Heath;
- [8] *Martha Farmer* (8), daughter, school, born Cradley Heath;
- [9] *Lily Farmer* (6), daughter, school, born Cradley Heath;
- [10] *Jack Farmer* (5), son, school, born Cradley Heath;
- [11] *Nelly Farmer* (5 months), daughter, born Cradley Heath:

### Auction catalogue – 25/10/1932

“Beerhouse-on with wine license. Situate within a short distance of the Five Ways close to the Railway Station. The accommodation comprises:- On the ground floor – Entrance Passage from front and back, Front Vaults, Front Tap Room, Back Smoke Room, Private Sitting Room and Pantry. On the first floor:- Spacious Club Room, Four Bedrooms. In the basement:- Excellent Cellars.

In a spacious Yard with party side approach is a 2 stall stable with loft over, Washhouse, two WC’s and Urinal.

Held under quarterly tenancy at a rental of £1 0s 0d per annum, tenant paying all outgoings (Tenant Mr. *Frederick William Fell*). Value of Trade Fixtures £75 0s 0d.”

A full license was granted on 6th February 1952.

Closed

Demolished

## SALUTATION

5, Lower High Street, (1, Lomey Town), Five Ways, CRADLEY HEATH

### OWNERS

Julia Hanson and Son Ltd. [1908]

### LICENSEES

Jeremiah Billingham [1833] – [1842]  
Thomas Grice [1849] – [1860]  
Alfred Priest [1862] – [1864]  
Henry Barber [1868] – [1881]  
Oliver James Deeming [1891] – **1899**)  
Alexander C Aldridge [1901]  
John Perry [ ] – **1903**);  
John Hill (**1903** – [1904]  
George Day [ ] – **1905**);  
Benoni Butler (**1905** – [ ]  
Lorenzo St. Clair Dorse [1908] – [1912]  
George Botfield [1916] – **1925**);  
Frederick George Hickman (**1925**);  
George Botfield (**1925** – **1933**);  
Theresa Botfield (**1933** – **1937**);  
Harry Willetts (**1937** – **1939**);  
George Pugh (**1939** – **1942**);  
Isaiah Holt (**1942** – **1945**);  
Esau Little (**1945** – **1955**);  
Caroline Little (**1955**);  
Joseph Preece (**1955** – **1956**):

### NOTES

Lomey Town [1871], [1896]  
1, Lomey Town [1881], [1904], [1911], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1924]  
5, Lower High Street [1940]

#### Stourbridge Observer 16/7/1864

“On Tuesday evening last, a friendly supper took place at the house of Mr. *Priest*, the SALUTATION INN. About twenty sat down. The health of the landlord was drunk, as well as that of the worthy hostess. Mr. *Priest* replied in a neat speech, observing that his object was to ‘try and please’ and he would endeavour to maintain the good opinion they had of him.”

#### Stourbridge Observer 6/8/1864

“Wanted a respectable young Girl, about 18. Apply at the SALUTATION INN, Five Ways, Cradley Heath.”

### Stourbridge Observer 3/12/1864

“*Alfred Priest*, SALUTATION INN, Cradley Heath, was charged by superintendent Mills with having refused to admit the police into a certain room in his house, on the night of the 26th instant. Mr. Shakespeare appeared for the defendant.

Sergeant Powner deposed: I am a sergeant of police, and reside at Old Hill. I know the defendant, he is a licensed victualler. From information I received, I visited the defendant’s house, on Saturday night last, at about a quarter to eleven, in company with police-constable Fox. In a room to the right, I saw two men and the wife of the defendant. I said to Mrs. *Priest* you seem very quiet, and she said yes, we have no one else in the house. I passed on to a small back parlour. I heard some voices. I tried the door, but it was fastened on the inside. Upon my knocking at the door and asking to be admitted, the mistress jumped up and said *Alfred* open the door, the sergeant is here. This she said twice. Upon her saying that, I was there [should this read, I heard?] a great scuffle took place in the room. It was similar to some men, all moving suddenly. I said open the door, I shall not wait. I should think I waited about three minutes. At the expiration of that time I left. I do not know whether the door was locked or bolted. I turned the handle towards the right. It opened inside of the room; that is should have had to push the door from me if I could have entered. I am quite sure of the fact that there was a general scuffle in the room, and also that I staid at the door not less than three minutes.

Police-constable Fox then corroborated the evidence of the sergeant.

For the defence it was urged that the sergeant did not stop while the door was being opened, but went off as soon as he had knocked at it.

Mr. *Priest* deposed: I live at Cradley Heath. I was in the defendant’s house on Saturday night last. I saw the police come in; I was in the kitchen. The sergeant went to the parlour door and tried to open it but could not. The handle is very difficult to turn. He only tried it once. He then turned to go out. As he was going out the door was opened, and Mrs. *Priest* said, ‘Now go in.’ He said, I shan’t, I shall summons you. He was not in the house above one minute.

The case was dismissed.”

### Stourbridge Observer 5/11/1870

“A man named Thomas Grice succeeded on Monday last, in committing suicide.

Some time back he was seized with a kind of stroke, and since then has been mentally affected. He went upstairs on Monday, and after placing his head in a noose made of some blind-string, he rolled off the bed, and was strangled. His son called him, but received no answer, and on proceeding upstairs found his father in part lying on the floor, with his head in the string. He immediately cut the string and Dr. Standish was fetched. On examination, he pronounced him quite dead.

An inquest was held on Thursday, at the SALUTATION INN, before Mr. Hooper, Coroner, and the jury returned a verdict that deceased Committed Suicide, while in a state of Temporary Insanity.”

### 1871 Census

Lomey Town – SALUTATION INN

[1] *Henry Barber* (49), publican and coal hauler, born Coventry;

[2] *Phoebe Barber* (51), wife, born Old Hill;

[3] *Henry Barber* (20), son, clerk, unemployed, born Old Hill;

[4] *John Barber* (15), son, assistant in house, born Old Hill:

### Stourbridge Observer 1/11/1873

“At the Petty Sessions, held on Wednesday, before Messrs. F. W. G. Barrs and N. Hingley, James Marsh, Daniel Weaver, and George Stringer, were charged with being drunk and refusing to leave the SALUTATION INN, Five Ways, when requested. *Henry Barber* proved the case, and said that Marsh had his jacket off to fight, and they were all quarrelsome, and he had to send for the police to turn them out. After they had been turned out the defendants came in again, and began to quarrel. P.C. Collier corroborated. In answer to the Bench, *Barber* said there was from fifty to sixty persons in the room. It was a free and easy meeting.

Mr. Hingley: These free and easy meetings seem to lead to quarrels. I do not like them at all.

Fin'd 2s 6d.”

### 1881 Census

1, Lomey Town – SALUTATION INN

- [1] *Henry Barber* (59), licensed victualler, born Coventry;
- [2] *Phebe Barber* (61), wife, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] *Henry Barber* (28), son, barman, born Rowley Regis:

### 1891 Census

1, Lomey Town – SALUTATION INN

- [1] *Oliver J. Deeming* (24), licensed victualler, born Polesworth, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Mary E. Deeming* (22), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] *Lizzie B. Deeming* (1), daughter, born Brierley Hill;
- [4] *Alice Davis* (14), general servant, born Brierley Hill;
- [5] *Lydia Shakespear* (14), general servant, born Brierley Hill:

### County Express 27/10/1900

“Arthur Forrest, Cradley Road, Cradley Heath, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on the 21st inst. Police-sergeant Pitcher said he was called to eject the defendant from SALUTATION INN, and after doing that, defendant created a disturbance on the Five Ways. Defendant was fined 20s.”

### 1901 Census

Lomey Town

- [1] *Alexander C. Aldridge* (37), inn keeper, born Liverpool;
- [2] *Maud Aldridge* (27), wife, born Chepstow, Monmouthshire;
- [3] *Dorothy Aldridge* (5), daughter, born Chepstow, Monmouthshire:

### Tipton Herald 9/1/1909

“A convivial party was held at the SALUTATION INN on Saturday evening, in honour of the 30th anniversary of the birth of the landlord – Mr. *Lorenzo St. Clair Dorse*.....”

Plans for the alteration of the counter were approved in February 1909.

### Tipton Herald 13/3/1909

“In order to celebrate the marriage of Mr. Joseph Hall, of Gorsty Hill, a number of the ‘fellow sufferers’ on Friday evening met at the SALUTATION INN, Lomey Town, and partook of a rabbit supper, which had been nicely prepared by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Lorenzo St. Claire Dorse*. After the meal Mr. S. Williams was chosen as chairman, and a convivial time was spent.....”

### 1911 Census

1, Lomey Town – SALUTATION INN

- [1] *Lorenzo St. Clair Dorse* (33), licensed victualler, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] *Sarah Dorse* (37), wife, married 12 years, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] *Ewart Dorse* (9), son, school, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] *Edgar Dorse* (25), brother, fitter, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] *Ann Tibbetts* (18), niece, born Cradley Heath:

*Frederick George Hickman* – see also HOLLY BUSH.

*George Pugh* was born c. 1892.

He was fined £10 and £12 12s 0d costs, on 18th March 1942, for supplying intoxicating liquor to John Henry James during non-permitted hours. 7 similar cases were taken into consideration.

It closed on 27th June 1956, on the opening of the HUNTSMAN, Oldbury.

## SWAN WITH TWO NECKS

76, Lower High Street, (96, Lomey Town), CRADLEY HEATH

### OWNERS

Harry Tibbetts  
North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1896)  
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)

### LICENSEES

Joseph James Westwood [1864] – [1883]  
Harry Tibbetts [1891]  
William Weaver [1901] – [1904]  
Henry Townsend [1912]  
Daniel Broughton [1915] – **1937**;  
Egbert Ernest 'Bert' Priest (**1937 – 1958**);  
Arthur Bradney (**1958 –** [1965])  
K J Woodhall [1976]  
Tony Bass [1988]

### NOTES

96, Lomey Town [1881]  
76, Lower High Street [1940]

SWAN [1871], [1881], [1891], [1909], [1940]

It had an ante '69 beerhouse license.

*Joseph James Westwood* was fined 1s and costs for serving during prohibited hours in August 1868. He was fined 20s and costs in August 1870 for the same offence. He was also described as a chain manufacturer. [1870]

### 1871 Census

Lomey Town – SWAN INN

[1] *Joseph J. Westwood* (53), chain maker and publican, born Rowley Regis;

[2] *Susan Westwood* (50), wife, born Cradley, Worcestershire;

[3] *Ruben Westwood* (16), son, labourer, born Rowley Regis:

### Stourbridge Observer 14/10/1871

“*Joseph James Westwood*, landlord of the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS INN, Cradley Heath, was also charged with keeping his house open during prohibited hours, on the same date [8th October].

The officers Johnson and Griffin proved visiting defendant's house about eight o'clock, when they found three men in the house. There was a pint cup part full of ale in the cupboard.

*Westwood*, in defence, said one of the men was a lodger, and he had served him with a pint of ale. As to the other two men – one was his son in law, and the other came to bring him two sticks of celery. They did not have anything to drink.

The Bench dismissed the case.”

*Joseph James Westwood*, beer retailer and chain manufacturer. [1872]

### 1881 Census

96, Lomey Town - SWAN

- [1] *Joseph Westwood* (65), widower, publican, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] *Daniel Tromans* (74), boarder, chain maker, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] *Thomas Burrows* (20), grandson, chain maker, born Rowley Regis:

January 1883 – *James Westwood* of the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS INN, Cradley, chain manufacturer, was charged with infringing the Truck Act, by paying a workman otherwise than in coin of the realm.

### 1891 Census

Lomey Town – SWAN INN

- [1] *Harry Tibbetts* (31), beerhouse keeper, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] *Henrietta Tibbetts* (29), wife, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] *Nellie Tibbetts* (7), daughter, born Rowley Regis;
- [4] *Willie Tibbetts* (6), son, born Rowley Regis;
- [5] *Sarah Stinson* (22), general servant, born Brierley Hill:

### 1901 Census

Lomey Town

- [1] *William Weaver* (41), innkeeper, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] *Lizzie Weaver* (38), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Pollie Weaver* (16), daughter, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] *Edith Weaver* (7), daughter, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] *William Weaver* (3), son, born Cradley Heath;
- [6] *Oliver Shaw* (20), cousin, shoe maker, born Quarry Bank:

### Smethwick Weekly News 18/1/1902

“Mr. A. A. Betham (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the SWAN INN, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, on Thursday, concerning the death of *James Morgan* (62), moulder, formerly residing at Silverthorne Lane, Cradley Heath, who was found drowned in a pool close to his home on Tuesday morning.

*Harry Weaver*, son in law, stated that on Monday night deceased, who lived with him, did not return home, and the following morning witness found the dead body in a pool at the back of his home. Deceased had been out of employment for six months, and he had troubled a great deal about his two sons who were fighting in South Africa, one of whom should have returned home this month, but who was very ill with enteric fever.

The Coroner said there was no evidence to show how deceased got into the water.

The jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

*William Weaver*, beer retailer, 96, Lomey Town. [1904]

### Indenture dated 28/10/1909

“All that public-house known as The SWAN INN situate at Cradley Heath ..... with the brewhouse outbuildings and garden.....”

*Henry Townsend*, beer retailer, 96, Lomey Town. [1912]

*Daniel Broughton*, beer retailer, 96, Lomey Town. [1924]  
He married *Jemima Higgs*.

### **Black Country Bugle (July 1988)**

“*Dan Broughton* ..... kept pigs at the back of the pub, and the story went that whenever he had a porker killed, he’d keep the teeth and use them as counters, to keep check of his ‘tick’ run up by his regular customers ..... *Dan* had a speech impediment, and one day he returned to the pub, looking forward to a juicy suckling pig on the dinner table, he was offered turkey. Greatly displeased, he chastised his wife by saying “Yo’ve aiten all the ucking pig”. As a consequence the pub often went as ‘Ucking Pig’s’.” – Norman Plant

A Publican’s license was granted on 2nd February 1949.  
It was transferred to a full license on 27th April 1949.

### **News Telephone 3/9/1970**

“All pubs have their regulars – some more regular than others – but few could claim to have two patrons of more than 62 years standing.

For that is how long 94 years old Caleb Priest and his friend 90 years old Arthur Ford have been popping into the SWAN WITH TWO NECKS INN at Lower High Street.....

The pub itself has changed little over the years and when I visited it the two old gentlemen were seated on a long wall bench near an old fashioned chimney stove.....”

A team from here took part in the Cradley Heath Darts League. [1970]

*Tony Bass* was married to Jackie.

[1994]

Closed

It was converted into offices.

## VINE AND RAILWAY

1, Chester Road, (66, Lomey Town), (Lower High Street), CRADLEY HEATH

### OWNERS

Showells Brewery Ltd.

Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased) (acquired on 3rd July 1935)

### LICENSEES

Mrs. Sophia Amelia Cartwright [1851]

Mrs. Sophia Amelia Cartwright **(1868 - [1881])**

Thomas R Roodhouse [1891]

Harry Mercer [1896]

Frederick William Frost [1900] - **1902);**

James Rowlands **(1902 - 1908);**

H Fred Machin **(1908 - [1909])**

John Freeman [1911] - [1912]

Daniel Westwood [1916] - **1919);**

Edward Gough **(1919 - 1922);**

Samuel Griffiths **(1922);**

Herbert Thomas Dixon **(1922 - 1926);**

John William Hallam **(1926 - 1930);**

Alice Hallam **(1930);**

John Kingdon **(1930 - 1933);**

John Henry Fletcher **(1933 - 1938);**

Walter Frederick Meir **(1938 - 1952);**

William Henry Hadley **(1952 - 1953);**

Richard Davies **(1953);**

Philip William White **(1953 - 1954);**

George Houghton **(1954 - 1955);**

Cyril Smith **(1955 - 1958);**

Leon Bacon **(1958 - 1961);**

Arthur George Lucas **(1961 - 1964);**

Irene Mary Harrison **(1964 - 1965);**

Alfred George Davis **(1965 - 1966);**

Violet Chance **(1966 - [ ])**

### NOTES

Lomey Town [1871], [1896], [1904], [1924]

1, Chester Road [1940]

VINE [1865]

VINE INN AND RAILWAY HOTEL [1868]

VINE AND RAILWAY [1871], [1872], [1958]

RAILWAY, Lomey Town [1881], [1891], [1900]

VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL [1872], [1896], [1904], [1909], [1912], [1916], [1921]

*Sophia Amelia Cartwright* = Sophia Ann Cartwright

### 1851 Census

Lomey Town

- [1] *Sophia Amelia Cartwright* (37), widow, retail brewer and grocer, born Rowley;
- [2] Henrietta Cartwright (18), daughter, born Rowley;
- [3] Mary Cartwright (16), daughter, born Rowley;
- [4] *Sophia Amelia Cartwright* (14), daughter, born Rowley;
- [5] Thomas Cartwright (12), son, born Rowley;
- [6] Edwin Cartwright (10), son, born Rowley;
- [7] John Cartwright (8), son, born Rowley;
- [8] Samuel Walter Cartwright (4), son, born Rowley:

### 1861 Census

VINE INN – Lomey Town

- [1] *Sophia Cartwright* (47), widow, publican and huxter, born Rowley;
- [2] Thomas Cartwright (22), son, furnaceman, born Rowley;
- [3] Edwin Cartwright (20), son, brewer, born Rowley;
- [4] John Cartwright (18), son, furnaceman, born Rowley;
- [5] Walter Cartwright (14), son, scholar, born Rowley:

*Sophia A. Cartwright* was also a shopkeeper. [1864], [1865]  
She was charged costs for serving during prohibited hours in October 1871.

### Stourbridge Observer 6/8/1864

“The anniversary of the Court ‘Foresters Home’, No. 4196, of the Ancient Order of Foresters, was held on Monday last. The members to the number of 54 sat down to dinner, accompanied by their surgeon, H. F. Hodgson, Esq. An excellent dinner was provided by Hostess Mrs. *Sophia Amelia Cartwright*, of the VINE AND RAILWAY INN, Lower Town, Cradley Heath. The cloth being removed, and the business of the Court over, the remains of the evening was spent in conviviality, several songs and glees were sung in good style.....”

### Stourbridge Observer 15/4/1865

“On Wednesday last, an inquest was held at the VINE AND RAILWAY INN, Lomey Town, on the body of Joseph Guest, who lived in the neighbourhood, and who was killed on Monday last in Mr. Dawes’s colliery at Withymoor under circumstances explained in the evidence.

A fellow labourer named Perry deposed to being at work with the deceased at the time of the accident. What is known with colliers as a ‘bump’ took place, about 2 cwt of coal falling from the roof, a portion of which fell on the deceased’s head and killed him instantaneously. This witness on being asked by Mr. Baker, the Government Inspector, if he considered the pit was in good working order, answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Baker considered that proper precautions had been taken in the pit and explained that in the best regulated, these ‘bumps’ would occur.

The Coroner having summed up, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

Three jurors Messrs. C. Skelding, John Griffiths, and Noah Homer were fined each 10s for not being present to answer their names.”

### **Stourbridge Observer 22/4/1865**

“On Saturday last, an inquest was held at the house of Mrs. *Sophia Cartwright*, VINE INN, before E. Hooper, Esq, on the body of Clara Thompson, whose death resulted from a fall. The following witnesses were examined.

Mrs. Stenson deposed: that on Friday the 7th inst she saw the deceased swinging with some other children, she also saw her fall off; the distance she fell, was about one yard and a half. There were two others on the same end of the plank as the deceased, they all fell off upon some cast metal. The mother of the deceased went and picked her up. The deceased was not pushed off. She saw the deceased the next morning after the accident, and then she said that one of the girls pushed her off, but she afterwards contradicted this statement.

Mrs. Harris said she heard of the accident, and went to attend on the girl. She was with her the whole night after the accident. The only bruise she had was on the side of the temple. Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Morrow attended her till her death. They paid her every attention. The deceased said, while she was deranged, that a little girl pushed her off, butt she afterwards said that she fell off herself.

Mrs. Thompson, the mother of the deceased, said her daughter fell upon some stone that had been brought out of the foundry.

After consideration the jury found a verdict of Accidental Death.”

### **Stourbridge Observer 12/8/1865**

“On Monday the members of Court ‘Foresters Home’, No. 4196, met at the house of Mrs. *S. A. Cartwright*, Lomey Town, to partake of their annual dinner. The dinner consisted of beef and mutton, with the necessary accompaniments, and was served in the usual good style of the worthy landlord.....”

### **Stourbridge Observer 11/8/1866**

“The anniversary of Court Foresters’ Home (No. 4196), of the Ancient Order of Foresters, was celebrated on Monday last, August 6th, at hostess’s *S. A. Cartwright’s*, of the VINE AND RAILWAY INN, Lomey Town. The court room was neatly decorated, and the dinner was served in the hostess’s usual excellent style.....”

### **Stourbridge Observer 13/7/1867**

“On Saturday last, the 6th inst, the officers and members of Court Foresters Home, No. 4196, assembled at their Court House, the VINE AND RAILWAY INN, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial (consisting of a splendid emblematical silver medal, with a bow and crossed arrows and a horn suspended therefrom) purchased by their medical officer, H. F. Hodgson, Esq, and the members of the Court; also a beautiful P.C.R.’s ribbon and badge purchased by the worthy hostess, Mrs. *S. A. Cartwright*, to P.C.R. Brother Joseph Homer, as a memento of their esteem for his untiring zeal, and upright and honourable behaviour whilst occupying the chair for three and a half years.....”

### **Stourbridge Observer 10/8/1867**

“The annual dinner of the Foresters’ Home, Court 4196, was held at the VINE AND RAILWAY INN, on Monday evening last.....”

### **Stourbridge Observer 28/9/1867**

“A supper took place at the house of Mrs. *Cartwright*, the RAILWAY INN, on Monday last. This supper was in connection with Mr. Smart’s raffle at Christmas last, had been long looked for.....”

### **Stourbridge Observer 4/1/1868**

“On the morning f the 22nd ult, the body of a man was discovered lying in the Stour, near to Messrs. Evers’s works. His heels were on the bank, and the rest of his body was submerged.

The police were instantly communicated with, and the body removed to the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, when upon examination it proved to be a man named John Williams, of Birmingham Street, Stourbridge, aged 63, who has for some years carried baskets &c for sale.

An inquest was held on the 24th ultimo, at the above Hotel, before Mr. Hooper, Coroner, and from the evidence adduced it appears the deceased was last seen alive about half past eight on the previous Saturday evening, in a state of intoxication. He must have wandered from the Railway Station into the private road leading to the above works, and, missing his way, rolled down the embankment into the river. In the lining of his coat 8s were found, carefully tied up, and in his pocket 11½d were found.

The jury after hearing the above evidence, returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

### **Stourbridge Observer 28/3/1868**

“Mrs. *Sophia Cartwright* having entered the large and commodious Hotel near the railway station, gave a supper on Monday evening to a large number of friends ..... Full justice was done to an excellent spread, served with all the usual success of the hostess.

Afterwards Mr. Alfred Taylor was voted to the chair, and J. Leonard to the vice chair. The worthy chairman opened the meeting by singing one of his characteristic songs in his own characteristic style, and afterwards conducted the meeting in the most jolly manner possible, making everybody, himself included, as happy as possible.....”

### **Stourbridge Observer 11/7/1868**

“On Monday last a number of friends sat down to an excellent supper at the VINE INN AND RAILWAY HOTEL, under the presidency of Mr. Alfred Taylor.

After the cloth had been withdrawn, which it is needless to say was laid in the usual sumptuous style of Mrs. *Cartwright*, various toasts were proposed, and amongst them ‘Success to the Local Government Act,’ which was drunk with great satisfaction.”

### **Stourbridge Observer 29/8/1868**

“The anniversary of Court Foresters’ Home, No. 4196, of the Ancient Order of Foresters, having been deferred from August 3rd, to enable the members to attend at the High Court demonstration at Wolverhampton, was held on Monday, August 17th, at their Court House, the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, when the members sat down to a good substantial dinner provided by the worthy hostess in her usual style.....”

### **Stourbridge Observer 11/12/1869**

“An accident of an alarming character occurred on the line of railway on Wednesday last, resulting in the death of the stoker, Charles Tasker, and injury to several others. The accident occurred at Cradley Forge, about 200 yards from the Cradley Station, on the part of the line leading to Stourbridge. The railway belongs to the Great Western Company, and is called the Stourbridge Extension line.

It appears that the express train left Birmingham at 4.45, and was due at Stourbridge at 5.13, only stopping once at Smethwick Junction, at which place it duly arrived at 4.54. On the train arriving at Cradley the signals were all right for the line being clear, but, as stated above, on arriving at Cradley Forge, opposite Messrs. Swindell’s ironworks, a goods train was on the line and a fearful collision took place, the engine of the express train being thrown off the line down an embankment, and much damaged, and six carriages being literally smashed, four of them being locked in with each other. The engine of the goods train was also injured, and some of the trucks upset by the collision, completely blocking up the line, the traffic being stopped for some time. A number of railway officials were at once communicated with, and a large staff of platelayers from Dudley, Stourbridge, and the district, were soon on the spot, under the direction of Mr. J. Wood, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Masters, Mr. Ledbrook, (of Birmingham, District Inspector), Mr. J. Phillips (Station Master, Stourbridge), Mr. Wilkinson (Goods Station Master, Cradley), Mr. Lock (Inspector), Mr. Biggs (Station Master, Cradley), and others; the whole being under the direction of Mr. Ledbrook. All worked indefatigably, and the whole of the debris was cleared off the line by 9.40. The one line of rails was not injured, but the other was torn up. Some of the trains were sent via Dudley. The train leaving Birmingham at 11.10 arrived at Cradley, and went to Stourbridge on the other line of rails without any delay.

From what we can learn it appears that the goods train laden with coal and other things, came out of a siding called the Hayes Siding, and had got on to the main line, and was in the act of shunting when the express, which was going at a rate of thirty miles an hour, ran into it. Fortunately, the passengers were few in number or the loss of life would have been fearful. Of course, full enquiry will be made as to the cause of the accident, it being very apparent that some one is to blame.

The passengers not injured got out of the carriages as soon as possible, and rendered all the assistance they could some were taken to Cradley. Those seriously injured were conveyed to Mrs. *Cartwright’s*, the VINE INN, and Dr. Hodgson and Dr. Morrow were in immediate attendance, and tendered every assistance in their power. The following are the persons injured:-

Charles Tasker, stoker of Wolverhampton, killed; leaves a wife and family. His body was cut in two, and the right leg was not found for more than half an hour. His body now lies at Mrs. *Cartwright's*, awaiting a Coroner's inquest. Henry Richardson, engine driver, also at *Cartwright's*. Injuries serious. Thomas Hall, of Burford, Oxfordshire, scalp wound, and injuries to his arm and leg. Mrs. Peel, of Bewdley, slightly injured. A man named Farmer, a farmer, slight injuries. The stoker of the goods train was also injured, and received medical attendance, and was the same night conveyed to his home at Dudley, in a cab. The whole of the persons injured are going on well.

## THE INQUEST

An inquest was held yesterday, at the VINE HOTEL, before Mr. Bailey, Deputy Coroner, on the body of Charles Tasker, a stoker, in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company, who came to his death on the previous Wednesday. Mr. Sermon, from the firm of Messrs Whateley, solicitors, Birmingham, attended on behalf of the company; and Mr. Crump on behalf of the deceased. Mr. William Clayton Barker was the foreman of the jury.

The first witness called was Ann Bamford, who said: I am a single woman, and live at Cannock Road, Wolverhampton. Am sister in law to deceased. It is his body the jury have just viewed. He was 26 years of age.

William Marston, the signalman, said: I live at Quarry Bank, and am a pointsman, in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company, at Cradley Station. Was so employed on the 8th of December, at 5.15pm. Went in at 7am, and left at 7pm. Signalled the trains properly all day. Signalled the 4.45 train from Birmingham by telegraph, 'line clear.' Signalled two trains between four and half past five. One at 4.13, a goods train, and a passenger train at 4.51, and another at 5.7, also a passenger train. Signalled line clear in each case. No coal passed between four and half past five. The 4.38 goods train went up to Smethwick Junction. Signalled line clear in that case. Before I signalled I received a signal from the next box, and in each case received the usual signal that the line was clear. After I signalled the 4.45 passenger train passed my box. Cannot say how far the place where the accident occurred is from my box.

At this stage of the proceedings the jury went to view the scene of the accident. On returning Marston continued: The special instructions produced are the same as delivered to me as a signalman, by which I am told to work the line. I thoroughly understand the instructions contained there. Witness declined to state whether he had keys to lock the switches and stop blocks.

Inspector John Lock said: I live at Stamber Mill, near Stourbridge. I am Inspector of the Great Western Railway on the Stourbridge Extension district. My duties are to give instructions to the men, including signalmen. Have given the instructions referred to, to Marston. Received them from him after the accident. He was supplied with them on the 15th of May. These instructions contain an order to retain all keys of switches and stop blocks, and no train to leave the station while they were absent. It is the usual order given to signalmen. In case the keys were not there, it would be his duty to stop the train from proceeding as long as they were absent. The instructions would remain in force until further notice. The instructions were in force on Wednesday, the 8th inst, at the time of the accident. Have seen the instructions in Marston's possession. Saw them about two hours after the accident. I asked him to sign them, and he did so. Do not know that the keys were in the box at the time the 4.45 train arrived at Cradley.

William Davies said: I am yard-foreman at Cradley Station, and live at Bower Lane. Have been employed by the company at Cradley, for about three years. My duties were to see to the loading up in the yard, and to mind the points. Have control of the sidings, without the interference of any other person. If I wanted to shunt a goods train on the main line, I should have to get the signal from the signalman. Marston was the signalman at the station. The signal he would give me would be by his hand; a lamp and a white flag being a signal that the line was clear. I get the keys of the points and blocks from the signalman, before I shunt. The stop blocks are used to prevent the shunting of trains so long as they are locked. Have a book of rules delivered to me. After I have received the signal I consider I have authority to shunt a train on the main line. On the 8th inst I had a signal from Marston when I shunted the train down into Evers' siding. I know the rule 54. Received the keys from George Civill, a chequer, a man who was doing shunting whilst I was at my dinner, about half past three. Had a goods train loaded, and received a signal from Marston before shunting. He signalled it with his hand. It would be a few minutes after four. It was a usual signal. The danger signals were shown at the box. I left the train standing on the siding. Do not know who shunted it on to the main line. This would be about half an hour before the accident. Cannot give any evidence as to who had control over the train when it was shunted on to the main line. Did not see the accident.

By Mr. Sermon: Gave instructions to the driver, Thomas Page, as to remaining in the siding, and told him not to move off the line until the passenger train had gone down. One of them, I cannot say whether it was the fireman or the driver said, 'How is it?' and I told them they could not go out until the express had gone by. This would be about five minutes before the express passed.

By Page, the driver: I did not come to the side of your engine when the mineral train had gone. You did not ask me what you were to do. I asked you if you could see a signal. I had my lamp in my hand when I was there.

By Mr. Sermon: Have been in the employ of the company for 13 years. Do not know how long Marston has been there.

George Civill said: I live at Quarry Bank, and am a chequer, in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company, at Cradley Station. Was on duty in the shed on the afternoon of the 8th inst. Received the keys from Marston, between one and two o'clock. The keys belong to the stop blocks and the main line switches. Gave the keys to Davis, the foreman, about half past three. Assisted in shunting the goods train in the afternoon. Unlocked the blocks when I loosed the train out, and locked them again. They were locked when I gave the keys up to Davis. Did not keep the keys more than an hour and a half. Cannot give any evidence as to the shunting of the train immediately before the accident.

Davis recalled: I had the keys all the afternoon, and gave them up after the accident. Had kept the keys for three hours.

By the Foreman: I unlocked the block. Page could not have got through if the blocks had been locked. I unlocked the blocks when I had the signals from Marston. I put them over, but did not lock them afterwards.

By a Juryman: I did not lock them and the train had gone clear.

By another Juryman: I do not think the accident could have happened if the blocks had been locked.

By the Coroner: Could not see that Page was about to shunt. I was in the yard weighing goods.

By a Juryman: Do not know who took the blocks off. No one has a right to take them off but me.

Philip Smart said: I live in Church Street, Dudley, and am a fireman in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company. Was at Cradley Station on the 8th inst. Was acting as fireman on the goods engine, No.251. Thomas Page was the driver. When the train was loaded Daniel Porter, the guard, came up to the train about ten minutes to five. He said, 'What are you sanding there for?' and Page said for a signal, and the guard said blow up for one, meaning the whistle. The driver came on to my side, and I moved out of his way, and the guard then told me he could get no signal, and told me to blow up again, and I did so. I afterwards saw a white light on the platform, near to the watchman's box. The light was stationary. It was in the place where we usually see the signal. The white light means go on. Page came on to his own side, and he saw the white light. He said, 'All right, Tom.' The guard stood at the side of the engine, and waved his lamp, saying, 'All right, go on.' Did not see any one do anything to the stop blocks. Neither Page or myself touched the stop blocks. Know that the yardsman has control over the stop blocks. If we found the stop blocks unlocked, and we received the signal, 'right', we have a right to go out in the absence of the yard foreman. Did not see Davis after the mineral train had gone. Saw him before it went. Did not hear Davis say he could not hear a signal. Davis might have been there talking to Page, but I did not see him. After we received the signal from the guard, my mate drew steadily out from the siding, across both lines of metals. As soon as we were over the points I put the brake on, and whilst I was putting it on my mate said, 'Oh, look here, what is coming.' I went to his side, and saw it coming myself. I made to my own side, in order to get off, when the train rushed into us and knocked me down the bank. Did not see deceased. Do not remember anything else.

By Mr. Sermon: I never knew guards of a goods train give us a signal to go without the blocks being unlocked.

By Mr. Crump: Do not know whether the stop blocks were locked. We are compelled to obey the orders of the guard when going out, and he ordered us to go out of the siding that night. Had no idea what trains were due.

Thomas Page, driver of the goods train, said: I live at 16, Priory Street, Dudley, and am the driver of 251 engine, in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company. On the 8th inst, we were at Cradley Station. Was standing on a siding with a loaded train, waiting for a mineral train to pass. Saw it pass, and Davis, the yard foreman, came to the side of my engine about a quarter to 5. I said, 'What is to be done now?' He said, 'Can you see a signal?' I looked and told him I could not. He told me to wait till the train had passed. I understood him to mean the passenger train that stopped at Cradley. It was the down train. I got off to oil the engine, and whilst walking round the tender oiling the axle boxes, I perceived that the stop block was off. That was after the passenger train had gone. I got on the engine immediately afterwards. Daniel Porter, the goods guard, came up, and asked me what I was standing there for. I told him I was waiting for a signal. He requested me to whistle for one. I blew the whistle several times, but could not get any signal from the signal box. I went to my mate's side to see if I could perceive the yardsman. The guard asked my mate to whistle, and he did so. I then went to my own side, and saw a white light at the signal box. The guard said, 'all right, go on,' and gave me a signal with his lamp to go on. The light at the signal was

stationary. I took it to be the all right signal. The all right signal is generally moved. I took it to be the finish of the signal as my mate and the guard saw it before I did. Did not interfere with the stop block. Never touched or moved it, I obeyed the guard's signal, and drew gently out of the siding. I asked my mate if he could see the pointsman, and he said he could not. I went on that side to look if I could see him, and I could not. I came on my own side, and touched the whistle. I had a signal, a white light calling me ahead. Then I had a red light shown me. As soon as I saw that I immediately saw a white light coming towards me. That was the passenger train, I called my mate's attention to it, and then jumped off. Cannot give any other particulars. Had the stop block been on, we could not have come out.

By Mr. Sermon: Have a book of the rules. Have had the time book, but not for this month. The book produced is the same. Witness declined to answer any more questions.

By Marston, the signalman: It is customary to give a waving signal from the signal box.

By Mr. Sermon: I did not see the pointsman.

By Mr. Crump: I blew the whistle for the signal several times. The stop block was off.

Witness declined to answer a question by the foreman, asking him if he did not know there was a passenger train due in 5 minutes, when the guard called him on.

By the Coroner: Could not say who showed me the light.

William Brinton, said: I live at Spring Bank House, Kidderminster, and am a commercial clerk, I was a passenger by the train leaving Birmingham at 4.45, on the 8th inst. I was in the first compartment of a carriage numbered 161. We stopped at Smethwick Junction to pick up some London and North Western carriages. Did not experience anything extraordinary until we passed Cradley Station, when I felt a sensation as though we were going over grooved rails. An instant afterwards the collision took place. I looked out of the window, and saw the engine on its side. I got out of the window, and ran back to the station to give information to the authorities there. Saw two waggons were smashed, and extended across both lines.

Daniel Porter said: I live at Dudley, and am a goods guard in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company. On the 8th inst, in the afternoon was at Cradley Station. Did not see Davis, the foreman, go up to the engine. Asked the driver to whistle for a signal. It was about a quarter past 5. He blew the whistle once. He said he could see a white light on the platform. I then told him the stop block was off, and asked him to go on, making sure that all was right. Gave the order for him to go on, and told him to draw out. Did not use any signal to him. The train then went out of the siding across both lines of rails. Saw a white light in the platform. I stood between both lines in the six foot. Saw the passenger train coming, and ran towards it with a red light in my hand. Was not present when Tasker was taken from under the engine. Saw Davis in the yard about the time when the mineral train passed. Did not see him do anything to the stop block. I have the control of the train, and the engine driver would have to obey my orders if I told him to go on. Have a service timetable showing what time the trains are due. Know there was an express train due at Cradley at that time, but knew that it ought to have gone before then. The train is due into Stourbridge at 5.12. Do not know how far Stourbridge is from there. Had been in the yard the whole of the afternoon. Had been busy at work, and did not take any notice of the trains that passed. Did not know for certain, whether the express had passed or not. It would be my duty to see that it had passed before I let them out. Only told them to whistle once. When I asked them to whistle they said they saw a white light on the platform, and I saw it as well. The light was near the signal box. Did not see it waved. It appeared as though a man was carrying it. We take a signal from a white light whether it is waved or not. Saw that the stop block was off, and thought that all was right. Did not touch or move the stop block. The stop blocks were in such a way that the driver could move out. Did not see Davis unlock the stop blocks. Have got a rule book and have read rule 54. Do not know whether the danger signals were up or not.

By Mr. Sermon: Have a book of the rules, and have read rule 174, stating that all guards at a station are under control of the officer in charge. Asked the men to whistle.

By Marston: A waving light is a danger signal. A light shown whether waved or not is a signal.

By Mr. Crump: Saw the lights at the Station and saw that the blocks were unlocked. I made sure that the express had passed because the stop blocks were unlocked.

Thomas Hodgson said: I live at Cradley Heath, and am a medical assistant. Was called about five o'clock on the 8th inst to the scene of the accident, at Cradley Station. I went down the line, and met the driver coming from the place. My brother assisted him. The place where the body was found was in Worcestershire. Found the body of Tasker under the engine. Saw the broken carriages. The engine was turned over on its side. Saw the body removed. It was severed in two, and death must have been instantaneous. His body would be found in the township of Cradley, in the parish of Halesowen. His death would be caused by the overturning of the engine.

The inquest was adjourned until Tuesday, the 21st inst, for the purpose of having the evidence of Richardson (the driver) and Hall (the passenger), the two injured men, who, we hear, are going on very well. All the witnesses were bound over to appear on the above date.”

### 1871 Census

Lomey Town – VINE AND RAILWAY INN

- [1] *Sophia A. Cartwright* (57), licensed victualler, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] Samuel W. Cartwright (23), son, engine driver at iron works, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] Emma Harris (23), general servant, born Tipton;
- [4] Elizabeth Stevens (14), general servant, born Quarry Bank;
- [5] Benjamin Billingham (48), lodger, drover, born Rowley Regis:

### Stourbridge Observer 14/10/1871

“*Sophia A. Cartwright*, landlady of the VINE AND RAILWAY INN, Cradley Heath, was charged with keeping her house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours, on the 8th inst.

Police-constables Griffin and Johnson visited the defendant’s house in plain clothes, on the above date. And found two men in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company in the house, each with a glass of liquors.

In defence, Mrs. *Cartwright* said she had given her servant orders not to fill anything to any one on a Sunday morning, but this morning, before she was up, the men had come into the house and asked for a glass of something, as they had been at work all night, and the girl let them have the liquors unknown to her.

The Bench ordered defendant to pay costs, and advised her to lock the bar up on a Sunday morning.”

### Stourbridge Observer 29/6/1872

“On Tuesday morning the dead body of a man named Joseph Priest was found lying in his own house at the bottom of the stairs. The deceased person was single, and resided near the VINE HOTEL. His mind it is said, was affected by some domestic affairs, and to get out of them he, on Monday night, hung himself. Tying two garters and a piece of string together, he fastened them to a nail at the top of the stairs, and placing the noose around his neck he must have stepped off the landing. His weight broke the string, and he was found lying at the bottom of the stairs.

Dr. Hodgson was in immediate attendance, and affirmed that the man had been dead some hours. The string had cut a depth of two inches into his neck; in fact his head was nearly severed, so that death must have been instantaneous. An inquest was held on the body at the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, on Wednesday, before Mr. E. Hooper, Coroner.

The first witness called was Thomas Priest, who said: I am a chainmaker by trade, but am no relation to the deceased. I knew him to be a chainmaker at Lomey Town. He is about 50 years of age, and it is his corpse the jury have just viewed. I have known him ever since I can recollect. I last saw him on Monday night about twenty minutes to twelve. I came to his house door with him. He was very quiet. He was quite sober. He seemed very low on Sunday. He said he had a troubled mind. He was very close-minded. He was a bachelor, and his niece lived with him during the day time. He went to unload some iron on Monday. The next morning I was fetched by one of his workmen, who told me he was found dead. They thought he had fallen down stairs. The niece found him. I saw him go into the house, but did not hear him lock the door, as I went straight away.

Henrietta Shaw said: I am niece of the deceased. He was 48 years of age. I have been in the habit of looking after his house for him. I came in the afternoon, and left in the evening. I last saw him late on Monday night about half past eleven, at our house. He came to our house about half past nine o’clock. He seemed to have great trouble on his mind. He had been in a nervous state for a long time. He has been rather low for the last fortnight, and very strange for the last few days. He was not able to go to work on Monday. My father has always looked after him and his affairs. We have heard him complain of his heart and brain. I went to his house on Tuesday morning just as the clock struck eight. The back door was not locked. I put the milk on the table, and as I saw no fire in the grate I went towards the stairs to call my uncle, when I found him lying at the bottom of the steps. He was dead, and was quite cold. I did not see any cord at the time. Everything in the room was in its proper place. There was nothing to lead me to suppose that any one had been in the house with him. I believe he committed the act himself.

Thomas Priest (re-called) said when he got to the house on Tuesday morning he saw deceased lying on the ground with a piece of string round his neck, and he saw a piece of string hanging by a nail at the head of the stairs. The string was broken.

The jury returned a verdict that deceased committed suicide whilst in a state of temporary insanity.”

### Stourbridge Observer 10/8/1872

“On Monday last, the ninth anniversary of Court ‘Foresters Home’, No. 4196, of the Ancient Order of Foresters, was celebrated at their Court House, the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, when 70 of the members sat down to a bountiful dinner provided by the worthy hostess, Mrs. *S. A. Cartwright*, in her well known substantial style. Bro. Stephen Dunn, CR, presided, and Bro. James Woodhouse, SCR, occupied the vice chair.....”

### Stourbridge Observer 9/8/1873

“On Monday last, the members of Court ‘Foresters Home’, No. 4196, of the Ancient Order of Foresters, celebrated their tenth anniversary by a procession of the members and a good substantial dinner. The members numbering upwards of a hundred met at the Court house, the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Lomey Town, at nine o’clock am, and paraded through Cradley Heath headed by Maid Marian, Robin Hood, and various other Forester’s characters, accompanied by the Cradley Heath Brass Band, which enlivened the march by the performance of some first-class music. Also a large number of children (dressed in white) in a waggon splendidly decorated, and by the members of the Shepherds Sanctuary, connected with the Court, dressed in their pastoral costumes and a splendid new banner purchased by the members of the Court.

After winding their way through Cradley Heath and Cradley, the procession attended the Park Lane Chapel, and were favoured by the Rev. W. Cochrane with an able and impressive discourse on the duties and obligations of a Christian Life.

The members the proceeded through Quarry Bank to their Court House, and sat down to an excellent dinner provided by the worthy hostess Mrs. *S. A. Cartwright*, in her accustomed good style. After the cloth was removed, the secretary produced the auditors’ report showing they now numbered 105, and were possessed of funds to the amount of £276 0s 2½d; being an increase for the year of 8 members, and of £36 5s 9½d. The worthy and respected surgeon to the Court Mr. H. F. Hodgson, was then re-elected, and was presented with an elegant neck ribbon by Bro. John Rock, on behalf of the members as a slight token of the respect he was held in by them. Mr. Hodgson responded in a very feeling manner, and assured the members he would endeavour to preserve their respect by strict and diligent attention to their ailment, when required, and also congratulated them on their uniform good health. Selections of music were then given by the Band under the leadership of Mr. E. Kernock, and songs and glees became the order of the day until closing time. The whole proceedings passed off with eclat.”

### 1881 Census

66, Lomey Town – RAILWAY INN

- [1] *Sophia Cartwright* (67), widow, publican, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] Samuel Cartwright (33), son, brewer, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] Sarah Stevens (20), general servant, born Quarry Bank;
- [4] Rose Shaw (20), general servant, born Quarry Bank;
- [5] Clara Whinhall (17), general servant, born Cradley Heath:

*Sophia Amelia Cartwright* died on 9th July 1885.

### 1891 Census

66, Lomey Town – RAILWAY HOTEL

- [1] *Thomas R. Roodhouse* (27), hotel manager, born Great Barr;
- [2] Florence M. Roodhouse (25), wife, born Leicester;
- [3] Elizabeth Loche (20), boarder, barmaid, born Wolverhampton:

### **Midland Sun 17/6/1893**

“On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. F. W. Topham (deputy coroner), held an inquest at the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley Heath, respecting the death of Joseph Stout (25), of Fenton Street, Brierley Hill, who was killed on the Great Western Railway, at Cradley Station, on the 10th inst

Chief Inspector Ledbrooke and Inspector Lock represented the railway Company.

Stephen Stout, of High Street, Brockmoor, brother of deceased said he died on Saturday morning on the bridge near Cradley Station. He last saw him alive on Friday night, when he was in good health. Deceased was not subject to fits, and he did not think he had destroyed himself.

Isaac Clarke, bricklayer, of Corngreaves, said the deceased was working with him erecting a scaffold for the purpose of tarring a bridge at Cradley Station. About 9.40 on Saturday morning he saw the deceased coming from where he had been melting with a bucket of tar in his hand. Deceased, in trying to get out of the way of one train stepped in front of the South Wales express. He was knocked down and dragged almost 25 yards. The train was stopped, and deceased was got out of the six foot, but he was quite dead. He had his legs and hands cut off, and he was terribly mutilated. The driver could not possibly help the accident happening. He blew the whistle before he saw the deceased, and there was no blame attached to him. It was a straight line. When witness saw the deceased in danger he shouted to him. He did not think deceased had the least intention of destroying himself. Deceased had been talking about buying himself out of the militia.

Inspector Bishop said he had made enquiries and found that the deceased entered the service of the company five weeks ago, and at the time he was given a book which contained how to keep away from the trains. The deceased was a very steady and sober man, and was well aware of the circumstances if he broke the rule.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

### **County Express 10/2/1900**

“On Tuesday, at the WHITE HORSE INN, a concert was given in aid of the local Reservist Fund. It is hoped to hand over £7 to the fund. The host (Mr. Tranter) bore all the expenses of engaging the talent. Mr. *F. W. Frost*, of the RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley Heath, presided. The following took part in the concert, The Orpheus Glee Singers (Messrs. A. Yardley, G. Evans, S. Yardley, and H. Stevens), Messrs. J. Hughes (Tipton), J. Singleton (Kate’s Hill), W. King (Quarry Bank), S. Bladen (Colley Gate), S. Southall (Lye), Pat Tyrone (Colley Gate), Mr. J. Norris (Tipton) was accompanist.”

### **County Express 10/2/1900**

“The annual dinner of the officers and staff took place of the Great Western Railway Goods Department took place on Saturday at the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Mr. *F. W. Frost*’s catering being all that could be desired. Between 60 and 70 attended.....”

### **County Express 25/5/1900**

“At Old Hill Police Court on Wednesday, Henry Joseph Martin, Excise officer stationed at Cradley Heath, was charged with assaulting *Frederick William Frost*, manager of the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley Heath, on May 16th. Mr. Ward appeared for complainant, and Mr. Waldron defended.

Mr. Ward said on the previous Thursday his client was standing near the RAILWAY HOTEL when defendant came up the road. He was carrying a thick walking stick, and was flourishing it about. He crossed over to near where *Frost* was, and *Frost* said, ‘When you wrote to Showells’ you did not tell them about that that you did to my wife.’ The defendant exclaimed, ‘You dog,’ and struck *Frost* violently across the face, and partially stunned him. Defendant repeated the blows until the stick broke. To prevent defendant doing him any further violence complainant grappled with him, and they fell on the ground, but were separated. Defendant lived at the complainant’s house for some two years, and complainant had had to complain of his familiarity with his wife, in consequence of which he and his wife had separated. Threats had been made by the defendant that he would hound complainant out of his situation and would publicly horsewhip him, and it was a fact that defendant had written Messrs. Showells, complainant’s employers. He would ask the Bench if they believed his story to mark their sense of the assault by inflicting a heavy penalty.

Complainant was then examined, and said he was standing near the RAILWAY HOTEL talking to Mr. Tromans, when he saw the defendant crossing the road. Defendant had a walking stick in his hand, which he flourished. Directly witness saw defendant, he said, ‘Martin, when you wrote to Showells’ Brewery, you did not tell them of the incident with my wife on that Saturday night.’ Defendant took a step forward, then turned round, and said, ‘You dog.’ Witness retorted, ‘You dirty dog,’ and then defendant struck him on the head with the stick. Witness partly

met the blow with his arm, but defendant struck him again on the head twice, each blow partly stunning him, and he fell in the gutter. Defendant then took two running cuts at witness, and the stick broke. Witness recovered himself as best he could, and closed with the defendant, and they fell, in the fall witness having the better of it. He tried to strike defendant on the ground, but could not do so for exhaustion.

Cross-examined: Martin lived at his house about two years, and left on November 9th. They had not lived in perfect amity. He denied being on the look-out for Martin on the day of the assault. The postcard dated May 8th was in his handwriting, and was addressed to defendant. It said, 'Mrs. *Frost* came last week to fetch you to box my ears. You have not brought your dog whip to whip me as you promised.' It also contained a reference to an incident which occurred at *Frost's* house on September 8th, and to which *Frost* had referred immediately before the assault, when he asked the defendant about writing to Showells. He also admitted writing the postcard, also dated May 8th, which was addressed 'Mrs. Martin Frost.' He had been in the habit of calling his wife a great many things with a great many adjectives to. They had been married eight years, and had fought each other. She fought him in the morning and he fought her at night. The next two days he had a stick with him, because he could not walk without it. He was not vowing vengeance upon the defendant. He admitted calling defendant 'a dirty dog.' He did not square off when he saw Martin, and had not threatened to smash his 'napper.' He admitted fetching a poker out of the house and putting it by the door on one of the nights of October last year. That was when defendant had a thick stick with him, and in poker v. stick witness thought he would have won.

Re-examined as to the postcards: Defendant had threatened to whip witness many times. His wife did go away to fetch the defendant to box witness's ears. He had told his wife to send accounts to Martin to be paid. His wife left witness because Martin offered to find her a home. He would never have spoken to Martin had he not interfered with witness and his servants.

Emma Plant said she was in their shop on the day in question, and saw the assault committed. Martin hit *Frost* four or five times, and the stick was broken. *Frost* did not attempt to assault Martin, but tried to ward off the blows with his hand.

Mr. Waldron, for the defence, said if one thing was clearer or more certain than another, it was that Mr. *Frost* was a violent and a despicable sort of man, inasmuch as he admitted that for eight ears he had been constantly quarrelling with and beating his wife. (*Frost*: I have not said so, sir.) He submitted that after the evidence given by the complainant it was impudence for complainant to say to the Bench he was a peaceful and law abiding subject. Did not the postcards show that *Frost* was pugnacious and determined at all hazards to create a row and bring on an affray with Martin. It was also a cowardly device to address a postcard to his wife in the way complainant did. He argued the words used by *Frost* before the affray were provocation, and that if they were used to anyone that person would be likely to retort and to follow that up with a blow. That was what they said happened in consequence of the words the complainant used.

The Bench said they considered a violent assault had been committed, and fined defendant £3 and costs. An application for the allowance of solicitor's fee was refused."

### **County Express 7/7/1900**

"Mr. E. O. Nightingale, of Cradley Heath, held a most successful property sale at the VINE AND RAILWAY, Cradley Heath, on Tuesday evening....."

### **County Express 28/7/1900**

"Frederick Harris, scrap dealer, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, was charged with being disorderly on the licensed premises of *Frederick William Frost*, and refusing to leave on July 20th; also with assaulting Herbert Cox, barman, and with wilfully damaging a bottle of sherry and two bottles of bitters, of the value 11s 3d.

Mr. Waldron, who prosecuted, said on the night named at 10.35, the defendant went into the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley Heath, managed by Mr. *Frost*. Defendant asked for a stout and bitter, which was supplied him. He was perfectly sober. Upon being applied to for payment of the liquor supplied to him, defendant said that a man named Kale would pay. Whoever Kale was he refused, and the barman told defendant that the landlord did not allow strap, and that the stout and bitter would be taken away. Thereupon the defendant struck Cox at the back of the head. Mr. *Frost* told him to leave, and the defendant commenced to use very bad language, and remained for ten minutes. At the expiration of that time, defendant picked up a glass and shied it at the barman. It missed the barman, and glanced off Mrs. *Frost's* shoulder and struck some bottles, three of which were broken. Defendant then assaulted the barman seriously, and ultimately he left threatening to meet the barman later. Cox did not sleep on the premises, and when he left after eleven o'clock defendant again met him and gave him two black eyes.

Mrs. Frost and Herbert Cox gave evidence bearing out this statement.

Defendant pleaded guilty to the three offences, and had nothing to say.  
For being disorderly and refusing to quit defendant was fined 10s, and costs, for assault 20s, and costs, and for the wilful damage 10s, and costs, and 11s 3d damage.”  
[Is Frederick Harris the son of the landlord of the ROYAL OAK?]

### County Express 3/11/1900

“Richard Johnson, chainmaker, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, was charged with being disorderly on the premises of, and refusing to quit, the VINE AND RAILWAY, when requested, on October 13th.  
Mr. *F. W. Frost*, landlord, said defendant and several of his friends went into the house half drunk, and commenced a disturbance. Although there had been a great many customers in the house just before these men came in, the house was cleared in a few minutes, as they interfered with the customers. Johnson threatened to knock witness’s head off, and would not leave until the police came.  
Inspector Given said it was a very bad case, and these men were continually annoying the landlord of this house. Defendant was fined 10s, and costs.”

### 1901 Census

Lomey Town

- [1] *Frederick William Frost* (39), hotel manager, born Horncastle, Lincolnshire;
- [2] *Amy Woolstencroft* (24), housekeeper, born Manchester;
- [3] *Frances Hall* (21), barmaid, born Stourbridge;
- [4] *Elizabeth Sharp* (21), housemaid, born Coventry;
- [5] *Myra Brace* (19), cook, born Quarry Bank;
- [6] *Harry Vincent* (23), groom, born West Bromwich;
- [7] *Annie B. Sharp* (19), waitress, born Dudley;

### County Express 12/10/1901

“At the annual conference of the Midland Counties Trade Federation in July, directions were given that Mr. *Sitch*’s labours as Treasurer of this organisation should be recognised by the presentation of an address and a gold watch and chain. The presentation will take place at a complimentary dinner at the VINE AND RAILWAY on Monday night, and there will be a very representative company of the public and commercial life of the district to show its appreciation of Mr. *Sitch*. The speakers include Messrs. *George Green*, *James Billingham*, *L. Connop*, *John Fellows*, *John Taylor*, *J. H. Smith*, *W. Millerchip*, *S. Webb*, and *T. Jones*.”

*James Rowlands* – see also ANCHOR.

### Tipton Herald 13/2/1909

“During his stay in Cradley Heath Mr. *James Rowlands* won a host of friends and admirers. His jovial countenance, his continual smile, earned for himself the name of ‘Happy Jimmy’, a title of which he was as mine host justly proud. When he first went to Cradley Heath he took up the position of landlord of the ANCHOR HOTEL at Five Ways. Some few years ago, however, he transferred his energies to the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, near the station, where he carried on a successful business. Towards the end of last year, however, Messrs. *Showell and Co*, recognizing Mr. *Rowlands*’ superior quality, asked him to take over the Market Hotel, Birmingham. It was with great regret that Mr. *Rowlands* left his many friends at Cradley Heath, and the presentations to him and his good lady on Tuesday evening are proof of the esteem in which he is held.....”

### Tipton Herald 17/7/1909

“A capital supper was partaken of on Friday evening at the FIVE WAYS HOTEL, Cradley Heath, the house of Mr. *E. Slinn*. It was the outcome of a couple of billiard matches between teams chosen Mr. *Fred Machin*, of the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, and Mr. *Slinn*.....”

### **Tipton Herald 14/8/1909**

“Messrs. C. W. Bassano and C. A. Lloyd were the magistrates at the Old Hill Police Court on Wednesday, when Mr. *Fred Machin*, of the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley Heath, applied for a license from 12 to 10 to sell intoxicants on the Cradley Heath Football Ground today (Saturday) on the occasion of the annual sports.

Superintendent Johnson: What is the difference between these sports and the last? – Mr. *Machin*: I can't say.

Last year it was 2 to 8 – But this year the band will play till 9.15.

There are no fireworks? – I don't think so.

Why do you want the license from 12 o'clock? – Well there will be a goodly number of men at work on the ground prior to the gates opening, and they may want refreshments.

There is a public not far away? – But I have to pay for this.

I can't help that. I think 2 to 9 will be long enough.

Will you make it one o'clock? – The Chairman: We will grant it from 2 till 9.

Thank you.”

### **Tipton Herald 25/12/1909**

“The members of the Cradley Heath Private Bowling Club held their annual dinner in the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley Heath, on Monday evening. About 60 members and friends partook of a splendid meal, which was excellently served by Mr. and Mrs. *Fred Machin* and staff. Afterwards the President (Mr. T. M. Tibbetts) took the chair.....”

### **Tipton Herald 25/12/1909**

“The annual dinner in connection with the Rowley Regis Urban District Fire Brigade was held on Saturday evening at the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley Heath. A capital meal was served by Mr. and Mrs. *H. F. Machin* (the host and hostess), and after full justice had been done to the good things provided, Councillor Thomas Crew (the chairman of the District Council) took the chair.....”

### **1911 Census**

1, Chester Road – VINE AND RAILWAY INN

- [1] *John Freeman* (39), licensed victualler, hotel manager, born Saltney, Birmingham;
- [2] *Clara Freeman* (36), wife, married 16 years, assisting in the business, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Gladys Hypatia Freeman* (15), daughter, born Sparkhill, Worcestershire;
- [4] *Elsie Beatrice Freeman* (13), daughter, school, born Sparkhill, Worcestershire;
- [5] *Albert John Freeman* (10), son, school, born Sparkhill, Worcestershire;
- [6] *Clara Hildegard Gertrude Freeman* (8), daughter, school, born Sparkhill, Worcestershire;
- [7] *Constance Virginia Freeman* (4), daughter, born Sparkhill, Worcestershire;
- [8] *Stanley Paul Freeman* (2), son, born Kidderminster;
- [9] *Betsy Kerry* (81), widow, aunt, born Birmingham;
- [10] *Clara Brokington* (74), mother in law, widow, born Birmingham;
- [11] *Emma Jane Heath* (23), hotel waitress, born Cradley Heath;
- [12] *Christopher William Cradders Stokes* (20), billiard marker, born Northampton;
- [13] *Fred Harrold* (14), stable lad, born Old Hill:

### **Dudley Herald 14/2/1925**

“.....Large plate glass window to smoke room was blown in by the wind [on 2nd January].”

*Walter Frank Meir* = *Walter Frank Moir*

Plans for proposed alterations were approved on 7th February 1962.

[1968]

Closed

Demolished

## HOW TO USE THE INFORMATION

### PUB NAME

This is generally the name by which the pub was officially known. Other names, either changes or nicknames, are to be found in the notes section.

Names marked with + are, at present, not specifically identified as being any of those listed before them, and have not been attributed yet because of the lack of data available.

Pubs are not listed necessarily under their current name.

A number of beerhouses were never given a name, and these appear at the end of the pub lists as Beerhouse – Unnamed. Only those that I am pretty sure had 'on' licences are included.

This is sometimes the case with alehouses too.

Can't find the pub you want?

It's probably had its name changed. Try using the search facility to locate the pub name, or nickname, that you know.

### ADDRESS

Eg. 52, (79), Haden Street, (Haden Lane) / Cox Alley, Kates Hill, DUDLEY

Numbers and street names in brackets denote earlier addresses. These are usually detailed in the notes section. Buildings were renumbered with development and demolition, or the renaming of the street etc.

/ = on the corner with.....

Sometimes districts are also included, such as Kates Hill above. These are often historical and are now obsolete, but can be located on early maps.

### OWNERS

These are listed where known.

They include companies and individuals, and occasionally the dates acquired and prices paid.

## LICENSEES

Often the owner was the licensee, and even when they employed managers their names would appear in directories.

Where known, names are appended with (manager, non-resident, tenant etc.).

### Dates

These are differentiated by the use of brackets and/or italics.

[1862] = This was the case in 1862. Where the date appears on its own it refers to the earliest or latest reference found.

This also applies where a pub has its name changed, eg.

[2001] followed by "Its name was changed to XXXXX. [2003]"

This means that in 2001 it still had its previous name, but by 2003 its name had been changed to XXXXX.

[1862] = Information from a directory dated 1862, so may have been out of date when it was published. As much as five years in some cases!

[c. 1862] = About 1862, but exact date not known.

[1860's] = Some time in this decade.

[ ] = No date available, but the detail is inserted in roughly the right chronological place.

**(1862 – [1863])** = **Started** in 1862 and was still the case in 1863.

[1862] – **1863)** = It was the case in 1862 and **ended** in 1863.

**(1862 – 1863)** = **Started** in 1862 and **ended** in 1863.

**(1862 – 1863);** the ; signifies that the licensee was immediately followed by the next person in the list. Sometimes the licence transfer came months after a person's death, but the transfer date is the one used, if date of death is not known.

Sometimes the licensing registers contradict findings from other sources such as directories. Where this occurs the ; is still used, the anomalous name is given a question mark and is placed in a suitable chronological place, and the next person is the one that follows the ;

Eg.

Fred Smith [1916] – **1927);**

Joseph Bloggs [1921] ?

George Jones **(1927 – 1932)**

In the register George Jones follows on from Fred Smith, but Joseph Bloggs was mentioned in another source in 1921. He is left in for completeness.

When using original documents, such as licensing registers, which are sometimes damaged, it is impossible to read some material (including dates). Where this has occurred, and only the decade or century is decipherable, I have used underscoring to replace the missing digits in an effort to keep the licensees in the correct order.

Eg. Fred Smith **(188\_ – 18\_\_);**

John Jones **(18\_\_ – 189\_):**

If the date is followed with a : this signifies the last person to hold the licence.

## NOTES

These start with locations, and are followed by previous names or nicknames of the pub. These are then followed by other details, often where dates are unknown.

Historical details then follow chronologically where possible.

Some pubs listed are the same as others, but so far I have been unable to connect them. This is especially true when directories only list the pub name and licensee, and more than one pub of that name existed at the time. These are often identified by:-  
Check OTHER PUB NAME.

Licensees are often associated with more than one pub, and pubs are sometimes rebuilt on different sites to their original one. These are identified by:-  
See OTHER PUB NAME

Titles – only Miss and Mrs are used here (when known).  
No other titles are used.  
ie. Major George Cox was not a major. Major was his first name.

Often names were spelt differently in the sources used. This is identified where possible, and one spelling is used for consistency.

Where I have decided that different spellings are the same person I have identified this  
eg. *Smith* = *Smithe* = *Smyth*

Where I am unsure about this I have identified it thus

\* possibly the same person

or

\* probably the same person

Where sources are quoted these appear in **colour**, followed by the quote in black in a different typeface from the remainder of the information. Sometimes I have paraphrased a quotation, and some have had additions entered by myself.

Information which has been transcribed by me from handwritten sources, such as censuses, parish records, licensing minutes etc., should be correctly spelt, but the reader is advised to check the original for themselves. In cases where I have been unable to transcribe individual names, only those letters that are clear are given. eg, Osbal\_\_on ? The underscore does not indicate the number of missing letters, as this is often as unclear as the name itself.

Where I am not 100% sure that I have deciphered a name correctly this is indicated by a question mark in parentheses ie. (?)

Census records are presented in a different form than the original.

[1] = position in the household.

This is followed by the name and (age).

Relationship to [1] follows, and then occupation (if any is listed).

Finally comes the place of birth. Where these places are local to the Black Country, or are larger towns and cities, no county name is given.

Where birthplaces are given in the Black Country it has to be remembered:-

(a) Harborne once included Smethwick

(b) Kingswinford once covered places such as Brierley Hill, Pensnett, Quarry Bank and Wall Heath

(c) Sedgley once included Coseley and the Gornals

(d) West Bromwich once included Great Bridge (now in the Tipton file), Great Barr and Hamstead (not considered by me as part of the Black Country).

Most local newspapers were weekly and appeared on a Saturday.  
This does not apply to the Express & Star, Midland Counties Evening Express, or Evening News / Star.

Newspaper articles sometimes spell the same thing (eg. Surname) differently in a single report. Where the proper spelling is known this is altered by me, but when I am unsure they are left as they appear.

A gazeteer is provided to give approximate locations of place names in relation to larger towns and cities in Britain.

Where a licensee changes her name by marriage, her former surname appears in brackets  
ie. Jane (maiden or previous married name) Smith.

Where names of spouses are known, they are listed in the past tense, even though many may be still husband and wife. This is merely a convention used by me for convenience.

[text] Where square brackets occur, with text in a different typeface inside, this signifies comments of my own.

Some entries, in all sections, are followed by a number of question marks (without parentheses). These show the extent of doubt that I have over that entry.

The historical nature of the contents has meant that the old currency of pounds shillings and pence is used frequently. A pound (£) was divided into 20 shillings (s) and a shilling was divided into 12 pence (d). Halfpennies and farthings (1/4d) were also in use.

This is also the case where other measures, length, weight etc., are used.